

Archaeology in Hampshire



Annual Report 2015

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Annual Report of Archaeology in Hampshire for 2015. Up until 2003 Hampshire County Council published an Annual Report of Archaeology in Hampshire. The first volume was published in 1977 (for the year 1976) and for over a quarter of a century it proved to be a valuable resource bringing together in summary fashion archaeological work carried out in a particular year, whether it was by professional organization, academic institution or local society. The report ensured that knowledge of such work was easily and conveniently available to all interested parties. The final report of this 'first series' was published in 2004 (for 2003). Following a hiatus of several years, The Hampshire Field Club (HFC) was invited to produce a new series of reports and began with a round-up of the 'missing' years. These can be downloaded from the Hampshire Field Club website. From 2008 the report has been published annually and copies are available for download from the [HFC website](#).

Developments in technology have forced a re-think about the most efficient way to go about the publication of interim statements and it was decided that an electronic format (i.e. a PDF document) provided a convenient and cost-effective solution. It also offers the option of printing only what is required.

The structure and content of the report

The report is organized by District and then alphabetically by location. Individual entries consist of a location that includes a grid reference. This is followed by an identifier, usually a *Site UID*, which links it to a record held in [The Archaeology and Historic Buildings Record](#) (AHBR) database for Hampshire. The record for Southampton has also provided information about work carried out in this city and the identifiers are those of the city's HER. It is through the identifier that further information about a particular project can be acquired. In addition to archaeological fieldwork the report includes records of building surveys.

THE PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES SCHEME (PAS)

A number of local societies already publish a selection of the finds recorded on the PAS database for their county. Katie Hinds, the Finds Liaison Officer for Hampshire, has kindly agreed to compile a selection for 2015 showcasing some of the more interesting and important finds. These range in date from prehistory through to late medieval times and include a variety of different materials.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The data for each year was assembled and edited by Nick Stoodley, but it would not have been possible to produce this work without the assistance of numerous individuals and organizations. The Hampshire Field Club is acknowledged for financial assistance. I am particularly indebted to Alan Whitney of the Environment Department (HCC) for providing information from the AHBR database. I am grateful to the various archaeological organisations, both amateur and professional who have provided information (in no particular order): Dr Andy Russel (Southampton City Council Archaeological Unit) and Ingrid Peckham (Southampton City Council HER), Dr Simon Roffey (University of Winchester), Katherine Marshall (Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West), Edward Roberts, Karen Thomas (Mola), Pippa Bradley (Wessex Archaeology), Tracy Matthews (Winchester City Council HER), David Graham, Steve Ford (Thames Valley Archaeological Services), Ruth Shaffrey (Oxford Archaeology), Gary Marshall (The National Trust) and Chris Healey. Finally, thanks have to be extended to Katie Hinds for bringing together so admirably the selection of PAS finds.

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Front cover Excavations at Barton Farm, Winchester, showing the remains of an 18th-century Hessian mercenary camp

BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE

Bramley

Land at Minchens Lane (SU 653 597) (Site UID: 69001) Evaluation

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West) undertook an archaeological evaluation of 30 machine dug trenches and six test pits. One Romano-British pit was recorded, containing two sherds of abraded Roman pottery. No other significant archaeology was uncovered.

Chineham

Razor's Farm (SU 465538 56175) (Site UID: 74585) Evaluation

Wessex Archaeology undertook a trial trench evaluation on land at Razor's Farm proposed for residential development. A small number of post-medieval and undated features were present in one area. The northern extent of the late Iron Age/early Romano-British settlement seen previously during an adjacent excavation was recorded.

Laverstoke

Laverstoke Mill, Laverstoke (SU 4920 4865) (Site UID: 57163; 57169) Watching brief

Observations were carried out by Thames Valley Archaeological Services on an area affected by the development of the former mill. Although no evidence of a medieval mill was found, earlier phases of the existing mill complex were revealed. Under the floor of the Paper Mill a void was discovered that contained the *in-situ* wheel mechanism of the former mill. In an adjacent building (Former Blacksmith's Shop) a buried culvert that had connected to the wheel was observed along with a sluice gate. Under the floor of another part of the Paper Mill the foundations of a possible ice house were revealed.

See also: Taylor, A 2015 *Laverstoke Mill, Laverstoke, Overton - Archaeological Watching Brief*, unpubl report.

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Old Basing

A340 Roadworks (SU 62340 54013) (Site UID: 111310) Strip, map & record excavation

Wessex Archaeology undertook the works during roadworks focused on the A340 Aldermaston Road and Priestly Road area, Basingstoke. A single shallow, undated pit was the only archaeological feature identified. The pit may be an outlier associated with a concentration of Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement and funerary activity located at Marnell Park and Merton Rise.

Manydown, Battledown Farm Scheduled Monument and Kite Hill, land at (SU 59590 50295 & 59950 51280) (Site UID: 104112) Geophysical survey

A detailed gradiometer survey was conducted by Wessex Archaeology over land at two separate sites at Battledown Farm Scheduled Monument (Site A) and at Kite Hill, Basingstoke (Site B). A targeted double density gradiometer survey was conducted to provide greater resolution where smaller and more ephemeral features were identified.

Clusters of pit-like anomalies are present across both sites. The survey identified signs of medieval to post-medieval ridge and furrow and frequent ploughing trends on differing alignments are also visible.

Site A is Scheduled as a suspected Iron Age settlement. It is clear that multi-phase activity spanning several periods is probably represented, with at least four phases of spatially overlapping enclosures identified, including a previously unidentified banjo enclosure of probable middle Iron Age date. The enclosures are associated with a substantial linear feature crossing the site, comprising two parallel ditches, considered to be either a droveway or possible double-ditched 'Wessex Linear' type feature. Equally significant is evidence of earlier funerary activity, as represented by probable Bronze Age round barrows. Two exceptionally well-defined round barrows were known from cropmarks but additional probable barrows have been identified. A Roman road is recorded as running parallel to the eastern boundary of Site A. The survey did not identify any clear evidence for the presence of the road, although a linear trend cannot be ruled out as related.

The archaeology in Site B is almost as complex as that identified within Site A, and many of these fea-

tures are also potentially of Iron Age or Romano-British date. A second banjo enclosure already provisionally identified from cropmarks has been confirmed. Additional enclosures spatially overlie the banjo enclosure. A possible section of track may potentially link with a Roman road located about 300m to the east. The western limit of a large enclosure appears to mark the western limit of the archaeological features.

The results from Site B indicate the archaeological features present here might be of equal significance to those within Site A, and would likely be considered of at least regional significance.

Newtown

Newtown deserted medieval village (SU 447715 163754) (Site UID: 68672)

Geophysical survey

A magnetic gradiometer survey was conducted by Cardiff University across two paddocks to the west of Newtown House with a view to identifying features associated with the deserted medieval borough of Newtown (Scheduled Monument 1001820). The quality of the data was reduced because of tall vegetation cover over most of the area. Nonetheless data were collected over most of the paddock area.

A zone up to 12m in width parallel to the drive to Newtown House showed abundant irregular magnetic featuring. Two areas of particularly intense featuring may be possible building locations. To the north-west of this zone, an arcuate area without magnetic featuring, up to 20m wide and with a slight central positive anomaly, is suggestive of a substantial ditch (perhaps the recorded medieval town ditch), although a geological origin cannot entirely be excluded.

Towards the south of the area surveyed multiple feature and zones trended perpendicular to the drive, extending south west across the width of the surveyed area. These are tentatively suggested to be of more modern origin, possibly from a previous field or garden in front of Newtown House. This area is, however, complicated by the intense magnetic anomalies produced by modern ferrous pipes and the wire fence between the fields.

See also: Young, T & Jervis, B 2015 *Geophysical Survey at Newtown, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

Overton

Kingsclere Road, land off (SU 451270 150415) (Site UID: 68898)

Evaluation, watching brief

& geophysical survey

The evaluation by AC Archaeology involved the recording of ten trenches which were sited to investigate a series of geophysical anomalies. A late Iron Age settlement, possibly a banjo enclosure, with associated activity in the 1st to 3rd century AD, was discovered. Archaeological features included pits, ditches, a trackway with associated banks and several inhumation graves believed to be Romano-British in date. The presence of Bronze Age pottery in the primary fill of a ditch may indicate earlier activity, while metal-detectorists recovered a quantity of 4th-century coins which could extend the date range of the site.

See also: Davies, R 2015 *Geophysical Survey Report*, unpubl report.

Brace, D 2015 *Geotechnical Trial Pits within Land at North Fields, Overton*, unpubl report.

Morse, D 2015 *Land off Kingsclere Road, Overton*, unpubl report.

Robinson, S 2015 *Land off Kingsclere Road, Overton*, unpubl report.

Popley

Marnel Park (SU 6380 5510) (Site UID: TBA)

Evaluation & excavation

Following the fieldwalking reported last year (see Archaeology in Hampshire for 2014), evaluation trenching by Thames Valley Archaeological Services in the northern part of the site revealed no deposits of archaeological interest and just two unstratified finds. Geophysical anomalies in this area were not visible as cut features and are probably just variations in the underlying geology. The south-western corner of the site, however, contained a concentration of archaeological features of late Iron Age to early Roman date, probably representing an enclosure, with a single late Iron Age cremation burial and a burnt mound, which may potentially be earlier. Excavation of an area of 1950sq m in this part of the site confirmed the presence of a small enclosure complex of late Iron Age and Roman date. Activity commenced in the late 1st century BC or early 1st AD with the construction of an intermittently defined rectangular enclosure. This was enlarged in early Roman times before being crosscut and presumably going out of use early in the 2nd century AD. A moderate density of pits, post-holes and miscellaneous linear features along with a moderate volume of pottery point to a well-used location though no buildings could be identified. Economic evidence was sparse with poor survival of faunal and charred

plant remains. Previous excavations just to the east of this site had shown a contrasting pattern of more sustained development, with dense settlement within enclosures, similar in form to here, but remodelled over a long period from the 1st to 4th centuries AD and with clearer evidence for occupation and for iron working. All TVAS unpublished fieldwork reports are available on our website: www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp and draft publication reports are available on request: email: tvas@tvas.co.uk.

Preston Candover

St Mary the Virgin Old Church (SU 60350 41400) (Site UID: 111230) Geophysical survey
Ground Penetrating Radar survey was conducted by Wessex Archaeology around the tower of St Mary the Virgin Old Church. Due to obstacles and inclement weather the survey area was limited to approximately 0.05 ha of a possible 0.3ha. Linear features were detected associated with the church structure, possibly representing a lost porch. Rectangular responses are probably graves.

EAST HAMPSHIRE

Alton

Cadnam Farm (SU 472025 141075) (Site UID: 69013) Evaluation
Prior to proposed development in the area, an 86 trench evaluation was carried out at Cadnam Farm by Cotswold Archaeology. Two areas of dispersed Iron Age settlement activity were identified in the north-east and north of fields 1 and 2 respectively.
See also: Clutterbuck, J 2015 *Cadnam Farm, Alton, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

Bordon

Bronze Age Bowl Barrow, west of Whitehill Village Hall (SU 7927 3433) (Site UID: 17318) Excavation
David Graham carried out an examination and limited excavation of a recently damaged bowl barrow demonstrating that the much restored mound overlay a buried Bronze Age soil level and that the barrow, at least in the section examined, was surrounded by a poorly defined ditch.
See also: Graham, D 2015 *Emergency Recording of Damage to a Bronze Age Bowl Barrow at Whitehill, Hants*, unpubl report.

Walldown enclosures, Whitehill (SU 7983 3418) (Site UID: 17320) Excavation
A trench across the ditch of this multi-period hillfort was excavated by David Graham and established that the original ditch was 5m wide, while the base was 1.3m below the modern ground surface. No finds were made to date either the ditch or the earthwork itself. However, it seems likely that the original curving defences belong to the Iron Age. In any event, at least one recut of the ditch was recorded, which may link to the realignment of parts of the defensive circuit, possibly in the 19th century. Modern plastic rubbish was recovered from the upper 60cm of fill and this indicates that considerable erosion has taken place in recent years.
See also: Graham, D 2015 *Report on a Trench across the Ditch at Walldown Monument, Whitehill, Hants, July 2015*, unpubl report.

Horndean

Stubbins Down, Catherington (SU 469871 114387) (Site UID: 68619) Field walking
Chris Healey undertook the work and recovered late prehistoric pottery and several flints from an area around two depressions. The site will be excavated in 2016.

Petersfield

Petersfield Heath

The 'People of the Heath' project was designed to understand and conserve Petersfield's Prehistoric barrows with a main aim to investigate the history and prehistory of Petersfield Heath. The project carried out archaeological excavations into Barrows 12, 13, 14, 18 and 21. In Barrow 12 (a saucer barrow) (SU 475536 122951) (Site UID: 18491) the excavation reopened a sewer-main that had previously been dug revealing that the barrow ditch still survives to either side, buried under a small overburden. No internal mound was evident however and the external bank has largely been levelled. A resistivity survey of the barrow revealed the now invisible monument as a 15m annulus cut by a drain and a footpath.

A single trench was excavated in Barrow 13 (SU 475486 122831 (Site UID: 18492), running across the centre of the barrow to beyond its outer edges. Along with clarifying the extent of antiquarian disturbance, it also revealed that the barrow was of turf construction with no surrounding ditch. An intact cremation, probably contained within an organic bag with a wooden handle, was discovered alongside a number of other grave goods. A resistivity survey of the barrow found that to the north-west of the mound at a low level is an area that has been cut away, described locally as a sand quarry.

A single trench was excavated through Barrow 14 (SU 475500 122790) (Site UID: 18493), running across the centre of the monument, revealing a single ditch and external bank with no internal mound. The main feature highlighted by a resistivity survey was an annular ditch 20m across only faintly visible on the ground and surrounded by a bank indicated by intermittent areas of higher resistance.

A single 'L'-shaped trench was opened in Barrow 18 (SU 475468 122692) (Site UID: 18497), running from the centre of the barrow to beyond its outer edges, revealing that it was constructed of turf with no surrounding ditch. No features or artefacts were recovered, save for a single block of ferruginous sandstone from within the turf stack. However, sealed beneath the later monument was a concentration of *in situ* Mesolithic struck flint.

A single trench was excavated through a 'monument' (21) 660m south of the Club House on Petersfield Heath Common (SU 475575 122516) (Site UID: 18501) revealing that, despite its previous interpretation as a twin-bowl barrow, it is actually a natural mound of wind-blown sand.

