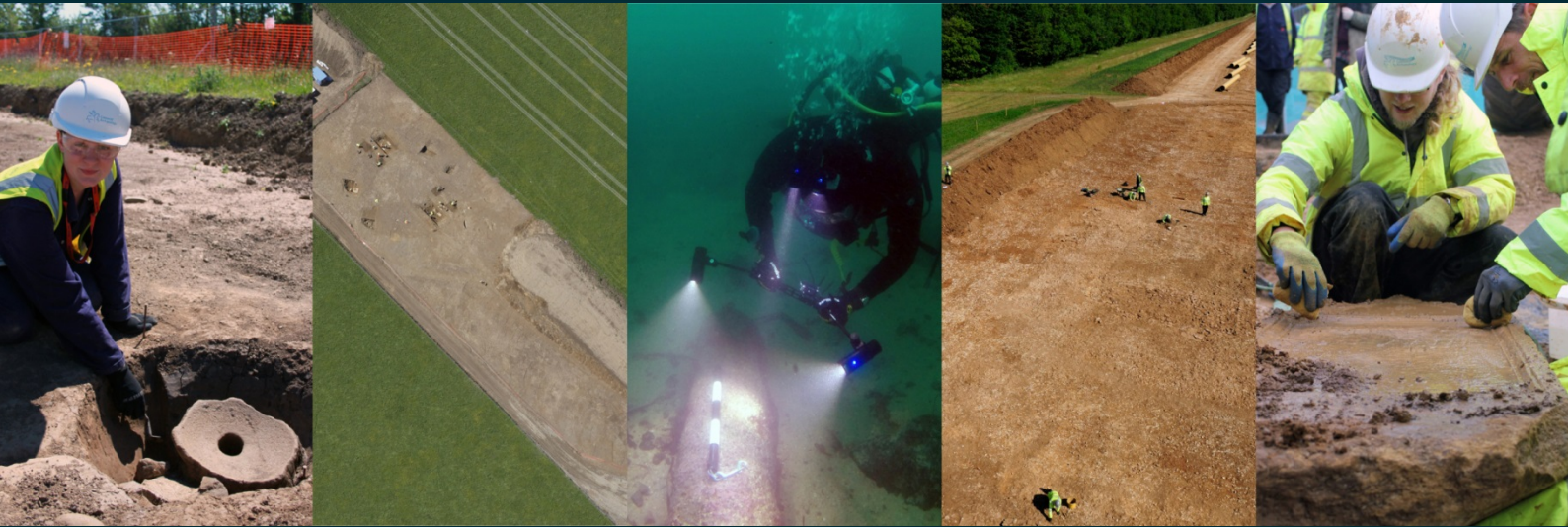


**Lords Hill Outdoor Recreation Centre**  
**Redbridge Lane**  
**Southampton**  
*Archaeological Evaluation*



for  
Speed Cut Contractors

Planning Reference: 15/00093/FUL

SOU 1685

CA Project: 770218  
CA Report: 00000

May 2015



Lords Hill Outdoor Recreation Centre  
Redbridge Lane  
Southampton

Archaeological Evaluation

Planning Reference: 15/00093/FUL

CA Project: 770218  
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## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Lords Hill Outdoor Recreation Centre
<b>Location:</b>	Redbridge Lane, Southampton SO16 0XN
<b>NGR:</b>	SU 3794 1564
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	11-13 May 2015
<b>Planning Reference:</b>	15/00093/FUL
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	Southampton City Council
<b>Site Code:</b>	SOU 1685

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in May 2015 at Lords Hill Outdoor Recreation Centre, Redbridge Lane, Southampton. Twenty four test pits and one trench were machine excavated during the course of the evaluation.

The trenches were not targeted on any archaeological anomalies but were distributed across the proposed development in order to assess the archaeological potential across as wide an area as possible.

No archaeological features, deposits or finds were recovered during the course of the excavation. Trenches 1-12 consisted of made ground of building rubble and other waste materials (but non domestic waste) to a depth of below 1.2m at which point excavation ceased as this lay beyond the depth of the proposed development impact. However, at the north eastern end of Trench 12 natural soil deposits were identified at a depth of 0.40m below ground level.

It had been anticipated prior to the start of works, that made ground and truncated natural might be found throughout the site due to its possible history as a gravel quarry and subsequent landfill. The results of the evaluation confirmed this, and indicate that the potential for the survival of archaeological remains across the site is unlikely due to the impact of quarrying and subsequent landfill. However, the survival of natural soil deposits within the north east end of Trench 12 maybe an indication that small islands or baulks of undisturbed material remain *in situ* within the north east corner and possibly around the edges of the site.

