

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Watching brief 1 East Street, Havant, Hampshire

Version 1 – 4/12/2024

Application Number: APP/23/00851

1. Summary

No. 1 East Street, Havant is to be developed by P&N Developments & Investments Ltd. The site lies close to the crossing of two Roman roads and there is potential that Roman archaeology will be disturbed. In mitigation of the disturbance the Local Planning Authority have asked for a programme of archaeological monitoring (watching brief) to be carried out on the groundworks. An archaeologist will attend on site when groundworks are conducted and will record the archaeological deposits and recover any artifacts. Afterwards an illustrated report will be written and submitted to The Local Planning Authority. After completion of the project the archive will be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust.

2. Introduction

2.1. Southampton Archaeology has been commissioned by P&N Developments & Investments Ltd (hereafter The Client), to provide archaeological services in relation to the development.

2.2 The Client has permission to develop 1 East Street, Havant (fig 1), under planning Application Number: APP/23/00851.



Figure 1. Location of site marked by red star.

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2.3 The sites lies immediately north of the 1st century Roman road that ran from Chichester towards Winchester and Southampton and immediately west of the Roman

Road that ran between Langstone Harbour and Rowlands Castle. The site lies in an area of Roman and Medieval settlement.

2.4 The Hampshire County Council County Archaeologist, who advises Havant Borough Council on matters relating to Planning and Archaeology was consulted on the application. The County Archaeologist noted:

The site lies within the historic core of Havant and within an area of high archaeological importance. This area of Havant has been settled since at least the Roman period, with projected course of a Roman road either passing through, or close to, the site. Recent archaeological investigations at the neighbouring site revealed in situ archaeological remains dating to the Roman period. It is likely that important archaeological remains relating to the development of Havant are located beneath the property. These origins are likely to include Roman settlement (likely focused on the nearby crossroad of two Roman roads), and Saxon and medieval development of the town.

I would draw your attention to the Heritage Statement (AB Heritage 2023), that has been submitted in support of this application, which addresses archaeological matters. The document acknowledges the site's archaeological potential and assesses the following possible archaeological impacts of the proposal (para 6.2.6 and 6.3.4): 'The demolition and landscaping in general may expose or disturb buried archaeological features, and this would be most likely in the area to the rear where the smaller outbuilding is earmarked for demolition and for the proposed parking spaces. Other groundworks for the new North Street extension for instance, are likely to be in areas previously disturbed and affected by the late 19th century road works and rebuilding.' 'The demolition and landscaping could adversely affect the condition of buried Roman remains, similar to those uncovered in 2021'

The document concludes (para 7.1.2): 'The proposals for the 1 East Street includes a small degree of groundworks, but there is a medium potential to disturb significant remains. It is therefore recommended that all groundworks associated with this application are monitored and recorded by a qualified and experienced archaeologist.'

I support the assessment of archaeological matters in the heritage statement and endorse the document to the planning authority. Whilst there is the potential for some limited archaeological impact, I do not believe that this represents an overriding concern. I agree with the heritage statement that archaeological monitoring of groundworks would be an appropriate response. I would therefore recommend that a suitably worded condition be added to any planning permission granted.

This condition should secure the implementation of a programme of archaeological monitoring (watching brief), in accordance with a submitted and approved written scheme of investigation.

2.5 Condition 7 on Application Number APP/23/00851 states:

7 No development shall take place (other than above ground demolition) until the applicant or developer has secured the implementation of a programme of

archaeological monitoring (watching brief) in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation that has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: The site is of archaeological significance and it is important that the opportunity should be afforded to excavate the site before development commences and having due regard to policy CS11 of the Havant Borough Local Plan (Core Strategy) 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework.

2.6 This Written Scheme of Investigation for an archaeological watching brief has been produced by Southampton Archaeology to meet condition 7. It proposes that an experienced archaeologist attends on site during the excavation of groundworks in order to check the below-ground deposits. Should significant archaeology be revealed, the archaeologist will make a full record. On completion of the fieldwork an ordered archive will be produced and a written report.

3. Site Location and Description

3.1 The site is located on the corner of North Street and East Street, in the historic core of Havant at grid ref (SU 71816 06270) (fig 1).

