



The Former Grove School School Lane, Dorchester

Archaeological Evaluation



Planning Ref: WD/D/17/00970
Ref: 117170.02
July 2017

Document Information

Document title The Former Grove School, School Lane, Dorchester
Document subtitle Archaeological Evaluation
Document reference 117170.03

Client name East Boro Housing Trust
Address Faulkner House
31 West Street
Wimborne
Dorset
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Site location School Lane, Dorchester
County Dorset
National grid reference (NGR) 368838 090973
Statutory designations Former school building Grade II listed (NHLE ref. 1219747)
Planning authority West Dorset District Council
Planning reference WD/D/17/000970
Museum name Dorset County Museum
Museum accession code To be issued when archive deposited

WA project code 117170
Date of fieldwork 26th to 27th June 2017
Fieldwork directed by Lorrain Higbee
Project management by Andrew Manning
Document compiled by Lorrain Higbee
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Quality Assurance

Issue number & date	Status	Author	Approved by
1 10 th July 2017	Final – Approved by DCC Archaeologist 11 th July 2017	LH	
2			
3			



Contents

Summary	iii
Acknowledgements.....	iii
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Project and planning background.....	1
1.2 Scope of the report	1
1.3 Location, topography and geology	2
2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	2
2.1 Introduction.....	2
2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development.....	2
2.3 Archaeological and historical context.....	2
3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	4
3.1 General aims	4
3.2 General objectives	5
3.3 Site-specific objectives.....	5
4 METHODS.....	5
4.1 Introduction.....	5
4.2 Fieldwork methods.....	5
4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies	6
4.4 Monitoring.....	6
5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS	6
5.1 Introduction.....	6
5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits	7
6 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING.....	7
6.1 Finds.....	7
7 CONCLUSIONS	7
7.1 Discussion	7
8 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION.....	8
8.1 Museum.....	8
8.2 Preparation of the archive.....	8
8.3 Selection policy.....	8
8.4 Security copy	8
8.5 OASIS	8
9 COPYRIGHT	9
9.1 Archive and report copyright	9
9.2 Third party data copyright	9
APPENDICES	11
Appendix 1 Trench summaries	11



List of Figures

Figure 1 Location of Site and selected heritage assets (based on DHER and other sources)

Figure 2 Proposed development and trench layout

Figure 3 North-facing section in Trench 1

List of Plates

Cover: Machine excavation of Trench 1, view from east.

Plate 1 Trench 1, view from the east

Plate 2 North facing section, Trench 1

Plate 3 Trench 2, view from the north

Plate 4 West facing section, Trench 2



Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by East Boro Housing Trust to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a small parcel of land within the Former Grove School, School Lane, The Grove, Dorchester, centred on NGR 368838 090973.

The school building and garden lies within an area recognised as being of high archaeological potential for human remains and possibly within the line of the Dorchester Roman defences. The Site is being proposed for redevelopment and an evaluation of the proposed development was required to inform the determination of the present application (WD/D/17/000970) and to aid decisions regarding potential planning conditions.

The Site, comprising an area approximately 18 metres by 25 metres, is located at the northern end of School Lane and to the west of The Grove, within the northern edge of Dorchester walled town.

The evaluation comprised two trenches (12 metres by 1.6 metres and 6 metres by 1.6 metres) forming an approximate 6% sample by area.

No archaeological features or deposits were revealed in either of the two trial trenches. The natural chalk natural was encountered at a depth of between 0.70 to 0.90 metres below the current ground surface. The chalk natural was sealed by a sequence of garden soils which included modern ceramics, brick, bottle glass and animal bone, although no earlier finds were noted.

The presence of visible periglacial scarring within the top of the chalk would appear to strongly suggest that no significant previous truncation of the Site. Accordingly, despite the results of the evaluation, although there is no evidence to suggest that the Site lies within the line of the former Roman defences, it is still possible that there is the potential for the survival of small discrete archaeological features and deposits, including human remains.

