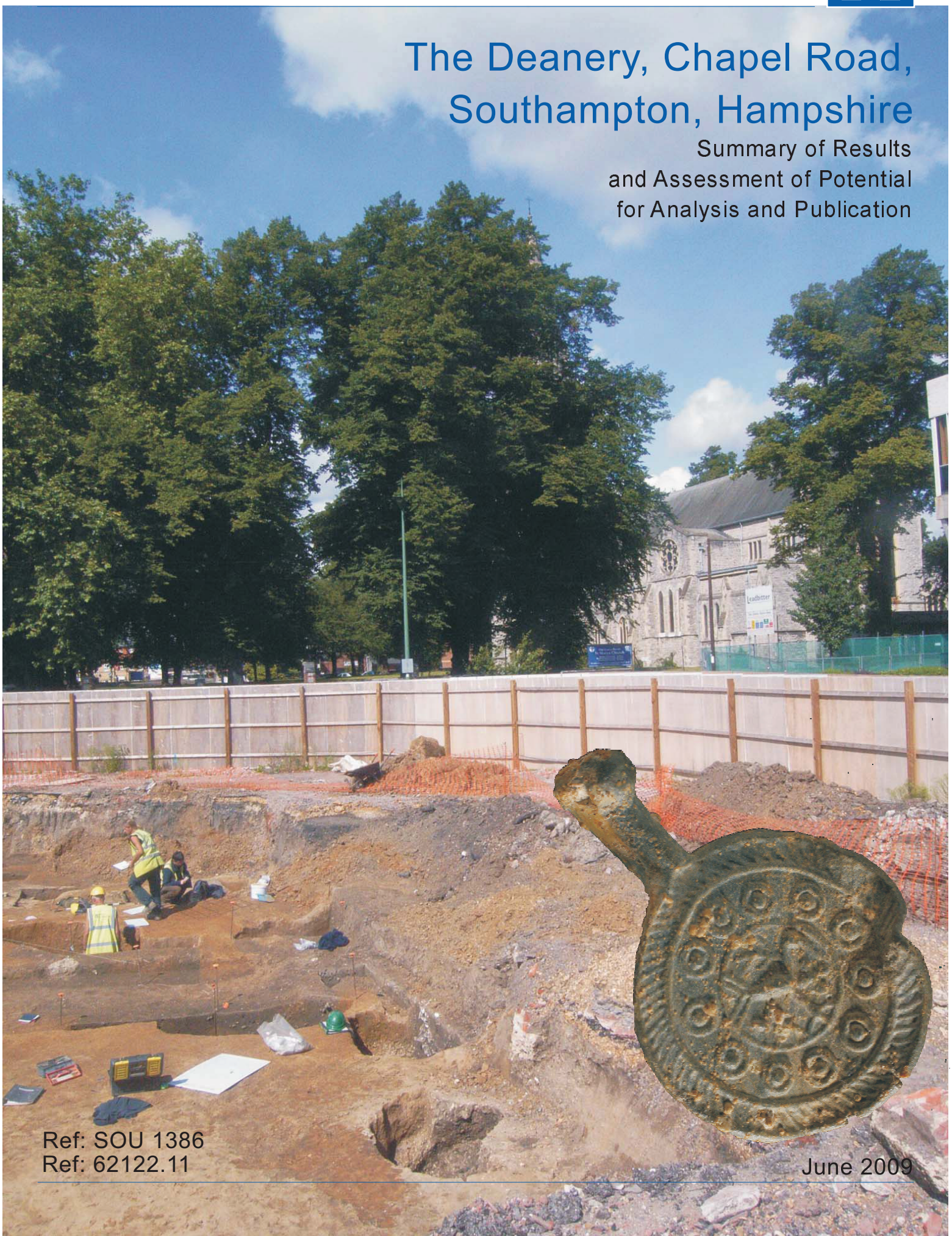
Wessex Archaeology

The Deanery, Chapel Road, Southampton, Hampshire

Summary of Results and Assessment of Potential for Analysis and Publication



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THE DEANERY, CHAPEL ROAD SOUTHAMPTON

SOU 1386

Summary of Results and Assessment of Potential for Analysis and Publication

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Front Cover – Working shot of excavation area from the south-east and unfinished lead brooch
Back Cover – Section through pit 528

Acknowledgements

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Highwood Construction to carry out archaeological field work on land at The Deanery, Chapel Road, Southampton (NGR 442700 111550). The Site is located within the known extent of the nationally important Mid-Saxon settlement of Hamwic. The Site covered an area of *c*. 1ha on fairly level ground, at 2.5m aOD (above Ordnance Datum). It comprised an approximately rectangular plot of land fronting onto the south of Chapel Road that was previously occupied by Southampton City College. Excavation was undertaken between August and October 2008 on an east to west aligned rectangle of 63m by 29m (1786m^2) situated *c*. 10m to the south of the present Chapel Road. The latter is regarded as being of Saxon origin linking St Mary's church with the water front on the River Itchen. A watching brief was maintained during excavations for foundations across the rest of the site between July and December 2008.

The archaeological features exposed comprised pits, wells, ditches, gullies, a possible hearth and postholes. Pits were the most numerous features (112 of the 166 features). The only discernible buildings recognised in the excavation area comprised a small, irregular possible structure, formed by four postholes and a gully of Saxon date and a short length of late medieval or early post-medieval wall footing recorded in an earlier evaluation trench, immediately to the west of the area excavation.

No prehistoric or Romano-British features or deposits were identified during either the evaluation, excavation or watching brief. Prehistoric and Romano-British activity in the area was represented by residual flintwork and pottery of these dates recovered from later features. A number of late medieval or early post-medieval features, generally in the form of shallow, irregular pits and scoops, were recorded in evaluation trench 2 and in the west of the area excavation; a small number of post-medieval or modern pits were excavated in the east of the area excavation and two substantial north-south ditches, also of post-medieval or modern date were found in the east and west of the area excavation. However, the majority of the excavated features were of Mid-Saxon date (AD 650-850).

The excavation has confirmed the continuity of activity associated with Mid-Saxon Hamwic (7th – 9th centuries AD) which has been recorded in this part of modern Southampton and within earlier evaluations and excavations on the Site. The presence of many pits, four wells and apparent property boundaries, defined by alignments of pits, is comparable to many other excavations within Hamwic and there are indications that one of the possible properties may be of a slightly higher status than is generally the case. The possible property boundaries were all aligned either parallel with or perpendicular to the course of Chapel Road, which was probably the major east-west street within the south of Hamwic. The finds and environmental assemblages recovered appear typical of the range of materials recovered from excavations elsewhere within Mid-Saxon Southampton.

The excavation has achieved the broad aims set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation with regard to identifying the nature and extent of Mid-Saxon activity. Further work is required to define more closely the possible property boundaries and the possible functions of specific features (craft/industrial or domestic) and to discern possible activity zones within the Site and within the possible property boundaries. The results of the present excavation can then be placed in context within what is already known of this particular area of Mid-Saxon Hamwic, and more specifically with the results of earlier excavations in the area. It is currently proposed to submit a final report (*c*. 25 pages) for publication in the journal Hampshire Studies.

THE DEANERY, CHAPEL ROAD SOUTHAMPTON

SOU 1386

Summary of Results and Assessment of Potential for Analysis and Publication

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Highwood Construction to carry out archaeological field work on land at The Deanery, Chapel Road, Southampton (NGR 442700 111550, hereafter 'the Site', **Figure 1**). The Site is located within the known extent of the nationally important Mid-Saxon settlement of Hamwic.

1.1.2 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, covered an area of *c*. 1ha on fairly level ground, at *c*. 2.5m aOD (above Ordnance Datum). It comprised an approximately rectangular plot of land to the south of and fronting onto Chapel Road, bounded by residential development to the east and south and by a railway line to the west. The Site was previously occupied by Southampton City College with a gym building, an access road, areas of car parking and landscaping. Geological maps indicate the presence of River Terrace Gravels (British Geological Survey, sheet 315), which is known to be overlain by Brickearth. The nature of the drift geology was confirmed by the previous archaeological evaluation.

1.1.3 The Heritage Conservation Unit, Southampton City Council (hereafter HCU) issued a Brief for the principal stages of archaeological work and, in accordance with its requirements, a document set out a programme of work for the approval of the HCU prior to the commencement of the work (Wessex Archaeology 2008). The archaeological work comprised:

- an evaluation undertaken between 8 and 14 February 2006, the subject of a separate report (Wessex Archaeology 2006)
- a watching brief maintained during demolition of existing buildings and removal of their foundations
- a watching brief maintained during excavation of foundations between July and December 2008
- excavations undertaken between 4 and 15 August, 29 August and 12 September and 14 and 22 October 2008.

1.1.4 The watching brief and excavation results are the subject of this report.

1.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.2.1 The archaeological background is set out in detail in the Scheme of Investigation and subsequent information provided by the HCU and can be summarised as follows.

1.2.2 The Site lies within the known extent of the nationally important Mid-Saxon settlement of Hamwic (**Figure 1**). 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 (Morton 1992, 96-100; Russel and Leivers 2000; Wessex Archaeology 2006). The 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, was noted.

1.2.3 In the later medieval period the Chantry House lay to the west of the Site, although cartographic and archaeological evidence suggest that later medieval occupation extended into the Site area.

1.2.4 Post-medieval and modern interest in the Site lay in features and deposits associated with Chapel Road. It was considered likely that there was or had been a substantial roadside ditch to the south of Chapel Road.

Map Regression

1.2.5 Map regression, undertaken during development to the south and east of the Site (Wessex Archaeology 2001) reveals that the Site lay in fields between *c*. 1600 and 1791, with barns having been built on or near its western boundary by the latter date. By 1846 trees were planted in the west of the Site while Western Terrace, comprising *c*. 20 houses, backed onto the railway line to the east. Twenty years later a school fronted onto Chapel Road but the west and south of the Site were still undeveloped. In 1933 Western Terrace was still extant, a second school building fronted onto Chapel Road and a long, north-south aligned building, probably associated with a railway turntable to the south-east of the Site, had been erected. By the mid 1970s these buildings were replaced by a college gym.

Previous work

1.2.6 Parts of the Site have been subject to previous archaeological investigation. In 1973 three 4m square trenches (SOU 9) were excavated and one was extended to approximately 27m by 5m in 1975 (SOU 17); these were in the centre of the Site, and were excavated before the construction of the gym building (Morton 1992, 96-100). Of the five pits exposed three were sub-rectangular and two were irregular in plan but bowl-shaped in section. Animal bone, charcoal and probable cess was present in the sub-rectangular pits with greyish brickearth in the others; all the pits contained Mid-Saxon pottery and iron slag. Three coins, one of the middle 8th century, one broadly Saxon and one Roman, were retrieved.

1.2.7 In 2000 three evaluation trenches were excavated in the north-west, north and south of the site (SOU 1055/1, 2 and 4 - Russel and Leivers 2000). Manual excavation was minimised to avoid compromising complex archaeological deposits but in the north-west and north of the Site sequences of intercutting features produced a well stratified suite of Saxon pottery while other materials recovered included animal bone, oyster shell and slag.

1.2.8 As a part of the current development a three trench evaluation (SOU 1386/1-3) was undertaken in parts of the Site not occupied by buildings or car parks (Wessex Archaeology 2006). Along with a late medieval or early post-medieval wall footing and associated features and deposits, a small number of pit like features of possible Saxon date were exposed, although these were similar in form to pits encountered by SOUs 9 and 15, no dating

evidence was recovered. The southern part of the Site was covered by a thick deposit of made ground overlying natural deposits of Brickearth.

1.2.9 Recent work to the west of the Site, at Andersons Road (SOU1240), recorded the presence of 62 pits, the majority of Mid-Saxon date. The pits were most densely represented to the north-east of the site and were filled with general refuse deposits containing animal bone, pottery, burnt clay, charcoal, slag and Saxon vessel glass (Ellis and Andrews 2006). Very recent work immediately to the south of the Site has identified a post-built Mid-Saxon building and a small number of pits whilst ongong work immediately to the north of Chapel Road has also identified Mid-Saxon buildings and a large number of pits (Morton pers comm).

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The specification for the excavation and watching brief was approved by the HCU on behalf of Southampton City Council prior to commencement of the fieldwork. Full details of the methods are contained in the specification (Wessex Archaeology 2008) and are not repeated in detail here, although a broad outline of the methodology and the aims and objectives are described below. Any changes to the agreed methodology are also outlined below.

2.2 Excavation and Watching Brief Strategy

2.2.1 A dual methodology (detailed excavation and watching brief) was proposed within the overall programme of archaeological mitigation. The development comprises four blocks of flats and *c*. 25 two story houses with associated parking, roads and services.

