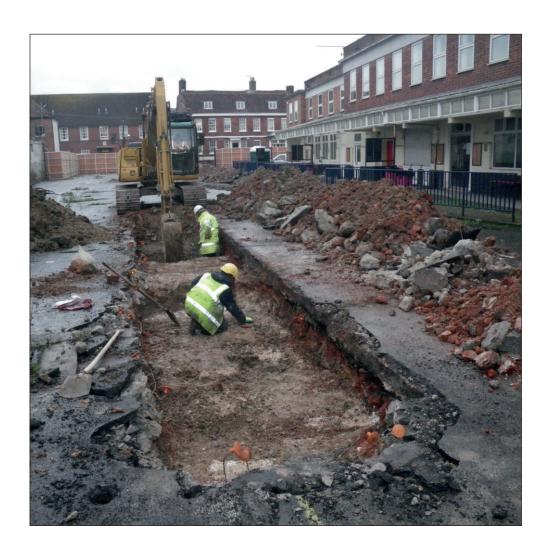


making sense of heritage

Salisbury Bus Station, Salisbury, Wiltshire

Results of an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation



Ref: 106740.02 November 2014





Archaeological Evaluation Report

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^{*} I = Internal Draft; E = External Draft; F = Final



Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

Summary

An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology on the site of the former Salisbury Bus Station. This area occupied tenement blocks on Endless Street and Rollestone Street, within the medieval Three Swans Chequer of the city. The work was commissioned to establish the survival, chronology and importance of deposits that might be at risk as a result of redevelopment of the site. Four evaluation trenches were opened, which demonstrated that archaeological deposits, including structural remains, survive across the entire area.

Buildings of undated construction and lay-out were present along both street frontages. These buildings can be correlated directly with structures shown on a plan of Salisbury compiled by Naish in 1716. The earliest structural remains on Endless Street comprised chalk and flint wall foundations for timber framed buildings. Building ranges were not only aligned along the street frontage, but also both perpendicular to the street and across the central part of the chequer. These buildings may therefore have been arranged around a central courtyard. Internal walls and floor foundations were identified but no floor surfaces survived.

Traces of buildings, which also appear on the Naish survey, indicated that Rollestone Street had also probably been developed by the 15th-16th centuries. Modifications were apparently undertaken in the 17th century. These buildings were also constructed on foundations of flint, chalk and Greensand with internal dividing walls, clay floor foundations and external yards.

Wall lines relating to the redevelopment on Endless Street in the 18th century were also found, although no floor surfaces or evidence of the comparable redevelopment on Rollestone Street survived.

The back-lands, across the central part of the chequer, were, in common with many parts of Salisbury, maintained as open yards and gardens.

The fieldwork was undertaken between Wednesday 12th and Monday 17th November 2014.



Archaeological Evaluation Report

Acknowledgements

The archaeological evaluation was commissioned by CgMs Consulting and Wessex Archaeology is particularly grateful to Matt Smith for his assistance throughout the project. Thanks are also extended to Claire King, Assistant County Archaeologist for Wiltshire Council for her input into preliminary discussions and for comment arising from her visit to monitor work at the site.

The work was directed in the field by Phil Harding, who also prepared this report, assisted by Bill Moffatt and Bianca San Martin. Comments on the artefact assemblages were provided by Lorraine Mepham. The graphics were prepared by Nancy Dixon and the work managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Andy Crockett.



Results of an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by CgMs, to carry out trial trenching of land at the former Salisbury Bus Station in Salisbury, Wiltshire (Figure 1), hereafter "the Site" (centred on NGR 414542 130132).
- 1.1.2 Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service (WCAS) as advisors to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) considered that the Site was likely to contain heritage assets of archaeological interest and that a field evaluation would resolve some of these issues prior to development. The results of the archaeological trial trench evaluation would be used to determine whether further programmes of work would be required as an appropriate planning condition prior to development.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation was therefore commissioned to inform a future planning application for the redevelopment of the site for residential housing, and the need or otherwise for any subsequent archaeological mitigation as appropriate.
- 1.1.4 No information was available at the time of the evaluation to indicate the depth of foundations, landscaping design or locations of new services of the proposed redevelopment. Results of archaeological works in other parts of the city have indicated that significant archaeological deposits are seldom at great depth and the impact from construction is likely to have a detrimental impact on any buried archaeological features.

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The former Bus Station is located centrally within Salisbury and is bordered by Salt Lane to the north, Rollestone Street to the east, Winchester Street to the south and Endless Street to the west (**Figure 1**). In the context of the medieval street plan, the area defined is known as the Three Swans Chequer.
- 1.2.2 The Site comprised two tenement blocks Nos. 8 and 10 on Endless Street and three tenements, Nos. 13, 15 and 17, on Rollestone Street.
- 1.2.3 At the time of the work the Bus Station comprised upstanding buildings on the south side with surfaced areas using a mixture of tarmac and paving to the north and east.
- 1.2.4 The British Geological Survey map for the area (1:50,000 Solid and Drift Series, sheet 298) indicates that the underlying geology of the Site consists of river terrace gravels overlying the Newhaven Chalk Formation.



2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The Extensive Urban Survey for Salisbury (WCC 2004) and the Victoria County History of Wiltshire, Volume 6 (VCH 1962) details the archaeological and historical development of the medieval city and is briefly summarised below.
- 2.1.2 Palaeolithic hand axes have been found to the south west at Market Place and to the north at White Horse Chequer. Indeed, more than 280 are known from the gravel ridge forming Milford Hill largely to the east of the Site.
- 2.1.3 In common with all existing Wiltshire towns, Salisbury has no clear foundation in the prehistoric or Romano-British periods, although remains are present within the city. These include Mesolithic and Neolithic flint tools, a Bronze Age sword and an Iron Age brooch and coin. Romano-British activity is similarly sparse within Salisbury and comprises a coin hoard from Old George Mall, and several coins found by metal detectorists at the river crossing by Fisherton Bridge.
- 2.1.4 Historical and documentary archives hint at the presence of earlier pre-medieval Salisbury settlement, possibly dating from the Saxon period, existing around St Martin's Church, the Town Mill, Fisherton and at Milford, which lay within or on the edge of the area planned for the new city (WCC 2004). Sherds of 5th to 8th century pottery have also been recovered during development works at the Old George Mall to the south-west of the Site.
- 2.1.5 Salisbury is documented as having moved from nearby Old Sarum to a comparatively empty site on the low-lying area known as *Myrifield* in 1219, with the construction of the main body of Salisbury Cathedral completed between 1220 and 1258 (the spire was added in 1320). The adjacent city was planned, and laid out on a regular gridded north to south and east to west aligned street pattern, focused to the north and north-east of the cathedral.
- 2.1.6 The street pattern gave rise to a distinctive city plan, and hence the blocks thus defined are known as chequers. In general, medieval development was primarily restricted to the street frontages, with the inner area of each chequer, or 'back-lands', reserved for gardens, outhouses, refuse pits *etc*.
- 2.1.7 As noted above, the Site is located within the Three Swans Chequer, named after the former Three Swans Hotel located on Winchester Street. A number of structures of note either still exist or were previously recorded within the chequer, including:
 - 5 Winchester Street probably built in c. 1770 and part of the original Three Swans Hotel;
 - 2 Endless Street at the corner of Endless Street and Winchester Street, and although mostly early 18th century in origin, a two-storey wing on the north side is 17th century;
 - 12 Endless Street a much altered 18th century residential property, formerly three storeyed but now reduced to just two, and immediately to the north of the Endless Street entrance to the Site;
 - Salt Lane warehouses the timber framework for these two warehouses, which stood end to end on the south side of Salt Lane, suggested 16th century origins, though the rebuilt exterior brickwork was 18th century. These were unfortunately demolished in 1978:



- Rollestone Street a former residential property, located close to the junction with Salt Lane, immediately to the north of the Rollestone Street entrance to the Site, and dating from the second half of the 18th century; and
- Old George Inn a former inn located at the junction of Winchester Street and Rollestone Street, elements of which (e.g. some roof beams and roof-trusses) appear to date to c. 1500, though the facades were rebuilt in the mid-17th century, and windows remodeled in c. 1800.
- 2.1.8 A recent assessment of documentary records for the Site (Chandler 2013) indicated that the Bus Station occupied Nos 8 and 10 Endless Street and 13, 15 and 17 Rollestone Street. Much of this land was under ownership of the Weaver's Guild from the medieval period. The documentary records also indicate that the property on Endless Street was redeveloped in about 1740, while construction or redevelopment on the Rollestone Street tenements probably took place slightly later, by 1767. Chandler concluded that this may have been the first development on the land as Naish's map of 1716 apparently indicated a gap in the Rollestone Street frontage at this point, suggesting that it had remained virgin land.
- 2.1.9 Significantly the documentary sources indicated that the site had remained unaltered until the construction of the Bus Station in 1939, limiting the likelihood of Victorian or 20th century intrusive features.

2.2 Recent investigations in the area

2.2.1 Excavations in Salisbury (Wessex Archaeology 2013; 2014) undertaken within the Vanners and Griffin Chequers to the east, have highlighted the contrasting levels of preservation within the city. The excavations have confirmed that well-preserved archaeological deposits dating from the medieval period do survive, but have also confirmed the detrimental effects that Victorian cellars and more recent developments have had on the archaeological resource on street frontages.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and objectives

- 3.1.1 The fieldwork evaluation aimed to:
 - locate, identify, investigate and record the presence/absence of archaeological features or deposits;
 - confirm the extent, date, character, relationship, condition and significance of archaeological features, artefacts and deposits within the area impacted, and to inform the scope and nature of any requirements for any potential further fieldwork (whether additional excavation, watching brief, or post-excavation work;
 - enable the preservation by record of any archaeological features or deposits uncovered;
 - place any identified archaeological remains within their historical context, particularly with reference to the development and lay-out of medieval Salisbury.
 - provide sufficient evidence to inform consideration of any further mitigation that may be considered necessary.



3.2 Fieldwork methodology

- 3.2.1 Details of the excavation methodology were contained within a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) prepared by Wessex Archaeology (2014) and approved by the Assistant County Archaeologist in advance of commencement of work on the Site.
- 3.2.2 This document set out details of the location and methods by which the four machine-excavated trenches would be excavated. The WSI also contained conditions guaranteeing reasonable access for Site inspections to monitor the progress of work on the Site and ensure that the archaeological investigation was progressing satisfactorily.
- 3.2.3 Any variations to this WSI were agreed with the Client and the Assistant County Archaeologist prior to their implementation.
- 3.2.4 The evaluation was undertaken between Wednesday 12th and Monday 17th November 2014.

3.3 Recording

Machine-excavation

- 3.3.1 Four evaluation trenches, each 20m long, were located within the foot-print of the proposed development area. The trench array was intended to provide a representative sample of archaeological deposits across the Site. The coordinates were calculated accurately prior to excavation using GPS survey equipment.
- 3.3.2 Contingencies were included within the WSI which allowed for alterations to be made to the proposed trench array where these were necessary. As a result changes were made during the course of the evaluation in consideration of major underground services and Site access. These amendments were made without compromising the overall aims and objectives of the project.
- 3.3.3 The tarmac surface and underlying reinforced concrete foundation was broken up using a pneumatic breaker fitted to a mechanical excavator. Removal of this material and all underlying 'make-up' deposits was conducted under constant archaeological supervision. Machine excavation ceased at the upper surface of significant archaeological features/deposits; however where former soil deposits were encountered machine excavation continued to the in situ natural geology to address the possibility that additional features that might be cut into the natural deposits.

Hand-excavation

- 3.3.4 All archaeological deposits or features encountered were cleaned by hand, characterised, their condition established and where possible, dated by manual excavation of an appropriate sample.
- 3.3.5 All features and deposits were recorded using WA's standard methods and *pro forma* recording system, with all features and deposits being assigned a unique number.
- 3.3.6 A comprehensive survey of all features and deposits was made using GPS, with representative sections drawn at a scale of 1:20 and 1:10, where appropriate. The OD height of all principal features and levels were calculated, with plans and sections annotated with OD heights. A full digital photographic record was maintained throughout, recording not only all trenches, structures and deposits but also site conditions and the reinstated trenches.



3.4 Specialist strategies

Artefact

3.4.1 Conditions were included in the WSI detailing the collection and processing of environmental samples, the treatment of human remains and items of treasure trove. None of these eventualities were encountered.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 All trenches were scheduled to measure 20m long and 2m wide, however it was necessary not only to reposition two of the trenches but also to shorten three. As a result Trench 1 was reduced to 17m to minimise proximity to a street frontage gas main from undue vibration arising from use of the concrete breaker, Trench 3 was repositioned and shortened to 17m to avoid an overhanging bus station awning and Trench 4 was relocated and reduced to 12m long to avoid obstructing the main entrance. These changes were discussed and authorised by the Assistant County Archaeologist following an interim, onsite monitoring meeting.
- 4.1.2 The evaluation was primarily concerned with exposing, cleaning and recording undisturbed archaeological deposits to establish their presence, condition and extent. Datable artefacts were retrieved where this was possible. Further excavation was kept to a minimum in order to avoid unnecessary damage to stratigraphy that might otherwise benefit from more detailed examination, on a larger scale, at a later date.

