



College Road, Campdown

Initial Heritage Benefits Statement

Document Ref.: 303420.2
Application Number: APP/23/00488
February 2025



© Wessex Archaeology Ltd 2024, all rights reserved

Portway House
Old Sarum Park
Salisbury
SP4 6EB

www.wessexarch.co.uk

Wessex Archaeology Ltd is a company limited by guarantee registered in England, company number 1712772. It is also a Charity registered in England and Wales number 287786, and in Scotland, Scottish Charity number SC042630. Our registered office is at Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP4 6EB.

Disclaimer

The material contained in this report was designed as an integral part of a report to an individual client and was prepared solely for the benefit of that client. The material contained in this report does not necessarily stand on its own and is not intended to nor should it be relied upon by any third party. To the fullest extent permitted by law Wessex Archaeology will not be liable by reason of breach of contract negligence or otherwise for any loss or damage (whether direct indirect or consequential) occasioned to any person acting or omitting to act or refraining from acting in reliance upon the material contained in this report arising from or connected with any error or omission in the material contained in the report. Loss or damage as referred to above shall be deemed to include, but is not limited to, any loss of profits or anticipated profits damage to reputation or goodwill loss of business or anticipated business damages costs expenses incurred or payable to any third party (in all cases whether direct indirect or consequential) or any other direct indirect or consequential loss or damage.

Document Information

Document title College Road, Campdown
Document subtitle Initial Heritage Benefits Statement
Document reference 303420.2

Client name Dandara Southern LTD
Address Roman House
 South Hampshire Industrial Estate
 Eddystone Road
 Totton
 Southampton
 SO40 3SA

Site location Crookhorn, Waterlooville
County Hampshire
National grid reference 469160, 107200
Statutory designations Scheduled Monument NHLE:1001859
Planning authority Havant Borough Council
Planning reference APP/23/00488

Project management by Liz Govier
Document compiled by Talia Hunt
Graphics by Talia Hunt

Quality Assurance

Issue	Date	Author	Approved by
1	17/12/2024	NH	 LG
2	06/02/2025	NH	 LG



College Road, Campdown

Heritage Benefits Statement

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Dandara Southern Ltd ('the client'), to prepare an Initial Heritage Benefits Statement for land at College Road, Campdown, Purbrook, Hampshire (hereafter 'the Site'), centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 469085, 107012.
- 1.1.2 Following a second round of consultation with Historic England (received 13/05/24, ref: P01563558), it was determined that further works relating to the heritage interest of the Site are required. This report comprises one of the three supplementary documents requested.
- 1.1.3 This report outlines a heritage benefit strategy that aims to positively enhance those heritage assets which have been identified to be potentially impacted by the development scheme, and as such offset any possible negative impact upon their significance. An outline strategy for the delivery of the heritage benefits to mitigate potential adverse impacts arising from the proposed development will be presented.
- 1.1.4 This document will also support the Scheduled Monument Consent application for the Roman villa and section of Roman road southwest of Littlepark Wood' Scheduled Monument (National Heritage List for England (NHLE) 1001859), and the forthcoming Heritage Management Plan.

2 SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

2.1 Designated Heritage Assets within the Site

- 2.1.1 The 'Roman villa and section of Roman road southwest of Littlepark Wood' Scheduled Monument (NHLE: 1001859) lies in the northern part of the Site. The portion of the Scheduled area that contains the villa buildings themselves has been determined by geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation of the site.
- 2.1.2 A short stretch of Roman road, which linked settlements at Chichester and Bitterne, is included within the Scheduled Monument, where it passes to the south of the villa. Archaeological investigation indicates that, within the Site, the road survives as a sub-surface metalled track with flanking ditches, as well as earthworks perceptible from the current ground level. The majority of the Roman road, which bisects the Site, is not included within the Scheduling. However, elements of the road within the Site which are not statutorily protected are considered of equally high archaeological importance to those that are.
- 2.1.3 The Scheduled Monument is a site of national importance, derived from its archaeological and historic interests. The monument boundary around the Roman villa and road includes a 5m margin for the support and protection of the monument. This incorporates land between the core features of the villa compound and road where associated buried archaeological deposits are known to be preserved.