2.2.2 Foundations for two of the blocks, comprising an open rectangle, approximately 63m by 29m (1786m^2), immediately to the south of Chapel Road were subject to area excavation; foundations for the houses and other blocks comprised individual trenches of *c*. 0.5m width excavated to 2m depth (penetrating the top of the natural gravels) and were the subject of a watching brief. The ground surface of the whole Site was raised by *c*. 0.8m, ensuring little ground disturbance beyond these areas.

2.2.3 Accordingly a Watching Brief was undertaken on the excavations for the house foundations, roads, services *etc*. while the area to the south of Chapel Road was mechanically excavated under archaeological supervision followed by manual excavation and recording.

2.3 Aims and Objectives

2.3.1 The aims and objectives were:

- to identify, investigate and record any significant archaeological features and deposits that occur within the footprint of the proposed new residential units. Significant features and deposits would constitute remains, including evidence for past environments, relating to pre-19th century use of the area,

- to establish the presence, extent, nature and function of Mid-Saxon features and deposits associated with the settlement of Hamwic. Features and deposits of all archaeologically-defined periods would also be examined and recorded,

- to establish through palaeo-environmental and artefact sampling the date and function of these features,

- to place the results of the work in the context of recent archaeological research on the Mid-Saxon settlement of Hamwic.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 A large number of archaeological features and deposits of Mid-Saxon, medieval, post-medieval and modern date were excavated and recorded during the manual excavation of the large open area south of Chapel Road. These comprised pits, wells, ditches, gullies and postholes along with a single possible hearth. While the majority of the archaeological features and deposits were of Mid-Saxon date, medieval, post-medieval and modern features and deposits were also present. The results set out in this assessment report represent a summary of the principal excavated features and deposits and an initial interpretation. **Figure 2** shows the principal features and deposits exposed following machining and pre-excavation cleaning. Full details of all contexts are held in the excavation archive, currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology, Old Sarum, Park, Salisbury under the project code SOU 1386 and will be deposited with the Southampton City Museum in due course.

3.2 Soil Profile and Geological Deposits

Introduction

3.2.1 All areas of the Site had been heavily affected by modern development, with many brick wall foundations and ceramic drains being present, consequently an overburden of between 1m and 1.2m had to be mechanically removed prior to manual excavation. Approximately half of this overburden comprised modern gravel and tarmac make-up.

3.2.2 Horizontal truncation was also present and only in a small part of the northern edge of the excavation area was there an untruncated profile of brickearth and topsoil.

3.2.3 The watching brief undertaken during excavations for foundations was constrained by Health and Safety concerns due to the narrowness of the trenches (bucket width was either 0.45m or 0.6m), the 2m depth of most of the trenches and the unconsolidated, loose nature of the excavated material. The impossibility of entering the trenches to clean sections meant that features were difficult to observe and that the level of natural gravel or the top of brickearth often could only be approximately recorded.

3.2.4 Where possible during the watching brief, the interface of gravel and brickearth and the observed top of the brickearth were three dimensionally recorded. These records were combined with the records of the excavated

Table 2: Pottery totals by fabric group

Fab Gp	Description	No. sherds	Weight (g)	% by no. sherds
-	All Romano-British wares	13	294	
I	Organic-tempered wares	5	147	0.8
II	Chalk-tempered wares	129	2857	21.3
III	Sandy wares	218	3411	35.9
IV	Mixed grit wares	51	1054	8.4
V	Shelly wares	4	285	0.7
VI	Flint-tempered wares	40	688	6.6
IX	Imported wares	160	2939	26.3
-	All medieval wares	2	42	
-	All post-medieval wares	5	257	
	TOTAL	**627**	**11,974**	

Table 3: Results of rapid scan of selected marine shell dumps

Feature	Feature no	Context	No of shells	Other species	Notes
Pit	528	529	2387	2 x carpet shells, 1 x mussel, 1 x small scallop, 1 x periwinkle	Left and right valves, Measurable and unmeasurable, some misshapen = clumped shells, notches, generally better condition than those of 651, chalky deposits, chambering, infestation = *Polydora ciliata*, *Polydora hoplura* and *Cliona celata*
Pit	528	635	154	1 x cockle, 2 x periwinkles, 1 x mussel	Left and right valves, Measurable and unmeasurable, some misshapen, notches, chalky deposits, various sizes, infestation = *Polydora ciliata, Polydora hoplura*
Pit	568	593	243	9 x periwinkles, 1 x whelk,	Left and right valves, Measurable and unmeasurable, some misshapen, notches, chalky deposits, various

area to produce an approximate model of the surface of the gravel and the overlying brickearth.

Gravel

3.2.5 The results of the excavation and watching brief show that gravel along the western and eastern edges of the site lay at approximately 1m aOD, rising to c. 1.4m aOD along the northern edge and dipping to 0.70m aOD in the centre of the site.

Brickearth

3.2.6 The natural brickearth substrata generally became thinner to the east although some anomalous deposits were present in the south-east. In the excavation area a small area of apparently undisturbed brickearth overlain by a relict topsoil was recorded. Comparison between this and nearby excavated pits shows that the brickearth was 0.8m thick; the topsoil 0.2m thick and lay at 2.45m aOD. The thickness of brickearth over the majority of the excavation area varied between 0.4m and 0.8m. The eastern side of the excavation area contained only thin deposits of brickearth, with a maximum depth, at the level of machining, of 0.2m, However no complete profile survived in this area to confirm whether this was the result of truncation or a natural thinning of the brickearth from west to east across the Site.

3.2.7 Observations made during the Watching Brief show that near the south-western corner of the Site the brickearth was *c*. 0.7m thick and in the centre of the Site it was 0.5m thick, although it could not be determined whether it had been truncated.

Possible water lain deposit

3.2.8 A short section of what seemed to be a typical profile in the south-east of the Site was recorded during the Watching Brief where a former manhole was machined out and the trench was wider and more accessible. Here an *in situ* but truncated, 0.3m thick brickearth deposit was present at 1.3m aOD overlain by a 0.35m thick dark grey silty loam with heavy iron staining - possibly the result of repeated waterlogging. This was overlain by a relict topsoil approximately 0,20m thick. The dark grey silty loam may be a salt marsh deposit of post medieval date, as recorded at Anderson's Road to the east (Allen 2006, 116).

3.3 Archaeological Features and Deposits

3.3.1 The archaeological features exposed comprised pits, wells, ditches, gullies, a possible hearth and postholes (**Figure 2**). Pits were the most numerous features (112 of the 166 features). The only discernible buildings recognised in the excavation area comprised a small, irregular possible structure, formed by four postholes and a gully of Saxon date and a short length of late medieval or early post-medieval wall footing recorded in evaluation trench 2 (SOU 1386/2, **Figure 1**), immediately to the west of the area excavation.

3.3.2 No prehistoric or Romano-British features or deposits were identified during either the evaluation, excavation or watching brief. Prehistoric and Romano-British occupation of the area was represented by residual flintwork and pottery of these dates recovered from later features. A number of late medieval or early post-medieval features, generally in the form of shallow, irregular pits and scoops, were recorded in evaluation trench 2 and in the west of the area excavation; a small number of post-medieval or modern pits

were excavated in the east of the area excavation and two substantial north-south ditches, also of post-medieval or modern date were found in the east and west of the area excavation. However, the majority of the excavated features were of Mid-Saxon date (AD650-850).

Saxon

3.3.3 Ninety nine pits and four wells, along with several postholes and shallow gullies of Mid-Saxon date were excavated. Although the density of pits, at 103 pit/wells in 1786m² or 0.0577 pits per m², is notably lower here than at the Six Dials site in the north-west of Hamwic (530 pits/wells in 4930m^2 or 0.1075 pits per m^2), it is somewhat higher than on other sites, for example on the Cook Street site (Garner 1994) where the density was 30 pits/wells in 2150m^2 (or 0.01395 per m^2). The pit/well density at Six Dials is the highest so far found in Hamwic and the density at Cook Street amongst the lowest; the density at The Deanery is similar to that of other sites excavated in the near vicinity (Morton 2005, 197).

Pits

3.3.4 Pits are the most common feature type found on the Mid-Saxon sites in Hamwic. They vary greatly in form and dimensions, but can be broadly categorised into four general types. These comprise wells, which are characterised by a deep central shaft that penetrates the water table, deep, large circular or oval pits that appear to have been used primarily for the disposal of industrial and domestic rubbish, rectangular or sub-rectangular pits, usually with vertical sides, that appear to have functioned as cess pits or latrines, although some may have had industrial or storage functions, and shallow, irregular pits that appear to represent the *ad hoc* quarrying of the natural brickearth substrata. Ultimately all of the pits appear to have been finally filled with a mixture of industrial and domestic debris. The pits and wells at the Deanery site have been classified as four wells, 33 large rubbish pits, 25 rectangular or sub-rectangular pits and 41 shallow, irregular quarry pits.

Possible Pit Alignments

3.3.5 Four possible pit alignments, representing possible property boundaries, were tentatively identified (**Figure 2**) within the area excavation. Similar alignments have been recognised elsewhere within Hamwic and these are considered to reflect the boundaries of land plots within the Saxon town (Morton 1992, 47: Andrews 1997, 179) and two examples have previously been noted (SOUs 11 and 14) *c*. 170m to the east of the Site. At Six Dials, in the north-west of Hamwic, property boundaries were defined by pit alignments and suggest an average property width of *c*. 10m and depth of *c*. 15m although considerable variations occurred around these average values (Andrews 1997, Fig. 20). Providing the possible pit alignments are genuine, this suggests that parts of at least four plots or properties of Mid-Saxon date are represented in the main excavation area. The possible pit alignments appear to be aligned either parallel to or perpendicular with the course of Chapel Road and three of the four possible plots or properties seem to have fronted onto what would have been one of the major east-west thoroughfares in the Mid-Saxon town of *Hamwic*.

The Central Plot or Property

3.3.6 The only possible plot or property where the approximate dimensions could be discerned, the central plot within the excavation area (not labelled), was approximately 22m wide and 30m long, assuming that it fronted onto Chapel

Road. This is somewhat larger than the majority of properties recognised at Six Dials, but is similar in size to properties recognised at the St Mary's Stadium Site (Birbeck *et al*, 2005, 90). Apart from the pits along its east, west and southern sides, that comprise the possible pit alignments that form the plot or property boundaries, this central plot is notably devoid of features, apart from a group of intercutting pits and two wells in the north-west of the plot a shallow scoop in the south, a large circular rubbish pit in the centre and possibly a small structure in the south-west corner (see below).

3.3.7 A large sub-circular pit (528) appears to be isolated in the approximate centre of the central plot or property (**Figure 2** and back cover), lying at least 5m from any other broadly contemporary feature. This was some 2m in diameter and 1.70m deep with steep sides and a fairly flat base and contained a complex sequence of what appears to be cess and domestic debris interspersed with re-deposited brickearths and gravels and small quantities of possible industrial or craft debris. While this was one of the larger pits excavated, it was not excessively large and in form appeared similar to several others recorded during the excavations; however, the density of finds recovered from the various fills was notably higher than any other feature within the excavation area. The animal bone assemblage recovered from this single feature (2752 pieces weighing 38,120g) represents 6.29% of the total animal bone assemblage from the whole site by number and 10.9% of the assemblage by weight while the pottery recovered represents 6.075% of the total assemblage by number and 5.3% by weight. Pit 528 also produced two of the five coins found during the excavations, both silver *sceattas* of Series E, dating to the early 8th century, a worked bone comb and pin beater and several metal items, including an iron knife and a copper alloy toilet item, probably of Romano-British date. A preliminary assessment of the animal bone assemblage recovered from pit 528 suggests that this contains a higher than usual proportion of sheep bones and a correspondingly lower proportion of cattle than is generally seen on Hamwic sites; that there is a higher proportion of younger cattle and sheep than is usual, although very young animals are, as is usual, absent; and that there is a relatively high proportion of bird remains, including a bird of prey. Of the 39 sherds of pottery recovered from this feature, 24 (61.5% by number, 68% by weight) were imported wares, again, a higher proportion than seen elsewhere on the Site.

3.3.8 The apparently isolated location of pit 528 could suggest that this may have served as a disposal point for domestic and industrial rubbish and cess for the single plot or property represented by the possible pit alignments. This along with the high density of finds recovered from its fills when compared to other similar pits within the excavation area, the high proportion of imported pottery and the preliminary assessment of the animal bone assemblage could also indicate a slightly higher social standing than is usually recognised within Hamwic. Although this is a very brief assessment of the finds and must be viewed with caution, closer comparisons between this and other similar pits on the site may show that some social stratification is probably present in Hamwic.

