

Land at Moorgreen Hospital West End Hampshire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
CgMs Consulting

on behalf of
Barrett Homes

CA Project: 770363
CA Report: 16329

November 2016



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SUMMARY

Project Name: Land at Moorgreen Hospital
Location: Land at Moorgreen Hospital, West End, Hampshire
NGR: SU 4772 1448
Type: Evaluation
Date: 13 June, 19 and 31 October 2016
Planning Reference: F/15/77247
Accession Number: A2016.33
Location of Archive: Hampshire County Council Museums & Archives Service
Site Code: MOGH 16

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in June and October 2016 at Land at Moorgreen Hospital, West End, Hampshire. Seven trenches were excavated.

Due to on-site constraints the evaluation had to be undertaken over three site visits. The trial trenching has provided clear evidence that the topography and ground formation of the site was greatly altered in the modern period in association with the construction of the hospital. In view of the level of truncation due to this modern development, it is reasonable to surmise that no evidence associated with the previously identified Bronze Age barrow cemetery (adjacent to the site), survives within the current development footprint (if it ever did). During the trial trench evaluation no finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance pre-dating the modern era were identified.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between June and October 2016 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation, at the request of CgMs on behalf of Barratt Homes at Moorgreen Hospital, West End, Hampshire (centred at NGR: SU 4772 1448; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken as a condition (see section 1.2) of the planning permission granted by Eastleigh Borough Council (EBC; ref: F/15/77247), for the redevelopment of the site for 121 dwellings; to include the conversion of the former workhouse and gatehouse buildings and demolition of all other buildings with access off Botley Road. The development is also to include amenity space, pedestrian access, parking, landscaping, plant and refuse areas.
- 1.2 Condition 10 stated that, '*Prior to the commencement of any development hereby permitted a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) that sets out the methodology for archaeological trial pit trenches of any ground works located in the currently grassed areas to the south west and north east of Allington House to ensure that any archaeological remains encountered are recognised, characterised and recorded shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Provision should also be made for the public dissemination of any results and the WSI should satisfy the Local Planning Authority that the scheme is sustainable under the terms of NPPF. The approved WSI shall be fully implemented. Reason: to protect the heritage interests of the site.*'
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2016) and approved by Neil Adam, Senior Archaeologist Hampshire County Council (SAHCC), archaeological advisor to Eastleigh Borough Council. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), and the HCC's *Archaeology and Planning: Guidance for Contractors* (HCC 2013).

The site

- 1.4 The development area is approximately 2.79ha, and comprises former hospital buildings and car parking areas. The site is bordered to the south by Botley Road, to the west by Moorgreen Road and, to the north and east by the remainder of the hospital site. The site has previously been comprehensively developed and the

density of modern development at Moorgreen hospital has undoubtedly impacted on the archaeological potential of the site. The site is located at a height of c.49m AOD.

- 1.5 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as on the boundary of the Earnley Sand Formation (sand, silt and gravel) and Marsh Farm Formation (clay, silt and sand) (BGS 2016). This corresponded to what was uncovered during the evaluation (section 5.2).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A desk-based assessment (DBA) was previously prepared in support of the planning application for the development of the site (CgMs 2015). A brief summary of the findings of that report is given below.

Prehistoric (500,000 BC – AD 43)

- 2.2 No evidence of Neolithic, Bronze or Iron Age activity has been identified within the site itself. A line of bowl barrows are recorded, on an east-west alignment to the north of the site. The nearest is recorded c.75m north of the site boundary and marks the western end of the group. The site of another barrow, now built over, is located 100m north of the site boundary.
- 2.3 Based on the available evidence it is probable that, throughout the Bronze Age, the site was located within a funerary landscape. An extensive, dispersed barrow cemetery is recorded to the north and west of the site, two further barrows are located to the east and evidence for Bronze Age settlement is located c.1km to the south of the site. The site had a moderate potential for one or more as yet to be discovered Bronze Age barrows. It was noted that the barrows to both the north and west of the site survived as earthworks into the early 1800's and are identified on the Ordnance Survey. Similarly, aerial reconnaissance has discovered a possible barrow to the east of the site, but aerial photographs do not suggest any further barrows within the site.

Roman (AD 43 – AD 410)

- 2.5 No significant evidence of Roman activity has been identified either within the site or within a 1km radius of the site. The limited available evidence indicates that the site

remained part of a wooded or heathland landscape with limited exploitation along the course of the River Itchen 2km to the west.