2.2 Undesignated archaeological remains

- 2.2.1 Previous archaeological investigation within and immediately beyond the Site, including geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation, have highlighted good potential for further archaeological remains to survive immediately beyond the Scheduled site's boundaries. However, given that the dimensions of the Scheduled area have been determined by previous archaeological investigation, any further below-ground archaeological remains beyond it are considered to be of lower significance. Overall, it is considered that archaeological remains should be anticipated throughout the proposed open green space.
- 2.2.2 At the time of writing, an additional archaeological evaluation was yet to be undertaken within the Site (Beltane Heritage Ltd 2024).

2.3 Anticipated Impacts

- 2.3.1 No built development or hard landscaping is proposed within the known villa location, thus protecting the archaeological remains that have been deemed the most significant. However, work of any kind within the Scheduled area, including the proposed cycle path, vegetation removal, siting of signage and seating, and creating mown or gravel paths etc will require Scheduled Monument Consent ahead of construction.
- 2.3.2 Any excavation/sub-surface impact within the surrounding green space/public area has the potential to disturb or truncate any archaeology within its footprint. Therefore, any as-yet unknown, undesignated remains within the green space could potentially be impacted by the proposed works.
- 2.3.3 Currently, in order to experience the setting of the villa site and Roman road, knowledge of their existence is required, and the historic landscape remains largely imperceptible. It has previously been established that the setting of the Roman villa site will be affected by the proposed development, due to a change in the character of their setting from an open grassland landscape more similar to the original setting of the villa, to residential district. However, given the potential benefits of the proposal (see section 3, below) this change is deemed acceptable.
- 2.3.4 Heritage impacts are discussed in full in the Heritage Impact Assessment (MOLA 2023) and associated Addendum (Wessex Archaeology 2024).

3 HERITAGE BENEFITS AND INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This section outlines proposals for the implementation of enhanced interpretation materials and monument maintenance activities.

3.2 Development proposals

- 3.2.1 The design proposes to provide an extended area of open space within which the Roman villa and road monument can be appreciated and experienced. The majority of this area will comprise long-species rich grassland, with a community orchard established to the west of the Scheduled Monument, two plays areas to the east and south, and low-impact footpaths (i.e. mown routeways) providing access.
- 3.2.2 Any groundworks within the Scheduled Monument will require Scheduled Monument Consent. This includes footings for interpretation boards and artworks, and planting. No dig

options should be considered in the first instance within the Scheduled area, to avoid impacts to the archaeological interest of the monument.

- 3.2.3 Examples of interpretation boards, artworks and playgrounds, as well as inspiration and suggested content are included in Appendix 1.

3.3 Interpretation boards

- 3.3.1 Interpretation boards are to be placed in various positions in the vicinity of the Scheduled Monument, including on each side of the Roman road, and in the vicinity of the villa buildings. These will highlight the heritage value of the monument and link it into the wider heritage landscape beyond the Site. Crucially, the interpretation boards will highlight the existence of the Roman remains, which as sub-surface features, are not readily appreciated by the public.

- 3.3.2 It has been suggested that interpretation boards are tall or take the form of columns or screens that would be reminiscent of the stone Roman milestones used as waymarkers along Roman roads. These could also offer the opportunity to incorporate artwork into the scheme to further enrich the visitor experience (see **section 3.4**)

- 3.3.3 Interpretation boards within the Site could include the following types of information:

- A plan view of features within the Scheduled Monument, with key structural elements and the viewer's location highlighted
- Text describing the Scheduled Monument – how it was discovered, what archaeological works have been undertaken, and why the remains are important. References to other Roman sites in the local area could be made, to illustrate the villa's wider context
- Interpretive images of how the villa, road and surrounding landscape would have originally appeared
- Text directing the public to take in particular views, such as towards Bevis' Grave Long Barrow to the south and along the length of the Roman road, and highlighting the above-ground evidence of the archaeology
- Photographs of reconstructed Roman villas
- Text providing background information on construction methods and usages of Roman roads in Britain, and life within a rural Roman villa
- Photographs and archaeological drawings of associated finds
- Photographs taken during previous archaeological investigations, including aerial shots of the remains and close-ups of individual structural elements
- Photographs/records taken from the earliest excavations in the 1920s (if available)
- QR codes (see below)

- 3.3.4 The Interpretation Boards can make use of QR codes and online content which allows for additional information to be provided. These can also be used where there is a desire to minimise intrusion of modern elements and additional street furniture as they can be placed

on a simple bollard or attached to existing structures. Additionally, the historical wording and terminology can be updated, allowing for clear, inclusive explanations and information regarding the villa site and road to be displayed.

