

**RETAINING WALL – UPPER BROOK  
STREET CAR PARK, WINCHESTER,  
HAMPSHIRE**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING  
BRIEF**

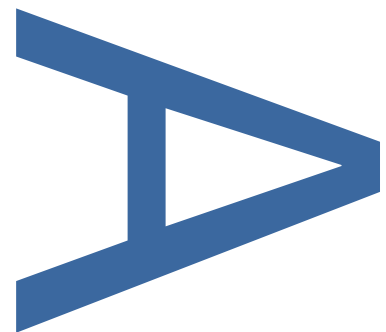
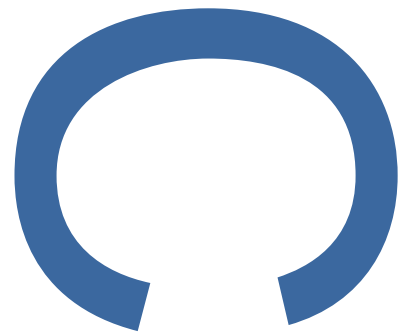
**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:  
WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL**

**PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBERS:  
15/02897/FUL**

**PCA REPORT NO: R13660**

**SITE CODE: AY488**

**APRIL 2019**



**RETAINING WALL - UPPER BROOK STREET CAR PARK, WINCHESTER,  
HAMPSHIRE: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT**

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**Issue 1:** For Approval

**Site Code:** AY488

**Local Planning Authority:** Winchester City Council

**Central NGR:** 448294 129609

**Planning Reference:** 15/02897/FUL

**Commissioning Client:** Winchester City Council (Policy & Projects)

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**April 2019**

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## DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

**Site Name: Upper Brook Street Car Park, Winchester, Hampshire**

**Type of project: Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

**Report: R13660**

### Quality Control

<b>Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code</b>		<b>K5970</b>
Text Prepared by:	T Warburton	15/04/2019
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<b>Revision No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Checked</b>	<b>Approved</b>

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Figure 1 - Site Location

Figure 2 - WB Location

## **1 ABSTRACT**

Pre-Construct Archaeology was commissioned by Winchester City Council to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works proceeding the construction of a retaining wall in Upper Brook Street Car Park, Winchester, Hampshire. This report concerns the results of the archaeological watching brief, which comprised monitoring visits made between the 26th and 27th February 2019.

No significant archaeological deposits, features, artefacts or environmental remains were uncovered in the retaining wall trench. The only deposits encountered relate to the made ground which comprises the extant car park. Features revealed during the commencement of groundworks compose of partially demolished, single skin red brick walls, likely garden walls from the C19th onward, which were recorded in situ where surviving.

It is concluded that, although it is possible that significant archaeological resources remain in the areas surrounding the retaining wall trench, any evidence of this had been removed by the disturbance caused by the construction of the car park at Upper Brook Street.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 Project Background**

2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by Winchester City Council, to carry out an archaeological watching brief, at Upper Brook Street., Winchester, Hampshire, hereafter 'the site' (**Figure 1**). The site is the subject of a proposed single storey extension to the rear of the property.

2.1.2 The archaeological watching brief, and this report, was required by planning permission for the development of the site, granted by the Local Planning Authority, Winchester City Council (planning ref. 15/02897/FUL). These requirements are based on the advice of the Council's Historic Environment Team Archaeologist (HETA) and reflect the potential of the site to contain archaeological resources that may be put at risk by the development.

2.1.3 This document provides a report on the results of the watching brief, carried out between the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists standard and guidance for archaeological watching briefs (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, presently a car park and owned by Winchester City Council, lies in the historic core of Winchester on the east side of Upper Brook Street. It is flanked to the south by Friarsgate, to the east by the former Ritz Cinema (now Family Church) and the rear of properties fronting Middle Brook Street and to the north by adjacent properties including Nos. 30-32 Upper Brook Street presently occupied by the Winchester Heritage Centre. The site, an area of approximately 0.2 hectares, is located at National Grid Reference 447900 130200.

