26 ST SWITHUN STREET, WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE, SO23 9HU

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION REPORT

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY: WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

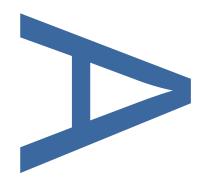
PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER: 16/01478/FUL

PCA REPORT NO: 13289

SITE CODE: AY622

31ST JULY 2019

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY







26 St Swithun Street, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 9HU:

Report on an Archaeological Investigation

Local Planning Authority:	Winchester City Council
Planning Reference:	16/01478/FUL
National Grid Reference:	447938 129176 (centred)
Site Code:	WINCM: AY622
Commissioning Client:	Mr S. Raby
Commissioning Agent:	Andrew Smith & Son
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July 2019

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R13289

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

26 St Swithun Street, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 9HU

Report on an Archaeological Investigation

Report Ref : R13289

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Revision No.	Checked	Approved	Date

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Andrew Smith & Son on behalf of Mr S. Raby to carry out an archaeological investigation as a requirement of planning consent in advance of development to the rear of 26 St Swithun Street, Winchester, Hampshire. The development comprised the construction of a glazed timber structure roofing over the existing terraced ground level and side walls requiring the existing steps to be removed and re-formed to the south, providing access to the rear garden.

The investigation revealed a sequence of post-medieval infills within the medieval City ditch which were cut by a single, possible, garden feature. The feature was overlain by modern levelling and garden soils. The cut and backfilling deposits of an evaluation trench excavated in 1974 were recorded at the northern end of the trench. No finds were recovered from the investigation. No evidence of either the Roman or medieval City walls or Saxo-Norman deposits were encountered.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) has been appointed by Andrew Smith & Son on behalf of Mr S Raby to carry out an archaeological investigation to the rear of 26 St Swithun Street, Winchester, Hampshire (NGR 447938 129176), hereafter 'the Site' (Figure 1). The Site is subject to a development comprising the construction of a glazed timber structure over an existing sunken well to create breakfast room plus associated alterations..'..
- Planning permission for the development was granted by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) Winchester City Council (WCC) (Planning Ref: 16/01478/FUL) subject to conditions 4 and 5. These conditions, attached to the planning permission on the advice of the LPA's Historic Environment Team Archaeologist (HETA) state:

4) 'No development/demolition or site preparation shall take place until the applicant or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological mitigation work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation that has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. No demolition/development or site preparation shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation shall include:

- The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording

- Provision for post investigation assessment, reporting and dissemination

- Provision to be made for deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation (archive)

- Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

Reason: To mitigate the effect of the development upon any heritage assets and to ensure that information regarding these heritage assets is preserved by record for future generations in accordance with Policy HE.1 Winchester District Local Plan Review; Policy CP20 of the Winchester District Joint Core Strategy.'

5) 'Following completion of archaeological fieldwork a report will be produced in accordance with an approved programme including where appropriate post- excavation assessment, specialist analysis and reports and publication. The report shall be submitted to and approved by the local authority.

Reason: To ensure that evidence from the historic environment contributing to our knowledge and understanding of our past is captured and made publicly available in accordance with Policy HE.1 Winchester District Local Plan Review; Policy CP20 of the Winchester District Joint Core Strategy.'

- 1.1.3 Archaeological works comprised a single northeast southwest aligned evaluation trench measuring 1.8m x 1.1m (Figure 2). The investigations were undertaken by PCA between 13th 28th July 2017.
- 1.1.4 This report presents the results from the investigations, fulfilling Condition 5 of planning permission.
- 1.1.5 This document has been prepared in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2017), *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (CIfA 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Historic England 2015).

