

T H A M E S V A L L E Y

—ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**21A-21B Southgate Street,
Winchester, Hampshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

by Luis Esteves

**Site Code: SSW16/71 (AY29)
(SU 4794 2941)**

**21A-21B Southgate Street, Winchester,
Hampshire**

**An Archaeological Watching Brief
For Harding Holdings Limited**

by Luis Esteves
Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code SSW 16/71
(AY29)

October 2016

Summary

Site name: 21A-21B Southgate Street, Winchester, Hampshire

Grid reference: SU 4794 2941

Site activity: Watching Brief

Date and duration of project: 10th June 2016

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Kyle Beaverstock

Site code: SSW 16/71 (AY29)

Area of site: c.425sq m

Summary of results: No archaeological features were observed during the course of the watching brief in the area for the new building.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust in due course.

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Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford ✓ 24.01.17
	Steve Preston ✓ 24.01.17

21A-21B Southgate Street, Winchester, Hampshire An Archaeological Watching Brief

by Luis Esteves

Report 16/71

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological watching brief carried out at 21a-21b Southgate Street, Winchester, Hampshire (SU 47941 29410) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Matt Stride of Gysin Warr Limited, Radley House, 8 St Cross Road, Winchester, SO23 9HX on behalf of Harding Holdings Limited, Drivers Wharf, Northam Road, Southampton, SO14 0PF.

Planning permission (14/01936/FUL) has been gained from Winchester City Council to construct a new building on the site. The consent is subject to conditions (16, 17 and 18) relating to archaeology. A mitigation strategy and foundation design was devised to satisfy condition 18, this report relates to conditions 16 and 17 which required that an archaeological watching brief take place during the groundworks to ensure that the archaeological horizon was not disturbed.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) and the City's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Ms Tracy Matthews, Archaeological Officer for Winchester City Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Kyle Beaverstock on the 10th June 2016 and the site code is SSW16/71 (AY29).

The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located to the west of the M3 within central Winchester on the east side of Southgate Street (Fig. 2). The site comprises a flat parcel of empty land and lies at a height of c.48m above Ordnance Datum. The underlying is mapped as chalk (BGS 1975) but this was not observed on site.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site stems from its location within the historic centre of Winchester with Roman, Saxon and medieval deposits present on the site as documented by an earlier evaluation (Teague 2003).

The evaluation consisted of two trenches which demonstrated exceptionally well preserved deeply stratified archaeological deposits including a Roman street, a Saxon timber building that seems to have been burnt *in situ*, a Saxon street, Saxo-Norman occupation (pits and structural remains) and a substantial later medieval wall. Finds were plentiful and well-preserved. The archaeologically relevant deposits were located at depths below 46.1m AOD (Trench 1) or below 45m AOD (Trench 2), well below the modern ground level.

On the basis of the evaluation results, it was considered that the site held potential, should the opportunity arise, to answer questions relating to Winchester's Roman and middle Saxon street layouts, and the occupations of these periods, possibly including the crucial and ill-understood period of post-Roman settlement. However, the depths at which the relevant features were located meant that shallower development would not necessarily damage or destroy these deposits and preservation *in situ* could potentially be achieved by design, securing this valuable archaeological resource for future generations.

Objectives and methodology

The aims of the project were three-fold. The first part was to ensure that test pitting to assist in the design of a new soakaway did not damage archaeological levels but provided information for its design to avoid archaeology. The second part was to excavate and record any archaeological deposits affected by any ground reduction for the construction of the floor of the new building, and for the new soakaway and drainage runs if necessary, though these were not expected to reveal any significant deposits. The third part is to report for publication on the fieldwork which includes the previous evaluation findings.

Results

Due to changes in the design of the building and its associated drainage systems the only groundworks undertaken directly relating to the new building consisted of a series of 22 bored piles (Fig. 3). These were 0.4m in diameter and had very limited potential for the identification of archaeological deposits or material. No deposits of archaeological interest were observed.