The work also confirms the citation of the site as "Workings (Disused)" on a current Ordnance Survey map and establishes that gravel quarrying is likely to have taken place at



the site. The site was subsequently backfilled with landfill possibly associated with the construction of the motorway along with, based on personal communication on site, material from the Southampton docks.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 From 11 to 13 May 2015 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Speed Cut Contractors at Lords Hill Outdoor Recreation Centre Redbridge Lane, Southampton (centred on SU 3794 1564; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 Planning permission (Ref: 15/00093/FUL) has been granted by Southampton City Council (SCC) the local planning authority (LPA) to provide improved drainage to five pitches at Lordshill Outdoor Recreation Centre. The site lies within Area 2 (most of site) and Area 16 (north part of site) of the Local Areas of Archaeological Potential as defined in the saved Policy HE6 of the City of Southampton Local Plan and the Core Strategy.
- 1.3 Details provided with the application show that the proposed drainage trenches will have minimum depths of 535mm (lateral drains) and 760mm (main drains), and may go deeper in many areas, as will the silt traps to a depth of 1.20m. If archaeological deposits survived on the site, they would be impacted by the drainage trenches. Soil churn due to site traffic may also impact on underlying archaeological deposits.
- 1.4 Following consultation with Ingrid Peckham of the Southampton City Council Historic Environment Team (SCCHET) (acting as adviser to SCC) a Brief for an Archaeological Investigation comprising a programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation was set out for the site. This comprised of 12 no 20m Set One trenches to investigate the impact that previous quarrying may have had at the site. If Set One trenches proved negative then no further work would be required. Should archaeology be encountered then up to 24 no 20 Set Two trenches would be required. A programme of evaluation was requested in order to mitigate against the impact that the proposed development could have on the archaeological resource that might be present within the site.
- 1.5 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with an archaeological brief for archaeological evaluation (SCC 2015) prepared by Southampton City Council Historic Environment team (SCCHET) the archaeological advisors to Southampton City Council and with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)* produced by CA (2015) and approved by Ingrid Peckham. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014), the

*Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006).

### **The site**

- 1.6 The proposed development area comprises a sports and recreation ground. It is bounded to the west by Redbridge Lane and to the east by Brownhill Way. To the north lies the Cedar School and Oasis Academy and to the south the David Lloyd Tennis Centre. The land within the site falls generally from north to south. On the northern boundary of the site ground levels are a height of c.25.60m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). They fall gradually across the site to a height of c.20.00m on the southern boundary of the site.
- 1.7 The underlying bedrock geology for the Site is mapped as clay, silt and sand of the Palaeogene London Clay Formation. Superficial deposits of River Terrace Deposits, 3 - Sand and Gravel are indicated immediately to the west and SE of the site (BGS Online).

## **2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The written scheme of investigation (CA 2015) set out the archaeological and historical background of the site as set out in the SCCHET Brief and based on information held within the Hampshire Historic Environment Record (HHER) and the Southampton HER (SHER). The SHER at the time of the WSI though had not been directly consulted. Following approval of the WSI by SCCHET it was agreed that the SHER would be consulted for the full site report, unless the results of the Set One trenches proved to be negative. As the results of the evaluation have proved to be negative no further consultation with the SHER has been undertaken for this report. The details as set out below therefore are as those set out in the WSI (CA 2015)
- 2.2 As set out in the SCCHET Brief; the site appears to lie within the historic area of Nursling, although on the outskirts of the main settlement. It is bounded to the northwest by Redbridge Lane. The 1897 OS County Series map (1:2500) shows the area as fields, with what appears to be a straightened stream channel draining NE to SW across the area, roughly central to the site. Some detached buildings are shown

on the Redbridge Lane frontage: 'Fair Lawn', a Methodist chapel and 'Hope Villa'. The 1909 and 1933 maps show few changes.

- 2.3 Redbridge Lane is partly a hollow-way, and has been suggested to be of Roman or Saxon origin, leading to a crossing of the Test.
- 2.4 No archaeological work has previously taken within the site. However prehistoric, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval archaeology has been found on other sites immediately to the north at Five Acres Field – Oasis Academy (SOU 1545 and 1554) and The Cedar School (SOU 1574), although further archaeological evaluation undertaken at the Cedar School in 2013 (SOU 1638) did not identify any archaeology; to the south on Frogmore Lane for the David Lloyd Tennis Centre (SOU 1041); and to the east at the Fairisle School on Fairisle Road (SOU 1162). In particular, the lower Test Valley seems to have been intensively occupied throughout the later prehistoric period, and a Bronze Age settlement and Iron Age barrow cemetery were found at the Adanac Farm (new Ordnance Survey Office) site only some 400 metres to the west, outside the Southampton city boundary.
- 2.5 On sites to the north and south, archaeological deposits survived at depths as little as 0.40m to 0.60m below modern ground surface, although more in places.
- 2.6 A current Ordnance Survey raster map labels the site as "Workings (Disused)", and gravel quarrying is known to have taken place on other sites in the area in the 1970s, associated with construction of the motorway. However historic Ordnance Survey maps from 1897 to 1982 do not show a gravel quarry on the site. Land contamination records show the site as part of a larger area of landfill; however, this includes sites to the north and south where archaeological deposits survived. Drawing 1077/003 supplied with planning application includes current site contours. The contours show a valley across the site, as predicted from historic maps. The apparent survival of this natural landform further suggests that the area has not been substantially disturbed. On current information, archaeological deposits may well survive on the site.
- 2.7 A more detailed summary of the archaeological and historical background to the environs of the site is presented below and is based on information held within the Hampshire Historic Environment Record (HHER) and the Southampton HER (SHER).

### *Palaeolithic and Mesolithic*

- 2.8 The evidence relating to the Palaeolithic activity comprises stone tools, predominantly hand-axes found as residual material within river gravels. A findspot of poor provenance of 34 hand-axes is located in Nursling c. 300m to the west of the Site (HER No. 51497).
- 2.9 Mesolithic material has been recovered from sites situated on the gravel terrace associated with the River Test (Wymer 1977). The riverine environs were exploited throughout the Mesolithic as they provided a wealth of food resources for the hunting and gathering communities.

