# Land to the rear of Qudos, 38 Castle Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

# A programme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording





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for

Kudos Ltd

by



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COAS reference: C1/AMR/13/QCS National Grid Reference: SU 14410 30202 Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum: C1/AMR/13/QCS OASIS reference: contexto1-155341

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September 2013

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Front cover image: The Site from the south-west. © Context One Archaeological Services 2013

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i

#### Non-technical summary

Context One Archaeological Services (COAS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording on Land to the rear of Qudos, 38 Castle Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire (the 'Site'), over 3 days between 23 July and 31 July 2013. The project was commissioned and funded by Mr M Quigley of Kudos Ltd.

The monitoring programme was required as a condition of planning consent in mitigation of a development proposal for the retention and alterations of an outbuilding together with the construction of a new building to form four apartments. The Site lies within part of the planned medieval city known as White Horse Chequer.

Despite the archaeological potential for medieval and post-medieval remains on the Site, no visible archaeological features or deposits of archaeological interest were encountered during development excavations. A small assemblage of modern finds was observed and characterised as typical domestic refuse of limited research value.



# 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording on Land to the rear of Qudos, 38 Castle Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire (the 'Site'), over 3 days between 23 July and 31 July 2013. The project was commissioned by Mr M Quigley of Kudos Ltd.
- 1.2 The monitoring programme was required as a condition of planning consent (Wiltshire Council planning application ref. S/2013/0409) in mitigation of a development proposal relating to the retention and alterations of an outbuilding together with the construction of a new building to form four apartments. The requirement followed advice by Central Government as set out in paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).
- 1.3 In a consultation response letter from Ms Clare King (Assistant County Archaeologist, Wiltshire County Archaeology Service (WCAS)) to Mr C Bruce-White (Head of Development Services, South Area) on 21 May 2013, it was stated:

"As the heritage statement that accompanies the application states, the application site lies within the medieval White Horse Chequer of the planned city of Salisbury. The site therefore has the potential to include significant heritage assets with an archaeological interest that relate to this period.

In this case, given the existing buildings and the small new proposed footprint of impact, I do not consider that a pre-determination evaluation would be appropriate. It is therefore recommended that a programme of archaeological works, in the form of an archaeological watching brief, is carried out during construction".

1.4 The programme of archaeological works comprised four elements: the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which set out the project strategy; monitoring and recording during development groundworks; post-excavation and report production; and archive deposition. The WSI was approved by Ms King on 22 July 2013 prior to the commencement of any Site works.

### 2. Site location and topography

2.1 The Site (centred on SU 14410 30202) covers c. 85 square metres and is located in the historic core of the city of Salisbury approximately 0.7km north of the medieval Cathedral (Figure 1). The Site is largely situated on level ground at an average height of c. 50m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). An outbuilding had been demolished prior to the start of groundworks.