Saxon and Medieval (AD 410 - 1539)

- 2.6 No Anglo-Saxon or early medieval sites or finds are recorded within the site. The Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME) Medieval Settlement Project (1996) identified a possible medieval manor 150m to the north-east of the site at Moorgreen. However, despite extensive development in this area no evidence of structures or activity of this date has been recorded.

Post-Medieval and Modern (1539 - 2016)

- 2.7 Little development occurred in the area throughout the Post-Medieval and Modern periods. The site remains as plantation or open land within a largely wooded and heathland grazing landscape.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The general 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 with *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the evaluation has been designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable Eastleigh Borough Council 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).
- 3.2 Specific objectives of the evaluation were to ascertain whether any archaeological features or finds associated with a locally recorded Bronze Age barrow cemetery extended into the site.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation of seven trenches in the locations shown on the attached plan. The position of the trenches was adjusted on site to account for services and the constraint of development which had begun before the evaluation was finished, so some trenches were limited to - and relocated within the remaining space left on site. This meant that the length of trenches varied. (Figure 2). Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS, and scanned for live services by trained Cotswold Archaeology staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the Cotswold Archaeology *Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services*. The final 'as dug' trench plan was recorded with GPS.
- 4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual.
- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* and none were sampled and no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.4 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 artefacts will be deposited with Hampshire Museums Service, along with the site archive (accession number: A2016.33). A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGURES 2-5)

5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A, B respectively.

Geology

5.2 The natural geological substrate consisted of light yellow/orange sandy-clay and silty-sand with patches of sub-rounded flint-pebble gravel. The natural geology was revealed at an average depth of 0.79m below present ground level (BPGL) on the northern half of the site and 0.4m BPGL on the southern half of the site. The natural geology dropped from its highest point at 46.7m aOD in the south-western corner of site (**Trench 4**) to its lowest point at 41.2m aOD in the north-eastern corner of site (**Trench 7**). This was overlain by mid-orange/brown fine silty-sand and silty-clay subsoil with 50% sub-rounded flint averaging 0.23m in thickness in the west and south-west of site. The subsoil was in turn sealed by an average of 0.15m of brown/grey silty-clay topsoil in the south-east corner of site and an average of 0.47m of garden soil in the northern half of the site.

5.3 Only a single sherd of residual modern flower pot was found in the subsoil of **Trench 3**, probably deposited during the development of the hospital. Considerably more overburden was revealed on the northern half of the site where the natural geology began to drop down into the valley to the north. The substantial depth of garden soil appeared to reflect landscaping.

6. THE FINDS

Pottery

6.1 The only find from this site was a rim sherd of modern flowerpot (C19-C20) from subsoil **301**

7. DISCUSSION

- 7.1 The trial trench evaluation did not reveal any evidence of a Bronze Age funerary landscape known to have previously existed immediately adjacent to the site. Indeed no features or finds of archaeological significance pre-dating the modern era were identified.
- 7.2 It is probable that considerable landscaping occurred during the development of Moorgreen Hospital to the north and east of the original buildings, as the natural geology drops by five and a half metres from south-west to north-east. As the natural topography drops to the north-east, truncation of the northern half of the site is indicated in the trenches furthest downslope through the absence of any surviving subsoil (**Trenches 2, 6 and 7**); whereas upslope (in **Trenches 1, 3, 4, and 5**), subsoil was recorded in each. Furthermore a largely homogenous garden soil only appears within the trenches on the north-east side of the hospital buildings with its deepest extent identified in **Trench 2**. Truncation is most likely associated with the development of the hospital buildings given the similarity of the brick used in the existing hospital buildings to the frequent CBM inclusions within the garden soil matrix.

8. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Ray Kennedy and Jeremy Clutterbuck, assisted by Ed Grenier, Emily Stynes, Francesco Catanzaro, Sam Wilson and Alice Jones. The report was written by Ray Kennedy. The find interpretation was written by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Tilia Carmegh. The archive has been compiled by Andrew Donald, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard Greatorex.

9. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2016 *Geology of Britain Viewer*
http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 5
March 2013
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 *Land at Moorgreen, West End, Hampshire:
Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*
- CgMs 2015, Moorgreen Hospital, West End, Hampshire, *Archaeological and
Heritage Desk Based Assessment*
- CIfA (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists) 2014 *Standard and guidance:
Archaeological field evaluation*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
(Reading)
- DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) 2012 *National Planning
Policy Framework*
- HCC (Hampshire County Council) 2013 *Archaeology and Planning: Guidance for
Contractors*
- RCHME (Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England) 1996
Medieval Settlement Project

