SITE OF PROPOSED 'HANDLEBAR CAFÉ', WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY: SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

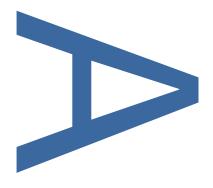
PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBERS: SDNP/16/03663/FUL

PCA REPORT NO: R13773

SITE CODE: AY650

JULY 2019





# PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY



## SITE OF PROPOSED 'HANDLEBAR CAFÉ', WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Site Code:	AY650
Local Planning Authority:	South Downs National Park
Central NGR:	448393 128024
Planning Reference:	SDNP/16/03663/FUL
Commissioning Client:	SPUD Group
Prepared by:	Tom Warburton, PCA

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# July 2019

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PCA REPORT NO. R13773

## **DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**

## Site Name: Site of Proposed 'Handlebar Café', Winchester, Hampshire

Type of project: Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Report: R13773

**Quality Control** 

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code		K5428
Text Prepared by:	T Warburton	22/07/2019
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Graphics Checked by:	M Roughley	22/07/2019
Project Manager: P McCulloch 23/07/2019		23/07/2019

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

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Figure 1 - Site Location

Figure 2 - WB Location

# 1 ABSTRACT

Pre-Construct Archaeology was commissioned by SPUD Group to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works proceeding the construction of Handlebar Cycle Café, Winchester, Hampshire. This report concerns the results of the archaeological watching brief, which comprised monitoring visits made between the 27th February and the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2019.

No significant archaeological deposits, features, artefacts or environmental remains were uncovered in any of the groundworks. The majority of groundworks were undertaken on the raised area of the former railway embankment, which was constructed of made ground.

It is concluded that, although there is likely to be significant archaeological resources in the area surrounding the site, none were encountered during the course of the watching brief owing to the made ground of the embankment that likely covers any archaeological deposits.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

#### 2.1 Project Background

- 2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was appointed by the SPUD Group to undertake a watching brief during the groundworks for the Handlebar Cycle Café, Winchester, Hampshire, at NGR 448393 128024 (Figure 1), hereafter 'the Site'. The site was the subject of a proposed café and bicycle repair shop.
- 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, South Downs National Park (planning ref. SDNP/16/03663/FUL). These requirements are based on the advice of the SDNP's archaeological advisor, Winchester 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 27<sup>th</sup> of February and 26<sup>h</sup> of March 2019 and has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists standard and guidance for archaeological watching briefs (ClfA 2014) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Historic England, 2015).

### 2.2 Location, Topography and Geology

- 2.2.1 The Site is located on a section of former railway embankment south of Garnier Road, Winchester, east of the Itchen Navigation and west of and below St Catherine's Hill. (Figure 2). Within the Site, the embankment incorporates a brick pedestrian tunnel which currently serves as access from Garnier Road car park to a footpath along the embankment and to St Catherine's Hill.
- 2.2.2 The site lies on top of deposits of artificial, infilled ground that comprise the former railway embankment. These deposits overly solid bedrock geology of Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation (BGS).
- 2.2.3 Ground level across the Site is relatively level at approximately 45m above Ordnance Datum.

#### 2.3 Proposed Development

**2.3.1** The Site is the subject of a development comprising the erection of a timber building and workshop space to provide a café and cycle workshop.

#### 2.4 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.4.1 The Site lies in an area of known archaeological sites, find spots and monuments and immediately east of St Catherine's Hill Scheduled Monument, an Iron Age hillfort. The Site was the subject of a Heritage Statement (Wagner, 2016) prepared in respect of the planning application for the proposed development of the Handlebar Cafe. The

assessment included consideration of the heritage interest of the Site, in particular the history of the late 19th century Didcot, Newbury and Southampton railway that forms the immediate historical context of the proposed development alongside the other historic transportation routes flanking the Site, the Itchen Navigation to the west and the line of the A33 Winchester Bypass, now buried, which lay between the railway and St Catherine's Hill to the east.

## 3 RESULTS

#### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The following provides a summary of the results of the watching brief and is based on the site archive which comprises written, drawn and photographic records. The site archive is held at the PCA West office in Winchester under site code **AY650**.

#### 3.2 Aims and Objectives

- 3.2.1 The aim of the archaeological watching brief was to monitor groundworks for the proposed Handlebar Café and investigate and record archaeological remains that are identified, taking account of the date, nature, extent, bio-archaeological and palaeo-environmental potential of the remains and the research aims that have been identified.
- 3.2.2 A further aim was to prepare an archive of the results of the watching brief to the preparation of a report of the results obtained. This aim is met in this document.

#### 3.3 Methodology

- 3.3.1 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.
- 3.3.2 The watching brief comprised monitoring the groundworks associated to the proposed development.

#### 3.4 Watching Brief Results

- 3.4.1 The watching brief was conducted in multiple visits, between the 27<sup>th</sup> of February and the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2019. Visits coincided with site ground works.
- 3.4.2 No consistent deposition sequence was observed throughout the site. The majority of groundworks were undertaken on the raised area of the former railway embankment. These deposits were considered to be made ground consisting of re-deposited chalk rubble mixed with clay and sand (Plate 1,2 and 4).
- 3.4.3 Service connections made at the base of the embankment, next to the car parking area, appeared to encounter non-made ground, however no archaeological features were observed in any of these works (**Plates 3-5**).
- 3.4.4 No Archaeological deposits, features, artefacts or environmental remains were observed during the course of the watching brief.

