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**Innovation Centre**

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**Archaeology Statement**  
Wessex Archaeology

*31 January 2014*





**iESE New Innovation Centre, Daedalus Airfield  
Lee-on-Solent, Hampshire**

**Written Scheme of Investigation  
for Archaeological Mitigation**

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\* I = Internal Draft; E = External Draft; F = Final

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# **iESE New Innovation Centre, Daedalus Airfield Lee-on-Solent, Hampshire**

## **Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Mitigation**

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Figure 1: Location of Site



# **iESE New Innovation Centre, Daedalus Airfield Lee-on-Solent, Hampshire**

## **Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Mitigation**

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Project background**

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology has been commissioned by Leadbitter to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation to support a planning application for the New Innovation Centre development at Daedalus Airfield, Lee-on-Solent (hereafter 'the Site', **Figure 1**), centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 456826 101745.
- 1.1.2 Daedalus Airfield has been identified as the Solent Enterprise Zone, designated as a key area for business and economic growth. The proposed development is for an Innovation Centre situated on the south-eastern edge of the airfield to provide office and workshops for new businesses. The Site lies immediately to the north-west of the new CEMAST area, which has been the subject of recent archaeological investigation. The results of this investigation, and earlier studies, indicated that the area of the New Innovation Centre is likely to have a high potential to contain significant archaeological remains.
- 1.1.3 Initial consultation with the Hampshire County Council archaeological officer (Hannah Fluck), who advises the Local Planning Authority, has indicated that, at this stage, a post-determination programme of archaeological mitigation under a planning condition would be acceptable. It is anticipated that this mitigation would be similar to that undertaken on the adjacent CEMAST area, namely a programme of archaeological Strip, Map and Record excavation, undertaken during the initial ground works.
- 1.1.4 However, the Hampshire County Council archaeological officer has also indicated that any planning submission should be accompanied by a short Heritage Statement outlining the known archaeological resource and an evaluation of the potential impacts of the development. In addition, the Heritage Statement should be accompanied by a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the archaeological work to be undertaken on the Site.
- 1.1.5 Accordingly, this Written Scheme of investigation (WSI) is intended to set out in detail the archaeological work to be undertaken by Wessex Archaeology as mitigation during the initial phase of construction. This WSI has been prepared in accordance with best practice.

#### **1.2 The Site**

- 1.2.1 Daedalus Airfield is situated within the town of Lee-on-Solent, some 5km to the south of Fareham and 4km to the west of Gosport. The Site comprises approximately 0.8 hectares of land situated within the south-eastern part of the airfield. The development area lies immediately to the north-west of the recent CEMAST development and to the south-east of the taxi apron.

- 1.2.2 The Site is currently part of a grassed area around the edge of the active airfield. A hanger and associated tarmac apron also lie within the Site.
- 1.2.3 The Site is located at a height of approximately 8 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The underlying geology of the area is brickearth over river terrace deposits of sand and gravel (British Geological Survey). The underlying gravel deposits are mapped as belonging to Terrace 2 of the Eastern Solent, dating from MIS 7, c. 200 kya (Briant *et al* 2009, 25-32) and have been identified as potentially containing Palaeolithic archaeological remains.
- 1.2.4 The evaluation carried out within the CEMAST area identified the top of the gravel terrace deposits (potentially containing Palaeolithic archaeology) at a depth of between 1.75m to 1.80m below the present ground surface, sealed by brickearth and topsoil/subsoil deposits.

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

- 2.1.1 A detailed archaeological and historical background is contained and discussed in the accompanying Heritage Statement (Wessex Archaeology 2013b). A summary of the main conclusions only is provided here.

### **2.2 Archaeological potential**

- 2.2.1 A number of discoveries near to the Site, including previous investigations on the adjacent CEMAST site suggest possible prehistoric and/or later activity may be present. Strip, Map and Record excavation of the CEMAST area revealed a limited number of archaeological features indicating human activity dating from the late prehistoric (Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age) to post-medieval periods (Wessex Archaeology 2013a).
- 2.2.2 This activity is likely to be related to known sites on the Hampshire Historic Environment Record such as the nearby Bronze Age midden and hearth site, as well as documented evidence for a medieval settlement and associated chapel.
- 2.2.3 It has also been noted that the terrace gravels which underlie the brickearth at depths of around 1.75m bgl have the potential to contain Palaeolithic material. In addition, the proposed development area contains a historic structure, a Fromson Massillon hanger, which would be demolished as part of the proposed development

