## 17 NORTH WALLS, WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE

## AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEST PIT REPORT

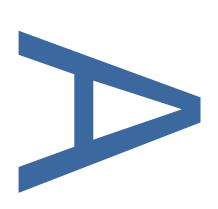
LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY: WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBERS: 17/01424/FUL

**PCA REPORT NO: R13100** 

**SITE CODE: AY635** 

**NOVEMBER 2017** 



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

### 17 NORTH WALLS, WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEST PIT REPORT

Issue 1: Issued for Approval

Site Code: AY635

Central NGR: SU 48297 29818

Local Planning Authority: Winchester City Council

Planning Reference: 17/01424/FUL

Commissioning Client: John Piper

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#### **DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

#### 17 North Walls, Winchester, Hampshire

#### **Test Pit Report**

#### Report Ref R13100

**Quality Control** 

Pre-Construct Arc	K5327		
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	T Hayes		30/11/2017
Graphics Prepared by:	H. Baxter		28/11/2017
Graphics Checked by:	J Brown	Josephire Gam	28/11/2017
Project Manager Sign-off:	P McCulloch	AMMINA	30/11/2017

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Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Detailed Site Location

Figure 3: Proposed Development Plan

Figure 4: Test Pit and Borehole Locations

Figure 5: Test Pit Section

#### 1 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. was commissioned by John Piper to undertake a machine dug archaeological test pit to the rear of 17 North Walls, Winchester, Hampshire. The test pit targeted the southern extent of a proposed development area. This report concerns the results of the archaeological test pit, which was undertaken on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2017

The site is located immediately to the north of the line of City defences, close to the presumed line of the City ditch, an earthwork outside the line of the City wall. Geotechnical boreholes, previously undertaken within the proposed development area, did not indicate the presence of deposits typical of in-fill of the City ditch.

The aim of test pit investigation was to follow up the geotechnical borehole observation and confirm whether evidence for the City ditch extends beneath the site.

The test pit revealed no significant archaeological deposits, features or finds of any type and no evidence of the City ditch. In consequence it is recommended that no further archaeological investigation is required in respect of the proposed development. It is further recommended that this report be submitted toward discharge of the archaeological conditions of planning consent for the development.

#### 2 INTRODUCTION

#### 2.1 Project Background

- 2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA) was appointed by Mr J Piper to carry out a test pit investigation to the rear of 17 North Walls, Winchester, Hampshire, hereafter 'the site' (**Figure 1** and **2**). This document reports on the results of the investigation.
- 2.1.2 This investigation was required, in keeping with NPPF Section 12 and Local Plan Policy, by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) Winchester City Council (WCC) to provide information toward understanding the archaeological implications of the proposed development (**Figure 3**) (planning reference 17/01424/FUL. The historical and archaeological background was set out by the WCC Historic Environment Team Archaeologist, in advice given in 2016, as follows:
  - The application site lies over the alignment of the northern line of Winchester's historic
    defences, which date back to the Roman period. Specifically, the proposed dwelling may
    lie over the northern part of the medieval defensive ditch (as far as its precise alignment
    can be ascertained from present knowledge).
  - The dimensions of the medieval city ditch are likely to have resulted in the destruction of any earlier (Late Saxon or Roman) outer defensive ditches and thus such buried features are not expected to survive within the area of the proposed development.
- 2.1.3 Geotechnical boreholes, undertaken within the proposed development area (**Figure 4**), showed no signs of historic city ditch fill, only layers of made ground covering natural geology. This appeared to suggest that the historic ditch may not have extended into the proposed development area (GA 2017).
- 2.1.4 The archaeological investigation reported on in this document comprised the mechanical excavation of a test pit towards the south of the proposed development area, to the south of WS01 (Figure 4 and Plate 1).
- 2.1.5 This document has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (CIfA 2014) and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (Historic England 2015).

#### 2.2 Location, Topography and Geology

- 2.2.1 The site lies immediately to the north of the line of the historic City defences, just beyond the historic core of Winchester. The proposed development site is located to the rear of 17 North Walls, in what is currently the property's garden.
- 2.2.2 The site has an approximate area of 240 square meters and lies at approximately 35m aOD.
- 2.2.3 The underlying bedrock geology is mapped as Seaford Chalk Formation. Superficial deposits of Alluvium and River Terrace Deposits are also mapped as being present on site.

#### 3 AIM

#### 3.1 Archaeological Test Pit

- 3.1.1 The aim of the test pit investigation was to:
  - Test the results of the geotechnical boreholes, which suggested that there was no historic ditch fills present (GA 2017);
  - Determine the presence or absence of any other archaeological deposits.

