

BK165
Maundown WTW
Wiveliscombe
Somerset

Archaeological Monitoring and
Recording report

September 2017



**Maudown WTW
Wiveliscombe
Somerset**


for

C1 project code: C1/AMR/17/MWS

Wessex Water plc

REPORT

Prepared by	Clare Randall, Archaeological Officer
Date	20/09/17

Approved by	Cheryl Green, Post-excavation Manager
Signed	
Date	26/09/17

Issue	01
-------	----

PROJECT DETAILS

Client project/scheme ref.	BK165
Planning Application ref.	N/A
Local Planning Authority	N/A
Scheduled Monument Consent ref.	N/A
Historic Environment Record ref.	37752
Collecting Museum	South West Heritage Trust
Museum accession code	N/A
OASIS reference	contexto1-296297

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, Animal bone Specialist, Archivist	Clare Randall FSA, BA (Hons), BSc (Hons), MSc, PhD, MCIfA
Senior Field Archaeologist	Peter Fairclough BA (Hons)

DISCLAIMER

This report is produced solely for the benefit of an individual client and for the proposed uses stated in the report, and should not be relied upon for other purposes or by other parties unless specifically agreed by us in writing. The different elements of the report are designed to be integral to each other and therefore do not necessarily stand alone. Opinions and information provided in this report are on the basis of C1 using reasonable skill and care, however no investigative method can eliminate the possibility of obtaining partially imprecise, incomplete or less than fully representative information. This document is limited to the scope and limits agreed with the client under our appointment. Any investigative work undertaken as part of the commission will have been subject to limitations imposed by such factors as timescales, budgets, seasonal variations and weather conditions.

COPYRIGHT

C1 shall retain the copyright of any commissioned reports or other projected documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved, excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client and the HES for the use of such documents by them in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the project design/specification. This licence will be extended to those conducting bona fide research as long as it does not breach client confidentiality.

Summary

Context One Heritage & Archaeology carried out archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks for a new land drain at Maundown Water Treatment Works, Wiveliscombe, Somerset. The project was commissioned by Wessex Water plc under a Term Agreement contract with C1.

The work was requested as archaeological work carried out by C1 in 2006 during groundworks for the present water treatment works included excavation of an Iron Age and Romano-British settlement (including the discovery of a Romano-British coin hoard); part of a Bronze Age cremation cemetery; and the remains of a post-medieval farmstead.

Despite the proximity of the Site to known areas of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romano-British activity, no archaeological features or deposits were observed. Neither were any archaeological finds noted or recovered. Activity may not have extended to the drain but the impact area was small, so the possibility of the presence of further archaeological features and deposits in the vicinity should not be discounted.

Contents

Summary.....	1
1. Introduction.....	2
2. The Site.....	2
3. Archaeological aims and research objectives.....	2
4. Methodology.....	3
5. Results.....	3
6. The finds.....	4
7. Discussion and conclusion.....	4
8. Archive.....	4
9. Bibliography.....	4
Appendix 1: Context summary.....	8

Figures

Figure 1. Site setting, route of land drain and profile locations.....	6
--	---

Plates

Plate 1. Land drain (facing NE).....	7
Plate 2. Land drain (facing SW).....	7

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Context One Heritage & Archaeology (C1) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording during the groundworks for a new land drain at Maundown Water Treatment Works, Wiveliscombe, Somerset (the 'Site') (**Figure 1**) in August and September 2017. The project was commissioned by Wessex Water plc under a Term Agreement contract with C1.
- 1.2 The monitoring and recording was requested by the county Historic Environment Service (HES), South West Heritage Trust (SWHT). In a reply to an email consultation request from Mr Liam Ridley (Environmental Scientist) on 14 June 2017, Ms Tanya James, Historic Environment Officer, SWHT stated:
- "The proposed new land drain lies in an area of very high significance. The pipeline crosses an area of land known to contain a Bronze Age cremation cemetery, late Iron age and Romano British settlement activity. A late Roman coin hoard has also been found in the vicinity.*
- I therefore advise that the scheme is archaeologically monitored. Further detailed excavation will need to be carried out in the event that significant archaeological remains are identified."*
- 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).