## **3 Impacts**

- 3.1.1 Although the specific design detailing the construction methods is not yet finalised it is anticipated that ground reduction will need to take place across some or all of the Site. Work on the adjacent CEMAST site indicates that archaeological features cut into the natural brickearth are likely to be found at depths of between 0.40-0.70m below the current ground level.
- 3.1.2 In discussion with the Hampshire Archaeological Officer, it has been agreed that the initial ground reduction works across the Site would be covered by a continuous archaeological attendance, with mapping and excavation of archaeological features as they are revealed (Strip, Map and Record).
- 3.1.3 The outline design proposal indicates that the building will be a steel frame on concrete pad foundations. The size and position of these is not yet finalised but are likely to be in the region of 1.5m x 1.5m x 2.0m on a 7.2x7.2m grid. Therefore, these pad excavations



will potentially impinge upon the terrace gravel deposits. Due to the potential for Palaeolithic archaeology within these deposits, a watching brief may be required to monitor their excavation and the gravel extracted.

- 3.1.4 As the Fromson Massillon hanger to be demolished forms part of the military history of the site, a Level 1 building survey (as defined by *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice*, English Heritage 2006) would be an appropriate means to record this before its removal.

## **4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **4.1 Project aim and objectives**

- 4.1.1 With due regard to the *IfA Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation, investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* and *watching brief* (IfA 2008), the generic aim of the project can be defined as;

- *To enable the preservation by record of any archaeological features, buildings or deposits uncovered or extant, and to establish the extent (where possible), date, character, relationship, condition and significance of surviving archaeological features, artefacts and deposits within the area to be impacted by construction work*
- *To place any identified archaeological remains within their historical context, particularly with reference to the known prehistoric and medieval remains in the immediate and wider area.*

## **5 METHODOLOGY**

### **5.1 Hanger recording**

- 5.1.1 It should be noted that the Client (Leadbitter) have been informed that the current landowner (HCA) will be responsible for, and undertake, the demolition of the hanger, and three other similar structures within the wider airfield, before the development site is released for construction. It is anticipated that the current landowners will commission appropriate recording in advance of demolition.
- 5.1.2 A photographic record will be made by one of Wessex Archaeology's experienced buildings archaeologists of the hangers due to be demolished, prior to the commencement of the proposed works. In addition, a brief on-site written description will be made.
- 5.1.3 The building recording will be carried out using a high-quality digital photographic record and field notes on its design, condition and location prior to its demolition. In addition, illustrative plans of the layout of the building from existing archives will be collected and used in the reporting, summarising the known history of the building and place it within its historical context.
- 5.1.4 The work will be commensurate with the scope of a Level 1 record, as defined in *Understanding Historic Buildings; a guide to good recording practice* (English Heritage 2006).
- 5.1.5 The photographic record will be made using a Canon 5D digital camera (with 12 megapixel capability) to an appropriate level of detail commensurate with a Level 1 photographic survey. A photographic scale of appropriate size will be included in detailed views.



- 5.1.6 A selection of the photographic record will be used to illustrate the final report. Annotated plans showing the location of photographic plates used to illustrate the report will be included as figures in the report. The full photographic record, together with copies of the marked up plans and the photo gazetteer will be included in the site archive.

## **5.2 Strip, map and record**

- 5.2.1 Removal of overburden within the Site will be undertaken using a 360°-mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket, which will operate under constant archaeological supervision. All overburden will be removed to the top of the natural brick earth geology or the top of archaeological deposits, whichever is higher. Where archaeological features are identified all remains will be hand cleaned where necessary and then surveyed.
- 5.2.2 During the course of the stripping, all potential archaeological features and spoil removed will be scanned by a metal detector to ensure that any significant features or material are identified/collected at an early stage of the fieldworks.
- 5.2.3 On-site discussion with the Hampshire Archaeological Officer will be undertaken during the course of the initial stripping to review the on-going results.
- 5.2.4 A sufficient sample will be excavated from archaeological features (e.g. ditches, pits, post-holes *etc.*) encountered to fulfil the aims and objectives of the required archaeological mitigation.
- 5.2.5 However, the following strategy will be employed as a standard sample level:
- At least 50% (by plan area) of each discrete archaeological feature (e.g. postholes and pits). A larger sample of prehistoric features or later industrial or structural features may be taken after consultation with the Hampshire Archaeological Officer
  - Sufficient lengths of all ditches, linear boundaries *etc.* (at least a minimum of 10% of the total length) will be excavated in order to elucidate the date, character, relationships and function of the feature. All ditch/enclosure terminals will be investigated along with feature intersections.