2.2.2 The Site is largely surfaced in asphalt and bounded to the west and south by a low brick wall with openings for vehicular access. A low brick wall forms the eastern Site boundary with the Family Church and elsewhere the boundaries are formed by fencing or brick elevations. The Site is dominated to the east by the adjacent Family Church and by the north elevation of the Brooks shopping centre. These buildings are in contrast to buildings on Upper Brook Street to the west and north, which form typical 19th century terraces.

2.2.3 Superficial geology comprises alluvial clay, silt and sand with gravel and organic components, river terrace deposits of sand and gravel, and Head deposits of sandy silty clay and gravelly chalk and flint. These deposits overly solid geology, variously of the Wittering Formation, London Clay and Reading Beds, which overly Upper Chalk (BGS Sheets 315 & 316).

2.2.4 Ground level across the Site is fairly flat and occurs at between 37.10m and 37.57m above Ordnance Datum.

## **2.3 Proposed Development**

2.3.1 The proposed development is focused on the construction of a retaining wall in between the car park and the Brook Centre (**Figure 2**). This work forms part of the wider redevelopment of the site.

## **2.4 Archaeological and Historical Background**

2.4.1 The archaeological and historical background was set out in a desk-based assessment (PCA 2012). This identified known sites and findspots that have been entered onto the Urban Archaeological Database held by Winchester City Council, along with historical and cartographic sources that contain relevant information. The assessment also considered the results of a geo-archaeological borehole investigation carried out on the site and the recommendations set out in the report on the investigation (Wilkinson, 2012). The detailed information contained in the desk-based assessment is not repeated here in detail.

2.4.2 The desk-based assessment report provided an assessment of the potential archaeological resources (Heritage Assets) within the Site in respect of the proposed development. The assessment considered the known archaeological resources recorded in the Winchester Urban Archaeological Database (UAD) and that derive from the site and a larger Study Area. It has also considered the potential archaeological resource significance and previous and existing impacts upon that potential as well as the impacts posed by the proposed development. It concluded that:

2.4.3 The potential for the Site to contain archaeological resources of Romano-British, Saxon and medieval date is considered to be high and may include significant evidence for the development of the lower part of the town, including structural remains and well-preserved biological remains.

2.4.4 The potential for the Site to contain significant archaeological resources of all later periods appears to be low.

2.4.5 A previous evaluation of the Site, carried out in 1992, established that the Site contains significant evidence for its development in the medieval period, including structural remains of buildings. These remains, although partially impacted by deep pits of later medieval or post-medieval date, were sufficiently well-preserved to allow their plan form to be at least partially understood within the confines of the evaluation trench; it was noted that these remains rested directly on top of grey alluvial silts, also visible in the sides of the deep pits. There appeared to be no evidence for Romano-British structural remains that could have been expected to occur stratigraphically above the grey alluvial silts and below the medieval structural remains, as was observed to be the case immediately to the south of the site and within the Brooks excavation (Zant 1993).

2.4.6 The 2012 evaluation, located no more than 10m to the north of the previous 1992 evaluation, revealed no significant archaeological resources comparable with previous discoveries close by. Geo-archaeological boreholes undertaken by ARCA as part of the

evaluation (Wilkinson 2012) identified the natural gravel at a depth of c. 6m below the current ground level (BGL) beneath a sequence of alluvial deposits representing a former watercourse. The uppermost alluvial deposit, which was seen to contain animal bone, oyster shell and medieval green glazed pottery, was observed in test pit 1. This layer was seen to be directly sealed by a post-medieval garden soil, which was present in both test pits. The garden soil contained low levels of artefacts such as ceramic building material, pottery, animal bone and clay pipe; no cut features, such as pits, or structural remains were identified. The post medieval garden soil was overlain by layers relating to the use of the site as a rear garden for a former house (number 48 Ebenezer Terrace) facing on to Upper Brook Street, along with its garden wall, which were demolished during slum clearance in the 1950s. These layers and the wall had been capped by surfaces relating to the use of the site as a car park.