### *Neolithic*

- 2.10 Evidence for Neolithic activity within the vicinity of the Site comprises predominantly residual worked flints founds in later features. An assemblage of un-stratified late Neolithic flints was recovered during the Adanac Park excavations to west of the Site (HER No. 60193). In addition, worked flint of Neolithic date was also retrieved from sites in the Horns Drove area to the north of the Site (HER Nos. 25354; 25320; 25319 and 41651).
- 2.11 Evidence for the fragmentary survival of features related to the Neolithic activity was uncovered during investigations in Nursling Industrial Estate to the west of the Site where a series of ditches, gullies and post-holes has been dated to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age period. (HER No. 41776)

### *Bronze Age*

- 2.12 There is extensive evidence for Bronze Age activity within the vicinity of the Site and this is related to regionally significant settlement sites in the Test Valley.
- 2.13 A settlement site of Middle to Late Bronze Age date, considered to be at least of regional significance, was uncovered on a gravel ridge to the south west of the Site within Adanac Park at the location of the Ordnance Survey Offices (HER No. 60193). The investigations revealed a number of settlement features and included parts of six probable roundhouses defined by post-holes, with a number of internal features, such as pits and post-holes, four-post structures, fencing and a number of external pits, some of which were used for the disposal of domestic refuse. These remains were accompanied by a significant assemblage of predominantly Late Bronze Age pottery. The excavation failed to reveal the full extent of this settlement

or any agricultural features (such as field system ditches) associated with it. This suggests that further remains may be located in the vicinity.

### *Iron Age*

- 2.14 Evidence for Iron Age activity in the close proximity to the Site was revealed during the Adanac Park investigations (HER 41776). The lack of earlier Iron Age remains within the area indicates that the former Bronze Age settlement had been abandoned and the area was not a focus of human activity until at least the Middle Iron Age. The remains revealed consisted of seven barrows, some of which were excavated. The barrows occupied the highest gravel ridge within the excavation area, located on north-south axis. Each of the barrows, defined by a circular, sub-circular, penannular or square ditch, contained a grave. Although only one of the graves contained grave goods allowing precise dating of the feature, it is considered that the cemetery is of Late Iron Age date. Barrow 3, the only feature to contain grave goods, comprised of a substantial east to west aligned grave, containing a sword, a shield handle and boss and a spearhead. Pottery dated to Bronze Age, Iron Age and the Romano-British period was retrieved from fills of the barrow ditches. The barrow cemetery was enclosed to the east by a north to south aligned ditch. In addition to the barrow cemetery, several unenclosed graves were also revealed, together with a roundhouse and a number of pits.
- 2.15 Archaeological investigation (SOU 1545 and 1554) undertaken to the north of the Site in Five Acres Field identified prehistoric gully's and pits from which worked and burnt flint and Iron Age pottery were recovered.
- 2.16 Within the wider Nursling area Iron Age settlement activity has been identified. For example within the Nursling Industrial Estate to the west where and a group of features including pits (HER No. 59999), a trackway (HER No. 60000) and an enclosure (HER No. 58677) were recorded. Settlement features of Iron Age and Romano-British date were excavated c.500m to the east (SOU 946) at the north end of Lower Brownhill Road and to the south Iron Age pottery was retrieved at the Test Park Community Sports Facility at the southern end of Lower Brownhill Road (HER No. MSH4881).



### *Roman*

- 2.17 In the Romano-British period, a settlement at Bitterne Manor (*Clausentum*) in the Southampton area became soon after the Roman Conquest in AD 43, the principal centre within the region and functioned as a trading port, serving the cantonal capital of *Venta Bulgarum* (Winchester).
- 2.18 A second major Roman settlement in the Southampton environs was located in the vicinity of Nursling Industrial Estate, to the west of the Site. Discoveries indicating the presence of a settlement were made in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in relation to gravel quarrying and the construction of the railway line and included numerous features such as wells, pits and a possible granary (HER No. 25275). A number of investigations carried out prior to the development of the industrial estate revealed extensive evidence for the Romano-British settlement off Dairy Lane. The remains included a field system, settlement enclosures and pottery dating to AD 60-130 (HER Nos. 35503, 41774, 25355 and 35502) and were interpreted as part of a small rural community predominantly involved in pastoral farming, which subsequently expanded and developed to the south-west in the Late Romano-British period.
- 2.19 The settlement was located nearby a crossing over the River Test, alongside a road leading from *Venta Bulgarum* via Nursling to the New Forest (HER No. 14). The course of the road is thought to have traversed the area to the north west of the Site.

### *Saxon and medieval*

- 2.20 Following the abandonment of the Roman settlement at Nursling Industrial Estate in the late 4<sup>th</sup> or early 5<sup>th</sup> century AD, a new settlement had been established in the vicinity of the Site towards the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> century AD. Nursling is first mentioned as *Nhutselle* in a document dated to AD 800 (HER No. 28448).
- 2.21 There is limited evidence for Saxon activity within the vicinity of the Site. However, a trial trench evaluation undertaken in 2010 within Five Acres Fields immediately to the north of the site for the Oasis Academy (SOU 1545) revealed a hearth, which has been dated by C14 to AD660—770. Further investigation undertaken following the evaluation (SOU 1554) identified further archaeological features that are considered to date to the Saxon and medieval periods. Further samples taken from charcoal rich contexts along with that previously taken in the evaluation gave date ranges of AD660-770 to AD1150-1240.