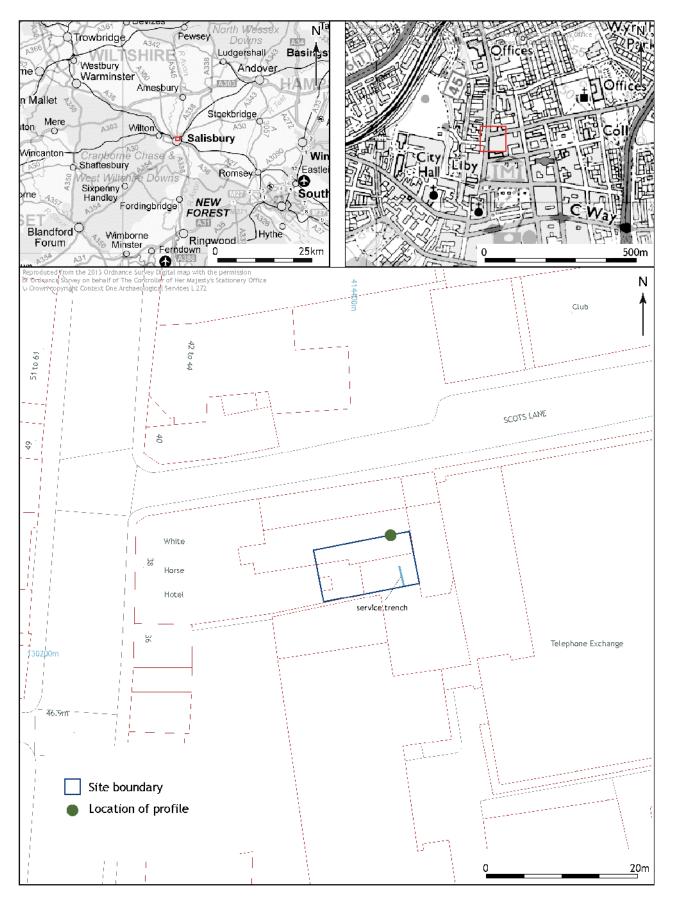


Figure 1. Site setting and location of profile section



# 3. Methodology

#### Development groundworks methodology

3.1 Former outbuildings along the southern wall of the Site were demolished and their concrete floors broken up by a machine equipped with a 0.80m toothed bucket (Plate 1). The foundations were then removed and the Site levelled by a machine equipped with a 1.5m toothless grading bucket to a depth of 0.10m - 0.30m (Plate 2). No further excavation work was planned for the new apartment building as the subsequent methodology involved the use of an injected concrete raft above the reduced surface into which the foundation ring beam was to be inserted. A separate service trench of standard dimensions was excavated towards the eastern side of the Site (Figure 1).

### Archaeological methodology

- 3.2 The programme of archaeological work was carried out in accordance with Standards for Archaeological Assessment and Field Evaluation in Wiltshire (County Archaeological Service (CAS)), Wiltshire County Council Libraries Museums and Arts, 1995 and the Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), 1994, rev. 2001, 2008). COAS staff adhered to the Code of Conduct of the IfA (1985, rev. 2000), and Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology (IfA, 1990, rev. 2000) Current Health and Safety legislation and guidelines were followed on Site.
- 3.3 In the absence of archaeological remains, a profile section of the deposit sequence across the Site was recorded using a standard COAS *pro forma* profile sheet to illustrate the soil morphology. The profile was recorded as a graphical representation and accompanied by a brief description. A photograph including a suitable scale was also taken (**Plate 3**) and the location recorded (see Figure 1).
- 3.4 The single deposit was recorded as an individual context and ascribed a unique number presented in standard terms, e.g. (100).
- 3.5 A photographic record of the fieldwork comprised digital images in .jpg format. As a minimum, the record included photographs of the profile section, the Site setting and development works.

# 4. Results

- 4.1 No visible features or deposits of archaeological interest were encountered during the monitoring programme.
- 4.2 Development excavations varied between 0.10m and 0.30m deep and exposed the same deposit (100) across the Site, including the full depth of the service trench which measured c. 0.50m deep. This deposit comprised a mixed rubble deposit with dark brown clayey silt matrix which became cleaner towards the base (Plates 3 & 4).



Plate 1. Demolition of outbuildings (from W)



Plate 2. Levelling of Site (from N)





Plate 3. Profile 1 (from S; 0.50m scale)



Plate 4. The Site (from E)

#### 5. The finds

5.1 With the exception of large quantities of modern ceramic building material (CBM), a small assemblage of other modern material was observed across the Site including clay tobacco pipe fragments, pottery, glass and iron nails. None of the finds were distinctive and were not collected.

# 6. Discussion

6.1 The Site is located within the medieval White Horse Chequer area of the planned medieval city of Salisbury. Despite the potential for the discovery of significant remains/deposits, development excavations did not reveal any evidence of activity relating to medieval or post-medieval occupation. However, this is not surprising given the very limited impact of the development excavations. A small assemblage of modern finds was observed during groundworks and this was characterised as typical domestic refuse which is considered to be of limited research value.

# 7. Archive

7.1 The project archive is currently held by COAS and consists of the following:

Item	Number	Format
Profile record sheets	2	Paper
Digital images	8	.JPG

- 7.2 The paper archive has been scanned as a single file in .PDF format and will form part of the physical Site archive to be deposited with Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum.
- 7.3 Copies of this report will be deposited with the client, Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum, and included as part of the Wiltshire County Historic Environment Record.

#### 8. COAS acknowledgements

8.1 We would like to thank the following for their contribution to the successful completion of this project:

Mr M Quigley, Kudos Ltd. Ms Clare King Assistant County Archaeologist, Wiltshire County Archaeology Service (WCAS)

### 9. Bibliography

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