Finds

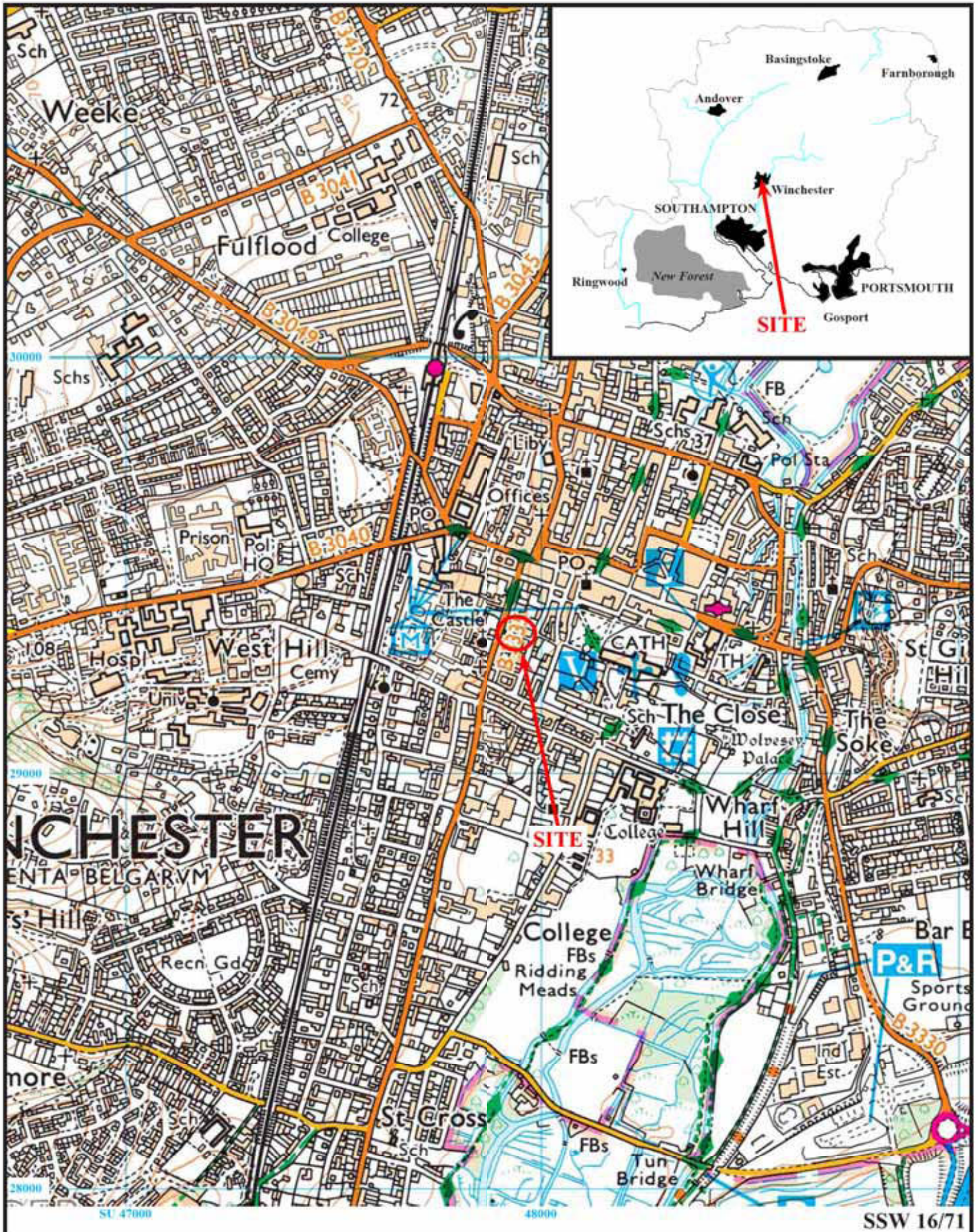
No finds of archaeological interest were recovered during the watching brief.