- 2.22 The medieval village of Nursling has two areas of historic settlement, one centred on Nursling Street, and the other on St Boniface's Church to the north-west of the site.
- 2.23 During the medieval period the site is likely to have been occupied by fields within the rural surroundings of known scattered settlements. The archaeological evidence for medieval activity in the vicinity of the site includes remains found in advance of gravel extraction immediately to the south west of the site in Adanac Park (HER No. 32347). These remains included two corn dryers, a hearth and field ditches, which indicates agricultural activity in the area and the potential for the presence of a settlement in close proximity. In addition, two medieval ditches were revealed during the evaluation at Adanac Park as well as an assemblage of medieval pottery confirming the presence of medieval agricultural features in this area.

#### *Post-medieval and modern*

- 2.24 The Site remained within a rural landscape throughout the post medieval and in the modern period. A current Ordnance Survey map labels the site as "Workings(Disused)", and gravel quarrying is known to have taken place on other sites in the area in the 1970s, associated with construction of the motorway. However historic Ordnance Survey maps from 1897 to 1982 do not show a gravel quarry on the site. Land contamination records show the site as part of a larger area of landfill.

### **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014).
- 3.2 Specifically the evaluation sort to establish a) whether, and to what extent, the site has been affected by past quarrying activities, and b) the thickness of any modern deposits/overburden overlying potential archaeological remains.
- 3.3 For the purposes of this project, archaeologically significant remains and contexts are defined as remains and contexts relating to pre-19th-century human use of the area.

- 3.4 This information gathered will enable the SCCHET acting as advisers to SCC to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 As set out in the WSI the proposed evaluation strategy was for the excavation of two sets of trenches. Set One comprising the initial excavation of 12 trenches 20m long by 1.8m wide and located outside of and around the edge of the sport pitch footprints. The Set One trenches would ascertain the impact that previous quarrying may have had on the site and determine the need for and scope of any further trenches (Set Two) that maybe required in consultation with SCCHET. If the Set One trenches showed that the site has not been totally affected by quarrying, a second set (Set Two) of 20m long by 1.8m wide trenches would have been excavated, up to a maximum of 24 further trenches. The Set Two trenches would be positioned on varying alignments within the pitches to be affected by the proposed groundworks and the location and number of trenches required would be agreed in consultation with SCCHET
- 4.2 Excavation commenced as proposed with the excavation of 20m long trenches and started with Trench 4. It soon became clear that substantial amounts of made ground construction rubble and materials were present within the trench along with the presence of a bad egg odour indicating the presence of Hydrogen Sulphide and a black vertical stain indicating the presence of hydrocarbons and associated odour along with the presence of an old car exhaust. Three c. 2m long x 1.2m deep test pits were excavated within the footprint of Trench 4. Following consultation with SCCHET, SCC Landscape and Development Manager and Contaminated Land Officer it was agreed that as per Trench 4 a test pit would be excavated at either end of the proposed Set One trench locations and where made ground was still found to be present to a depth of 1.20m then no further excavation within the trench footprint would be required. Each test pit would also immediately be backfilled following completion of its excavation and recording. The aim of this methodology was to

minimise the excavation of obvious modern made ground (landfill) and potential contaminated ground particularly if this should prove to be domestic waste.

- 4.3 The undertaken fieldwork therefore comprised of the excavation of 24 test pits located within the footprints of (TR1-4, 6-12) and 1 no 20m x 1.8m trench (TR5) along the line of the original 12 planned trenches in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). This was undertaken as set out in 4.2, with the approval of Southampton City Council Historic Environment team (SCCHET). Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*.
- 4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision and continued to a depth of 1.20m where it was clear that modern made ground deposits were still present and continuing below this depth. No archaeological horizons were encountered. This also represented the maximum anticipated depth of development and safe working depth in accordance with H&S guidelines. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 Following machining, recording was undertaken in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1 Fieldwork Recording Manual. Deposits were recorded by drawn plans (scale 1:20 or 1:50, or electronically using Leica GPS or Total Station (TST) as appropriate) and drawn sections (scale 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate). In all trenches as only topsoil/subsoil/made ground was encountered only a representative section was recorded with a record of the height of each key horizon at either end of the trench as well as the ground surface and maximum depths of the trench and these converted to OD heights.
- 4.4 A full photographic record was maintained using digital cameras for all photography of the site. The photographic record illustrates both the detail of excavation and the Site as a whole.
- 4.5 As no archaeological features or deposits were identified no sample excavation was undertaken.

- 4.6 Deposits were assessed for their palaeo-environmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* but no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.7 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Andover. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the archive will be deposited with Southampton City Council under accession number SOU 1685. an ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive will be prepared and deposited in accordance with Standards for the Creation, Compilation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives" (Southampton City Council, 2007)
- 4.8 A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B, will be entered by CA onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>.