4.2 Trench 1

Introduction

- 4.2.1 This trench aimed to evaluate archaeological deposits within the former No. 10 Endless Street. Due to the potential proximity of a street frontage gas main the west end of the trench was shortened by approximately 3m. Despite the fact that this reduced access to the street frontage of Endless Street itself, it did not compromise the value of the archaeological results in the west end of the trench.
- 4.2.2 The results of the evaluation demonstrated that structural archaeological deposits were well-preserved at the western street frontage end of the trench. Deposits were less impressive at the east end of the trench, which may have been located within the interior of the building or the back-lands or court yards of the building.
- 4.2.3 The absence of complex archaeological deposits in this latter part of the trench made it possible to penetrate to the natural fluvial gravel, determine the nature of the deeper stratigraphy and recover a complete record of deposits in this part of the Site.
- 4.2.4 It also made it possible to establish whether archaeological features, particularly medieval pits of the type found beneath the floors of medieval buildings along the south edge of the Vanners' Chequer might be cut into the natural fluvial gravel surface.
- 4.2.5 The combined results and observations have helped to establish the distribution and extent of the most sensitive deposits and reconstruct tentative phasing, a basic chronology for deposits and structures within the trench and their relationship to structures shown on early mapping.



Stratigraphy

- 4.2.6 The basal deposits comprised a buried soil (an 'A' horizon (116) and 'B' horizon (117) at approximately 46m aOD, which overlay the natural fluvial gravel. No archaeological features, pits or ditches were present in this part of the trench.
- 4.2.7 The buried soil comprised dark grey-brown silty clay, approximately 0.25-0.30m thick. Charcoal was more prevalent at the west end towards the street frontage which may relate to activity, possibly medieval, nearer the street frontage. No datable material was found although isolated worked flints indicate some, probably residual, prehistoric activity similar to that found throughout Salisbury.
- 4.2.8 The buried soil was overlain by a foundation/make-up layer of redeposited gravel (114) which was approximately 0.30m thick. This material was clean throughout and showed no trace of an upper trampled surface. This suggests that the upper parts may have been truncated by construction of the 18th century redevelopment or the construction of the Bus Station.

Results

- 4.2.9 Construction of buildings on Endless Street probably commenced with the construction of wall [113] which was aligned N-S approximately 20m east of the street frontage. The wall, which measured approximately 0.40m thick, was constructed of coursed flint nodules that were set in light yellow-brown chalky mortar.
- 4.2.10 It seems most likely, but cannot be proven, that this wall was associated with a rammed chalk floor (109) which was present to the west. The surface of the floor was clean, suggesting that this formed a foundation, which may have been truncated or which was formerly covered by a tiled or wooden floor.
- 4.2.11 A heavily disturbed wall [107], aligned E-W, was recorded protruding from and running along the south edge of the trench. It is likely that this wall extended to wall [113] although this cannot be demonstrated conclusively. The wall was constructed of large, irregular flint nodules and horizontally bedded roof tile fragments that were set in light yellow brown chalky mortar.
- 4.2.12 This wall, which may have been part of the original construction, or subsequent modification, is tentatively associated with an isolated block of Chilmark Stone (110). This block coincided with a clear boundary that separated the rammed chalk floor (109) from a strip of flooring (108), 0.96m wide and aligned N-S that was composed of chalky gravel with abraded tile inclusions. It may be that this represents an internal timber partition wall of an internal corridor.
- 4.2.13 The floor (108) was cut by a foundation trench into which was constructed a wall [106] that had been robbed wall subsequently. The wall was aligned N-S and only a fragment projected from the south edge of the trench. The wall was approximately 0.60m wide as originally constructed and was built on a stepped foundation, approximately 0.10m wide within its foundation trench.
- 4.2.14 Apparently contemporary with wall [106] was the stub end of a wall [105], aligned E-W, which extended 0.40m from the west end of the trench. This wall measured approximately 0.50m wide, was faced with irregular chalk blocks with a flint core set in yellow-brown, chalk flecked mortar.



- 4.2.15 The SW and NW angles formed by the intersection of walls [106] and [105] were filled with yellow-brown silty clay 'brick-earth' (103 and 104), which formed the foundation layers for clay floors.
- 4.2.16 These internal walls and floors were all overlain by a deposit of mid yellow-brown silty clay with small unsorted gravel (101) which contained roof tile fragments and unglazed medieval pottery. Although the date of the material within this layer is probably reliable it is possible that the entire deposit was introduced and is unrelated to the date of the building; nevertheless layer 101 was cut through by a trench which was dug to rob material from wall [106]. The fill (102) of this robber trench contained sherds of 17-18th century pottery.
- 4.2.17 Deposit (101) was also capped by a wall foundation [111] approximately 1.0m wide and aligned N-S. This foundation, which was approximately 0.20m thick, was constructed of reused Chilmark Stone blocks, including chamfered blocks and was topped by a wall constructed of brick. This wall, which was aligned on the east elevation of No. 12 Endless Street, to the north, was undoubtedly that building erected, according to documentary sources (Chandler 2013), in about 1740.
- 4.2.18 The upper stratigraphy comprised tarmac, reinforced concrete and brick rubble layers (100) which collectively measured approximately 0.56m thick.

4.3 Trench 2

Introduction

4.3.1 This trench measured 20m long and approximately 1.5m wide and was also aligned east to west, across the central part of the chequer. These areas, 'back-lands', frequently contain relatively low levels of archaeological activity, having been maintained as open areas and gardens behind buildings on the street front.

Stratigraphy

4.3.2 The archaeological remains overlay dark grey buried soil. This deposit was only exposed in a small area on the south side of a modern man-hole and little can be said to confirm its extent, depth or archaeological contents. However the surface height, at approximately 46.11m aOD, is broadly comparable to the buried soils that were exposed in Trenches 1, 3 and 4.

Results

- 4.3.3 The character of the archaeological results contrasted markedly from one end of the trench to the other, divided along the approximate N-S mid line of the chequer.
- 4.3.4 Discoveries at the west end were undoubtedly related to Endless Street and comprised a range of buildings, approximately 7m wide and aligned N-S. The western, front, façade was defined by a wall [210], 0.50m across, constructed of flint nodules and stone blocks that were set in mid yellow-brown mortar. This wall appears to have been constructed within a foundation, make-up deposit (207) containing CBM, clay and flints.
- 4.3.5 An internal wall [209], approximately 0.36m thick, built with coarse flint nodules and tile fragments, extended eastwards from wall [210]. The areas in the internal angles of these walls were poorly exposed; however traces of brown clay, 'brick earth', (208) were present in sufficient quantities to suggest that they represented floor foundations. This deposit could be traced to the east where a small, but well-preserved area abutted a small internal dividing wall [206].



