



The Deanery,
Chapel Road, Southampton

Archaeological Evaluation Report



**THE DEANERY,
CHAPEL ROAD,
SOUTHAMPTON**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

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SUMMARY

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Highwood Construction to carry out an archaeological field evaluation, comprising three machine excavated trenches, on land at The Deanery, Chapel Road, Southampton (NGR 44270 11155). The site lies within the south-west of the known extent of the nationally important mid-Saxon settlement of Hamwic. Following the issuing of a Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation, the fieldwork was undertaken between 6th and 10th February 2006.

The natural soil sequence was similar in all three trenches. The lowest deposits recorded comprised the yellowish brown River Terrace Gravels, the surface of which lay at approximately 1.30m OD across the entire site. The Terrace Gravels were overlain by natural Brickearth deposits that varied in thickness; the surface of the Brickearth in the north of the site was at approximately 1.90m OD, compared with 1.60m OD in the south.

The natural Brickearth sub-strata was cut by a number of pit like features; only two of these were sample excavated and very little dating evidence was recovered. However, both sample excavated features displayed a degree of regularity that suggested that they were shallow pits and were very similar in form to the Mid Saxon pits excavated during earlier work on the Site. These features were sealed below a subsoil layer of dark yellowish brown silty sand loam with common gravel and sparse charcoal inclusions. This subsoil may have been formed by arable cultivation following the depopulation of Hamwic, when the area reverted primarily to agriculture.

In the north-west of the site the subsoil was cut by two wall footings, of probable post-medieval date that may represent the remains of a building depicted on a late 18th century map, or possibly some sort of wall, vaguely depicted on a map of *c.* 1600. In all three trenches, the subsoil was overlain by a mid-dark greyish brown silty loam with common gravel and charcoal and sparse brick fragment inclusions, thought to represent a possible post-medieval buried soil. This was in turn cut by probable 19th century building remains and probably associated features in the north of the site that were sealed below the modern overburden.

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Roland Smith and Peter Reeves managed the project for Wessex Archaeology. The fieldwork was directed by Vaughan Birbeck, assisted by Mike Dinwiddy, Dave Parry and Gemma White. This report was prepared by Vaughan Birbeck with the assistance of Lorraine Mephram (finds). Kitty Brandon prepared the illustrations

THE DEANERY, CHAPEL ROAD, SOUTHAMPTON:

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Highwood Construction to carry out an archaeological field evaluation on land at The Deanery, Chapel Road, Southampton (NGR 44270 11155, hereafter 'the Site', **Figure 1**). The site lies within the known extent of the nationally important mid-Saxon settlement of Hamwic. Therefore in view of the proposed residential development of the site, the Heritage Conservation Unit of Southampton City Council has advised the local planning authority that further information on the archaeological implications of the proposed development is required prior to determination of a planning application for the proposed development.
- 1.1.2 The Heritage Conservation Unit (hereafter HCU) issued a Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation and Wessex Archaeology produced a programme of work (Wessex Archaeology 2006) for the evaluation in accordance with its requirements. The fieldwork was undertaken between 6th and 10th February 2006.

1.2 The Site, Topography and Geology

- 1.2.1 The Site is situated to the south-east of Southampton City centre, in the parish of St Mary's and to the south-east of St Mary's Church. The Site comprises an approximately rectangular plot of land to the south of and fronting Chapel Road and is currently occupied by Southampton City College with a gym building, access road and areas of car parking and landscaping.
- 1.2.2 The site lies on a gentle south-facing slope, falling from approximately 3m OD in the north to around 2.5m OD in the south. Geological maps indicate that the Site lies on Brickearth, overlying River Terrace Gravels (British Geological Survey, sheet 315).

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological background to the Site is set out in detail in the Scheme of Investigation and subsequent information provided by the HCU. This can be summarised as follows. The site lies within the south-west of the known extent of the nationally important Mid-Saxon settlement of Hamwic. St Mary's church is of Saxon foundation and in the Middle Ages was Southampton's mother church. Mid-Saxon occupation has previously been

recorded within the site. There is also a potential for Saxon and post-Conquest burials in the north-west of the site, extending from the known burial area around St Mary's Church.

- 1.3.2 In the late medieval period, the Chantry House lay to the west of the Site, although cartographic and archaeological evidence suggests that later medieval occupation extends into the Site area.
- 1.3.3 Post-medieval and modern interest in the Site lies in features and deposits associated with Chapel Road. It is likely that there was a substantial roadside ditch to the south of Chapel Road.
- 1.3.4 Parts of the site have been subject to archaeological investigation in the past. In 1973 three trenches (SOU 9 and 17) were excavated in the centre of the site (**Figure 1**) prior to the construction of the Gym building (Morton 1992, 96). In 2000 three evaluation trenches were excavated in the north-west, north and south of the site (SOU 1055) (Russel and Leivers 2000). Borehole and test pit data has also been recovered from the site, although the results are not currently readily available (Wessex Archaeology 2001).

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objective of the evaluation was to establish, within the constraints of the evaluation sampling strategy, the presence or absence, location, extent, date, character, condition, and depth of any surviving remains within the Site.
- 2.2 The evaluation also aimed to enhance the existing archaeological data for the Site to enable informed decisions to be made on the archaeological potential of the Site, the likely impact of the proposed development and the mitigation measures required to remove, reduce or ameliorate those impacts, taking into account the quality and importance of the archaeology and the engineering requirements of the developer.

3 METHODS

3.1 Field Evaluation

- 3.1.1 In order to enhance existing data, the Scheme of Investigation and supplementary information identified three areas for evaluation, in the north, north-west and south of the Site which were investigated by means of three large machine dug trenches (**Figure 1**). A trench of approximately 5m by 5m was excavated in the north of the Site (Trench 1) to clarify further mid-Saxon occupation and to establish the presence or absence of features and deposits associated with Chapel Road. The trench was located as close to Chapel Road as possible, however this proved to be approximately 1.80m to the south of the northern boundary wall. A trench of approximately 8m by 6m was proposed in the north-west corner of the Site (Trench 2) to clarify further the nature and extent of mid-Saxon occupation and to recover further information on the nature and importance of medieval structural remains.

The trench was located to intercept the southern end of trench 1 of SOU 1055. In the field modern drainage service runs and overhead cables in this area of the Site restricted the size of the trench that it was possible to excavate to approximately 6m by 5m. A trench of approximately 5m by 5m was excavated in the south of the Site to clarify further mid-Saxon occupation, particularly the northern extent of an apparent 'hotspot' of occupation and/or the southern extent of an apparent 'coldspot' of occupation.