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Made Ground	Dark greyish brown silt containing brick rubble and 50% sub-rounded pebbles	14	1.8	0.29
1	101	Layer		Garden soil	Dark greyish brown humic silty sand with rare coal inclusions and 5% ≤50mm sub rounded pebbles	14	1.8	0.22
1	102	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown silty fine sand with 50% ≤40mm sub rounded flint pebbles	14	1.8	0.15
1	103	Layer		Natural	Light orangey yellow sand with 30% darker orange mottling. 50% ≤40mm sub rounded flint pebbles	14	1.8	>0.01
2	200	Layer		Made Ground	Hardcore for current development	6	1.8	0.2
2	201	Layer		Garden soil	Dark black humic silty sand with 5% sub rounded ≤50mm sub rounded pebbles	6	1.8	0.29
2	202	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown with light yellow and orangey grey lenses. Sand with 40% sub rounded flint pebbles	6	1.8	>0.01
2	203	Layer		Levelling	Rubble with slate and brick similar to hospital buildings in matrix of brownish grey silty sand	6	1.8	0.29
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey loose silty clay with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions, with abundant rooting and a diffuse horizon	>20	>1.8	0-0.15
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Orangey brownish grey silty clay with rooting, common sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions, clear horizon	>20	>1.8	0.15-0.45
3	302	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish orange sandy clay with abundant gravel and lenses of whitish yellowy clayey sand.	>20	>1.8	0.45+
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey loose silty clay with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions, with abundant rooting and a diffuse horizon	>20	>1.8	0-0.15

4	401	Layer		Subsoil	Orangey brownish grey silty clay with rooting, common sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions, clear horizon	>20	>1.8	0.15-0.35
4	402	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish orange sandy clay with gravel inclusions	>20	>1.8	0.35+
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brownish grey loose silty clay with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions, with abundant rooting and a diffuse horizon	>20	>1.8	0-0.15
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Orangey brownish grey silty clay with rooting, common sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions, clear horizon	>20	>1.8	0.15-0.4
5	502	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish orange sandy clay with gravel inclusions	>20	>1.8	0.4+
6	600	Layer		Hardstanding	Concrete atop CBM rubble	4	1.8	0.3
6	601	Layer		Garden soil	Dark blackish brown humic silty sand with ≤40mm sub rounded flint pebbles	4	1.8	0.45
6	602	Layer		Natural	Light brownish yellow silty sand	4	1.8	>0.01
7	700	Layer		Made ground	Dark blackish brown humic silty sand with glass and CBM	13	1.83	0.05
7	701	Layer		Garden soil	Dark blackish brown humic silty sand with 5% ≤40mm sub rounded flint pebbles	13	1.83	0.58
7	702	Layer		Natural	Mid orangey yellow silty sand	13	1.83	>0.01

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land at Moorgreen Hospital, West End, Hampshire	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in June and October 2016 at Land at Moorgreen Hospital, West End, Hampshire. Seven trenches were excavated. The trial trench evaluation was not able to reveal any further evidence of a Bronze Age funerary landscape as was suggested at the outset of the archaeological investigation. No features or finds of archaeological significance pre-dating the modern era were found at all apart from a sherd of ¿post-medieval? residual pottery in the south west corner of the site within the subsoil.	
Project dates	13 June, 19 and 31 October 2016	
Project type	Evaluation	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land at Moorgreen Hospital, West End, Hampshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	2.79ha	
Site co-ordinates	SU 4772 1448	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Neil Adam	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Greatorex	
Project Supervisor	Ray Kennedy and Jeremy Clutterbuck	
MONUMENT TYPE		
None		
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
None		
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive: Hampshire Museum Service, A2016.33	Content
Physical		Pottery
Paper		Context sheets, matrices
Digital		Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 <i>Land at Moorgreen Hospital, West End, Hampshire: Archaeological Evaluation.</i>		



 Site location



0  1km

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Moorgreen Hospital, West End Southampton

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY TC
CHECKED BY DB
APPROVED BY RG

PROJECT NO. 770363
DATE 16/11/2016
SCALE @A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Modern feature
- Geology



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PROJECT TITLE
**Land at Moorgreen Hospital, West End
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FIGURE TITLE
Trench location plan

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CHECKED BY	DB	DATE	17/11/16	2
APPROVED BY	RG	SCALE@A3	1:1000	



1



2

- 1 Trench 2: working shot of excavation
- 2 Trench 3: post-excitation looking north-west (1m & 2m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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3



4

3 Representative section of Trench 1, looking north-west (1m scale)

4 Representative section of Trench 2, looking south-east (1m scale x2)



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FIGURE TITLE

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5 Trench 7: post-excavation, looking south-west (1m scale x2)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Moorgreen Hospital, West End
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FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

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FIGURE NO.

5

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