1.2 Location, Topography and Geology

- 1.2.1 The Site is located at the rear of 26 St Swithun Street, a property on the south side of the street (Figures 1 and 2). The property, built with no. 27 as a single house in 1730, was erected in the space between the street and the City wall, over which its foundations extended (Bullen, et al. 2010).
- 1.2.2 The Site comprises a small area forming a well providing access from a basement kitchen up to the rear garden via steps. The well is formed of a relatively recent brick wall on its western side, the doors from the basement kitchen to the north, the garden wall and boundary with no./ 27 to the east and the flight of steps up the garden to the south. It is understood that the well was formed in the 1970's within an archaeological investigation trench.
- 1.2.3 St Swithun Street falls fairly steeply from Southgate Street east toward the River Itchen, following the natural western slope of the Itchen valley. Ground level on the street outside no. 26 is at 42.10m above Ordnance Datum. To the rear of no. 26, the garden falls southward toward the rear gardens of properties on Canon Street. The fall represents the line of the City ditch that lay outside the line of the City wall and over which the gardens have been formed.
- 1.2.4 The underlying natural geology of the site is mapped as 'New Pit Chalk Formation'; sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 89 to 94 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. The local environment was previously dominated by warm chalk seas (British Geological Survey 2014). Although there are no superficial geological deposits listed as being present on Site, there are 'river terrace' and 'head' deposits very close to the Site.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Site lies in the historic core of the City of Winchester, on one of its historic streets, and straddles the southern end of the line of the City wall, extending over the line of the City ditch. The archaeological evidence for the development of Winchester is well attested (Ot-taway, 2017) and the Site lies close to a number of investigations that have revealed evidence of Winchester's Romano-British and early medieval past, including evidence for its defences and occupation.
- 2.2 The Site itself was the subject of an archaeological investigation in 1974; the results of that investigation provide the detailed background for this document and are summarised as follows (information provided by Tracy Matthews, HETA, Winchester City Council):
 - The site lies over the line of the historic, Roman, Late Saxon and medieval City defences, with various well preserved sections designated as either a Scheduled Monument and/or as a Listed Building (however not within the application site). Beneath No. 26, the southern edge of the Roman wall foundation is coincident with the south wall of the building.
 - Previous archaeological excavation has taken place to the rear of No. 26 as part of a wider investigation in 1974, the area subsequently being used to create the existing sunken area/well.
 - The excavation trench immediately to the north of the application site was a maximum of 3.2m deep and revealed that the existing cellar has destroyed all archaeological remains to the level of the Roman city wall foundation (40.4m OD). The Roman wall foundation was observed to lie on a layer of rammed chalk at least 0.30m thick. This was thought at the time to form a bedding layer for the Roman foundation, however it could form part of the earlier Roman rampart(s), as has been observed in the area of the Roman south gate. Rampart deposits were also observed to the east of No. 26 during the 1974 excavations.
 - To the south of the Roman wall foundation, a series of deposits dating to the Late Saxon/Saxo-Norman period were laid against the Roman defences, some may conceivably relate to a Roman or Late Saxon phase of defensive ditch. The upper fills on the northern edge of the medieval city ditch were also located and together with the earlier layers, form a complex sequence of stratified deposits to the south of the Roman city wall.

3. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

3.1 Archaeological Investigation

- 3.1.1 The aim of the archaeological investigation was to determine the character, extent, date, condition and significance of archaeological remains that may survive within the site, taking account of their potential to contain biological and palaeo-environmental remains.
- 3.1.2 The investigation aimed to confirm and, if necessary, excavate by hand, archaeological remains (deposits and features) that relate to the development and use of the City defences and that were identified by previous investigations within the Site.

3.2 Reporting

3.2.1 This report presents the results of the investigation and provides an assessment of the archaeological resource and its potential for further specialist analysis in the context of local and regional research frameworks. In the event no significant archaeological remains were found then this report will be sufficient to address planning condition 4.

3.3 Archiving

3.3.1 The archive will be lodged with the Hampshire Cultural Trust, following microfiching to provide a security copy. The site archive will be prepared for long term storage in accordance with the Museums and Galleries Commission (1992), Walker (1990) and WMS's current *Archive Preparation Standards*. The project archive will be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust under Accession number **WINCM:AY 622** for long term conservation.

3.4 Publication

3.4.1 If the results of the investigation are deemed to be of sufficient interest they will be submitted for inclusion in an appropriate journal for publication. In this case the Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 Investigation Methodology

- 4.1.1 The investigation trench was formed by hand following the removal, by hand, of the existing steps from the lightwell up to the garden. All the trench sections (where differing) were hand-cleaned and committed to draughting film at an appropriate scale (predominantly 1:10).
- 4.1.2 Contexts were numbered sequentially and recorded on *pro-forma* context sheets, with Ordnance Datum heights and trench locations recorded using a S-Viva Smart Rover Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS). A full photographic record was maintained throughout the course of the archaeological work including general views of the Site and trench sections.
- 4.1.3 Archaeological recording was undertaken in accordance with PCA's Operation Manual I (Taylor and Brown 2009).

4.2 Post-Excavation Methodology

4.2.1 The primary phase of post-excavation analysis included a check of the Site archive, with the compilation of a digital context Index and section matrices.

5. THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

5.1 General

5.1.1 The investigation resulted in the recording of 2 cut features, 9 fills and 3 layers (Figures 2 & 3, Plate 1, below). They are presented in table form in the Appendix 1. No *in-situ* natural deposits were recorded during the investigation, therefore only the archaeological periods encountered on the site are represented in Table 1 below. At the northern end of the trench post-medieval infill deposits of the city's medieval defensive ditch were exposed, the upper fill of which was cut by a single feature, and, overlying it, modern levelling and garden soil deposits. At the southern end of the trench the cut and backfill deposits of an evaluation trench excavated in 1974 forming the area of the existing lightwell was encountered. No artifacts were recovered from the investigation.