A resistivity survey was also conducted over the site of a barrow to the south of the club house (SU 475528 122811) (Site UID: 18495) and revealed a low regular mound with no evidence of any excavation.

See also: Needham, S & Anelay, G 2014 *People of the Heath Understanding and Conserving Petersfield's Prehistoric Barrows*, unpubl report.

Anelay, G, Needham, S, & Mordle, K 2015 *People of the Heath Project Uncovers New Evidence for Handling the Dead in the Early Bronze Age*, unpubl report.

Haskins, M & Haskins, N 2015 *People of the Heath: understanding and conserving Petersfield's prehistoric barrows*, unpubl report.

Anelay, G 2016 *Report on the Archaeological Excavation of Barrows 12, 13, 14, 18 & 21, Petersfield Heath, Petersfield, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

Medstead

Lymington Bottom Road (SU 466209 135041) (Site UID: 68854) Evaluation

The work was undertaken by Archaeology South East prior to redevelopment of the site and revealed limited evidence for early prehistoric activity: a pit that produced middle Neolithic or early Bronze Age flintwork and one sherd of Peterborough Ware. The pit is felt to belong to the middle Neolithic and is further evidence that the banks of the River Wey was an attractive location at this time in prehistory. In addition, evidence of agricultural activity was discovered, which although undated is felt to be prehistoric.

See also: Stephenson, P 2015 *Archaeological Excavation Report Land at Lymington Bottom Road, Four Marks, Alton*, unpubl report.

Ropley

St Peter's Church (SU 64588 31967) (Site UID: 111180) Watching brief

Wessex Archaeology carried out an archaeological and building recording watching brief on investigative groundworks which took place at this listed church. The church was severely damaged by a fire in 2014 and proposals exist to rebuild it with a newly designed church. The intention of the investigative works was to as-

sess the stability of the surviving walls and by experiment to establish the best way to stabilise the walls and foundations.

The east end of the church is founded directly onto the underlying natural chalk. The south wall of the south-east chapel is built on a buried soil that pre-dates the building of the church. The oldest parts of the west end of the nave, including the west and south walls, have medieval flint foundations. The late 19th-century north aisle wall and the exterior face of the west wall of the nave have been constructed on concrete foundations cut through deep deposits of loose up-cast, thought to originate from numerous burials over a long period.

Internally, there was evidence of early, probably medieval, burials on the north side of the arcade. Excavation of a test pit revealed a grave against the north side of the original nave wall. Other test pits within the nave and east chancel revealed brick-lined graves and brick-vaulted tombs. Excavation halted whenever *in situ* human remains were identified and these burials were left undisturbed.

Whitehill

Whitehill Bordon Relief Road (SU 479187 134016) (Site UID: 68997) Field survey

During the development of the relief road, a field survey was undertaken by Hampshire County Council. Features were recorded photographically and grid references were taken (to +/- 5m accuracy).

See also: Illsley, W 2015 *A Walk-over Survey along the Whitehill Bordon Relief Road Route*, unpubl report.

EASTLEIGH

Bursledon

Bridge Road (SU 449088 110167) (Site UID: 65965) Environmental sampling & evaluation

A palaeoenvironmental assessment was carried out following an auger survey undertaken by Archaeology South-East. The assessment of the deposits revealed a high potential for the tributary streams of the River Hamble to preserve intact palaeoenvironmental sequences. The analyses demonstrated sediment accumulation from the middle Bronze Age to the late Iron Age, and pollen records indicate a relatively unchanged sequence of woodland in close proximity. Two samples were submitted for radiocarbon dating following the palaeoenvironmental assessment. Beta Analytic Laboratories provided dates of 1305 to 1410 Cal BC and 355 to 120 Cal BC.

Following a geophysical survey an evaluation by Archaeology South-East was undertaken, which consisted of the excavation of 34 trial trenches. Approximately half the trenches targeted anomalies identified during the geophysics and a number of later medieval to modern features were found.

See also: Priestly-Bell, G 2015 *Land off Bridge Road, Bursledon, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

Fair Oak

Knowle Lane and Mortimer's Lane (SU 5050 1882) (Site UID: TBA) Evaluation

The evaluation by Thames Valley Archaeological Services recorded the presence of several cut features of late post-medieval date and one of possibly Medieval date, which most likely relate to old field boundaries. No deposits of archaeological interest were observed. A few prehistoric struck flints were recovered from the subsoil. All TVAS unpublished fieldwork reports are available on our website:

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Eastleigh

Fleming Park (SU 44258 18930) (Site UID: 104361 & 104362) Geophysical survey & evaluation

Wessex Archaeology conducted a detailed gradiometer survey over 1.9ha of land followed by a trial trench excavation at Fleming Park in support of a planning application to build a new leisure centre facility. Three undated features are likely to be the product of rooting and a fourth feature was modern. Some evidence of landscaping was noted.

See also: Kendall, M 2015 *Fleming Park Eastleigh - Archaeological Evaluation Report*, unpubl report.

Woodside Avenue (SU 4458 19530) (Site UID: TBA) Evaluation

One small part of the site contained a modest volume of archaeological deposits consisting of a ditch of likely late medieval date, an undated gully and a pit/tree throw hole. The evidence was revealed by Thames Valley Archaeological Services.

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FAREHAM

Portchester

Portchester Castle (SU 62475 04560) (Site UID: 108230, 108231) Watching brief

Wessex Archaeology monitored and recorded conservation works at the castle to comply with a condition of Scheduled Monument Consent. Historic fabric was metrically drawn whenever exposed and photographs and written records made. Conservation work was carried out in the south, east and south-west ranges of the inner bailey and at the east gate, also known as the water gate. The repair of the entrance in the east wall of the east gate was delayed awaiting a structural report and further work is anticipated.

GOSPORT

Gosport

Former Garage, Green Road, Alverstoke (SZ 6009 9883) (Site UID: TBA) Evaluation

A single pit of late Iron Age to early Roman date was the only feature encountered by Thames Valley Archaeological Services. Much of the site had been truncated by the construction of the former filling station.

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HART

Fleet

Hitches Lane (SU 479260 153861) (Site UID: 62140) Excavation

Following earlier work at the site, the excavation of areas F, G and H were undertaken by Thames Valley Archaeological Services. The fieldwork mainly identified the continuation of the Bronze Age ditch and 2nd - to 3rd -century linear features recorded in the 2008 excavations. Amongst the new features identified were a possible posthole and pit/treebole.

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Land at Knight Close, Crookham (SU 7910 5256) (Site UID: TBA) Evaluation

The evaluation by Thames Valley Archaeological Services revealed that much of the underlying geology of the site had been disturbed by the construction of a terrace to house the recently demolished structures. In the south portion of the site a ditch and a gully along with a second possible ditch or furrow contained no close dating evidence but are not obviously of any great antiquity. Three flint flakes point to some prehistoric activity in the general area.

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Odiham

North Warnborough. Access Cambridge Archaeology (ACA) dug a series of test pits to assess the archaeology of the area recovering mainly medieval and post-medieval pottery. In total 12 test pits were excavated producing pottery ranging in date from the medieval period to the Victorian Age.

See <http://www.access.arch.cam.ac.uk/reports/hampshire/north-warnborough> for the location of the test pits and analysis of the pottery by Paul Blinkhorn.

See also: Blinkhorn, P 2015 *Pottery from North Warnborough Test Pits (NWA/15)*, unpubl report.

HAVANT

Havant

Ranelagh Road (SU 7078 0627) (Site UID: TBA) Excavation

An excavation by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West) recorded a late Bronze-Age/early Iron Age ditch (possibly part of a co-axial field system) and two intact buried vessels containing burnt flint. Three other pits containing burnt material were also found.

59-61 West Street (SU 714 062) (Site UID: TBA) Evaluation excavation & watching brief

Oxford Archaeology South (OAS) was commissioned to carry out archaeological mitigation comprising targeted excavation and a watching brief at the site. In the south-eastern area (Area 1) a number of postholes and pits dating to the 1st and 2nd centuries AD were revealed. A number of other postholes were undated, but appeared to form part of a rectangular structure along with the Roman features. Further postholes contained medieval pottery. Area 2 (the north-eastern area) was dominated by a straight ditch of early Roman date, extending SE-NW across the site. A brick and chalk block-constructed well of post-medieval date was found in the south-eastern corner of Area 2. Close to this well was a chalk block wall that had suffered extensive damage but its construction was similar enough to suggest it was contemporary with the well. Area 3 (the north-western area) produced four isolated features of which two were dated: a posthole of 2nd-century AD date and a linear feature of likely post-medieval date.

See also: Shaffrey, R 2015 *59-61 West Street, Havant, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

NEW FOREST

Brockenhurst

Tile Barn Outdoor Centre, Church Lane (SU 30395 01491) (Site UID: 108750) Watching brief

Wessex Archaeology monitored works associated with the construction of accommodation pods and ancillary structures. A feature identified at the eastern end of the site could relate to the field hospital that was situated there during WWI. A metal detector survey on the proposed excavation areas identified a total of 220 objects with 17 items, including buttons and ammunition casings, being of note. The archaeological watching brief revealed no further archaeological features or deposits, but there were signs of landscaping in some areas.

Damerham

St George Church of England Church (SU 10750 15800) (Site UID: 111700) Watching brief

Wessex Archaeology monitored improvement works at the church. Against the south wall of the church aisle a 2.3m by 1.85m foundation trench was hand excavated between the church's south porch and tower.

Remains of a possible foundation layer may pre-date or be contemporary with the construction of the 15th-century south porch of the church. The layer was sealed by a post-medieval building debris layer. The precise function of a further stone and brick structure including a chamfered plinth block is unclear. The block may have been re-used during modern repair work to the tower. The brick element of the structure is dated to the 19th century or later and post-dates the western wall of the tower.

See also: Panes, R 2015 *St George C of E Church, Damerham, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

Denny Lodge

Church Place 2 (Denny Wait) (SU 433353 106887) (Site UID: 19899) Geophysical survey

The geophysical survey on the site of the Royal Hunting Lodge at Church Place has revealed limited evidence for temporary structures on the site. The resistivity data allowed for the mapping of the bank and ditch and areas of raised earth which can be usefully compared to the National Parks Authority's Lidar data.

The gradiometer, magnetic susceptibility, and magnetic conductivity surveys have revealed three main areas where the anomalies could relate to possible archaeology. This includes an area of possible burning in the west of the survey area. The second area of possible archaeology is the large curvilinear anomaly in the centre of the site, which has been interpreted as the possible area of a large fire or hearth. The gradiometer magnetic conductivity and susceptibility survey have also highlighted a number of positive anomalies in the north-west of the site. These have been interpreted as possible pits, although more investigation would be required to confirm this assumption.

See also: Powell, J 2015 *Geophysical Survey Report for Church Place (Denny Wait) Denny Lodge*, unpubl report.

Ellingham, Harbridge and Ibsley

Amberslade Bottom and Broomy Inclosure, Linwood (SU 2004 1118) (Site UID: TBA) Watching brief

Oxford Archaeology South (OAS) was commissioned to undertake an archaeological watching brief as part of the planning application for the Wetlands Restoration Project. The works revealed the nature of the inclosure bank and ditch arrangement. The bank was created by the excavation and extraction of the material from the ditch. The material was dumped on the internal, southern side of the ditch.

The digging of the ditch and the dumping meant that the deposits were buried in reverse order. There is evidence of the original ground surface being left in place and the soils and subsoils were then dug and dumped to form the deposits of the bank. The bank was probably left at that point. Subsequent time has allowed the formation of a thin soil and turf layer over the bank. The organic matter at the base of the bank has also had time to decompose *in-situ*. The resulting ditch and bank, with any associated vegetational growth or additional fencing, has formed an effective boundary within the landscape. The mounds of the old stream crossing points were constructed of accumulated material of a nature identical to the subsoils.

During the works no previously unknown archaeological sites and finds were encountered, nor were any identified that might have been exposed by works incorporating the wider scheme.

Bleak Hill II (SU 413073 110967) (Site UID: 68545) Watching brief

Observations during the stripping of overburden prior to the quarrying of aggregate were by Wessex Archaeology and recovered evidence for a small number of features. Most were undatable, but a small pit produced a heavily abraded fragment of early to middle Bronze Age pottery.

Fordingbridge

Brooklands Farm, Stuckton (SU 1597 1320) (Site UID: TBA) Watching brief

The watching brief by Thames Valley Archaeological Services has provided dating evidence for some of the features first recorded during the evaluation (see the Annual Report for 2014) to suggest they are of medieval and post-medieval date but many discrete postholes remain undated. It is suggested that the linear features represent elements of paddocks and enclosures forming part of a medieval and later settlement. A few prehistoric flint flakes and a sherd of Roman pottery point to a small amount of earlier activity on or near the site.

See also: Taylor, A 2015 *Land at Brooklands Farm, Stuckton, Fordingbridge, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

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Lymington

Plot D5 Ampress Lane (SZ 32006 96853) (Site UID: 76901) Watching brief

Wessex Archaeology monitored initial ground works at the site, which followed on from watching briefs in Plots 6 and 7 conducted in 2011 (see Annual Report for 2011). A single 2.7m wide ditch was recorded which appears to be a continuation of a post-medieval/modern ditch revealed during the previous work.

Lymington and Pennington

Alexandra Road, land north of (SU 431380 96122) (Site UID: 69124) Geophysical survey

A detailed gradiometry survey was undertaken over four hectares of grassland. The survey identified an area of probable enclosures in the centre of the site. Further anomalies may relate to the enclosures or be of modern origin.

See also: Richardson, T 2015 *Geophysical Survey Report, Lymington, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

Milford-On-Sea

All Saints Church (SZ 29052 92130) (Site UID: 109400) Watching brief

Wessex Archaeology monitored the installation of a new drain at the church. Two brick built graves, each less than 200 years old, were recorded.

Sopley

RAF Sopley Domestic Site, Merryfield Park (SU 417596 98021) (Site UID: 57550)

Building recording

Cotswold Archaeology were commissioned to carry out building recording (Level 2) and an archaeological evaluation at the site prior to its demolition and redevelopment. The surviving structures are Wimpey No-Fines buildings of a form typical of military sites of the late 1940s and early 1950s.