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank East Boro Housing Trust, for commissioning the archaeological evaluation and in particular, Pam Palmer and Karen Allan (East Boro Housing Trust). Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of Steve Wallis Senior Archaeologist, who monitored the project for Dorset County Council, and to G. Crook and Sons for their cooperation and help on site.

The fieldwork was directed in the field by Lorrain Higbee, assisted by Barry Hennessey. This report was by Lorrain Higbee, with Illustrations by Nancy Dixon.



The Former Grove School School Lane, Dorchester

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by East Boro Housing Trust, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 0.05 ha parcel of land located in School Lane, The Grove, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1SR, centred on NGR 368838 090973 (**Fig. 1**).
- 1.1.2 The proposed development comprises alteration of the former Grove School for residential use, including demolition of later single storey additions, and the construction of a terrace of three single storey properties to the rear. A planning application (WD/D/17/000970) was submitted to West Dorset District Council and is currently under consideration and yet to be determined. The former school building is a Grade II listed building (NHLE ref. 1219747) constructed c.1820-30 as an infants' school and lies within Dorchester Conservation Area. The proposed development has received support from the Conservation Officer and provides the opportunity to remove later unsympathetic additions, enhance the listed building and its setting.
- 1.1.3 The archaeological potential of the proposed development area was highlighted by the Senior Archaeologist at Dorset County Council, advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), who requested that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken prior to determination. The proposed development lies potentially within the area of the Dorchester Roman defences and Roman burials have been previously recorded to the north of the Site suggesting a cemetery in this area.
- 1.1.4 All works were undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed in order to undertake the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2017). The Senior Archaeologist approved the WSI, on behalf of the LPA, prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 1.1.5 The evaluation comprising two trial trenches (6% sample) was undertaken 26th-27th June 2017.

1.2 Scope of the report

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed description of the results of the evaluation, to interpret the results within a local, regional or wider archaeological context and assess whether the aims of the evaluation have been met.
- 1.2.2 The presented results will provide further information on the archaeological resource that may be impacted by the proposed development and facilitate an informed decision with regard to the requirement for, and methods of, any further archaeological mitigation.



1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The Site is located at the northern end of School Lane and to the west of The Grove, within the northern edge of the town and on the north-western edge of the historic core of the walled town. The Site is bounded by residential development.
- 1.3.2 The Site occupies a gently sloping parcel of land falling from an elevation of 69 m above Ordnance Datum (m aOD) at the southern edge to around 66 m aOD in the north-western corner.
- 1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as Portsdown Chalk Formation with no superficial deposits recorded (British Geological Survey online viewer). Three geotechnical boreholes excavated within the evaluation area in relation to the proposed scheme recorded around 0.6 m of head deposits overlying the chalk bedrock. However, it should be noted that head deposits are not noted from nearby archaeological investigations.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 A summary of the archaeological and historical background to the proposed development area was outlined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017) and was informed by a search of the Dorset Historic Environment Record (DHER). Relevant entry numbers from the DHER, the National Record of the Historic Environment (available via PastScape) and National Heritage List for England (NHLE) are included where appropriate and illustrated on **Figure 1**.

2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development

- 2.2.1 The land to the east of The Grove forms the western Roman defences of the town (NHLE 1002449). A watching brief during works associated with the current retaining wall along the road investigated the sequence through the defensive ramparts and confirmed that they were constructed using alternative layers of loam and chalk rubble (DHER EDO3819, EDO3820). In two of the trial pits evidence for a possible Roman defensive ditch at the base of the bank was also recorded.
- 2.2.2 A watching brief some 70 m to the north of the evaluation area located a single undated linear feature cutting into the chalk as well as four residual sherds of Roman pottery (DHER EDO4667). The general stratigraphic sequence observed as topsoil, overlying a mixed levelling deposit of likely modern date, which in turn overlay the natural chalk.
- 2.2.3 Emergency excavations were carried out to the east of the evaluation area prior to the construction of the new County Hall in 1937 and 1938. These excavations, which lie within the Roman defences located a complex of Roman buildings along with other occupation remains (DHER EDO4434). 'Building 1' from these excavations is now a Grade I listed building and scheduled monument (NHLE 1002721, 1210098). Excavations in 1984 and 1988 in relation to a new Fire Headquarters (DHER EDO4309), Magistrates Court (DHER EDO4308) and computer wing (DHER EDO4229) found further Romano-British remains (Smith 1993).

