

## 1 ABSTRACT

*An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group during March and September 2006 at 47 Broad Street, Alresford, Hampshire, on behalf of Masser Architects. The aim of the watching brief was to assess the impact of the proposed development on any surviving archaeological remains.*

*The watching brief was conducted during two phases of ground reduction ahead of landscaping, construction of an extension to the current house and the installation of a car turntable.*

*Several medieval circular garden features were recorded during the reduction within the current garage. The pits were dated to 1350-1500 AD and are likely to be the remains of a previous garden landscape which previously occupied that area of the site.*

*Four post-medieval wells or soakaways were also recorded on site. Only one of the wells or soakaways was brick lined, the remainder were either cut directly into the natural chalk or the original lining had been recovered to be used elsewhere. The post-medieval features were dated to 1600-1700AD.*

*Also recorded on site was a bricklined culvert which ran east-west across the southern limit of the garage building. Only 1.50m of the culvert length was exposed, revealing that the culvert was composed of red brick measuring approximately 0.60m wide. The course of the culvert suggests that it would have run parallel along Broad Street and is likely to have collected water or sewage from the adjoining properties.*

## **2 SITE LOCATION**

- 2.1 The site was located at 47 Broad Street, New Alresford, Hampshire (Figure 1). The proposed development is centered on National Grid Reference (NGR) SU 5876 3288.
- 2.2 The site is located in the centre of New Alresford. It is bounded to the south by 49 Broad Street and to the south by 45 Broad Street (Figure 2). The proposed development consists of an extension to the rear of 47 Broad Street, replacing an existing conservatory. The proposal also includes the construction of a car turntable within the current garage.
- 2.2 The development involved the excavation of a number of foundation trenches as well as general ground reduction.

## **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The site is located in an area of archaeological importance as defined in the *Extensive Urban Strategy for New Alresford* (Hampshire County Council).
- 3.2 Archaeological advice to the Local Planning Authority was provided by Tracey Matthews, the Sites and Monuments Officer for Winchester City Council.

## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 A Desk Based Assessment has not been prepared for this project.
- 4.2 The site is located in the historic core of the medieval market town of New Alresford, on the southern side of the upper reaches of the River Itchen valley. The site itself consists of a burgage plot on the west side of the medieval market place which dates back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century.
- 4.3 At the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086, the entries listed under Alresford did not include any reference to a settlement south of the river Alre, there is in fact no evidence of any activity on what was to become New Alresford prior to 1200.
- 4.4 Bishop Godfrey de Lucy established a new community on the south bank of the River Arle in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century and subsequently obtained a grant of privileges for it from King John for a market, fair and the rights to build mills on the river and collect tolls on goods being transported along the River Itchen.
- 4.5 The town quickly became a prosperous centre in the trade in wool and leather. New Alresford was being referred to as a borough by the early thirteenth century and over 40 burgesses were listed there around that time. However, its prospects were limited by proximity to its much larger neighbour Winchester, which dominated regional trade.

- 4.6 No previous archaeological investigations have been undertaken on the site itself.

## **5 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 5.1 The general aims of the watching brief and possible excavation were defined as being:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the area of development impact, to assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits and to determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
- To enable the Sites and Monuments Officer for Winchester City Council to make an informed decision on the requirements for further detailed excavation to mitigate impact.
- To mitigate by record the development impact on surviving archaeological deposits.
- To enable the Sites and Monuments Officer for Winchester City Council to make an informed decision on the status of the planning application, and any possible further work required before the condition is discharged.

- 5.2 Specific aims are as follows:

- To establish the presence/absence of any significant archaeological remains that require archaeological excavation in order to mitigate, through record, the impact of the development.
- To establish the presence/absence of any archaeological remains pre-dating the 12<sup>th</sup> century planned town.
- To establish the presence/absence of any medieval structural remains or evidence of plots fronting on to the medieval High Street.