See also: Francis, P 2015 *RAF Sopley Domestic Site, Merryfield Park, Bransgore, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

PORTSMOUTH

Hilsea

Anchorage Park (SU 66663 04175 to 67309 03485) (Site UID: TBA) Watching brief

The watching brief by Museum of London Archaeology comprised monitoring of the excavation of panels for the installation of geotextile and rock armour by the sea as part of Phase 1 of the project. The excavations were carried out on the toe level and earthen embankments of the existing coastal defences as part of the refurbishing and consolidation works of these structures. Natural deposits were reached at the toe line of the embankments, revealing chalk bedrock overlaid by alluvium clays. Above this was the modern foreshore/ beach deposit consisting of sandy clay and coarse flint with inclusions such as concrete, brick, glass, plastic and other modern material waste. At the bottom of the bank a line of timber stakes was recorded which ran parallel to the coastal defences for the entire length of the area. These timber stakes were facing the intertidal zone and most likely formed part of a timber revetment intended to prevent the erosion of the earthen embankments. Pictures pre-dating the construction of the existing sea defences in the 1970s show similar timber revetment walls or associated features related to the flood and erosion management of the intertidal zone area. The refurbishing of the earthen embankments revealed a core of layers of gravelly sand and chalk with occasional inclusions of red and yellow stock brick fragments, coarse flint nodules and modern waste material such as plastic and glass. The tops of the banks were covered with sandy silt with moderate root action and other organic activity related to their vegetation cover.

SOUTHAMPTON

Botley

Boorley Green, Land at, Phase 2 (SU 506 153) (Site UID: TBA) Evaluation

A 34 trench evaluation by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West) recorded a number of linear and discrete features to the north and west of the site. All lacked dating evidence rendering the significance of these features uncertain. A single urned cremation burial, of probable Bronze Age date, was uncovered and appears to be an isolated feature, but further investigations are to follow.

Boorley Green (various locations) Geophysical survey

A detailed gradiometry study was conducted by Stratascan over approx. 40 hectares of grassland and agricultural land. Two areas of widely spaced curving linear anomalies in the north-west of the site, indicative of ridge and furrow cultivation, were detected (SU 450453 115290) (Site UID: 68909). While at (SU 451016 114853) (Site UID 68910) and (SU 450851 115339) (Site UID: 68911) a number of closely spaced linear anomalies which are indicative of modern agriculture were surveyed.

See also: Slater, J 2015 *Geophysical Survey Report (Boorley Green, Hampshire)*, unpubl report.

Southampton

Back of the Walls, former SEB Depot (SU 421 113) (Site UID: TBA) Evaluation

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West) carried out an evaluation which recorded evidence of post-medieval infilling of the medieval town ditches – possibly associated with the construction phase of an 18th-century artillery bastion on the site. A central medieval berm between the double town ditches and remnants of significant limestone walls believed to represent possible wharf construction associated with the Southampton to Salisbury canal were also recorded.

Chapel Riverside (former Town Depot) (SU 4303 1142) (Site UID: SOU 1672) Watching brief

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out a watching brief on soil investigations in advance of development at the site, which had previously been the Town Depot and former Corporation Yard of Southampton City Council. The work took place in 2014 but was not reported on in that year's Archaeology in Hampshire.

The west side of the site was once the beach on the east side of the middle Saxon town of Hamwic, but no signs of waterfront activity were found. The north-west corner of the site was occupied by Holy Trinity Chapel, first mentioned by 1217, and from 1220 there are references to a mill. The tidal pond for the mill lay to the south of the mill and chapel, and was built by building a dam out into the Itchen. By the post-medieval period there were two ponds.

The soil investigation work did not reveal any archaeological deposits in the area of the supposed Saxon waterfront. This may have been due to disturbance caused by late 19th-century housing. The areas of the millponds contained thick deposits of silt, below 19th - 20th-century backfill. The outer pond may have been deeper (up to 4.5m), than the inner one (up to 2.6m), but this may just reflect the underlying topography of the river terraces beneath. The bank between the two ponds appeared to sit on intertidal silts, and included fragments of brick in its makeup, suggesting it is a post-medieval sub-division of one large medieval pond. Outside the area of the ponds, and furthest out into the river, intertidal silts were found lying above peat deposits, themselves lying above gravelly clay to a depth of 15.1m below the ground level. The peat was found at two distinct levels, 6.5m and 10.1m below ground level. If a programme of analysis and carbon-14 dating was carried out on these deposits and the muds above and below them, it should be possible to tie the Itchen peats and silts to the better-understood sequence on the west side of the Southampton peninsula. (See Archaeology in Hampshire 2014 for an evaluation excavation carried out on the same site, site code SOU 1675.)

See also: SCC AU report 1182.

The Crown Inn, land rear of 73-75 Shirley High Street (SU 3991 1389) (Site UID: SOU 1676) Evaluation excavation

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out an archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of the public house in advance of development. The natural was mixed clay and gravel of the Wittering Beds, overlain by a truncated layer of soil which contained only burnt flints. The soil was probably the surface of Shirley Common which covered the area until it was developed in the mid 19th century, and the burnt flint might be pre-historic in date. A shallow quarry pit pre-dated the mid 19th-century Crown Inn and two small ditches and a posthole dated to after its construction. Drains and services had caused some disturbance.

See also: SCC AU report 1186.

104–106 East Street (Canal Walk), rear of (SU 2161 1503) (Site UID: 1690) Excavation

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out an archaeological excavation prior to development of land at the rear of the property. The trench revealed that the east edge of the town ditch, thought to have been originally excavated in the late 12th or early 13th century, had been dug through the natural brickearth and gravel to 1.06m OD, the side being cut to an angle of some 30 degrees. The base would have been some 2.75m below the medieval ground level. There was a berm some 4m wide between the wall and the ditch. Doc-

umentary evidence tells of the scouring of the ditch in the early 16th century and the archaeological evidence confirmed this as there were no surviving medieval fills. The environmental evidence showed that the ditch was not permanently wet in the 16th-17th century, that is it was not maintained as a moat around the town, and the little infilling that took place was composed partly of eroded soil from the berm, partly of night soil and partly of kitchen refuse.

In the 18th century, when the ditch was leased to members of the corporation, a spread of crushed mortar and stone fragments suggests the town wall was being quarried for its stone, after which the ditch received dumps of soil. A mid 18th-century lease included the fish and fishing together with all islands, hills, banks, and mounds. The mollusc evidence suggests pools of water, and the presence of a brackish-water species suggests the sluices/floodgates to the south under God's House Tower were no longer keeping out the rising tides. In the late 18th century the ditch was finally filled to ground level (probably with spoil from the Southampton canal, under construction nearby in 1795) and the area became a stonemason's yard. The earliest buildings used recycled masonry in their foundations and the later phases were in brick. See *Archaeology in Hampshire 2011* for an evaluation excavation on the same site, Canal Walk, site code SOU 1562.)

See also: SCC AU report 1209.

1-16 Empress Road, Acorn Business Centre (SU 42730 13460) (Site UID: SOU1678)
& geotechnical evaluation

Watching brief

An archaeological condition on the application resulted in an archaeological watching brief on the ground investigations (by Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit) and the retrieval and analysis (by Museum of London Archaeology) of a sleeved core taken through the below ground deposits, which included prehistoric peat.

Sediment recovery was very good with Holocene and Pleistocene sequences retrieved (mainly consisting of soft, sometimes organic clays lying over peat and then sand and gravel). The sands and gravels encountered are part of the Wittering formation (Whitecliff Sand Member), formed approximately 40 to 56 million years ago. The overlying sand and silt record includes pond weed remains indicating fresh standing water then increased organic content higher in the profile suggesting vegetation encroachment. Radiocarbon dating of some of the macro-botanical remains from the sand unit may help solidify the chronology and confirm whether these lower sand and silt deposits are Pleistocene or prehistoric. The peat and clay sequence has been radiocarbon dated to the early Mesolithic at the base and mid-Mesolithic to the top. Palaeoenvironmental evidence from the peat suggests a mix of sedge and alder with alder becoming more prevalent towards the top of this unit demonstrating that tidal inundation was beginning to affect the area. From -3.12m OD possible mudflat formation begins and is interjected with very short-lived periods of stabilisation and vegetation radiocarbon dated to the mid-Mesolithic. Changes in lithology, vegetation and hydrology likely resulted from positive relative sea-level change, well documented for the Solent. The early to mid-Mesolithic peat and clay sequence is overlain by some redeposited/disturbed clays and Victorian or later ground raising deposits.

The Empress Road site provides important new evidence for the early chronology of the river Itchen. The earliest peat (dated to the early Mesolithic) probably lay in a narrow channel and this is the first time it has been found; the later peat ties in with the dates from two nearby sites suggesting a wider deposit of peat in the mid-to late-Mesolithic period. (See SOU 1684, in this *Archaeology in Hampshire*, for another geo-archaeological investigation in the same part of the Itchen Estuary.)

See also: SCC AU report 1216.

Fruit and Vegetable Market, Back of the Walls/Bernard Street/Queensway (SU 4212 1121) (Site UID: SOU 1669)
Evaluation excavation

Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological trial trench evaluation at the site of the market in central Southampton. In total, seven trial trenches have been excavated in the footprints of three proposed residential and commercial buildings within the development site, which extends across the east side of Southampton's medieval defences. This report describes the results from all three phases of trenched evaluation. The initial phase (October 2014) comprised two trenches (designated as trenches 2 and 3), targeted specifically to clarify the precise location of the medieval town wall and to inform the planning application which was being prepared for submission at the time. The second phase (March 2015) comprised three trenches, designated as trenches 6-8, replacing an originally proposed single trench (trench 1), two were targeted to clarify the presence and extent of suspected modern cellars, and the third to characterise and record the survival of backland deposits between the High Street and the medieval town wall. The third and final phase (July 2015) comprised two trenches (designated as trenches 4-5), targeted to clarify the survival of deposits within the berm area either side of the medieval town outer ditch, later enlarged and incorporated into the Southampton—Salisbury canal.

Due to the presence of a gas main within a currently used road (Back of the Walls), which bisects the Site north to south, neither trench 2 nor trench 3 could be excavated across the projected course of the medieval town wall. However, the evidence from both trenches (excavated to the east of their proposed locations) suggests that the wall does lie in its projected location in this area, beneath the mid line of Back of the Walls and, therefore, approximately 2-3m outside of the footprint of the proposed new (Phase 1) building to the east.

The depth and nature of the earliest deposits encountered in trenches 2 and 3 indicates that both crossed the line of the inner medieval town ditch, although the upper fills recorded are of likely late post-medieval to modern date, based on the small quantity of pottery recovered. Above or cut into the upper fills were the remains of what are likely to have been 19th-century domestic and light industrial or commercial buildings depicted on maps from at least 1846, lying along the east side of Back of the Walls, and demolished during and shortly after the 2WW.

Trenches 6 and 8 confirmed the presence of modern cellars along much of the Bernard Street frontage within the proposed new (Phase 3) building, and these are likely to have destroyed all but the deepest archaeological features.

To the south, trench 7 provided a 20m-long transect through the backland deposits, which were approximately 2.5m deep. The uppermost metre or so comprised later 18th and 19th-century structural remains and related surfaces and deposits, sealed below the existing car park surface. Below these were a brick-lined cess pit (adjacent to a property boundary), several shallow pits, and 'garden soils', most assigned to the 17th/early 18th century on the basis of pottery and clay tobacco pipes. Deeper investigations at the east end of trench 7 revealed natural brickearth, overlain by a layer rich in oyster shell and cut by several features, one of which produced 13th/early 14th-century pottery. The evidence suggests that medieval and post-medieval deposits are generally well preserved in this part of the Site, comprising mainly cut features and more extensive deposits, with little indication of any substantial, stone structures in this area.

Trenches 4-5 were excavated within the confines of a standing building. The westernmost (trench 4) exposed 19th-century building footings overlying the infilled Southampton-Salisbury canal, the bottom of which was not reached, while an extant wall prevented access to the area of the berm between the town inner and outer ditches. Trench 5 to the east revealed what was probably medieval/early post-medieval subsoil or ploughsoil, overlying natural brickearth, and cut by an 18th-century pit and a wall of what was possibly a WWII air-raid shelter.

Greene King, Adanac Triangle, land at (SU 37425 15311) (Site UID: 108820, A2015.30) Evaluation
Wessex Archaeology undertook a trial trench evaluation at a site proposed for retail development. Four linear ditches and one posthole contained pottery from the late Bronze Age to the medieval periods. The majority of the site was archaeologically sterile, with evidence of substantial truncation in the north-west corner. See also: Kendall, M 2015 *Land at Adanac Triangle, Greene King, Southampton, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

Imperial Road, land off (SU 4272 1314) (Site UID: 1684) Watching brief, evaluation
& geo-archaeological boreholes
Archaeological Research Services Ltd. carried out the work at the site of a proposed redevelopment of vacant land. The site is on the west bank of the estuary of the River Itchen, in an area that had been reclaimed in the 19th century.

The first phase of work in April 2015 was a watching brief on geotechnical boreholes, window samples and test pits dug across the site. Peat and alluvial/estuarine deposits were found below the 19th-century land reclamation.

In June 2015 an archaeological evaluation trench was dug and two geoarchaeological boreholes sunk. The evaluation trench was targeted to investigate a line of posts shown on a map dated 1846. It was not possible to excavate down to the estuarine deposits owing to rapid inundation of water into the trench once sea level was encountered. Made-ground deposits were exposed, including reclamation deposits. Four water-logged timbers were recovered from a context containing modern pottery and brick material. It is not known whether these were part of the line of posts.

A sediment core from one of the geoarchaeological boreholes was analysed for palaeoenvironmental evidence. It provided a well-preserved sequence of organic Holocene sediments that have allowed the palaeoenvironmental history of the site to be established, supported by scientific dating control. Analysis of pollen and plant macrofossils yielded a detailed record of environmental change at the site from the early Holocene to the late Iron Age. The base of the Mesolithic peat sequence was radiocarbon dated to 8771-8617 cal BC at 95% probability, while the top of the peat sequence was radiocarbon dated to 6558-6440 cal BC at 95% probability. The pollen record over this period documents several environmental shifts, from early Holocene Boreal forest

species such as pine and birch to a warmer, wetter alder and hazel dominated wetland environment. Peat deposition ceased due to inundation and estuary expansion, with estuarine clays deposited through the late Iron Age. Evidence of later sea level change has been truncated by modern industrial activity and made ground deposits.

(See SOU 1678, in this Archaeology in Hampshire, for another geo-archaeological investigation in the same part of the Itchen Estuary.)

See also: ARS Ltd Report 2016/18.

