

**WHITE HART HOTEL  
SALISBURY  
WILTSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

*For*

**MREF TRADECO LTD**


CA PROJECT: 3229  
CA REPORT: 00000

OCTOBER 2010

WHITE HART HOTEL  
SALISBURY  
WILTSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CA PROJECT: 3229  
CA REPORT: 10193

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date	13 October 2010
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signed	
date	19 October 2010
issue	01

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## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** White Hart Hotel  
**Location:** Salisbury, Wiltshire  
**NGR:** SU 1461 2965  
**Type:** Evaluation  
**Date:** 29 September to 4 October 2010  
**Location of Archive:** To be deposited with Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum  
**Site Code:** WHH 10

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September and October 2010 at the request of MREF Tradeco Ltd at The White Hart Hotel, Salisbury, Wiltshire. One trench measuring 20m in length was excavated.

A possible late medieval or early post-medieval cellar that had been infilled in the late 17th/18th century was identified. This infilling may have formed part of more comprehensive redevelopment at the site, with evidence that the ground surface was raised by 0.4m and a stone wall foundation being constructed. Further, and presumably later redevelopment is suggested by the two brick wall foundations that correlate closely with a building shown on the 1880 Ordnance Survey map. A cobbled surface to their east, aligns with the entrance to the southern courtyard in The White Hart chequer, on the same map.

An undated small pit or posthole was sealed by the late 17th-/18th-century levelling.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In September and October 2010 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for MREF Tradeco Ltd within the car park for The White Hart Hotel, Salisbury, Wiltshire (centred on NGR: SU 1461 2965; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken prior to submission of a planning application for the residential development in part of the present car park that fronts St Ann's Street.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a brief (HCP/09HCP005 br, dated 13 January 2009) issued by the then Wiltshire County Council (now Wiltshire Council) Archaeological Service for archaeological evaluation, and with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2010) and approved by Clare King, Assistant County Archaeologist. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (2008), *Standards for Archaeological Assessment and Field Evaluation* (WCC Archaeology Service 1995), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006). It was monitored by Clare King, including a site visit on 30 September 2010.

### ***The site***

- 1.3 The site lies in the south of the car park of the White Hart Hotel adjacent to St Ann's Street (Fig. 2). It is at approximately 47m AOD and is level.
- 1.4 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as the Newhaven Chalk Member of the Cretaceous era (BGS 2005). Superficial deposits, the Fourth River Terrace of the Quaternary era, are mapped overlying these deposits. A small exposure of gravel, probably the river terrace, was encountered during the evaluation

### ***Archaeological background***

- 1.5 The new town of Salisbury was laid out in a grid plan, and in 1225 a charter was issued setting out the conditions of tenure within the city (RCHM 1980, xxxii). Each grid of houses was known as a chequer, with the current site forming the southern

limit of the White Hart Chequer, fronting St Ann's Street. The latter connected the eastern entrance of the cathedral close with St Ann's Gate and the roads to Clarendon Palace and Southampton.

- 1.6 The White Hart Chequer is relatively unexplored. In 2003 an evaluation at the rear of the White Hart Hotel itself uncovered part of a foundation wall constructed using chalk blocks. It was located some distance from the street frontage and was interpreted as a late or post-medieval outbuilding. Two large pits, possibly post-medieval in date, were also exposed. The south wall of The Barracks, a house known to be in existence in 1431, stands to a height of approximately 2m adjacent to the current car park (RCHM 1980, 118). Excavations on the nearby street frontages of New Street, Exeter Street and Brown Street have all revealed medieval buildings.

### ***Archaeological objectives***

- 1.7 The objectives of the evaluation were to establish the character, quality, date and extent of any archaeological remains or deposits surviving within the site. This information will assist the Wiltshire Council in making an informed judgement on the significance of the archaeological resource, and the likely impact upon it of the proposed development.

### ***Methodology***

- 1.8 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of one trench, 20m in length and 1.8m in width, in the location shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). The trench was positioned parallel to St Ann's Street.
- 1.9 The trench was initially 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. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.10 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* (2003) but no deposits were identified that

required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of Finds Immediately After Excavation* (1995).

- 1.11 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum along with the site archive. 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.