## **6 STRATEGY**

- 6.1 The evaluation and watching brief was designed to target various phases of work on site.

- New foundation trenches were monitored to the north of the property, to the east of the existing garage.
- A watching brief was carried out during two phases of ground reduction, the first phase was located to the east of the garage and the second phase was contained within the garage itself.
- The archaeological works were monitored by Tracey Matthews, the Sites and Monuments Officer for Winchester City Council, and Ron Humphrey for

AOC Archaeology.

- 6.2 Excavated material was examined in order to retrieve artefacts to assist in the analysis of the spatial distribution of artefacts.
- 6.3 On completion of machine excavation, all faces of areas that required examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools.
- 6.4 All excavation was undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appeared to be demonstrably worthy of preservation *in situ*.
- 6.5 After recording, the trenches were backfilled with excavated material.
- 6.6 The evaluation work was undertaken by Catherine Edwards, Project Supervisor, under the overall project management of Ron Humphrey, Project Manager.

## 7 RESULTS

### Phase 1 - Medieval

- 7.1 During the ground reduction within the existing garage, two circular features [012] and [014] were recorded cutting into the natural chalk (020) measuring 0.94m and 1.00m respectively. Both pits were filled by a friable to loose grey brown silty clay (011) and (013) with inclusions of chalk nodules, flint, bone, pottery, tile and charcoal. Pit [012] measured 0.50m deep whilst [014] measured 0.50m+ but was not fully excavated as voids in the backfill indicated it was unsafe to continue. Probing of the base indicated at depth of 1.20m+. Feature [012] is likely to be a small garden feature whereas [014] is possibly an earth cut well. Both features were backfilled with domestic debris, fragments of medieval ceramic jugs dated to 1250-1350AD for [012] and 1350-1500AD for [014].

### Phase 2 – Post-medieval

- 7.2 Truncating [014] was later pit feature [016] which measured 1.20m in diameter and 0.50m deep, and was filled by (015) a loose grey brown silty clay with inclusions of flint, tile, bone and sherds of pottery dated to 1600-1700AD. The pit is similar to the earlier feature [012] and has been interpreted as a later garden feature.
- 7.3 Two circular features [004] and [008] were recorded cutting into the natural chalk (009) during the ground reduction to the east of the existing garage, (Figure 4). Feature [008] was recorded as a brick lined well or soakaway, measuring approximately 1.50m in diameter. The circular construction cut was backfilled with brown sandy clay (006) probably used to keep the feature water tight. The brick lining (007) was composed of orange/red unfrosted bricks measuring 110mm x 63mm x 140mm, each mortared together with grey yellow gritty sand mortar. The well or soakaway was backfilled with (005) which was composed of modern material including topsoil, brick and tile.
- 7.4 Pit [004] was recorded during the excavation of foundation trenches for the new extension building to the east of the site, (Figure ??). The pit was only recorded in section, measuring 1.50m long x 1.0m wide x 0.80m + deep (not fully excavated), and was filled by (003) grey silt clay containing inclusions of tile, bone, chalk and pottery dated to 1670-1700AD. The pit is likely to have been deliberately backfilled when the primary use of the feature was abandoned. It remains unclear what function the pit was originally used for, as the contents do not suggest it was used as a domestic rubbish or cess pit. It is possible that it may have been an earlier local well or soakaway having been abandoned and replaced by the later well or soakaway of [008].
- 7.5 Truncating into well [008] was late post-medieval pit [005], filled with dark silty clay, with inclusions of post-medieval brick, glass and tile.

- 7.6 Towards the southern extent of the garage was [017] a brick lined culvert which ran east-west parallel to Broad Street. The brick lining (019) was two courses thick and was composed of unfrogged red bricks bonded together with a yellow sandy mortar. Approximately 1.50m of the culvert length was exposed indicated that the brick feature was 0.60m wide. The culvert had been damaged during the construction of the garage and a large proportion of roof had been removed which lead to the partial backfilling of the culvert with (018) composed of bricks, concrete and silts
- 7.7 Overlying the features recorded in the garage was (010) a layer of brown silty clay overlain by the concrete floor of the garage, whereas the features within the current garden area were overlaid by either redeposited chalk (002) used as a hardcore base for the previous patio or topsoil (001).

