

1 High Street
Poole
Dorset

Archaeological Monitoring and
Recording

REPORT

October 2018



1 High Street
Poole
Dorset


for

C1 project code: C1/AMR/17/HPD

Acorn South

REPORT

Prepared by	Clare Randall, Archaeological Officer
Date	04/10/2018

Approved by	Cheryl Green, Post-excavation Manager
Signed	
Date	24/10/2018

Issue	01
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL DETAILS

Client project/scheme ref.	N/A
Planning Application ref.	APP/15/01795/F
Local Planning Authority	Poole Borough Council
Scheduled Monument Consent ref.	N/A
Historic Environment Record ref.	EDO6247
Collecting Museum	Poole Museums Service
Museum accession code	N/A
OASIS reference	contexto1-283623

C1 STAFF

Director, Historic Environment Consultant	Richard McConnell BA (Hons), MCIfA
Post-excavation Manager, Historic Buildings	Cheryl Green FSA, BA Hons, PhD, MCIfA
Archaeologist, Stone Specialist	
Illustrator, Project co-ordination, Historic Buildings Archaeologist	Tara Fairclough BA (Hons), PCIfA
Archaeological Officer, Osteoarchaeologist, Animal bone Specialist, Archivist	Clare Randall FSA, BA (Hons), BSc (Hons), MSc, PhD, MCIfA
Senior Field Archaeologist	Peter Fairclough BA (Hons)

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Summary

Context One Heritage & Archaeology (C1) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording as a condition of granting planning permission for the demolition of the existing building and the erection of a part 2-storey and a part 5-storey building comprising a commercial unit on the ground floor and 9 residential units above at 1 High Street, Poole, Dorset. The project was commissioned by Acorn South on behalf of their client, Ms A Pantazis.

The monitoring and recording was requested by the Local Planning Authority, Poole Borough Council, on the advice of the county Historic Environment Service, Dorset County Council, as the Site lies within the historic core of the town of Poole. There are several heritage assets within close proximity to the Site, including two Scheduled Monuments; the Old Town House of Scaplens Court Museum; and the Town Cellars at Paradise Street.

Despite the potential of the Site, no archaeological features or deposits were observed. All of the deposits affected by the new building were comprised of recently made and disturbed ground. A few fragments of oyster shell were observed but there were no coherent deposits of shell. This implies that the Site lay outside the extent of the shell midden which developed on the foreshore from the early medieval period, or that the midden might occur at a much deeper level than that affected by this development.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Context One Heritage & Archaeology (C1) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording as a condition of granting planning permission (planning reference: APP/15/01795/F) for the demolition of the existing building and the erection of a part 2-storey and a part 5-storey building comprising a commercial unit on the ground floor and 9 residential units above at 1 High Street, Poole, Dorset (the 'Site') (**Figure 1**). The project was commissioned by Acorn South on behalf of their client, Ms A Pantazis.

1.2 The monitoring and recording was required by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), Poole Borough Council (PBC) as a condition of granting planning permission following advice from the county Historic Environment Service (HES), Dorset County Council (DCC). In a reply to an email consultation request from Ms Eleanor Godesar (Case Officer, PBC) dated 14 July 2014, Mr Steve Wallis, Senior Archaeologist, DCC stated:

"The site of the proposed development lies on a section of Poole Quay where much reclamation took place within the post-medieval period. The reclamation deposits themselves may well contain material of archaeological significance, and towards the northern part of the site it is possible that remains of the medieval quay are present.

Thus, groundworks for the development are likely to affect archaeological remains. In my opinion, the appropriate mitigation for this impact would be archaeological monitoring of those groundworks, and to secure this mitigation I advise that the following condition should be attached to any grant of planning consent:

'The applicant shall make arrangements for archaeological observation and recording to take place during groundworks. Details of these arrangements shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, at least one month before any work commences on the development site'.

1.3 The programme of archaeological works comprised four elements: the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which sets out the project strategy; archaeological monitoring and recording; post-excavation and report production (this document); and archive preparation and deposition.

1.4 The requirement follows advice by Central Government as set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) (DCLG 2012, revised 2018). The client and/or agent will ensure that the archaeological works are implemented as described below in order to avoid breach of the imposed condition.