## **2. RESULTS (FIGS 2-5)**

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A and B respectively.
- 2.2 On stratigraphic grounds the earliest feature identified was small pit or possible posthole 123, exposed in the easternmost hand excavated sondage. It measured at least 1.3m in length, 1.2m in width, was 0.3m deep and cut into natural gravels. No datable material was recovered from associated fill, 122.
- 2.3 Post-medieval deposits were noted sealing the natural gravels within the sondage beyond pit 123. These initially comprised thin layer 119, that may represent trampling and probably was the same layer as upper fill 121 of pit 123. This was sealed by two horizontal make up layers, 117 and 118, containing post-medieval pottery, tile and animal bone that were in turn overlain by sand 104, the latter possibly representing a levelling/bedding deposit for a now removed surface.
- 2.4 A further hand dug sondage was excavated to a depth of 1.4m below the ground surface exposing four broadly horizontal layers 125-128. Post-medieval pottery, roof tile, bottle glass, clay pipe stem and worked flint were present in these layers. On health and safety grounds the sondage was not bottomed. However, the excavations were 0.4m lower than the exposure of geological gravel to the east and it is assumed that the sondage was located within a large feature, perhaps a former cellar. A small sondage between walls 107 and 109 showed that the foundations of 107 extended to at least 0.4m below the level of machining and were abutted by infill

- 125, suggesting that the wall may have formed the eastern side of the postulated cellar.
- 2.5 Uppermost cellar infill 125 was sealed to the west by sandy surface 112 which was partially overlain by chalk surface 110. The latter was cut by foundation trench 129 for wall 111.
- 2.6 Wall 111 was aligned perpendicular to St Ann's Street and comprised roughly dressed stone, possibly sandstone, each typically measuring 0.4m by 0.2m by 0.15m.
- 2.7 Five broadly comparable walls (105, 106, 109, 113, and 115) cut surfaces 104, 108, 110 and 112. All, except 106 which survived solely as a robber trench, comprised 19th-century bricks bonded by a hard cement mortar and aligned perpendicular to St Ann's Street. Between walls 113 and 115 rough surfacing 114, comprising crushed brick, tile and chalk was identified. The surface was cut by circular feature 132, within which evidence for a now removed drain pipe was revealed. To the east of walls 105 and 106 was cobbled surface 103.

### ***The Finds Evidence***

#### *The Pottery*

- 2.8 A single sherd of medieval pottery was identified from layer 118. A sherd of tin-glazed earthenware recovered from the same deposit suggests that the medieval sherd is residual. The medieval sherd occurs in a buff-coloured sandy fabric with bright coppery external glaze and thumb-stripe decoration. It is almost certainly a Laverstock product of later 13th or 14th century date (Musty *et al* 1969).
- 2.9 The remainder of the pottery dates to the post-medieval period, probably the 17th and 18th centuries. The tin-glazed sherd from layer 118 is from a plate with blue-painted decoration. It is probably a London or Bristol product and dates to the first half of the 18th century. A white stoneware sherd from surface 116 is probably of similar date. Internally-glazed earthenwares, mainly or wholly Verwood products, form the remainder of the pottery assemblage and are dateable to the mid 17th to 18th centuries. A sherd from a deep bowl or pan in this ware type was identified from cellar infill 125.



*Ceramic Building Material*

- 2.10 A fragment of glazed ridge tile in a pale-firing fabric with bright glaze from cellar infill 125 is probably a Laverstock product and dates to the 14th century.
- 2.11 The large bulk of the ceramic building material consists of fragments of unglazed flat-roof tile. Most occurs in a pale orange or yellowish fabric (fabric 1), sometimes with a grey core and always with abundant ironstone and clay-pellet inclusions. A few fragments from chalk surface 110 and cellar infills 125 and 127 occur in a very hard, sandy, dark red fabric (fabric 2). Where peg holes are noted these are mostly round; the only instance of square peg holes occurring with a fragment in fabric 2 from layer 127. Two of the fabric 2 tiles were preserved to full width and each measured 160mm. It is probable that the unglazed roofing tile dates to the late medieval and post-medieval periods.
- 2.12 A single handmade brick fragment was recovered as an unstratified find. The width and thickness of this brick are consistent with late medieval or early post-medieval date. The fabric is moderately hard and sandy with common clay pellet and iron inclusions and one very large flint inclusion. There are traces of lime mortar to the unbroken surfaces.