3.2 The underlying geology is Head, a gravelly deposit formed by downslope movement from the chalk to the north, overlying clays of the Lambeth Group (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

3.3 The present ground level is approximately 8mOD.

4. Archaeological and Historical background

4.1 Historical background (synthesised from HCC Havant Historic Town Survey Assessment)

4.1.1 Havant is first mentioned as a settlement in AD 935 when 7 mansae of land at *Hamanfuntan* were granted to Wihtgar, a minister of King Athelstan (Sawyer 1968, 430). In 980 King Æthelred granted the reversion of land at Havant to the monks of the Old Minster, Winchester (St Swithun's) (ibid, 837).

4.1.2 The place-name is derived from the OE *funta* which usually means a spring, combined with the personal name Hama. The name refers to the presence of many springs that rise in and around the town. The word funta is a borrowing from the Latin *fontana* (Coates 1993, 88).

4.1.3 The monks of St Swithun's were still holding the estate of Havehunte when it was recorded in the Domesday Survey in 1086. There was a recorded population of 20 villagers and there were two mills and three salt-houses (Munby 1982, fol 43a).

4.1.4 In 1200 King John granted the town a market charter (Longcroft 1857, 9). The gaining of a market charter for Havant by the prior of St Swithun's may represent an attempt to stimulate development in the town but there is no evidence that the town ever gained 'urban' status. There are no references to burgage tenure or burgesses and no members of parliament were returned to represent Havant. Instead, the

settlement appears to have functioned as an important local market village (Hughes 1994, 202).

4.1.5 During the thirteenth century relations between the priors of St Swithun's and bishops of Winchester were often strained, but a settlement was made between the two parties in 1284 and as part of the settlement the manor of Havant was transferred to the Bishopric (Longcroft 1857, 10).

4.1.6 In the mid-eighteenth century the town suffered a severe fire that destroyed almost all of the buildings in West Street, and some buildings in North Street and East Street (Longcroft 1857, 73).

4.1.7 In the post-medieval period Havant was famous for the parchment produced there which was regarded as being of superior quality (Longcroft 1857, 82). There were also several tanneries, and malting and brewing were also important to the town, with thirteen establishments connected with these industries in the nineteenth century (Longcroft 1857, 81-2). Cloth working was undertaken in the town from the sixteenth century at least.

4.2 Archaeological Background.

4.2.1 The earliest known archaeological discovery in Havant was made in 1857 when work at Havant parish church (50m to the southwest of the present site) found that the medieval pillars were set on a solid concrete floor level made of Roman brick and cement. Three Roman coins of Antoninus Pius (140AD) and of Magnus Maximus and Flavius Victor were found.

4.2.2 Since then extensive evidence of Roman settlement has been found mostly along East Street and West Street, but also to the southwest by the Homewell Spring, which still issues from the ground to this day. Archaeological work some 40m to the northeast at the rear of 5-11 East Street found a substantial masonry wall in 2022 associated with Roman pottery.

4.2.3 Medieval and post-medieval pottery has been found on several sites, again concentrated on the east west route through the town.

5. Purpose/aims of the archaeological work.

5.1 The watching brief aims to make a record of any archaeology disturbed by the works and to determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality, and date of any archaeological remains encountered, as dictated by current best practice.

6. Methodology.

6.1 The work will consist of a watching brief on groundworks associated with new walls and services (fig. 2).

6.2 The archaeological contractor will give the Country Archaeologist notice of when the specified fieldwork is to begin, and when it has been completed.

6.3 A Hampshire Cultural Trust Accession Number will be obtained and will be used as the Site Code throughout the project to identify the site records and artifacts.