2. The Site

2.1 The Site (centred on NGR SZ 00929 90299) covers 294 square metres and is located immediately to the north of Poole Quay, on the junction of High Street and Key Lane (**Figure 1**). The proposed development area is surrounded by restaurants and shops with some residential housing to the north. The Site is largely situated on level ground at an average height of c. 2m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The recorded solid geology for the Site is Oakdale Clay Member clay, silt with sedimentary bedrock and the drift (superficial) geology is river terrace deposits of sand and gravel (BGS, 2017). The soils are characterised as naturally wet very acid sandy and loamy soils (CSAIS, 2017). Prior to development works, the Site comprised a restaurant and hardstanding area.

2.2 The county Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that a number of heritage assets have been recorded within a 100m radius of the Site. The table below provides brief details of these assets and are organised by period and their distance from the centre of the Site measured in radius bands.

HER ref.	Description	Period	Distance from Site
MDO6946	Roman pottery finds	Roman	c. 75m
MDO28515	Late Saxon shell midden, radiocarbon dated to the 10th-12th century AD, lies on an ancient foreshore	Saxon	c. 0m
MDO28219	Fourteenth century building remains	Medieval	c. 55m
MWX947	Site of Stocks, north side of Town Cellars, Poole	Medieval	c. 65m
MDO27357	Old Town House (Scaplens Court Museum), High Street, Poole	Medieval	c. 55m
	Scheduled Monument No. 1003205 - Scaplen's Court, High Street		
MDO6828	The Town Cellars, Paradise Street, Poole	Medieval	c. 55m

	Scheduled Monument No. 1002692 - Town cellar		
MDO28201	Bennett's Alley, Poole	Post-medieval	c. 26m
MDO28519	New Quay, Poole	Post-medieval	c. 10m
MDO28359	Strand Street, Poole – building demolished before 1970	Post-medieval	c. 26m
MDO28360	Strand Street, Poole – building demolished before 1970	Post-medieval	c. 65m
MDO28361	Strand Street, Poole – building demolished before 1970	Post-medieval	c. 100m
MDO6947	Eighteenth century building remains to the rear of The King's Head, High Street, Poole found during watching briefs	Post-medieval	c. 75m
MDO28354	Sarum Street, Poole - building demolished before 1970	Post-medieval	c. 61m
MDO28353	Sarum Street, Poole - building demolished 1971	Post-medieval	c. 68m
MDO28521	Great Quay, Poole	Post-medieval	c. 45m
MDO28520	Little Quay, Poole	Post-medieval	c. 11m

2.3 The Site lies within the historic core of the town of Poole with the possibility that it might at least partly coincide with the Saxon foreshore (**MDO28515**). The county HER records several heritage assets within close proximity to the Site, including two Scheduled Monuments; the Old Town House of Scaplen's Court Museum (**Scheduled Monument No. 1003205**) and the Town Cellars at Paradise Street (**Scheduled Monument No. 1002692**). The late medieval buildings which comprise Scaplen's Court and the Town Cellars, which now accommodate the Poole History Centre and are to the rear of Poole Museum, would have once been adjacent to the medieval quay side, being a merchants house and the medieval town's warehouse respectively. These structures are however c. 50-60m to the north of the Site. A number of post-medieval buildings recorded on the county HER (those on Strand Street and Sarum Street) were demolished prior to 1970. These are all likely to relate to the development of the working quay in the 18th and 19th century when it serviced the Newfoundland cod trade, and transhipment of ball clay. There is potential for features associated with the reclamation and development of this area in the post-medieval period to be preserved. However, the demolition of these buildings probably represent a modern re-organisation of the development area and the surrounding district. Any such re-organisation may have had an impact on the level of preservation of surviving heritage assets.

3. Archaeological aims and research objectives

3.1 The principal aims of the archaeological monitoring were to:

- identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the Site during groundworks;
- determine the character of the archaeological remains, where present;
- recover environmental information, which may provide further information relating to the local historic environment of the area;
- provide sufficient information to enable further mitigation strategies to be determined, where appropriate

3.2 The research objectives were to:

- examine any evidence specifically relating to the Saxon/medieval foreshore
- identify any evidence specifically relating to the development of Poole Harbour from the early medieval period onwards

4. Methodology

4.1 All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) (December 2014). C1 adhered to the *Code of Conduct* of the CIfA (1985, rev. 2000, 2014), and *Regulations for Professional Conduct* (CIfA, 2014, rev. 2015) at all times. The fieldwork methodology is summarised below.