- 3.1.2 All trenches were excavated by machine (360° excavator) using a wide toothless bucket, although a toothed bucket was required to remove the initial hard standing deposits. Mechanical excavation proceeded until archaeological remains or, in their absence, natural deposits were revealed. All mechanical excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision.
- 3.1.3 All trenches were hand cleaned and archaeological deposits recorded and sample excavated as appropriate. All trenches were located in relation to the Ordnance Survey national grid, with all archaeological features related to Ordnance Survey Datum and recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system.
- 3.1.4 Excavation of archaeological features and deposits was the minimum necessary to achieve the project objectives and was not unduly damaging to the integrity of deposits where their preservation in situ was desirable. The spoil from all trenches was scanned for artefacts, including the use of a metal detector.

3.2 Finds and Environmental Sampling

- 3.2.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery of artefacts and environmental samples were devised and implemented by the Project Manager in association with Wessex Archaeology's Finds and Environmental Managers.
- 3.2.2 All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. In such circumstances, sufficient artefacts were retained in order to elucidate the date and/or function of the feature or deposit. Material of undoubtedly modern date observed on the spoil-heap of each excavation area was not noted or retained.
- 3.2.3 All finds and archive work was undertaken in accordance with Standards for the Deposition of Archaeological Archives with Southampton City Council. All artefacts were, as a minimum, washed, weighed, counted and identified. Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions will be dealt with immediately in line with First Aid for Finds (Watkinson & Neal 1998). Ironwork from stratified contexts will be X-rayed and stored in a stable environment along with other fragile and delicate material.
- 3.2.4 Bulk environmental soil samples for plant macro-fossils, small animal bones and other small artefacts would have been taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated/datable archaeological deposits, however, as excavation was

minimally intrusive no suitable deposits were identified and consequently no environmental samples were taken.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The results of the archaeological evaluation of the area are detailed below by trench. A full description of all archaeological contexts is retained in the site archive, currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology under the project code SOU 1386; brief context descriptions are available in Appendix 1.

4.2 The Soil Sequence

- 4.2.1 The natural soil sequence was similar in all three trenches. The lowest deposits recorded comprised the yellowish brown River Terrace Gravels (British Geological Survey, sheet 315), the surface of which lay at approximately 1.30m OD across the entire site. The Terrace Gravels were overlain by natural mid yellowish brown sandy silt Brickearth deposits that varied in thickness. The surface of the Brickearth in Trench 1 was at approximately 1.90m OD, compared with 1.60m OD in Trench 3. In Trench 2, where a slight slope in the surface of the Brickearth from north to south was noted, it lay at between approximately 1.90m OD in the north of the trench and 1.55m OD in the southern end.

- 4.2.2 The natural Brickearth sub-strata was cut by a number of pit like features; only two of these were sample excavated and very little dating evidence was recovered. However, both sample excavated features displayed a degree of regularity that suggested that they were shallow pits and were very similar in form to the Mid Saxon pits excavated during earlier work on the Site. These features were sealed below a subsoil layer of dark yellowish brown silty sand loam with common gravel and sparse charcoal inclusions. This subsoil may have been formed by arable cultivation following the depopulation of *Hamwic*, when the area reverted primarily to agriculture. The subsoil was encountered in all trenches and in Trench 2 was cut by possible medieval and post-medieval features. In all three trenches, it was overlain by a mid-dark greyish brown silty loam with common gravel and charcoal and sparse brick fragment inclusions. This was thought to represent a possible post-medieval buried soil; this was in turn cut by probable 19th century building remains and probably associated features in Trenches 1 and 2, that were sealed below the modern overburden.

4.3 Trench 1 (Figure 2)

- 4.3.1 Trench 1 was located in the north of the Site, as close as possible to Chapel Road, in order to try and locate a flanking ditch known to run along it's southern side and to further investigate possible Saxon features found in this area during an earlier evaluation (Russell, and Leivers, 2000). Although no archaeologically significant features were found in Trench 1, the natural soil sequence and the overlying possible buried soils seen in the other trenches were present. The only features recorded in this trench relate to the early 19th century school building that is depicted on the 1866 OS map of the area and

associated drainage runs. The surface of the natural Brickearth sub-strata, which directly overlay the terrace gravels, was at approximately 1.90m OD. The thickness of the Brickearth deposit was ascertained by auger and was found to be approximately 600mm. This was overlain by a 100mm-150mm thick subsoil deposit (115) which was in turn overlain by a possible post-medieval buried topsoil deposit (112).

4.4 Trench 2 (Figure 3)

4.4.1 Trench 2 was located in the north-west of the Site in order to investigate the significant Mid-Saxon occupation evidence and the possible medieval wall found during an earlier evaluation (Russell, and Leivers, 2000). The surface of the natural Brickearth substrata displayed a slight slope from north to south, although the surface of the underlying gravels appeared to be approximately level at around 1.30m OD. Several features in Trench 2 were encountered that were cut into the natural Brickearth sub-strata and sealed below the subsoil deposits (207 and 219). One of these (228) was investigated with a small sondage. This proved to be a shallow sub-circular pit, probably one of a group of intercutting pits in the north-east of the trench. The only finds recovered from the fill of this feature (229) comprised a fragment of medieval glazed, crested ridge tile and one piece of prehistoric worked flint, which is presumably residual in this context. As the upper fill of this feature had been partially cut by a later, post-medieval or modern pit (201), it is possible that the medieval material could be intrusive. Four further possible pits or groups of intercutting pits were also identified at this level, but were not excavated. Although the only pit at this level that was investigated may be of medieval or later date, earlier excavations on the Site, and in the immediate area, have identified Mid Saxon features at this level and it is likely that several of the unexcavated pits in this stratigraphic position are of Saxon date.

4.4.2 The overlying subsoil (207 and 219), which was up to 0.50m thick in this trench, was cut by the construction cuts of wall footings 226 and 227. These comprised trench built footings of flint nodules, re-used worked limestone and hand-made brick fragments in a silty sandy clay matrix. Although the majority of the re-used masonry comprised only ashlar fragments, one piece of well-worked moulded Purbeck Marble (object No. 1) was recovered from wall footing 226. This comprised approximately half of a hollow cylindrical moulding (diameter 0.38m), well finished over most of the external surface but also displaying a rougher, pecked area on one side. Other finds recovered from the two wall footings consisted of a single fragment of Roman amphora, a clay pipe stem and a large fragment of hand-made, unfrosted brick. Wall footing 226 was aligned approximately north-south and appeared to terminate within the trench where a return, wall 227, continued westwards, perpendicular to wall 226. The junction between the two walls had been removed by a later, probably linear feature (230). It is uncertain whether this was a robber trench, excavated to salvage masonry from a northern continuation of wall 226, or an elongated pit, although the latter appears more likely. This was investigated by a small slot excavated across its southern end, which showed the eastern and southern sides to be near vertical and the base flat, although it was noted that the northern side of the feature, visible in the east facing section, was rather

irregular. Both the wall construction cuts and pit/robber trench **230** were cut through the subsoil deposit and were sealed below a mid-dark greyish brown silty loam (**209**) with common gravel and charcoal inclusions that may represent a post-medieval buried topsoil. The possible post-medieval buried soil was cut by several pits and a posthole, all of which appear to be of 19th century date.