Wells

3.3.9 The four wells recorded within the area excavation were all approximately circular, between 1.8m and 2.7m in diameter and all were cut to at least 1m below the top of the natural gravels. In two wells the former position of the lining was clear, although no lining survived. In well **1160** two 10mm wide

voids survived in section to 0.4m height and *c*.100mm depth into the section. The divergence of these voids with height, combined with their thickness, may indicate that this was a barrel lined well. In well **1131** the lining survived to a height of 0.7m but was only 1mm to 2mm thick and was vertical, and it seems that in this case the lining was of a less solid material, possibly wicker.

3.3.10 The wells all had much horizontally bedded gravel in the backfill around the shafts. This was in contrast to the pits which generally had only localised areas of gravel, often slumping from *in situ* natural gravel. It was difficult to differentiate between the *in situ* and *ex situ* backfill around the well shafts above *c*. 0.5m from their bases, and it is likely that the upper part of the shafts and some backfill had collapsed inward. The voids, seen about midway up the shafts in three of the four examples, presumably formed beneath collapsed lining.

3.3.11 Only in well **1131** was the initial fill of the well shaft relatively stone- and artefact-free and this one may have been the only well within the excavation area that became unusable because of silting rather than being abandoned while still usable. The later fills of this well and the fills of the three other wells comprised refuse and/or material slumping into the top of the shaft. The artefacts recovered from the well shafts included an unfinished lead disc brooch (see front cover) and a possible blank for a silver coin along with quantities of domestic rubbish.

Possible Structures

3.3.12 An irregular rectangle, approximately 2.6m wide and 4.7m long, formed by a small beamslot and four postholes in the eastern side of the area excavation may represent a small building (**1288**), although no internal features were recognised. This appeared to have been aligned perpendicular to Chapel Road, some 14m to the north, and was positioned between groups of pits to the north and south. The possible beam slot was 1.7m long, 0.2m wide and 0.06m deep and the postholes were subcircular with diameters between 0.35m and 0.45m and depths between 0.06m and 0.15m. No post-packing was present in the postholes and no artefacts were recovered to date these features or to show that they were contemporary, however, a Mid-Saxon date is assumed. At Six Dials at least six small structures, defined by postholes and/or beamslots, were recorded varying in size from 6m by 3m to 2.2m by 1.5m (Andrews 1997, 50) and similar structures were also recognised at the Stadium site (Birbeck *et al* 2005, 90-98) and elsewhere within Hamwic.

3.3.13 Several other postholes and shallow gullies were excavated elsewhere within the area excavation and may represent parts of other structures; however, no convincing ground plans could be discerned. A shallow gully (690), approximately 5m long, 0.44m wide and 0.11m deep with steep sides and a flat base may represent part of a building in the south-western corner of the central plot or property, however, as a later north-south ditch would have probably removed any traces of the eastern side of the structure, this is uncertain.

Possible hearth

3.3.14 A large, shallow circular feature in the north-east of the excavation area (**1123**), which was approximately 2.1m in diameter and 0.30m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base, contained several thin layers of charcoal rich material. An initial 0.18m thick dark grey silty clay was succeeded by a thin

layer of redeposited brickearth, a second dark grey layer, a second thin layer of redeposited brickearth and finally third deposit of dark grey silty clay. Environmental samples from the dark grey layers contained relatively large quantities of charcoal, a few charred seeds and very little else. Finds were only recovered from the basal and topmost fills and comprised small assemblages of animal bone, pottery and a honing stone.

3.3.15 Although no signs of scorching were visible on the redeposited brickearth, or the *in situ* brickearth below this feature, it is possible that this feature represents a hearth with successive repairs to the working surface. The layers of brickearth were all of a relative uniform thickness and appeared to be deliberately spread rather than merely dumps of brickearth. Evidence for Saxon iron working was found at SOU17 (see **Figure 1**), some 50m to the south (Morton 1992, 96 and 100) and relatively large quantities of iron slag (70 pieces weighing 1364g) were recovered from an adjacent pit (1177) and hammer-scale was recovered from several environmental samples; it is therefore possible that this feature may be associated with iron smithing, although this is rather speculative (but see 4.9, below).

Medieval and Post-Medieval

3.3.16 The majority of the medieval or early post-medieval activity identified during the excavations was concentrated in the north-west of the Site and comprised large, irregular hollows in the natural Brickearth filled with subsoil, some of which sealed small, shallow pits or scoops. The majority of the pits sealed below the subsoil deposits produced no dating evidence, but where dating evidence was recovered, in the form of a fragment of medieval glazed, crested ridge tile, a decorated medieval floor tile and lead window cames, it indicated a medieval or later date.

3.3.16 The overlying subsoil, which was up to 0.50m thick, was cut by the construction cuts of two wall footings (**226** and **227)** in evaluation trench 2 (SOU 1386/2), immediately to the west of the area excavation. 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 architectural 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, unfrogged 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. 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. This was cut by several pits and a posthole, all of which appear to be of 19th century date.

3.3.17 Two roughly north to south aligned ditches (**557** and **1282**) were located within the area excavation. The two ditches were 45m apart and were

perpendicular to Chapel Road. The western ditch contained a fragment of slate; the eastern ditch contained no artefacts. Three maps of the late 18th or early 19th centuries show a field boundary aligned at a right angle to Chapel Road in the centre of the Site and one shows smaller subdivisions to the west and it is likely that the ditches and gullies represent these field boundaries.

4 FINDS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section considers the artefactual evidence from both stages of fieldwork on the site. The assemblage is largely of Mid-Saxon date, with numerous parallels within the known range of material recovered from *Hamwic*. There are smaller quantities of prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval material.

4.1.2 Condition varies. Most material is in fragmentary condition, but abrasion levels are relatively low, at least on the harder-fired ceramics. Metalwork, however, is generally in poor condition, and both copper alloy and iron objects are badly corroded. Recommendations for remedial treatment have been made.

4.1.3 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context. Overall quantities are given in **Table 1** (see Appendix 1). For the purposes of this assessment, all finds have been at least visually scanned, to ascertain details of their nature, range and condition. Objects have been identified to type as far as possible at this stage (in the absence of X-raying or investigative cleaning for the metalwork), pottery fabrics and vessel forms have been recorded, and spot dates have been assigned on a context by context basis. All finds recording has followed Southampton City Museums' 'Standards for the deposition of archaeological archives' (Brown 2007) and all data are held in the project database (Access).

4.1.5 On this information is based an assessment of the potential of the finds assemblage to contribute to an understanding of the site. Recommendations are made for further analysis and reporting for publication, and for treatment of the project archive.

4.2 Pottery

4.2.1 The pottery assemblage includes material of Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval date, although the bulk of the assemblage is Mid-Saxon. Condition is fair to good; sherds are relatively unabraded, and there are some cross-context joins. Mean sherd weight overall is 19.0g.

4.2.2 The assemblage has been subjected to full fabric and form analysis following the standard Wessex Archaeology recording system for pottery, with details of surface treatment, decoration, vessel dimensions and evidence of use also recorded. As far as possible, Mid-Saxon fabrics have been correlated with the Southampton type series (Timby 1988), although this has not proved possible for the imported wares as the full fabric series for these is not available for consultation; they have instead been defined by basic type, e.g. blackware, greyware, etc. Form types have been defined and described

using nationally recommended nomenclature. **Table 2** breaks the pottery assemblage down by ware group, using Timby's subdivisions based on dominant inclusion type(s).

Romano-British

4.2.3 There are 12 sherds of Romano-British date. These fall into four fabric types: coarse greywares (nine sherds), grog-tempered wares (one sherd); Black Burnished ware (BB1, 1 sherd) and New Forest parchment ware (one sherd). All are body sherds; the sherd of New Forest parchment ware comes from a mortarium. The latter can be dated as later 3rd or 4th century AD; the others cannot be dated more closely within the Romano-British period.

Mid-Saxon

4.2.4 This chronological group accounts for the majority of the assemblage recovered (607 sherds). Seven of Timby's nine Saxon fabric groups are represented; those that are absent here are calcite-tempered (Group VII) and igneous rock-tempered (Group VIII). Organic-tempered (Group I) and shelly wares (Group V) are each represented by only a handful of sherds; most commonly occurring are chalk-tempered (Group II), sandy (Group III) and imported wares (Group IX) (see **Table 2**).

4.2.5 Amongst the locally produced coarsewares, diagnostic sherds relate exclusively to jar forms (46 examples), with either convex or rounded profiles. Rims are everted and plain, flattened or internally bevelled. There is also one lid in a sandy fabric. There are no examples of decoration. The imported wares include six everted rim jars, four spouted pitchers, and three flanged bowls. Sherds from eight imported vessels (including one spouted pitcher) are decorated, with either curvilinear combing or rouletting in various designs.

4.2.6 Detailed comments on the quantities of pottery recovered on the site against the number of pits excavated will await further analysis, as will a consideration of the proportions of the various fabric groups in comparison to the surrounding sites within *Hamwic*, although the value of these comments is likely to be limited by the small size of the assemblage. This site falls within Timby's group of sites south of Chapel Road (Timby 1988, tables 5 and 6), but is directly to the south of Southampton site 33, to the north of Chapel Road. At this stage it can merely be observed that the proportion of organic-tempered wares (which Timby takes as an indicator of early Mid-Saxon occupation) seems relatively low in comparison with nearby sites, while the proportion of imported wares is relatively high (see **Table 2**).

4.3 Ceramic Building Material

4.3.1 Very little ceramic building material was recovered, and the small assemblage is mainly of medieval or later date. One piece of Romano-British brick, however, came from well **1131**.

4.3.2 There are two pieces of medieval roof tile – a flat (peg) tile fragment from pit **688** and part of a glazed, crested ridge tile from pit 228. Two floor tiles are also medieval; one plain tile came from context 577 while the second, from context 572, is decorated. The latter comprises a small fragment only, but the design can possibly be matched to one used at Winchester College, dated *c.* 1300 (Norton 1974, no. 8).

4.3.3 Other fragments are from post-medieval brick and tile.

4.4 Burnt Clay, Daub & Lining

4.4.1 The burnt clay includes low-fired material which could have been used in a structural capacity, retaining some surfaces but no other distinguishing features; as well as pieces with wattle impressions (definite structural daub); and heavily burnt/vitrified fragments classified as hearth lining.

4.4.2 This category also includes fragments of portable objects – in this instance fragments from five loomweights (pits 504, 824, 975, 937). Where form can be discerned, these weights are bun-shaped, the type typical of the Mid-Saxon period.

4.5 Stone

Building material

4.5.1 Two medieval architectural fragments were recovered, plus one other piece of possible building stone. One of the architectural fragments had been re-used in wall footing **226**; this is in a shelly limestone, probably Purbeck Marble, and comprises approximately half of a hollow cylindrical architectural moulding (diameter 0.38m), well finished over most of the external surface but also displaying a rougher, pecked area on one side. The second fragment came from pit 604; this is a moulding in Oolitic Limestone, possibly from a door or window jamb.

4.5.2 A third piece of limestone appears to have been roughly shaped, although showing no obvious tool marks. This came from pit 667.

Portable objects

4.5.3 These largely comprise quern fragments. Three groups of fragments are from imported lava quernstones or millstones (wells **565, 1131,** and unstratified). One piece of sarsen with one smooth surface may also be from a quern, although of unknown type and date (pit 604).

4.5.4 One shaped fragment, polished through use, represents part of a hone stone, of sub-rectangular form (hearth **1123**).

Shale

4.5.5 One shale object was recovered – part of a rough-out for an armlet (pit 649). The roughout has an external diameter of *c*. 80mm, and is hand-chiselled, a technique typical of the Iron Age shale industry of the Purbeck area of south Dorset (e.g. Cox and Woodward 1987, fig. 92, 117-8); if this of Mid-Saxon date it would be most unusual as no evidence of shale working has yet been found within Hamwic. Even if this single piece is residual within a Saxon deposit, the survival of such a piece is also most unusual.

Unworked stone

4.5.6 This group made up the majority of the stone recovered from the site. These fragments are in a range of stone types including chalk, limestone and sandstone. Representative samples of each stone type have been retained and the remainder discarded.

4.6 Worked and Burnt Flint

4.6.1 Of the small amount of worked flint recovered, most pieces are waste flakes. There is one scraper (pit 595) and one roughly spherical pebble that may have been used as a hammerstone (pit 1007). None of these pieces are chronologically distinctive. Most exhibit some edge damage, consistent with a residual provenance.

4.6.2 Burnt, unworked flint was recovered in larger quantities, but as a low-level background scatter across the site; there were no major concentrations. This material type, although intrinsically undatable, is often taken as an indicator of prehistoric activity, although its date here is uncertain.

4.7 Glass

4.7.1 With the exception of two modern vessels, all of the glass is of Mid-Saxon date, and finds parallels amongst the range already published from *Hamwic* (Hunter and Heyworth 1998). Most of the fragments are in pale blue glass; these include nine rim fragments, all of which appear to derive from vessels within the palm/funnel series, with a broad 8th to 9th century date range. Rim profiles are either tubular (without cavity) or rounded; there are no tubular rims with cavities, which have been placed at the beginning of the palm/funnel chronological sequence (Hunter and Heyworth 1998, 8). Where rim diameters can be estimated (five examples) they range from 90mm to 120mm. One example is from a vessel with wrythen decoration (pit 865), but otherwise these rims are plain.