Conclusion

There was nothing of archaeological interest noted during the watching brief due to the limited nature of the groundworks undertaken on the site.

References

- BGS, 1975, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50,000, Sheet 299, Drift Edition, Keyworth
NPPF 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dep: Communities and Local Govt, London
Teague, S, 2003, '21A Southgate Street, Winchester, report on archaeological evaluation 2003', Winchester Museum Service report AY29, Winchester

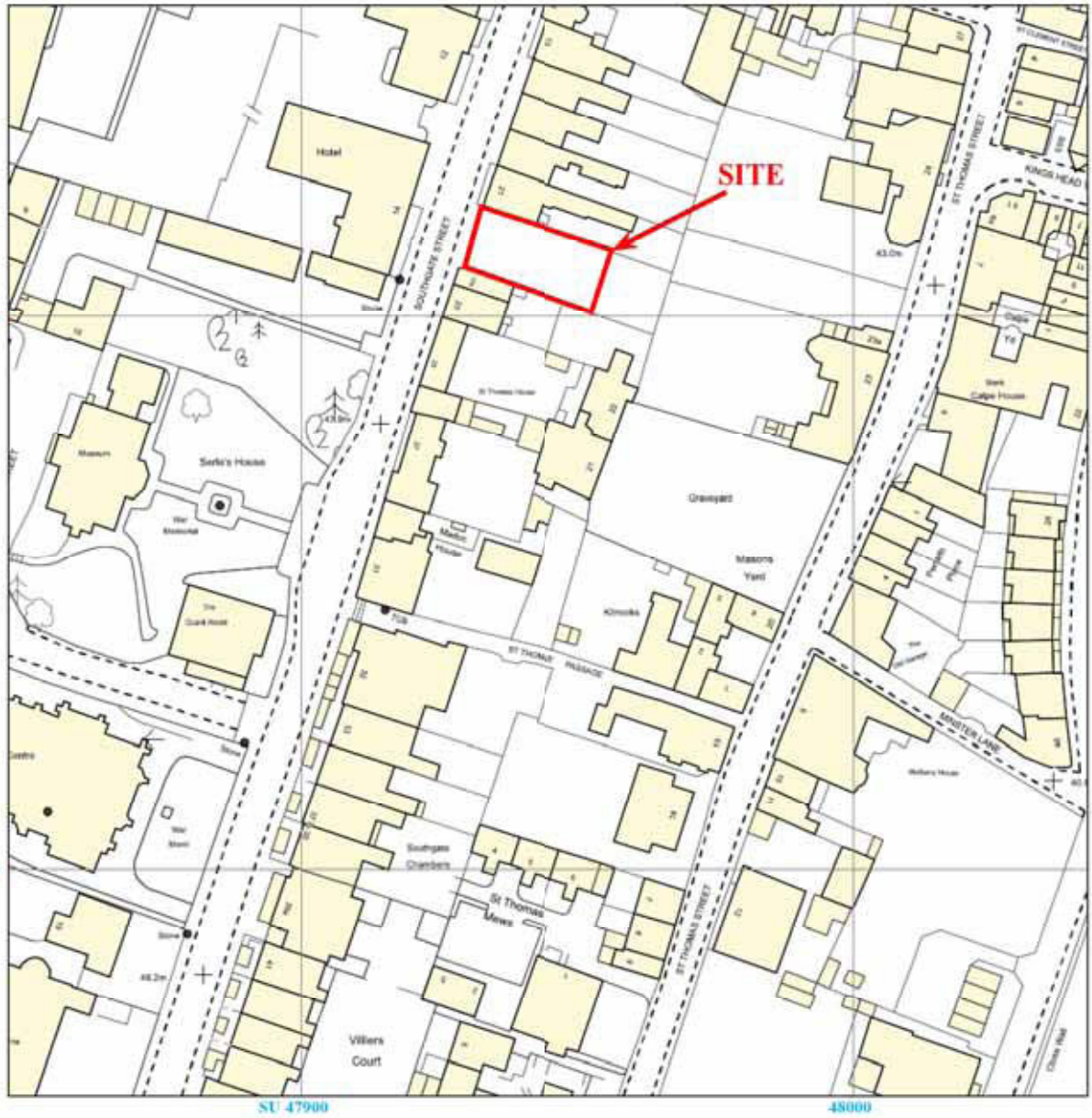


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Figure 1. Location of site within Winchester and Hampshire.

