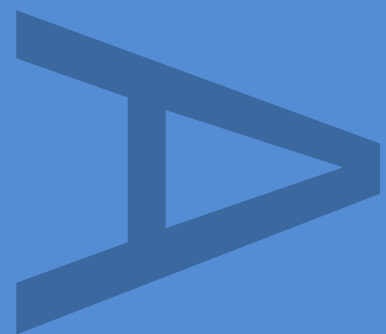


LAND OFF ERSKINE ROAD,
WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EVALUATION REPORT

REPORT NO: R11366

JANUARY 2013



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

**LAND OFF ERSKINE ROAD, WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT**

Issue 1: Issued For Approval
Local Planning Authority: Winchester City Council
Planning reference: 12/02574/FUL
NGR: 447494 129069

Prepared on behalf of: CgMs Consulting
For the Client: A2 Dominion Housing Group Ltd
By: Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (West)

Report Ref: R11366

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DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Land off Erskine Road, Winchester, Hampshire: Archaeological Evaluation Report

Quality Control: Report Reference R11366

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code			K2975
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	P McCulloch		16/01/2013
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Plate 1: Trench 1: General view to east. Scale 1m.

Plate 2: Trench 2: General view to north-east. Scale 1m.

Plate 3: Trench 3: General view to west. Scale 1m.

Figures:

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Trench Location

Figure 3: Sections

1 ABSTRACT

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd was appointed by CgMs Consulting Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land off Erskine Road, Winchester, Hampshire, (centred at NGR 447494 129069). The site is the subject of a proposed residential development by A2 Dominion Housing Group Ltd (Winchester City Council Planning Ref: 12/02574/FUL).

The evaluation comprised three trenches and was carried out on the 8th January 2013.

No archaeological resources were identified in the three evaluation trenches. The relatively greater depth of subsoil recorded in Trench 1 may be accounted for as the result of accumulated colluvium at the base of a natural slope. The mass concrete foundation revealed by Trench 3 appears to indicate that the northern part of the site may have been subject to significant disturbance in the recent past. The result of the evaluation appears to indicate that the site retains no potential for significant archaeological resources to be present.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project Background

2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by CgMs Consulting Ltd (CgMs) to undertake an archaeological evaluation (trial trenches) on land off Erskine Road, Winchester, Hampshire (Figure 1), hereafter 'the site' (centred at NGR 447494 129069). The site is the subject of a proposed residential development by A2 Dominion Housing Group Ltd.

2.1.2 The evaluation forms part of a staged approach to understanding the archaeological implications of the proposed development. This stage was informed by a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by CgMs (2012) and is intended to meet the requirements of the Local Planning Authority's archaeological advisor in respect of, and prior to determination of, a planning application for the proposed development (Winchester City Council planning reference 12/02574/FUL).

2.1.3 This document has been prepared in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (IfA 2008) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage, 2006).

2.1.4 The evaluation fieldwork was carried out on the 8th January 2013.

2.2 Location, Topography and Geology

2.2.1 The site is located to the south of the historic core of Winchester and lies immediately west of the Winchester-Southampton railway line. It is flanked to the south by 'Medecroft', part of the University of Winchester, and to the east and north by housing. The site is currently open and under grass and trees.

2.2.2 The site lies on gently sloping ground, falling from north to south from approximately 50m to 45m above Ordnance Datum.

2.2.3 British Geological Survey mapping for the area shows the site to lie in an area of chalk, with a band of Head deposits running through the southern part of the site. Geotechnical investigations at the site have revealed deposits of made ground 0.2-0.8m thick above deposits of sands, silts and clays, above chalk (CgMs 2012).

2.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.3.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site has been the subject of a desk-based assessment (CgMs 2012, Appendix 1). In summary, the assessment concluded that: 'The site is considered to have a potential for the Roman and medieval periods, as attested by the discovery of funerary remains from these periods to the north, northwest and south of the site'.

3 AIM

3.1 Archaeological Evaluation

- 3.1.1 The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological resources within the site and, where present, determine their nature, extent, date, condition and significance, taking account of their potential to contain biological and palaeo-environmental remains.
- 3.1.2 A report on the results of the evaluation will aim to provide a context for archaeological resource that may be identified and provide sufficient information so that the future treatment of the resource, in respect of the proposed development, can be determined in consultation with the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority.

