

DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDING AND ERECTION OF APARTMENTS, UNIONIST BUILDINGS, 44 NICHOLAS STREET, CHESTER (23/03807/FUL)

CHESTER ARCAHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY COMMENTS

We welcome the apparently positive approach towards the archaeology on the site shown by the applicant, which on the basis of previous discoveries nearby is certainly of regional or national importance for both the Roman and medieval periods.

We support the line taken by the Development Management Archaeologist, ie overall aiming at preservation in situ; seeking to minimise loss to a small percentage (to be calculated); on-site monitoring; and appropriate recording of any remains that are unavoidably lost.

Our only comment on the proposed building relates to the inactive frontage to Black Friars, created by the lack of windows, the louvred doors to the bin store and plant room, and the solid door to the parking area. This exacerbates the deadening effect on the street of the garage door to the adjoining property. Perhaps the effect could be mitigated by replacing the solid door to the parking by a gate, as found, for example. on King Street.

Overall. we welcome the reintroduction of a residential use, which reinforces our calls on various occasions for the reduction of traffic volumes on Nicholas Street/Inner Ring Road.

Dr P Carrington FSA
Vice-President, Chester Archaeological Society

4 January 2024