## 5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-10)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are to be found in Appendices A.
- 5.2 Trenches 1 to 12 were all revealed to be blank beyond modern made ground and contained no archaeological features, deposits or finds. Within each excavated test pit modern made ground was encountered to a depth of 1.20m+ at which point excavation ceased as this lay beyond the depth of the proposed development impact. The made ground/landfill comprised of a mixture of brick rubble and construction debris/waste material (but non domestic waste) such as plastic piping and old rags, and in Trench 4 an old car exhaust, intermixed with disturbed gravel and silty clay. In particular in Trench 4 a bad egg odour was encountered in the central test pit, which would be a sign of hydrogen sulphide. Within the western test pit of Trench 4 a hydrocarbon vertical stain and associated odour was encountered along with the old car exhaust. At the north east end of Trench 12 (and far north eastern edge of the development area) possible natural soil deposits were indicated at a depth of 0.40m below ground level. This may be an indication that small islands

or baulks of undisturbed material remain in situ within the north east corner and possibly around the edges of the site despite the extensive quarrying.

- 5.3 Trench 5 encountered redeposited gravels containing brick rubble at 0.45m in depth and had been truncated by modern land drains associated with the sports pitches and sealed by further amounts of made ground. The trench was partly excavated to a depth of 1.20m to confirm its nature and was seen to wholly contain redeposited gravel due to the presence of brick rubble and fragments within its matrix.
- 5.4 Trench 12 was sealed by a layer of made ground, and at its south eastern end and central area to be made up wholly of modern made ground (1201) to a depth of 1.20m+. At the north east end of Trench 12 and at the very far north eastern edge of the development area a layer of mid brown silty clay (1202), with no inclusions was revealed at a depth of 0.40m below ground level, to be overlying a dark brown silty clay (1203), which overlay a mid brown silty clay with a large abundance of gravel. However, given the modern disturbance within the remainder of Trench 12 it is unclear if this material was insitu deposits or redeposited material. No archaeology was revealed. This may be an indication that small islands or baulks of undisturbed material remain in situ within the north east corner and possibly around the edges of the site despite the extensive quarrying.
- 5.5 Land drains were located within Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5 and 10, and the depth of excavation and test pit locations were slightly adjusted accordingly to protect them.

## **6. FINDS**

- 6.1 No finds were recovered during the course of the evaluation.

## **7. PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL**

- 7.1 No deposits were identified that were suitable for taking environmental samples

## **8. DISCUSSION**

- 8.1 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were recovered during the course of the excavation. Trenches 1-12 consisted of made ground of building rubble and



other waste materials (but non domestic waste) to a depth of below 1.2m at which point excavation ceased as this lay beyond the depth of the proposed development impact. However, at the north eastern end of Trench 12 natural soil deposits were revealed at a depth of 0.40m below ground level.

- 8.2 It had been anticipated prior to the start of works, that made ground and truncated natural might be found throughout the site due to its history as a gravel quarry and subsequent landfill. The results of the evaluation confirmed this, and indicate that the potential for the survival of archaeological remains across the site is unlikely due to the impact of quarrying and subsequent landfill. However, the survival of natural soil deposits within Trench 12 maybe an indication that small islands or baulks of undisturbed material remain *in situ* within the north east corner and possibly around the edges of the site despite the extensive quarrying.
- 8.3 The work also confirms the citation of the site as “Workings (Disused)” on a current Ordnance Survey map and establishes that gravel quarrying is likely to have taken place at the site. The site was subsequently backfilled with landfill possibly associated with the construction of the motorway along with, based on personal communication on site, material from the Southampton docks.

## 9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Ray Kennedy, assisted by Tony Brown and Tom Hackett. The report was written by Ray Kennedy. The illustrations were prepared by Jon Bennett. The archive has been compiled by Adam Howard, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Damian De Rosa

## 10. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2015 *Geology of Britain Viewer* [http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology\\_viewer\\_google/googleviewer.html](http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html) Accessed 13 May 2015

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 *Lordshill Recreation Ground, Redbridge Lane Southampton: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

SCCHET (Southampton City Council Historic Environment Team), 2015 Brief for an Archaeological Investigation



## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
1	100	Layer	Topsoil	Light greyish brown sandy loam. Grass rooting throughout. Flint inclusions, poorly sorted, sub-angular 1% <35mm		1.5	0-0.30m
1	101	Layer	Made Ground	A mixture of modern rubble in the upper part of the fill and yellowish brown clay lower down with occasional modern CBM inclusions. No archaeology			0.30m+ Excavation ceased at 1.20m

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
2	200	Layer	Topsoil	Light greyish brown sandy loam. Occasional angular and sub-angular flint inclusions 20-70mm, poorly sorted. Compacted		1.5,	0-0.30m
2	201	Layer	Made ground	Differing layers of sandy/clayey soil with a great abundance of sub-angular flint and building rubble inclusions. Compact. No archaeology			0.30m+ Excavation ceased at 1.20m

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
3	300	Layer	Topsoil	Light greyish brown sandy loam. Sub-angular flint and gravel inclusions throughout.		1.5	0-0.30m
3	301	Layer	Made ground	A mixture of modern rubble in the upper part of the fill and disturbed yellowish brown clay lower down with occasional modern CBM inclusions. No archaeology			0.30m+ Excavation ceased at 1.20m

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
4	400	Layer	Topsoil	Light greyish brown sandy loam. Angular and sub-angular flint inclusions throughout 20-70mm, poorly sorted.		1.5m	0-0.2m
4	401	Layer	Made ground	Light brown clayey-sand with abundant rounded/sub-rounded/angular flint and rubble inclusions. Evenly sorted and compacted. Occasional inclusions of glass, chinaware, metal, plastic piping and timber. No archaeology			0.2m+ Excavation ceased at 1.20m