- 3.3.5 Interpretation boards could be used to demarcate the route of the Roman road, which at present is largely imperceptible in the landscape. These could be aligned to lead the viewer's eye along the route. Other ways to achieve this are explored below.
- 3.3.6 All text should be in simple, non-technical and engaging language and appropriately sized font. The exact locations and content of the boards will be agreed in collaboration with Historic England and Havant Borough Council.

3.4 Public artworks

- 3.4.1 It has been proposed that artworks, inspired by the Roman remains, are to be placed within the public open space. The form, design and location of these pieces are yet to be determined.
- 3.4.2 Ahead of commissioning the artwork, a brief will be required for the artist. This must include:
- The aim of the artwork (to promote the presence of the Scheduled Monument to a wider audience, and therefore enhance its significance)
 - Where the artwork will be installed. Details should be given about the sensitive placement of the work with regards to sub-surface impacts within the Scheduled Monument boundaries
 - The necessary theme(s) of the artwork (i.e. Roman, in particular Roman villas and roads)
 - Background information of the Scheduled Monument. It may help the artist to know the planned content of the interpretation boards
- 3.4.3 Structural and artistic elements present within Romano-British villas could be incorporated into the artwork, such as locally popular motifs of wall paintings and mosaics. The artwork could also be used to demarcate the Roman road, perhaps by leading the viewer's eye along its route.
- ### **3.5 Playgrounds**
- 3.5.1 It has been proposed that the layout and play equipment of the playgrounds will be inspired by the Roman remains.
- 3.5.2 The Castrum Play Space (meaning *fort* in Latin) Play equipment will incorporate wooden towers in combination with other pieces laid out in a rectangle to resemble a Roman fort or courtyard to encourage imaginative play.
- 3.5.3 The Via Play Space (meaning *road* in Latin) is aligned with the route of the Roman Road. A shallow linear channel is proposed running parallel to the road, which can be crossed in different ways, either by a rope bridge or a suspension bridge. The channel is a reference to the typical structure of Roman roads, which were constructed with drainage ditches to either side.

- 3.5.4 The inclusion of information panels (particularly those aimed specifically at children) would also educate children on the history of Roman roads and villas in Britain

3.6 Landscaping and Vegetation

- 3.6.1 It is proposed that mown pathways can be utilised as a low impact way to direct visitors to key vantage points, and to demarcate the alignment of the Roman road. It should be noted that mown pathways require a low-level, but frequent form of maintenance. The suggested routeways could therefore be intermittently obscured. Such details will be addressed in the Historic Environment Management Plan.
- 3.6.2 It is proposed that the building footprint of the key buildings within the villa complex (based on the geophysical results) are mapped and laid out on the surface in the form of gravel paths. This will allow visitors to experience and appreciate the scale and layout of the villa and the heritage of the Site. The current footpath already directs walkers to the villa complex, and it is proposed that the current route is preserved.
- 3.6.3 Benches will overlook the site of the villa are proposed; simple solid stone benches that reflect ancient building practices, and could incorporate sandblasted lettering.
- 3.6.4 There is also a potential for the use of gravel to demarcate the layout of the villa buildings in an unobtrusive way. This could tie in with information provided on an interpretation board.
- 3.6.5 To demarcate the line of the Roman Road, an avenue of trees is proposed along its route. These will be offset from the location of the road to safeguard against any disturbance to the archaeological remains.
- 3.6.6 Interpretation boards are also proposed at the community orchard, and will explain the link between the Roman and the history of orchards in Britain.