4.7.2 Four fragments from one context are from a single vessel base, with a slight kick, probably a jar of some form. This is also in pale blue glass.

4.7.3 Two body fragments are decorated. One, in a strong blue colour, has applied, opaque white trails (well **1131**); while a second, in semi-translucent olive-green, has marvered, opaque yellow trails (pit 884). Neither can be attributed to specific vessel form. Applied and marvered trailing in yellow and white are amongst the most common decorative techniques used for the *Hamwic* glass vessels.

4.7.4 Other Mid-Saxon vessel glass comprise completely undiagnostic body fragments in clear, pale blue or pale green glass.

4.7.5 The two modern vessels came from pit 203 (wine bottle base), and an unstratified context (egg bottle).

4.8 Metal

Coins

4.8.1 Five coins were recovered. All appear to be silver coins, although some clearly have a high copper content. Two are clearly legible, whilst the other three show signs of wear. Four are likely to date to the Saxon period, whilst the fifth is likely to be of late Saxon or medieval date.

4.8.2 The two legible coins (both from pit **528**) are both *sceattas* of Series E. Both bear a stylised human head on the obverse and a blundered standard on the reverse – both derived from late Roman coins. Both date to the early 8th century. A third coin (pit 595) may also be a similar issue, but requires further investigative cleaning. Neither of the remaining coins is currently legible – one (pit 937) is also likely to be a *sceatta*, whilst the other (pit 1170) is a

fragment of a larger hammered coin, probably a late Saxon or early medieval penny.

Silver

4.8.3 A small, flat octagonal flan (9mm x 9mm) was found in well **613**. This is probably an un-struck coin flan, and suggests that coins were being struck in the vicinity.

Copper Alloy

4.8.4 There is one object of Romano-British date amongst the copper alloy, from pit **528**. This is a complete, long, pin-like object with a small scoop at the end opposite the point (cf Crummy 1983, no. 1940); this object has been sharply bent.

4.8.5 A second probable toilet implement, from pit 604, is more likely to be Mid-Saxon. It is incomplete but comprises a narrow, strip-like shaft perforated at the surviving end and attached to a small suspension hook. It might be a nail cleaner (cf Hinton 1996, fig. 18, 349/80).

4.8.6 Three other objects are definitely or probably of Mid-Saxon date. These include two pins, one with a spherical head (pit 649; Hinton type Aa1i) and the second with a polyhedral head (pit 1170; Hinton type Bb2i). Spherical-headed pins are the most common type found in Southampton, the polyhedral-headed examples being slightly less common (Hinton 1996, 20, 25). A corroded, circular-sectioned shank with a hooked end can perhaps be compared to some enigmatic objects with spoon-like terminals (Hinton 1996, fig. 24, 4/37).

4.8.7 An incomplete curved object (bent into roughly semi-circular shape) from pit **528** circular-sectioned, flattening out to a rounded, perforated terminal, could be an early post-medieval purse-frame (cf Margeson 1993, fig. 24, 292).

4.8.8 Other objects are of uncertain date. There is a small awl from pit 1022. A small, disc-shaped object from ditch 557 resembles a small weight (it weighs 4.0g, or 0.14oz). Other objects comprise miscellaneous bar, rod and sheet fragments, of unknown function.

Iron

4.8.9 All of the iron objects are heavily corroded, and few can be confidently identified at this stage, in the absence of X-radiography. Some objects are clearly nails; these objects and other structural items are likely to make up most of the ironwork. There are also at least three knives, although the types of these are unknown. One looped object appears to be a lock hasp, perhaps from a chest or casket (pit 1133).

Lead

4.8.10 An unfinished lead alloy disc brooch was found in well **727**; it still retains the casting sprue (see front cover). The design shows a bird pecking at a cross, within a circle of ring-and-dot motifs, surrounded by a hatched border. No direct parallels for this design have at this stage been found, but the pecking bird motif appears on other Mid-Saxon disc brooches from Southampton (Hinton 1996, fig. 1, 31/1653). Hinton notes the similarity of the bird motifs to those used on the Series H Type 49 sceattas, minted in Southampton (e.g. Metcalf 1988, pl. 4, nos. 71-4), and this example also incorporates the ring-and-dot circle from the obverse. The find of this unfinished brooch supports

Hinton's supposition that the disc brooches with bird motifs were also local products (Hinton 1996, 4-5). The object is likely to date to the mid to late 8th century AD.

4.8.11 One piece of window came was recovered from pit 504; this is probably cast and therefore either medieval or early post-medieval

4.8.12 The remaining lead comprises waste fragments of unknown date.

4.9 Slag

4.9.1 Metalworking debris, consisting of ironworking slag, was recovered in moderate quantities, although there were no large single deposits. Few features contained more than 1kg of slag; the largest quantity from a single feature came from well **1131** (4707g).

4.9.2 From a preliminary scan, the slag appears to represent exclusively iron smithing, and includes identifiable hearth bottoms. Hammer-scale, in the form of small flakes and rounded beads of slag, was also recovered from a number of contexts.

4.10 Worked Bone

4.10.1 A total of 17 pieces of worked bone weighing 229g were recovered from the site, comprising six comb fragments, two pin beaters, a gaming piece, a spindle whorl, a pin and six pieced of bone or antler working debris. The six comb fragments were of double sided composite bone combs with iron rivets, a common find on Hamwic sites, which were recovered from pits **528**, 604, 831 (two pieces) and 1151 (two pieces). The two pin beaters, recovered from pits **528** and 1133, were both double ended and were both polished through use; the pin beater recovered from pit 528 was also decorated with incised transverse lines in six bands. The domed gaming piece with two small, bored holes in its base was recovered from pit 874; the plain, bun-shaped spindle whorl was recovered from pit 975; the incomplete pig fibula pin with head missing (so it is uncertain whether this was perforated or decorated) was recovered from pit 565; and the bone and antler working debris was recovered from pits 827, 865, 884, 911, 976 and 1073. All of the pits that produced bone working waste are within or close to the pit alignments that form the eastern and southern boundaries of the possible property with pit **528** at its centre.

4.11 Animal Bone

4.11.1 A total of 43,779 pieces of animal bone weighing 349,722g was recovered during the course of the excavations. Due to the very large size of the assemblage only the animal bone recovered from pit **528** (2752 pieces weighing 38,120g, representing 6.29% of the total animal bone assemblage from the whole site by number and 10.9% of the assemblage by weight) was assessed. This brief assessment suggested that this contained a higher than usual proportion of sheep bones and a correspondingly lower proportion of cattle than is generally seen on Hamwic sites; that there was a higher proportion of younger cattle and sheep than is usual, although very young animals are, as is usual, absent; and that there was a relatively high proportion of bird remains, including a bird of prey.

4.12 Marine Shell

4.12.1 A total of 4125 marine shells was recovered from 43 contexts during the excavation. Most of these shells (3900) were retrieved from significant dumps of shell in 13 contexts, all dating to the Mid-Saxon period, from both Areas C and D. The majority of the assemblage comprised shells of oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), around 95%. Other marine shells recovered included those of mussel (*Mytilus edulis*), cockle (*Cerastoderma edule*), periwinkle (*Littorina* spp.), whelk (*Buccinum undatum*), carpet shells (Veneridae) and a small scallop (*Chlamys* sp.).

4.12.2 Nine of the contexts with larger quantities of oyster shell were rapidly scanned to gain some indication of the composition and condition of the assemblage. These are noted in **Table 3**. The results of this rapid scan demonstrate that there is the potential for further analysis on this assemblage. Differences between numbers of left and right oyster valves and measurable and unmeasurable valves can provide indications of the function of different areas of the site as well as providing information on the methods of waste disposal. The composition of the assemblage may assist in determining any selection procedures employed in obtaining this resource and also the likely status of the site.

5 PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

Environmental samples taken

5.1.1 A programme of bulk sampling was undertaken to recover biological remains. Previous excavations within the Mid-Saxon settlement of Hamwic have produced exceptional deposits of biological remains. Plant remains preserved by calcium phosphate mineral replacement were particularly well preserved from the Stadium site (Carruthers 2005a; 2005b), while waterlogged and charred plant remains were also well represented at that site (Hunter 2005; Clapham 2005). Elsewhere within the settlement plant remains have been well preserved although published data is less extensive than that from the Stadium site rendering comparisons difficult (Biddle 1997; Monk 1977; 1980). The Deanery samples therefore offer the potential for a comparative study with the data from the Stadium site.

5.1.2 One hundred and twenty eight bulk samples were taken from features and processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoal. No waterlogged deposits were encountered on site in contrast to the Stadium site (Clapham 2005). The majority of the features sampled were pits dating to the Mid-Saxon period with occasional samples from wells. A small number of later features were also sampled including a medieval pit (feature 502) and a medieval or post medieval ditch (feature 619).

5.1.3 The bulk samples break down into the following phase groups:

Sample Provenance Summary

Phase	***No of samples***	***Volume (litres)***	***Feature types***
Mid-Saxon	125	1733	Pits, well, possible tree throw
Medieval	2	18	Pit
?med/post-med	1	16	Ditch
Totals	128	1767	

5.2 Charred and Mineralised Plant Remains

5.2.1 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods and the results are presented in **Table 4**.

5.2.2 The flots were variable in size from very small (2ml) to large (700ml). Roots and modern seeds or other evidence of recent disturbance were generally low. The majority of flots produced both charred and mineralised material. A total of 26 flots produced mineralised material only, while 7 flots produced only charcoal. Plant remains preserved by calcium phosphate mineral replacement were present in all but 44 flots. In many of the deposits the mineralised component consisted of unidentifiable mineral concretions or fragments of mineralised bran which can not be quantified beyond approximate relative abundance. Where this is the case it is recorded on a three point scale of present, common or abundant (+, ++ and +++). The estimated abundance of seeds and other quantifiable material (mineralised and charred) follows Wessex Archaeology's standard method (A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5). Where both relative and estimated abundances are given (eg ++B), both unquantifiable matter (bran, testa, stems etc) and quantifiable seeds and fruits were present.

Mid-Saxon pits:

5.2.3 A total of 111 samples was examined from Mid-Saxon pits. Charred plant remains were present in 78 samples of which 69 contained cereal grains. In most samples the quantities of grain tended to be fairly low (up to 30 grains) and included free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* sp.), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and oats (*Avena* sp.). Grain of rye (*Secale cereale*) was very rare although did form a slight presence in the samples. A more substantial deposit of grain (>30) was recovered from pit feature 1133. In contrast cereal chaff was present in only four samples, always in small quantities (<5 items), consisting of free-threshing wheat rachis or cereal sized culm nodes, including a spikelet fork of hulled wheat, either spelt or emmer wheat (*Triticum spelta/dicoccum*). The hulled wheats are more usually associated with the Roman and prehistoric periods although occasional Saxon finds are recorded nationally. Also present were remains of pulses, including pea (*Pisum sativum*), broad/Celtic bean (*Vicia faba*), hazelnut shell fragments (*Corylus avellana*) and occasionally *Prunus* stones including possible cultivated plum/bullace etc (*Prunus domestica*). Weed seeds were present in 26 samples and always in low numbers (usually <5). Species noted include large seeded weeds such as brome grass (*Bromus* sp.), goosegrass/bedstraw (*Galium* sp.) and black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*) with occasional species of damp ground and/or grassland such as buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.) and common spikerush (*Eleocharis palustris*). It is likely that the cereal chaff and weed seeds represent

occasional contaminants of the grain which in most cases appears to have been processed prior to entering the sites. There is no evidence for cereal processing activity or the use of cereal processing waste amongst the charred remains. The density of charred remains across the Site is more in keeping with background scatters of burnt cereals and associated waste rather than anything indicative of storage or processing activities.

5.2.4 Plant material preserved by calcium phosphate mineral replacement was present in 72 samples. In many of these samples the mineral component consists of unquantifiable material including bran fragments and fragments of the testa of fruits and/or pulses. Generally this type of material is indicative of faecal material or sewage. In some cases the quantifiable seeds are visibly embedded in the faecal concretions. Also difficult to quantity were fragments of cereal straw or other stems noted in a number of samples and often embedded in concretions. Straw fragments are common components of cesspit assemblages used to reduce odours and soak up liquids (Carruthers 2005, 160). Also indicative of faecal material is the presence, in several samples, of pupa and other insect remains of taxon typical in sewage type/cesspit deposits. Quantifiable seeds and fruits, noted in 28 samples, included remains of apple or pear (*Malus/Pyrus* sp.), sloe (*Prunus spinosa*) and plum/bullace etc (*Prunus domestica*), blackberry/raspberry etc (*Rubus* sp.), wild strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*) and a possible grape (*Vitis vinifera*) in pit 831. Pulses were visible in some samples, usually fragmentary and unidentifiable, although broad/Celtic bean (*Vicia faba* var *minor*) was identified on the basis of the thick seed coat or testa and hilum in pits 1170 and 854. A single complete mineralised grain of wheat (*Triticum* sp.) was noted in a second sample from pit 1170. The quantifiable seeds and fruit stones identified in the samples may derive from faecal matter or domestic waste thrown into the cess pits. Occasional mineralised weed seeds such as of stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*) may derive from sewage waste if the seed was consumed with flour or bread, or they may have entered the deposit with general waste particularly straw thrown into the deposits to reduce odours and soak up liquid.