Peel Street (SU 43050 12300) (Site UID: 109550: SOU1691)

Watching brief

Wessex Archaeology monitored a scheme of 125 drilled pile holes associated with the proposed redevelopment at the site. A broadly common stratigraphic sequence was recorded by visual examination of the displaced material arising from the pile holes, which were 10–16m deep. No accurate measuring of depths and thicknesses of deposits was possible. The natural comprised river terrace gravel. In most of the pile holes a layer of alluvial material comprising brownish grey silty clay directly overlay the river terrace gravel, but in seven pile holes bands of peat were present within or beneath the alluvium. The alluvial deposits and peat are likely to reflect the former presence of Northam Marsh, evidence for which has been recorded in a number of previous investigations in the vicinity.

River Itchen West Bank (Itchen Flood Alleviation Scheme) (SU 4305 1215) (Site UID: SOU1671)

Watching brief

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out a watching brief on ground investigations on the west bank of the River Itchen. Most of the investigations took place in areas that had been river bed or foreshore until recently. Gravels and silts deposited by the River Itchen were encountered and in the northern part of the site peaty layers were observed. The peat will have formed in freshwater conditions, before the rise in sea level in the prehistoric period.

Two soil investigations took place on dry land within the area of middle Saxon Hamwic, but no Saxon archaeology was encountered.

Industrial activity and shipbuilding was located at Ocean Quay where 800mm of organic clay contained fragments of a sizeable wooden vessel, ash and nails. This would be activity associated with the early phases of the Belvidere Ship Yard, marked on the 1806 Ordnance Survey drawing as a wharf with a building.

Deposits of the 19th and 20th centuries were present in all the investigations and contained fragments of brick, concrete, chalk, limestone, slag, and wood. Some of the lower layers of reclamation may well have been rubble and hardcore that had sunk into the intertidal silts, and a few finds, including Verwood pottery and brick fragments may have been post-medieval finds that had found their way into the mud at an earlier date. Above them were definite reclamation deposits that comprised dredged river mud and gravel with similar modern cultural material. The thickness of the reclamation layers, up to 3.4m, would have had the potential to bury wrecks and other material abandoned on the foreshore.

The soil investigations have shown that the deposits in this area contain the history of the Itchen area covering a period of perhaps 10,000 years. Further work would be required on the river silts and peat deposits to recover detailed evidence that relates to early sea level rises and human use of the river in the prehistoric period. Although evidence of the area's more recent industrial past as a ship-building and repairing centre was only found in one area, there is potential for such evidence to survive wherever waterlogged deposits are present.

See also: SCC AU report 1178.

Summers Street, Former Meridian TV Studios (SU 3071 2890) (Site UID: SOU 1695)

Evaluation

excavation

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land proposed for development at the former TV studios. The evaluation focused on the southern part of the Site, specifically the 'dry land' south of the area of 20th-century reclamation, the former Bridge Foundry, and the earlier foreshore of the River Itchen.

The results of the evaluation indicate that most of the Site has been subject to reclamation, levelling and subsequent extensive and deep disturbance during the late 19th and 20th centuries. Much of the evidence revealed in the seven evaluation trenches relates to the remains of buildings and other structures recorded on historic maps of the area. These include elements of the Bridge Foundry, tram/railway lines, a cinema and the TV studios. The earlier gravel foreshore was revealed in one trench, but there were no deposits of palaeoenvironmental interest and no features or finds which could be ascribed a pre-late 19th-century date.

Townhill Park Estate (SU 4545 1439) (Site UID: SOU1680)

Watching brief

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out a watching brief on soil investigations carried out as part of a proposed redevelopment of a number of modern multi-storey housing units. The site lies in an area of known archaeology and a watching brief was held on the works to record any archaeology encountered during the groundworks. The 35 soil investigations included boreholes, window samples and trial pits.

At the south end of the site a buried soil contained burnt flints, a flint flake, and a sherd of abraded medieval cooking pot, suggesting probable prehistoric activity over a wide area, followed by period of medieval agricultural use. At the north end of the site investigations in an infilled stream valley found up to 1.6m of probable water-deposited material. These deposits may relate to the fishponds upstream of this area recorded in the Historic Environment Record, and referred to in the Townhill Stockwell papers of 1603/4.

The 1960s development had caused considerable disturbance in some areas, but had protected the potential archaeology in others.

See also: SCC AU report 1190.

TEST VALLEY

Abbotts Ann

Long Thatch, 61 Duck Street (SU 32836 43427) (Site UID: 109330)

Watching brief

Wessex Archaeology monitored groundworks at this Grade II Listed Building ahead of the proposed erection of a single-storey extension to the rear of the building. Two modern features, a pit and soakaway, were recorded, as was an undated possible post-hole. Representative sections were recorded through deep soil sequences.

Andover

Picket Piece (SU 439414 147083) (Site UID: 65528)

Evaluation

The second phase (Archaeology in Hampshire 2013 for the earlier work) of the evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology. A further 36 trenches were excavated but only a single linear feature was observed.

See also: Howard, A 2015 *Picket Piece, Andover, Hampshire: phase II*, unpubl report.

Charlton

Charlton, land at (SU 43541 0147260) (Site UID: 68559)

Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology. The only feature identified was a probable gully in Trench 6, although there were several topsoil finds of worked flint, struck flint and flint cores of a Mesolithic/Neolithic date as well as a single piece of Roman CBM and a number of post-medieval fragments.

See also: Kennedy, R 2015 *Land at Charlton Andover*, unpubl report.

Hurstbourne Tarrant

Yew Tree Cottage, Ibthorpe Road (SU 438116 153499) (Site UID: 5089)

Building recording

A building record was made in accordance with consent to convert a two cottage dwelling to a single dwelling and to reopen two filled in internal doorways.

Michelmersh

Church of St Andrew (SU 434572 124557) (Site UID: 7871)

Building recording

A fragment of wall painting was discovered during conservation. The painting seemingly depicts foliage, perhaps reed heads or rushes. This, and its location opposite the south door of the church, is in keeping with traditional paintings of St. Christopher, the patron saint of travellers who was said to have carried the infant Christ across a river.

See also: Roberts, E 2015 *St. Andrew's Church, Timsbury: fire, conservation and research*, unpubl report.

Michelmersh and Timsbury

School House Field (SU 434403 126158) (Site UID: 68673)

Evaluation

Roy Entwistle on behalf of John Moore Heritage Services excavated 18 trenches in advance of clay extraction at

Michelmersh Brickworks. A few features were tentatively dated and include a pit with late Iron Age to early Roman pottery and a ditch that produced a small group of later Roman pottery. Some undated narrow ditches were found that are felt to be part of a late prehistoric to Roman field system and likely to be related with the settlement lying to the west of the brickworks. A small assemblage of upper Palaeolithic or Mesolithic flint was recovered, plus some flint dating to later prehistory.

Column sequences taken during the evaluation were subject to various analyses. Lithostratigraphic descriptions of each column sequences were made; organic matter content was determined and pollen and microfossil assessments were made. Radiocarbon dates were extracted from fragments of charcoal and water-logged wood recovered from the column sequences used for lithostratigraphic analysis. The wood, recovered from the base of the peat deposit, provides a date of 910 & 800 cal BC, whilst the charcoal from beneath the burnt mound deposit offered dates between 3800 & 3650 cal BC.

See also: Entwistle, R 2015 *An Archaeological Evaluation at School House Field, Michelmersh, Hampshire, SO51 0NN*, unpubl Report.

Batchelor, C R, Green, C P, & Young, D S 2015 *School House Field, Michelmersh, Hampshire, Environmental Archaeological Assessment Report*, unpubl report.

Hillside Field, Michelmersh (SU 434600 126100) (Site UID: 69011) Evaluation

Prior to proposed quarrying, John Moore Heritage Services carried out a 26 trench evaluation at the site revealing one post-medieval ditch, one late Iron Age ditch, one un-dated ditch, two un-dated postholes and one un-dated pit.

See also: Leech, S 2015 *Archaeological Evaluation at Hillside Field, Michelmersh, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

Monxton

Jevvon, Andover Road (SU 431762 144607) (Site UID: 69000) Watching brief

The first and second phases of groundworks relating to residential construction at Jevvon were subject to an archaeological watching brief. The first phase identified the topsoil horizon but no finds or archaeological features. The second phase identified a linear Roman feature, however it is thought to represent a field boundary rather than the flanking ditch of the nearby Roman Road, The Portway.

See also: Hall, N 2015 *An Archaeological Watching Brief at Jevvon, Andover Road, Monxton, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

Mottisfont

Mottisfont Abbey, visitor facility (SU 432780 126840) (Site UID: 68659) Evaluation & watching brief

The National Trust commissioned the services of Allen Archaeology to maintain an archaeological watching brief over excavations to install a new foul drainage connection between the west end of the mansion and the entrance lodge on the edge of the Trust's current car park (centred on grid ref. SU 3278 2684). The watching brief also covered various excavations and piling associated with the Trust's new visitor centre. The total length of trenching was of the order of 270m. Previous recorded excavations – notably to the north of the mansion undertaken as part of the 1990s refurbishment of Mottisfont Abbey – have confirmed the archaeological sensitivity of the property. The extent of surviving buried remains on the south front has been confirmed by a geophysics survey undertaken in 2008 and by repeat sightings of regularly occurring parch marks which hint at two courtyards having existed to the south of the mansion. The larger of these would have been the former cloister associated with the Augustinian priory but the more southerly courtyard appears to be of 16th-century date and probably associated with the phase of construction associated with William Sandys.

The 2014-15 trenching (Fig. 1) encountered a number of wall foundations lying to the south of the house, most if not all of which relate to the major alterations to the property following on from the Dissolution of 1536 and the acquisition of the property by William Sandys. As is nearly always the case with service trenches their narrow width prevented effective examination and interpretation of such structures, nevertheless the evidence points to a number of demolished structures which can be reconciled with a detailed map of the property dating from 1724. Important finds recovered from the excavations included part of a 13th – 14th-century glazed 'cocks-comb' ridge tile (Fig. 2) and several fragments of medieval carved masonry. Perhaps the most significant structure was a four-centred Tudor arch capped by five courses of brickwork (204 on the plan). This feature ran east-west across the trench and appears to form the top of a doorway or a window for either a building or a walled garden lying immediately west of the west range of the mansion (the former monastic cellarium). Only the top of the arch was seen, the internal southern reveals were rendered with a lime plaster. The excavated evidence points to huge amounts of rubble having been dumped in this area over and around the

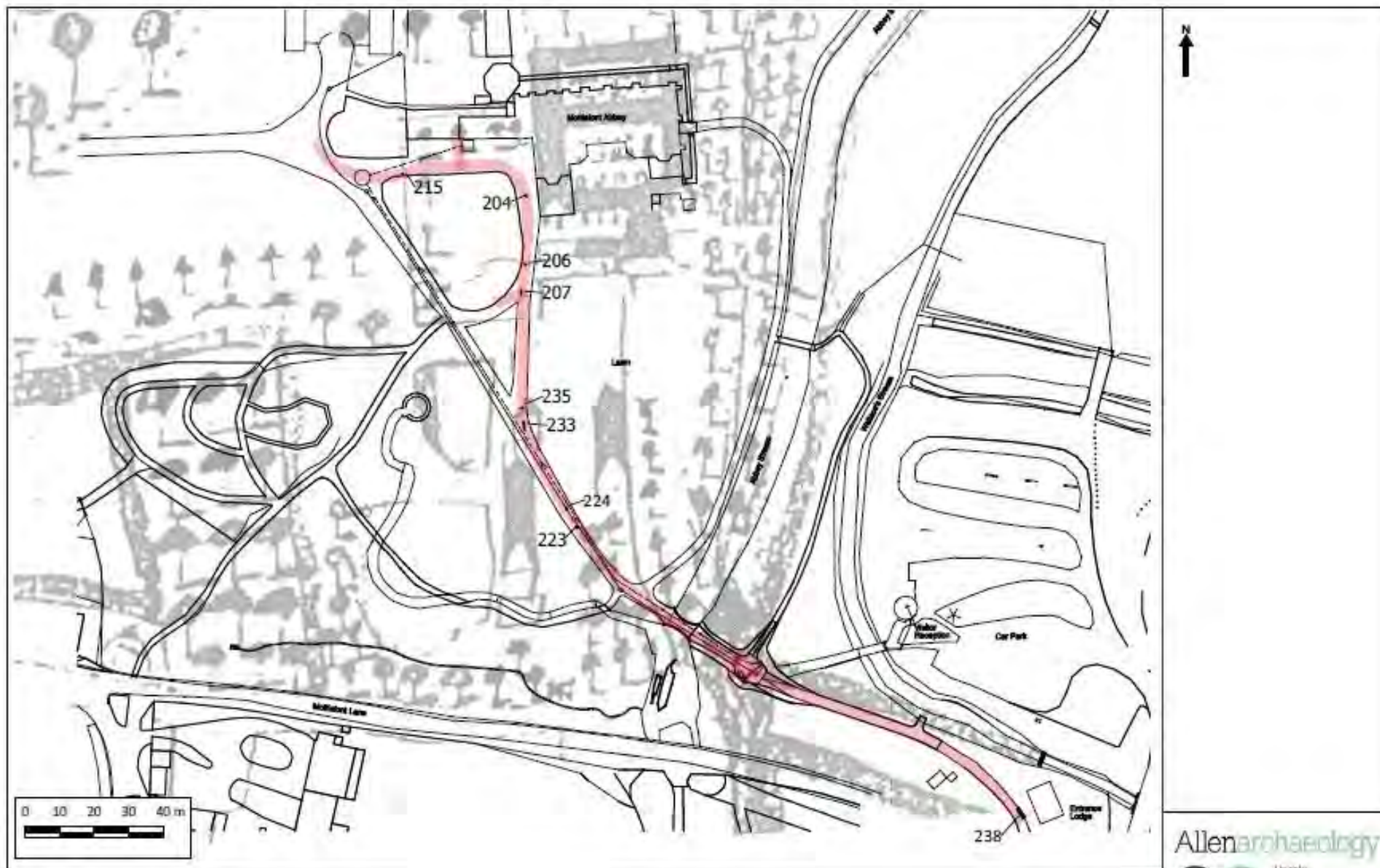


Fig. 1 Mottisfont, site plan showing features (in black) overlying map of 1724 (trenching in pink) (© Allen Archaeology/The National Trust)

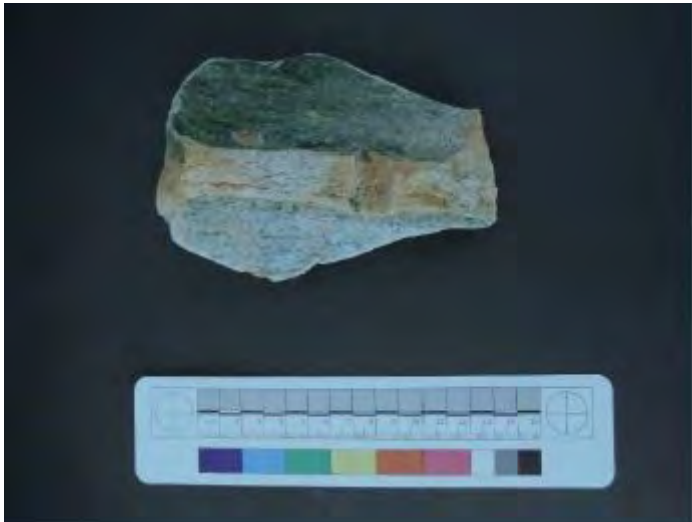


Fig. 2 13th—14th century 'cocks-comb' ridge tile, showing green copper-rich glaze on its surface (scale 15cm) (© Allen Archaeology/The National Trust)

arch, probably in the 18th century, and the former ground level is likely to have been at least 3m lower than it is today. Towards the western end of the service trench a north-south aligned flint and brick wall (215), rendered on its east face, is thought to be part of a garden wall shown on a plan of Mottisfont Abbey dating from 1724.