4.5 Trench 3 (Figure 4)

- 4.5.1 Trench 3 was located in the south of the Site to investigate an area between a “hotspot” of Mid Saxon occupation evidence found a short way to the south of the Site (SOU 1332) and an area of less dense occupation to the north, found during earlier work on the Site (SOU 17, Morton 1992, 96-100). Two pit-like features were located in Trench 3, both continuing beyond the eastern limit of excavation. Both were cut into the natural Brickearth sub-strata, which augering showed to be approximately 0.30m thick and directly overlay the terrace gravels, and were sealed below the overlying subsoil. The larger of these, cut **309**, was sample excavated and found to be a sub-circular pit, approximately 1.70m in diameter and 0.15m deep with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. No finds were recovered from its single fill (**308**), but the similarity of these features to the Mid Saxon pits excavated at several sites in the immediate area suggest a similar date. Both pits were sealed below an extensive subsoil deposit (**304**), thought to represent arable cultivation following the depopulation of *Hamwic*. This was in turn sealed below a c. 200mm thick deposit of silty loam with abundant gravel inclusions (**303**) that may represent an external surface of unknown date. Overlying this was a dark greyish brown silty clay loam deposit (**302**) with rare post-medieval redware pottery inclusions. This is thought to represent the post-medieval topsoil and is sealed below the modern tarmac surface.

5 FINDS

- 5.1 A small quantity of artefactual material was recovered, in a restricted range of material types, all deriving from Trench 2. The date range of the assemblage is predominantly post-medieval, with small quantities of earlier material.
- 5.2 Finds have been quantified by material type within each context (see **Table 1**). Material types and codes follow Southampton City Council’s ‘Standards for the deposition of archaeological archives’.
- 5.3 No artefacts of Saxon date were recovered. The only items pre-dating the post-medieval period include a fragment of Roman amphora and a large architectural fragment from wall footing **226**, and a fragment of medieval glazed, crested ridge tile from pit **228** (fill 229). The architectural fragment, re-used in this context, is in a shelly limestone, probably Purbeck Marble, and comprises approximately half of a hollow cylindrical moulding (diameter 0.38m), well finished over most of the external surface but also displaying a rougher, pecked area on one (less visible?) side. One worked flint flake (pit

228) is presumably of prehistoric date, and a piece of burnt, unworked flint (pit/robber trench **230**) may be of similar date.

Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

Context	BONE	CRMC	FLNT	GLAS	IRON	PCLY	POT	STON
202	1/5				2/110			
204				1/269	1/227		2/107	
218	23/103	5/390	1/31					
226		1/79				1/3	1/20	1*
227		1/1680						
229		1/67	1/42					
TOTAL	24/108	8/2216	2/73	1/269	3/227	1/3	3/127	1*

Key: BONE = animal bone; CRMC = other ceramic (here brick and tile fragments); GLAS = glass; PCLY = clay tobacco pipe; STON = stone

* stone object not weighed

6 DISCUSSION

- 6.1 The earliest material recovered during the course of the project comprised a single, residual piece of prehistoric worked flint from pit **228**; it is possible that the burnt flint noted in other deposits around the Site is also of prehistoric date, though this is less certain. This is comparable to the evidence of prehistoric activity from surrounding sites, which is perhaps best interpreted as a ‘background scatter’ of worked and burnt flint. The only other pre-Saxon material recovered comprised a single sherd of Roman amphora, recovered from wall footing **226**, where it was clearly residual. A small number of finds and possible features of Romano-British date have been previously recorded (at SOU 8, SOU 11, SOU 184 and SOU 1083) that probably represent general agricultural activity during this period, rather than settlement.
- 6.2 Although largely undated, the majority of the pits sealed below the subsoil are likely to be mostly Saxon, despite the medieval find recovered from pit **228** in Trench 2. Earlier evaluations at the Site have revealed up to three phases of Mid Saxon occupation (Russell, and Leivers, 2000) and although the earlier deposits were only minimally investigated during this latest stage of work, nothing was found to contradict this evidence. The Site lies close to the southern limit of Hamwic, the extent of which may have been influenced by the presence of salt marshes to the south, although recent work suggests that this was not a major factor (Ellis and Andrews forthcoming). No marsh deposits were encountered in any of the three trenches, but a distinct, if gradual, slope from north to south was noted in the surface of the natural Brickearth sub-strata, suggesting that the ground was gradually falling towards the salt marsh. As might be expected, the Saxon and later occupation appears to be more dense on the slightly higher ground to the north of the Site.
- 6.2 The dark yellowish brown silty sand loam subsoil was encountered in all trenches and appeared to seal all possible Saxon features encountered.

Although no datable materials were recovered from this deposit, it is assumed to have been formed by arable cultivation following the depopulation of *Hamwic* in the late 9th or 10th century.

- 6.3 The two masonry wall footings in Trench 2 appear to have been constructed in the post-medieval period, rather than the medieval as was tentatively suggested by some of the earlier work (Russell and Leivers, 2000). The re-used stonework is likely to be re-used following the demolition of St Mary's Church in *c.* 1550 (Silvester Davies 1883, 337-8). The walls may be depicted on the *c.* 1600 "Elizabethan" map of Southampton. Although very vague, this map appears to depict walls, probably associated with the Chantry House, that stood to the west of the site. However, the bricks within the footings and the single fragment of clay pipe stem recovered, although not closely datable, are likely to be later than 1600. Alternatively, a late 18th century map (Milne 1791) show barns close to Chapel Road, associated with the Chantry/Parsonage house complex. The same buildings are probably also shown on an 1842 map (Doswell) but appear to be absent on a Royal Engineers Map of 1846. These buildings appear to reflect the alignment of walls **226** and **227**, and the rather crude construction of these footings would seem more consistent with a supporting structure for a timber barn or agricultural building than a more substantial wall. If this is so, the building appears to have been demolished in the early 1840s. The Ordnance Survey map of 1866 shows the area around Trench 2 as an open area, possibly gardens or allotments and this activity may have been responsible for the development of the possible buried topsoil (**209**) that sealed the remains of the walls.