Phase	Period	Date
2	Modern	19 th – 20 th C
1	Post-Medieval	16 th – 18 th C

Table 1. Cultural Phases

5.2 Phase 1: Post-Medieval

5.2.1 Two contexts, [06] and [07] exhibited a north-south tipline which suggests they represented the upper infilling deposits within the City ditch (**Figure 3**). Deposit [06] comprised a 0.84m thick firm, white chalk containing occasional large flint inclusions. Within the west-facing section of the trench a lens of greyish brown silty clay containing small chalk and flint inclusions, [07], was recorded within deposit [06].

5.3 Phase 2: Modern

5.3.1 In the north-facing section of the trench the cut, [05], for a feature of indeterminate shape and extent was recorded cutting the upper fill of the City ditch, [06]. The cut had steep sloping concave sides and flattish base. It contained a single dark greyish brown silty clay fill, [04] which contained a low quantity of chalk fragments. The purpose of the feature was not ascertained, however, the organic nature of its fill suggests it may have been a garden feature pre-dating the existing garden. The other activity recorded within the trench comprised a sequence of deposits interpreted as the cut and backfilling deposits of an evaluation trench excavated in 1974 (cut [14] and fills [08] to [12]) and levelling deposits over the ditch fills (contexts [02] and [03]) and a garden topsoil, [01]. Context [13], which abutted the brick wall of the house, was a dark brown layer similar to the topsoil [01] and probably represents a slumping of that layer when the walk-in basement was constructed in 1974.



Plate 1. Investigation trench looking south. Scale 1 x 1m.

6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The investigation confirmed the location of the Site within the post-medieval infills of the City's medieval ditch. The tipped disposition of the deposits suggests both infilling from the ditch's northern edge to the south and slumping towards the softer, deeper inner area of the ditch. No dating evidence was recovered from these deposits however Godson's 1750 map and the first edition 1873 OS map show that the area of the ditch incorporating the site was backfilled sometime between these two dates.
- 6.2 As the development retained the existing walk-in basement ground level the investigation was not able to test the existence of either the Roman City wall, it's medieval successor or any potential Late Saxon/Saxo-Norman berm deposits or metalling sequences beneath the property at the northern end of the basement.
- 6.3 As no new significant Romano-British evidence was recorded and no finds were recovered from the Site no further analysis of the archive is recommended and this report is deemed sufficient to satisfy conditions 4 and 5 of the planning condition. The deposition of the paper Site archive and a submission of the findings online via the OASIS website will form a record of the investigation.

7. ARCHIVE AND DEPOSITION

7.1 The Site Archive

7.1.1 The site archive, to include all project records and cultural material produced by the project, 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' (CIfA 2015). On completion of the project PCA will arrange for the archive to be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust.

7.2 Copyright

- 7.2.1 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. The Hampshire Cultural Trust, 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.
- 7.2.2 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 Historic Environment Record).
- 7.2.3 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.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

General

ClfA, 2008 Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.

Mapapps.bgs.ac.uk. (2019). Geology Of Britain. [online] Available at: http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain3d/index.html? [Accessed Jul. 2019].

P. J. Ottaway, 2017, 'Winchester: Swithun's 'City of Happiness and Good Fortune': An Archaeological Assessment', Oxbow Books.

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. July 2017, '26 St Swithun Street, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 9HU Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Investigation'.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Pre-Construct Archaeology would like to thank the following people and organisations:

Mr S. Raby, the client.

Andrew Smith & Son for commissioning the work on behalf of the client.

Tracy Matthews (HEO) Winchester County Council for archaeological monitoring and her advisory role.

Paul McCulloch for managing the project.

Supervisor: Ryan Wolf.

Fieldwork staff: James Bannister and Rhiannon Campbell

Mark Roughley (PCA CAD) for the report illustrations.

Report by Tony Molloy.

Report on an Archaeological evaluation at 26 St Swithun Street, Winchester, Hampshire © Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, July 2019

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

'Context' is a term used to denote a recognisable unit of deposition. Each context is assigned a unique number. Table 1 lists all the contexts by number; context category; key description; interpretation; dimensions (in metres): Length/Width/Ht/Depth/Thk or Diameter/Depth. 'Above' and 'Below' refer to the critical relationships to other contexts. '>' means greater than. '<' means less than. 'UE' means not excavated. 'N/A' means not ascertained. If finds were recovered from a context they are represented by an abbreviation of the find type. If environmental samples were taken they are denoted by the number assigned to the sample during excavation. A phase number and a cultural phase is assigned to each context.