Brick and flint walls running across the trench at 206 and 207 point to garden walls also shown on the 1724 plan. The value of this plan in assisting with the interpretation of archaeological evidence is demonstrated by the further recovery of a substantial north-south aligned wall at 233, and an east-west aligned wall slightly north of this at 235. Both walls were built from a mixture of flint, sandstone, tile and lime mortar, suggesting reclaimed materials from the 12th-century priory.

Their coincidence with the north end of a building shown on the 1724 plan suggests they are likely to be 16th century in date, forming part of a service building – perhaps a stables – associated with Lord Sandy's alterations. Slightly further south, wall 223 ran east-west across the trench and appears to be part of a building defined by a second north-south wall (224). In this case both walls were built largely of rough-hewn chalk blocks but incorporating some re-used architectural stone originating from the priory.

Excavations for services and piling for the new visitor centre east of the Abbey stream revealed evidence of several layers of naturally deposited peat lying below up to a metre of dumped clay and chalk. Further east and close to the entrance lodge the trenching revealed the edge to a brick foundation (238) thought to be an outbuilding associated with the 19th-century lodge.

See also: Rayner, T 2015 *Archaeological Watching Brief Report. Trenching Associated with the New Visitor Facility at Mottisfont Abbey, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

North Baddesley

Hoe Farm, land at (SU 38375 19500) (Site UID: 104182) Evaluation

Wessex Archaeology undertook trial trench evaluation ahead of proposed residential development on land at the site. The evaluation revealed post-medieval field boundaries and associated field subdivision and drainage ditches corresponding with historic mapping. No further archaeological features or deposits were observed.

Romsey

Romsey, land north of (SU 36100 22640) (Site UID: 108800) Geophysical survey

Wessex Archaeology conducted a detailed gradiometer survey over land north of Romsey. Parallel linear anomalies were interpreted as field subdivisions or field drains and may relate to previous segmentation of the land. Round anomalies interpreted as pits of various sizes were also identified.

See also: Richley, E 2015 *Land North of Romsey*, unpubl report.

Warren Farm, land at (SU 38125 20820) (Site UID: 108400) Geophysical survey

A detailed gradiometer survey was conducted by Wessex Archaeology over 11.2ha of land at this farm. The site as a whole is dominated by the deep plough and tractor furrows from modern agricultural activity as well as large scale ferrous responses. There are several small positive oval features across the site of possible archaeological potential, however their lack of alignment prevents a confident interpretation.

Weyhill

Amesbury Road (SU 3017 4605) (Site UID: TBA) Evaluation & watching brief

A single ditch was recorded during the evaluation by Thames Valley Archaeological Services but produced no

dating evidence though its compact fill and its alignment to a Bronze Age/Iron Age ditch seen in cropmarks suggested it was not of recent origin. Excavation of further sections across this ditch during the watching brief also failed to produce any finds to support or refute this idea.

All TVAS unpublished fieldwork reports are available on our website:

www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp and draft publication reports are available on request: email: tvass@tvass.co.uk.

WINCHESTER

Bishop's Waltham

Bishop's Waltham Palace (SU 55144 17312) (Site UID: 108230, 108231) Watching brief

Wessex Archaeology monitored and recorded conservation works at the Palace to comply with a condition of Scheduled Monument Consent. Conservation work was carried out in the brewhouse/bakehouse range, the kitchen and to the 12th-century doorway towards the south-west corner of the site. In addition, the cross wall will require conservation at a later date and this was inspected and photographed as part of the record.

Chilcomb

Medieval Leprosy Hospital of St Mary Magdalen (SU 5056 2960) (Site UID: TBA)

Excavation

This year saw the culmination of eight years of archaeological excavations at the former medieval hospital and leprosarium of St Mary Magdalen. Directed by Dr Simon Roffey and Dr Phil Marter (Department of Archaeology, University of Winchester), this work represents the first wide scale modern excavation of a medieval English leprosy hospital and cemetery. Analysis of the medieval cemetery indicated skeletal evidence for leprosy in over 85% of excavated examples, a much larger percentage than has previously been recorded in any British material. In 2015 the work focussed on the east end of the medieval chapel as well as the surrounding cemetery recovering over 50 burials, the majority with evidence for leprosy. The remains of an earlier structure, pre-dating the mid - 12th-century chapel, were also revealed. This structure is probably the original chapel that belonged to the first foundation of the late 11th century. Excavations to the west of the chapel and cemetery revealed a large cleared feature, interpreted as having been used for storage and possibly dating to the later 11th and early 12th century.

Work is now commencing on the post-excavation analysis and write-up of the evidence, culminating in an exhibition and publication of a monograph by Drs Marter and Roffey. The project would like to thank the Green family, staff and students from the University of Winchester, and the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society.

Denmead

Kidmore Farm (NGR 466028 11214) (Site UID: TBA; HER Ref.: TBA)

Geophysical survey & evaluation

Following a geophysical survey, archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology in connection with development proposals. A small number of discrete pits and heavily truncated postholes were located, predominately across the southern and central part of the site. The features typically presented as circular or sub-circular shallow features filled with weathered topsoil with charcoal and occasional burnt flint inclusions. Only one of the excavated features, the base of a small and short lived hearth, produced pottery and this dates to the middle to late Bronze Age. Several additional abraded prehistoric pottery sherds were recovered from subsoil deposits in adjacent trenches.

Three sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered as unstratified or residual artefacts towards the northern part of the site; however no features were located dating to this period. A late post-medieval or 19th-century field boundary and evidence for a demolished (probably farm) building, dating to the 19th or 20th century and indicated by frogged bricks, was located at the southern edge of the site. Modern field drains were also identified across the site.

The evaluation was hampered by a high water table and as a result a number of features could not be sampled.



Fig. 3 Excavations at Barton Farm, Winchester, showing the remains of an 18th-century Hessian mercenary camp (© Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd)

Shafters Farm, Anmore Lane (NGR 466837 111796) (Site UID: TBA; HER Ref.: MWC1815) Building recording & watching brief

The farmhouse was recorded to Level 4 standard, prior to its demolition, with other farm buildings including a barn Listed Grade II in 2014 recorded to Level 1 and Level 3.

Shafters Farm has previously been identified as late medieval in date and the building recording and analysis supports a 16th-century date for the farmhouse. The core of the farmhouse comprised a three-bay timber-framed house. First floor joists appear to have been a later insertion suggesting an open central and eastern bay, although the lack of smoke blackening may suggest a chimney from the outset. The present brick chimney stack is an early insertion and may have replaced a wood and plaster structure. The western bay seems to have been floored from the beginning and ceiled. The building had a hipped roof with arched tension braces to the end posts and clasped purlins. Wattle and daub infill to the timber-framing had been largely replaced and in addition to various lean-to extensions, the farmhouse was later divided into two and two staircases inserted. Although assessed for Listing at the same time as the barn, the poor condition of the farmhouse meant that it was not considered appropriate.

No archaeological remains were recorded during the watching brief undertaken during groundworks across the development site. Cotswold Archaeology were responsible for the programme of archaeological works.

Droxford

St Mary and All Saints Church and Palace Field (SU 60780 18220) (Site UID: 110360) Geophysical survey
Ground penetrating radar, earth resistance survey and detailed gradiometer survey were undertaken. Pits and postholes were detected in Palace Field alongside a linear trend. Several high amplitude responses detected by the ground penetrating radar survey suggest burials and walls associated with previous phases of the church.

Headbourne Worthy

Barton Farm (Phase I) (SU 4757 3162) (Site UID: TBA; HER ref.: TBA) Excavation

The first phase of excavation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West), in order to identify and record archaeological resources ahead of construction work. Eight areas were excavated across the site, revealing evidence for significant activity dating to the prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval periods.

A pit containing an antler pick is likely to have been the earliest feature on the site, potentially dating to the Neolithic period. A multi-period series of funerary enclosures were recorded to the north of the site, dating from the Bronze Age to the Roman period (NGR 44729 13198.) The earliest example of funerary activity was a 'Beaker Burial', dating to the Bronze Age, with potential evidence for a related monument. Several other crouched burials were dated to the later prehistoric period, along with a roundhouse and a number of four-post structures. Two late Bronze-Age/early Iron-Age enclosures were superseded by a larger early Romano-British ditched enclosure with three inhumations cut into the base of the ditch. A later Roman cemetery enclosure was identified in the north-eastern corner of the earlier enclosure, respecting the original boundary. The cemetery had multiple phases of burials with cremations found in the enclosure ditch. To the west was a separate, unconnected Romano-British enclosure, enclosing a number of un-urned cremations.

A possible aqueduct was investigated to the south-east of the site (NGR 44791 13142), identified as both cropmark and geophysical evidence: widely spaced parallel ditches, joined in a U-shape at the southern end lying on either side of a shallow dry coombe and following the approximate alignment of the 50m contour line. Excavated sections revealed a wide ditch with sloped upper sides, breaking into a lower section with near vertical sides and a flat base. At the base of the ditch very fine silts were observed, which appear to be water lain. A few sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from lower fills. The ditches are thought to represent part of the alignment of a Roman aqueduct supplying Roman Winchester, first identified at Grace's Farm (Fasham, P J & Whinney, R 1991 *Archaeology and the M3*, 5-11; see also Ford, B & Teague, S 2011 *Winchester, a City in the Making: archaeological excavations between 2002 - 2007 on the sites of Northgate House, Staple Gardens and the Former Winchester Library, Jewry Street, Oxford Archaeology*).

Excavation of areas to the west and south of the site (NGR 44753 13137 & 44762 13111) (Fig. 3) recorded the remains of an 18th-century Hessian mercenary camp, including field kitchens, temporary structures and dug outs and relate to the stationing of troops in Winchester in 1756.

See also: McCulloch, P 2015 *Excavations at Barton Farm, January - May 2015*, unpubl report.

Hinton Ampner

Hinton Ampner House (SU 5968 2755) (Site UID: TBA; HER ref.: TBA)

Excavation

Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by the National Trust to undertake a community project within the grounds of Hinton Ampner House. The aim of this project was to encourage public engagement with the property as part of the Festival of Archaeology, and to evaluate the archaeology surrounding the current house. Activity was focused on the lawn and orchard to the north of the house, with the particular aim of identifying the remains of the lost Tudor manor that stood on the site. The site lies within the grounds of the late 18th-century Grade II* listed building in an area of known archaeological potential and interest, with evidence for later prehistoric and Roman activity in the vicinity, as well as the possible site of a Civil War battle.



Fig. 5 Voussoir stone showing claw tooling (© Allen Archaeology/The National Trust)

Previous archaeological work at the house includes an inventory of the property undertaken by Wessex Archaeology in 2007, whilst a trench dug in 2008 at the northeast corner of the house recorded a probable 18th-century wall. Archaeological investigations carried out by Allen Archaeology in the area include trenching associated with the installation of a biomass boiler within the grounds of Hinton Ampner House (2012-13). This revealed numerous ditches, including in the park to the south of the house a substantial bank flanked by two ditches that produced medieval to post-medieval material. West of the house, brick structures of 19th to early 20th-century date were unearthed. Within the village of Hinton Ampner (2012-13), archaeological work associated with a new sewer scheme identified three undated linear features representing boundary/drainage features; a lynchet along an existing field boundary and, in the area of the lower village, a substantial accumulation of collu-

vium and imported material, which formed a terrace upon which the houses were built. The National Trust conducted a geophysical survey within the grounds of Hinton Ampner House in 2014, which revealed a series of positive anomalies tentatively suggested to be the remains of the Tudor manor house. In 2015 three areas were excavated, each targeting features of potential archaeological interest identified from the preceding geophysical survey results. The number of volunteers allowed four additional trenches to be excavated, which also targeted positive anomalies identified by the geophysics. Of the seven trenches only trenches 4 and 5 were devoid of significant archaeological features, revealing layers of made ground likely associated with Georgian or Victorian landscaping. The remaining trenches identified evidence for substantial medieval and post-medieval activity on the site, including the corner of a large flint wall in trench 8 (Fig. 4), probably relating to a sizeable medieval building west of the church. Several pieces of early 13th-century carved stone door jamb (Fig. 5) suggest a possible date for its construction. Slightly further west in trench 1 (Fig. 6) the brick and stone foundations of a substantial north-south orientated structure appear to correspond with a strong geophysics anomaly, possibly suggesting the west range associated with the Tudor house. Evidence of post-medieval brick walls was found in trenches 6 and 7 whilst trench 3 provided evidence of a north-south orientated brick culvert.

The results of the excavations, though inevitably limited by the small size of the trenches, are nevertheless of significance as they show that there has been extensive post-medieval remodelling in the gardens, and provide an indication as to the location of the lost Tudor house, traditionally believed to have been situated in the orchard to the north of the house, a position apparently confirmed by the archaeological evidence. The results also demonstrate the presence of a hitherto unknown earlier medieval structure to the west of the church, potentially the remains of the earliest house built at the property. Several significant finds were recovered, including the iron shoe from a wooden spade of probable Tudor date found amongst the demolition rubble in trench 8.

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Fig. 4 Trench 8 probable medieval building (© Allen Archaeology/The National Trust)



Fig. 6 Trench 1 possibly part of the Tudor house's west range (© Allen Archaeology/The National Trust)

See also: Allen Archaeology, 2016 *Community Excavation at Hinton Ampner House, Hinton Ampner, Hampshire*, unpubl Allen Archaeology report (AAL 2016012).