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Prehistoric (970,000BC – AD 43)

- 2.3.1 Although there is no confirmed early prehistoric activity within the immediate vicinity of the evaluation area there are indications of activity in the wider area. Mesolithic activity is

known in the area north of the river where worked flint was discovered during a watching brief monitoring work for a gas pipeline (DHER MDO2518). A Palaeolithic handaxe and possible Mesolithic flints were also found at Middle Farm to the south of Poundbury and some residual Mesolithic flints were located during the works associated with the Poundbury development (Egging Dinwiddy and Bradley 2011, 9).

2.3.2 Previous archaeological work has found evidence for prehistoric activity in and around Dorchester from at least the Early Neolithic period onwards with a number of Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments including Laurence Barrow some 900 m to the south-west of the Site (MDO1054), a causewayed enclosure on the Maiden Castle hilltop (NHLE 1015775), henge monuments at Maumbury Rings (NHLE 1003204) and Mount Pleasant (NHLE 1002463) and a post ring or palisaded enclosure in Greyhound yard between South Street and Charles Street (PastScape 1147728). There is also evidence for Neolithic settlement in the coombe bottom to the east of Poundbury Camp and around 250 m to the north-west of the Site (NHLE 1013337; Sparey Green 1987, 22).

2.3.3 The Iron Age landscape of the area was dominated by the hillforts of Maiden Castle and Poundbury Camp. During the Middle and Late Iron Age settlement is recorded within the interior of Poundbury hillfort as well as open settlement on land to the east of the monument and to the north-west of the evaluation area (Sparey Green 1987).

Romano-British (AD 43-410)

2.3.4 Following the Roman conquest, a military fort was probably established somewhere in the vicinity of Dorchester, although its precise location is not known. The Roman town of *Durnovaria* was established around AD 60, as an administrative and market centre.

2.3.5 The evaluation area lies on the western edge of the Roman defended settlement. These defences originally comprised an earth bank and ditch, constructed c AD 130, with a stone wall built after AD 300 (NHLE 1001594, 1002449; RCHME 1970, 542). Traces of these defences are recorded to the south-east of the Site (DHER MDO1072). The earthwork defences at Dorchester are noted as being unusually large and elaborate, with multiple ditches identified spanning a width of 38-47 m (*ibid.* 545-549). This suggested that the outer edge of the defences may have extended into the eastern edge of the evaluation area.

2.3.6 As well as the Roman occupation nearby, within the defended settlement (NHLE 1002721, 1210098; DHER EDO4229, EDO4308, EDO4309, EDO4434; Smith 1993), Roman settlement and a possible Roman temple are also known from the area of Poundbury hillfort (NHLE 1013337).

2.3.7 A number of burials recorded to the north of the evaluation area suggest the presence of a Roman cemetery (DHER MDO18876, MDO18973, MDO18976, MDO19052; RCHME 1970, 585). This includes one or more inhumations just to the north of School Lane on an approximate north-south alignment (DHER MDO18973). Burials further to the north were generally on an east-north-east – west-south-west alignment and cut directly into the chalk.

Saxon and medieval (410-1066)

2.3.8 The medieval town of Dorchester was focused on two principal thoroughfares, the High Street and South Street, with the area occupied by the castle (first mentioned in 1137) located under the present gaol. During the medieval and post-medieval periods, the prosperity of Dorchester was based on the woollen industry, but by the mid-17th century its importance was in decline.