#### 4 RESULTS

#### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The following summary is based on the site archive, which comprised a site diary, digital photographs, pro-forma test pit recording sheets and drawings. The archive is held at PCA's Winchester office under site code AY635 and will in due course be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust.

#### 4.2 Methodology

- 4.2.1 A detailed methodology was set out in the Method Statement (PCA 2017), prepared in advance of the project, and is not repeated here.
- 4.2.2 The mechanical dug test pit measured 4m by 2m and was located to the north of the building of 17 North Walls. The fieldwork took place on 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2017.

#### 4.3 Results

- 4.3.1 No archaeological deposits, features, artefacts or environmental remains, significant or otherwise, were observed during the course of the archaeological investigation. Natural chalky gravel, was identified at the base of the test pit at 1.97m Below Ground Level (BGL). The test pit was not excavated past 2m BGL (Figure 5). The following deposit sequence was identified within the test pit (Figure 5 and Plate 2):
  - Modern surfacing material (+) 0-0.39m BGL
  - Modern topsoil/subsoil (001) 0.39m-0.84m BGL
  - Post-medieval subsoil (002) 0.84m-1.42m BGL
  - Sterile alluvial deposit (003) 1.42m-1.97m BGL
  - Natural chalky gravel (004) 1.97m +
- 4.3.2 The sterile alluvial deposit, (003), is likely to be a natural superficial deposit as mapped by the British Geological Survey.

#### 4.4 Discussion

- 4.4.1 The archaeological test pit revealed no significant archaeological deposits, features or finds of any type.
- 4.4.2 No evidence for the City ditch was identified within the test pit and, as such, supports the evidence from the geotechnical boreholes.
- 4.4.3 The presence of natural alluvial deposits at a relatively high level, capped only by post-medieval deposits suggest that there has been limited development on the site in the past, perhaps as a result of poor ground conditions.

#### 4.5 Conclusion

4.5.1 The test pit revealed no significant archaeological deposits, features or finds of any type and no evidence of the City ditch. In consequence it is recommended that no further archaeological investigation is required in respect of the proposed development. It is further recommended that this report be submitted toward discharge of the archaeological conditions of planning consent for the development.

#### 5 ARCHIVE, PREPARATION & DEPOSITION

#### 5.1 The Site Archive

5.1.1 The Site archive, to include all project records, 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 2009). 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 investigation with Hampshire Cultural Trust.

#### 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. Winchester 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 Winchester Urban Archaeological Database).
- 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 is grateful to John Piper for commissioning the archaeological investigation and to Tracy Matthews, Winchester City Council Historic Environment Team, for her advice. The excavation of the test pit was monitored by Dominic Mcatominey. This report was prepared by Thomas Hayes with Illustrations prepared by Hayley Baxter.

#### 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Historic England 2015. Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment

PCA 2017. 17 North Walls, Winchester, Hampshire: Method Statement for Archaeological Test Pit

GA Site Investigations 2017. Site Investigation: Rear of 17 North Wall, Winchester, SO23 8DB (Client information

### **Appendix 1: Context Index**

Context Number	Area/Trench	Description	Туре	Date	Phase	Interpretation
001	Test Pit 1	Topsoil	Layer	Modern	4	Modern Topsoil
002	Test Pit 1	Grey post medieval Clay	Layer	Post Med	3	Post medieval layer, disuse/abandonment?
003	Test Pit 1	Grey Clay	Layer	Undated	2	Naturally accumulated sediment
004	Test Pit 1	Chalk Gravel	Layer	Natural	1	Natural

#### **Appendix 2: Site Photographs**



Plate 1 Test Pit location and working shot (view to the south)



Plate 2 West facing section of Test Pit

#### **Appendix 3: OASIS Form**

#### OASIS ID: preconst1-302659

**Project details** 

Project name 17 NORTH WALLS, WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE

Short description of the project

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. was commissioned by John Piper to undertake a machine dug archaeological test pit to the rear of 17 North Walls, Winchester, Hampshire. The test pit targeted the southern extent of a proposed development area. The site was located immediately to the north of the line of City Defences, close to the location of the City Ditch. Geotechnical boreholes, previously undertaken within the proposed development area, did not identify any ditch fills. The aim of this archaeological investigation was to test the results of the geotechnical boreholes and assess whether the City Ditch does or does not run underneath the site. This report concerns the results of the archaeological test pit, which was undertaken on the 17th of November 2017. The archaeological test pit revealed no archaeological resources, of any type. No evidence for the City defensive ditch was identified within the test pit and, as such, supports the evidence from the geotechnical boreholes, which also suggested that there were no ditch fills present. It is recommended that no further archaeological investigation is required on site, owing to the demonstrated lack of archaeological potential. It is therefore suggested that this document be submitted in satisfaction of the archaeological conditions of the planning permission.

