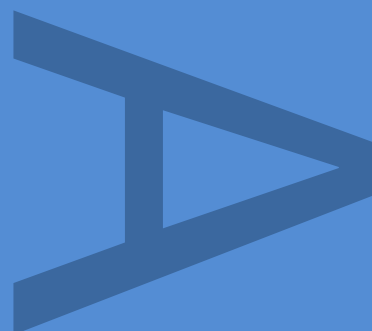


**60-64 ST MARY'S ROAD,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO14 OBL**

**REPORT ON
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EXCAVATION AND
WATCHING BRIEF**

REPORT NO: R12461

MAY 2016



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

60-64 ST MARY'S ROAD, SOUTHAMPTON, SO14 OBL
REPORT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AND WATCHING BRIEF

Site Code: SOU1636

Central NGR: SU 4228 1252

Local Planning Authority: Southampton City Council

Planning Reference: 12/01525/FUL

Commissioning Client: Bouygues UK

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19th May 2016

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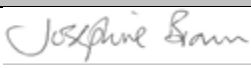

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

60-64 St Mary's Road, Southampton, SO14 OBL

Archaeological Excavation and Watching Brief Report

Report Ref R12461

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code			K4351
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	T Hayes		10/05/2016
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Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Trench and Watching Brief Location

1 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by appointed by Bouygues UK to carry out a programme of archaeological works in advance of development of 60-64 St Mary's Road, Southampton (NGR 442299 112516) hereafter 'the site'. The works were requirements of Conditions 10, 11 & 12 of planning permission for the development granted by the Local Planning Authority Southampton City Council (Planning reference 12/01525/FUL) and based on the advice of the Council's Historic Environment Team Archaeologist (HETA).

A written scheme of investigation (WSI) (PCA 2013) detailing the method by which the works would be undertaken was submitted to and approved by the HETA at Southampton City Council prior to the commencement of the works. The works comprise an archaeological excavation and watching brief. The excavation (undertaken in 2013) was to consist of open area excavation in two trenches, Trench 1 being a re-investigation of a previous area of investigation known as 'SOU379 Trench 1' and Trench 2 a new trench on line of the former Northam Street. Trench 1 was set out following the outline of the previous archaeological excavation 'SOU379. The watching brief (undertaken during February 2016) monitored groundworks to the east of the Site designed to link new storm drains to the existing drainage network.

Machine excavation of Trench 1 was carried out using a 13ton tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket and under constant supervision by PCA and proceeded from south to north within the former excavation trench, re-opening the trench along its entire extent north-south. It was apparent that the base of the former excavation trench was no longer intact and had been reduced mechanically at some point following that excavation, removing all trace of archaeological features that had been previously investigated and recorded. No additional archaeological features or deposits were identified. Trench 2 was set out based on the remaining extent of the former Northam Street, which survived as an island of ground surrounded by the areas of previous archaeological excavations SOU379 and SOU1112. The trench area was mechanically excavated revealing in its northern half the line of several buried services running east-west. The southern half of the trench revealed, immediately beneath the former pavement, intact natural brickearth. No archaeological features or deposits were observed.

At a site meeting with Kevin White, Southampton City Council's HETA on Thursday 19th September 2013, it was agreed that the area of Trench 1 retained no archaeological resources. It was also agreed that two test pits be cut through the natural brickearth exposed in Trench 2 in order to test that the brickearth was indeed natural and not re-deposited and masking deeper archaeological resources. The test pits appeared to confirm that the brickearth was an undisturbed and a natural deposit.

The watching brief, on the service connections, observed modern deposits related to the previous excavations of modern services. No archaeological resources were recorded.