#### 3.5 Historic Buildings

3.5.1 Within the site boundary there is one 19<sup>th</sup> century railway bridge used as a pedestrian underpass linking the car park, on the eastern side, to the St. Catherine's Hill footpaths, to the west. The bridge was built in the 1880's as a part of the construction of the Didcot, Newbury and Southampton Railway, which closed in between 1960 and 1964. The bridge

was not affected by the construction work on site. A selection of photographs were taken as a part of the watching brief.

#### 3.6 Conclusion

- 3.6.1 It is concluded that, although there is likely to be significant archaeological resources in the area surrounding the site, none were encountered during the course of the watching brief owing to the made ground of the embankment that likely covers any archaeological deposits.
- 3.6.2 Owing to the lack of archaeological resources observed during the watching brief, any wider research aims could not be addressed by this archaeological investigation

## 4 ARCHIVE PRERARATION AND DEPOSITION

#### 4.1 The Site Archive

4.1.1 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.

#### 4.2 Copyright

- 4.2.1 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.
- 4.2.2 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).
- 4.2.3 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.

# 5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd is grateful to Winchester SPUD Group 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, Bart Grden and Dominic McAtominey, PCA Ltd. and manged by Paul McCulloch, PCA Ltd.

# 6 **REFERENCES**

ClfA 2014. Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs

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

Wagner, C. 2019. Heritage Statement for SPUD Handlebar Café by Tun Bridge off Garnier Road, Winchester SO23

# Appendix 1: Site Photographs (Plates)



Plate 1 View to the south of exposed made ground - on top of the embankment



Plate 2 East facing section of made ground deposits



Plate 3 View to the south east of service trench - across car park



Plate 4 View to the north west section through embankment



Plate 5 View to the north of service trench



Plate 6 View to the east of 19th century pedestrian railway bridge

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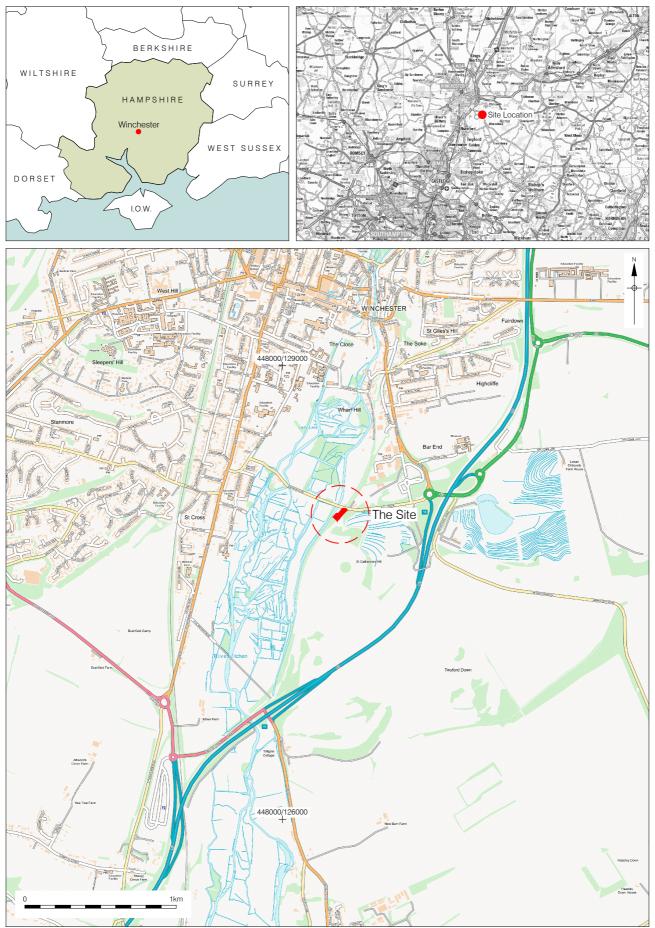
Plate 7 View to the west of 19th century pedestrian railway bridge

# Appendix 2: OASIS Record

## OASIS ID: preconst1-360527

Project details	
Project name	'HANDLEBAR CAFÉ', WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE
Short description of the project	Pre-Construct Archaeology was commissioned by PUD Group to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works proceeding the construction of Handlebar Cycle Café, Winchester, Hampshire. This report concerns the results of the archaeological watching brief, which comprised monitoring visits made between the 27th February and the 26th of March 2019. No significant archaeologica deposits, features, artefacts or environmental remains were uncovered in any of the groundworks. The majority of groundworks were undertaken on the raised area of the former railway embankment, which was constructed of made ground. It is concluded that, although there is likely to be significant archaeological resources in the area surrounding the site, none were encountered during the course of the watching brief owing to the made ground of the embankment that likely covers any archaeological deposits
Project dates	Start: 27-02-2019 End: 26-03-2019
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	AY650 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	National Park
Current Land use	Other 12 - Verge
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 Handlebar Cafe, Winchester
Postcode	SO23 9PA
Study area	0.02 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 48388 28031 51.049050984821 -1.30961578041 51 02 56 N 001 18 34 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	Paul McCulloch
Project director/manager	Paul McCulloch
Project supervisor	Dominic McAtominey
Type of sponsor/funding body	Charitable Trust
Name of sponsor/funding body	SPUD Group
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	None
Digital Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Digital Archive ID	AY650
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Paper Archive ID	AY650
Paper Media available	"Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Report"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	SITE OF PROPOSED 'HANDLEBAR CAFÉ', WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT
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Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology
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Entered on	23 July 2019



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Figure 1 Site Location 1:2,000,000, 1:500,000 & 1:25,000 at A4



Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2019. All rights reserved. License number 100022432 © Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2019 22/07/19 DV Figure 2 Watching Brief Location 1:625 at A4

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