*Other material*

- 2.13 Worked flint consisting of three large flakes, two of which are fully cortical, was recovered from cellar infills 125 and 127. Both deposits produced post-medieval material and the flint almost certainly represents building material or trimming waste of medieval or later date.
- 2.14 Unmarked clay tobacco pipe stem fragments were recovered from layers 116 and 125. These might date to any time between the late 16th and late 19th centuries. Vessel glass of post-medieval and modern type was recorded from wall 115, layer 125 and as unstratified material (appendix B).
- 2.15 Animal bone was recovered from five deposits of post-medieval date. The species identified were cattle, sheep/goat, pig and rabbit. More fragmented material has been classified by size with cow-sized and sheep-sized categories present. The animal bone is in good condition. Evidence of butchery was present in the bone from cellar infill 125.

### 3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The following phasing is based on limited excavation and must therefore be regarded as tentative at this stage. No material earlier than medieval was recovered during the current works. Such findings concur with the documentary sources and with previous archaeological work in central Salisbury, which has recorded minimal evidence of prehistoric, Roman or Saxon activity within the medieval planned town

#### *Medieval*

- 3.2 Residual pottery and glazed roof tile of the late 13th or 14th centuries were recovered. Flint, worked as a building material was recovered but is intrinsically undatable. It is however noteworthy that a flint and mortar wall of the early 15th century was present c. 50m from the trench.

#### *?Late medieval/early post-medieval*

Wall 107 probably formed the eastern edge of a presumed cellar that extended more than 3.5m to the west and was deeper than 0.9m below the level of machining. The eastern side of the cellar was not established and could either be sealed by later surface formation 114 (see below) or underlie the impossible to remove concrete slab to the west.

#### *Late 17th/18th centuries*

- 3.3 The presumed cellar was infilled and then or soon after horizontal layers of c. 0.35m depth were spread over the natural gravels to the east of the cellar. It is likely that this remodelling of the site was a prelude to further building works, and that wall 111 was constructed at this time. The footings of this wall were formed by roughly dressed blocks of sandstone.

#### *Existing in 1880*

- 3.6 Comparison with a drawing based on the OS 1:500 map of 1880 (HBMC 1980, 116) suggests that walls 105 (or possibly robbed wall 106) and 115 correspond to the external walls of a building immediately to the west of an entrance, from St Ann's Street, to a southern courtyard in the Chequer. This correspondence is reinforced, for wall 115, by the recovery of 19th-century glass from above the wall and the observation that similar glass was cemented into the wall. To the east of wall 105 cobbled surface 103 would have formed the metalling at the entrance to the

courtyard. Wall 105 was aligned at a slight angle to all the other walls, although it had been partially truncated by modern services.

- 3.7 Wall 113 (similar to 115) and surface 114 may form a room within this building, possibly a lavatory, with circular 132 representing the associated down pipe. Wall 109, is assumed to be an internal division within this building.

#### *Undated features*

- 3.8 Small pit or posthole 123 contained no dating evidence but was sealed by layers probably deposited in the late 17th/18th century.

## **4. CA PROJECT TEAM**

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jamie Wright, assisted by Dave Parry. The report was written by Jamie Wright. The illustrations were prepared by Pete Moore. The archive has been compiled by Jamie Wright, and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

## **5. REFERENCES**

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2005 *England and Wales, Sheet 298 Salisbury, Bedrock and Superficial Deposits*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2010 *White Hart Hotel, Salisbury, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*

Musty, J., Algar, D.J. and Ewence, P.F. 1969 'The medieval pottery kilns at Laverstock, near Salisbury, Wiltshire', *Archaeologia* **102**, 83–150

RCHM (Royal Commission on Historic Monuments (England)) 1980 *Ancient and Historic Monuments in the City of Salisbury, Volume 1* London, HMSO

## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

## Trench 1

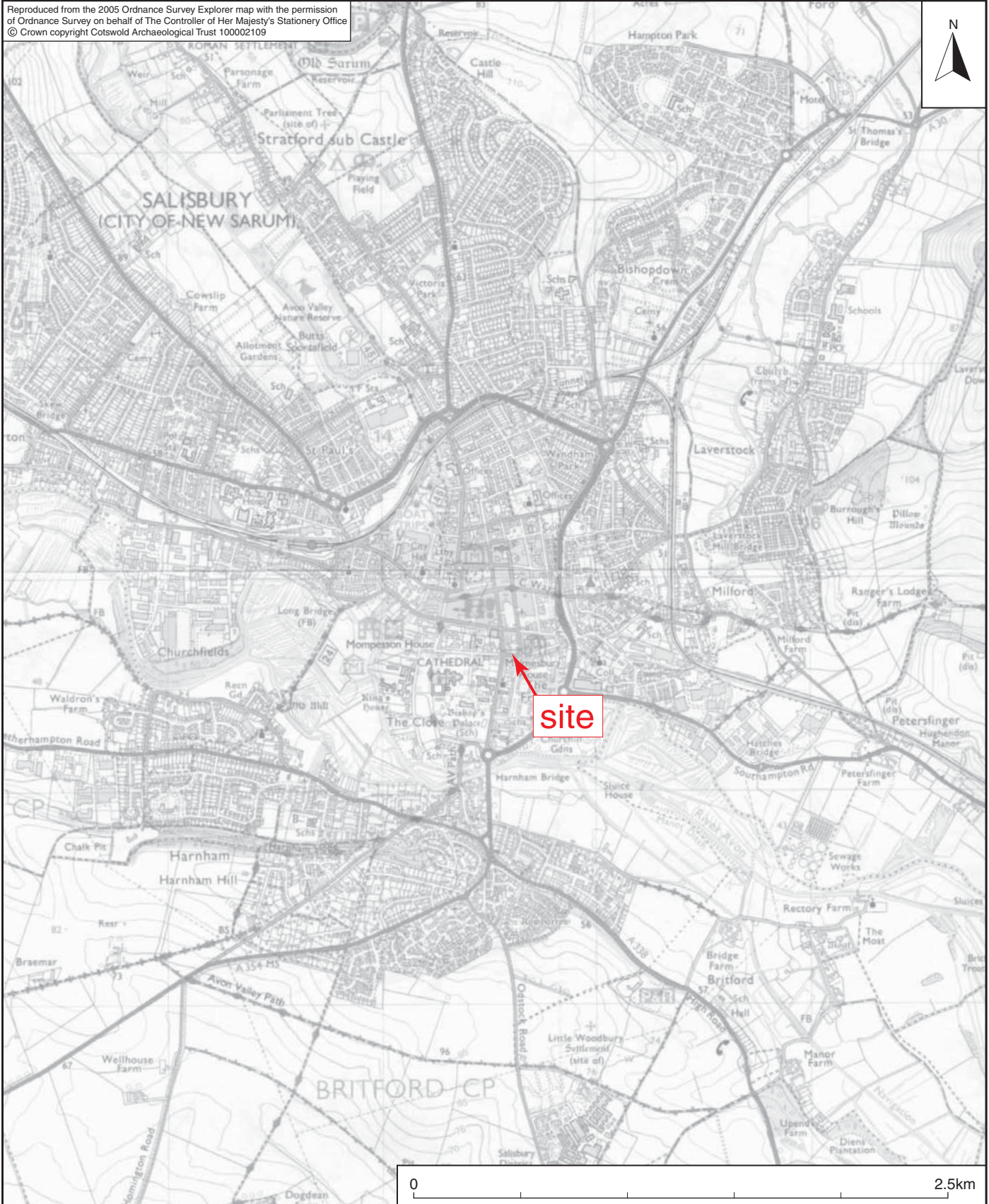
No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
101	Layer	Tarmac surface			0.1	Modern
102	Layer	Hardcore below 101			0.3/0.4	Modern
103	Layer	Firmly set flint cobble surface				
104	Layer	Grey sand, probable internal truncated surface	2	2.8	0.12	
105	Wall foundation	?C19 brick in hard cement. Not at 90° to St Ann's St.	2.1	0.4		
106	Robbed wall	Robber trench containing ?C 19th century brick frags.	2	0.2	0.3	C19th
107	Wall	Solid brick built wall at least 0.4m deep	2	0.2	>0.4	
108	Layer	Loose yellow sand.	2	0.5	0.1	
109	Foundation	Brick frags. in hard cement. Similar to 113 and 115.	2	0.45		
110	Layer	Chalk surface	2	1.6	0.2	
111	Foundation	Roughly dressed sandstones.	2	0.4	0.15	
112	Layer	Yellow sand surface	2	0.7	0.25	
113	Foundation	Brick frags. in hard cement.	2	0.4		
114	Layer	Uneven surface with CBM, chalk and flint inclusions.	2	2.8		
115	Foundation	Brick frags. in hard cement	2	.25		
116	Layer	Grey sand. Same as 104	2	2.8	0.12	
117	Layer	Silt and fine gravel below 116	>1.2	>0.5	0.15	
118	Layer	Greyish brown sandy silt. Below 117	>1.2	>0.5	0.17	
119	Layer	Very dark brown sandy silt. Below 118, over natural.	1.25		20mm	
120	Fill	Pale cream fine gravel. Below 118 and highest fill of 123	0.7	<0.5	20mm	
121	Fill	Black silt below 120	0.35	<0.5	30mm	
122	Fill	Brown flint gravel. Principle and lowest fill of 123	>0.7	0.3	0.28	
123	Cut	Small pit or posthole. Only half exposed but seemed circular	>0.7	>0.6	0.3	
124	Fill	Grey sandy silt fill of 129		c. 0.7	0.14	
125	Layer	Pale grey clay with stone, CBM. Below 112	>1.6	>0.7	0.2	
126	Layer	Very pale grey silty clay below 125	>1.6	>0.7	0.12	
127	Layer	Grey clay with CBM, chalk and flint. Contained large lens of lime mortar. Below 126.	>1.6	>0.7	0.35	
128	Layer	Dark brown clay. Below 127 and lowest layer excavated here.	>1.6	>0.7	>0.1	
129	Cut	Foundation cut for wall 111.	2	0.4	0.15	
130	Layer	Natural. Pale grey calcareous gravel. Only exposed in 0.5m by 1.3m sondage. Cut by 123.	>1.2	>0.5		
131	Layer	Patch of grey silt with chalk inclusions. May be fill of pit cut through 110.	0.95	0.8		
132	Cut	Circular cut.	0.5	0.5		
133	Fill	Chalk fill of 132. In centre was a 0.15m diameter void, 0.2m deep. Had appearance of holding drain from toilet pan.	0.5	0.5		


## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Description	Ct.	Wt.	Date
110	Ceramic building material: flat roof tile/peg tile (fabric 2) Post-medieval pottery: unglazed earthenware	2 1	151 15	C18–C19
115	Glass: modern moulded bottle	1	147	C19+
116	Ceramic building material: flat roof tile/peg tile (fabric 1; fabric 2) Post-medieval pottery: Verwood glazed earthenware; white stoneware Mollusc: oyster shell Animal bone; pig, sheep-sized Clay pipe: stem	4 3 2 2 2	242 10 14 6 5	C18+
117	Ceramic building material: flat roof tile/peg tile (fabric 1; fabric 2)	12	428	pmed
118	Ceramic building material: flat roof tile/peg tile (fabric 1; fabric 2) Iron nail Charcoal Post-medieval pottery: tin-glazed earthenware Medieval pottery: Laverstock glazed Mollusc: oyster shell Animal bone; cattle, pig, sheep-sized	8 2 1 1 1 2 5	395 26 11 7 10 34 20	C18
122	Animal bone; sheep	1	2	
125	Clay pipe: stem Glass: green bottle glass Animal bone; cow-sized Medieval tile: glazed ridge tile Post-medieval pottery: Verwood glazed earthenware Worked flint: flake (building material/waste) Ceramic building material: flat roof tile/peg tile (fabric 1; fabric 2) Iron nail Animal bone; rabbit	1 3 1 1 2 2 2 1 1	3 30 93 39 50 335 932 48 2	LC17–
127	Glass: green wine/spirits bottle Worked flint: flake Post-medieval pottery: Verwood glazed earthenware Ceramic building material: flat roof tile/peg tile (fabric 1; fabric 2) Animal bone; cattle, cow-sized, sheep-sized	1 1 3 3 3	20 34 52 1234 70	LC17–
128	Ceramic building material: flat roof tile/peg tile (fabric 1)	1	27	pmed
u.s.	Ceramic building material: brick Animal bone; pig Glass: green bottle glass	1 1 1	1230 5 1	

**APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM**


<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	White Hart Hotel, Salisbury, Wiltshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September and October 2010 at the request of MREF Tradeco Ltd at The White Hart Hotel, Salisbury, Wiltshire. One trench measuring 20m in length was excavated.</p> <p>A possible late medieval or early post-medieval cellar that had been infilled in the late 17th/18th century was identified. This infilling may have formed part of more comprehensive redevelopment at the site, with evidence that the ground surface was raised by 0.4m and a stone wall foundation being constructed. Further, and presumably later redevelopment is suggested by the two brick wall foundations that correlate closely with a building shown on the 1880 Ordnance Survey map. A cobbled surface to their east, aligns with the entrance to the southern courtyard in The White Hart chequer, on the same map.</p> <p>An undated small pit or posthole was sealed by the late 17th-/18th-century levelling.</p>	
Project dates	29 September to 4 October 2010	
Project type	Evaluation. Site code WHH 10	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	White Hart Hotel, Salisbury, Wiltshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	600m <sup>2</sup>	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SU 1461 2965	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Wiltshire Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Cliff Bateman	
Project Supervisor	Jamie Wright	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	None	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>	Wiltshire Building Record	Content
Physical		CBM, ceramics, animal bone and glass
Paper		Trench, Context and photographic sheets, A3 and A4 Drafting film.
Digital		Digital photos
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2010 <i>White Hart Hotel, Salisbury, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report 10193		



 COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY			
PROJECT TITLE White Hart Hotel, Salisbury Wiltshire			
FIGURE TITLE <b>Site location plan</b>			
DRAWN BY PJM	SCALE 1:25,000@A4	PROJECT NO. 3229	FIGURE NO. <b>1</b>





 evaluation trench



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

PROJECT TITLE  
White Hart Hotel, Salisbury  
Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE

**Trench location plan**

DRAWN BY

3229

SCALE

1:500@A4

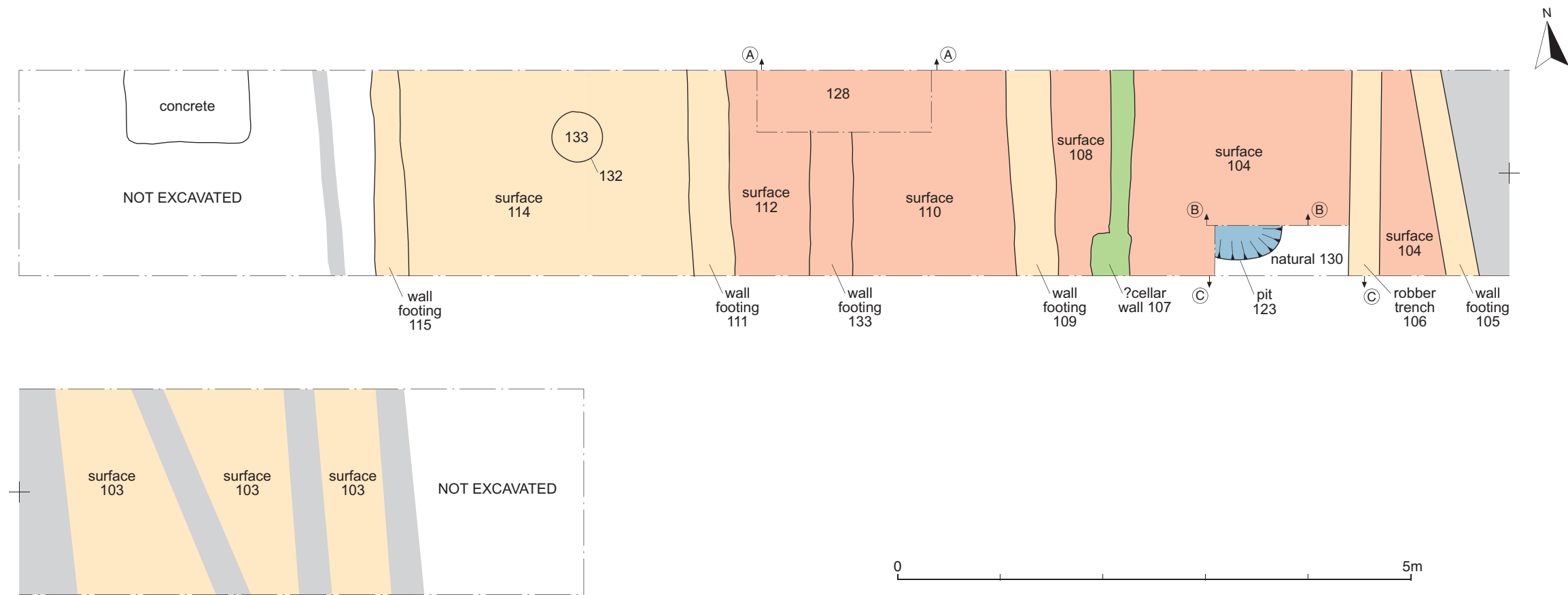
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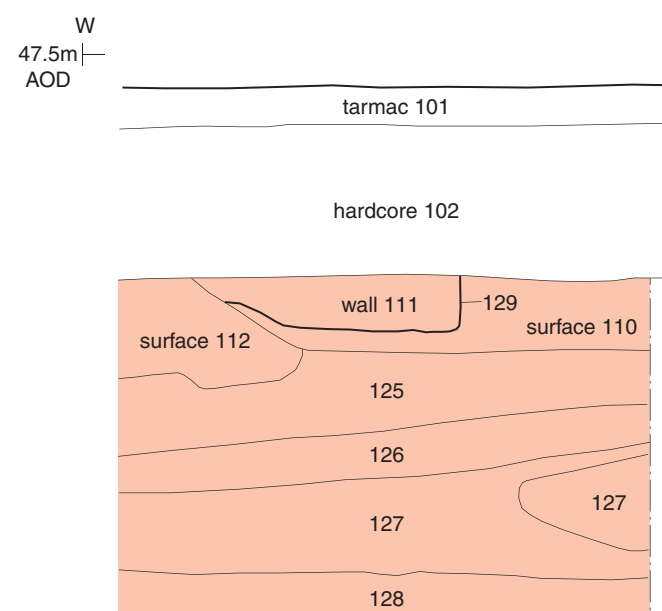
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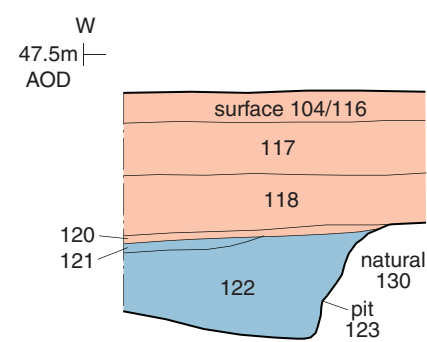