- 4.3.6 Wall [206] measured 0.26m across and was constructed of Chilmark Stone set in light grey chalky mortar. It was equidistant from and parallel with walls [210] on the west and a comparable wall [204] on the east, which was 0.46m wide. This wall was also faced with flint nodules that were packed with a random flint infill.
- 4.3.7 The absence of any brick in the construction of this range suggests that this range is of medieval or late medieval date.
- 4.3.8 The eastern end of the trench was characterised by a series of rammed chalk deposits (202) interleaved with dumps of broken roof tile. These deposits were clean which suggested that they had formed no more than a foundation deposit on which a more robust capping was laid. This may have comprised irregular stone slabs (201), of which two remained in situ.
- 4.3.9 There was nothing to establish the date of this deposit or whether it related to properties on Rollestone Street or the extended 18th century 'back-lands' of Endless Street.

4.4 Trench 3

Introduction

- 4.4.1 This trench was designed to evaluate deposits in the south east corner of the Site, immediately east of the extant Bus Station office building. This area provided the only opportunity to gain access to the southern part of the Site. In addition it made it possible to assess the survival and chronology of deposits on the Rollestone Street frontage including No. 17 Rollestone Street, which Chandler (2013) suggests was erected by at least 1767.
- 4.4.2 The trench, which was aligned SE-NW, was repositioned to the NE to avoid an overhanging awning along the south side of the former Bus Station. As a result the trench was also shortened to a length of 15m to avoid restricting access to the Site. These alterations were made with the prior agreement of the Assistant County Archaeologist.

Stratigraphy

- 4.4.3 Preliminary work to open the trench indicated that the depth of concrete was greater here than elsewhere on the Site, especially in the SE corner, where drains, related to the former house on the street, also featured. The levels of disturbance and truncation within most of the trench were also greater than those encountered elsewhere on the Site.
- 4.4.4 In the central part of the trench the buried soil was sufficiently close to the surface that the modern demolition rubble, which formed the foundation layers for the Bus Station bus park, directly overlay the buried soil. This made it possible to penetrate through to the natural gravel and recover a complete record of deposits to the natural river gravel.
- 4.4.5 The surface of the buried soil (309 and 310), which was present along most of the trench, was encountered at approximately 46.20m aOD.

Results

4.4.6 The above buried soil was cut through by a foundation trench [305], aligned E-W, which measured approximately 1.3m wide and was 0.35m deep. The trench was filled with a chalk rubble foundation (304) on which a wall [303] with coursed flint nodule facings and a rubble core infill was constructed. The apparent stepped foundation on the south side may indicate that the wall was constructed directly against the north face of the foundation trench from the south side.



- 4.4.7 Wall 303 survived to a height of approximately 0.20m above the surface of the buried soil 309. It measured approximately 0.80m wide, but was truncated on the north side by a post-medieval drain and Victorian toilet block.
- 4.4.8 The date at which the wall was constructed remains uncertain, although its composition, especially the absence of bricks, suggests that it is probably of medieval or late medieval date. It was aligned along the northern façade of the Bus Station office building which may have been constructed, either deliberately or accidently, along the line of an original medieval tenement. However it is likely that wall 303, by its robust construction, was more than a mere tenement boundary, probably a load-bearing, structural wall supporting a gable end of a building that predates the construction of the 18th century buildings.
- 4.4.9 The foundation trench [305] was backfilled and capped by a series of laminar bands of rammed chalk and tile (311). Additional thin, isolated, undated pockets of similar crushed chalk, ash and CBM (313) were noted elsewhere in the section to the south of wall 303. No traces of building foundations were visible; however a slight linear disturbance [312] could be traced in a N-S direction that, when projected through walls lines in Trench 4, was aligned on the rear elevation of 19 Rollestone Street.
- 4.4.10 Deposits of rammed chalk (302) were also present on the north side of wall 303. These deposits were better preserved than those on the south side of the wall, up to 0.15m thick (308). They were located at approximately 46.26m aOD and may therefore form a continuation of those rammed chalk deposits seen at the east end of Trench 2, which were at approximately 46.10m aOD.
- 4.4.11 Unfortunately the contact point between the rammed chalk surface (308) and wall 303 was cut away by the drain associated with the Victorian toilet block and no stratigraphic relationship could be demonstrated on that side of the wall.
- 4.4.12 The deposits of rammed chalk and tile probably represent make-up to consolidate the ground during medieval or post-medieval phases of construction. However apart from their stratigraphic relationship with the backfilled construction trench on the south side of the wall these deposits remain undated and may not be contemporary with one another.
- 4.4.13 No foundation deposits relating to the 18th century redevelopment were evident or floor levels,

4.5 Trench 4

Introduction

- 4.5.1 This trench was also realigned and shortened to maintain access to the Site.
- 4.5.2 It was dug directly west from the Rollestone Street frontage for a distance of 12m towards the east end of Trench 2. This made it possible to evaluate the archaeological potential of No. 17 Rollestone Street and the areas immediately to the rear of this property.
- 4.5.3 The results of the evaluation confirmed the pattern that archaeological deposits were again well-preserved close to the street frontage but thinned to the west in the 'backlands' of the tenement.

Stratigraphy

4.5.4 The relative absence of significant stratigraphy from the 'back-lands' made it possible to expose the complete sequence of deposits to the natural gravel in that part of the Site.



4.5.5 The buried soil (407 and 408) was encountered at approximately 46m aOD. This deposit was overlain towards the west end of the trench by a heavily cemented and compacted deposit (405) of dark grey/black silty clay which contained broken fragments of tabular limestone. This deposit, which was approximately 0.15m thick, thinned to the west and probably represents extensively trampled yard surfaces at the rear of the tenement building.