4 METHOD

- 4.1.1 A unique site code was allocated by Winchester Museums Service: **AY506**. This has been used on all site records and other components of the archive of the evaluation.
- 4.1.2 The evaluation comprised three trenches (Figure 2), 1 no 10mX1.8m and 2 no 20m X 1.8m, as proposed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (CgMs, 2012) and supporting method statement (PCA, 2012). The trenches were set out using a GPS device to ensure their pre-determined location was achieved. The trenches were formed mechanically using a JCB 3CX excavator and on completion of the work were backfilled with arisings. Investigation and recording of the trenches was completed using the methods set out in the WSI.

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The following sections provide a summary of the results of the evaluation based on the site archive. Trench summaries are provided in Appendix 1. The site archive is currently held at PCA's Winchester office.

5.2 Trenches 1-3

5.2.1 Natural deposits recorded at the base of all three trenches comprised degraded chalk and fragmented flint sealed by subsoil and topsoil (Figure 3). In trenches 1 and 2 (Plates 1&2) the degraded chalk was sealed by a stiff mid brown clay loam subsoil 0.2m thick and topsoil 0.2m thick. In Trench 3 (Plate 3), located in the lowest part of the site, the degraded chalk was sealed by orangey brown clay loam subsoil with flint, 0.6m thick, in turn overlain by topsoil 0.33m thick.

5.2.2 No archaeological deposits or features were encountered in the trenches. In Trench 1 a large modern mass concrete foundation was observed, along with modern disturbance cut into the underlying natural degraded chalk.



Plate 1: Trench 1: General view to east. Scale 1m.



Plate 2: Trench 2: General view to north-east. Scale 1m.



Plate 3: Trench 3: General view to west. Scale 1m.

5.3 Discussion

5.3.1 No archaeological resources were identified in the three evaluation trenches. The relatively greater depth of subsoil recorded in Trench 1 may be accounted for as the result of accumulated colluvium at the base of a natural slope. The mass concrete foundation revealed by Trench 3 appears to indicate that the northern part of the site may have been subject to significant disturbance in the recent past.

5.4 Conclusion

5.4.1 The result of the evaluation appears to indicate that the site retains no potential for significant archaeological resources to be present.

6 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

PCA is grateful to Richard Meager at CgMs for commissioning the evaluation on behalf of A2 Dominion Housing Group Ltd, who kindly funded the work, and to Tracy Matthews, Winchester City Council for providing archaeological advice.

The evaluation fieldwork was carried out for PCA by Paul McCulloch, David Ashby and Nathalie Barrett. This report was written by Paul McCulloch and the report illustrations were prepared by Jennifer Simonson.

7 REFERENCES

CgMs, 2012, Written Scheme of Evaluation of an Archaeological Evaluation: Land at Erskine Road Winchester Hampshire, CgMs Ref: RM/14711

PCA, 2012, Land off Erskine Road, Winchester, Hampshire: Method Statement for an Archaeological Evaluation.

APPENDIX 1: Trench Summaries

Trench 1	Dimensions	10m x 1.8m	GL 49.58m aOD	
Context	Description			Depth BGL(m)
100	Mid orange brown silty loam with occasional small chalk and flint frags and gravel. Occasional modern builders sand and concrete frags.			0 -0.5m
101	Compact mid brown orange clay loam with frequent small fragments of chalk and angular pebbles.			0.5m – 0.7m
102	Firm light brown silty clay loam with frequent patches of fragmented chalk.			c.0.7m+

Trench 2	Dimensions	20m x 1.8m	GL 44.38m aOD:	
Context	Description			Depth BGL(m)
200	Dark brown silty clay loam, occasional small pebbles & grit.			0 - 0.2m
201	Compact mid brown orange clay loam with frequent small fragments of chalk and angular pebbles.			0.2 - 0.4m
202	Firm light brown silty clay loam with frequent patches of fragmented chalk.			0.4m +