Context	Fieldwork Type	Cate- gory	Key Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Ht/Depth/Thk (m)	Diameter (m)	Above	Below	Finds	Environmental Samples	Final Phase	Cultural Phase
01	Evaluation	Layer	Black silty clay with occasional rounded pebble and chalk frag- ment inclusions	Garden topsoil	Site	Site	0.22		02	Air	-	-	2	Modern
02	Evaluation	Layer	Greyish brown silty clay	Levelling	<1	<0.52	0.30		03	01	-	-	2	Modern
03	Evaluation	Layer	Greyish brown silty clay	Levelling	<1	<0.27	0.3		(04)	02	-	-	2	Modern
(04)	Evaluation	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay	Fill of cut [05]	<1	<0.39	0.21		[05]	03	-	-	2	Modern
[05]	Evaluation	Cut	Steep sloping concave sides and base	Uncertain pit or linear feature. Possible ser- vice trench or garden feature	0.39	N/A	0.21		(06)	(04)	-	-	2	Modern
(06)	Evaluation	Fill	White chalk	Infill of medieval city ditch	<1	<0.77	0.84		[05]	(07)	-	-	1	P-med
(07)	Evaluation	Fill	Greyish brown silty clay	Infill of medieval city ditch	<1	<0.5	0.25		(08)	(06)	-	-	1	P-med

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(08)	Evaluation	Fill	Brownish yellow silty chalk	Backfill of 1974 evalu- ation trench	<1	N/A	0.14	(09)	(07)	_	-	2	Modern
(09)	Evaluation	Fill	Black silty clay	Backfill of 1974 evalu- ation trench	<1	N/A	0.18	(10)	08	-	-	2	Modern
(10)	Evaluation	Fill	Yellowish white silty chalk	Backfill of 1974 evalu- ation trench	<1	<0.94	0.12	(11)	09	-	-	2	Modern
(11)	Evaluation	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay	Backfill of 1974 evalu- ation trench	<1	<0.95	0.08	(12)	(10)	-	-	2	Modern
(12)	Evaluation	Fill	Yellowish white silty clay	Backfill of 1974 evalu- ation trench	<1	<1.1	0.18	[14]	(11)	-	-	2	Modern
(13)	Evaluation	Fill	Black silty clay with occasional rounded pebble and chalk frag- ment inclusions	Slumping deposit from topsoil during construction of base- ment.	N/A	0.13	0.78	(06)	02	-	-	2	Modern
[14]	Evaluation	Cut	Vertical cut visi- ble in west-fac- ing section	Cut of 1974 evalua- tion trench	<1	N/A	0.5	(07)	(12)	-	-	2	Modern

APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-318304

Project details

Project name	26 St Swithun Street, Winchester, Hampshire
Short description of the project	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Andrew Smith and Son on behalf of Mr S. Ra-by to carry out an archaeological investigation as a re- quirement of planning consent in advance of development to the rear of 26 St Swithun Street, Winchester, Hampshire. The investigation revealed a sequence of post-medieval infills within the medieval town ditch overlain by modern level- ling and garden soils. A single feature was recorded cutting the uppermost ditch fill was a possible modern garden feature. No finds were recovered from the in- vestigation. No evidence of either the Roman or medieval City walls or Saxo- Norman deposits recorded in an evaluation trench excavated in 1974 when the terraced area and access steps were created were encountered.
Project dates	Start: 13-07-2017 End: 28-07-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	AY622 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Project location	
Country	England

Site location	HAMPSHIRE WINCHESTER WINCHESTER 26 St Swithun Street, Winchester, Hampshire
Postcode	SO23 9HU
Study area	3.5 Square metres

Site coordinates SU 447936 129183 50.913438023613 -1.362759144962 50 54 48 N 001 21 45 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organi- PCA Winchester sation

Project brief Tracy Matthews originator

Project design Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited originator

Project direc- Paul McCulloch tor/manager

Project supervi- Ryan Wolfe sor

Type of spon- Private Client sor/funding body

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text","GIS"
Paper Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Report","Section"
Entered by	Tony Molloy (TMolloy@pre-construct.com)
Entorog by	
Entered on	17 July 2019

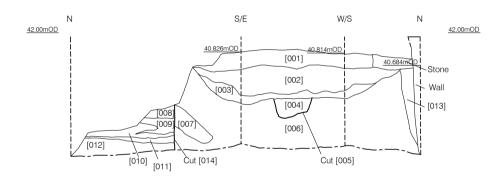


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Figure 2 Detailed Site Location 1:400 at A4



Section 1 North Facing

0 2m

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Figure 3 Section 1 1:40 at A4

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