Mid-Saxon wells:

5.2.5 Three sequences of samples were taken from three Mid-Saxon wells (features **728, 1131** and **1160**). Charred remains were rare in feature **1131** consisting of two cereal grains (one each of barley and wheat) and a *Brassica*/*Sinapis* seed in context 1193. This well also contained small quantities of mineralised concretions. Thee samples were taken from well **1160**. Two samples (contexts 1164 and 1168) produced occasional weed seeds, hawthorn seeds (*Crataegus monogyna*), hazel nut shell (*Corylus avellana*) and small quantities of unquantifiable mineral concretions. The hawthorn seed in context 1168 was encrusted with mineral deposits. The third sample (context 1165) produced a somewhat different assemblage consisting of large numbers of charred weed seeds, stem/straw fragments, rhizomes/tubers, seeds of apple/pear and a large conglomeration of small fly pupa. The material in this deposit was largely charred, including the pupa, but was encrusted in mineral material. No loose mineralised seeds or mineralised concretions were present however, so it is not clear if sewage has been present in the well or that the charred material had been in contact with sewage elsewhere before being deposited in the well.

Medieval pits

5.2.6 Two samples were examined from a pit thought to be of medieval date (feature 502). Both samples produced occasional cereal grain (<5 grain), including free-threshing wheat (*Triticum* sp.), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and oats (*Avena* sp.). No weeds or chaff were present. A single fragment of hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*) was identified. Mineralised remains were rare consisting of occasional indeterminate fragments and a blackberry/raspberry seed (*Rubus* sp.). These deposits do not appear to have contained primary sewage deposits, but rather deposited waste which included charred waste and charcoal.

5.3 Wood Charcoal

5.3.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 4**. The quantity of charcoal present varied considerably. The charcoal is likely to have derived from a range of sources, particularly domestic fuel. Where present in cesspits or pits containing sewage type waste it may have been deliberately added to reduce odours in the same way as the straw, or simply discarded with the household waste.

5.4 Insect remains

5.4.1 Mineralised invertebrate fragments and small pupae were noted in several samples, including types typical of cess pit type deposits. Their presence is recorded in **Table 4**.

5.5 Land, fresh/brackish water and marine molluscs

5.5.1 A single sample of 1500g, from context 1017 (an upper fill of pit 827) was processed by standard methods for land snails. The flot (0.5mm) was rapidly assessed by scanning under a x 10 – x 40 stereo-binocular microscope to provide some information about shell preservation and species representation. No molluscs were present in the flot.

5.5.2 Marine molluscs were noted in a number of samples (**Table 3**) particularly fragments of oyster and mussel shell. The oyster is discussed by Sarah Wyles (finds report above). In addition shells of winkles and possibly clam were noted in Saxon pits 816 and 1177.

5.6 Small animal and fish bones

5.6.1 During the assessment of bulk soil samples for the presence of plant remains and charcoal, small animal, fish and eel bones were noted in some samples. These are recorded in **Table 4**.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 The excavation and watching brief produced abundant evidence for the Mid-Saxon occupation of the area, in the form of pits, wells, possible buildings and possible plot or property boundaries in the form of probable pit alignments. Evidence for late medieval or early post-medieval occupation of the area and the remains of an early post-medieval wall was also recorded in the western side of the excavation area and the evaluation trench immediately to the west. Two post-medieval or modern field boundaries were also investigated.

6.2 The finds assemblage recovered indicates that some of the Saxon features were probably filling up in the early-mid 8th century and a fragment of a Late Saxon or Early medieval penny, recovered from the basal fill pit 1170, suggests a continuity of occupation until at least the 9th or early 10th century. Elements of the finds assemblage also indicate various craft practiced in the area during the Saxon period, including lead/pewter working, in the form of an unfinished brooch; coining, represented by a possible silver coin blank; weaving in the form of loom weights and pin beaters; spinning, represented by spindle whorls; bone and antler working represented by off-cuts and unfinished objects; and iron working in the form of slag and hammer-scale.

6.3 The size of the possible properties identified within the excavation area, while quite large, are within the range of property sizes recorded in the large-scale excavations at Six Dials (Andrews 1996, figure 20), where over 30 properties were identified.

6.4 The slightly isolated location of pit 528, in the centre of one of the possible properties, could suggest that the material recovered from this was derived from activities within this single plot. If this is so, then the apparent higher status, suggested by the high proportion of imported pottery and of younger cattle and sheep than is usual may be significant.

6.5 There is evidence for fairly extensive late medieval or early post-medieval activity, in the form of a small number of pits and more extensive subsoil deposits, in the north-west of the site. These subsoil deposits were cut by the remains of two post-medieval walls. The re-used stonework recorded in these walls, and elsewhere on the site, is likely to have been 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 show barns close to Chapel Road, associated with the Chantry/Parsonage house complex. The same buildings are probably also shown on an 1842 map but appear to be absent on a Royal Engineers Map of 1846. These buildings appear to reflect the alignment of the walls, 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.

7 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

7.1 Features and Deposits

7.1.1 The excavation at The Deanery, Southampton has confirmed the continuity of activity associated with Mid-Saxon Hamwic (7th – 9th centuries) which has been recorded in this part of modern Southampton and within earlier evaluations and excavations on the Site. The presence of many pits, four wells and apparent property boundaries, defined by alignments of pits, is comparable to many other excavations within Hamwic and there are indications that one of the possible properties may be of a slightly high status than is generally the case. The possible property boundaries were all aligned either parallel with or perpendicular to the course of Chapel Road, which was probably the major east-west streets within the south of Hamwic.

7.1.2 Analysis of pit types and finds distributions within the possible properties, along with the results of the environmental analysis, could potentially identify any crafts or industries that took place within the individual properties and internal organisation. It could also, to an extent, identify the social status of their occupants. The distribution and stratigraphic positions of closely datable finds could potentially identify chronological sequences and the development of the various properties within the Mid-Saxon period. This could also form the basis for comparing the various activities and lay-out of the properties with other sites in south of Hamwic, such as Andersons Road, *c.* 120m to the east, and within Hamwic in general.

7.2 Finds

7.2.1 With the exception of the animal bone, this is a small assemblage of relatively limited potential. The Mid-Saxon artefacts are well paralleled elsewhere within *Hamwic*, and add little new information to an understanding of life within the Mid-Saxon town. There are some interesting objects, however, which merit further comment, and some categories where further analysis is warranted, either to collect further data, or to manipulate existing data in order to produce quantifications which are comparable with other *Hamwic* sites. These comprise pottery, marine shell, and animal bone.

7.2.2 Selected objects (ceramic, metal, worked bone, stone) can provide slight evidence for craft activities (textile working, bone- and antler-working, metalworking). The lead alloy disc brooch is of particular interest here as representing a link between the probably locally-minted sceattas of Type 49 and other objects made in the town. Further comment on the metalwork may be possible following X-radiography, and the investigative cleaning of selected objects.

7.3 Environmental Remains

7.3.1 A total of 54 pits, as well as three wells and occasional minor features were sampled in detail for the recovered of biological remains. This has resulted in a large assemblage of plant remains, many of which are characterised by mineralised material, particularly of unquantifiable concretions, bran and testa fragments, with occasional identifiable seeds and fruit remains. The body of information potentially recovered, while not as extensive will certainly provide a useful comparison to that recovered from the Stadium site. The fragmentary nature of the mineralised material is such that quantifiable data

is by necessity limited, although closer examination of a selection of the sequences will provide valuable information concerning the diet of the inhabitants of this part of the settlement and the processes involved in the formation of the deposits. Great value will be gained from the comparison with the biological data generated by the Stadium site (Carruthers 2005; a; 2005b; Hunter 2005; Clapham 2005; Robinson 2005). There do appear to be some differences between the two sites however, most notably in the absence of waterlogged deposits at the Deanery and possibly a more extensive species list at the Stadium site. Detailed examination of the differences, both in preservation and material present, should be informative in terms of identifying differences in the nature of the occupation and preservation conditions between the two areas of the Saxon settlement.

7.3.2 While charred plant remains were noted in a number of samples, they were generally present in fairly limited quantities. Closer examination of the majority of these samples is unlikely to extend or refine the species list significantly. A small number of samples produced more significant quantities of remains however. This included a sample from well 1160 (context 1165) which produced a large number of weed seeds, stems/straw, rhizomes/tubers and occasional fruit seeds which were encrusted in mineralised deposits.

7.3.3 The quantitative information which is likely to be derived from the Deanery samples is limited by the nature of the material present however. The majority of the material is composed of concretions of unquantifiable material including fragments of bran, seed testa and straw/stem. It is not possible to quantify such material into meaningful numerical values and therefore only rough relative quantification (eg. present, common, abundant) is possible. Closer examination of a selection of samples (up to 20) will refine this rough quantification slightly and will allow more detailed descriptive recording of the deposits. It should also refine and extend species lists slightly.

7.3.4 Large quantities of charcoal were present in a number of samples. Much of the charcoal present is likely to have derived from domestic or other fuel use although it may include structural remains. The potential for useful information from such material beyond listing taxa brought into the site and fuel use is limited. There is no potential for any further work on the land and fresh/brackish water molluscs. The identification of fish and small animal bones recovered from samples, along with the large quantity of animal bones recovered by hand should provide additional dietary information.

7.3.5 From the limited exercise of the assessment, it appears that the environmental remains are typical of Hamwic. There are generally well-preserved plant remains, mostly from deposits assumed to be cess, and there are more limited categories of material such as charcoal, insect remains and marine molluscs. The large-scale programmes of previous research on animal bones and plant remains, especially at the Stadium site in the latter case, give the primary potential of the assemblage for comparison of material between and across settlement areas within Hamwic. The potential of the assemblages therefore centres on comparison with other assemblages and identification of any significant differences. This will be the emphasis of the animal and plant remains analysis. These materials and other categories of environmental remains also have the potential to determine the nature and derivation of specific deposits e.g. the confirmation of cess deposits versus other deposits.

7.4 Research Aims

7.4.1 The main aims of further analysis of the features, deposits finds and environmental assemblages will be to identify the probable functions of the Mid-Saxon features and deposits and so the activities represented within individual properties on the site. It would also attempt to discern any chronological sequences that may be inferred from the dating of closely datable finds and stratigraphic relationships. This would also allow comparison with other sites within Hamwic, in particular:

- comparison with sites in the immediate area, such as Chapel Road and Andersons Road;
- comparison with sites close to the waterfront and inland, such as the Stadium site and Six Dials;
- comparison with less dense, more peripheral settlement, such as the Stadium site.

8 PROPOSALS

8.1 Site

8.1.1 Further analysis, including statistical analysis, is required to prove and refine the identification and to establish the validity of the property boundaries tentatively identified in this assessment report. Further analysis of the distributions of the various categories of finds in relation to the various properties identified and within the excavation area as a whole, along with analysis of the distribution of pit types could potentially identify any specialised activity zones within the site as a whole and within individual properties and possibly the organisation of features and activities within the properties. Comparison of finds densities within Saxon pits, especially in comparison with the very large assemblage recovered from pit 528, could potentially identify social stratification between properties.

8.2 Finds

Pottery

8.2.1 Detailed correlation with the local type series will be sought for the pottery fabric types, and the pottery catalogue records updated accordingly. A brief report on the pottery will be prepared, describing the range of types present, but consisting mainly of a comparison with other *Hamwic* sites through a consideration of the quantifications and distributions of the various ware groups (see Timby 1988, tables 5 and 6; Morton 2005). This will concentrate on chronological indicators (e.g. the presence/absence of ‘early’ or ‘late’ types), and the proportion of imported wares. No illustration will be necessary, but supporting data will be tabulated.

Coins

8.2.2 The coins will be cleaned to enable secure identification and will then be identified and reported on by D.M Metcalf.

Metalwork

8.2.3 Following X-radiography and conservation treatment, the catalogue entries for metalwork will be enhanced as appropriate. No separate report will be prepared for these objects, but details from the catalogue will be incorporated into the publication text as appropriate. The unfinished disc brooch will be illustrated.