- 2.3.9 Finds from Poundbury hillfort suggest that it may have been extensively refurbished and reoccupied in the post-Roman or Saxon period, possibly associated with the continued and/or adapted religious use of the Romano-Celtic temple with an area of settlement to the east of the monument (DHER MDO18440, MDO18460, MDO18482, MDO18484; Sparey Green 1987, 71-92). Some limited Saxon activity is also recorded from the area of the town (e.g. DHER 18669).
- 2.3.10 The Roman walls continued to be used to defend the medieval town with the defensive ditch recut in the 14th or 15th century (NHLE 1001594, 1002449). The County Hall site does not appear to have been occupied in the immediate post-Roman period, though some later 13th, 14th and 15th century finds were recovered, the small and abraded nature of them suggests that they may be associated with cultivation activities (Smith 1993, 25).
- Post-medieval, 19th century and modern (1066-present day)*
- 2.3.11 Although the walls are thought to have been largely destroyed by the 16th century the alignment of the defensives including the ditches are still shown on John Speed's early 17th century map of Dorset (NHLE 1001594, 1002449). During the Civil War in the mid-17th century the earthworks were revived to defend the town but the early 18th century the tops of the embankments were flattened to form a series of walks or promenades on the west, south, and east sides of the town.
- 2.3.12 The County Hall site to the east of the evaluation area was formerly part of Colliton Park, associated with the 16th or 17th century Collition House to the south-east (NHLE 1324441). The walls at the apex of the surviving embankment to the north and west of this part of the town date to the 18th century and mark the boundary of the park (NHLE 1110625).
- 2.3.13 The area to the north of the town and adjacent to the river was the location of a series of water meadows of post-medieval date (DHER MDO210000). Land to the west of the evaluation area was the location of Second World War military depot (DHER MDO20960).
- 2.3.14 Grove School itself dates to the early 19th century (NHLE 1219747) and can be seen on the 1888 Ordnance Survey (OS) town plan. The evaluation area is within an area of suburban residential development with the majority of properties fronting The Grove. To the south is a large plot associated with Christ Church, its church yard and vicarage (NHLE 1220731), though only the latter structure still survives. The land to the rear of the school which forms the northern part of the evaluation area is shown as open ground crossed by paths and is likely gardens associated with the school.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General aims

- 3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017) and in compliance with the ClfA' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), were:
- To provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
 - To inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.



3.2 General objectives

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were:

- To determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- To establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- To place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- To make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

3.3 Site-specific objectives

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site, the site-specific objectives defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017) were to:

- Determine the extent and degree of any truncation within the development area;
- Establish whether any aspect of the Roman town defensive ditches extends into the development area; and
- Confirm the likely presence or absence of any Roman burials within the development area.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using GPS, in the approximate positions as those proposed in the WSI (**Figure 1**).

4.2.2 Two trial trenches, one measuring 12 m in length by 1.6 m wide and the other 6 m in length by 1.60 m wide, were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.3 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits identified was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.

4.2.4 Spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Where found, artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained,

although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.

- 4.2.5 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and the Senior Archaeologist were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

Recording

- 4.2.6 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete drawn record of excavated features and deposits was made including both plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections), and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD: Newlyn) heights of all principal features were calculated, and levels added to plans and section drawings.
- 4.2.7 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSGM15 and OSTN15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.8 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies

- 4.3.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of artefacts and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The Senior Archaeologist, on behalf of the LPA, monitored the evaluation. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with both the client and the Senior Archaeologist.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits were revealed in either of the two trial trenches which were targeted on the footprint of the new proposed building (**Figure 2**). The sequence of overburden deposits are described in the following section.
- 5.1.2 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (**Appendix 1**).