## **8 FINDS**

- 8.1 Datable pottery sherds were recovered from four features excavated on site. Two feature [012] and [014] contained sherds of pottery including examples locally produced pottery such as South Hampshire redware as well as pottery from further afield (see Appendix C). Pottery recovered from pit [012] was dated to 1250-1350AD whilst the pottery recovered from well [014] was dated to 1350-1500AD.
- 8.2 Only two features that have been to the post medieval period contained datable pottery. Well [004] contained 14 fragments of post-medieval pottery varying from regional pottery fabrics of Verwood-type ware and Surrey-Hampshire border ware as well as examples from London. The pottery dates the feature to 1670-1700AD.
- 8.3 Pit [015] also contained examples of post-medieval pottery dated to 1600-1700AD.

## **9 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 The excavations on site revealed two medieval features and five post-medieval features.
- 9.2 The features from both periods appear to relate to garden activity and water management relating to the properties fronting Broad Street. The exposed brick lined culvert is likely to be part of a system that would have carried foul water or sewage from the properties fronting Broad Street, diverting it east towards a local water course.

- 9.3 Publication of the results will be through the ADS OASIS form (Appendix D) with a short summary submitted to the Hampshire Field Club Journal round-up. No further analysis or reporting is considered necessary.

## 10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

AOC Archaeology Group Ltd (2003). *Fieldwork Sector On-Site Handbook*.

AOC Archaeology Group (2006). 47 Broad Street, New Alresford, Hampshire  
Written Scheme of Investigation For An Archaeological Watching Brief

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United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (1983). *Conservation Guidelines No 2*.

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**Figure 1 – Site Location**

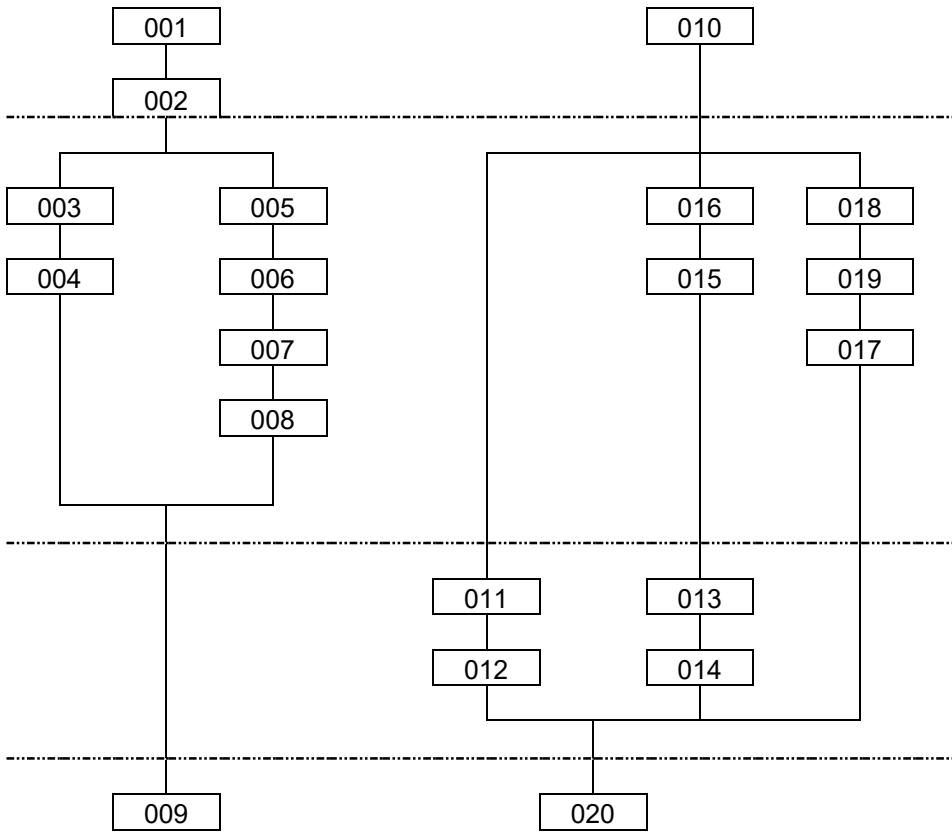
**Figure 2 – Trench Locations and plans**