Results

- 4.5.6 The yard surfaces overlay a pit/cess pit [406] which was exposed in the machine dug section.
- 4.5.7 The principal feature at the east end of the trench was a wall foundation [404] which was aligned N-S on the line of the rear elevation of the adjoining building, No. 19 Rollestone Street, to the north. The wall measured 0.34m wide and was faced with flint nodules and a rubble core infill.
- 4.5.8 Part of an internal dividing wall [409], aligned E-W and which included a block of Greensand, projected from the north edge of the trench at its junction with wall 404. It was apparently of the same construction phase as wall 404 but apart from this no other information could be obtained.
- 4.5.9 A wall foundation [410], which was also only partially exposed along the north edge of the trench, could be traced for a distance of 2.7m to the west from wall [404]. Wall foundation 410 was of chalk block construction and probably represents a range at the rear of the main structure. No other information could be obtained regarding its relationship to wall 404.
- 4.5.10 The east end of the trench comprised a well laid foundation (402), up to 0.10m thick, for a clay floor. The foundation was composed of brown silty clay 'brick-earth, which was laid on a bed of rammed chalk. No traces of the floor surface itself survived. The floor foundation extended approximately 3m east from wall 404 and was probably of the same construction phase.
- 4.5.11 A shallow robbed wall foundation trench [401] was located 0.35m east of and parallel to wall 404. This robbed wall trench was cut through the clay floor foundation and measured 0.82m across. The back-fill (411) produced a clay pipe bowl and pottery indicating a date in the 17th century.
- 4.5.12 These results from Trench 4 have established that there were at least two phases of building on the site of 17 Rollestone Street before the erection of the house recorded by 1767. No archaeological evidence appears to have survived of this building.

5 FINDS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The evaluation produced a small quantity of finds, deriving from contexts in two trenches, one on the Endless Street frontage (Trench 1) and the other on the Rollestone Street frontage (Trench 4). Quantities by material type and by context are given in **Table 1**. The assemblage includes material of medieval and post-medieval date.



Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

LAYER	Animal Bone	СВМ	Clay Pipe	Pottery	Slag
101	5/28	26/1017		12/130	1/50
102				3/48	
411			3/15	6/162	
TOTALS	5/28	26/1017	3/15	21/340	1/40

CBM = ceramic building material

5.2 Pottery

- 5.2.1 Of the 21 sherds recovered, 13 are medieval and 8 post-medieval. All but one of the medieval sherds came from context 101; these are all sandy coarsewares of a type seen extensively across the medieval city and comparable to products of the 13th/14th century kilns at Laverstock, just outside the city (Musty et al. 1969; Musty et al. 2001). In this instance, the surface scratchmarking is sufficiently distinct to suggest a 13th century date range. The other medieval sherd occurred residually in context 102; this is a fine glazed ware, also of Laverstock type, with a probable date range of 13th to early 14th century.
- 5.2.2 The six sherds from context 411 are all post-medieval and, together with the clay tobacco pipe (see below), provide the dating for this context. Three of the sherds, almost certainly from the same vessel (a shallow dish or plate) although not conjoining, are in a trailed slipware seen across the West Country in the 17th and 18th centuries. This vessel probably came from the Crockerton production centre near Warminster (Smith 1997, 29, fabric PP).
- 5.2.3 The other three sherds from the context comprise two plain glazed redwares, again probably Crockerton types, and one sherd of Verwood-type earthenware from east Dorset; none of these are closely datable.
- 5.2.4 The two sherds from context 102 are in a white-slipped, green-glazed redware, probably another Crockerton product and again with a likely date range of 17th to 18th century.

5.3 Ceramic building material

- 5.3.1 In common with other sites in Salisbury, medieval CBM was encountered in the form of roof tile. Most of the fragments seen here (all of which came from context 101) are from flat (peg) tiles, many of which would have been partially glazed on the upper surface (on the lower, visible third of the tile). Two fragments are more evenly glazed and could have come from curved ridge tiles. All these tiles are in coarse, poorly wedged fabrics, often pale firing.
- 5.3.2 Roof tile such as this was used in the city from its earliest foundation and throughout the medieval period, but no particular chronological trends have been noted in its use. Because it was so often reused, it is not particularly useful as dating evidence, although in this instance it was associated with medieval pottery.

5.4 Clay tobacco pipe

5.4.1 Three fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recovered from Trench 4 (context 411, the fill of a robber cut). These include a small bowl dating *c.* 1630-50 (Atkinson 1970, fig. 1, nos. 2 and 5).



5.5 Other Finds

5.5.1 Other finds comprise a few fragments of animal bone (cattle and sheep), and a single piece of ironworking slag, all from context 101.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Archaeological results

- 6.1.1 The archaeological evaluation on the site of the former Salisbury Bus Station was commissioned to establish the survival, chronology and importance of deposits that might be at risk as a result of redevelopment of the site. The results of the work have been restricted to an examination of those areas in the north and south east parts of the Site. The remaining areas, along the southern margins, lie beneath the former Bus Station building, which awaits demolition.
- 6.1.2 The results from all four trenches have demonstrated that archaeological deposits, including structural remains, are not only present but well-preserved along both the Endless Street and Rollestone Street frontages. None of the trenches discovered any traces of Victorian cellars.
- 6.1.3 The structural remains on the Endless Street frontage, in keeping with the commercial location of that thoroughfare, are more impressive and more extensive than those on Rollestone Street.
- 6.1.4 The levels of preservation on both sides of the Site suggest that it should be possible, ultimately, to recover comprehensive ground plans of those buildings on both street frontages.

6.2 Initial activity

- 6.2.1 The natural deposits of river alluvium 'brick earth', which overlie the fluvial gravel, were observed and recorded in Trenches 1, 3 and 4. Isolated worked flints were noted in Trench 1 and indicate prehistoric activity in the locality. This is in accord with previous findings in the area.
- 6.2.2 The overlying buried soil was especially charcoal-rich at the west end of Trench 1, which may represent occupation on Endless Street that predated the construction of the first medieval buildings. The fact that it is more evident towards the street frontage is reminiscent of evidence along Salt Lane (Wessex Archaeology 2013) where medieval pits fringing the street frontage represented the preliminary use of the site. The evaluation at the former Bus Station was unable to evaluate this aspect of the archaeology due to the presence of overlying, stratified deposits.

6.3 Medieval archaeology

- 6.3.1 The construction date of the earliest buildings on Endless Street remains uncertain. The foundation layers were sealed by deposits containing 13th-14th century pottery, which may be relevant; however this material may have been brought onto the Site and so may not relate directly to the construction or use of those buildings.
- 6.3.2 Irrespective of the construction date the distribution and ground plan of structures on the Endless Street frontage, in Trenches 1 and 2, suggest that buildings extended across the central part of the chequer. This is largely in accord with early mapping of Salisbury as indicated by Speed's rather stylised map of 1611.