Worked Bone

8.2.4 A catalogue will be prepared of all worked bone objects (including waste and off-cuts. A report will also be prepared, discussing the range of types present, their spatial distribution and their functional implications, with specific reference to evidence for bone and antler working on site.

Animal Bone

8.2.5 In view of the apparent general similarity with other large animal bone assemblages from Hamwic, wholesale analysis of the material is not proposed. Further analysis will focus on the distribution of material across the site and the analysis of assemblages recovered from specific features considered to be of particular interest. The emphasis of the analysis will be on the quantification and distribution by species from selected features and the wider comparison of species representation with other Hamwic sites. Age at death data will also be quantified from the selected assemblages and compared to other Hamwic sites.

Marine Shell

8.2.6 The marine shell assemblage, including those shells obtained from the samples, will be recorded by minimum numbers of individuals by species and context. Intra-site comparison and comparison with other assemblages, such as Andersons Road, the Stadium site and Six-Dials will be made and reported on.

Other Categories

8.2.8 No further work is proposed for any other categories of material. Information included in this report, or in the archive catalogues, may be utilised within the publication text.

8.3 Environmental

Introduction

8.3.1 The focus of the environmental analysis will be the examination of aspects of the diet and the processes involved in the formation of deposits within the pits and wells. The comparison of the data with other sites within Hamwic, particularly the Stadium site and the Andersons Road site, should be prioritised during the interpretation of the data.

Charred plant remains

8.3.2 As discussed above the potential of the charred remains is relatively limited given the paucity of appropriate material in the deposits. The samples highlighted to be of potential include two from pit 1133 (samples 127 and 128) and from pits 816 (samples 42), 824 (samples 47 and 49) and 884 (sample 55). Any charred remains noted during the examination of the mineralised material which had not been noted during the assessment should be recorded.

8.3.3 All identifiable charred plant macrofossils will be extracted from the 2 and 1mm residues together with the flot. Identification will be undertaken using stereo incident light microscopy at magnifications of up to x40 using a Leica MS5 microscope, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) and with reference to modern reference collections where appropriate, quantified and the results tabulated.

Mineralised plant remains

8.3.4 The focus of the environmental analysis should be the mineralised plant remains. As discussed above however, relatively few samples contain easily quantifiable remains (seeds, fruits *etc*) and the majority of the material consists of fragments of bran, testa and straw etc. As mineralised material tends to be heavy it floats very poorly and tends to be retained with the heavy residue. The residues of all those samples selected for more detailed examination should therefore be sorted microscopically. In total it is recommended that up to 20 samples are examined in more detailed for mineralised material and the residues of these samples should be scanned. This should include the seven flots which contained useful quantities of seeds and other quantifiable items which should be extracted, identified and counted: pit features 831 (sample 48). Pit 854 (sample 62), pit 884 (sample 92), pit 937 (sample 87), pit 1022 (sample 74), pit 1170 (sample 109) and pit 1243 (sample 122). In all other samples (up to 13) examination can be limited to careful scanning (including of the residues) and extraction of seeds of particular interest only while careful descriptive notes should be taken of the less easily quantified material. The samples to be scanned should include full sequences from two pits, samples from which have already been highlighted as requiring full analysis in order to examine the nature of the infilling of the features: pits 884 (samples 55, 54, 91, 92, 93 and 94) and pit 1170 (samples 108 and 109).

Wood charcoal

8.3.5 While wood charcoal may provide information regarding woodland resources and fuel use, it is unlikely to add significantly to the data already generated from the Stadium site. No further work is therefore recommended.

8.4 Insect remains

8.4.1 Insect remains have the potential to provide additional information about the conditions within the features and preservation type. The insects noted are entirely mineralised which limits the level to which identification is possible, although it is recommended that material is extracted during sorting for mineralised seeds. Occasional mineralised insect remains were noted in six samples from pit features 851 (samples 97 and 98), 824 (sample 50), 937 (sample 88), pit 1243 (sample122), pit 506 (sample 1) and pit 665 (sample 25). Given the limited range of material present provisional identification of insect types associated with cess pits can be made during analysis of the plant remains.

9 OBJECTIVES OF ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

9.1 The excavation at The Deanery has achieved the broad aims set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Wessex Archaeology 2008) with regard to identifying the nature and extent of Mid-Saxon activity. Further work is required to define more closely the possible property boundaries and the

possible functions of specific features (craft/industrial or domestic) and to discern possible activity zones within the site and within the possible property boundaries. The results of the present excavation can then be placed in context within what is already known of this particular area of Mid-Saxon Hamwic, and more specifically with the results of earlier excavations in the area.

10 PROPOSED PUBLICATION SYNOPSIS

10.1 It is currently proposed to submit a final report (*c*. 25 pages) for publication in the journal Hampshire Studies. The proposed format of the report is outlined below. Precise details of word lengths and illustration titles have not been attempted since additional and unforeseen information may necessitate some revision to the content and layout of the final report, including extra figures.

Section Heading	Pages (*c*. 800 words/ page)	Figures/ Plates	Tables
Summary	0.25		-
Introduction			
Project background (site location, topography, geology, methodology)	1	1	
Archaeological background	1		
Site description			
Introduction	0.25	1	
Saxon	1		
Medieval and post-medieval	0.125		
Discussion	2	1	
Finds Reports			
Pottery	1	2	2
Other finds	1		1
Animal bone	2	2	2
Environmental Reports			
Charred plants and charcoal	0.5		1
Discussion	4		
Acknowledgements	0.25		
Bibliography	2		
Totals	**18.5**	**8**	**9**

11 THE PROGRAMME OF WORKS

11.1 Introduction

11.1.1 In order to achieve the project aims the following list identifies the task, personnel and/or time required. Proposed personnel and their qualifications are listed in section 11.2.1. Further details may be supplied on request. Wessex Archaeology reserves the right to vary the staff should circumstances necessitate this.

Task List

Task	Staff	Time
Site		
Analysis of pit alignments/property boundaries	VB	2.5 d
Analysis of finds distributions and densities	VB	7.5 d
Prepare report	VB	20 d
Site illustrations (5-6 figures)	Illustrator	2.5 d
Finds		
Conservation of metalwork		
X-radiography	External	5h
Ferrous objects	External	18h
Non-ferrous objects	Conservator	2.5d
Pottery		
Check fabric series	LM	1d
Prepare report	LM	1d
Marine Shell		
Analysis	SW	2d
Reporting	SW	1d
Animal bone		
Analysis	JG	13 d
Reporting	JG	2 d
Worked bone		
Prepare catalogue	LM	0.5 d
Reporting	LM	0.5 d
Metalwork		
Enhance catalogue entries	LM	0.5d
Finds illustration (lead disc brooch only)	Illustrator	0.5d
Environmental		
Charred plant remains		
Extraction	CS	2 d
Analysis	CS	4 d
Mineralised plant remains		
Extraction	RP	4 d
Analysis	RP	8 d
Overview/Palaeo-environmental Summary	RP	2 d
Archive	-	0.5
Misc	VB	0.5

11.2 Personnel

11.2.1 It is currently proposed that the following Wessex Archaeology staff will be involved in the programme of post-excavation analyses:

Environmental Technician	Sarah Wyles, BA, PIfA
Charcoal	Chris Stevens, PhD, MIfA
Charred Plant Remains	Chris Stevens, PhD, MIfA
Mineralised Plant Remains	Ruth Pelling BA MSc PhD MIfA
Animal Bone	Jessica Grimm MA MIfA
Senior Archaeologist	Vaughan Birbeck, BSc, AIfA
Finds Manager	Lorraine Mepham, BA, MIfA
Project Manager	Vaughan Birbeck, BSc, AIfA
Reports Manager	Julie Gardiner, BA, PhD, FSA, MIfA
Conservator	Lynn Wootten BSc, ICON Accredited

11.3 Programme

11.3.1 The chart below summarises the overall timetable proposed to complete the excavation report as outlined in this document. Tasks do not necessarily extend across a full month.

Tasks	1	2	3	4	5	6
	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov
Pre-analysis						
Finds						
Environmental						
Site report						
Illustrations						
Editing						
Report Submission						
Archive prep.						
Deposition						

12 ARCHIVE, STORAGE AND CURATION

12.1 Museum

12.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited within the archaeological collections of Southampton City Council. The Council has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project. Deposition of the finds with the Council will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

12.2 Preparation of Archive

12.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts and ecofacts, will be prepared following Southampton City Council's 'Standards for the creation, compilation and transfer of archaeological archives' (2007), and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Walker 1990; SMA 1995; Richards and Robinson 2000; Brown 2007).

12.2.2 All archive elements are marked with site code (**SOU1386**), and a full index has been prepared. The archive comprises the following:

- 89 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts & ecofacts, ordered by material type
- 5 files/document cases of paper records & A3/A4 graphics
- 2 files photographs
- 11 A1 graphics

12.3 Conservation

12.3.1 No immediate conservation requirements were noted in the field. Finds which have been identified as of unstable condition and therefore potentially in need of further conservation treatment comprise the metal and shale objects.

12.3.2 Metal objects will be X-radiographed, as a basic record and also to aid identification. On the basis of the X-rays, the range of objects present and their provenance on the Site, objects will be selected for further conservation treatment, involving investigative cleaning and stabilisation.

12.3.3 A preliminary selection for conservation of the more clearly identifiable objects (coins and other non-ferrous metalwork) has already been made. This comprises 4 objects which are listed in **Appendix 2**. Contingency has also been made for the investigative cleaning of a maximum of six iron objects, to be selected following X-radiography.

12.4 Discard Policy

12.4.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis, and these guidelines are supported by Southampton City Council. In this instance burnt, unworked flint and unworked stone (with hex caption of stone type samples) have already been discarded. A full discard policy will be agreed with the Council, but is likely to include:

- all slate
- all undiagnostic burnt clay (i.e. retaining loomweights)
- all daub
- all lining
- medieval and post-medieval ceramic building material
- post-medieval vessel glass
- marine shell from contexts containing less than 100 shells

12.4.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows the guidelines laid out in Wessex Archaeology's 'Archive and Dispersal Policy for Environmental Remains and Samples'. The archive policy conforms to nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2002) and is available upon request.

12.5 Copyright

12.5.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the Site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. The recipient museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profit making, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003.

12.6 Security Copy

12.6.1 In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a security copy of the paper records will be prepared, in the form of microfilm. The master jackets and one diazole copy of the microfilm will be submitted to the National Archaeological Record (English Heritage), a second diazole copy will be deposited with the paper records, and a third diazole copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology.

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APPENDIX 1: Tables

Table 1: Finds totals by material type

Material Group	Material	No	Wt (g)
STONE	Flint		
	Worked Flint	29	602
	Burnt Flint	205	4787
STONE	Slate	17	263
STONE	Stone	56	19,951
	Building Material	*3*	*4792*
	Objects	*14*	*1245*
	Shale	*1*	*60*
	Unworked	*38*	*13,854*
CLAY	Burnt Clay	189	4097
CLAY	Daub	2	58
CLAY	Lining	36	1486
CERAMICS	Ceramic Building Material	24	4078
CERAMICS	Clay Pipe	2	7
CERAMICS	Pottery	627	11,974
	Romano-British	*13*	*294*
	Saxon	*607*	*11,381*
	Medieval	*2*	*42*
	Post-medieval	*5*	*257*
GLASS	Glass	28	524
METAL	Coins	5	-
METAL	Silver	1	-
METAL	Copper alloy	20	-
METAL	Lead/lead alloy	7	-
METAL	Iron	65	-
MINERAL WASTE	Slag	281	27,290
VERTEBRATES	Animal Bone	43,779	349,722
VERTEBRATES	Worked Bone	17	229
INVERTEBRATES	Shell	4825	59,957

				4 x mussel, 1 x carpet shell	sizes, like 529 in condition, infestation = *Polydora ciliata, Polydora hoplura, Polyzoa* and *Cliona celata*
Well	613	566	87	1 x periwinkle	Left and right valves, Measurable and unmeasurable, some misshapen, notches, some worn, thick and flaky, chalky deposits, various sizes, infestation = *Polydora ciliata*,
Pit	649	651	61	None	Left and right valves, Measurable and unmeasurable, some misshapen, notches, some thick and flaky, chalky deposits, various sizes, infestation = *Polydora ciliata, Polydora hoplura* and *Cliona celata*
Pit	827	971	220		Left and right valves, Measurable and unmeasurable, some misshapen, some oysters attached, notches, some worn, chalky deposits, various sizes, infestation = *Polydora ciliata*,
Pit	911	913	183	3 periwinkles	Left and right valves, Measurable and unmeasurable, some misshapen, notches, some worn = flaky, generally poor condition, various sizes, infestation = *Polydora ciliata*,
Pit	976	977	159	1 x mussel	Left and right valves, Measurable and unmeasurable, some misshapen, notches, some worn, chalky deposits, various sizes, infestation = *Polydora ciliata,*
Pit	979	985	122		Left and right valves, Measurable and unmeasurable, some misshapen, notches, some worn, chalky deposits, various sizes, infestation = *Polydora ciliata,*