It can be concluded that the excavation and watching brief demonstrated that the site and the service connection trench retained no archaeological resource potential.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project Background

- 2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by appointed by Bouygues UK to carry out a programme of archaeological works in advance of development of 60-64 St Mary's Road, Southampton (NGR 442299 112516) hereafter 'the site' (Figures 1 and 2).
- 2.1.2 The works were requirements of Conditions 10, 11 & 12 of planning permission for the development granted by the Local Planning Authority Southampton City Council (Planning reference 12/01525/FUL) and based on the advice of the Council's Historic Environment Team Archaeologist (HETA).
- 2.1.3 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) (PCA 2013) detailing the method by which the works would be undertaken was submitted to and approved by the HETA at Southampton City Council prior to the commencement of the works. The works comprise an archaeological excavation and watching brief. The excavation was to consist of open area excavation in two trenches, Trench 1 being a re-investigation of a previous area of investigation known as 'SOU379 Trench 1' and Trench 2 a new trench on the line of the former Northam Street (Figure 2). The watching brief followed the commencement of the development, monitoring the formation of drainage and services on the eastern periphery of the site.
- 2.1.4 This document provides a final report on the result of the archaeological excavation and watching brief, expanding upon an interim report prepared in following the initial archaeological excavation (PCA 2014).
- 2.1.5 The WSI provided background information to the works, referencing the results of previous archaeological investigations on the site and a desk-based assessment (PCA 2011).
- 2.1.6 This report was prepared in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (ClfA 2008) and 'The Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (English Heritage 2006).
- 2.1.7 The archaeological excavation was undertaken between the 16th and 24th of September 2013 and the archaeological watching brief was undertaken between the 8th and 12th of February 2016.

2.2 The Site, Topography and Geology

- 2.2.1 The site is bounded to the east by St Mary's Road, Charlotte Place to the north, St Andrew's Road to the west and Compton Walk to the south. The proposed development covers an area of approximately 3134m².

2.2.2 At the time of the excavation the site was open, comprising spoil-heaps, overgrowth, areas of previous groundwork and residual road surfacing; current ground level at the site varies but occurs generally between approximately 10m and 11.6m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). It is apparent that original ground levels on the site have been largely reduced although it is apparent that the site originally sloped down from the west to the east. At the time of the watching brief much of the proposed development had already taken place.

2.3 Archaeological Background

2.3.1 During previous archaeological investigations on the site (SOU379 & SOU1112) it was demonstrated that archaeological resources were better preserved on the eastern frontage, where horizontal deposits were encountered as well as deep pits. Deposits interpreted as evidence of a hollow-way, a pre-cursor of St Mary's Road, were recorded within the eastern frontage and some evidence of a possible track leading west from it was also indicated. The pits contained a typically wide range of artefactual and biological evidence.

2.3.2 It was anticipated that archaeological resources would occur beneath the former access into the site from its eastern boundary. This follows the line of Northam Street, which was originally flanked by Victorian terraces and, by the early 1950's, the site of the Wholesale Co-operative Society building. The building occupied 60-64 St Mary's Road and appears to have been demolished in the 1970's, leaving the relic line of Northam Street as the only evidence of the site's former built-up character.

3 AIMS

3.1 Research objectives

3.1.1 The archaeological works respected the following general objectives:

- To investigate and record all archaeological remains which may be impacted by the development at the site, to ensure that any impact upon them is mitigated.
- To prepare the site archive for assessment, analysis, publication and dissemination prior to being deposited in perpetuity with Southampton City Council.
- To operate within current, relevant archaeological practices and guidelines.
- To operate within current, relevant Health and Safety guidelines and codes.

3.1.2 The archaeological works sought to address the following general research objectives

- To confirm the palaeotopography of the site.
- To determine the presence or absence and extent of archaeological resources of all periods.
- To characterise and date archaeological resources of all periods.
- To establish the extent of past post-depositional impacts on the archaeological resource

3.1.3 Further, more specific, research questions were detailed within the WSI and will not be repeated here.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Methodology

4.1.1 The archaeological investigations were undertaken following the methodology that was set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2013), which was approved on behalf of the Local Planning Authority by the HETA, in advance of the commencement of works.

4.2 Archaeological Excavation

4.2.1 This section sets out the results of the excavation and is based on the site archive for which the unique Southampton City Council site code SOU1636 was allocated. The archive is currently held at PCA's Winchester office and subsequent to the completion of the archaeological works and final report will be deposited with Southampton City Council.

4.2.2 Trench 1 was set out following the outline of the previous archaeological excavation 'SOU379 Trench 1', its eastern and southern extent visible beneath partial backfilling, undergrowth and fly-tipped rubbish. Machine excavation was carried out using a 13ton tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket and under constant supervision by PCA. Mechanical excavation proceeded from south to north within the former excavation trench, re-opening the trench along its entire extent north-south (**Plates 1-4**).