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APPENDIX 1: Catalogue of Trench Descriptions

TRENCH - 1		NGR: 442718 111588
Dimensions – 5m x 5m		Ground Level – 3.03m – 3.06m OD
Context No.	Description	Depth
100	Modern overburden, comprising tarmac surface and underlying scalpings and brick rubble.	0-0.25m
101	Modern concrete slab	0.25-0.35m
102	Coarse stone hard-core bedding for 101.	0.35-0.40m
103	Orange brown unsorted coarse gravel and sand. Possible external surface or made ground deposit.	0.40-0.60m
104	Vertical sided linear trench containing salt glazed sewer pipe. Runs west to east across north side of trench. This was up to 0.65m wide, over 0.55m deep and cut through deposit 112.	0.60-1.15m+
105	Greyish brown silty loam backfill of sewer trench 104. Also contains salt glazed pipe.	0.60-1.15m+
106	Slightly asymmetrical cut for lateral drain/sewer, up to 0.65m wide with steep-moderate sides and a concave base. Feeds into the sewer represented by cut 108.	0.60-0.85m
107	Greyish brown silty loam backfill of sewer trench 106. Also contains salt glazed pipe.	0.60-0.85m
108	Vertical sided linear trench containing salt glazed sewer pipe. Runs west to east across south-east side of trench. This was up to 0.90m wide, over 0.55m deep and cut through deposit 112.	0.60-1.15m+
109	Dark greyish brown silty loam backfill of sewer trench 108. Also contains salt glazed pipe.	0.60-1.15m+
110	Vertical sided construction cut for brick wall 117. Filled with 117 and 111, cuts deposit 112.	0.60-1.15m+
111	Mid greyish brown silty loam backfill of construction cut 110.	0.60-1.15m+
112	Mid-dark greyish brown silty loam with common gravel and charcoal and sparse brick fragment inclusions. Possible post-medieval buried soil, cut by probable 19 th century wall and associated sewer runs.	0.60-0.97m
113	Sub-rectangular modern feature in south side of trench, cut through concrete slab 101. Filled with 114.	0.25-1.15m+
114	Dark brown silty loam with common brick and tarmac inclusions. Fill of modern feature 113.	0.25-1.15m+
115	Dark yellowish brown silty sand loam with common gravel and sparse charcoal inclusions. Very rare burnt flint fragments also noted, but not retained. Possible subsoil formed by arable cultivation.	0.97-1.15m
116	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt. Natural brickearth substrata, surface at approximately 1.90m OD .	1.15-1.78m
117	Red brick wall footing, probably early 19 th century in date, aligned approximately east-west across the southern side of the trench. Built within construction cut 110.	0.60-1.15m+
118	Yellowish brown coarse sands and gravels, recorded in auger bore, surface at approximately 1.35m OD .	1.78m+

TRENCH – 2		NGR 442670 111575
Dimensions – 6m x 4.6m		Ground Level – 2.98m –3.11m OD
Context No.	Description	Depth
200	Modern overburden, comprising tarmac surface and underlying scalplings and brick rubble.	0-0.25m
201	Small pit, circular in plan, c. 1.0m in diameter and 0.95m deep with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Cut through possible buried post-medieval topsoil 209. Filled with 202.	0.25-1.20m
202	Mid greyish brown silty sand loam with sparse charcoal inclusions and modern finds. Fill of pit 201.	0.25-1.20m
203	Pit, circular in plan, c. 1.3m in diameter and 1.20m deep with moderately steep, concave sides and a flat base. Cut through possible buried post-medieval topsoil 209. Filled with 204	0.25-1.45m
204	Dark greyish brown sandy silt loam with abundant modern finds. Fill of pit 203.	0.25-1.50m
205	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt. Natural brickearth substrata, surface slopes from approximately 1.90m OD in the north of the trench to 1.55m OD in the southern end.	1.10-1.75m
206	Mid-light grey very silty loam fill of unexcavated pit 231, common charcoal flecks noted.	1.10m+
207	Dark yellowish brown silty sand loam with sparse gravel and charcoal inclusions. Possible subsoil formed by arable cultivation. Probably the same as 219.	0.50-1.10m
209	Mid-dark greyish brown silty loam with common gravel and charcoal inclusions. Possible post-medieval buried soil. Cut by later pits 201, 203, 210, 212 and 214.	0.40-1.10m
210	Small sub-circular pit, only seen in section, approximately 0.50m in diameter and 0.20m deep with moderately steep, concave sides and a concave base. Cuts the fill of pit 212, sealed below modern overburden.	0.40-0.60m
211	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam fill of pit 210 with sparse gravel, charcoal and brick inclusions.	0.40-0.60m
212	Large, relatively modern pit, only recorded in section. This was probably sub-circular in plan, approximately 1.30m in diameter and 0.70m deep with steep to moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Cuts deposit 209.	0.40-1.10m
213	Mid-dark greyish brown silty loam fill of pit 212. Contains modern glass bottles and white glazed bricks. Cut by later pits 210 and 214.	0.40-1.10m
214	Large irregular pit with central post setting. Only recorded in section. This feature was probably sub-circular in plan, approximately 1.30m in diameter and 0.45m deep with a near vertical southern side and a moderately sloping northern side. Contained a concrete post pad (216) below a post-pipe (217) with the remainder deliberately backfilled (215). Cuts fill of earlier pit 212.	0.40-0.85m
215	Dark grey silty clay loam with common gravel inclusions. Backfill of post-pit 214.	0.40-0.85m
216	Grey concrete slab, c. 0.25m long and 0.05m thick in base of post-pit 214. Directly below post-pipe 217.	0.80-0.85m
217	Very dark grey-black silty clay loam with rare gravel inclusions. Post-pipe within post-pit 214, 0.12m in diameter.	0.40-0.80m

TRENCH 2 (continued)		
Context No.	Description	Depth
218	Mid-light greyish brown silty clay loam fill of pit or robber trench 230. Sealed below deposit 209. Contains common masonry fragments.	0.95-1.60m
219	Dark yellowish brown silty sand loam with sparse gravel and charcoal inclusions. Possible subsoil formed by arable cultivation.. Probably the same as 207.	0.90-1.45m
220	Mid-light greyish brown silty loam fill of unexcavated pit 221 with sparse gravel inclusions. Sealed below deposit 219	1.45m+
221	Number ascribed to unexcavated pit that continued beyond the southern and eastern limits of excavation. Probably sub-rectangular in plan, 1.30m+ long and 0.70m+ wide.	1.45m+
222	Mid-light greyish brown silty loam fill of unexcavated pit 223 with common gravel inclusions. Sealed below deposit 219	1.45m+
223	Number ascribed to unexcavated pit that continued beyond the southern limit of excavation. Probably sub-rectangular or irregular in plan, 1.70m+ long and 0.90m+ wide.	1.45m+
224	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam fill of unexcavated pit 225 with common gravel and sparse charcoal inclusions. Sealed below deposit 219	1.45m+
225	Number ascribed to unexcavated pit that continued beyond the western limit of excavation. Probably irregular in plan, 1.10m+ long and 0.75m+ wide.	1.45m+
226	Approximately north-south aligned wall footing. Probably trench built and cut into deposit 207/219. Constructed of re-used limestone masonry, including moulded stone object no.1, flint nodules and brick fragments in a silty sandy clay matrix. Irregular courses and random bonding. May have continued to the north, represented by possible robber trench 230 and associated with the east-west wall	1.10-1.45m+
227	227. Approximately east-west aligned wall footing, return of wall 226. Probably trench built and cut into deposit 207/219. Constructed of re-used limestone masonry, flint nodules and brick fragments in a silty sandy clay matrix. Irregular courses and random bonding.	1.10-1.45m+
228	Slightly irregular oval pit, probably one of several intercutting pits in the north-east of the trench (all recorded under this number as individual pits could not be discerned), 2.50m in diameter and 0.30m deep with steep, irregular sides and a fairly flat base.	1.10-1.40m
229	Investigated in a single small sondage. Filled with 229. Mid-light greyish brown silty loam fill of pit 228 with sparse gravel inclusions. Sealed below deposit 207, one sherd of medieval ridge tile and one piece of prehistoric worked flint recovered.	1.10-1.40m
230	Linear/sub-rectangular feature, Possibly an elongated pit or a robber trench to salvage masonry from earlier walls 226 and 227.	0.95-1.60m
231	Filled with 218. Irregular or oval pit, continues beyond northern and western limits of excavation, 1.70m+ wide and 1.60m+ long. Unexcavated. Filled with 206.	1.10m+
232	Yellowish brown coarse sands and gravels, recorded in auger bore, surface at approximately 1.30m OD .	1.75m+