Fig 3

**APPENDIX A – CONTEXT REGISTER**

<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Context Description</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Width</b>	<b>Depth</b>
001	Topsoil	Area	Area	0.20m
002	Chalk Hardcore	6.20m	5.00m	0.30m
003	Fill of 004	1.50m	1.0m	0.80m
004	Cut of Well	1.50m	1.0m	0.80m
005	Late Post-medieval pit	-	-	-
006	Fill of 008	-	-	0.40m
007	Brick lining	1.50m	1.50m	0.80m
008	Cut of well	1.50m	1.50m	0.80m
009	Natural Chalk	-	-	-
010	Concrete Garage Floor	-	-	0.25m
011	Fill of 012	0.94m	0.94m	0.30m
012	Cut of pit	0.94m	0.94m	0.30m
013	Fill of 014	1.00m	0.80m	0.50m
014	Cut of Well	1.00m	0.80m	0.50m
015	Fill of 016	1.20m	1.20m	0.50m
016	Cut of pit	1.20m	1.20m	0.50m
017	Cut of Culvert	1.20m	0.60m	-
018	Loose backfill	-	-	-
019	Brick Lining	1.20m	0.60m	0.22m
020	Natural Chalk	-	-	-

## APPENDIX B - MATRIX



## **APPENDIX C – POTTERY ANALYSIS**

By Nigel Jeffries

### **1 INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY**

- 1.1 The medieval pottery from WINCM-AY255 comprises 27 sherds from up to 23 vessels and weighs 986 grammes. The assemblage was recovered from up to four contexts that yielded only small-sized groups (which, other than context [003], yielded less than five sherds each) and fills one box. The pottery was recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, in accordance with standard MoLSS procedure by employing fabric, form and decoration codes in current use, with minimum quantification by sherd count, Estimated Number of Vessels (ENV) and weight (average weight per sherd of 36.5 grammes). The codes used in the recording of this assemblage are an amalgam of those used in Duncan Brown's Pottery in Medieval Southampton publication (Brown 2002) for the medieval pottery and the Museum of London's classifications for the post-medieval pottery. It is regrettable that a more consistent terminology could not be applied.
- 1.2 The assemblage contains a mixture of later medieval and post-medieval pottery. No complete profiles or vessels were found and the medieval pottery is highly fragmented, whereas larger-sized sherds together with rims and bases, are present among the better-made post-medieval pottery reflects its durability.

### **2 THE MEDIEVAL POTTERY**

- 2.1 Nine sherds of medieval pottery were found in contexts [11] and [13], with the two sherds present in context [3], which contained greater quantities of later pottery, noted, but not identified. The fabrics from the medieval levels fall into reasonably defined groups and reflect local sources of supply: South Hampshire redwares are therefore the most frequent, supplemented by non local wares such as Laverstock wares and the products of the Surrey whiteware industry including Tudor Green and coarse border wares. Some of the fabrics can be equated with medieval pottery defined by previous writers, but some of the early descriptions and discussion of sources are quite vague (McCarthy and Brooks 1988) especially among Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club journals from the 1970s and 1980s.