2. The Site

- 2.1 The Site (centred on NGR ST 06219 29120) is located in a field just beyond the eastern end of Maundown village and on the western side of Maundown Water Treatment Works (**Figure 1**). The field is bounded on the west by a minor road leading to Jews Farm and to the south by the road from Maundown to Langley Marsh. The eastern side is bounded by the perimeter of the treatment works and the northern boundary is adjacent to an open field. The new land drain ran alongside the northern field boundary.
- 2.2 The Site is largely situated on level ground at an average height of c. 214m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). Geologically, the new land drain runs along the boundary between the Morte Slates Formation and the Pickwell Down Sandstones Formation (BGS, 2017). The soils are characterised as freely draining slightly acid loamy soils (CSAIS, 2017).
- 2.3 A programme of limited excavation and monitoring and recording was carried out by C1 in 2006 during groundworks for the present water treatment works. The investigation centred on three distinct areas which comprised the excavation of an Iron Age and Romano-British settlement (including the discovery of a Romano-British coin hoard) immediately north of the new complex; part of a Bronze Age cremation cemetery to the south of the Site area near the Maundown to Langley Marsh road; and the remains of a post-medieval farmstead on the western side of the Site area near the road to Jews Farm. The path of the new land drain is close to the cremation cemetery and may have intersected remains of the post-medieval farmstead.

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:

- determine whether there was any further evidence relating to the Iron Age Romano-British settlement; the Bronze Age cremation cemetery; and/or the post-medieval farmstead investigated in 2006

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) and in accordance with the *Somerset County Council Heritage Service Archaeological Handbook* (2011). 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 Prior to the commencement of Site works, the excavation methodology was agreed between those responsible for carrying out the groundworks and C1 to ensure that all parties are aware of the monitoring requirements.
- 4.4 The land drain groundworks comprised the excavation of a pipe trench measuring 150m long, 0.3m wide and 0.3m in depth. An archaeologist was on Site to monitor this operation with the aim of identifying and recording any archaeological features/deposits/finds present.
- 4.5 All groundworks were carried out with a machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket.
- 4.6 By default, 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 entirely on variation of the deposit sequence. Spoil was examined for the retrieval of artefacts.
- 4.7 No archaeological features/deposits were encountered and therefore manual excavation was not required.
- 4.8 The location of the pipe trench was recorded with a TopCon GRS1 RTK GPS unit. A photographic record of the monitoring and recording was carried out, and involved the use of digital images illustrating the Site in both detail, and general context. The photographic record also included working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

5. Results

- 5.1 The pipe trench for the land drain was observed in two locations (**Figure 1**). The soil profile was identical in both locations (**Plate 1 & 2**) with a topsoil comprising friable red (10R 4/6) silty sandy clay with frequent platy shillet fragments <0.10m, which was 0.20m thick. Under this was a firm subsoil of light red (10R 6/6) silty sandy clay with frequent platy shillet fragments <0.10m, 0.25m deep. In turn, this overlay natural deposits of compacted reddish grey (10R 6/1) silty clay with very frequent bedded shillit frags <0.20m.
- 5.2 No archaeological features or deposits were observed.

6. The finds

- 6.1 No archaeological finds were observed or recovered.

7. Discussion and conclusion

- 7.1 Despite the proximity of the Site to known areas of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romano-British activity, and consequent potential for the presence of similar features and finds in the area, no archaeological features or deposits were observed. Neither were any archaeological finds noted or recovered. Activity may not have extended to the drain but the impact area was small, so the possibility of the presence of further archaeological features and deposits in the vicinity should not be discounted.

8. 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 As no archaeological evidence was encountered, 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 In this instance, there is no physical archive as no finds were seen or collected.

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 A short entry will be prepared for publication in the summary section of the next county archaeological journal, the *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society*.

9. Bibliography

Cranfield Soils and Agrifood Institute:
Soilscapes (CSAIS), 2017

Available at: <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/#>
accessed on 16 August 2017

- Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (CIfA), December 2014 *Code of Conduct*. Reading: CIfA
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), December 2014 (rev. 2015) *Regulations for professional conduct*. Reading: CIfA
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), December 2014 *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*. Reading: CIfA
- Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*, London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office
- Geology of Britain viewer - British Geological Survey (BGS), 2017 Available at:
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?>, accessed on 16 August 2017
- Historic England, 2015 *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*. Historic England
- McConnell, R., 2017 *BK165 Maundown WTW, Wiveliscombe, Somerset, Archaeological Monitoring and Recording Written Scheme of Investigation* Unpublished Context One Heritage and Archaeology
- Membery, S., Brunning, R., Croft, R., Payne, N. and Webster, C., 2011 *Somerset County Council Heritage Service Archaeological Handbook*. Somerset County Council