TRENCH - 3		NGR 442680 111505
Dimensions – 5m x 5m		Ground Level – 2.41m - 2.42m OD
Context No.	Description	Depth
301	Modern overburden comprising a tarmac surface and gravel bedding.	0-0.15m
302	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam with rare brick, pottery (post-medieval redware) and charcoal inclusions. Possibly represents a buried topsoil or a made ground deposit.	0.15-0.40m
303	Mid brown silty loam with abundant gravel inclusions. Possible external surface. Very diffuse interface with 302 above.	0.40-0.60m
304	Dark yellowish brown silty sand loam with rare flint inclusions. Possible subsoil formed by arable cultivation.	0.60-0.80m
305	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt. Natural brickearth substrata, surface at approximately 1.60m OD .	0.80-1.09m
306	Possible pit seen continuing beyond the eastern limit of excavation. Probably sub-circular and 1.15m+ in diameter. Sealed below deposit 304, cuts 305. Not excavated	0.80m+
307	Mid greyish brown sandy silt loam fill of pit 306 with sparse gravel and moderate charcoal inclusions. Not excavated.	8.80m+
308	Mid-light greyish brown sandy silt loam with abundant gravel and common charcoal inclusions. Fill of pit 309.	0.80-0.95m
309	Sub-circular pit, approximately 1.70m in diameter and 0.15m deep with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Sealed below deposit 304, cuts 305.	0.80-0.95m
310	Yellowish brown coarse sands and gravels, recorded in auger bore, surface at approximately 1.30m OD .	1.09m+

APPENDIX 2: PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

THE DEANERY, CHAPEL ROAD, SOUTHAMPTON

**PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK
FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION**

Prepared for:

Highwood Construction
8A The Mall
120 Winchester Road
Chandlers Ford
HAMPSHIRE
SO53 2QD

by

Wessex Archaeology
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January 2006

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THE DEANERY, CHAPEL ROAD, SOUTHAMPTON

PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 *Wessex Archaeology has been commissioned by Highwood Construction to carry out an archaeological field evaluation on land at The Deanery, Chapel Road, Southampton (NGR 44270 11155, hereafter 'the Site', **Figure 1**). The site lies within the known extent of the nationally important mid-Saxon settlement of Hamwic. Therefore in view of the proposed residential development of the site, the Heritage Conservation Unit of Southampton City Council has advised the local planning authority that further information on the archaeological implications of the proposed development is required prior to determination of a planning application for the proposed development.*

1.1.2 *The Heritage Conservation Unit (hereafter HCU) has issued a Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation and, in accordance with its requirements, this document sets out a programme of work for the evaluation for the approval of the HCU prior to the commencement of the work. This document sets out the archaeological background to the Site and the aims and methods of the evaluation, including a proposed trench location plan.*

1.2 The Site, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 *The Site is situated to the south-east of Southampton City centre, in the parish of St Mary's and to the south-east of St Mary's Church. The site comprises an approximately rectangular plot of land to the south of and fronting Chapel Road. The site is currently occupied by Southampton City College with a gym building, access road and areas of car parking and landscaping.*

1.2.2 *The site lies on fairly level ground, around 2.5 m OD. Geological maps indicate that the Site lies on Brickearth, overlying River Terrace Gravels (British Geological Survey, sheet 315).*

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.3.1 *The archaeological background to the Site is set out in detail in the Scheme of Investigation and subsequent information provided by the HCU. This can be summarised as follows. The site lies within the known extent of the nationally important mid-Saxon settlement of Hamwic. St Mary's church is of Saxon foundation and in the Middle Ages was Southampton's mother church. Mid-Saxon occupation has previously been recorded within the site. There is also*

a potential for Saxon and post-Conquest burials in the north-west of the site, extending from the known burial area around St Mary's Church.

- 1.3.2 In the late medieval period, the Chantry House lay to the west of the Site, although cartographic and archaeological evidence suggests that later medieval occupation extends into the Site area.*
- 1.3.3 Post-medieval and modern interest in the Site lies in features and deposits associated with Chapel Road. It is likely that there was a substantial roadside ditch to the south of Chapel Road.*
- 1.3.4 Parts of the site have been subject to archaeological investigation in the past. In 1973 three trenches (SOU 9 and 17) were excavated in the centre of the site prior to the construction of the Gym building (Morton 1992, 96). In 2000 three evaluation trenches were excavated in the north-west, north and south of the site (SOU 1055) (Russel and Leivers 2000). Borehole and test pit data has also been recovered from the site, although the results are not currently readily available (Wessex Archaeology 2001).*

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The objective of the evaluation is to establish within the constraints of the evaluation sampling strategy the presence or absence, location, extent, date, character, condition, and depth of any surviving remains within the Site.*
- 2.2 The evaluation will also aim to enhance the existing archaeological data for the Site to enable informed decisions to be made on the archaeological potential of the Site, the likely impact of propose development and the mitigation measures required to remove, reduce or ameliorate those impacts, taking account the quality and importance of the archaeology and the engineering requirements of the developer.*

3 METHODS

3.1 Field Evaluation

- 3.1.1 In order to enhance existing data, the Scheme of Investigation and supplementary information identifies three areas for evaluation as follows. Proposed trench locations as shown in the attached figure are based on archaeological requirements specified in the Scheme of Investigation. Their final positions may require some minor relocation subject to H&S considerations, information service locations, access and the operational requirements of the occupier.*
- 3.1.2 A trench of approximately 8m by 6m is proposed in the north-west corner of the Site to clarify further the nature and extent of mid-Saxon occupation and to recover further information on the nature and importance of medieval structural remains. The trench will be located to intercept the southern end of trench 1 of SOU 1055.*