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
5	500	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy loam. Occasional sub-angular flint, 10-40mm, poorly sorted. Compacted		1.5m	0-0.15m
5	501	Layer	Made ground	Dark greyish brown sandy silt. Many irregular/sub-angular flint, 20-50mm. Poorly sorted. Compacted. Frequent CBM inclusions			0.15-0.3m

5	502	Layer	Made ground	Redeposited gravel. Abundance of irregular flint, 10-100mm, sorted in a mid-brown silty sand containing occasional modern brick/cbm rubble inclusions. No archaeology			0.3m+ Excavation ceased at 1.20m
5	503	Cut	Modern Land Drain				
5	504	Cut	Modern Land Drain				
5	505	Cut	Modern Land Drain				
5	506	cut	Modern Land Drain				

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
6	600	Layer	Topsoil	Mid- greyish brown sandy loam. Angular / sub-angular / irregular flint throughout, 20-140mm. Poorly sorted. Compacted		1.5m	0-0.25m
6	601	Layer	Made ground	Yellow sand and reddish brown silty clay with grey mottling. Compacted			0.25-0.6m
6	602	Layer	Made ground	Redeposited coarse gravel in a dark brown silty clay. Gravel, irregular flint 5-120mm, poorly sorted. Compacted. Modern CBM and brick rubble inclusions. No archaeology			0.6m+ Excavation ceased at 1.20m

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
7	700	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy loam. Sub-angular flint throughout, 10-50mm poorly sorted. Compacted		1.5	0-.2m
7	701	Layer	Made ground	Bands of gravelly silty clay, sandy clay, and buried topsoil. Humic patches, decaying wood, glass, tin roofing. Compacted.			0.2-0.8m
7	702	Layer	Made ground	Irregular flint/shingle 5-100mm, evenly sorted in a light brownish sand. Compacted. Modern CBM and brick rubble inclusions. No archaeology			0.8m+ Excavation ceased at 1.20m

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
8	800	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy loam. Occasional sub-angular flint, 20-100mm. Poorly sorted. Compacted		1.5m	0-0.2m
8	801	Layer	Made ground	Bands of gravelly silty clay			0.2-0.9m
8	802	Layer	Made ground	Light yellowish brown clay with grey and dark yellow mottling, occasional small stones and grit, 1-5mm poorly sorted. Inclusions of modern brick rubble and CBM Made-ground.			0.9m+ Excavation ceased at 1.20m

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
9	900	Layer	Topsoil	Light greyish-brown sandy loam. Occasional sub-angular/irregular flint 10-50mm. Poorly sorted. Compacted.		1.5	0-0.2m

9	901	Layer	Made ground	Dark brown/mid yellowish brown sand with shingle. Compacted. With inclusions of modern brick rubble and CBM			0.2m+ Excavation ceased at 1.20m
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Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
10	1000	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy loam with occasional irregular/sub-rounded flint 10-40mm poorly sorted. Compacted		1.5	0-0.10m
10	1001	Layer	Made ground	Mid yellowish brown sand with patches and bands of dark greenish grey clay. Gravel and grit throughout. Flint 5-120mm, poorly sorted. Frequent pieces of brick, glass and tarmac. No archaeology			0.1m+ Excavation ceased at 1.20m

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
11	1100	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy loam with occasional rounded/sub-rounded flint 10-40mm, poorly sorted. Compacted		1.5	0-0.25
11	1101	Layer	Made ground	Dark brown silty clay with patches of dark grey clay and yellow sand. Many irregular/ sub rounded flint inclusions 5-40mm poorly sorted. Compacted. No archaeology			0.25m + Excavation ceased at 1.20m