Project dates Start: 17-11-2017 End: 17-11-2017

Previous/future work No / Not known
Any associated AY635 - Sitecode

project reference codes

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Other 5 - Garden

Monument type NONE None

Significant Finds NONE None

Methods & "Test Pits"

techniques

Development type

Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the After full determination (eg. As a condition)

planning process

**Project location** 

Country England

Site location HAMPSHIRE WINCHESTER WINCHESTER 17 North Walls,

Winchester, Hampshire

Postcode SO23 8DB

Study area 240 Square metres

Site coordinates SU 48297 29818 51.065128312198 -1.310675466524 51 03 54 N 001

18 38 W Point

**Project creators** 

Name of Organisation PCA Winchester

Project brief originator

Winchester City Council

Project design originator

Thomas Hayes

Project

Paul McCulloch

director/manager

Project supervisor **Dominic McAtominey** 

Type of

sponsor/funding

body

Developer

Name of sponsor/funding

body

Mr. J Piper

**Project archives** 

Physical Archive

Exists?

No

Digital Archive recipient

Hampshire Cultural Trust

Digital Archive ID AY635

Digital Media available

"Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text"

Paper Archive recipient

Hampshire Cultural Trust

AY635 Paper Archive ID

Paper Media available

"Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Plan","Report","Section"

**Project** bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title 17 North Walls, Winchester, Hampshire: an Archaeological Test Pit

Report

Hayes, T Author(s)/Editor(s) Date 2017

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology

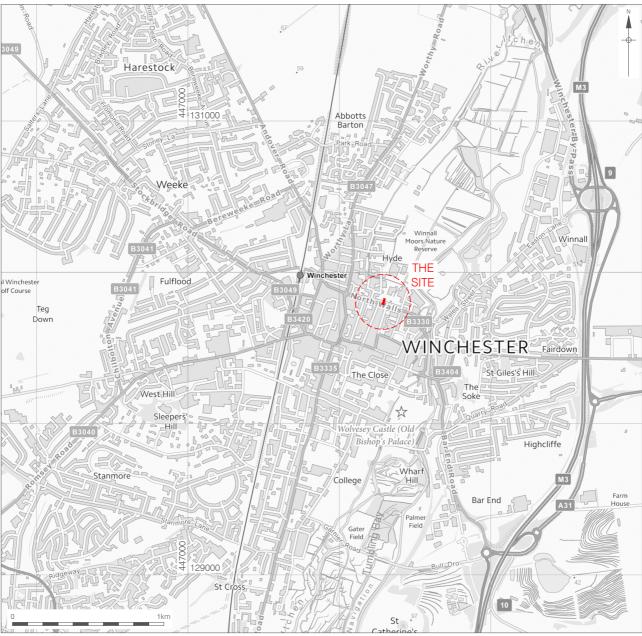
Place of issue or publication

Winchester

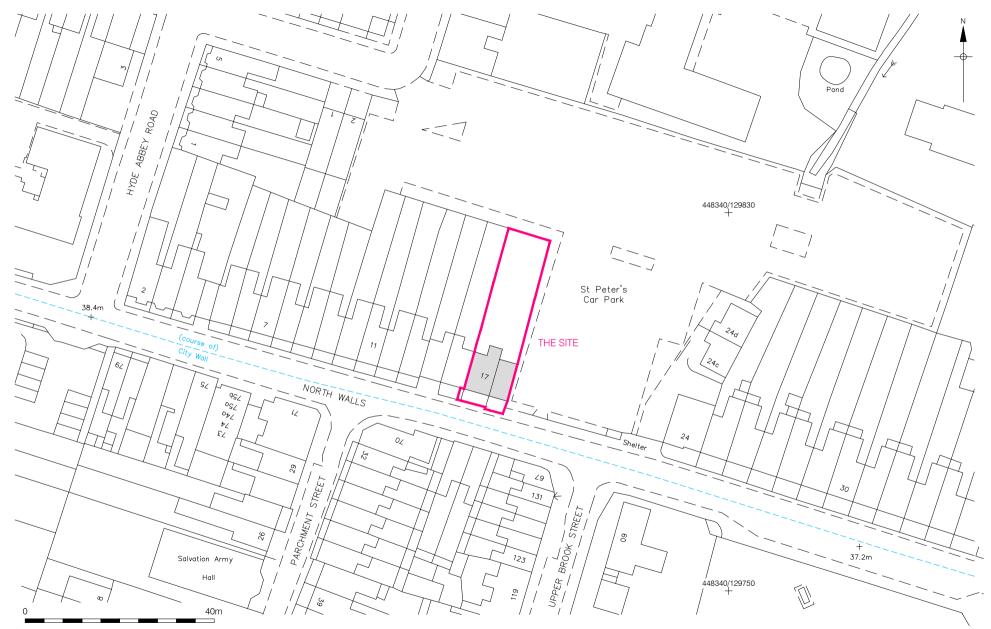
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Entered on 30 November 2017