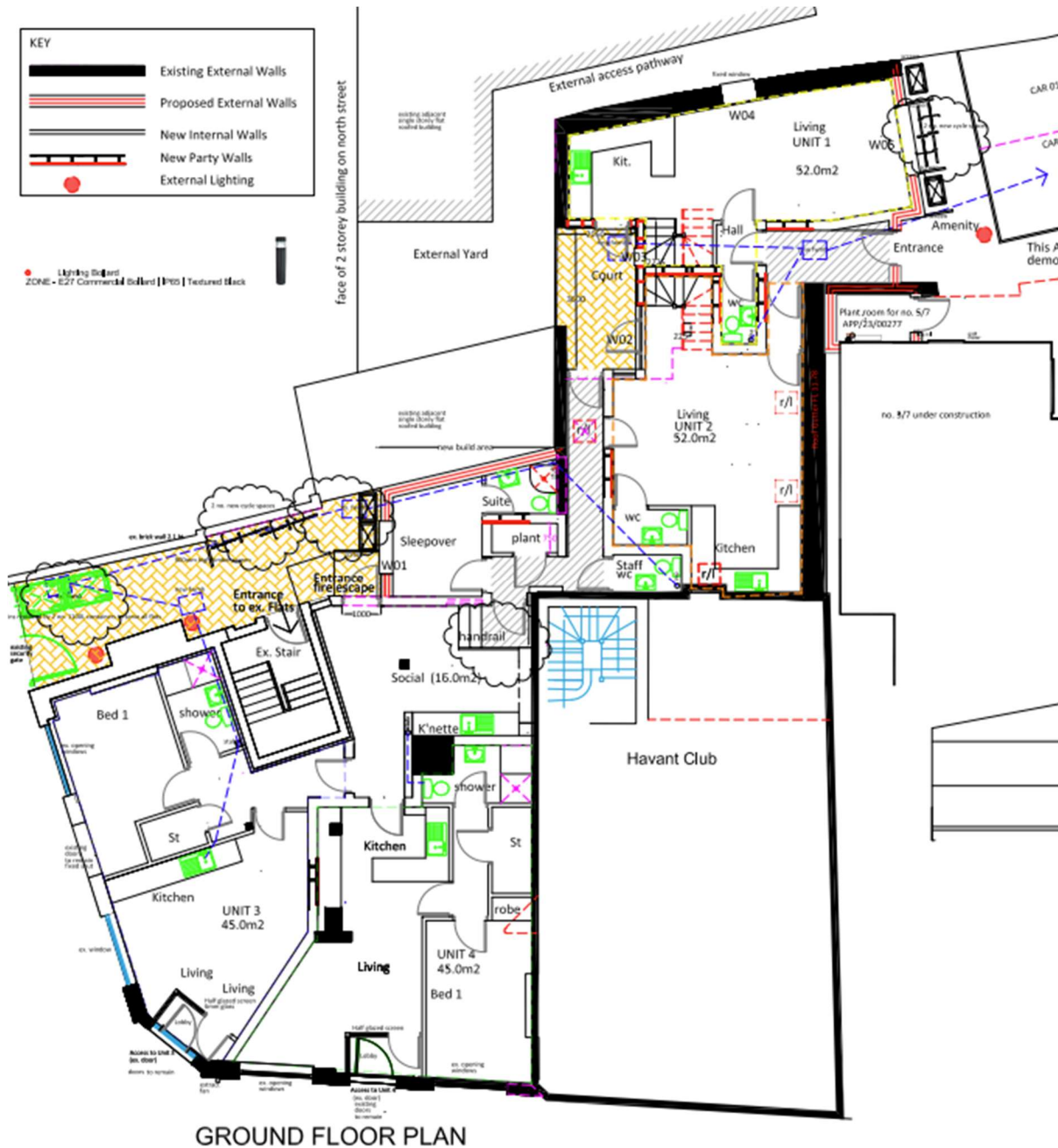


Figure 2. Plan of ground floor showing locations of new walls.

6.4 An archaeologist will be present on site when groundworks take place. They will observe the deposits, make records, and collect any artifacts revealed. If safe to do so, the sides and base of the excavated trench will be cleaned.

6.5 Should archaeological remains of significance be uncovered the client and the groundworks contractor will allow time for their hand excavation and recording. The hand excavation will stop once the groundworks have reached the required size for the contractor's purposes.

6.6 The site records will be as full as possible given the constraints of access and safety. If features are revealed, they will be drawn and photographed. Plans will be at

1:20 and sections and profiles at 1:10. Drawings will be made in pencil on permanent drafting film. Digital pictures will be taken. Overall site photographs will be taken in order to locate the investigation positions. The site code will appear in all photographs if practical.

6.7 The Soil Survey Field Handbook (Soil Survey of England and Wales) and Munsell colour chart will be used to describe soils.