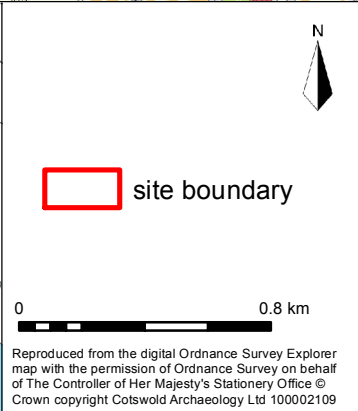
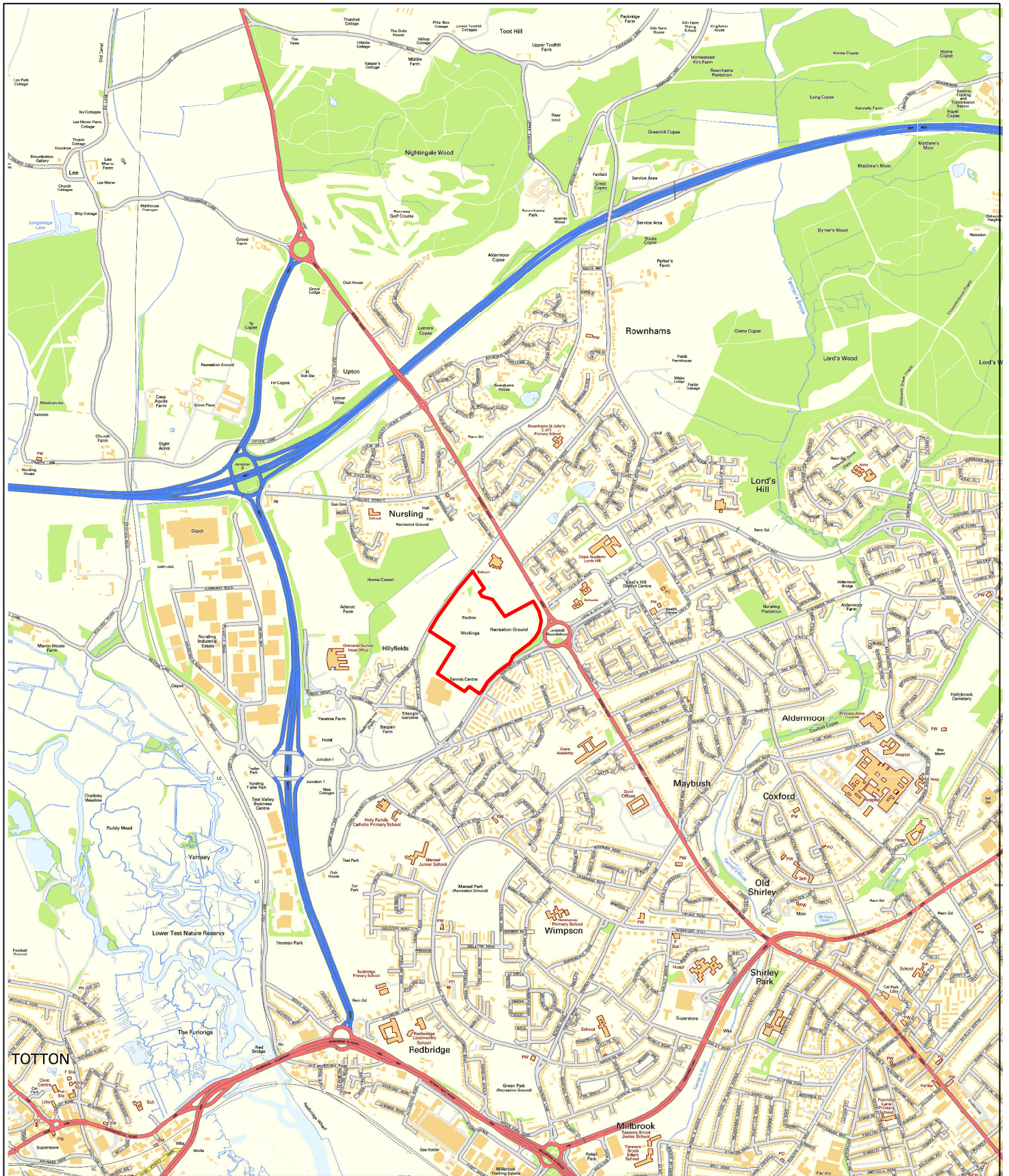
Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
12	1200	Layer	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy loam. Occasional rounded/sub-angular flint, 20-50mm, poorly sorted. Compacted		1.5m	0.02m
12	1201	Layer	Made ground	Dark brown silty clay. Occasional flint as above, coal, broken glass and brick. Compacted			0.2-0.4m NE end of trench. 0.2 - 1,20m+ in central and SW end of trench
12	1202	Layer	Layer	Mid brown silty clay, no inclusions.			0.4-0.85m NE end of trench only
12	1203	Layer	Layer	Dark brown silty clay, occasional stone 2-5mm inclusions, evenly sorted. No archaeology			0.85-1.2m NE end of trench only
12	1204	Layer	Natural	Mid brown silty clay with a large abundance of gravel, 5-70mm, poorly sorted. Compacted			1.2m+ NE end of trench only

**APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>	
Project Name	Lords Hill Outdoor Recreation Centre, Redbridge Lane Southampton
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in May 2015 at Lords Hill Outdoor Recreation Centre, Redbridge Lane, Southampton. Twenty four test pits and one trench were machine excavated.</p> <p>The trenches were not targeted on any archaeological anomalies but were distributed across the proposed development in order to assess the archaeological potential across a wide an area as possible. No archaeological features, deposits or finds were recovered during the course of the excavation. Trenches 1-12 consisted of made ground of building rubble and other waste materials to a depth of below 1.2m in most places. The made ground is associated with likely gravel quarrying at the site, which had subsequently been landfilled with material possibly associated with the construction of the motorway in the 1970s and material from Southampton docks. However, the survival of natural soil deposits within the north east end of Trench 12 maybe an indication that small islands or baulks of undisturbed material remain in situ within the north east corner and possibly around the edges of the site.</p>
Site Code	SOU 1685
Project dates	11-13 May 2015
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Archaeological Evaluation
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	None
Future work	None
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	
Site Location	Lords Hill Outdoor Recreation Centre, Redbridge Lane Southampton: SO16 0XN
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SU 3794 1564
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>	
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Brief originator	Southampton City Council Historic Environment Team
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Manager	Damian De Rosa
Project Supervisor	Ray Kennedy
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	None
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	None
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>	Southampton City Council



Physical	Southampton City Council	None
Paper	Southampton City Council	Context sheets, trench sheets, plans
Digital	Southampton City Council	Photos, Survey data, GIS data
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 <i>Lords Hill Outdoor Recreation Centre, Redbridge Lane Southampton, Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA Report No. 15253. CA Project No. 770218. Site Code: SOU 1685		