- 4.2 C1 gave notification of the commencement of the works to the HES, but it was not necessary for a representative to visit the Site and monitor archaeological fieldwork. Monitoring will continue until the deposition of the Site archive.
- 4.3 An archaeologist was on Site to monitor all specified groundworks with the aim of identifying and recording any archaeological features/deposits present. All groundworks were carried out with a machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket.
- 4.4 Core details of the deposit sequence across the Site were recorded on C1 *pro-forma* profile forms in digital format using iPad mini tablets. The frequency with which profiles were recorded was based on variation of the deposit sequence. Spoil was examined for the retrieval of artefacts. Manual excavation was not required.
- 4.5 A photographic record of the monitoring and recording was carried out and involved the sole use of digital images. The photographic record also included working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

5. Results

- 5.1 The deposits observed were uniform across the Site in that the entire area impacted by ground works consisted of recently made-up ground (**Plates 1 & 2**). In some places this was layered, and in others there were discrete dumps of sandy material, rubble, and rubble and/or sand mixed with a greater proportion of soil. Patches of some dark fine silty material was noted which appeared to be dredged silt, presumably from the adjacent harbour. All of these deposits were of recent origin and no archaeological features or deposits were observed.

6. The finds

- 6.1 A few oyster shell fragments were noted in disturbed deposits. No other archaeological artefacts or ecofacts were noted or collected.

7. Discussion and Conclusion

- 7.1 Despite the potential of the Site, suggested by the proximity of the medieval buildings and the known Late Saxon/medieval oyster shell dump, no archaeological features or deposits were observed within the impact level of redevelopment. All of the deposits affected by the new building comprised recently made and disturbed ground. A few fragments of oyster shell were observed but there were no coherent deposits of shell. This implies that the Site lay outside the extent of the shell midden which developed on the foreshore from the early medieval period, and which facilitated the reclamation of land on the harbour fringes enabling the establishment of the medieval quay line.
- 7.2 The location of the Town Cellars and Scaplen's Court indicates the edge of the habitable land in the 15th century, with the Site c. 30-40m south of this and therefore likely to have been within the harbour itself during that period. This is not to say the late Saxon and medieval oyster midden did not extend this far south, but if it did, it must occur at a much deeper level than that affected by this development. If present it would have facilitated post-medieval land reclamation reflected in the current road and quayside layout, but its extent and depth beneath the current land surface has not been ascertained.

8. The Archive

- 8.1 The NPPF requires that an archaeological archive arising from development works is made publicly accessible (para. 141). The archive comprises two parts: the paper/digital archive including site records and images; and the artefact/ecofact assemblage.

Paper/digital archive

- 8.2 Where archaeological features/deposits are recorded, the archive generated from this usually comprises site records, drawings and photographs either in paper format or born-digital data. Within three months of the conclusion of a project this is normally transferred into the care of a Trusted Digital Repository such as the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) as scanned paper records or native born-digital data. The digital archive will be compiled in accordance with the standards and requirements of the ADS, as set out on their website.
- 8.3 In this case, no archaeological evidence was encountered, and so all relevant data has been incorporated into this report and the paper/digital archive will be stored on the C1 cloud storage server or discarded.

Physical archive

- 8.4 The artefact/ecofact assemblage is the legal property of the landowner (excluding any items that fall under The Treasure Act 1996). However, it is usual practice for the landowner to transfer ownership of this assemblage to a receiving institution (usually a museum) once it has been fully assessed and/or analysed. Receiving institutions store the assemblage and make it publicly accessible. Alternatively, the landowner can choose to keep the assemblage but arrangements must be made to ensure its long-term curation and public accessibility in accordance with NPPF.
- 8.5 As no artefacts or ecofacts were collected, in this case there is no physical archive.

Dissemination: report

- 8.6 Copies of the report will be submitted to the following:
- client and/or agent
 - the HES so that it can be included as part of the county Historic Environment Record (HER)
 - the ADS, via OASIS (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations – <http://oasis.ac.uk/england/>)

Dissemination: publication

- 8.7 By default, a short entry will be prepared for publication in the summary section of the next county archaeological journal or equivalent periodical, *The Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society*.