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 Trench 1 was 12 m in length by 1.6 m wide and orientated east-west. It was machine excavated to a depth of 0.90 m. Most of the area investigated by Trench 1 was covered by a tarmac surface 101 edged with concrete blocks and a curb (**Plates 1 and 2; Figure 3**).
- 5.2.2 Below the tarmac was a thin layer of hardcore 103 used to level the area. The hardcore overlay a cleaner levelling layer 104 comprising up-cast garden soil from elsewhere on the building plot and this overlay in-situ garden soil 105. Both deposits contained chalk inclusions and rare fragments of 19th and 20th century ceramics, brick and bottle glass (discarded on site). The *in-situ* garden soil overlay the chalk natural 106 and showed signs of bioturbation and periglacial scarring. The surface of the chalk was at a depth of 0.90 m below ground surface.
- 5.2.3 Trench 2 was 6 m in length by 1.6 m wide and orientated north-south. It was located in the garden area to the west of the school building and was machine excavated to a depth of 0.7 m (**Plate 3**).
- 5.2.4 Below the turf was a sequence of garden soils 201–203 (**Plate 4**). These deposits were dark to mid-greyish brown silty clay loams that contained frequent fine to coarse roots, and chalk and flint inclusions. The deposits also contained rare fragments of 19th and 20th century ceramics, brick, bottle glass and animal bone (discarded on site) and overlay the natural chalk 204, the surface of which was at a depth of 0.70 m below ground surface.

6 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

6.1 Finds

- 6.1.1 No archaeological finds earlier than the 19th century were recovered during the evaluation. A small quantity of 19th and 20th century ceramics, brick and bottle glass was noted and discarded on site.

6.2 Environmental Samples

- 6.2.1 No deposits suitable for sampling were identified during the course of the evaluation and accordingly no samples were taken.

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Discussion

- 7.1.1 The evaluation did not identify any archaeological features, finds or deposits, with the exception of modern finds. No evidence was seen for previous significant truncation of the Site and any archaeological features would have been expected to have survived within the Site.
- 7.1.2 While there is clearly no evidence for the substantial Roman defences extending from Grove Road, the small evaluation sample cannot fully discount the potential survival of further human burials, extending from the main cemetery areas previously identified immediately to the north.
- 7.1.3 Given the continuing potential for human remains within the Site, it may be appropriate for targeted archaeological mitigation to be carried out during construction. However, recommendations for archaeological conditions to be attached to planning approval is the

responsibility of the Senior Archaeologist at Dorset County Council, who advises the Local Planning Authority.

8 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

8.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Dorset County Museum has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under an accession code which will be agreed once the archive is ready for deposition. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

8.2 Preparation of the archive

8.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Dorset County Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

8.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the project code **117170**, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 1 file of paper records and A4 graphics

8.3 Selection policy

8.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4). In accordance with these, and any specific guidance prepared by the museum, a process of selection and retention will be followed so that only those artefacts or ecofacts that are considered to have potential for future study will be retained. The selection policy will be agreed with the museum, and is fully documented in the project archive.

8.3.2 In this instance, no finds were retained.

8.4 Security copy

8.4.1 In line with current best practice (eg, Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

8.5 OASIS

8.5.1 An OASIS online record (<http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>) has been initiated, with key fields and a .pdf version of the final report submitted. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service ArchSearch catalogue.



9 COPYRIGHT

9.1 Archive and report copyright

- 9.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
- 9.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

9.2 Third party data copyright

- 9.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.

10 REFERENCES

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Wessex Archaeology 2017 *The Former Grove School, School Lane, Dorchester. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation* Unpublished client report ref 117170.01



APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Trench summaries

NGR coordinates and OD heights taken at centre of each trench; depth bgl = below ground level

Trench 1	12 m x 1.6 m		NGR 368836 090984	67.3 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
101	Tarmac		Surface. Overlies east side of evaluation area covered by Trench 1.	0.00–0.09
102	Concrete edging		Retaining edge to tarmac surface 101. Upper boundary between layers 101 to 104 and layer 105.	0.10–0.30
103	Layer		Hardcore. Contains modern brick fragments, bottle glass and other general building rubble. Overlies layer 104.	0.09–0.30
104	Layer		Levelling layer: greyish brown silty clay. Contains moderate sub-rounded chalk inclusions (<0.10 m). Rare sherds of 19 th to 20 th century ceramics, bottle glass and brick fragments (discarded on site). Overlies layer 105.	0.30–0.65
105	Layer		Garden soil: dark greyish brown silty clay. Contains moderate flecks and sub-rounded chalk fragments of chalk, Rare sherds of 19 th to 20 th century ceramics, bottle glass and brick fragments (discarded on site). Overlies natural chalk 106.	0.30–1.00
106	Natural		Natural chalk. Contains occasional flints. Some bioturbation. Some periglacial scarring. Compact.	0.90+