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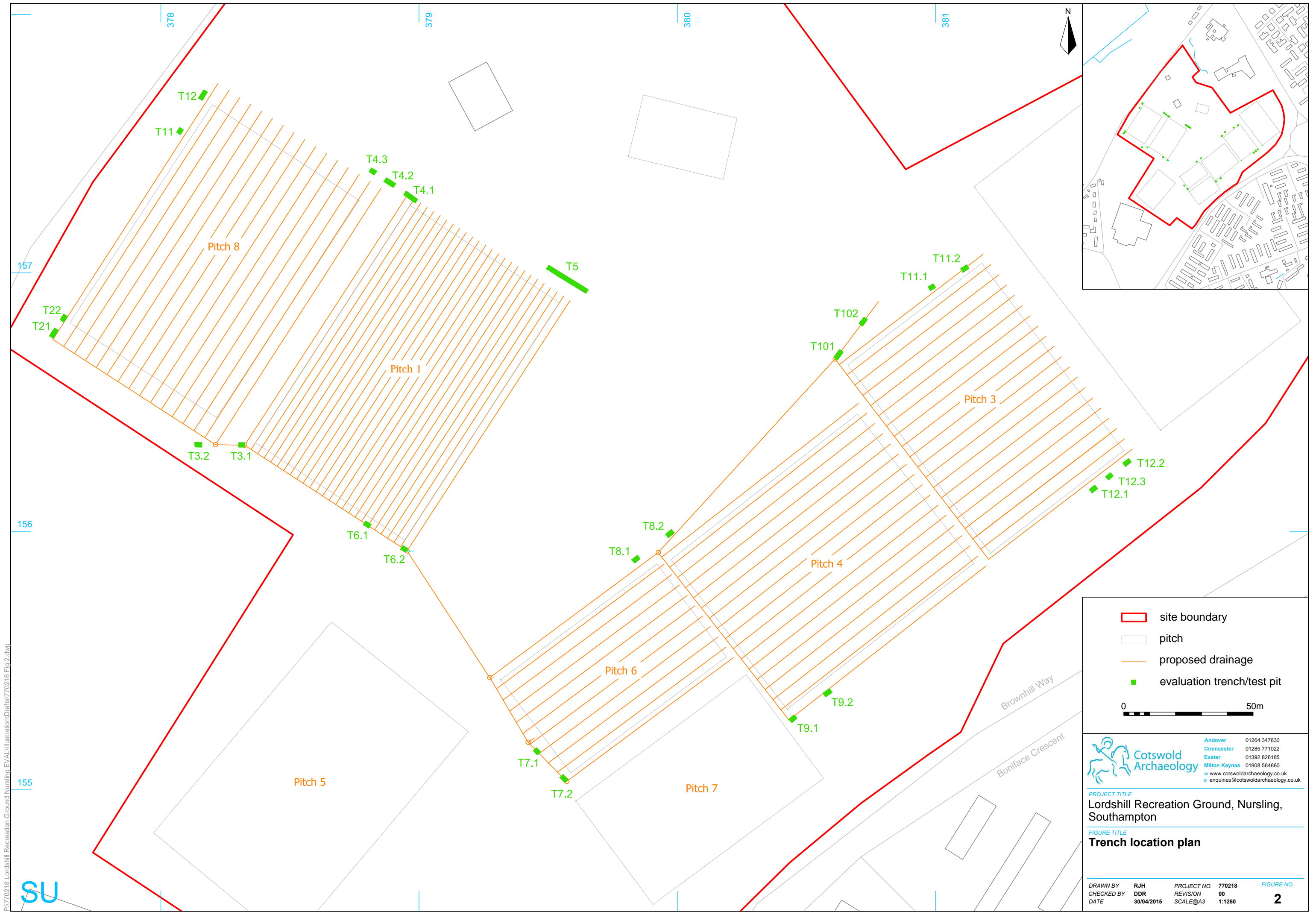
**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Lordshill Recreation Ground, Nursling, Southampton

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

DRAWN BY	RJH	PROJECT NO.	770218		
CHECKED BY	ATB	DATE	30/04/2015		FIGURE NO.
APPROVED BY	DDR	SCALE @ A4	1:24,000		<b>01</b>

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P:\770218 Lordshill Recreation Ground Nursling EVAL\Illustration\Drafts\770218 Fig 2.dwg

**SU**

▭ site boundary  
 pitch  
— proposed drainage  
◆ evaluation trench/test pit

0  50m

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PROJECT TITLE  
**Lordshill Recreation Ground, Nursling, Southampton**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench location plan**

DRAWN BY	R/JH	PROJECT NO.	770218	<small>FIGURE NO.</small>
CHECKED BY	DDR	REVISION	00	<b>2</b>
DATE	30/04/2015	SCALE	A3 1:1250	





3



4



5



6

- 3 Test pit 4, looking north-west (scales 1m)
- 4 Test pit 4, representative section, looking north-east (scale 1m)
- 5 Trench 5, representative section (scale 1m)
- 6 Trench 5 (scales 2m and 1m)


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PROJECT TITLE  
 Lordshill recreation ground, Nursling  
 Southampton

FIGURE TITLE  
**Photographs**

DRAWN BY	JB	PROJECT NO.	770218	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	RK	DATE	14/05/2015	<b>3 to 6</b>
APPROVED BY	DDR	SCALE@A3	NA	





7



8

- 7 Trench 12, looking north-east (scale 1m)
- 8 Trench 12, representative sample looking south-east (scale 1m)
- 9 Working shot
- 10 Working shot



9



10


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PROJECT TITLE  
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FIGURE TITLE  
 Photographs

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APPROVED BY	DDR	SCALE@A3	NA	



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