4.2.3 Using photographs from the previous SOU379 Trench 1 excavation to compare, it was apparent that the base of the former excavation trench was no longer intact and had been reduced mechanically at some point following that excavation, removing all trace of archaeological features that had been previously investigated and recorded. No additional archaeological features or deposits were identified.

4.2.4 Trench 2 was set out based on the remaining extent of the former Northam Street, which survived as an island of ground surrounded by the areas of previous archaeological excavations SOU379 and SOU1112. The trench area was mechanically excavated, removing modern surfacing, kerbs and pavement blocks, revealing in its northern half the line of several buried services running east-west. The southern half of the trench revealed, immediately beneath the former pavement, intact natural brickearth. No archaeological features or deposits were observed.

4.2.5 At a site meeting with Kevin White, Southampton City Council's HETA on Thursday 19th September 2013, it was agreed that the area of Trench 1 retained no archaeological resources. It was also agreed that two test pits (TP's 1 & 2) be cut through the natural brickearth exposed in Trench 2 in order to test that the brickearth was indeed natural and not re-deposited and masking deeper archaeological resources. The test pits appeared to confirm that the brickearth was an undisturbed and a natural deposit (**Plates 1-4**).

4.3 Watching Brief

4.3.1 This section sets out the results of a watching brief that was maintained during excavation for the connection of drainage from the new development to existing drainage in the street, on the eastern side of the development.

4.3.2 The work concentrated on joining up two existing drains, with excavations focusing on the course of the existing drains.

4.3.3 The area excavated measured approximately 3m by 1m, extending from the site to the east, projecting approximately 2m into the road. Excavations reached an approximate depth of 1.90m. Beneath modern surfacing layers were a series of modern deposits relating to the backfill of a various utilities that had been previously excavated. As the excavation followed the cut for an earlier storm drain only modern deposits were encountered. Other utilities, at higher levels, passed at perpendicular angles to the storm drain, leaving a highly disturbed section edge which, therefore, revealed no archaeological information (**Plate 5-7**).

4.3.4 The following deposition sequence was encountered:

- 0.00m-0.16m BGL – Tarmac
- 0.16m-0.26m BGL – Concrete
- 0.26m-1.90m BGL – Modern utilities backfill (mixed sand, clay, gravel and modern ceramic building material)

4.3.5 No archaeological resources, significant or otherwise, were observed in the area monitored during the watching brief.

4.4 Conclusion

4.4.1 No archaeological resources, significant or otherwise, were identified in either the archaeological excavation or watching brief. Only modern deposits were observed, indicative of extensive recent disturbance.

4.4.2 It is concluded that the site retained no archaeological resource potential and that the drainage connection trench was formed through modern deposits and disturbed ground.

5 ARCHIVE PREPARATION & DEPOSITION

5.1 The Site Archive

5.1.1 The Site archive, comprising site records and digital photographs, will be prepared in accordance with 'Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage' (UKIC 1990) and the Institute for Archaeologists 'Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives' (ClfA 2014). On completion of the project PCA will arrange for the archive to be deposited in accordance with the provisional arrangements made at the onset of the archaeological investigations with Southampton City Council (SCC), in keeping with the Council's 'Standards for the creation, compilation and transfer of archaeological archives' (SCC 2007).

5.2 Copyright

5.2.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. Southampton City Council, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003. Further distribution and uses of the report either in its entirety or part thereof in paper or electronic form is prohibited without the prior consent of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.

5.2.2 The licence extends to the use of all documents arising from this project in all matters relating directly to the project, as well as for bona fide research purposes (which includes the Southampton Historic Environment Record).

5.2.3 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the content of this report. However, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd cannot accept any liability in respect of, or resulting from, errors, inaccuracies or omissions this report contains.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Bouygues UK for commissioning the work. The help and advice of Kevin White, Historic Environment Team Archaeologist for the City of Southampton is also gratefully acknowledged. The author would like to thank the groundwork contractor Readypower for their help and cooperation during the course of the work. The author would like to thank Hayley Baxter for preparing the report illustrations.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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PCA, 2014 '60-64 St Mary's Road, Southampton, SO14 0BL: Interim Statement on the Results of Archaeological Works', Unpublished client report Ref 11617

Appendix 1: Plates



Plate 1 SOU1636 Trench 1. View to north showing base of stripped trench.