2.4.7 The evaluation and geoarchaeological borehole investigation appear to have shown that the area of the Site investigated, from the Romano-British through to the post-medieval period, may have been marginal land seemingly unsuitable for significant development, albeit very close to significant remains revealed in 1992.

2.4.8 A further evaluation trench opened in 2016 provided a link between the 1992 and 2012 trenches/test pits. Excavated to a limited depth of 1.2m, the trench revealed alluvial deposits in the base, beneath post-medieval and modern deposits.



### **3 AIM**

#### **3.1 Archaeological Evaluation**

- 3.1.1 The aim of the archaeological watching brief was to monitor groundwork for the proposed retaining wall and investigate and record archaeological resources that are identified, taking account of the date, nature, extent, bio-archaeological and palaeo-environmental potential of the resources and the research aims and questions that have been identified.
- 3.1.2 A further aim of the work was to prepare an archive of the results of the investigation leading to the preparation of this watching brief report.

## **4 RESULTS**

### **4.1 Introduction**

4.1.1 The following presents a summary of the watching brief results based upon the Site archive, which comprises a Site diary, digital photographs. The archive of all stages of the archaeological work is held at PCA's Winchester office under the site code **AY488** and will in due course be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust.

### **4.2 Methodology**

4.2.1 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken following the methodology detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (PCA 2019), which was approved by the Local Planning Authority in advance of the works.

4.2.2 The watching brief comprised monitoring the groundworks associated to the proposed development, in particular the excavations for the footings of the retaining wall.

### **4.3 Watching Brief Results**

4.3.1 The watching brief was conducted in two visits, on the 26th and 27th February 2019. Visits coincided with ground works for the footings of the retaining wall.

4.3.2 The foundation trench was excavated from the existing ground level to a depth of approximately 1.5m below ground level (BGL) (**Plate 1**). The excavations ran in between the eastern edge of the car park and the western boundary of the Brook Centre. The sides and the base of the excavations were inspected and comprised modern layers relating to the construction of the current car park and the development of the Brook Centre (in particular evidence for the original car park associated to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century cinema) and evidence of modern disturbance. These layers overlaid a dark grey brown alluvium consistent with deposits encountered during the 2016 evaluation (PCA 2016).

4.3.3 No significant archaeological features, deposits or artefacts, or natural deposits, were observed.

4.3.4 The following deposition sequence was identified (**Plate 2**):

- 0-0.15m BGL – Tarmac and car park surface
- 0.15m-1.2m BGL Mid yellow-brown gravel made ground
- 1.2m – 1.5m BGL Dark grey-brown alluvium

### **4.4 Conclusion**

4.4.1 It is concluded that, although it is possible that significant archaeological resources remain in the areas surrounding the retaining wall trench, any evidence of this had been removed by the disturbance caused by the construction of the car park at Upper Brook Street and the construction of the Brook Centre.

## **5 ARCHIVE PRERARATION AND DEPOSITION**

### **5.1 The Site Archive**

5.1.1 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' (ClfA 2014). On completion of the project PCA will arrange for the archive to be deposited with the 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. The Novium 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 HER).

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 is grateful to Winchester City Council (Policy & Projects) for commissioning the watching brief and to Tracy Matthews, Winchester City Council HETA, for her advice.

The watching brief was carried out by Tom Warburton, PCA Ltd. and managed by Thomas Hayes, PCA Ltd.