- 6.3.3 The building layout is confirmed when it is superimposed directly on the plan compiled by Naish in 1716, which shows a correlation of wall lines and building ranges to those from the evaluation.
- 6.3.4 Walls linked to the likely medieval building range on Endless Street extended for a distance of approximately 20m back from the present street frontage. These ranges which ran perpendicular to the street are shown by Naish and predate the 18th century redevelopment. The buildings recorded in Trenches 1 were apparently constructed on a make-up layer of clean gravel, which extended eastwards towards the central part of the chequer. This deposit was located at the east end of Trench 1 and may have extended as far as and below a range of buildings, found in Trench 2, which were located along the central N-S axis of the chequer.
- 6.3.5 However the trench array, as overlain on Naish's plan, suggests that the east end of Trench 1 may have been located within a building range that extended east from the rear of the Endless Street tenements. It is possible that the make-up layer was put down merely to support the foundations of this range of the building.
- 6.3.6 The earliest structural remains were represented by chalk and flint wall foundations in Trenches 1 and 2. These foundations undoubtedly provided bases for timber framed buildings, the prevalent construction technique in medieval and late medieval Salisbury. Internal wall lines were identified in the evaluation as were probable less substantial partition walls which may also have formed part of the overall plan. Clay floor foundations were also apparent as also were rammed chalk surfaces. These were very clean and so may have supported stone or tiled floors or have been truncated by subsequent phases of redevelopment.
- 6.3.7 The range of buildings aligned N-S immediately west of the central north-south axis of the chequer, in Trench 2, also probably relate to structures on Endless Street. These buildings can also be recognised amongst those shown by Naish in 1716 but are not shown in a deed of 1798 conveying the weavers' company premises to Joseph Everett (WSA 1214/33). The absence of bricks in the foundations also make it likely that the range was demolished in the mid-18th century to make way for the large open space that occupied the central part of the chequer when the property on Endless Street was redeveloped.
- 6.3.8 This axial range was therefore also probably timber framed with a spinal wall beneath a central ridge. The construction of the range, whether single or multi story, and its function as out-buildings, workshops or residential, remains undetermined. The precise date of construction is similarly unresolved. It is possible that the entire complex was arrayed around a central court yard.
- 6.3.9 Naish shows that this building extended beyond the central axis of the chequer across the east part of Trench 2. This area contained evidence of a rammed chalk floor/yard foundation that was possibly capped by a flagged floor. It is possible therefore that, just as the make-up layers in the east end of Trench 1 may have been located within a building, this surface similarly formed part of an internal floor rather than an external yard.
- 6.3.10 The trench array also showed strong correlations with the building lay out recorded by Naish on Rollestone Street where well-preserved deposits were also revealed in Trench 4. Chandler (2013) was uncertain to what extent this part of the city had been developed prior to the construction work of approximately 1760 and considered that the answer could only be provided by archaeology.



- 6.3.11 The results of the evaluation have shown that buildings were probably in place on Rollestone Street by the 15th-16th centuries, with modifications at a later date, possibly in the 17th century. These buildings were also constructed on foundations of flint, chalk and Greensand with internal dividing walls, clay floors and external yards. The buildings were also aligned on the rear elevation of the extant building which forms 19 Rollestone Street. Structures on the street therefore probably continued to occupy the footprints of the buildings as they were originally laid out.
- 6.3.12 Foundations of a large wall, which remained undated, were also preserved in the south east corner of the site, despite this area being heavily disturbed by concrete, brick foundations and service trenches.

6.4 18th century redevelopment

- 6.4.1 Major redevelopment took place within the area of the former Bus Station at a date beginning about 1740 (Chandler 2014). The medieval buildings were demolished and No. 10 Endless Street was rebuilt.
- 6.4.2 The redevelopment on Endless Street was marked by the construction of a building of seven or eight bays, the rear elevation of which was identified in Trench 1 of the evaluation, aligned with the rear elevation of No. 12 Endless Street to the north. This building, of which the historical record has been described by Chandler (2013), stood on Endless Street until its demolition made way for the construction of the bus station in 1939.
- 6.4.3 Nothing survives of the 18th century houses on Rollestone Street which were also described by Chandler (2013) from documentary sources and which presumably replaced the medieval buildings.
- 6.4.4 The results of the evaluation have consistently produced no traces of intact floor surfaces of medieval or 18th century date. It may be that these upper layers, along with demolition deposits, which were also scarce, may have been truncated by the 18th century redevelopment, the construction of the Bus Station or by a combination of both.
- 6.4.5 The possibility that surface deposits on the Site may have been truncated by the construction of the Bus Station might find some support by scored lines, similar to those created by a toothed bucket, which were apparent in the surface of the clay floor in Trench 4 at the base of the rubble layer.

6.5 Back-lands

- 6.5.1 The evaluation also examined the back-lands. The results indicate that, in common with many parts of Salisbury, these areas were maintained as open yards and gardens. There remains a possibility that pits are present beneath the buried soil; relatively low density scatters of pits are known from the back-lands across the city (Wessex Archaeology 2013).
- 6.5.2 Early editions of the Ordnance Survey (1900 Edition) confirm that open land and gardens remained across the central part of the chequer. Boundaries to the rear of No. 10 Endless Street were also unchanged from those shown in a deed of 1798 conveying the weavers' company premises to Joseph Everett (WSA 1214/33).



6.6 Beyond the evaluation

- 6.6.1 The results of the evaluation have confirmed the importance of the site within Salisbury. Naish's survey of 1716, which apparently provides a relatively accurate, reliable representation of the city, confirms that the chequers near the city centre/market place, including the Cross Keys and Black Horse Chequers as well as those fronting onto Endless Street, were amongst the most heavily developed areas in the city. Buildings with ranges that extend back from the street frontage are prevalent and contrast markedly to those away from these concentrations, including those on Rollestone Street which are shown only as a ribbon of development fringing the roadside.
- 6.6.2 However the archaeological results of the evaluation have not only provided evidence to test the detail of the mapping but also to indicate that further work may show how and when buildings were first constructed and how they underwent alterations during their lifetime.
- 6.6.3 The results of the evaluation have also confirmed the preservation across the site and the type of evidence that might be preserved. This level of preservation, as contained in the foundation deposits has made it possible to construct a preliminary chronological model of development on the site.
- 6.6.4 From an excavation point of view the Site showed relatively consistent levels of stratigraphy. Demolition rubble and make-up related to the construction of the Bus Station occupied the upper 0.50-0.60m of deposit. This material was directly on the archaeological deposits, which were generally well-preserved in all trenches, apart from Trench 3.
- 6.6.5 The Site has been dissected by service trenches, primarily drains, which have impacted on the archaeological remains but have not prevented an overall reconstruction of the Site being made.
- The principal archaeological deposits appear to be contained within a band approximately 0.30m thick to the top of the buried soils which were encountered, in some form, in all trenches.