Trench 2	6 m x 1.6 m		NGR 368825 090983	65.6 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
201	Layer		Garden soil: dark greyish brown silty clay loam with frequent fine to medium roots throughout.	0.00–0.40
202	Layer		Garden soil: dark greyish brown silty clay loam with moderate sub-rounded chalk inclusions.	0.40–0.60
203	Layer		Garden soil: mid-greyish brown silty clay loam with frequent fine to coarse roots and sub-rounded chalk inclusions (<0.10 m), and sparse flint nodules (<0.15 m).	0.57–0.70
204	Natural		Natural chalk. Contains occasional flints. Some bioturbation. Some periglacial scarring. Compact.	0.70+



Appendix 2 Oasis summary

OASIS ID: wessexar1-289836

Project details

Project name	The Former Grove School, Dorchester
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by East Boro Housing Trust to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a small parcel of land within the Former Grove School, School Lane, The Grove, Dorchester. The evaluation comprised two trenches (12 metres by 1.6 metres and 6 metres by 1.6 metres) forming an approximate 6% sample by area. No archaeological features or deposits were revealed in either of the two trial trenches. The presence of visible periglacial scarring within the top of the chalk would appear to strongly suggest that no significant previous truncation of the Site
Project dates	Start: 26-06-2017 End: 27-06-2017
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	117170 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Project location

Country	England
Site location	DORSET WEST DORSET DORCHESTER The Former Grove School
Postcode	DT1 1SR
Study area	450 Square metres
Site coordinates	SY 68829 90929 50.716578763397 -2.441582369348 50 42 59 N 002 26 29 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 65m Max: 69m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	West Dorset District Council
Project design	Wessex Archaeology



originator
Project director/manager A Manning
Project supervisor Lorrain Higbee
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body East Boro Housing Trust