Trench 3	Dimensions	20m x 1.8m	GL 44.47m aOD:	
Context	Description			Depth BGL(m)
301	Dark brown silty clay loam, occasional small pebbles & grit.			0 - 0.33m
302	Firm orange brown clay loam subsoil with large flint fragments.			0.6 – 0.93m
300	Firm light brown silty clay loam with frequent patches of fragmented chalk.			0.93m +

APPENDIX 2: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: preconst1-141173

Project details

Project name	Erskine Road, Winchester, Hampshire
Short description of the project	Archaeological evaluation of land off Erskine Road, Winchester, comprising three trenches, carried out to inform the archaeological implications of a planning application for new houses. No archaeological features or deposits were revealed.
Project dates	Start: 08-01-2013 End: 08-01-2013
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	AY506 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	K2975 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	12/02574/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Site status	None
Site status	None
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"

Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE WINCHESTER WINCHESTER Land off Erskine Road
Postcode	SO22 4NZ
Study area	1.40 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 476 290 51 -1 51 03 28 N 001 19 14 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 43.54m Max: 48.88m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA West
Project brief originator	CgMs Consultants Ltd
Project design originator	Paul McCulloch
Project director/manager	Paul McCulloch
Project supervisor	Paul McCulloch
Type of sponsor/funding body	Commercial Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	A2 Dominion

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Winchester Museums
Digital Archive ID	AY506

Digital Contents	"Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Winchester Museums
Paper Archive ID	AY506
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Diary", "Drawing", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land off Erskine Road, Winchester, Hampshire: Archaeological Evaluation Report
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Other bibliographic details	R11366
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Description	Client report in A4 format with text and illustrations.

Entered by	Paul McCulloch (pmcculloch@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	16 January 2013

OASIS:

Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

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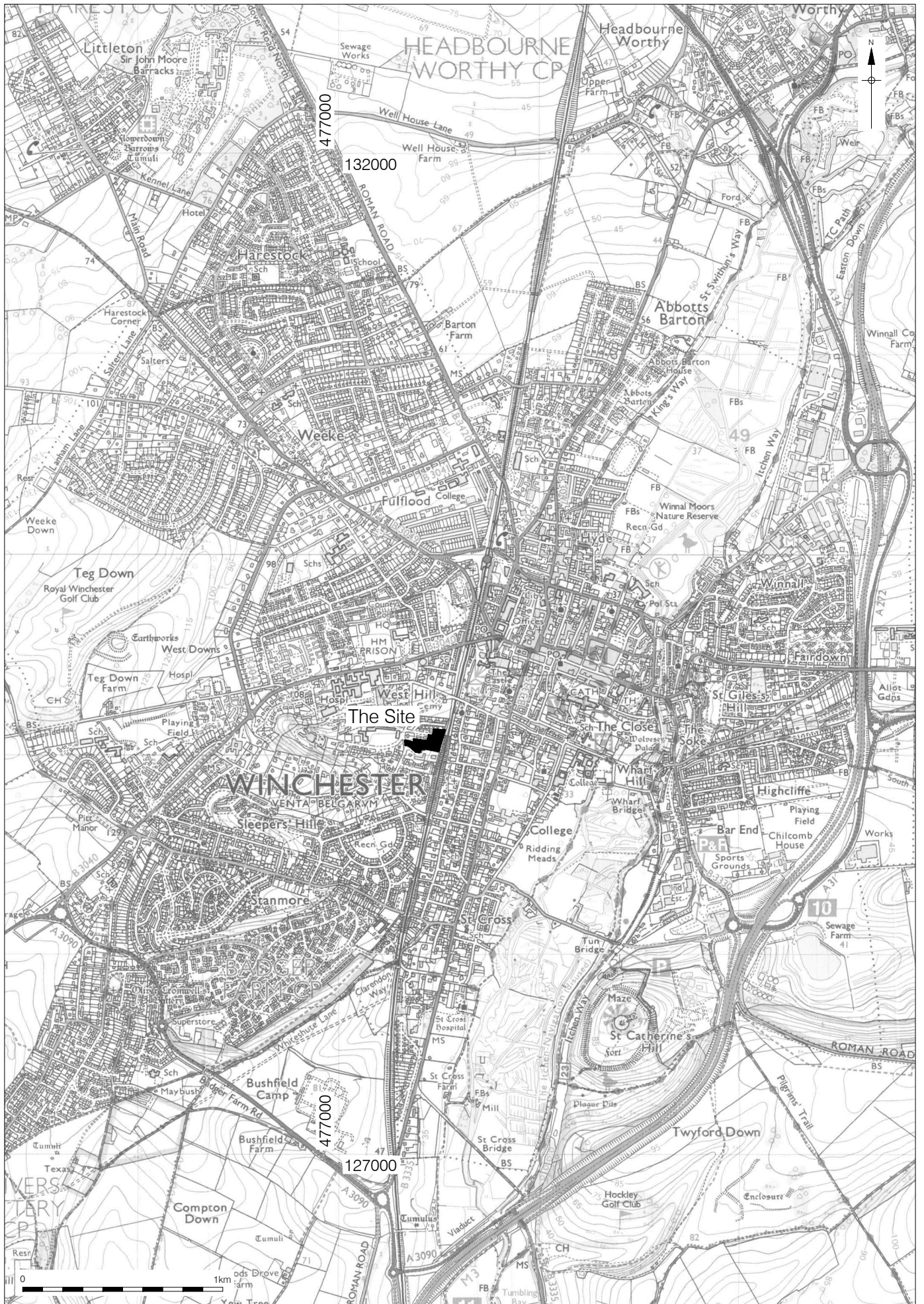
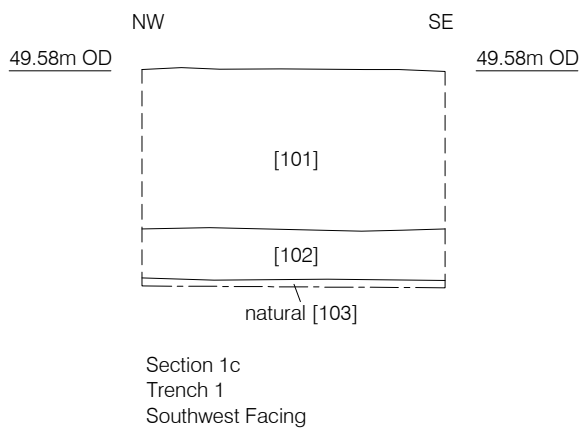
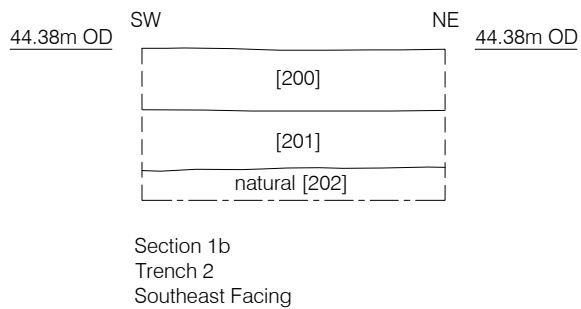
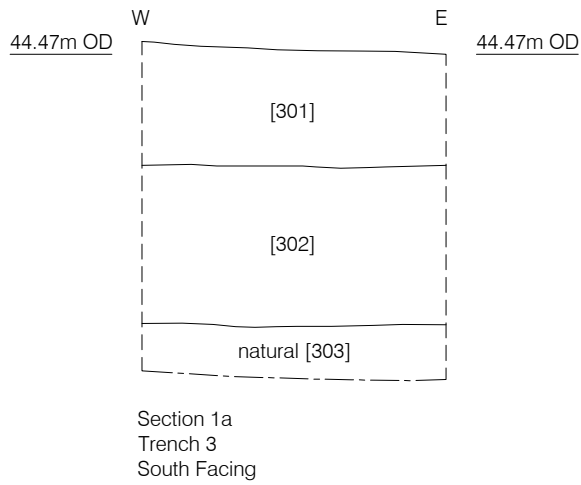


Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:25,000 at A4



Figure 2
Trench Location rev 1
1:750 at A4



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