## **5.3 Watching brief**

- 5.3.1 The current design details have yet to be finalised though it is currently proposed that the building will consist of a steel frame on pad foundations. These pad excavations may impinge on the terrace gravel deposits, although the extent of this impact is yet to be determined.
- 5.3.2 At present, the initial advice from the Hampshire Archaeological Officer is that if the overall impact from the pad excavation on the top of the gravel terrace deposits is relatively small, then there would be no requirement for a watching brief. However this would need to be confirmed once the design details have been finalised.
- 5.3.3 If a watching brief is required, then there will be a constant watching brief attendance during the excavation of the pad foundations. Attending archaeological staff will be experienced in the identification of Palaeolithic material and will assess excavated gravels for Palaeolithic artefacts. If such artefacts are encountered, hand sieving of these deposits may be required.

## 5.4 Recording

- 5.4.1 All features and deposits will be recorded using Wessex Archaeology's standard methods and *pro forma* recording system, with all features and deposits being assigned a unique number. A full graphic record will be maintained. Plans and sections will be produced at a scale of 1:20 and 1:10, where appropriate. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels will be calculated, with plans and sections annotated with OD heights. The location of features will be accurately surveyed by GPS and tied into the OS National Grid.
- 5.4.2 A full photographic record will be maintained using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. This will illustrate both the detail and the general context of the principal features and the site as a whole. Digital images will be subject to managed quality control and curation processes which will embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set.
- 5.4.3 Wessex Archaeology's *Guidelines for Environmental Sampling* will be used for the sampling archaeological and environmental deposits and structures. Where appropriate bulk environmental soil samples, normally up to 40 litres, for plant macro-fossils/charred plant remains, small animal bones and other small artefacts will be taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated/datable archaeological deposits. The residues and sieved fractions of the bulk environmental soil samples will be recorded and retained with the project archive.
- 5.4.4 Where deposits or features containing a significant environmental potential are identified, advice will be sort of, regarding sampling size and strategy, from the appropriate WA specialist and the English Heritage Regional Science advisor.
- 5.4.5 All artefacts from excavated contexts will be retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. In such circumstances, sufficient artefacts will be retained in order to elucidate the date and/or function of the feature or deposit. Material of undoubtedly modern date will be noted but not retained.
- 5.4.6 All artefacts will, as a minimum, be washed, weighed, counted and identified. Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions will be dealt with immediately in line with *First Aid for Finds* (Leigh, Watkinson and Neal 1998). Ironwork from stratified contexts will be X-rayed and stored in a stable environment along with other fragile and delicate material. The X-raying of objects and other conservation needs will be undertaken either by the staff of the Wiltshire Museums and Library Service Conservation Consortium or by Wessex Archaeology's in-house conservator.
- 5.4.7 Suitable material, primarily the pottery, worked flint and non-ferrous metalwork will be assessed, the results of which will form part of the assessment report.
- 5.4.8 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in the document *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections* (SMA 1993) with regard to the retention of artefacts and samples. This allows for the discard of selected artefact categories and sample products which are not considered to warrant further analysis.

## 5.5 Treasure

- 5.5.1 If material is recovered which is considered to be covered by the *Treasure Act* of 1996, all necessary information required by the *Treasure Act* (i.e. finder, location, material, date, associated items etc.) will be reported to the County Coroner within 24 hours. In addition, Wessex Archaeology will also notify the Hampshire Archaeological Officer and the Client.



## **5.6 Human remains**

- 5.6.1 In the event of discovery of any human remains, they will be left *in situ*, covered and protected. Following discussions with the Client, Coroner and HCC, the need for and appropriateness of their excavation/removal as part of the works will be determined. Where deemed appropriate human remains will be fully recorded, excavated and removed from the Site subject to compliance with the relevant Ministry of Justice Licence which will be obtained by Wessex Archaeology.
- 5.6.2 Should human remains require excavation, all excavation and post-excavation will be in accordance with the standards set out in IfA Technical Paper 13 *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed remains*. Appropriate specialist guidance/site visits will be undertaken by Jackie McKinley of Wessex Archaeology. The final placing of human remains following analysis will be subject to the requirements of the Ministry of Justice Licence.