4 CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1.1 This Initial Heritage Benefits Statement has outlined the potential positive contributions made by the proposed scheme upon the significance of the designated heritage assets within the Site.
- 4.1.2 Overall, the proposed public works will have a decidedly positive impact on the significance of the Scheduled Roman villa and road, through revealing the presence and significance of the remains to a wider audience.
- 4.1.3 Any development or landscaping within the boundary of the Scheduled Monument will be subject to Scheduled Monument Consent.
- 4.1.4 Other possible benefits to the monument are also anticipated through long-term management strategies, such as vegetation management, to be addressed in the Historic Environment Management Plan.



REFERENCES

- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.*
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46> .
- Beltane Heritage Ltd 2024 Roman Fields, Campdown: Written Scheme of Investigation
- Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) [December] 2023. *National Planning Policy Framework.*
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65829e99fc07f3000d8d4529/NPPF_December_2023.pdf
- DCMS 2013. *Scheduled Monuments: & nationally important but non-scheduled monuments*
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/scheduled-monuments-policy-statement>.
- L-P Archaeology 2022 *Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: College Road, Havant*
- MOLA 2023 *College Road, Campdown, Purbrook, Hampshire: Heritage Impact Assessment Report*
No. 4335L-HIA-v1.8
- Wessex Archaeology 2024 *College Road, Campdown: Addendum to Heritage Impact Assessment*
unpublished report 303420.1

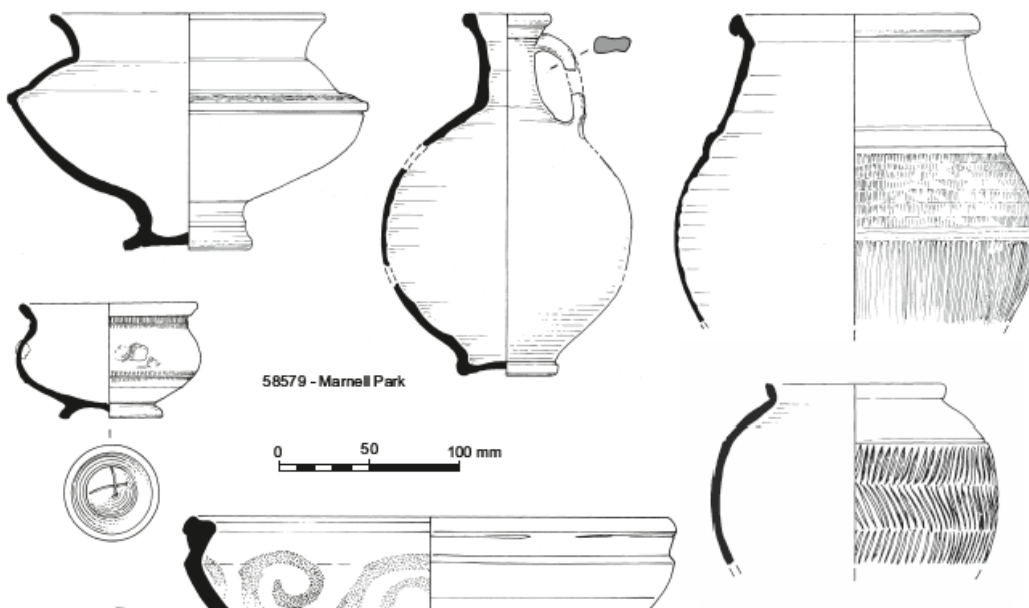
APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Inspiration and Suggested Content

Examples of Interpretation Boards designed by Wessex Archaeology in situ:



Wessex Archaeology Example Content for interpretation boards





Examples of Roman-themed Playgrounds:

<https://www.playdale.co.uk/case-study/remembering-the-romans-at-caersws-play-area/>

<https://www.externalworksindex.co.uk/entry/155359/Proludic-Play-and-Sports-Areas/Romanthemed-play-park-for-coastal-town/>

Example of reconstructed Roman Villa, at nearby Butser Ancient Farm, Chalton, Hampshire:

<https://www.butserancientfarm.co.uk/blog/roman-villa-renovations-complete>

Example of Roman-inspired public artworks:

<https://www.southwater-pc.gov.uk/roman-lane-art-project>

Examples of nearby Roman Villas (both in West Sussex):

<https://www.bignorromanvilla.co.uk/>

<https://sussexpast.co.uk/attraction/fishbourne-roman-palace/>



Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk

