

NORTH MEADOW

(REFUSE / CYCLE STORES)

ROYAL CLARENCE YARD

GOSPORT

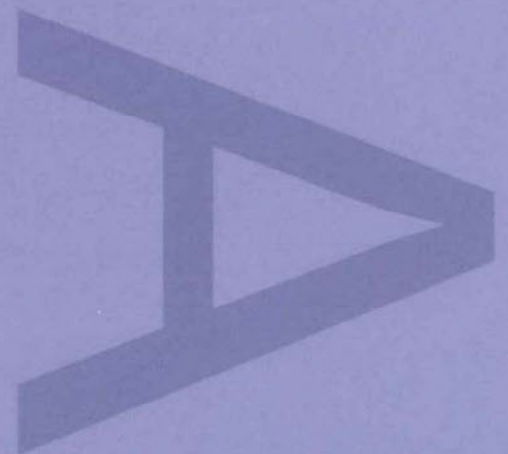
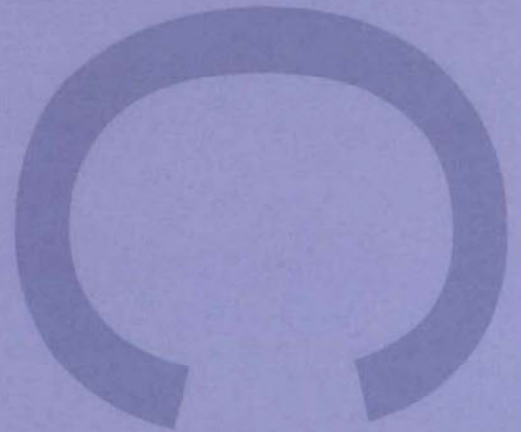
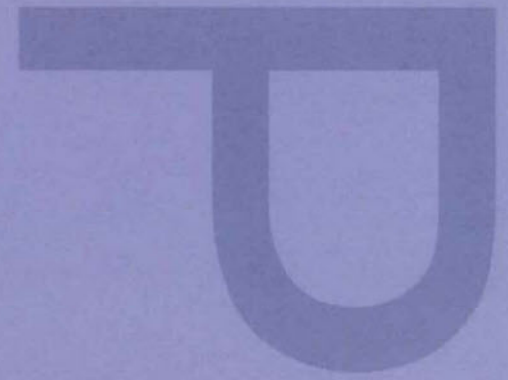
HAMPSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING

BRIEF

B1790D

NOVEMBER 2009



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

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ROYAL CLARENCE YARD
GOSPORT
HAMPSHIRE

WATCHING BRIEF

Quality Control

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An Archaeological Watching Brief During Groundworks at North Meadow (Refuse/Cycle Stores), Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport, Hampshire

Central National Grid Reference: SU 61754 00662

Site Code: B1790D

**Written and researched by Richard Humphrey
Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited, November 2009**

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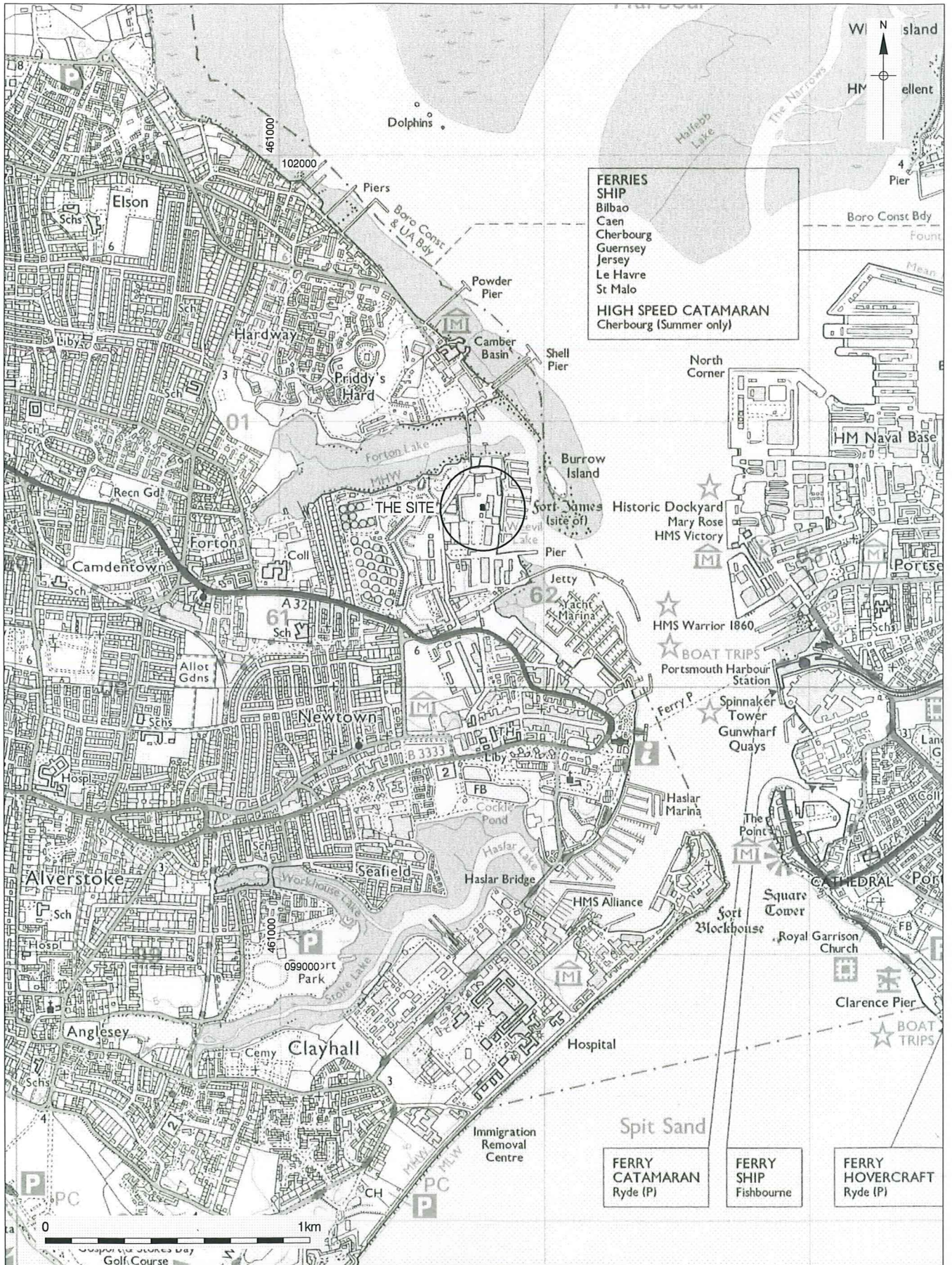
1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological watching brief by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd undertaken during the construction of a refuse and cycle store at North Meadow, Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport, Hampshire. The site is situated at National Grid Reference SU 61754 00662. The watching brief was undertaken between 26th and 27th January 2009 by Richard Humphrey and the commissioning client was Gifford on behalf of Berkeley Homes (Southern) Ltd.
- 1.2 The works consisted of the monitoring of ground reduction and the excavation of foundation and service trenches for the new stores.
- 1.3 Excavation of the perimeter foundation trench and ground reduction in the southeast corner of the area revealed several phases of masonry remains and ground raising. Investigation of naturally occurring deposits was not possible due to the relatively high impact height and unpiled nature of the proposed structure's foundations. The foundations of the two-storey Police Section House that was built in 1858 were revealed. Some elements of masonry including a drain and a wall suggest structures on the site prior to this building. The Police Section House was demolished following bomb damage sustained in WWII and was later covered over to form the modern day car park surface.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd between 26th and 27th January 2009. The archaeological investigation was supervised by Richard Humphrey and project managed by Tim Bradley.
- 2.2 The site address is Royal Clarence Yard, Weevil Lane, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 1AX (Fig.1). The site is bounded to the east by the Bakery building, to the south by the Fire Engine House and to the west and north by car parks serving newly developed residential and commercial properties in North Meadow.
- 2.3 The works consisted of monitoring ground reduction across the area of a proposed new refuse and cycle storage building (Fig.2). In addition, a deeper foundation trench was excavated around the perimeter of the area. No previous archaeological investigations are known to have been conducted in this particular area of Royal Clarence Yard.
- 2.4 The work was commissioned by Gifford on behalf of Berkeley Homes (Southern) Ltd. and was undertaken to English Heritage guidelines.¹
- 2.5 The National Grid Reference of the site is SU 61754 00662 and the site has been given the archaeological site code B1790D.

