

R14664 BMW Ridgeway
Salisbury Sewer Requisition
Wiltshire

Archaeological Monitoring and
Recording

REPORT

December 2017




**BMW Ridgeway
Salisbury Sewer Requisition
Wiltshire**

for

C1 project code: C1/AMR/17/RSW

Wessex Water plc

REPORT

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Signed	
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Issue	01

PROJECT DETAILS

Client project/scheme ref.	R14664
Planning Application ref.	N/A
Local Planning Authority	Wiltshire Council
Scheduled Monument Consent ref.	N/A
Historic Environment Record ref.	N/A
Collecting Museum	Salisbury & South Wiltshire Museum
Museum accession code	N/A
OASIS reference	contexto1-300968

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Summary

Context One Heritage & Archaeology (C1) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording during the construction of an c. 150m length of pipeline as part of the Salisbury Sewer Requisition scheme, opposite BMW Ridgeway car sales, London Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire. The project was commissioned by Wessex Water plc under a Term Agreement with C1.

The monitoring and recording was requested by the County Archaeology Service (CAS), Wiltshire Council, as there are several known locations of finds of various periods in the vicinity. This includes included human cremations and burials.

Despite there being areas of known prehistoric activity surrounding the Site, no archaeological features or deposits were observed, and no finds were seen or collected. The implication is that this area was not closely involved in the activity indicated by the other find spots, although the lack of features or deposits may relate to the limited scale of the trench.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Context One Heritage & Archaeology (C1) carried out archaeological monitoring and recording during the construction of an c. 150m length of pipeline as part of the Salisbury Sewer Requisition scheme opposite BMW Ridgeway car sales, London Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire (the 'Site') (**Figure 1**). The project was commissioned by Wessex Water plc under a Term Agreement with C1.
- 1.2 The monitoring and recording was requested by the County Archaeology Service (CAS), Wiltshire Council. In a reply to an email consultation request from Mr Liam Ridley (Graduate Environmental Scientist, Wessex Water plc) on 16 October 2017, Ms Clare King, Assistant County Archaeologist, Wiltshire Council stated:
- "The area is of archaeological interest, as finds (including human cremations and burials) from many different periods have been found in the immediate vicinity."*
- 1.3 The programme of archaeological works comprised four elements: the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which set out the project strategy; archaeological monitoring and recording; post-excavation and report production (this document); and archive preparation and deposition.
- 1.4 The requirement followed 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 SU 15964 32087) is located on the north-eastern edge of Salisbury in the Bishopdown suburb of the city. It is situated along London Road (A30), a main artery leading out of the Salisbury, and on scrubland between St Thomas roundabout and Hampton Park roundabout opposite Marshall BMW car sales. The Site is largely situated on level ground at an average height of c. 56m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The recorded geology for the Site is Newhaven Chalk Formation and the superficial (drift) geology is recorded as Head, 1 – Gravel (BGS, 2017). The soils are characterised as freely draining lime-rich loam (CSAIS, 2017).
- 2.2 The public access version of the county Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that a number of heritage assets have been recorded within a 500m radius of the Site. Brief details of these assets are tabulated below.

Mon UID	PrefRef	Name	Summary
MWI10844	SU13SE113	London Road	Three worked flint tools were found during a watching brief.
MWI10850	SU13SE155	Bishopdown Farm	Bronze Age axe.
MWI10859	SU13SE164	Bishopdown	Bronze Age worked flint tools and a pottery fragment.
MWI70864	MWI70864	Bishopdown Farm	Partially extant 18th century farmstead.
MWI70873	MWI70873	Site of New Farm	Demolished 19th century farmstead.
MWI74625	MWI74625	Pits, South of Green Acres	Pits of an unknown were identified by an excavation.
MWI74626	MWI74626	Enclosure, South of Green Acres	An enclosure of an unknown date was identified by a geophysical survey.
MWI75041	MWI75041	Pit, South of Green Acres	A pit of an Early Iron Age date was identified by an excavation.