Itchen Valley

Itchen Bridge, Church Lane, Martyr Worthy (NGR 451561 132708) (Site UID: TBA; HER Ref.: TBA)

Strip, map & excavate

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West) undertook the archaeological work, which revealed a few features of post-medieval date, three discrete features, possibly post-holes, and one wide north-south linear feature, possibly representing a hollow-way.

Kings Worthy

Lovedon Lane, land off (Hinton's Fields) (NGR 449504 132973) (Site UID: TBA; HER ref.: MWC8043-5)

Evaluation excavation & watching brief

Archaeological evaluation and subsequent targeted excavation was carried out by Wessex Archaeology in connection with development of the site. A programme of archaeological monitoring and recording has yet to be completed.

Neolithic, Iron Age and Post-Medieval (a former field boundary) and undated remains have been located at the site. Neolithic activity was represented by a pit located in the east of the site beneath a deep deposit of colluvium and covered by a very large flint nodule. It contained early Neolithic pottery, fired clay and debitage from flint working. A second pit adjacent to this may also be Neolithic in date. Further flints of general Neolithic/early Bronze Age date were recovered residually over the site. These finds, and the location of the two pits in the base of a coombe leading down to the Itchen valley, may be significant in relation to the location of potential Neolithic settlement activity and its landscape setting.

Of particular significance is the inhumation grave of a child (it is possible that multiple remains are



Fig. 7 Burial of a child covered by a flint cairn (© Wessex Archaeology)

present), which although undated at present is considered likely to be of prehistoric date and, like the Neolithic pit, was sealed below a considerable depth of subsoil/colluvium. The burial was placed within a shallow pit/scoop feature, resting on and enclosed by flint cairn material. (Fig. 7) It is possible that the feature was left open and subject to weathering prior to the placement of the burial and flint material.

An early Iron Age ditch, probably also detected as a 50m long geophysical anomaly, provides confirmation of Iron Age settlement and landscape organisation in the wider area and may be linked to previously known activity to the west (focused on the Kings Worthy primary school and Eversley Park areas).

Colluvial deposits within the site were deepest towards the base of the coombe and are likely to have accumulated through the downward movement of soil resulting either from exposure by clearance, or by cultivation. The presence of a buried soil below the colluvium in the base of the coombe suggests relatively rapid accumulation, at least initially. The presence of a substantial lynchet, possibly associated with the Iron Age ditch could indicate that the colluviation started in the late prehistoric period. Post-excavation work is currently underway in addition to further monitoring of groundworks.

Kings Worthy/South Wonston

Worthy Down, Project Wellesley (SU 466 350) (Site UID: TBA; HER ref.: TBA) Evaluation excavation & watching brief

Oxford Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation at the proposed Service Families Accommodation development. The site is part of 'Project Wellesley', a major redevelopment of Worthy Down Barracks, to the north of Winchester. Twenty-one trenches were excavated (each about 50m x 1.8m) and were laid out to provide even coverage of the site at 4% of the site's area. The trench locations were adjusted to investigate archaeological features previously identified as cropmarks and by geophysical survey. The trenching confirmed the results of the preceding Environmental Impact Assessment and geophysical survey, indicating that the site has limited archaeological potential.

Evidence was found for prehistoric activity, but features were very sparsely distributed, comprising a single pit containing pottery dating from the middle Bronze Age. Further pottery fragments dating from the middle Bronze Age were also recovered from three irregular pits, thought to be of natural origin, possibly tree throws. Two boundary ditches were identified but could not be dated, however, when related to geophysical and cropmark data, it can be suggested that these form part of a wider enclosed landscape.

Roman activity comprised a single boundary ditch containing pottery from circa AD 240-410, but the most significant was the discovery of a small Roman inhumation cemetery (Fig. 8). The cemetery was discovered during groundworks for a new access road and gabion retaining wall in the north of the Camp. Artefacts recovered from the graves, including a coin of the Roman Emperor Valens (AD364-378), suggest a 3rd - 4th-century date for the cemetery. It is likely that further burials extend to the north and south of the access road/gabion wall; these are preserved *in situ*. A wide range of burial practices were present in the excavated cemetery area, with one of the bodies decapitated and the head placed between the legs. Two more of the skeletons excavated were found with the bodies and legs fully extended, but lying on their side, a rare practice whose significance is unknown. A third burial was on its side, but in a crouched position, a rite more commonly associated with pre-Roman burials in Britain. A number of the bodies were buried wearing hobnailed shoes or boots, a regular feature of Roman burial. The majority of the burials were however aligned NW-SE rather than east-west. Current interpretation of the site is that the burials represent a rural community whose cultural identity was more rooted in local tribal tradition than Roman culture.

Other remains uncovered as part of the archaeological works included linear features, a group of intercutting features and scattered pits, post-holes and one cremation burial. A number of the features corresponded with previously known cropmarks and geophysical survey features, with several producing Bronze Age pottery. Post-excavation work is currently ongoing.

A large geophysical anomaly was investigated and identified as a probable quarry pit, which contained small fragments of ceramic building material dating from between the 16th and 19th centuries. This constitutes the only post-medieval feature identified in the trenches.

The remainder of the archaeological features comprised two undated pits and several natural hollows, interpreted as stone holes and/or tree throws.

The Meon Valley

The Meon Valley Archaeological and Heritage Group (various locations) Geophysical survey
The Meon Valley Archaeological and Heritage Group (formerly The Saxons in the Meon Valley Project) is a com-



Fig. 8 Extended inhumation burial (Romano-British) (© Oxford Archaeology)

munity-based project drawing upon the enthusiasm and expertise of villagers in the valley (www.saxonsinthemeonvalley.org.uk/). A major element of the project is a programme of carefully-targeted geophysical and metal-detecting surveys that aim to increase archaeological knowledge of the valley. Fieldwork commenced in 2013 with a Pilot Phase and continued during 2014 and early 2015 with a Main Phase (see *Archaeology in Hampshire 2014*). In 2015 surveys were undertaken in West Meon, Exton, Meonstoke and Titchfield and the more significant results of the geophysical surveys are summarised in this report. Full details of each survey are available to browse and download from the project's website (<http://www.saxonsinthemeonvalley.org.uk/archaeology-surveys-planning>).

St John's churchyard, West Meon (SU 639 240) (Site UID: TBA)

A high-resistance resistivity survey was conducted over part of the churchyard to try to locate the site of the first church. The present church (Fig. 0) was consecrated in 1846 and shortly afterwards the original structure, which is believed to have been constructed during the Saxon period, was demolished. The survey successfully located the earlier church and recovered a relatively detailed plan of the structure (Fig. 9):

- 1) Chancel. A rectangular feature approximately 20m in length and 12m in width; a possible partition is identified roughly in its middle.
- 2) Nave. The main part of the church is approximately 25m in length and 32m in width, with an aisle on the south side and other unresolved features on the northern side.
- 3) South porch. The entrance into the church through the south wall of the nave is associated with a porch.
- 4) West doorway/tower. Extending outside the west edge of survey area is an anomaly that marks the location of the west entrance.
- 5) Possible chapel. A gap in the south wall of the chancel close to the nave may mark an entrance into a possible chapel.

The results of the geophysical survey are largely consistent with the illustrations of the old church which depict a structure with a nave, chancel, tower and south porch.

Domesday refers to a church worth 50 shillings and it is very likely it was established during the Saxon period. The nave and chancel of the church identified by geophysics appears however to be too large to be

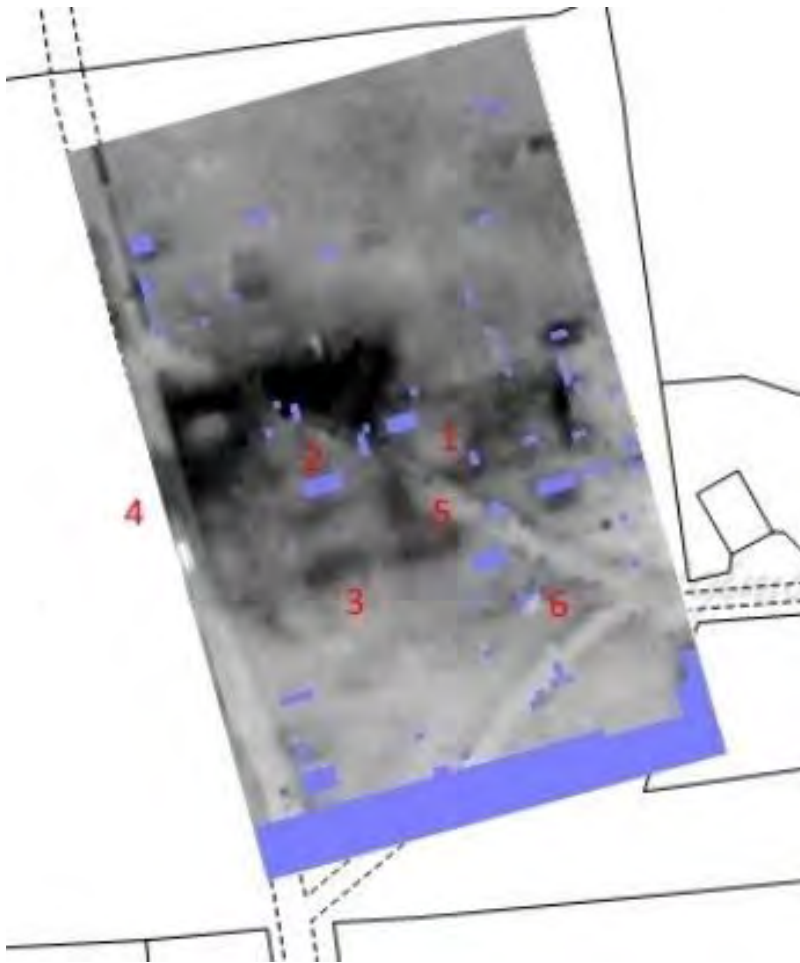


Fig. 9 Resistivity survey showing the old church in St John's churchyard (West Meon) (© The Meon Valley Archaeology and Heritage Group)

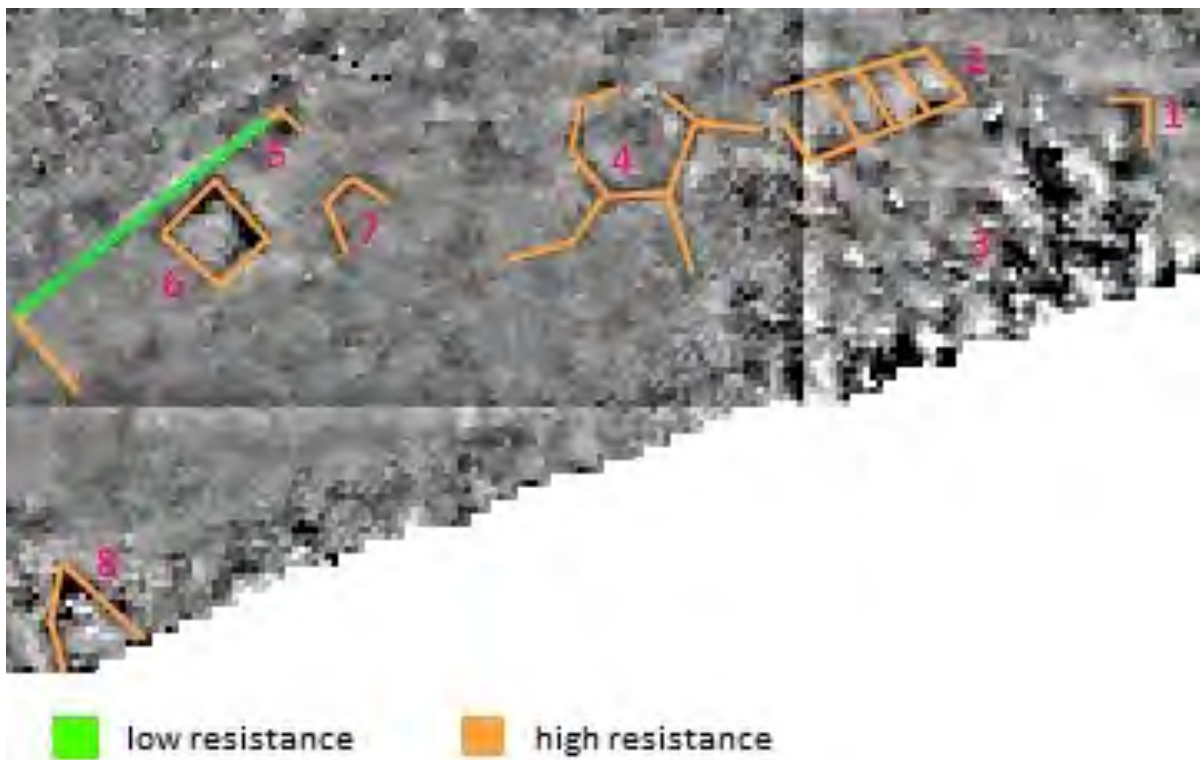


Fig. 10 High resolution resistivity survey showing probable Roman remains, Exton Manor Farm (© The Meon Valley Archaeology and Heritage Group)

Saxon, but it is possible that the original foundation was gradually obscured by later enlargements. The entrance into the south aisle may have lined up with an original doorway in the south wall of the nave, which subsequently formed one of the bays, while the chancel could have been enlarged as suggested by the geophysical evidence for a wall roughly in the middle of this space. It is impossible to date the foundation of the church on geophysical evidence alone but if it were Saxon then it would likely be an example of the simple type of 'estate' churches that were springing up during the 10th and 11th centuries.

Exton Manor Farm, Meonstoke (SU 616 210) (Site UID: TBA)

A high-resistance resistivity survey was conducted at the site to investigate an area previously examined by geophysical prospection earlier in the year, which revealed a range of anomalies most probably relating to Roman structural evidence (see Archaeology in Hampshire 2014).

While the high-resolution survey produced little new evidence, it did improve the definition of several of the features identified in the first survey (Fig. 10). A sub-circular building, measuring approximately 12m in diameter, has now been defined as hexagonal with a gap or entrance to its west [4]. Features in the south-west of the site appear to belong to a building [5-7], measuring approximately 25m in length and 7.5m in width with a square [6] anomaly, which can be identified as a probable walled feature, inside the building. On the south-east edge of the site [8] an area of high-resistance values may represent collapsed building material belonging to a feature lying primarily outside the survey's coverage. The survey did not contribute any new information about the large rectangular structure [1-2] identified during the first survey, but it was confirmed that it comprised internal subdivisions [2] that are interpreted as the remains of a range of rooms, while [1] may indicate a corner to a separate room or of the building itself. Collapsed material from this building is probably represented by a more uniform area of very high resistance values [3].