Plate 2 SOU1636 Trench 1 (background) & eastern end of Trench 2 (foreground). View to South



Plate 3 SOU1636 Trench 2, Test Pit 1 (foreground). View to East.



Plate 4 SOU1636 Trench 2, Test Pit 2 (foreground). View to West.



Plate 5 East facing view of monitored excavation (2016)



Plate 6 East facing view of accessed storm drain, showing extensive ground disturbance.



Plate 7 South facing section of monitored excavation, demonstrating modern utilities

Appendix 2: OASIS form

OASIS ID: preconst1-250658

Project details

Project name	60-64 St. Mary's Rd., Southampton
Short description of the project	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by appointed by Bouygues UK to carry out a programme of archaeological works in advance of development of 60-64 St Mary's Road, Southampton (NGR 442299 112516). The works comprise an archaeological excavation and watching brief. The excavation (undertaken in 2013) was to consist of open area excavation in two trenches, Trench 1 being a re-investigation of a previous area of investigation known as 'SOU379 Trench 1' and Trench 2 a new trench on line of the former Northam Street. Trench 1 was set out following the outline of the previous archaeological excavation 'SOU379. The watching brief (undertaken during February 2016) monitored groundworks to the east of the Site designed to link new storm drains to the existing drainage network. Trench 1 and trench 2 revealed no evidence for any archaeological resources and indicated that the base of the previous excavation had been at some point mechanically removed. The watching brief only encountered modern deposits related to the previous excavations of modern services. No archaeological resources were recorded within the area monitored as a part of the watching brief. It can be concluded that the excavation and watching brief demonstrates that the site retained no archaeological resources.
Project dates	Start: 16-09-2013 End: 12-02-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	SOU1636 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 2 - Institutional and communal accommodation
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Full excavation", "Watching Brief"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE SOUTHAMPTON SOUTHAMPTON 60-64 St. Mary's Road, Southampton,
Postcode	SO19 8HG
Study area	3134 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 4228 1252 50.910045857917 -1.398562015838 50 54 36 N 001 23 54 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 10m Max: 11.6m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Southampton City Council
Project design originator	Paul McCulloch
Project director/manager	Paul McCulloch
Project supervisor	Thomas Hayes
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Bouygues UK

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Southampton Museums and Archive Service
Digital Archive ID	SOU1636
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Southampton Museums and Archives Service
Paper Archive ID	SOU1636
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Diary","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Report","Survey "