- 3.1.3 *A trench of approximately 5m by 5m is proposed in the north of the site to clarify further mid-Saxon occupation and to establish the presence or absence of features and deposits associated with Chapel Road. The trench will be located as close to Chapel Road as possible subject to H&S considerations, information on service locations, access and the operational requirements of the occupier.*
- 3.1.4 *A trench of approximately 5m by 5m in the south of the Site to clarify further mid-Saxon occupation, particularly the northern extent of an apparent 'hotspot' of occupation and/or the southern extent of an apparent 'coldspot' of occupation.*
- 3.1.5 *The final location and extent of all three trenches will be agreed prior to commencement with the HCU, the client and the occupier.*
- 3.1.6 *Prior to excavation, the trench locations will be electronically scanned for the presence of services. Trench locations and spoil heaps will also be temporarily fenced with Heras fencing. In view of the likely depth of trenches (up to 1.2m) sufficient areas for spoil heaps should be allowed for immediately adjacent to the trenches.*
- 3.1.7 *All trenches will be excavated by machine (360° excavator) using a wide toothless bucket. A toothed bucket may be required to remove the initial hard standing deposits. Mechanical excavation will proceed until archaeological remains or, in their absence, natural deposits (brickearth or gravel) are revealed. Previous information indicates that the trenches will be up to 1.2m deep and trench sides may need to be battered or stepped to ensure safe working conditions. All mechanical excavation will be carried out under constant archaeological supervision.*
- 3.1.8 *Trenches will be hand cleaned and archaeological deposits recorded and sample excavated as appropriate. All trenches will be located in relation to the Ordnance Survey national grid, with all archaeological features related to Ordnance Survey Datum and recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system.*
- 3.1.9 *Excavation of archaeological features and deposits will be the minimum necessary to achieve the project objectives and will not be unduly damaging to the integrity of deposits where their preservation in situ is desirable. Decisions on the sampling of features and deposits during the course of the evaluation will be undertaken in consultation with the HCU.*
- 3.1.10 *Human burials will not, in the first instance, be excavated or otherwise removed, but will be sufficiently exposed and recorded to allow observation of grave cut, burial position and stratigraphic relationships. The HCU and the Client will be informed, and, should excavation of remains be undertaken at this stage, a Home Office licence will be sought. Upon receipt of said licence, Home Office procedures will be strictly followed at all times in regard to removal of burials.*

3.1.11 *The spoil from all trenches will be scanned for artefacts and this may include the use of a metal detector.*

3.1.12 *At the satisfactory conclusion of the evaluation, trenches will be backfilled with arisings, levelled and compacted with a machine bucket. No specialist backfilling will be undertaken.*

3.2 Finds and Environmental Sampling

3.2.1 *Appropriate strategies for the recovery of artefacts and environmental samples will be devised and implemented by the Project Manager in association with Wessex Archaeology's Finds and Environmental Managers.*

3.2.2 *All artefacts from excavated contexts will be retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. In such circumstances, sufficient artefacts will be retained in order to elucidate the date and/or function of the feature or deposit. Material of undoubtedly modern date observed on the spoil-heap of each excavation area will not be noted or retained.*

3.2.3 *All finds and archive work will be undertaken in accordance with Standards for the Deposition of Archaeological Archives with Southampton City Council. All artefacts will, as a minimum, be washed, weighed, counted and identified. Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions will be dealt with immediately in line with First Aid for Finds (Watkinson & Neal 1998). Ironwork from stratified contexts will be X-rayed and stored in a stable environment along with other fragile and delicate material. The X-raying of objects and other conservation needs will be undertaken by the staff of the Wiltshire Museums and Library Service Conservation Consortium, Salisbury. Suitable material, primarily the pottery, worked flint and non-ferrous metalwork, will be assessed, the results of which will form part of the assessment report.*

3.2.4 *Bulk environmental soil samples for plant macro-fossils, small animal bones and other small artefacts will be taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated/datable archaeological deposits.*

3.2.5 *The residues and sieved fractions of the bulk environmental soil samples will be recorded and retained with the project archive.*

3.2.6 *Samples for charred plant remains (charcoal and charred seeds etc) will be taken from well dated and sealed deposits to define presence and preservation to enable comments on any further sampling strategy to be made.*

3.2.7 *On the advice of Wessex Archaeology's Environmental Manager, sampling for charred material will comprise bulk samples of at least 30 litres, which will be taken for processing by flotation (using Wessex Archaeology double tank internal weir flotation system and double processing methods).*

3.2.8 *Should additional fieldwork be undertaken, samples from the evaluation will be retained by Wessex Archaeology and may be further examined to inform later stages of work.*

4 MONITORING

- 4.1 *An appropriate programme of monitoring visits will be agreed with the HCU in advance of the commencement of fieldwork.*

5 REPORTING

- 5.1 *All reporting requirements will be undertaken in accordance with those stipulated in the Scheme of Investigation.*

- 5.2 *Within one week of the conclusion of the fieldwork, an interim report on the results of the evaluation will be submitted to the Client and to the HCU. The interim report will comprise a summary text description of the archaeological results and a trench plan.*

- 5.3 *A detailed evaluation report will also be prepared. The report will present the results of the trial trenching, and will contain as a minimum:*

a concise non-technical summary of the results

a site and trench location plans at appropriate scales

the date of works

a site-centred grid reference

detailed description of archaeological features and deposits

specialist reporting on finds and environmental samples

a copy of this Programme of Archaeological Works as an appendix

survey and technical illustrations as appropriate

- 5.4 *The report will be submitted to the Client and the HCU within six weeks of the conclusion of the fieldwork. Five copies will be supplied to the Client, two copies to the HCU and one copy to the Special Collections section of Southampton Public Library.*

Electronic copies of the report will also be disseminated as set out in the Scheme of Investigation.

6 TIMETABLE

- 6.1 *The duration of the evaluation will be subject to arrangements over access and the operational needs of the occupier. The timetable, including fieldwork start date will be agreed with HCU prior to commencement.*

7 ARCHIVE

7.1 Preparation and deposition

- 7.1.1 *The archive will be prepared in accordance with Standards for the Deposition of Archaeological Archives with Southampton City Council and to the standards set out in Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991).*
- 7.1.2 *The Site Archive will be prepared for long-term storage in accordance with Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (Walker 1990) and Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections (Museums and Galleries Commission 1994). It is proposed that the entire archive, including all finds will be deposited with Southampton City Museum, with whom arrangements who have agreed in advance to accept it.*
- 7.1.3 *Where necessary, the paper records of the Site archive will be security microfilmed prior to deposition.*

8 QUALITY STANDARDS

- 8.1 *Wessex Archaeology operates a Project Management system. Projects are assigned to individual managers who monitor their progress and quality, and control budgets from inception to completion, in all aspects including Health and Safety etc. Projects are managed in accordance with English Heritage guidelines outlined in the document Management of archaeological projects (English Heritage 1991). At all stages the manager will carefully assess and monitor performance of staff and adherence to objectives, timetables, and budgets. The manager's performance is monitored in turn by the General Development Section Head who will ensure that the project meets Wessex Archaeology's quality standards and is adequately programmed and resourced within Wessex Archaeology's portfolio of project commitments. A formal written report is made to the Senior Management Group once a month by the General Development Section Head.*
- 8.2 *A Project Officer/Project Supervisor, who will normally be a member of The Institute of Field Archaeologists and a core member of Wessex Archaeology staff, will direct the fieldwork in the field. He/she will normally be assisted by Project Supervisors and Archaeological Assistants. Overall project supervision and monitoring will be undertaken by a Project Manager based in Salisbury who will make monitoring visits. Monitoring visits may also be undertaken by Wessex Archaeology's Health and Safety Co-ordinator.*
- 8.3 *Wessex Archaeology is registered with The Institute of Field Archaeologists as an archaeological organisation; and fully endorses the Code of Conduct and the Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology of The Institute of Field Archaeologists. All staff would be of a standard approved by Wessex Archaeology, be*

employed in line with The Institute of Field Archaeologists Codes of Practice, and be members of The Institute of Field Archaeologists.