¹ English Heritage, Greater London Advisory Service, (1992) *Archaeological Guidance Papers: 3 Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork in London; 4 Archaeological Watching Briefs*



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Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:20,000 at A4

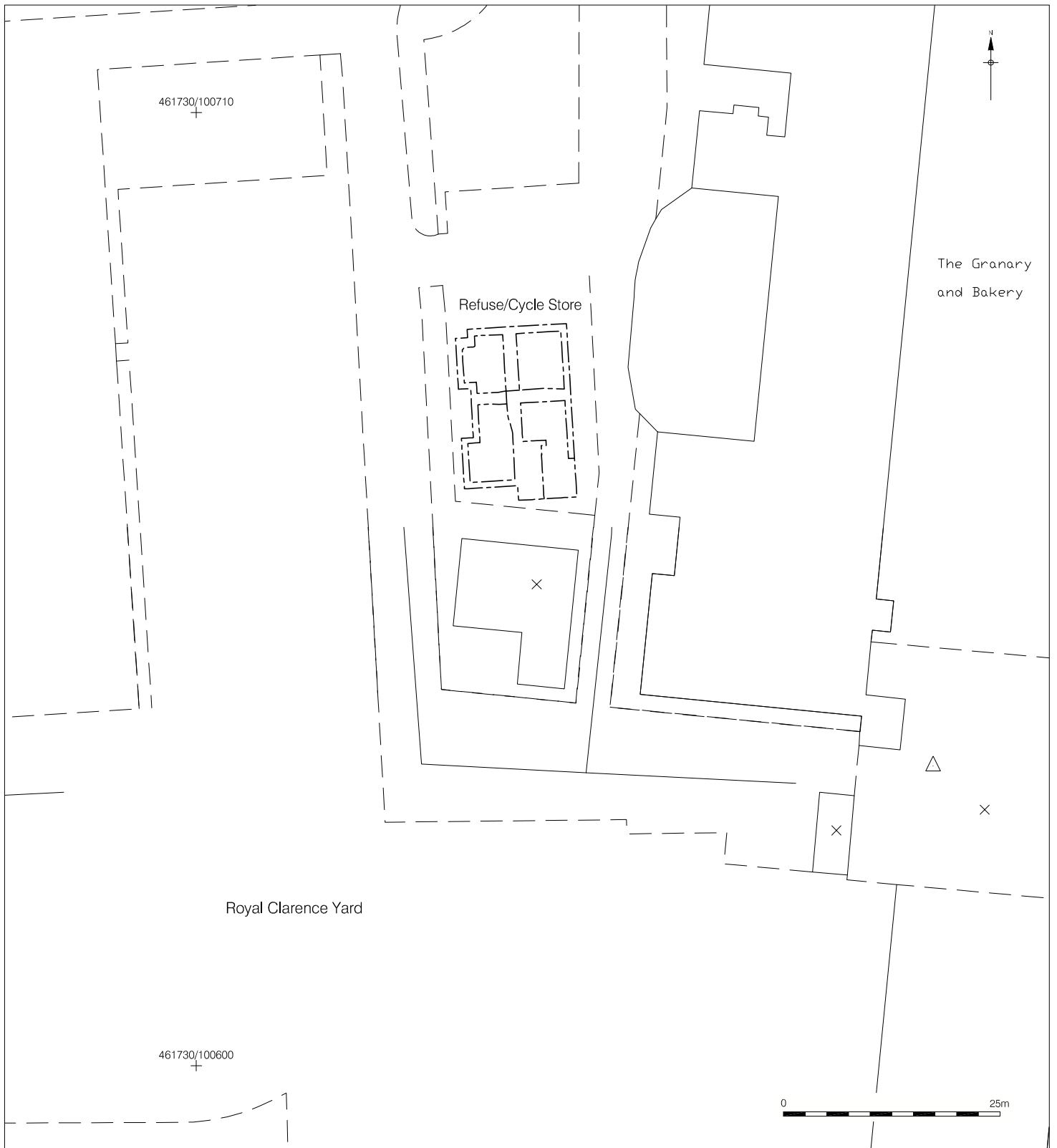


Figure 2
Trench Location
1:625 at A4

3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 Royal Clarence Yard is centred at NGR 617 105 (1:1250 OS SU61 4 sheets, 1:2500 83.7, Fig.1). The site is bounded by Mumby Road to the south, the rampart of the Gosport Lines to the west, by Portsmouth Harbour to the east and Forton Lake to the north.
- 3.2 The site slopes gently down from west to east, to the shores of Portsmouth Harbour. Although it is clear that levels have risen, and that the shoreline has been modified by reclamation, it is likely that the present topography mirrors the historic topography. The area of the study appears on geological maps as estuarine alluvial gravels (which are actually silty clays interbedded with gravels), overlying the Bracklesham Bed clays, silts and sands. John Smeaton² commented in 1780 that an upper stratum of gravel, generally about nine feet (2.74m) thick, overlay a stratum of impervious blue clay everywhere in the district.

² Phillpotts, C. (2002) *Royal Clarence Yard and St. Georges Barracks North – Historical Study*. Unpublished report

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 BACKGROUND

4.1.1 The archaeological and historical background for Royal Clarence Yard has been detailed within the *Historical Background for Royal Clarence Yard and St George Barracks North*³. This information is summarised below.

4.2 PREHISTORIC

4.2.1 Bronze Age pottery has been found across the site. Although the formation of the peninsula as we see it today would have occurred as a process of deposition and movement of materials as a result of drifting currents, an estuarine foreshore would have provided an abundant source of both marine and land resources. Communities living in such areas would have readily exploited these. The absence of settlement evidence should therefore be explained not by its non-existence but by lack of research. The establishment of the Victualling Yard in the late 17th century would also have had a destructive effect on any surviving prehistoric archaeology.

4.3 ROMAN

4.3.1 Although no Roman finds, features or deposits are located in the immediate vicinity, there is evidence for the use of the shoreline in the wider landscape. The fort of Portchester lies at a distance of approximately 8 miles north of the site, in the Solent estuary. This was established in the 3rd century and reflects defensive structures that were required to protect the ships and ports of Roman Britain from attack by Saxon pirates that were operating in the English Channel at the time.

4.4 ANGLO-SAXON

4.4.1 Anglo-Saxon finds, features and deposits are not represented in the area of Royal Clarence Yard. As with evidence from prehistoric communities, this is not to say that they are not present in the locality but hints at a paucity of archaeological research concerning such activity.

³ Phillpotts, C. (2002) *Royal Clarence Yard and St George Barracks North - Historical Study*. Unpublished report.

4.5 MEDIEVAL

4.5.1 In the medieval period the area of the site was part of an estate belonging to the Bishop of Winchester and the Priory of St Swithun. In the early 14th century the Bishop's rent revenue from Gosport was in decline because the sea frequently flooded many of the manorial tenants' plots of land. The coastal region of Hampshire suffered badly in the Black Death of 1348-50. By the early 15th century burning and destruction caused by French raiding parties were adding to the economic difficulties of the manor.

4.5.2 It is thought that the land of the site was once part of a farm belonging to a person called *Weovill*. The known history of the site opens with the name *Weevil* first appearing on a map of 1665 by John Burston. At the eastern edge of the study area an inlet is marked *Weevil wel spring*, but no structures are shown. At this time Gosport was an undefended small town to the south of the spring, but Portsmouth town was surrounded by fortifications. Another map of c. 1665 of Portsea Island by de la Fabvolliere (copying Edward Mansell's map of 1626) shows no distinguishing features at the site. However, the northern spur of land adjacent to Forton Lake is shown in more detail, with an inlet and projection visible at the northeast corner.

4.6 POST-MEDIEVAL

4.6.1 Portsmouth's growth as a naval port during the medieval and post-medieval period led to complications concerning the supply of goods to ships. During the 17th century, local contractors were used for this purpose, a situation that was not ideal and often resulted in them barely able to keep pace with demand. Indeed, correspondence between the Admiralty and Navy Board (incorporating the Victualling Board) dating from the early 1700s suggests that the premium for space in Portsmouth was beginning to lead to difficulties, particularly concerning space for stores.