- 2.3 The Site is clearly in an area dominated by prehistoric activity and this is further reflected in discoveries made within a 1km radius. This includes more substantive settlement evidence alongside burials in the form of both inhumations and cremations.

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 evidence specifically relating to prehistoric settlement activity including human burials

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 *Standards for Archaeological Assessment and Field Evaluation in Wiltshire* (CAS 1995). 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 CAS; it was not deemed 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 were aware of the monitoring requirements.

4.4 The initial groundworks comprised the machine excavation of topsoil in the location of a temporary compound and along the length of the proposed pipeline. The pipeline easement was 15m wide across open ground narrowing to 5m where it breached field boundaries. An archaeologist was on Site to monitor this operation with the aim of identifying and recording any archaeological features/deposits/finds present. In the event, the removal of topsoil did not expose any such remains, and there was little potential that further excavation would result in their discovery therefore archaeological monitoring ceased. As the nature of soil stripping operations did not permit an adequate assessment of the archaeological potential, archaeological monitoring of the pipe trench was required. This involved the machine excavation of a c. 150m continuous trench measuring 1.8m wide and up to 2m deep, using a 3 tonne JCB slew equipped with a toothless grading bucket.

4.5 An archaeologist was on Site to monitor groundwork excavations with the aim of identifying and recording any archaeological features/deposits/finds present. 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. In the event, manual excavation was not necessary however soil colours were logged using a Munsell soil colour chart. Spoil was examined for the retrieval of artefacts. The Site was levelled to Ordnance Datum with a TopCon GRS1 RTK GPS unit. A photographic record of the monitoring and recording was carried out, and involved the sole use of digital images. This included photographs illustrating in both detail, and general context, the areas subject to monitoring and the profiles recorded within them. The photographic record also included working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

5. Report

- 5.1 The initial strip only revealed topsoil (**Plate 1**). A single profile was recorded within the pipe trench as the deposits were observed to be uniform along the length of the pipe (**Plate 2**). The topsoil was a friable very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay with frequent angular flint and chalk fragments <0.01m, 0.20m thick. The subsoil below this was compacted yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) clay with frequent angular chalk fragments, 0.50m thick. This overlay the natural, a compacted white (10YR 8/1) chalk with moderate angular flint <0.01m. No archaeological features or deposits were observed.

6. The finds

- 6.1 No artefacts or ecofactual material were observed or recovered.

7. Discussion & Conclusion

- 7.1 Despite there being a number of locations of prehistoric activity known in the surrounding area, no archaeological features or deposits were observed, and no finds seen or collected. This implies that this area was not closely involved in the multi-period activity known to have taken place in the vicinity, although the trench did not cover a particularly large area.

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 assessment 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 finds or ecofactual material was recovered there is no physical archive.

Dissemination: report

- 8.6 Copies of the report will be submitted to the following:
- client and/or agent
 - the CAS 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. If particularly significant archaeological features/deposits/finds are encountered, then these are likely to merit wider publication in line with NPPF (para. 141). This might include the production of an article in a county journal; a specialist journal; a standalone monograph or popular publication. The requirement for such a publication, including any further analysis that may be necessary, will first be confirmed with the CAS. Once a publication strategy has been agreed, a separate Publication Project Design will be compiled for approval by the CAS.