9 PERSONNEL

9.1 In all cases, the project will be supervised and monitored by the following staff, under the overall direction of the Project Manager;

- Peter Reeves BA Project Manager*
- Vaughan Birbeck AIFA Senior Project Officer*
- Lorraine Mephram, BA Finds Manager*
- Dr Michael Allen, BSc, MIFA Environmental Manager*

9.2 Wessex Archaeology reserves the right to replace members of the nominated core team at its discretion. In such instances the CVs of substituted staff with comparable qualifications/experience will be provided where appropriate and on request.

10 HEALTH AND SAFETY

10.1 Wessex Archaeology will ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with its Company Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 and The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992, and in accordance with the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) health and safety manual Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (1997). A copy of Wessex Archaeology's Company Health and Safety Policy is available on request.

10.2 Prior to commencement of this phase of fieldwork, a Health and Safety Method Statement and Risk Assessment will be issued by the Project Manager to ensure that potential hazards have been identified and mitigation or control measures will be implemented.

11 COPYRIGHT

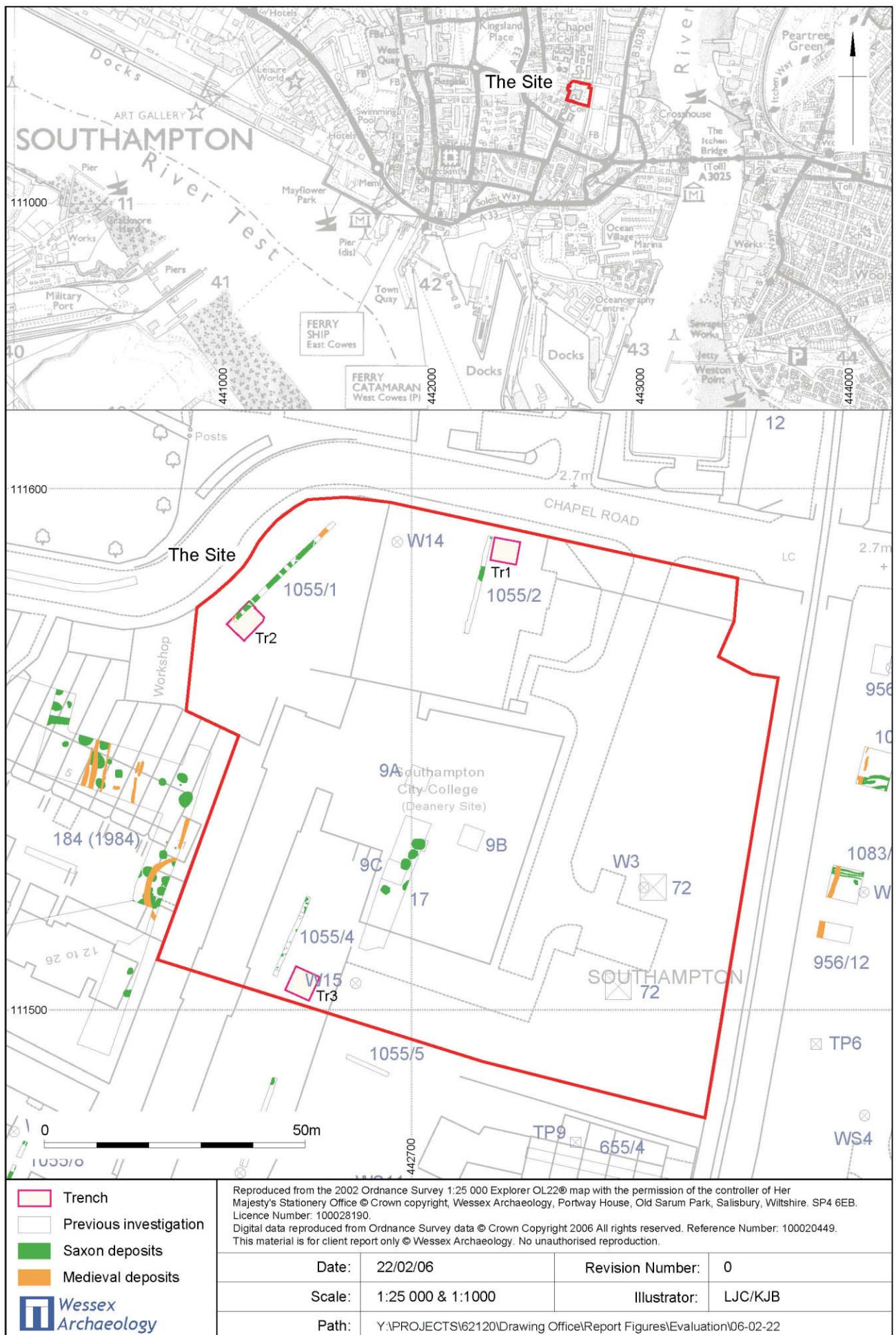
11.1 Wessex Archaeology Ltd shall retain full copyright of any reports under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of the reports by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in this Programme of Work.