### **3 THE POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY**

- 3.1 The remaining 18 sherds of pottery are post-medieval in date. Much of these were found in context [3], a deposit containing a relatively well preserved group, which includes regional products such as Verwood-type ware (Verwood is located just inside Dorset), Surrey-Hampshire border wares, a sherd each of London made tin-glazed ware and stoneware. Another common type of pottery found has been

recorded as PMR and is used here to describe the coarser red earthenware fabrics and forms that one might expect to find in later 16th to early 19th century deposits. Kilns producing such wares have been identified in Farnham, in Surrey and Bishop's Waltham, in Hampshire.

#### **4 ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL**

- 4.1 The pottery recovered from the site is small-sized only and its use lay in establishing a broad chronological sequence for the site and for characterising the deposits it was recovered from; the work undertaken for this assessment is therefore sufficient for this assemblage.

#### **5 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DATA**

- 5.1 The pottery has local significance in that it suggests a relatively undisturbed pattern of medieval and post-medieval landuse on this site from deposits that contained chronologically coherent pottery.

#### **6 REVISED RESEARCH AIMS**

- 6.1 The pottery sample is too small to support further analysis.

#### **7 METHOD STATEMENTS**

- 7.1 No further work is proposed at this stage.

#### **8 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Duncan Brown 2002 Pottery in Medieval Southampton c 1066-1510, CBA Research Report 133

Michael M McCarthy and Catherine M Brooks 1988 Medieval Pottery in Britain AD 900-1600, Leicester University Press

Fabric	Expansion	Period	Form	Expansion	Decoration	Expansion
BORDB	Surrey-Hampshire border redware with brown glaze	PM	BOWL DEEP	deep bowl	GLIE	glazed internally and externally  glazed externally  unglazed
BORDG	Surrey-Hampshire border whiteware with green glaze	PM	CAUL/PIP	cauldron/pipkin	GLE	
BORDY	Surrey-Hampshire border whiteware with yellow glaze	PM	CRUC	crucible	UNGL	
FREC	Frechen stoneware	PM	CUP LOB	lobed cup		
LAVE	Laverstock ware	M	DISH	dish		
LONS	London stoneware	PM	DISH FLAR	flared dish		
PMR	Hampshire area post-medieval redware	PM	JAR	jar		
RBORB	Surrey Hampshire border redware	PM	JUG	jug		
SHR	South Hampshire redware	M	MUG	mug		
SRWW	Surrey whiteware	M	OINT	ointment pot		
TDG	Tudor green ware	M	TANK	tankard		
TGW C	plain tin-glazed ware	PM	TPIP	tripod pipkin		
VERW	Verwood ware	PM				



Context	Context TPQ	Context TAQ	Type	Size	Fabric	?	Form	?	Decoration	Shds	Env	State	Wt	Comments	Fabric date
3	1670	1700	PMPOT	S	BORDB		MUG			3	1		39	Base	1620-1700
3	1670	1700	PMPOT	S	BORDG		DISH FLAR			1	1		30	Rim	1550-1700
3	1670	1700	PMPOT	S	BORDG		MUG	?		2	1		14		1550-1700
3	1670	1700	PMPOT	S	BORDY		TPIP			2	1		269	Base	1550-1700
3	1670	1700	PMPOT	S	LONS		TANK			1	1		23	Rim	1670-1926
3	1670	1700	MPOT	S	MPOT					2	2		48	Residual pieces	
3	1670	1700	PMPOT	S	PMR	?	JAR		GLIE	1	1		141	Shoulder shd from lg vessel	1580-1900
3	1670	1700	PMPOT	S	RBORB		BOWL DEEP			1	1		74	Base	1580-1800
3	1670	1700	PMPOT	S	RBORB		DISH	?		1	1		8	Small shd	1580-1800
3	1670	1700	PMPOT	S	TGW C		OINT			1	1		40	Base	1630-1846
3	1670	1700	PMPOT	S	VERW		BOWL DEEP			1	1		96	Rim and upper prof	1600-1900
11	1250	1350	MPOT	S	SHR		JUG			1	1		9	Reduced	1250-1350
11	1250	1350	MPOT	S	SHR		JUG		GLE	1	1		9		1250-1350
11	1250	1350	MPOT	S	LAVE		JUG		GLE	1	1		10	Possibly earlier pitcher form	1250-1350
13	1350	1500	MPOT	S	SHR		JUG		UNGL	1	1		6	fine sandy ware	1250-1350
13	1350	1500	MPOT	S	SRWW		JAR			1	1		10	coarse border ware	1270-1500
13	1350	1500	MPOT	S	TDG		CUP LOB			1	1		22	Base - Tudor Green	1350-1500
13	1350	1500	MPOT	S	SHR		JUG			1	1		11	reduced with thumbbed base	1250-1350
15	1600	1700	PMPOT	S	FREC		JUG			1	1		7		1550-1700
15	1600	1700	PMPOT	S	MISC		CRUC	?		1	1		28		1480-1800
15	1600	1700	PMPOT	S	PMR		CAUL/PIP			1	1		58	Rim	1580-1900
15	1600	1700	PMPOT	S	VERW		DISH		GLIE	1	1		34	Base	1600-1700
									Total	27	23		986		