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8 APPENDICES

8.1 Appendix 1: Trench summary descriptions by context

Trench 1			
Context	Туре	Description	Depth (from surface)
100	Layer	Tarmac laid on reinforced concrete and brick rubble	0.00-0.56
101	Layer	Mid yellow-brown silty clay with unsorted small gravel. Irregular CBM fragments (common) with medieval pottery sherds	0.56-0.71
102	Cut	Robber trench filled with yellow-brown silty clay	
103	Layer	Dark yellow-brown silty clay with small sized gravel. Capped by thin layer of dark grey black	
104	Layer	Mid yellow brown silty clay with small sorted gravel.	
105	Wall	Wall with chalk block facing and flint rubble core in light yellow-brown chalky mortar.	0.56
106	Wall	Wall fragment, constructed with stepped footing and irregular coursed flint facing, with rubble infill set in light yellow-brown chalky mortar.	0.65
107	Wall	Wall. Large irregular flint nodule facing, interlaced with bedded CBM, rubble core set in light yellow-brown chalky mortar.	
108 Layer Chalk gravel floor with abraded CBM inclusions. Mid yellow 0 brown silty clay.		0.70	
109	Layer	Chalk floor	0.70
110	Layer	Chilmark stone block, possibly part of partition wall connecting to wall 107.	
111	Wall	Wall foundation comprising reused Chilmark stone, overlying 0. 101. Comprises light yellow brown mortar with flint and chalk inclusions. Capped by wall of brick construction.	
112	Layer	Brick, chalk and flint rubble.	
113	Wall	Flint faced and coursed, with rubble core in light yellow brown chalky mortar.	0.35
114	Layer	Dark grey brown, redeposited chalk gravel. Make-up for building construction.	0.60
115	Cut	Foundation cut for wall 106	0.70
116	Layer	Dark grey brown silty clay buried soil ('A' horizon). Frequent charcoal, especially at the west end, paler and with less charcoal to east	0.90
117	Layer	Dark grey-brown/yellow-brown buried soil ('B/C' horizon)	1.10
118	Fill	Red-brown silty clay with charcoal flecks. Fill of 120	0.85
119	Fill	Dark grey-brown silty clay with common chalk and flint gravel with charcoal flecks. Fill of 120	0.90
120	Cut	Pit, exposed in North section, sealed by 114. Filled with 118 and 119.	0.85



Trench 2						
Context	Туре	Description	Depth (from surface)			
200	Layer	Made ground. Tarmac surface, laid on two layers of concrete and a brick rubble foundation	0.00-0.60			
201	Layer	Flag stones, possibly Chilmark stone. Fine grained and bedded grey-green stone.	0.60-0.66			
202	Layer	Rammed chalk foundation, interleaved with beds of fragmented CBM.	0.60			
203	Layer	Deposit containing ash, charcoal, CBM and animal bone in silty matrix. Apparently cut through 202.	0.60			
204	Wall	Eastern wall, 0.46m wide of probable range, aligned north-south, of coursed flint nodules and rubble core, in yellow mortar.	0.53			
205	Layer	Mid yellow brown silty clay with poorly sorted gravel, CBM fragments and chalk flecks.	0.60			
206	Wall	Central spinal wall of range, 0.26m wide and aligned north-south. Contains Chilmark stone bonded with white/grey chalky mortar.	0.60			
207	Layer	Make-up deposit containing CBM, clay and flint fragments.	0.50			
208	Layer	Mid brown clay 'brick-earth' floor make-up.	0.50			
209	Wall	Wall, 0.31m wide, interior dividing wall, aligned east-west, constructed of flint nodules interleaved with bedded CBM in greywhite mortar.	0.50			
210	Wall	West wall of range, aligned north-south and 0.47m wide. Constructed of coursed flint nodules, chalk and stone within mid yellow brown mortar.	0.50			

Trench 3			
Context	Туре	Description	Depth (from surface)
300	Layer	Made ground. Tarmac surface, laid on two layers of concrete and a brick rubble foundation	0-0.60
301	Layer	Very dark grey brown silty clay loam with frequent charcoal flecks, gravel, fragments of CBM. Overlies 302	0.50
302	Layer	Rammed chalk surface	0.45
303	Wall	Coursed rubble construction, aligned east-west, with flint facing. Approximately 0.50m wide, truncated on west side by drain	0.60
304	Layer	Chalk rubble foundation for wall 303.	1.00
305	Cut	Foundation cut for wall 303	1.15
306	Fill	Soft grey silty clay with frequent chalk flecks and CBM fragments. Fill of 307	0.65
307	Cut	Cut of pit. Not excavated	
308	Layer	Firm grey silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks, CBM fragments and flint nodules. Possible make-up for 302, cut by 307.	0.65
309	Layer	Dark grey brown silty clay buried soil ('A' horizon) with charcoal flecks	0.70-0.80
310	Layer	Dark grey-brown/yellow-brown buried soil ('B/C' horizon)	
311	Layer	Laminated bands of rammed chalk and CBM, east of 303 and sealing 304	0.60
312	Cut	Poorly defined band of dark grey-brown silty loam with frequent CBM and chalk fragments. Aligned on rear elevation of 19 Rollestone Street. Possible marking line of robbed wall.	

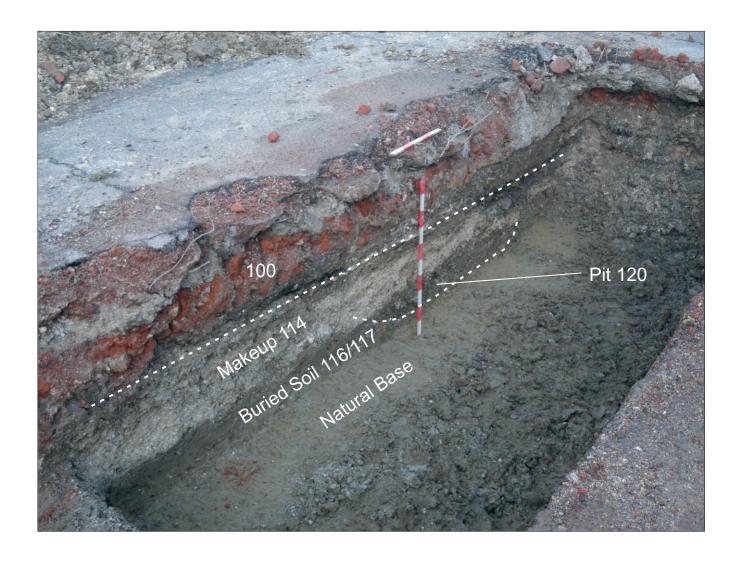


Trench 3			
Context	Type	Description	Depth (from surface)
313	Layer	Discontinuous bands of crushed chalk, ash and CBM to east of 312	0.60
314	Fill	Backfill of foundation trench 305	0.80