9. Bibliography

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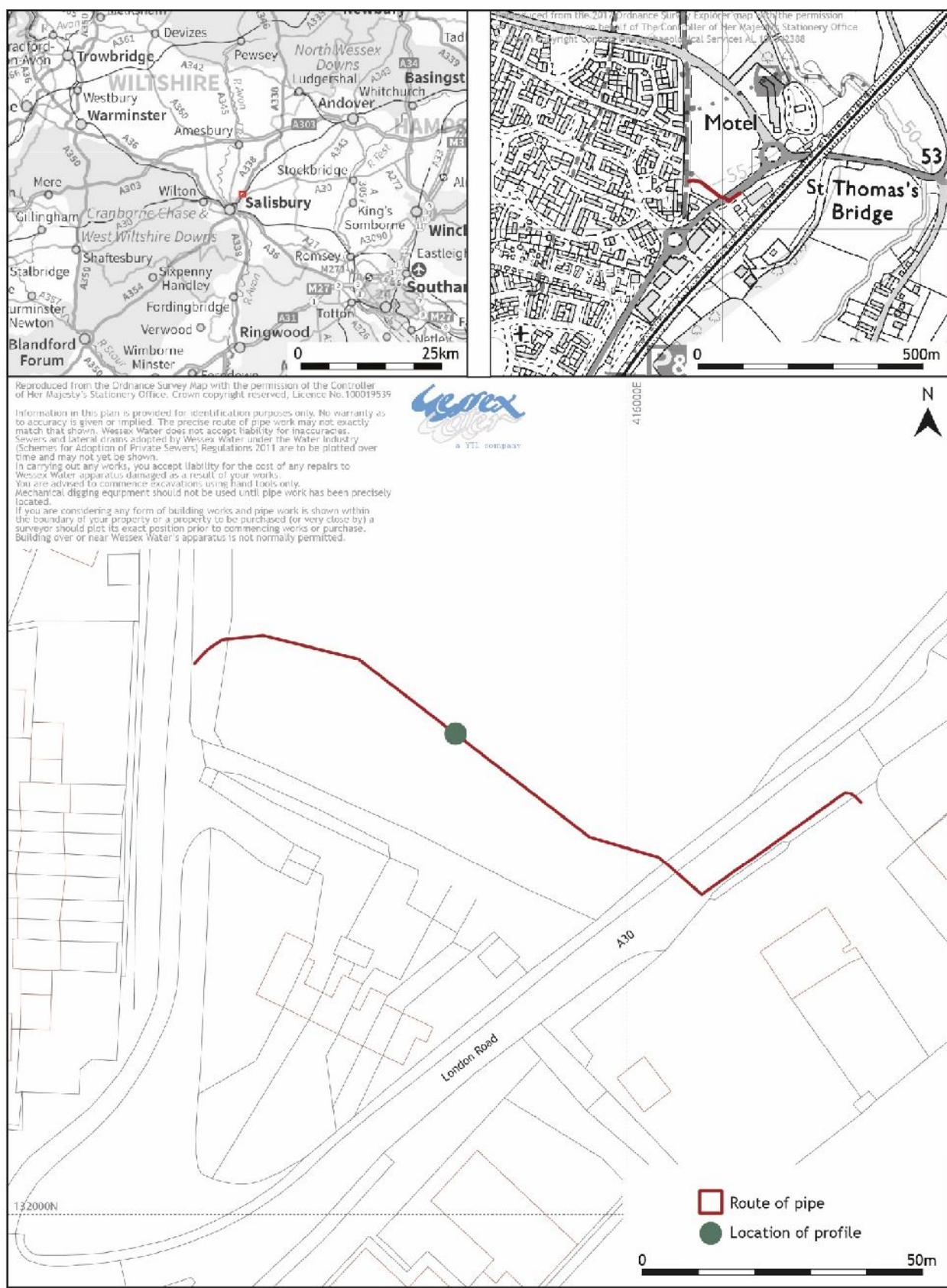


Figure 1. Site setting and pipeline and profile location



Plate 1. Easement strip (facing SE)



Plate 2. Pipe trench (facing NW)



CONTEXT NO.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EARLIER THAN	CONTEMP. WITH	LATER THAN	LENGTH	WIDTH/DIAMETER	THICKNESS/DEPTH (m)
Profile 1									
100	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Friable very dark greyish brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay with frequent angular flint and chalk fragments <0.01m	NA	-	101	150m	1.8m	0.20m
101	Natural	Layer	Subsoil. Compacted yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) clay with frequent angular chalk fragments.	100	-	102	150m	1.8m	0.50m
102	Natural	Layer	Natural. Compacted white (10YR 8/1) chalk with moderate angular flint <0.01m	101	-	NA	150m	1.8m	>1.0m

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