## APPENDIX D – OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-22896

### Project details

Project name	47 Broad Street, New Alresford, Hampshire
Short description of the project	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group during March and September 2006 at 47 Broad Street, Alresford, Hampshire, on behalf of Masser Architects. The aim of the watching brief was to assess the impact of the proposed development on any surviving archaeological remains. The watching brief was conducted during two phases of ground reduction ahead of landscaping, construction of an extension to the current house and the installation of a car turntable. Several medieval circular garden features were recorded during the reduction within the current garage. The pits were dated to 1350-1500 AD and are likely to be the remains of a previous garden landscape which previously occupied that area of the site. Four post-medieval wells or soakaways were also recorded on site. Only one of the wells or soakaways was brick lined, the remainder were either cut directly into the natural chalk or the original lining had been recovered to be used elsewhere. The post-medieval features were dated to 1600-1700AD. Also recorded on site was a bricklined culvert which ran east-west across the southern limit of the garage building. Only 1.50m of the culvert was exposed revealing that the culvert was composed of redbrick measured approximately 0.60m wide. The course of the culvert suggests that it would have run parallel along Broad Street and is likely to have collected water or sewage from the properties fronting Broad Street.</p>
Project dates	Start: 22-03-2006 End: 20-09-2006
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	WINCM AY 255 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden

Monument type WELL Medieval

Monument type WELL Post Medieval

Monument type PIT Medieval

Monument type PIT Post Medieval

Monument type CULVERT Post Medieval

Significant Finds CERAMIC Medieval

Significant Finds CERAMIC Post Medieval

Investigation type 'Watching Brief'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

### Project location

Country England

Site location HAMPSHIRE WINCHESTER NEW ALRESFORD 47 Broad Street, New Alresford

Postcode SO24

Study area 21.00 Square metres

Site coordinates SU 5876 3288 51.0916666667 -1.160833333330 51 05 30 N 001 09 39 W Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation AOC Archaeology Group

Project brief originator      Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design originator      AOC Archaeology Group

Project director/manager      Ron Humphrey

Project supervisor      Catherine Edwards

Project supervisor      Ken Bazley

Type of sponsor/funding body      Developer

Name of sponsor/funding body      Masser Architects

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient      Winchester Museum

Physical Contents      'Ceramics'

Digital Archive recipient      Winchester Museum

Digital Contents      'Stratigraphic','Ceramics'

Digital Media available      'Images raster / digital photography','Survey','Text'

Paper Archive recipient      Winchester Museum

Paper Contents 'Ceramics', 'Stratigraphic'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet', 'Map', 'Matrices', 'Microfilm', 'Photograph', 'Plan', 'Report', 'Section', 'Unpublished Text'

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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