Table 4: Assessment of Palaeoenvironmental Remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot Size ml	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Weeds	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Mineral	Mineralised Notes	Charcoal >4/2mm	Notes
Saxon Pits															
506	507	1	15	25		C		indet x1	-	-	-	B	fruit stone, skin frags, Carex x1, pupa	6/5	fish bone/scale B
509	510	4	14	45	-	C	-	indet	-	-	-	++	concretions incl bran?, straw, tiny frags.	10/10	bone frags. Oak charcoal and other
521	522	5	6	2		C		indet x1						1/<1	mussel fibres
523	526	12	10	140		-	-	-	-	-	-	+	skin frags/bran, ?small grain frags?	20/20	sab/f, bone
528	529	16	16	45	-	C	-	indet	-	-	-	-	-	5/10	oyster and mussel frags (A+++), charcoal highly clinkered/vitrified, coal. Sab/f
528	529	16	16	20		C		Hordeum x1						<1/<1	mostly mussel fibres
528	635	17	6	100	-	C	-	Hordeum	-	-	-	++	indet small frags	30/20	sab/f incl eel A
528	560	18	18	140		C	-	Hordeum	-	C	Prunus spinosa/avium fruit/stone frag	+	small skin, bran frags, grain frags/	20/20	bone frags. Sab/f
528	624	19	5	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	concretions	1/<1	bone frags A, fish bone C
530	562	6	8	40	-	C	-	indet grain x1	-	-	-	-	-	15/10	fish C, small bone C, mussel frags B
530	563	7	18	25										8/5	fish B, sab C, mussel
540	541	13	9	80	-	-	-	-	C	C	Vicia faba	-	-	30/10	charcoal mostly oak.
568	593	8	8	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	concretions	3/2	small bone C, mussel frags C
595	599	9	18	25								+	indet frags	6/4	

595	603	10	30	25								++B	skin frags, bran, legume hilum, concretions	2/1	sab C, fish C
604	612	14	9	80	-	C	-	T. aest/turg x1, Hord x1	-	C	Corylus x3	-	-	30/20	fish scale B, coal C, mussel frags, fish bone C
604	610	15	9	130	-	C	-	Barley	-	B	Corylus x5	-	-	40/20	fish scale C, lots mussel frags A
644	645	20	18	25		C		Hordeum x2		C	berry?			2/3	coal. Recent Chenopod, elder. Sab C, fish c
644	646	21	17	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	small concretions	5/5	coal A, bone frags B, fish C, amphibian C
649	650	22	12	14		C		Hordeum x1						1/2	oyster frags C. Tarry lumps - indet grain?
649	651	23	20	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<1/<1	almost all oyster shell frags, coal frags C, clinkered frags C
655	658	24	16	60	-	C	-	T. aest/turg x3	C	C	Corylus x1	+	straw/stem	15/10	bone frags (splinters) A, fish C
656	669	31	18	40	-	C	-	T. aest/turg x1, Rye x1	-	C	Corylus x1	+	concreted frags.	10/5	mostly oak charcoal
665	676	25	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	C	cf. Brassica? Insect frags (millipede type), min globules	35/12	mussel frags, charcoal mostly Quercus, sab/f
665	679	26	6	300	-	C	-	T. aest/turg x1, indet x1	C	C	Vic/Pisum x3. Corylus x1	+++	Bran, skin. poss seeds	40/20	
697	700	27	17	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	indet frags	5/3	bone frags C, coal C
697	700	27	17	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	tiny frags and fish frags	2/1	vitrified, tarry frags C
697	702	28	16	80	-	C	-	T. aest/turg x2	-	B	Corylus x6	-	-	30/20	bone frags A, fish bone C
697	698	29	17	20			C	T spelta/dic spikelet x1						2/1	mineral encrusted charcoal
697	711	30	4	25								++ C	Rubus, straw frags,	<1/<1	bone C (1x phalange)
712	737	34	3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	‘+B	Rubus, Juncus, mineralised	2/<1	

													concretions, some seeds		
728	729	33	?	100	-	C	-	Hordeum x1	-	-	-	+	concretions	40/20	bone frags C
802	803	40	19	100	-	C	-	T aest/turg x4	-	C	Vic/Pisum x1	-	-	35/25	bone C, mussels and oyster C
816	817	41	20	200	-	C	-	Hordeum ?naked x1, hulled x1	-	C	Pisum x1	+	min concretions	90/70	fish bone/scale A
816	823	42	20	150	-	A	-	Hordeum x10, T aest/turg x1	C	B	Punus frag x1; corylus x6	-	-	50/60	Marine molluscs A* incl oyster, clam? winkle, fish scale A*, bone C
816	818	43	8	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20/10	
816	819	44		25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5/3	oak
816	820	45	6	70	-	C	-	T aest/turg x1, Hord x2	-	-	-	-	-	12/10	fish bone/scale A
824	826	46	18	100	-	C	-	Hordeum, Triticum naked, indet	-	C	Corylus	-	-	24/40	Oak, highly vitrified, sab/f, oyster and mussel shell frags.
824	825	47	18	140		A	-	T aest/turg x15, oats x1, indet x5	-	-	-	-	-	35/20	oyster frags C, bone frags C
824	837	49	18	200	-	A	-	T. aest/turg, Avena, Secale	-	B	Vic/Pisum x1; Corylus	C	concretions	60/50	bone C, sab and fish C, some burnt bone frags
824	827	50	19	300	-	C	-	T aest.turg x1, Trit/Rye x1	C	-	-	++C	indet seed x1, invertebrate frags C	130/90	fish A, bone frags B, eel C, mussel frags A
827	1017	90	9	45	-	C	-	indet	B	-	-	-	-	5/10	highly vitrified charcoal, clinker, coal. Sab/f
831	850	48	18	400	-	C	-	T aest/turg x2, indet x1	-	C	Vic/Pis x1	++A	Malus/Pyrus, Prunus, straw, bran, brassica?, grape?, Apiaceae	120/80	fish A
831	987	78	20	50	-	C	-	T. aest/turg x2	C	-	-	++	concretions	5/5	
831	995	79	20	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	concretions only	10/5	
851	1001	97	6	20	-	C	-	Indet	-	-	-	+++ C	fly pupa, straw, testa, concretions.	<1/1	bone frags C, sab/f C

851	1002	98	10	25	-	C	-	Hordeum x1, large grass x1	-	-	-	++	bran/skin? twigs, occ insect/pupae	3/2	fish C, bone frags C
854	864	57	18	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	C	or wtlg? Rubus, elder	20/10	bone frags C, coal C, tarry, vitrified frags C
854	863	58	16	450	-	B	-	T aest/turg x4, indet 2	C	C	Vic/Pisum x1	+	indet frags	150/150	fish scale/bone C
854	861	60	14	150	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	concretions	60/40	bone frags C
854	860	61	9	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+++C	bran, min frags - not many seeds	150/100	eel B, fish bone/scale B
854	859	62	7	40	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	+++A*	sloe/Prunus, Vicia faba hilum, bran/skin, straw	5/1	
854	858	63	15	20								+ C	indet frags, fruit, weeds	4/2	fish C, eel C
854	868	64	8	350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	small concretions	60/30	fish C, mussel frags A
854	856	65	2	20								++	mostly small frags, no visible plants, more like sand	2/<1	
865	867	53	8	70	-	C	-	T. aest/turg x1	-	-	-	-	-	10/20	mussel frags C
865	866	54	7	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30/20	bone frags C, mostly oak charcoal
876	881	51	20	600	-	-	-	-	B	C	Corylus x6	+	Indet	350/80	bone frags A, fish C
876	879	52	20	130	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	Indet	5/10	
884	885	55	19	150	-	A	C	T. aest/turg x6, rachis x1, Hord x3, Oats x2, indet x2	C	C	Vic sat/Pisum x1	C	weeds, frags of concretions	60/20	fish and animal bone frags C
884	1030	56	9	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+++C	Prunus x1, indet fruit x1, other seeds x1, min frags, bran/skin etc	<1/-	
884	1028	91	19	60	-	C	-	T. aest/turg x1	-	-	-	-	-	4/5	
884	886	92	14	100	-	C	-	T. aesti/turg, short	-	-	-	++A	bran?, straw, tiny frags., Malus, sedge	2/2	sab/f, oak charcoal, hair

884	1031	93	10	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	++	concretions and sand, no obvious seeds	1/<1	fish bone C, oyster frags C
884	1033	94	13	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	++	straw/stem	25/15	bone frags C
911	912	69	16	60	-	-	-	-	-	C	Vic sat/Pisum x1	-	-	10/15	bone frags C, fish C, coal and clinker C
911	914	70	6	130	-	-	-	-	-	C	Corylus x2	+	concreted frags	40/60	fish C, mussel frags A
911	916	83	9	8	-	C	-	indet x1	-	-	-	-	-	<1/<1	oak
911	912	69	16	20		C	-	indet x1	-	-		+	indet frags	3/4	tiny fish frags C
919	918	67	18	200	-	C	-	cf. spelt? Germinated x1; T. aest/turg x1	-	-	-	-	-	50/50	bone frags A, fish C, tiny bone frags A
919	948	68	18	60	-	C	C	culm node x1, Hordeum x1	C	C	Vic/Pisum x3	+	concreted frags.	5/10	clinkered mass A, coal A, fish C, bone frags C
920	928	84	19	250	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	concreted frags, small	50/30	ash and mussel fibres
933	934	71	18	100	-	C	C	T. spelta. T.aest/turg	C	C	Corylus	+	tiny frags	15/25	bone A, vitrified charcoal
933	935	72	18	60	-	-	-	-	-	C	Corylus x1	+	concretions	20/10	
933	936	73	18	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	C	v small frags, testa Fragaria	3/2	sab/f C
937	944	85	18	35	-	C	-	T. aest/turg x1	1	-	-	-	-	2/1	
937	840	86	18	300	-	C	-	Hordeum x1; Triticum sp. X1	C	C	Corylus x1	-	-	50/40	recent Solonaceae, fish C, mostly oak charcoal
937	954	87	16	65	-	C	-	Hordeum x1	-	-	-	‘+A	Prunus, Malys, small grass, Rubus, weed seeds,	1/1	
937	946	88	19	200		B	-	T aest/turg x8	-	-	-	++C	Chenopod, fly pupa A, insects, bran	100/50	min insect frags, Check residue
954	862	59	17	200		B	-	T aest/turg x3, indet x4	B	-	-	+	indet frags	90/80	bone frags B
975	871	75	8	200	-	C	-	T. aest/turg	-	C	Pisum	C	weed x1; concreted frags	40/30	mussel frags, charcoal mostly oak, sab/f C

979	985	80	19	120	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	concreted frags containing abundant sand	30/10	marine moll (Oyster and mussel) A
979	981	81	16	500	-	B	-	Rye x1, T. Aest/turg x2, Hord x1, Oats x1, indet x1	C	C	Pea x1, Viic/Pisum x1	-	-	200/150	oysters A**, fish B, eel B
979	980	82	10	200	-	C	-	T. aest/turg x2, Hord x1, rye x1	C	-	-	-	-	100/40	bone frags C
979	985	80	19	200	-	C	-	T. aest/turg x1, Hord x1	-	C	Vic/Pisum x1	-	-	120/40	oyster frags A
1022	842	74	16	80	2	C	-	T. aest/turg x2	-	-	-	+A	sloe, plum type, small seeds, Carex and mineralised frags	5/2	
1073	1075	95	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3/1	
1073	1079	96	18	180	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	++C	indet seeds x2, indet frags	80/40	
1123	1128	129	18	140	-	C	-	Hord x2, indet x3	-	-	-	-	-	35/30	
1123	1124	130	8	150		C		indet x1	-	-	-	-		25/30	fish scale C, bone frags C
1133	1135	127	20	500	10	A*	-	f-t wheat; barley	C	A	hazel; Vic/Pisum; Prunus domestica	+	concretions	150/200	bone frags A***; fish scale/bone A
1133	1186	128	20	300	30	A	-	T aest/turg x9, Hord x5	-	C	sloe x1, Corylus x1, Vic/Pisum x1, other x1	++ C	indet frags, inset seed	80/50	bone frags A
1137	1139	101	20	300		C	-	Hord x1, Trit x2	-	-	-	++	indet frags, no obvious seeds or bran	120/100	bone frags A
1151	1153	102	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	bran, indet frags	<1/-	
1151	1158	103	20	150	2	C	-	f-t Wheat x3; indet x1	C	-	-	-	-	40/20	charcoal mostly oak, vitrified globs oysters + mussel frags +++
1160	1169	132	18	700	-	C	-	Rye x3	C	-	-	-	-	200/150	boneC; abundant clinkered mass
1170	1174	107	17	50	-	C	-	Indet x1	-	C	Vic/Pisum, hazel	-	-	10/10	bone C; coal C; vitrified globules
1170	1136	108	16	60	10	-	'-	-	C	-	-	++C	wheat grain, bran	20/10	bone C; eel B; fish C