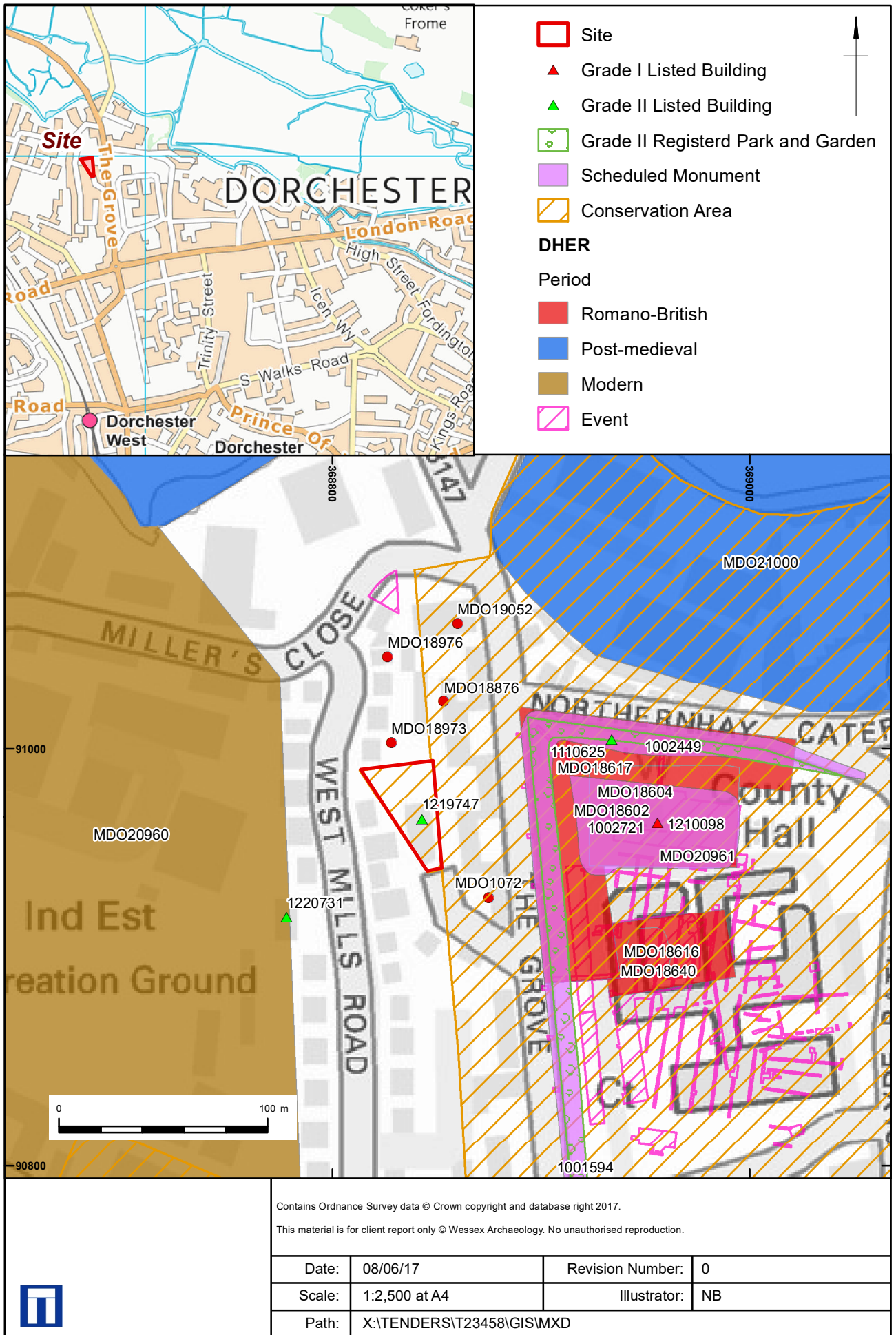
Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No
Digital Archive recipient Dorset County Museum
Digital Contents "none"
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient Dorset County Museum
Paper Contents "none"
Paper Media available "Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title The Former Grove School lane, Dorchester, Archaeological Report
Author(s)/Editor(s) Higbee, L
Other bibliographic details 117170.03
Date 2017
Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication Salisbury
Description A4 soft back standard illustrated evaluation report, approximately 17 pages

Entered by Andrew Manning (a.manning@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on 11 July 2017



Location of Site and selected heritage assets (based on DHER and other sources)

Figure 1



Base plan provided by the client: Mapping contents (c) Crown copyright and database rights 2016. Ordnance Survey 100035207.
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Coordinate system:
 OSGB36
 (OSTN15/OSGM15)

Date: 07/07/2017

Revision Number: 0

Scale: 1:400 @ A4

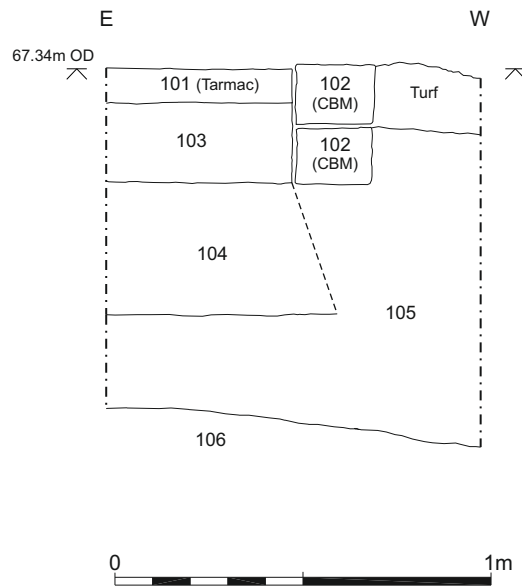
Illustrator: ND

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Plate 2: North facing section, Trench 1

North facing representative section in Trench 1



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Date: 07/07/2017

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Plate 3: Trench 2, view from the north



Plate 4: West facing section, Trench 2

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