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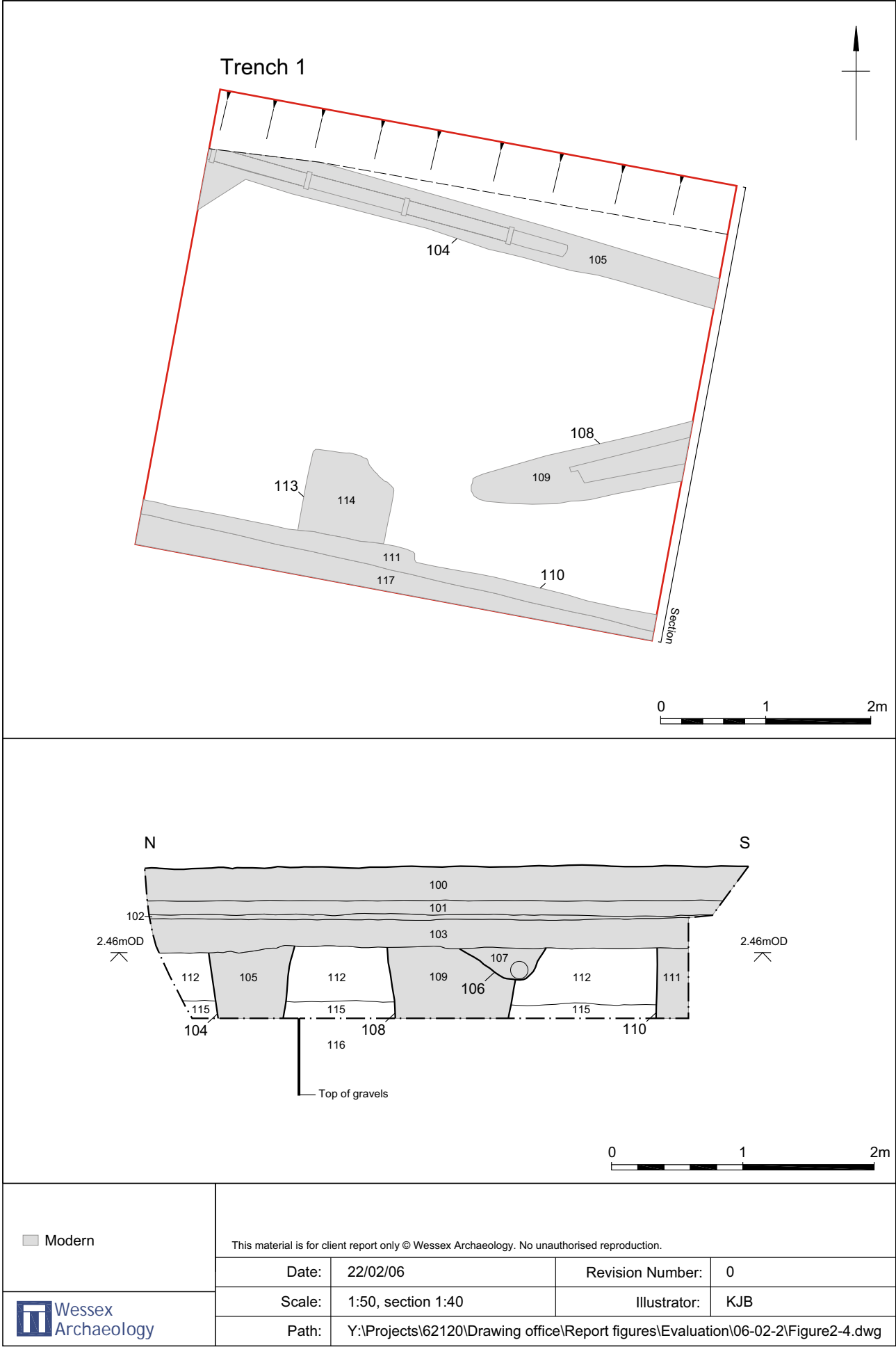
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Site and trench location plan

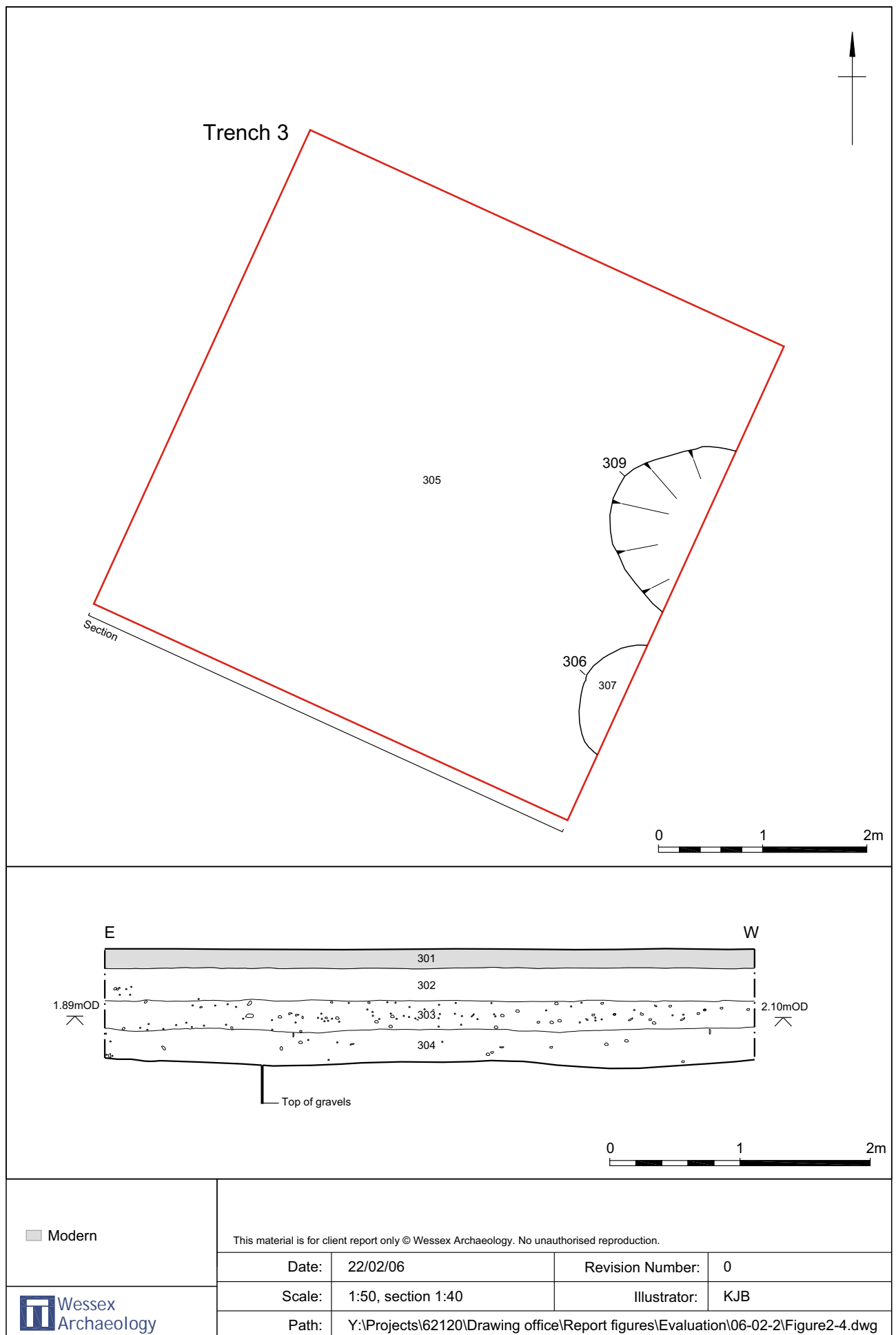
Figure 1



Plan and section of Trench 1

Figure 2





Plan and section of Trench 3

Figure 4



Plate 1. East facing section Trench 2



Plate 2. Detail of moulded stone (object no.1) *in situ* in wall 226



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