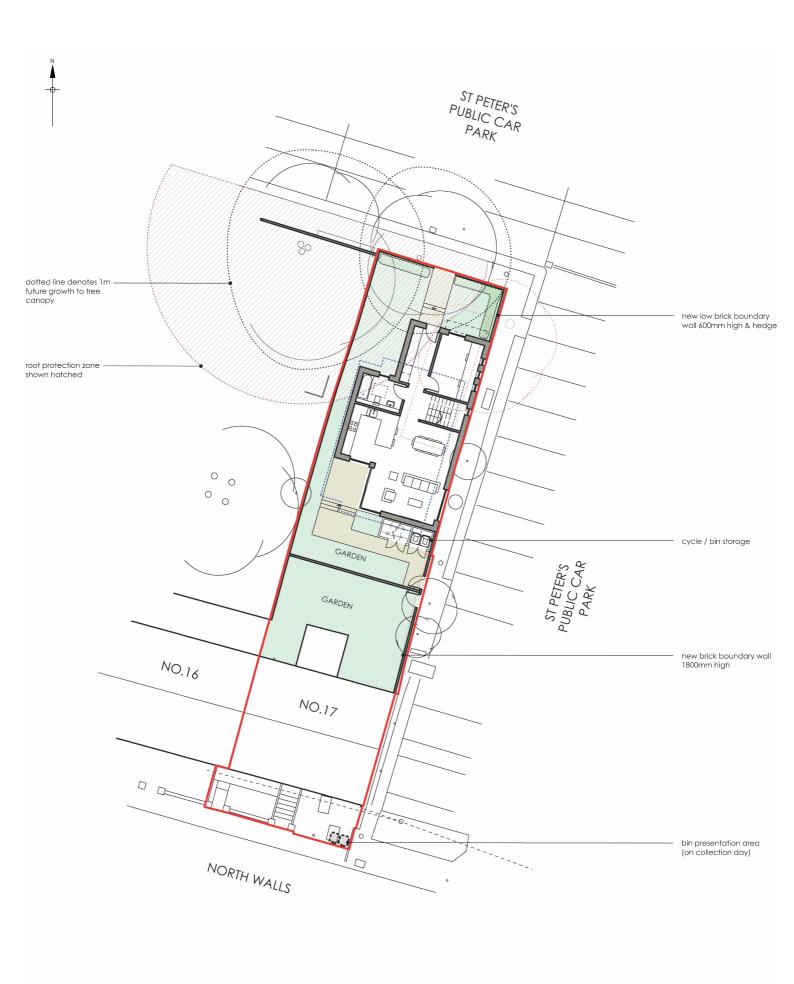


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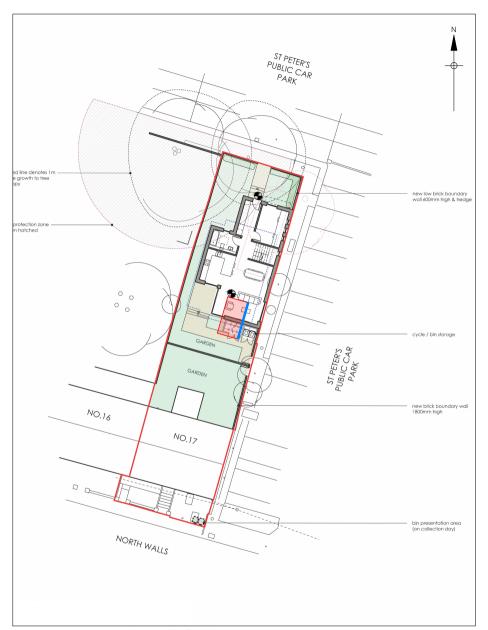
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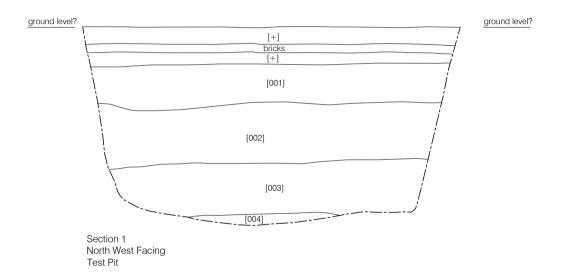
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Based on drawing 1414\_101\_A supplied by T2 Architects

Figure 4 Borehole & Test Pit Locations on Existing & Proposed Site Plan 1:400 at A4

NE SW



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