9. Bibliography

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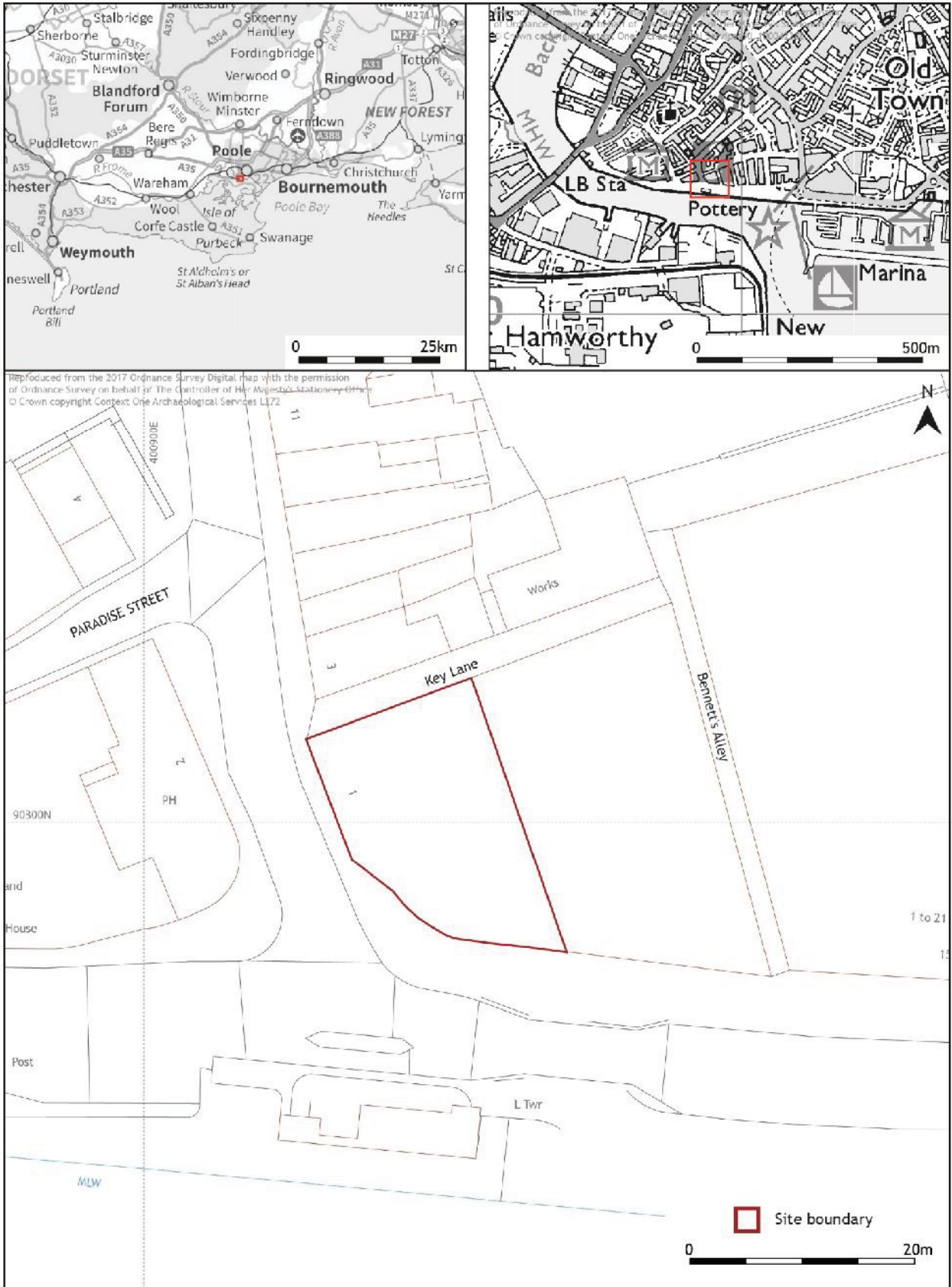


Figure 1. Site setting



Plate 1. Modern make up (facing N; 0.50m scale)



Plate 2. Modern make up (facing E; 0.50m scale)

Brickfield Offices : Maperton : Wincanton : Somerset : BA9 8EG
1 Emperor Way : Exeter Business Park : Exeter : Devon : EX1 3QS

T: 01963 824696 : E: mail@contextone.co.uk

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