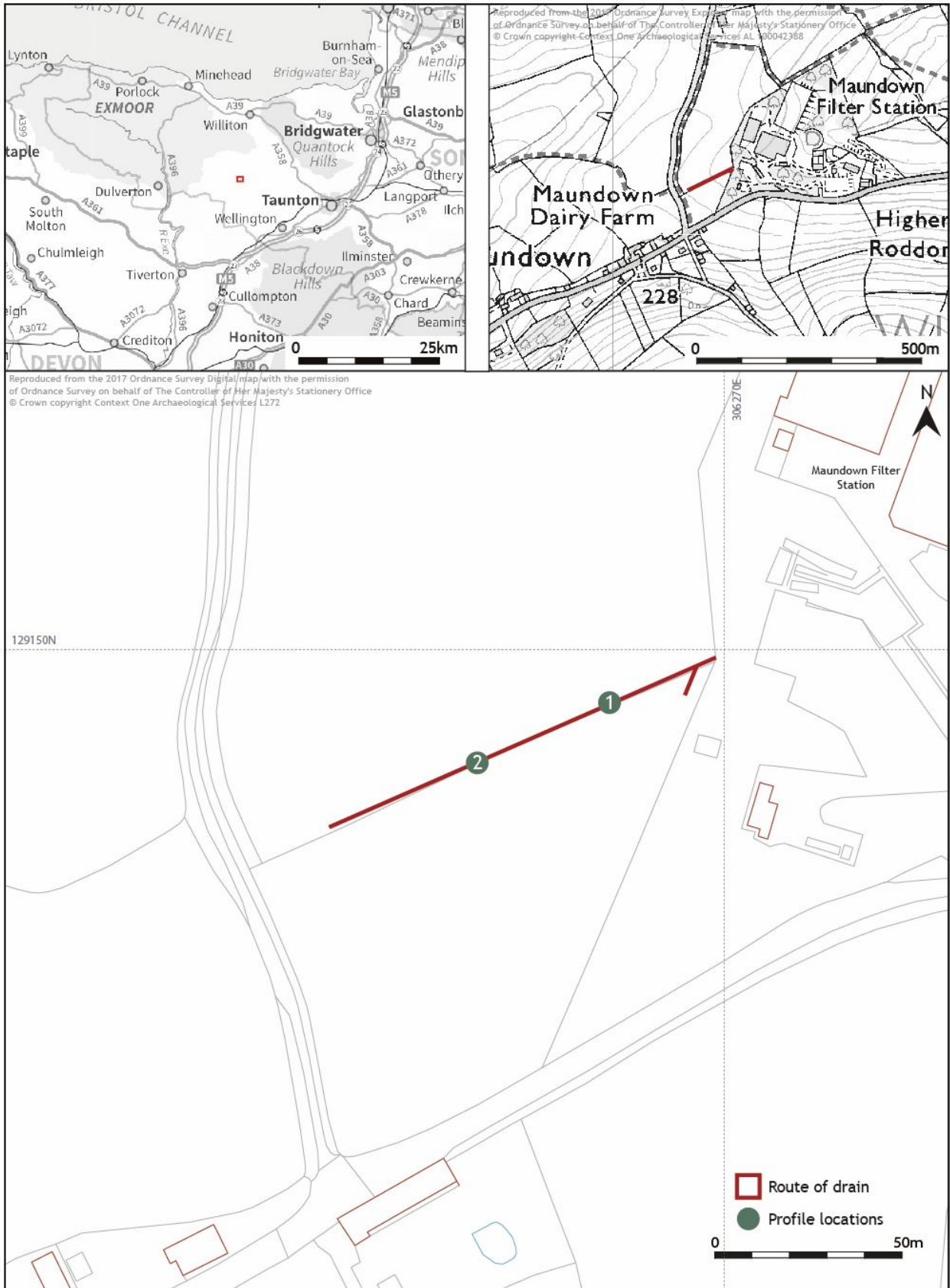


Figure 1. Site setting, route of land drain and profile locations



Plate 1. Land drain (facing NE)



Plate 2. Land drain (facing SW)

Appendix 1: Context summary

CONTEXT NO.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EARLIER THAN	CONTEMP. WITH	LATER THAN	LENGTH	WIDTH/DIAMETER	THICKNESS/DEPTH (m)
Profile 1									
100	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Friable red (10R 4/6) silty sandy clay with frequent platy shillet fragments <0.10m	NA	-	101	-	-	0.20
101	Natural	Layer	Subsoil. Firm light red (10R 6/6) silty sandy clay with frequent platy shillet fragments <0.10m	100	-	102	-	-	0.25
102	Natural	Layer	Natural. Compacted reddish grey (10R 6/1) silty clay with very frequent bedded shillit frags <0.20m	101	-	NA	-	-	>0.5
Profile 2									
200	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Friable red (10R 4/6) silty sandy clay with frequent platy shillet fragments <0.10m	NA	-	201	-	-	0.20
201	Natural	Layer	Subsoil. Firm light red (10R 6/6) silty sandy clay with frequent platy shillet fragments <0.10m	200	-	202	-	-	0.25
202	Natural	Layer	Natural. Compacted reddish grey (10R 6/1) silty clay with very frequent bedded shillit frags <0.20m	201	-	NA	-	-	>0.5

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

Registered in England Number 6005800 : VAT Registered Number 834 1916 29