Trench 4					
Context	Туре	Description	Depth (from surface)		
400	Layer	Made ground. Tarmac surface, laid on two layers of concrete and a brick rubble foundation	0-0.5		
4012	Cut	Cut for robbed wall, 0.75m wide and 0.04m deep, Aligned on rear, west wall, of 19 Rollestone Street.	0.5		
402	Layer	Yellow-brown rammed clay 'brick earth' floor foundation. Some damage to surface but essentially intact	0.5		
403	Layer	Rammed chalk floor foundation, exposed beneath 402 by 401.	0.6		
404	Wall	Wall, 0.40m wide. Constructed of flint faced courses with rubble core in pale yellow grey mortar	0.5		
405	Layer	Yard surfaces/layers, approximately 0.15m thick, of dark grey silty clay with refuse and fragments of limestone.	0.5		
406	Cut	Cess pit partially exposed in machined section, sealed by 405.	0.65		
407	Layer	Dark grey brown silty clay buried soil ('A' horizon) with charcoal flecks	0.75-0.80		
408	Layer	Dark grey-brown/yellow-brown buried soil ('B/C' horizon)			
409	Wall	Internal division of building, aligned east-west and continuous with 410. Constructed with yellow chalky with fragments of Hurdcott Greensand.			
410	Wall	Wall foundation of rear range comprising coursed chalk blocks bonded by yellow-grey mortar with occasional Hurdcott Greensand fragments and flint rubble. Aligned east-west and extending from north section of trench.			
411	Fill	Dark grey silty clay, fill of robber cut 401	0.50		



Figure 1

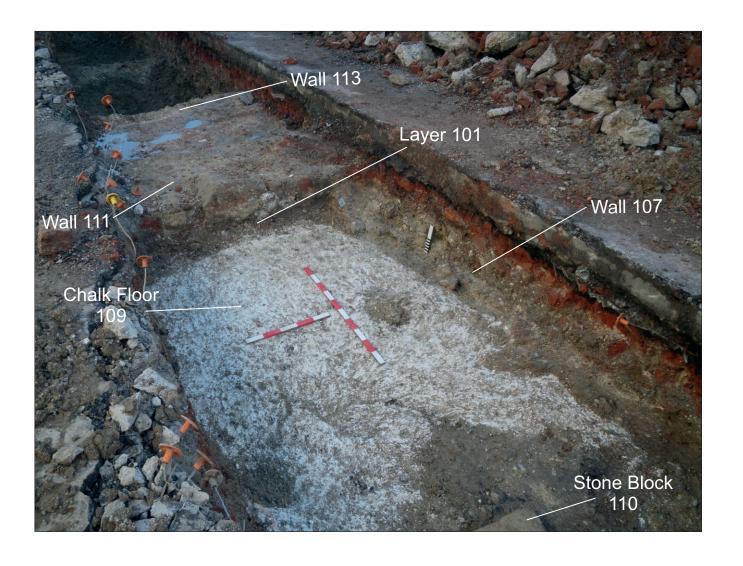


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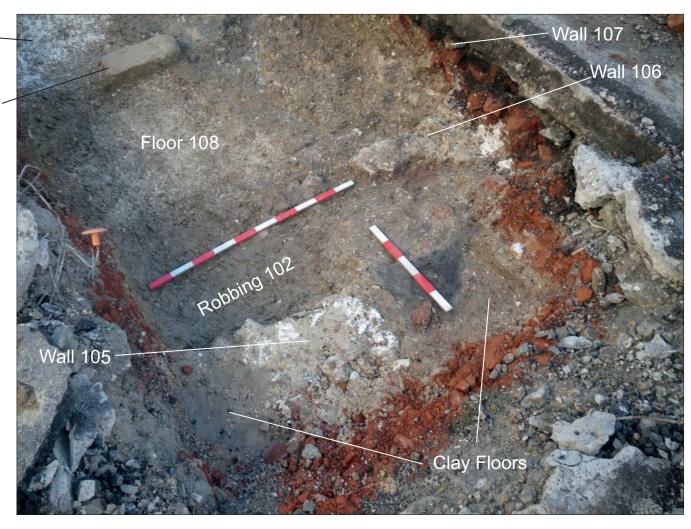
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Stone Block 7





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West end of Trench 1 from west



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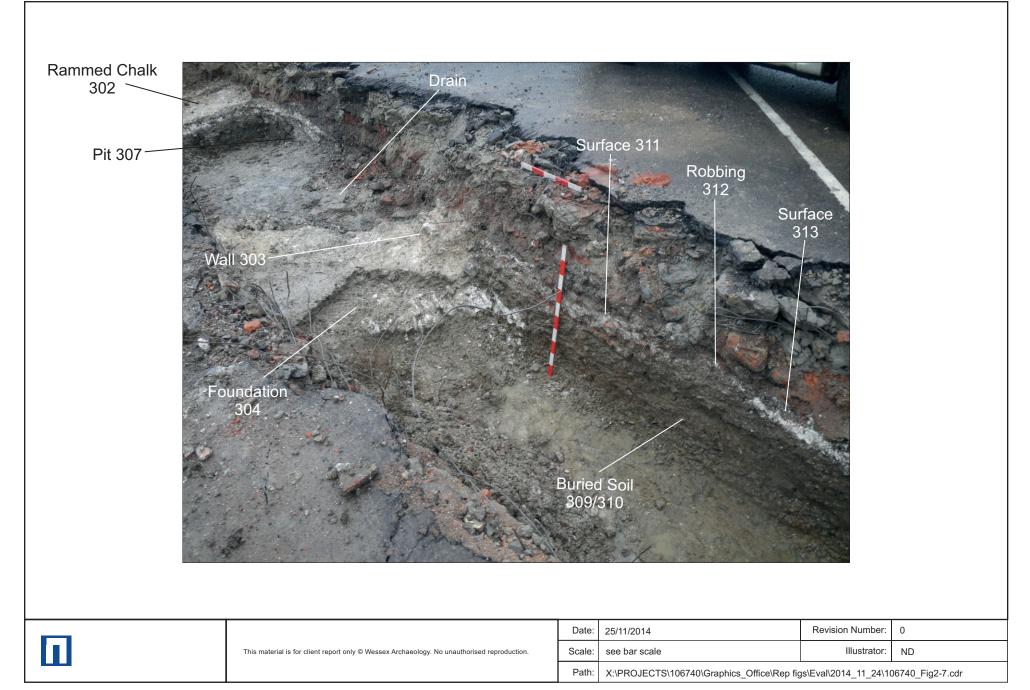




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East end of Trench 2 from east Figure 6





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Naish 1716 map