6.8 Soil samples will be taken as appropriate.

6.9 Any finds recovered will be retained and processed according to the standards laid down in "Standards for the Creation, Compilation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives" (Southampton City Council, 2016).

6.10 All finds of gold and silver will be moved to a safe place and reported to the coroner's office according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the artefacts from theft or damage.

6.11 Disturbance of human remains in a disused burial ground is illegal unless sanctioned by a Ministry of Justice licence. If human skeletal remains are uncovered, works will stop and Historic England will be consulted. Should the remains need to be removed the archaeological contractor will apply to the MoJ for a licence to remove them and their removal will involve archaeological excavation of the remains.

6.12 If, once the fieldwork has begun, it is found that the aims of the watching brief can be fulfilled with an observation of selected groundworks, the contractor may restrict the scope of the watching brief, provided that agreement to this course of action has been obtained from Historic England.

6.13 The watching brief will have the necessary equipment. The minimum will be stationery, recording forms, camera, photographic scales, tapes, safety equipment, and trowel.

6.14 A context number will be allocated to all finds, even if this number is simply one allocated to unstratified finds. All finds of archaeological significance will be retained.

6.15 All archaeological personnel will report to the Site Manager on arrival at the site. All site regulations will be observed. All statutory and site-specific health and safety regulations will be followed.

6.16 Close liaison will take place between the Site Manager (or equivalent) and the archaeological observer to ensure that all groundworks are observed.

7. Post-excavation methodology

7.1 Fair copies will be made of rough site notes and sketches. Photographs will be catalogued. The site records will be entered into an Access database. A Harris Matrix will be drawn up to show the relationships recorded on site. The matrix and finds data will be used to phase the site sequence.

7.2 Any soil samples taken on site will be processed as appropriate.

7.3 All metal finds will be x-radiographed as part of the recording process.

7.4 The archaeological contractor will liaise with Hampshire Trust in regard to retention/disposal of finds.

7.5 To ensure the long-term stability of the finds and their availability for future study, conservation work will be carried out as necessary; full records (which will form a part of the archive) will be kept of any treatment given.

8. Report preparation and contents

8.1 Once the site data and artefacts have been analysed, a summary report will be written within six weeks of the end of the fieldwork. The report will be structured as in Appendix A. The report will include a summary sheet (see appendix B).

8.2 The archaeological contractor will send a copy of the report to the County Archaeologist for approval. Once it has been approved, the archaeological contractor will send a pdf version to the client for submission to the Local Planning Authority, and Hampshire County Council for the HER.

8.3 At the appropriate time, the archaeological contractor will send a short report of the evidence for inclusion in the summaries compiled by relevant journals (these are defined as any or all of: "Past", "Britannia", "Medieval Archaeology", "Post-medieval Archaeology").

9 Copyright

9.1 Southampton City Council shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents, or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs, and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project. The archaeological contractor in addition gives permission to Hampshire County Council to freely copy the report and photographs for the purposes of archaeological research or development control, without reference to the archaeological contractor.

10 Archive deposition

10.1 "Archive" here means the documentary and material archive as defined in *Standards for the Creation, Compilation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives* (SCC 2016). Hampshire Cultural Trust will be the depository of the archive, once the period of post-excavation analysis and report-writing is complete, and will assume title to all material recovered from the fieldwork for inclusion in its collections.

10.2 An OASIS form will be filled out on-line and the digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service.

11. Staffing

11.1 The work will be carried out by experienced archaeologists, under the supervision of Dr AD Russel BA, PhD, MCIfA.

12. Health and Safety

12.1 The Health and Safety Policies of Southampton City Council apply to its entire staff wherever they work. The Safety Manager for the Archaeology Unit is Dr AD Russel BA PhD MCIfA who can be contacted on 07787518130.

12.2 The archaeologists will liaise closely with the main contractor in regard to site specific health and safety requirements.

13. Insurances

13.1 Southampton City Council's insurance, including public liability and Professional Indemnity, covers its entire staff wherever they work.

14. Monitoring procedures

14.1 The project will be monitored by the County Archaeologist.

15. Procedures for reporting unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries.

15.1 Should significant or complex discoveries be made, the archaeologist on site will contact the Archaeology Unit Manager. The Archaeology Unit Manager will contact the client and the County Archaeologist.

Dr AD Russel
4/12/2024