The geophysical surveys have demonstrated beyond any doubt that the Roman aisled building excavated in the 1980's was part of wider villa complex that had been established on a ridge overlooking the River Meon. The range of rooms [2] belonged to a rectangular building that appears separate to the aisled building and could be a 'row' or 'corridor' house. The hexagonal structure [4] is possibly a Roman temple or shrine, although the majority of examples are octagonal and it is unusual to find a religious structure so close to the main villa buildings (pers. comm. Tony King). The building [5-7] in the south-west part of the site can be interpreted as a barn on the basis of its simple form and similarity to examples from elsewhere in southern England. It appears to have been open-planned, although the presence of a square feature [6] within the building is anomalous and may have been a later insertion.

Shavards Farm, Meonstoke (SU 617 209) (Site UID: TBA)

The survey extended the coverage of a large field previously investigated during 2013 and 2014 and has contributed further important information about the wider environs of the Roman building and early Saxon cemetery (see Archaeology in Hampshire 2014) (Fig. 11).

A series of repeating high and low resistance bands [r1] are geological in nature or evidence of earlier cultivation and terminate at a broad linear anomaly of lower resistance [r2] running north-east to south-west through the survey area. [r2] is probably too wide to be a ditch but may have formed a boundary feature of a different type, perhaps a sunken trackway which would support the idea that [r1] is evidence of former cultivation. If the course of [r2] is extended on its alignment it intersects with the modern Shavards Lane just north of the farm buildings and could have been a former trackway that either joined the lane or preserves its former course – its route being modified with the establishment of the farm. Other possible explanations for [r2] include a lynchet or plough headland (Andy Payne pers. comm.). It is possible that [r3] is a ditch but because it was only weakly detected by magnetometry it may be non-archaeological in nature. In the northern part of the survey area, located between [r2 & r4], are some poorly-defined high resistance anomalies [r4] of unknown origin; within their vicinity is a pit-type anomaly [m1] which may support the idea that occupation of some undefined nature took place in this area.

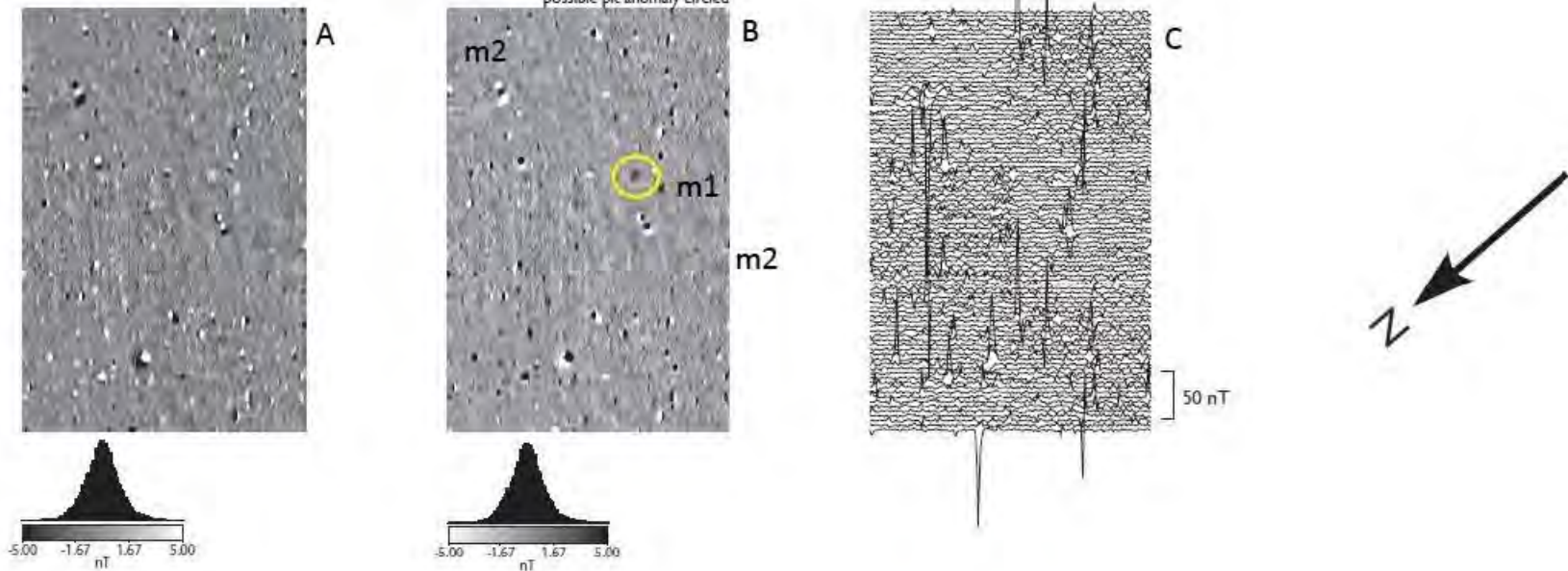
Overall the evidence may indicate that activity, albeit presently indeterminable, is present to the east of a sunken trackway. The trackway separated the activity from the cultivation taking place to its west and a ditch to its east may also have formed a boundary.

The Rectory Garden and Skinhouse Piece, Titchfield (SU 540 057, 541 057) (Site UID: TBA)

The site at the Rectory Garden comprises a sub-rectangular area of lawn, part of a private garden to the rear of the Rectory; about 7m to its east is Skinhouse Piece, a roughly triangular area of grassland. Both sites occupy a terrace on the west side of the valley above the floodplain of the River Meon. Immediately to the north of the sites is St Peter's Church and Churchyard, a middle Saxon minster church. The aim of the geophysical surveys

SHAVARDS FARM Geophysical surveys, October 2015

1. Magnetometer data



2. Resistance data

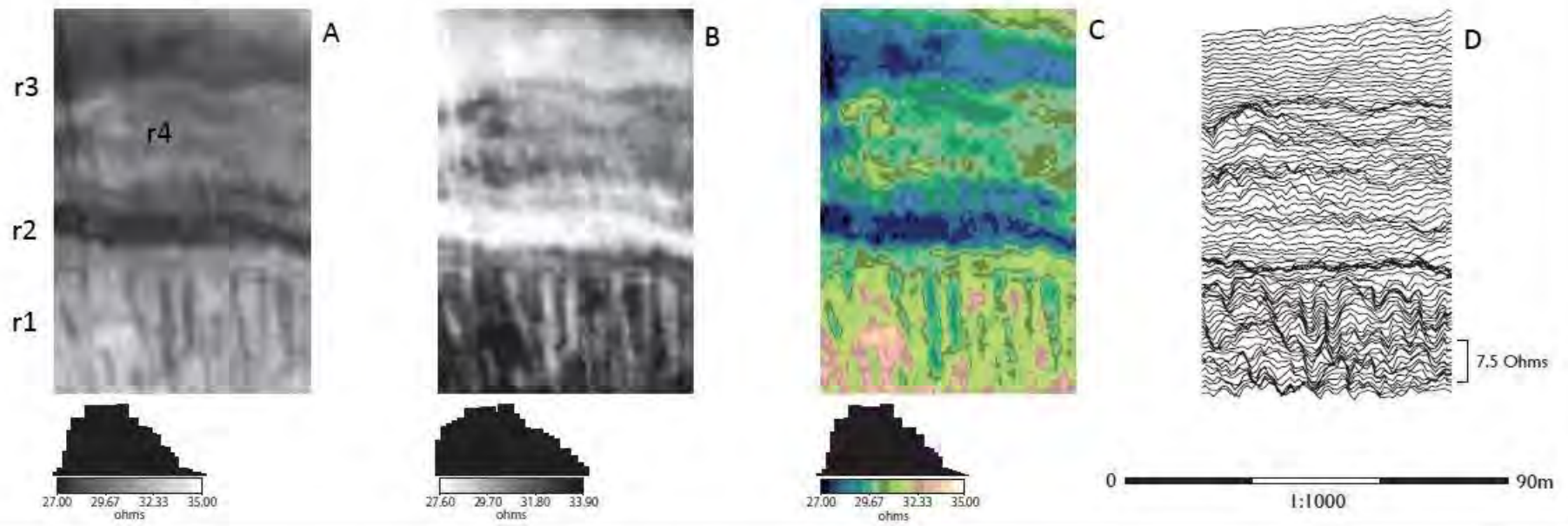
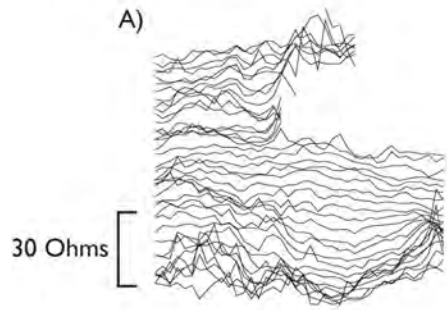
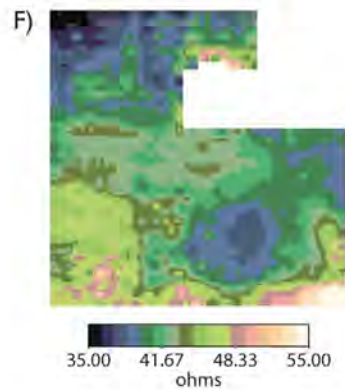
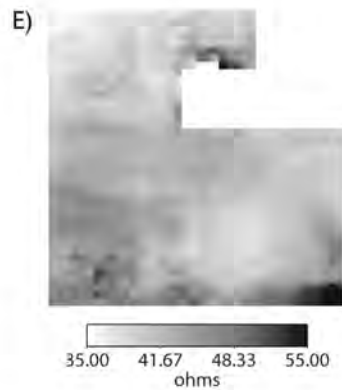
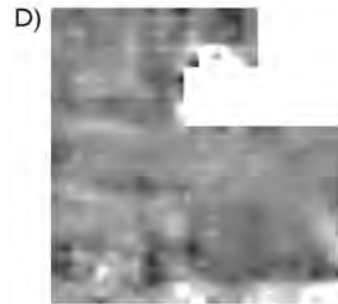
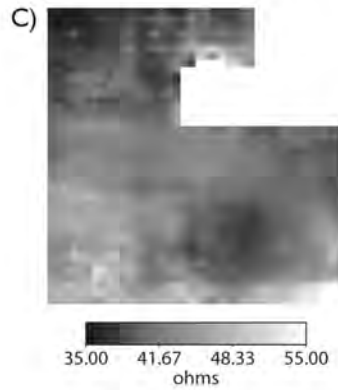
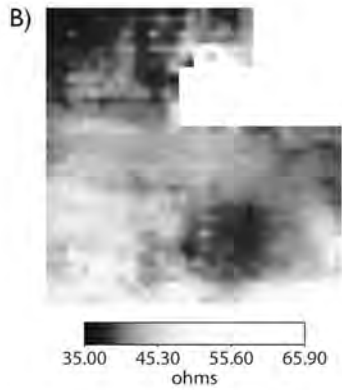


Fig. 11 Geophysical surveys at Shavards Farm, Meonstoke (© The Meon Valley Archaeology and Heritage Group)

RESISTANCE DATA (A to F)



- A) traceplot of despiked data
- B) equal area greyscale plot of despiked data
- C) linear greyscale plot of despiked data
- D) linear greyscale of high-pass filtered data, (3m radius filter to enhance linear trends)
- E) reverse linear greyscale (darker tones indicate higher resistance)
- F) Colour image of despiked data (lighter green areas indicate high resistance and probable buried wall/building structures, more subtle high resistance linear anomalies are visible in the upper part of the image)

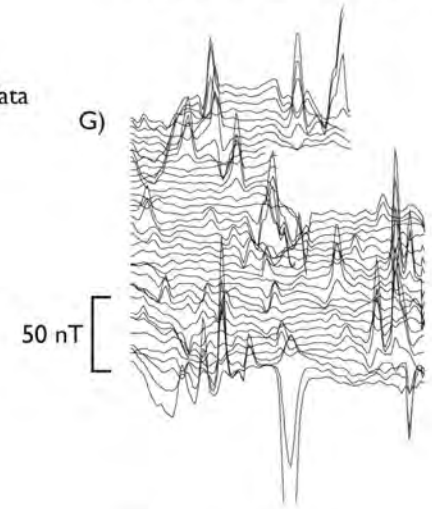


Schematic interpretation:



- strong high resistance
- weaker high resistance
- lower resistance

MAGNETOMETER DATA (G to I)



- G) traceplot of raw data
- H) greyscale plot of interpolated data
- I) reverse greyscale plot of interpolated data

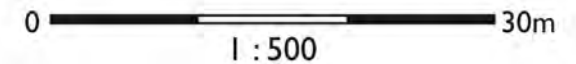
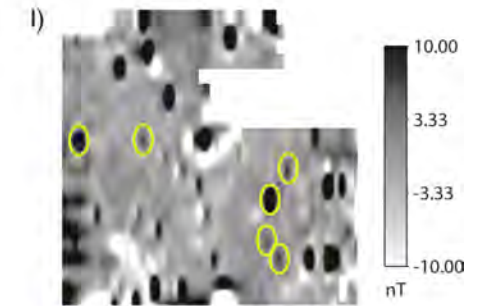
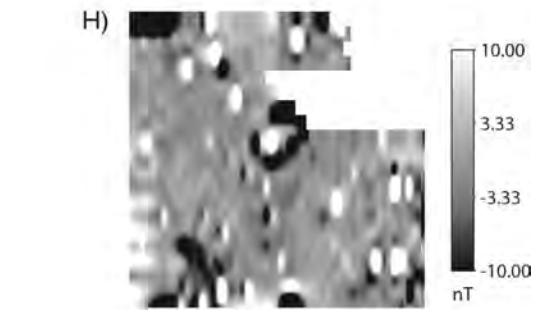


Fig. 12 Geophysical survey at The Rectory Garden, Titchfield (© The Meon Valley Archaeology and Heritage Group)

was to examine the immediate environs of St Peter's to try to identify any structural evidence that might relate to a royal estate of the middle Saxon period.

The geophysical surveys have successfully identified settlement activity comprising possible pits and in particular probable masonry features (Fig. 12). Masonry structures rule out an early or middle Saxon date and the apparent symmetry of the evidence is reminiscent of the transepts of a church, i.e. chapels lying on either side of the central axis of a nave or chancel. There is no historical record of another church so close to St Peter's and a religious interpretation for the evidence seems unlikely. Documents do however state that by the middle of the 16th-century tenements were laid out along High Street, West Street, South Street, with Church Street home to seven. It is possible that a tenement situated at the east end of Church Street could have extended as far south as the Rectory Garden, although at this distance (about 50m away from the street) the site would probably have been occupied by the tenement's garden and cess pits. The magnetic anomalies tentatively identified as hearths or pits would be consistent with types of activities carried out in a backyard area.