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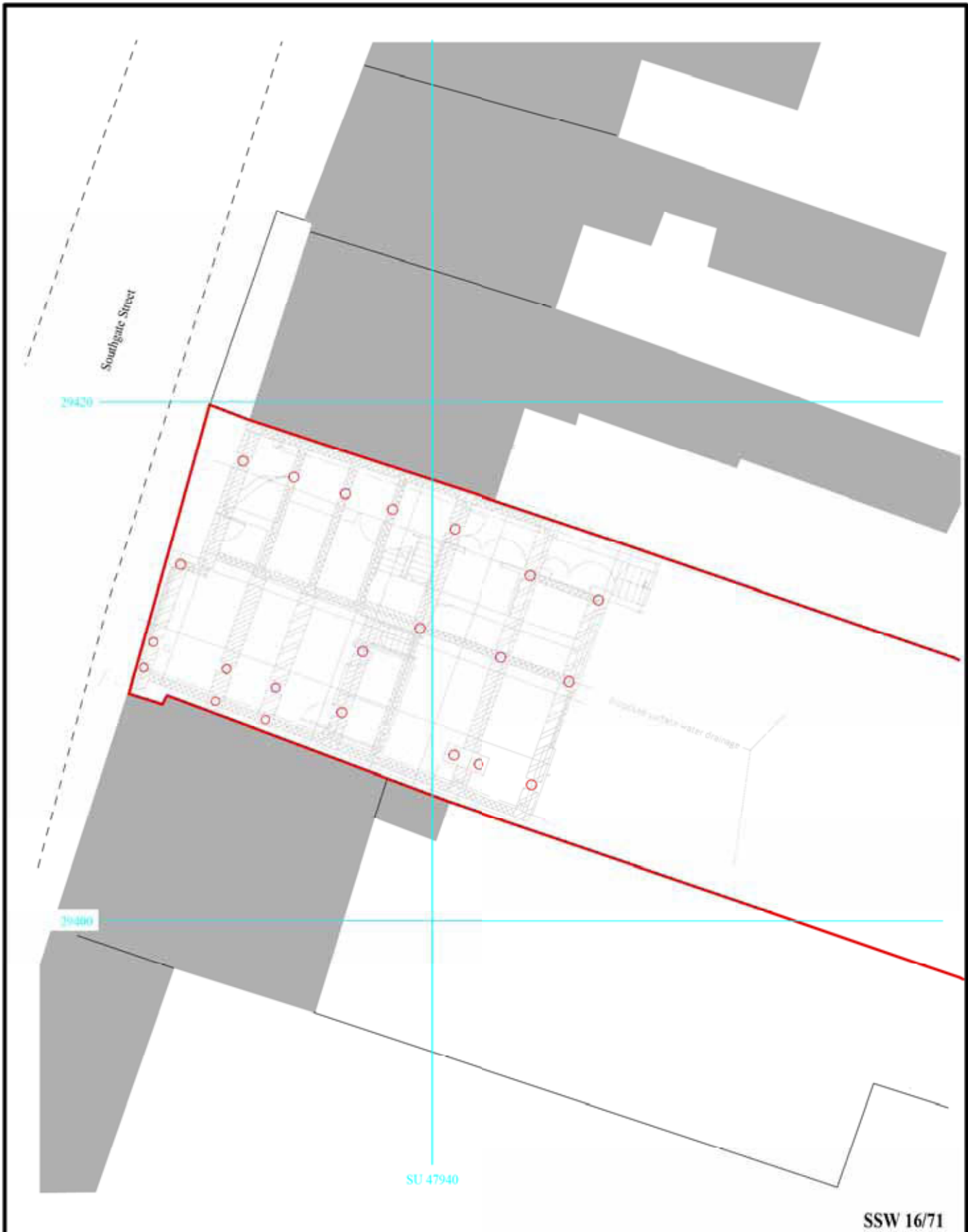
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 Figure 2. Detailed location of site off Southgate Street.