## **6 PROCESSING AND ASSESSMENT**

### **6.1 Post-excavation assessment report**

- 6.1.1 Following completion of the archaeological works, a detailed report will be prepared and sent to the Client and the Hampshire Archaeological Officer for comment and approval.
- 6.1.2 On the completion of fieldwork, the following tasks will be undertaken.
- All retained finds will be washed, marked, identified and quantified by feature and/or deposit. A report would be prepared for an interim Area 1 and 2 post-excavation assessment report
  - Environmental samples will be processed, scanned and an assessment of their potential prepared for the report
  - An appropriately illustrated descriptive summary of the archaeological results with an indication of their initial significance will be prepared in the report.
- 6.1.1 On the completion of fieldwork, the following tasks will be undertaken. The report will conform to Annex 2 of Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation (IfA 2008). The report will include;
- A frontis detailing, as a minimum; site name, grid reference, site type (i.e. evaluation), date and duration of the project, site code, area of site, non-technical summary, monuments identified and location of archive
  - An introduction, including project background, description of the site and surrounding area; including geology, topography and hydrography
  - A site location plan tied into OS National Grid
  - Aims and objectives, including a description of the relevant fieldwork and post-fieldwork project methodologies
  - A location plan showing all investigations overlain on an Ordnance Survey map base



- A factual report including tabulated data, describing all archaeological remains (features, artefacts etc.) discovered during the works, and including a consideration of their location, form, function, date, preservation and significance, supported by any appropriate figures or photographs considered necessary

- An assessment of the significance of any archaeological remains

6.1.1 A draft copy of the interim report will be submitted within six months of completing the fieldwork. The final report including figures will also be made available in digital format. Unless specifically instructed otherwise, this will be as a fully hyperlinked and bookmarked Adobe Acrobat PDF file.

6.1.3 A draft copy of the interim report will be submitted within six months of completing the fieldwork. The final report including figures will also be made available in digital format. Unless specifically instructed otherwise, this will be as a fully hyperlinked and bookmarked Adobe Acrobat PDF file.

6.1.4 The information will be deposited within the Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by Hampshire County Council where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or Development Control within the planning process.

## **6.2 OASIS project reporting**

6.2.1 On completion of the interim report, Wessex Archaeology will complete an online OASIS *pro forma* at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> for the works. Wessex Archaeology will also provide the County HER with two paper copies of the interim and final fieldwork reports.

6.2.2 If considered appropriate, a short report on the results of the programme of archaeological recording will be prepared for publication in an appropriate journal.

## **6.3 Archive**

6.3.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with the Hampshire Museums Service. Arrangements for deposition will be agreed in advance with the County Archaeological Officer. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

6.3.2 The complete Site archive, which may include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the appropriate museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; Walker 1990; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

## **7 QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES AND NOMINATED PERSONNEL**

7.1.1 Wessex Archaeology operates a Project Management system. Projects are assigned to individual managers who monitor their progress and quality, and control budgets from inception to completion, in all aspects including Health and Safety etc. Projects are managed in accordance with English Heritage guidelines outlined in the document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE, English Heritage 2006). At all stages the manager will carefully assess and monitor performance of staff and adherence to objectives, timetables and budgets to ensure that the project meets Wessex Archaeology's quality standards and is adequately programmed and resourced within Wessex Archaeology's portfolio of project commitments.

## **7.2 Core project team**

- 7.2.1 The fieldwork will be undertaken in the field by a Project Archaeologist, who will be a member of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and a core member of Wessex Archaeology staff. Overall project supervision and monitoring will be undertaken by the Project Manager, who in turn is monitored by the Regional Team Leader for the Southern region and the Director for Heritage and Fieldwork
- 7.2.2 Wessex Archaeology reserves the right to replace nominated staff with staff of equivalent or greater experience. Notwithstanding, as one of the largest professional archaeological organisations in the country, Wessex Archaeology has sufficient flexibility and resources to ensure all client requirements can be met without compromise.

## **7.3 Other personnel**

- 7.3.1 During the course of the fieldwork and post-excavation, the advice of the following specialists will be sought as necessary:
- *Lorrain Higbee (Wessex Archaeology): Animal bone*
  - *Jacqueline I McKinley (Wessex Archaeology): Human remains*
  - *Rachael Seager Smith and Lorraine Mephram (Wessex Archaeology): Pottery*
  - *Sarah Wyles (Wessex Archaeology): Charred Plant Remains*
  - *Dave Norcott (Wessex Archaeology): Geoarchaeologist*
  - *Matt Rous (Wessex Archaeology): Building specialist*

## **8 TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **8.1 Storage of materials and archives**

- 8.1.1 No charge will be made for the temporary storage of finds or archives during the period when Wessex Archaeology are undertaking analysis or report preparation.
- 8.1.2 However, if, after completion and submission of the report, finds and archives cannot be deposited with the relevant museum due to circumstances beyond Wessex Archaeology's control, a charge will be made for storage.
- 8.1.3 A charge for storage may also be made where a delay is caused by a lack of confirmation of post-fieldwork analyses and report, if the delay exceeds three months.

### **8.2 Copyright**

- 8.2.1 Wessex Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that it will provide an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification or Design.

## **9 INSURANCE AND HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **9.1 Policy and risk assessment**

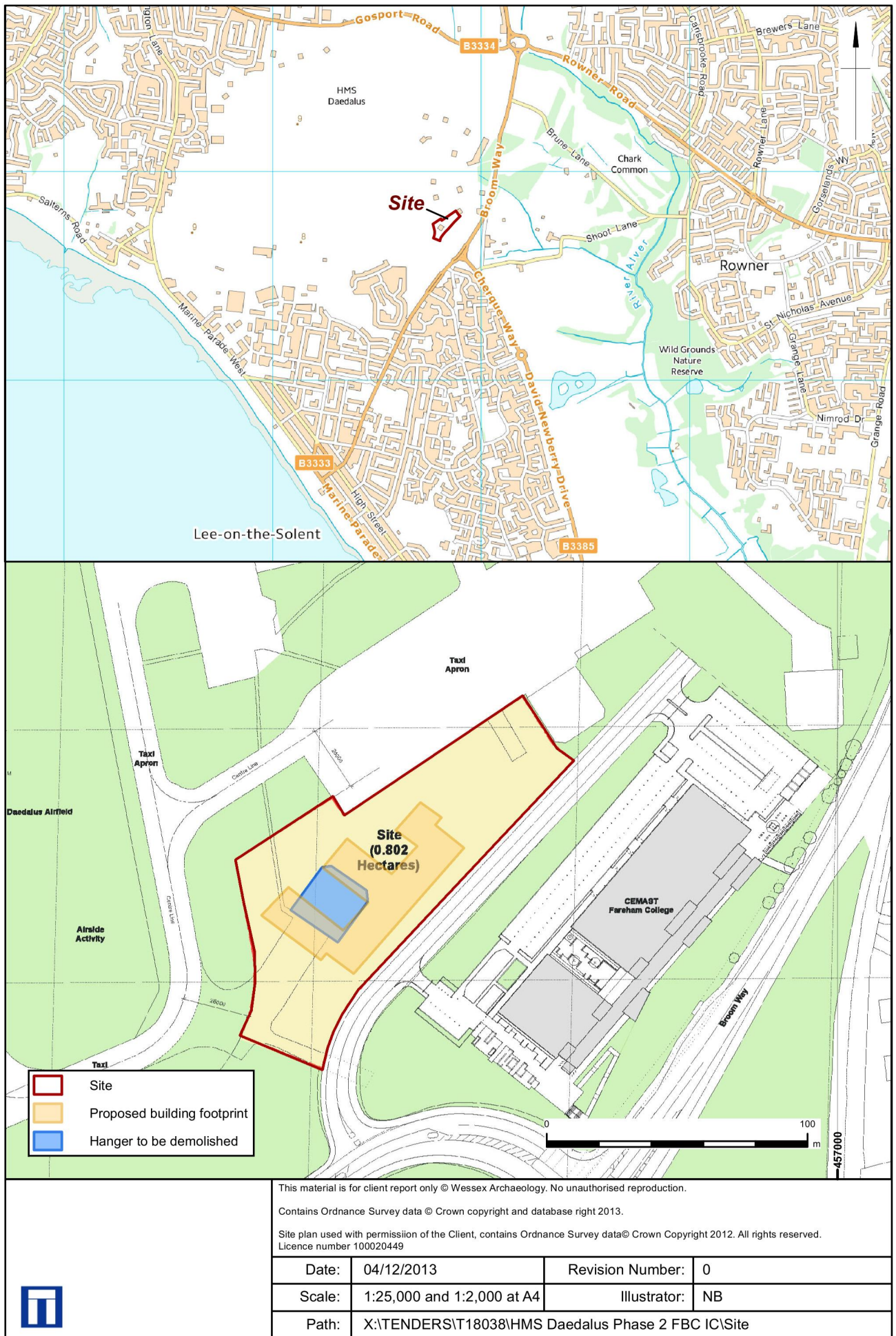


- 9.1.1 Health and safety considerations will be of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practises will override archaeological considerations at all times.
- 9.1.2 All work will be carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974* and the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.
- 9.1.3 Wessex Archaeology will supply a copy of their Health and Safety Policy and a Risk Assessment to the Client before the commencement of any fieldwork. The Risk Assessment will have been read and understood by all staff attending the Site before any groundwork commences.
- 9.1.4 Wessex Archaeology has both public liability (£10,000,000) and professional indemnity insurance (£5,000,000), copies of which can be provided on request.

## 10 REFERENCES

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Location of Site

Figure 1