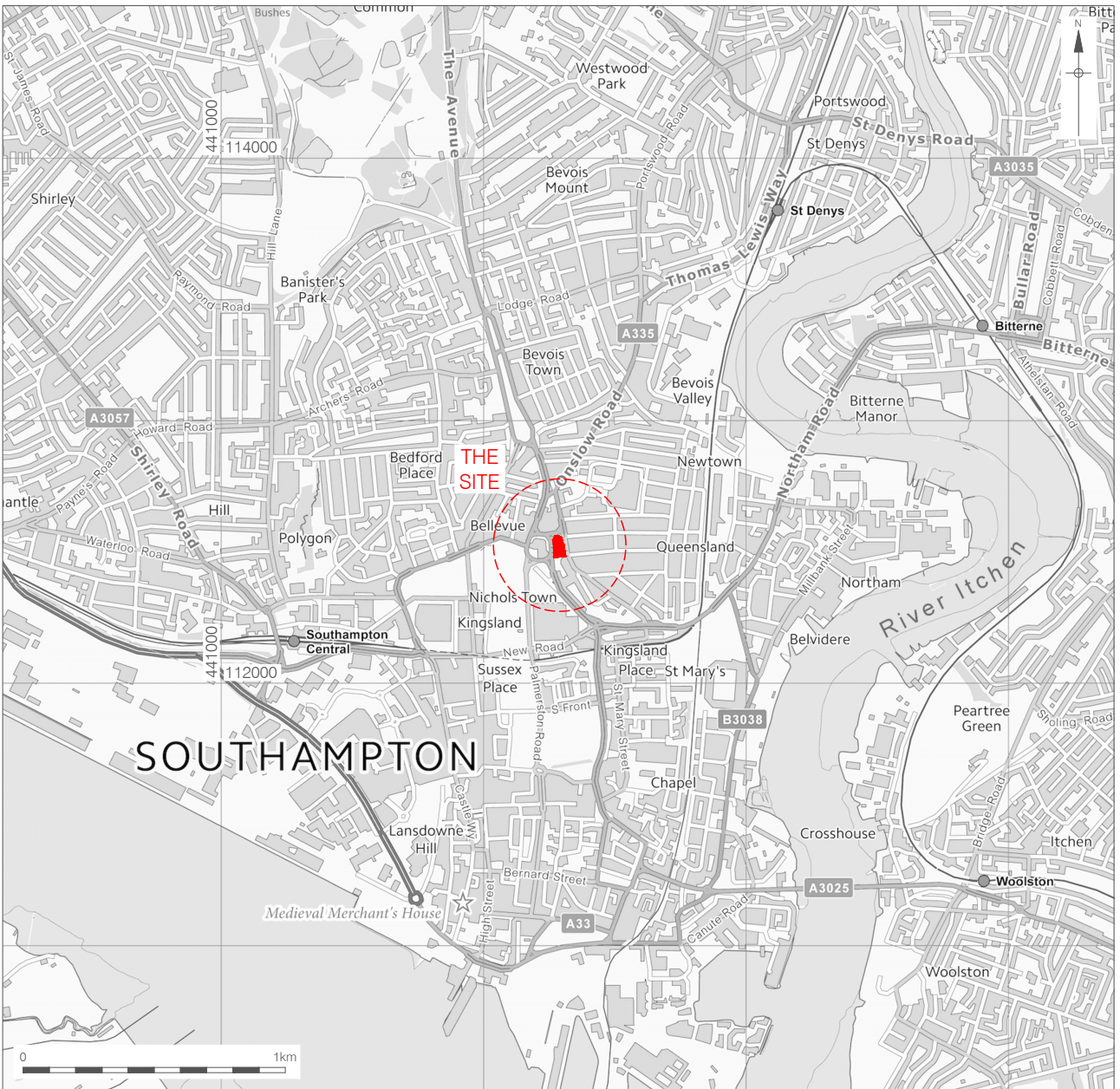
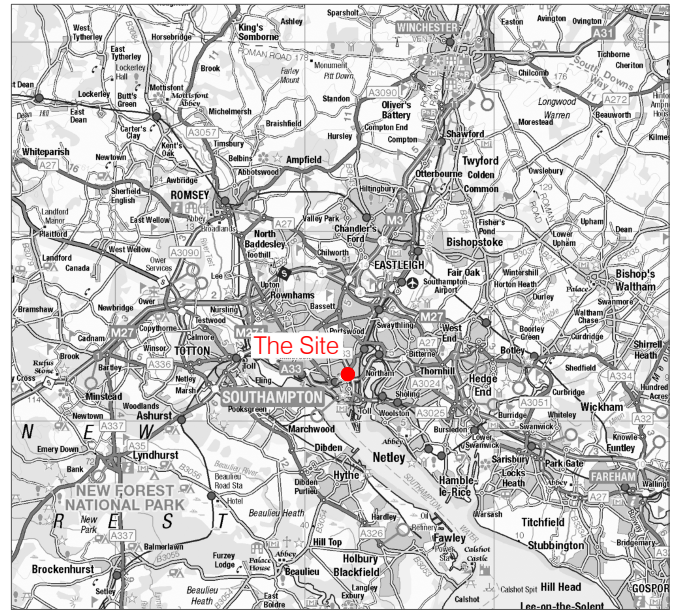
Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	60-64 St. Mary's Road, Southampton, SO19 8HG: Interim Statement of Results of Archaeological Works
Author(s)/Editor(s)	McCulloch, P
Other bibliographic details	R11617
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Winchester