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Figure 3. Location of observed areas (piles).



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Plate 1. View across the site, looking south, Scale: 0.5m.



Plate 2. View across the site, looking north-west, Scale: 0.5m.

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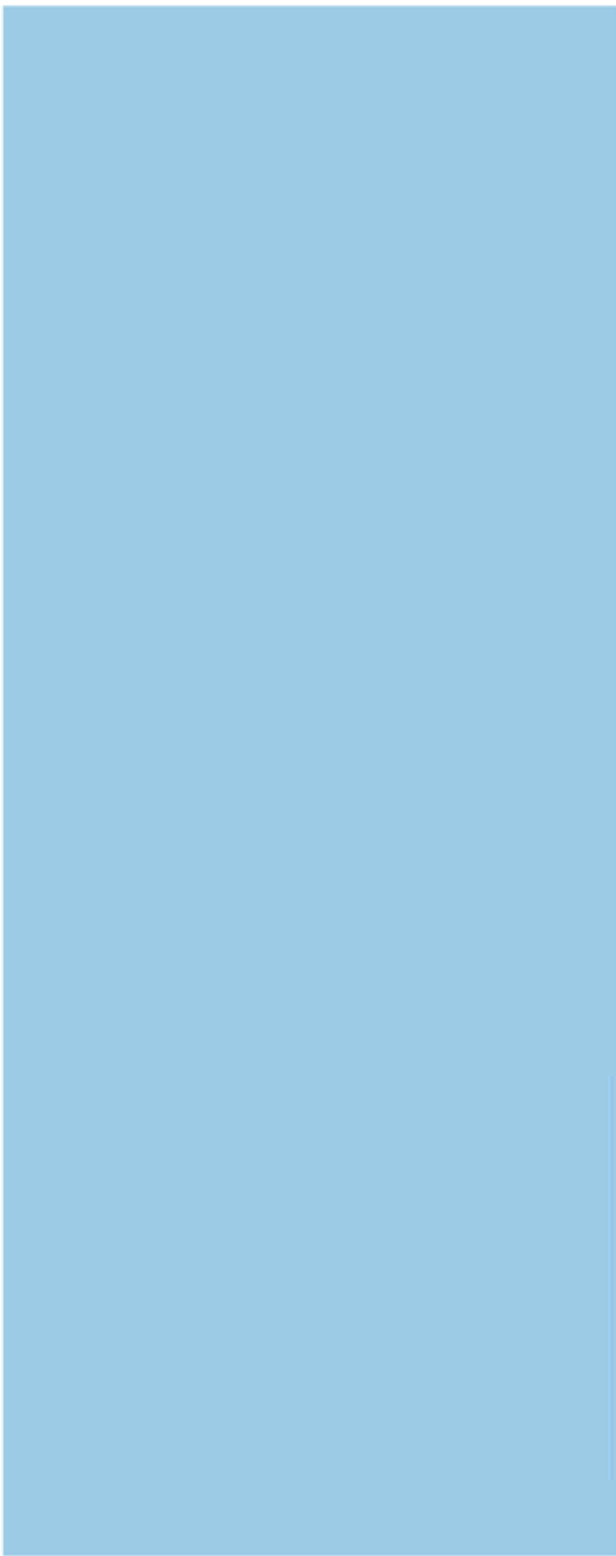
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Plates 1 - 2.

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TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
Iron Age _____	BC/AD 750 BC
Bronze Age: Late -----	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle -----	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early -----	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC





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