## 7 REFERENCES

ARCA 2012(a), Upper Brook Street Car Park, Winchester: A Geoarchaeological Study of Borehole Stratigraphy (ref. 1112-17)

ARCA 2012 (b), Upper Brook Street Car Park, Winchester: Geoarchaeological Borehole Study Phase 2 (ref. 1112-21)

ARCA Sept 2012 (c), Upper Brook Street Car Park, Winchester: Bioarchaeological Assessment (ref. 1213-2)

PCA 2012 (a), Upper Brook Street Car Park, Winchester, Hampshire: An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (ref. R11169)

PCA 2012 (b), Upper Brook Street Car Park, Winchester, Hampshire: Archaeological Evaluation Test Pit Evaluation Report (ref. R11240)

PCA 2016, Upper Brook street Car Park, Winchester, Hampshire: An Archaeological Evaluation (ref: R12356)

PCA 2019, "Retaining Wall, Upper Brook Street Car park, Hampshire: WSI for an Archaeological Watching Brief".

Winchester Museum Service Archaeology Unit, UBS 92 Phase Summary



## Appendix 1: Site Photographs (Plates)



*Plate 1 View to the south of foundation trench*



*Plate 2 East facing section of foundation trench*



## Appendix 2: OASIS Record

### OASIS ID: preconst1-349185

#### Project details

Project name	Retaining Wall - Upper Brook Street Car Park, Winchester, Hampshire
Short description of the project	Pre-Construct Archaeology was commissioned by Winchester City Council to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works proceeding the construction of a retaining wall in Upper Brook Street Car Park, Winchester, Hampshire. This report concerns the results of the archaeological watching brief, which comprised monitoring visits made between the 26th and 27th February 2019. No significant archaeological deposits, features, artefacts or environmental remains were uncovered in the retaining wall trench. The only deposits encountered relate to the made ground which comprises the extant car park. Features revealed during the commencement of groundworks compose of partially demolished, single skin red brick walls, likely garden walls from the C19th onward, which were recorded in situ where surviving. It is concluded that, although it is possible that significant archaeological resources remain in the areas surrounding the retaining wall trench, any evidence of this had been removed by the disturbance caused by the construction of the car park at Upper Brook Street.
Project dates	Start: 26-02-2019 End: 27-02-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	AY488 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Transport and Utilities 2 - Other transport infrastructure
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE WINCHESTER WINCHESTER Upper brook Street Car Park, Winchester, Hampshire
Postcode	SO23 8EE
Study area	0.2 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 48294 29609 51.063249126774 -1.310746192991 51 03 47 N 001 18 38 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0m Max: 0m

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	PCA Winchester
Project brief originator	Winchester City Council

Project design originator	Thomas Hayes
Project director/manager	Thomas Hayes
Project supervisor	Tom Walburton
Type of sponsor/funding body	Local Authority
Name of sponsor/funding body	Winchester City Council

#### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Physical Archive ID	AY488
Digital Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Digital Archive ID	AY488
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Paper Archive ID	AY488
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Diary", "Notebook - Excavation", "Research", "General Notes", "Report"