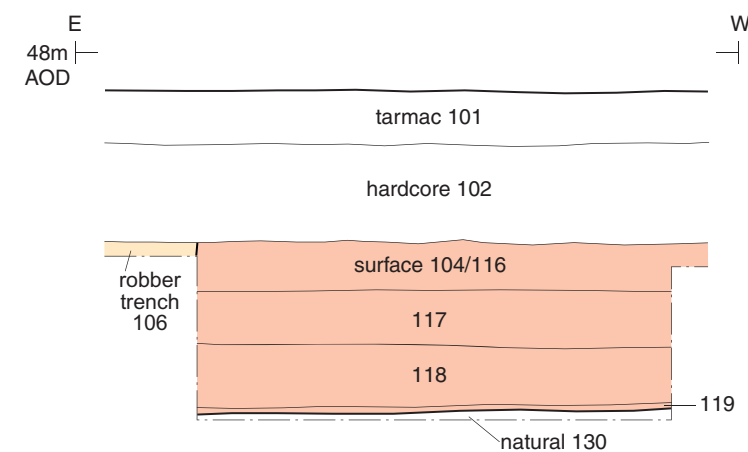
Section AA



Section BB




Section CC





4

4 Chalk surface 112, wall 111 and wall 113	 COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY			
	PROJECT TITLE The White Hart, Salisbury Wiltshire			
	FIGURE TITLE <b>Photograph</b>			
	DRAWN BY PJM	SCALE n/a	PROJECT NO. 3229	FIGURE NO. <b>4</b>





5



6

- 5 Over burden, layers 116 - 119, and natural gravel
- 6 Chalk surface 112 overlying cellar infilling 125-128



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

White Hart Hotel, Salisbury  
Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

DRAWN BY

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SCALE

n/a

PROJECT NO.

3229

FIGURE NO.

5 & 6