The OS map for 1843 shows the Rectory, in addition to its garden which has been divided into a number of separate plots apparently separated by paths. These paths appear to coincide with some of the linear anomalies identified by resistivity and it is probable that this early episode of garden landscaping has been identified by the survey. The geophysical surveys have discovered probable evidence for two separate phases of activity at the Rectory garden that in all probability post-date the medieval period.

Conclusion

The activities offered by The Meon Valley Archaeological and Heritage Group have given participants an opportunity to learn about geophysical survey and metal-detecting. All the fieldwork projects produced positive results: in several cases the work has increased knowledge of a known site and its environs, especially at Meonstoke where a large area surrounding the Roman villa has now been investigated. In some cases, for example at Titchfield, new evidence has been identified. Magnetometry and resistivity survey provide a two-dimensional picture of archaeological remains, however and the interpretation of the evidence is often tentative. In 2016 The Group and the University of Winchester will excavate the hexagonal structure identified at Exton Manor Farm. While the work will provide a better understanding of the character and date of the building, it also demonstrates the success and continual development of The Meon Valley Archaeological and Heritage Group.

New Alresford

Swan Hotel, rear of (SU 458820 132580) (Site UID: 65803)

Watching brief

During the first phase of the watching brief by Wessex Archaeology a post-medieval ditch was identified.

Southwick

Pigeon House Lane, land at (SU 64670 08682) (Site UID: 107630)

Watching brief

Wessex Archaeology monitored the excavation of a cable trench associated with a solar panel array on land to the west of Pigeon House Lane. The trench revealed a layer of gravel lying along the proposed alignment of the Roman road from Wickham to Chichester. The deposit had been truncated by ploughing but was most likely the remnants of the Roman road. There was no evidence for associated features such as flanking ditches.

Wickham

Biddenfield Woods (SU 454591 112189) (Site UID: 69097)

Field survey

A Level 1 archaeological walkover assessment was undertaken within Biddenfield Woods on behalf of the Forestry Commission (Woodland Grant System Management Plan) by Dr Nicola Bannister. A range of features dating from the Roman period to the 20th century was recorded and include pits, banks, tracks and routeways and also the site of a Roman kiln.

See also: Bannister, N R 2015 *Biddenfield Woods Archaeological Assessment*, unpubl report.

16 School Road, Wickham (NGR 457510 111175) (Site UID: TBA; HER ref.: TBA)

Evaluation

An archaeological evaluation undertaken by Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit revealed a U-shaped Roman ditch, 1.2m wide, 0.3m deep and at least 2.8m long. The ditch, which is on the same alignment as the Chichester–Bitterne Roman road, is not necessarily a roadside ditch as extensive Roman occupation and activity identified to the east included boundaries/ditches also aligned with the road. Pottery from the ditch included

local wares and imports suggesting a late 1st- early 2nd-century date for its final filling. The presence of locally produced 'Wickham ware' suggests its production might start earlier than the AD 120 date postulated for the start of that industry. Sealing the ditch were deposits of probable hill-wash/plough soil.

Shedfield

Broad Ha'Penny, Tanfield Lane (SU 5712 1133) (Site UID: TBA; HER ref.: MWC8048) Evaluation
& excavation

The evaluation by Thames Valley Archaeological Services revealed evidence of late Iron Age/early Roman occupation with ditches, pits and a posthole present. A modest volume of iron slag suggests smelting or smithing was taking place on the site. A follow-up excavation by the organisation produced surprisingly significant results. The earliest features were two parallel ditches 6–7m apart, aligned from SE to NW; their shallowness suggests considerable erosion or plough damage across the site. They appear to have originated in the late Iron Age or more probably the very early Roman period (1st century AD), and one was certainly recut in the 2nd century AD. Although no road surface metalling survived, these probably represent flanking ditches to what would have been thought to be a typical late Iron Age or early Roman farm trackway, if it were not for the very strong likelihood that they are on the right line to be a continuation of a Roman road, from Chichester to Bitterne (Antonine Itinerary *iter vii*) whose line is clearly established to both east and west of Wickham, but not through it, where it crosses the river Meon and its steep valley. The lack of metalling may be related to the shallowness of the surviving ditches and the suggested erosion, but equally, on this gravel geology, a simple removal of the topsoil could have provided a gravelled surface. Accompanying this early road line are a few pits, the finds from which are moderately rich in imported pottery but otherwise unfortunately reveal little about the use of the surrounding area. More significant, however, are the later pits (3rd century), some of which were dug between the ditches and thus suggest that the road had gone out of use, or at least, was not being actively maintained, by that time.

All TVAS unpublished fieldwork reports are available on our website: www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp and draft publication reports are available on request: email: tvass@tvass.co.uk.

Winchester

Bridge Street, Winchester City Mill (SU 48608 29321) (Site UID: HA-WCM15; HER Ref.: TBA)
Building recording

An archaeological standing building survey was commissioned by the National Trust to satisfy their conservation standard and was carried out by Museum of London Archaeology. The present build of the Grade II* City Mill has a construction date of 1744, though it utilizes earlier components. The survey focused on the eastern extension built c.1748 which included the majority of its ground floor structure (Fig. 13). The purpose of the survey was to make a record of the timber-frame structure prior to a conservation project which will require the replacement of a number of joists and strengthening to the main beams. The survey revealed that almost half the floor was composed of reused timbers dating from the medieval period to the 17th century, with the other half being a mix of original and later replacement timbers. Of particular interest was a crown post being used to support bridging beams and several sections of wall plates now in use as joists.

See also: Laban, G, Wright, J & Goodburn, D 2016 *Winchester City Mill*, unpubl report.

Colebrook Street (NGR: SU 484 292) (Site UID: TBA; HER Ref.: TBA) Watching brief

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West) carried out observations during gas pipe replacement, at the junction between Colebrook Street and the Broadway. The southern side of an east-west Roman road surface and camber was seen at a level of 35.296m AOD and it is thought to be the Roman high street through Winchester. Directly above were the foundations of a medieval wall, possibly part of the documented Church of 'St John of the Ford', or possibly the 'Newbridge'.

23 Lower Brook Street (SU 48425 29617) (Site UID: 111000; WINCM: AY584; HER Ref.: MWC6906)
Watching brief

Wessex Archaeology carried out a watching brief on groundworks for an extension to the rear of the property. The 1.2m deep soakaway pit revealed a thick layer of buried soil containing artefacts of medieval (c.13th/14th century) and post-medieval (c.16th/17th century) date. The finds include part of a glazed and crested ridge tile, pottery and oyster shell. The site is probably located in an area of low activity within the precinct of the former Dominican friary on Eastgate Street.



Fig. 13 Winchester City Mill (© Mola)

northern part of the site was excavated by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West). Medieval structural remains that appear to represent buildings within the Greyfriars precinct were located. One building comprised a row of three rooms, orientated east-west, with walls of mortared flint and chalk and deep rubble foundations (Fig. 14). Two stone built drains which appear to be broadly contemporary with the building remains were also located, indicating the sophisticated management of water across the precinct. Substantial deposits of chalk and mortar rubble were also revealed across the site, representing the demolition and clearance of the friary.

The excavation of a sondage below the friary levels was aimed at understanding the underlying sequence of alluvial deposits. Monolith and further borehole samples were taken within the sondage and across the wider excavation area by ARCA (University of Winchester). In the southern end of the sondage, the upper part of the alluvial sequence overlay earlier waterlogged archaeological remains (to the north, the upper alluvial sequence directly overlay peat deposits).

Further excavation in this area revealed the waterlogged remains of a Roman building comprising of a wall founded on a row of driven wooden piles, each 20cm² and 1.8m long (similar wooden piles have been previously identified supporting buildings in the core of the Roman city). Above this the overlying alluvial silts appeared to have been cut into by a number of pits which contained well-preserved animal bone and biological remains and are likely to be of late Saxon/early medieval date. These were sealed by further silt deposits into which the medieval foundations had been cut.

Data from the site is also being analysed as part of a wider research project into the impacts of piling on archaeological deposits by ArcHeritage (York) on behalf of Historic England. A second phase of archaeology work within the southern part of the site has yet to be undertaken.

Magdalen Hill Cemetery Extension, Alresford Road (SU 51473 29262) (Site UID: TBA; HER Ref.: TBA) Evaluation

An evaluation by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West) recorded four undated linear features, a small number of later prehistoric pits and postholes and an un-urned cremation containing sherds of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery. A subsequent excavation targeted an area surrounding the cremation and recorded a small number of late Bronze-Age/early Iron-Age pits and other, undated, features.

Magdalen Hill Cemetery Extension, Alresford Road (SU 51473 29262) (Site UID: 109420; HER Ref.: TBA)

Geophysical survey

Wessex Archaeology undertook a detailed gradiometer survey over 3.3ha of land off Alresford Road. A possible ditched enclosure was partly visible, with nearby possible pits detected and further unidentified archaeology likely.

Former North Walls Fire Station, North Walls/Lower Brook Street, Winchester (NGR 44845 12968 (Site UID: TBA; HER Ref.: TBA) Excavation

Following previous geoarchaeology and evaluation trenching (reported in Archaeology in Hampshire for 2014), the

Provost Cells site, Southgate Street (NGR 447817 129278) (Site UID: TBA; HER ref.: TBA)
& excavation

Evaluation

Two phases of the defensive bank that formed part of the southern defences of early Roman Winchester were revealed during an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Oxford Archaeology in late 2013 (not previously reported in these volumes). The bank overlay a buried soil containing early-middle Iron Age pottery. A metalled surface was contemporary with the earlier bank, possibly part of an intramural street. Pottery from the later bank was dated to AD 120-160. A later metalled surface, probably an intra-mural street and associated with 10th - 12th-century pottery, was found to cut into the Roman bank. Flanking its south side were two post-hole/pits, also associated with 10th - 12th-century pottery and containing smithing debris, which may form part of a contemporary structure. To the north were two pits of 10th - 12th-century date and a third dated to c.1350-1500. The archaeological remains in two of the trenches were sealed below a thick accumulation of post-medieval garden soils which were cut by two large 19th-century pits.

Archaeological excavation was subsequently undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West) in the southern part of the site. A sequence of late Saxon street metalling, shallow pits/layers with slag and pottery were located, together with the Roman rampart. Post-excavation work is currently ongoing.

Silver Hill, Winchester (NGR 448420 129461 site centred) (Site UID: TBA; HER Ref.: TBA)
logical investigations & watching brief

Geoarchaeo-

Geotechnical test-pits associated with a proposed major re-development scheme on the eastern side of Winchester were monitored and recorded by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West) and ARCA (University of Winchester). A series of geoarchaeological boreholes were also drilled and assessed.

The test pits largely encountered modern deposits at the shallow depth investigated; however medieval structural remains were encountered at the base of several test pits. The geoarchaeological boreholes encountered Chalk bedrock outcropping at between +26.52m OD and +29.84m OD overlain by Pleistocene Fluvial Gravels which in turn ranged between 2.60m and 5.50m in thickness. The gravels, which formed on the braid plain of the Pleistocene River Itchen, were overlain by a succession of late Glacial/Holocene strata. Fine-grained minerogenic sediments, possibly late Glacial to early Holocene alluvium or marl deposits, up to 0.54m thick were encountered over the gravels in several boreholes, which in turn were overlain by Peat strata. Radiocarbon dating indicates that peat formation was initiated at different times in the early Holocene in various parts of the site. Thick deposits of oncoidal Tufa were encountered in boreholes in the western part of the site, but were not found in the east of the site. Archaeological deposits, representing the accumulation of anthropogenic material in a marshy floodplain environment were encountered in all boreholes at the site. Radiocarbon dating indicates that these strata began to form during the Roman period, and may have continued into the medieval and Post-Medieval periods.

Station Approach, Station Hill (NGR 447812 129911) (Site UID: TBA; HER ref.: TBA)

Evaluation

Archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in connection with redevelopment proposals. The evaluation confirmed the archaeological potential of the site as understood from earlier excavations undertaken in the 1970's and 1980's to the east, west and within the site and also confirmed the lack of extensive truncation within the southern part of the site.

The middle Iron Age Oram's Arbour enclosure ditch, projected to run across the southern part of the site, was identified together with the deposits of possible remnant banks. Other features located include two Saxo-Norman/medieval pits, at least two further medieval ditches/cut features and several undated pits. Animal bone waste pertaining to onsite butchery being undertaken was identified within the medieval pits.

Upper Brook Street Car Park (SU 4829 2960) (Site UID: TBA)

Evaluation

An evaluation by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West) recorded the limit of the extent of significant medieval deposits, as previously identified in 1992.

Victoria House, Victoria Road (NGR 447968 129979) (Site UID: TBA; HER Ref.: TBA)

Excavation

Archaeological excavation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (West) revealed 15 or 16 inhumation burials, forming part of the extensive northern Roman cemetery of *Venta Belgarum*. The burials lay within a site partly excavated in the 1980's in connection with the then proposals for a ring road, but subsequently developed as social housing. The area of new excavation lay partly beneath the 1980's housing, however the remains were undisturbed as the foundations lay above the uppermost archaeological horizon (Fig. 15).

Evidence for coffins was located in a number of graves, however few grave goods were found and some graves were empty. Post-excavation assessment is currently underway.



Fig. 14 Medieval buildings at the Former Fire Station, North Walls (© Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd)



Fig. 15 Roman burial at Victoria House (© Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd)

The Warden's Stables, Winchester College, College Street (NGR 448232 129017) (Site UID: TBA; HER Ref.: TBA)
Building recording & watching brief

Following a detailed assessment (carried out by John Crook) of this 14th-century Grade I listed building (part of the Outer Court of Winchester College), in connection with its conversion to a Museum, further work was carried out by Wessex Archaeology.

Removal of the existing flooring within the building revealed a post-medieval cobbled surface that incorporated some brick and appears to subdivide the building into separate units. The cobbled surface sealed a black charcoal layer with abundant material (animal bones and pottery etc.), itself sitting on a mortar floor.

Stone flags covering the medieval culvert known as the Lockburn, which passes beneath the building, were located and partly lifted, revealing that a section of the Lockburn stream had been relined with tiles. A stone-lined section and arch, likely of medieval date, were preserved *in situ* following their recording.