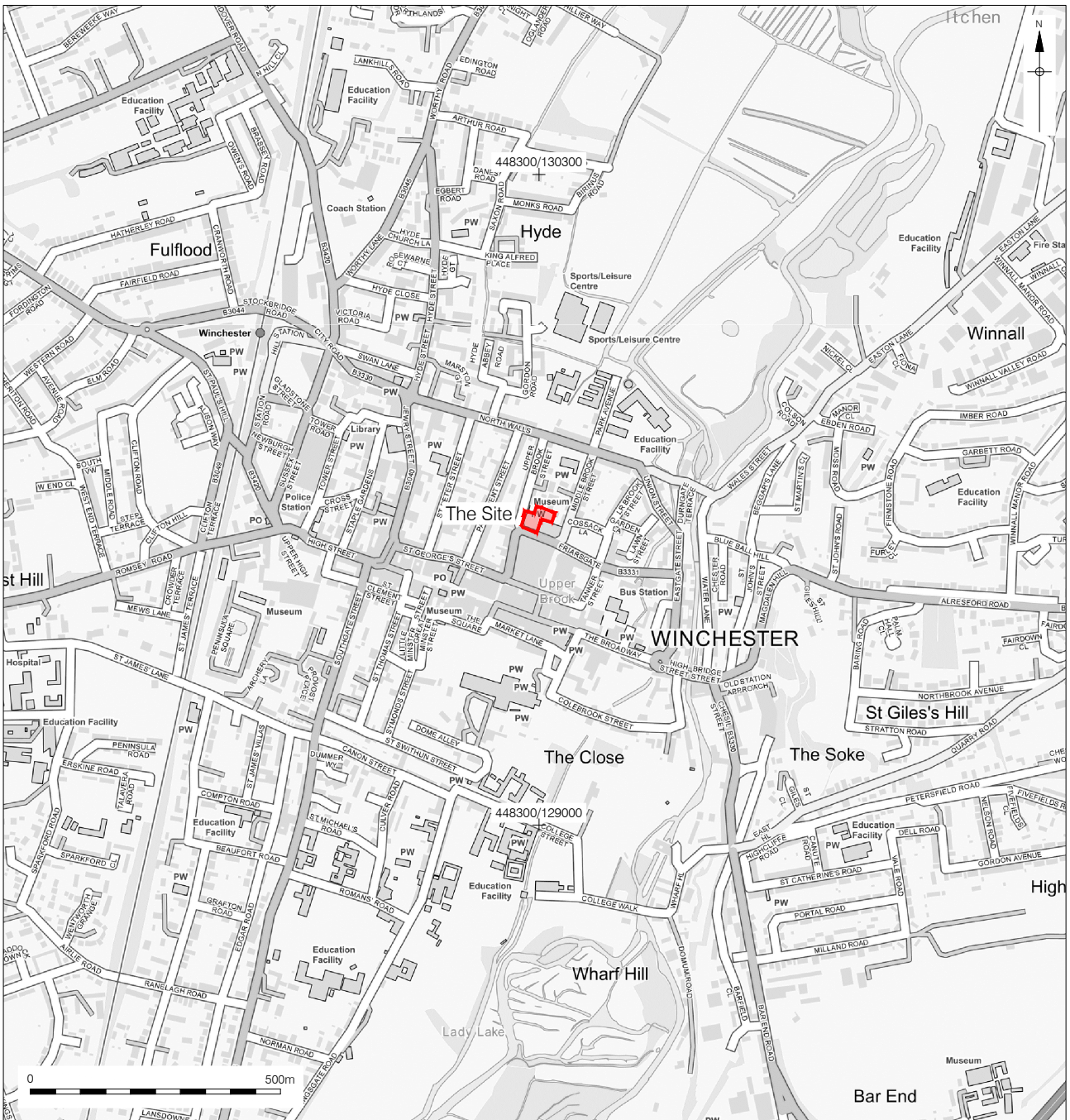
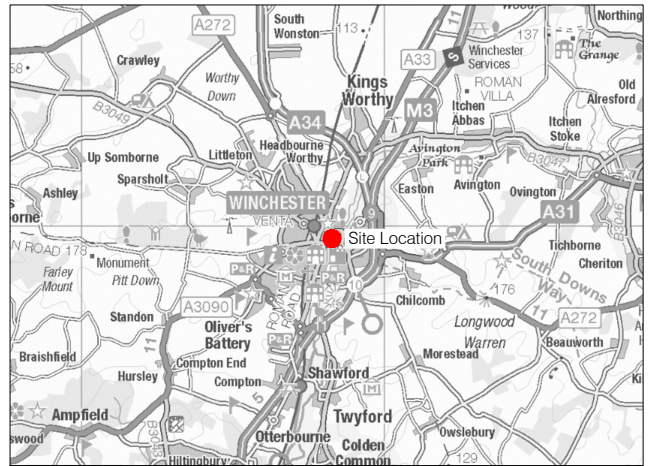
#### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Retaining Wall - Upper Brook Street Car Park, Winchester, Hampshire: An Archaeological Watching Brief Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Hayes, T
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Winchester

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Entered by	Thomas Hayes (thayes@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	16 April 2019







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Figure 2  
Detailed Site Location showing Watching Brief Area  
1:625 at A4

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