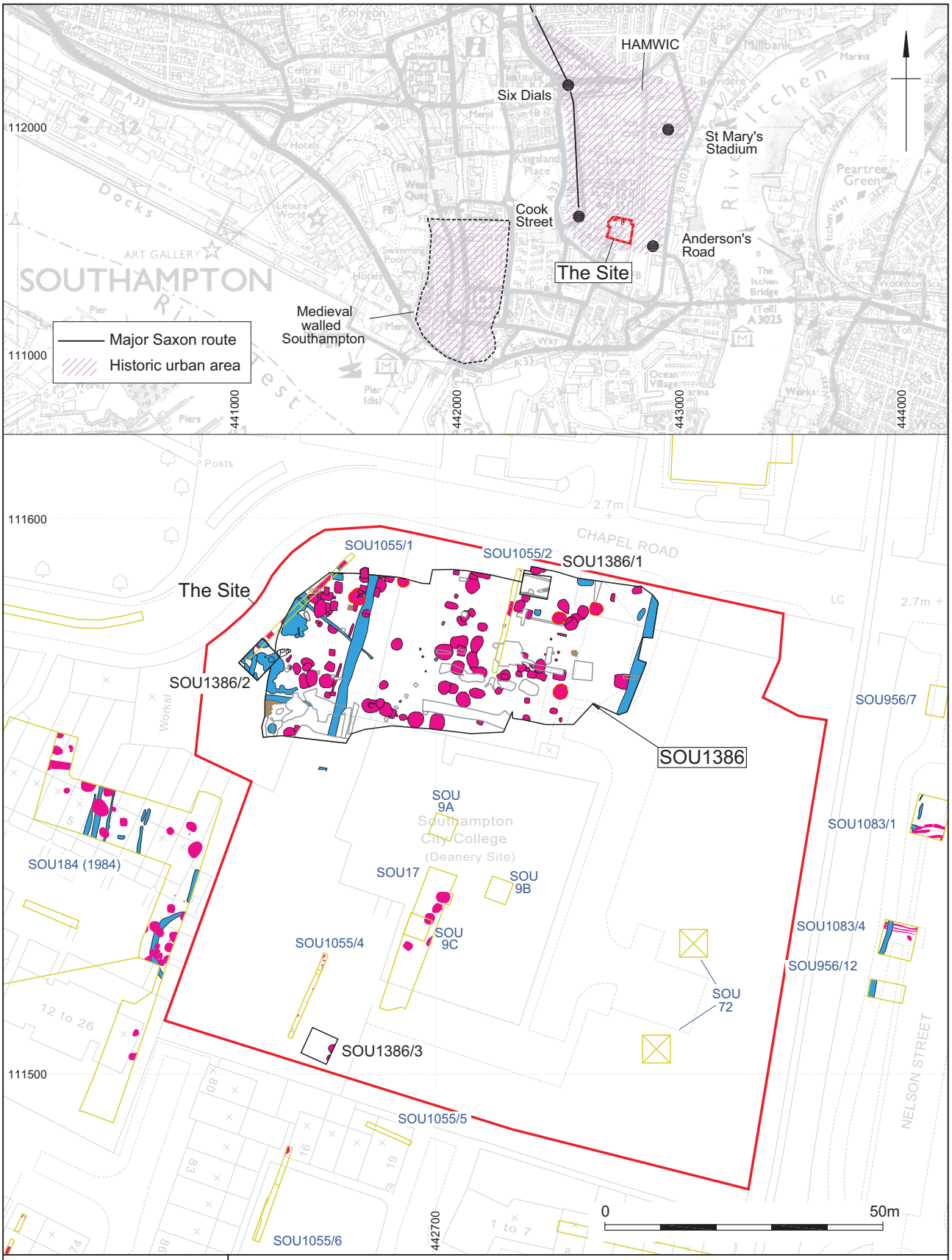
1170	1172	109	7	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+++ A	Vicia faba testa/hilum, bran, some seeds,	5/2	
1177	1180	110	15	60	-	C	-	f-t-wheat x2	-	-	-	-	-	10/10	winkle, mussel frags
1177	1184	111	?20	700	-	B	-	f-t wheat x3; barley x1	C	B	hazel	+	concretions	300/250	fish A; bone B
1188	1130	117	19	250		C	-	barley x1; indet x1	-	C	hazel	+B	concretions, bran	100/60	bone A; fish C
1188	1189	118	18	45	20	C	-	Hord x1	-	-	-	+	indet concretions, fragmentary	<1/<1	
1203	1206	121	16	150		C	-	barley x4	-	C	Hazel	-	-	40/30	bone frags A; fish C
1219	1225	125	20	250		-	-	-	-	C	Vic/Pisum x1; hazel	+	concretions	80/50	bone A; fish C
1232	1236	123	19	180	-	C	-	indet x1	-	C	hazel	-	-	30/10	bone and frags A*
1232	1234	124	19	160	-	C	-	T aest/turg x1, indet x 1	-	-	-	+	indet frags	50/8	elder x1
1243	1248	119	16	120	20	C	-	T aest/turg x2,Trit sp. X1, Hord x 1	-	-	-	-	-	30/25	fish scale C
1243	1246	120	16	600	-	C	-	Barley	-	-	-	+B	straw, bran, Anth cotula	100/80	bone frags
1243	1245	122	9	110	5	-	-	-	-	C	Vic/Pisum	+++A	bran, legume frags, insects, Rubus?	5/3	min insects! C
1265	1269	126	16	20	20	C	-	T aest/turg x4, Hord x1	-	-	-	-	-	3/<1	
1276	1278	131	10	35	10	C	-	Hord x1, indet x2	C	-	-	-	-	5/2	tiny bone frags c
1281	1286	133	19	200	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		53/25	elder 100+
1281	1287	134	19	220	5	-	-	-	C	C	hazel			35/30	elde, 100+ bone C
Saxon wells															
728	729	32	17	60	-	-	-	-	C	-	-	-	-	30/10	
1131	1198	112	10	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20/15	bone A*
1131	1191	113	19	30	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	concretions	10/2	largish roots - modern
1131	1190	114	3	20	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	concretions	-/<1	elder C

1131	1193	115	10	40	-	C	-	Barley x1; wheat x1	-	C	brassica - charred but encased in mineral deposit.	-	-	10/5	bone A
1131	1132	116	2	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	concretions	-/<1	
1160	1164	104	16	60	-	-	-	-	C	C	hazel	+	concretions	10/5	bone C; oyster frags C; mussel frags C; fish bone C
1160	1168	105	16	70	-	-	-	-	B	C	hawthorn (encrusted) hazel	++	concretions	10/10	bone B; vitrified lumps (grain?)
1160	1165	106	15	200	-	C	-	Indet	A***	A***	stems, rhizomes, tubers, Apple/Pear?, mineral encrusted mass or small pupa?	-	-	20/10	charcoal mostly roots
Saxon Treethrow/pit															
887	888	66	9	200		C	-	Hord x4	C	-	-	+	indet frags	60/60	bone B, Moll x1
Medieval pits															
502	503	2	9	25	-	C	-	Hordeum, Triticum naked, indet	-	-	-	+	min frags, indet	8/5	oak charcoal, sab/f including amphibians.
502	505	3	9	60	-	C	-	Avena x1	-	C	Corylus x1	C	Rubus, plus concreted frags	30/20	fish C, mussel frags A
Medieval/post-medieval ditch															
619	622	11	16	55	-	C	-	Hordeum x1, indet x1	-	C	Corylus x1	-	-	30/15	bone frags C

Key:
A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5
sab/f = small animal/fish bones, Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs, Moll-f = freshwater molluscs;
Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant, M = molluscs, C14 = radiocarbon

Appendix 2: Conservation assessment (non-ferrous metalwork)

SF	context	material	object	comments	treatment proposal	time estimate
37	842	Copper alloy	Awl	- poor surface	- remove soil and some corrosion - consolidate lifting surface if needed	5.0hr
42	825	Copper alloy	Hook	- x-ray needed - poor surface - in 2 pieces (good join, but not worth re-assembling)	- remove soil and some corrosion - consolidate if needed	5.0hr
43	916	Copper alloy	Rod	- x-ray needed - very poor surface	- remove soil and some corrosion - consolidate if needed	5.0hr
115	1136	Copper alloy	Pin	- hexagonal head in poor condition	- remove soil and some corrosion - consolidate head if needed	4.0hr



Excavation trench
Previous investigation
Saxon deposits
Medieval and later deposits

Wessex Archaeology

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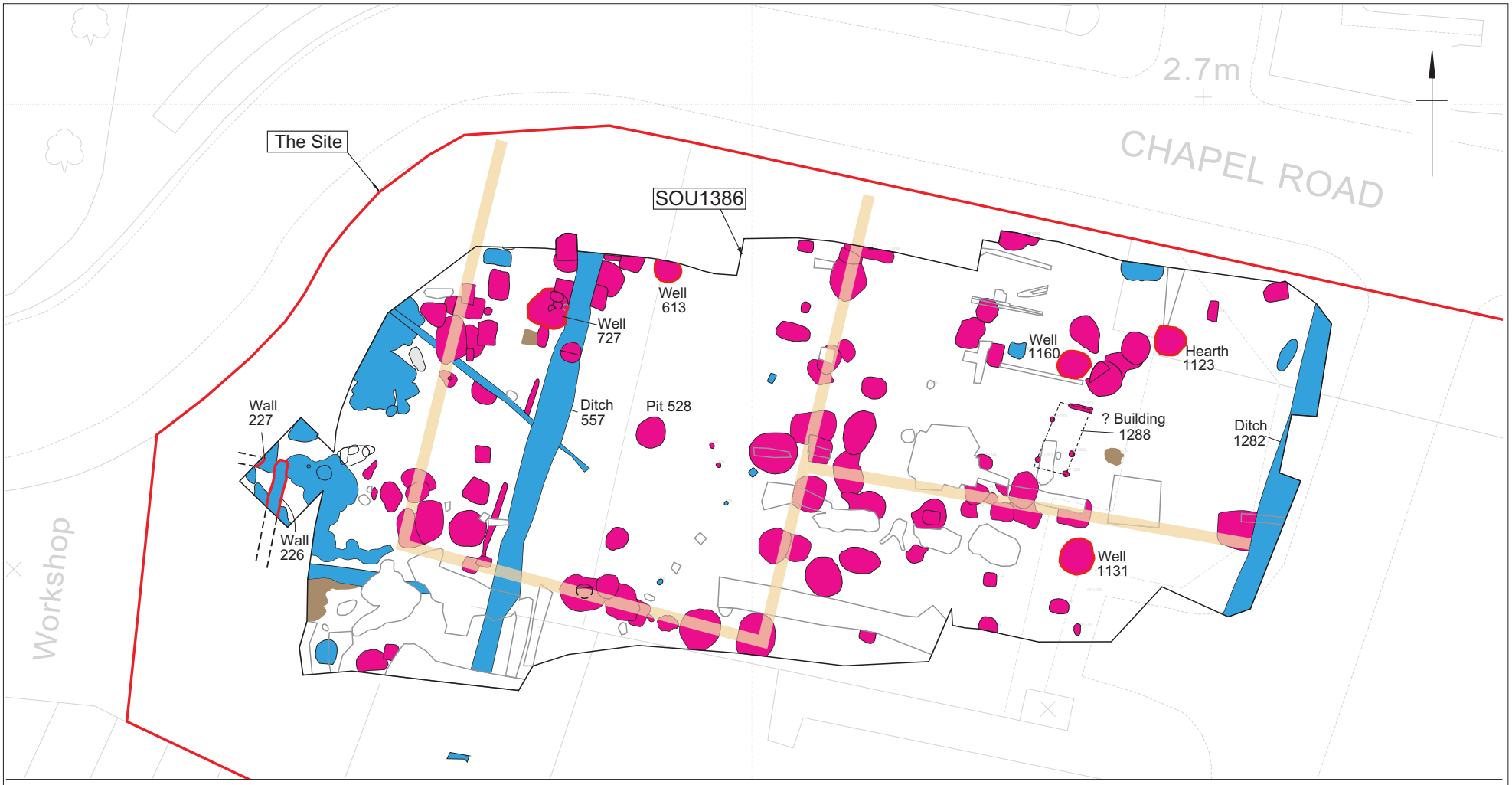
Site and trench location plan

Figure 1



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All features plan

Figure 2

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