Haslar IRC expansion
Gosport, Hampshire

Heritage Summary Proof of Evidence of Naomi Brennan on behalf of the Applicant

Crown Development Application Ref: CROWN/2026/0000005
GBC/LPA Ref: 26/00216/CROWN
October 2026

Summary

The heritage proof of evidence has been prepared by Naomi Brennan, BSc (hons), ACIfA. I am a Principal Heritage Consultant at Wessex Archaeology and have acted as the project manager on the Haslar IRC project from 2023 to 2026. In this role I have overseen and provided quality assurance on the reports produced, provided technical advice and support on the project and liaised with key consultees. I have worked in the heritage sector since 2004 and have over ten years' experience as a senior heritage consultant.

The heritage proof of evidence has addressed the potential impact of the scheme on the significance of Haslar Conservation Area and below ground archaeological remains. With regard to the first issue, while the consultee responses from Gosport Borough Council and Historic England believe that some harm may occur due to the height, location and design of the proposed development, in my professional opinion there will be no harm to the historic and architectural interests of the Conservation Area arising from the change to its setting. The detail of design and materials can be secured and addressed through reserved matters. The proposed location of the new buildings has provided a visual separation with the Conservation Area, allowing for the distinct identity of the barracks to be maintained, while allowing for the operational connection between them and the existing IRC to be maintained.

There is agreement that the archaeological potential of the application site is limited and potential impacts low, with modern made ground recorded as overlying the area of development. As a result, a mitigation approach comprising education alongside a finds reporting protocol rather than active monitoring has been proposed.