Project

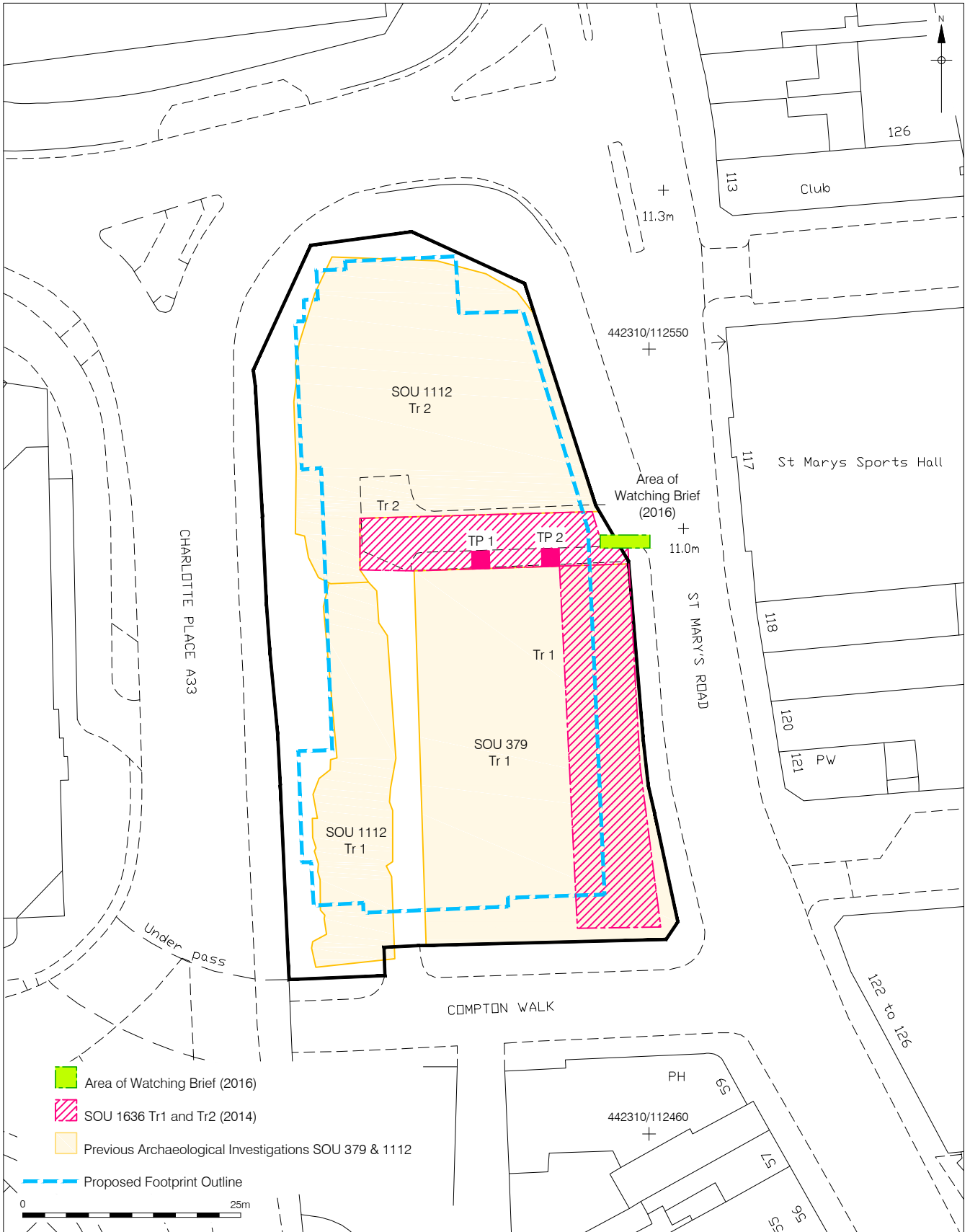
bibliography 2

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hayes, T
Other bibliographic details	R12461
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	Winchester
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Entered by	Thomas Hayes (thayes@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	5 May 2016



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Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:2,000,000, 400,000 & 1:25,000 at A4



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Figure 2
 Plan of 2016 Area of Watching Brief & SOU1636 excavation areas Trenches 1 & 2
 showing Test Pits TP 1 & TP 2 and previous excavation areas
 1:625 at A4

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