4.6.2 In c. 1668, Sir Bernard de Gomme proposed increasing the defences around Portsmouth and constructing those to protect Gosport. From contemporary cartographic sources, it seems that the extent of these fortifications was not as substantial as was initially planned and that they did not extend so far north as to incorporate the area of Royal Clarence Marina. A Mill is also visible on the de Gomme map of 1668 (though not on the Burston plan of 1665), although its exact location is questionable. It is not shown on the Talbot Edward's map of 1716.

4.6.3 In the early 18th century, the land surrounding what was to become the Victualling Yard is recorded as being pastures, after becoming strips of cultivated land. Following

the House of Commons being made aware of the potential vulnerability of Gosport to attack from the shore, recommendations were made for the extension north of the de Gomme defences. Land was acquired by the Board of Ordnance in 1710 to the north and west of the site although defences would not be constructed for another forty years. In the meantime, the land was leased back to the Player family for their brewery operations.

- 4.6.4 The site of Flagstaff Green became the centre of the brewery operations that Captain Henry Player established. Inheriting the site in 1685 following the death of John Player, Henry was a naval sea captain with a family history of brewing. He developed the brewery operations on site and in c. 1704 built the stylish Weevil House. Although estimated to be a hundred years old in 1783, the structures of Player's Brewery first appear on a Lempriere map dated to 1716. This is also described in a survey of the same year, with elevations drawn of the structures. Listed as component parts of the brewery are a brewhouse, malt lofts, screening rooms for malt, a cooperage, a cooper's house, a coal yard, stables and beer store houses in the brewery, with a large barn, a cattle shed, a cart shed and some small outhouses in the grounds. There were also two wells, one powered by a wind pump and one a horse driven pump.
- 4.6.5 Captain Player died in 1711. Ownership of the brewery complex was passed over to his widow and in turn, was run by his two daughters and their husbands, each with a contract to supply beer to the Victualling Board of the Navy.
- 4.6.6 The Victualling Yard was enclosed by defensive ramparts when construction of de Gomme's planned lines finally began in 1748. The new defences were an added incentive for the Admiralty to purchase the brewery complex from Player's descendants in 1751- the dispersed and cramped nature of suppliers and stores in Portsmouth was leading to problems. Additional brewery buildings were added in 1756 as well as modifications made to the sea defences using oak piles. The New Brewhouse was built in 1757 on the site of the old beerstore. With the death of Lady Clancarty (Henry Player's last surviving relative) in 1758, the Admiralty purchased the rest of the site from her trustees in 1760.
- 4.6.7 Towards the east of the site, a 'T'-shaped building, labelled as 5.15 in Phillpotts' historical background to the site, is described as a beerstore and maltloft. This represents one of the earliest buildings of the Victualling Yard and was constructed prior to 1716. Between 1716 and 1758, an extension was made to the north of this building with a long frontage running along the quay. In 1753, the sides of Weevil Creek were revetted with oak piles and land tiles to replace the existing hurdles that were proving ineffective in retaining the shore. The creek was deepened by dredging

and the wharf was extended and built in oak. In 1756 an increase in the Navy's demand for beer led the Admiralty to order the construction of an additional brewhouse (5.11 in Phillpotts historical background), six stores, a wharf and a rolling way. This rolling way led from the brewery to the deep-water channel for the transportation of barrels to and from ships. The 'New Brewhouse' was built in 1757 on the site of the old beer store and paved in spring 1758. At the same time, a thousand ton capacity reservoir was dug, later becoming enlarged by connecting with the earlier square pond westwards. Further modifications were made in 1779-80.

- 4.6.8 A large storehouse was added onto the northern side of the 'New Brewhouse', known the 'North Storehouse'. This had to be sufficiently close to the wharves in order to minimise the trouble in loading barrels onto the hoys. It was composed of four long units, built up to the northern limit of the land owned by the Victualling Board. One of the units was raised in height and a floor was added for the storage of malt and hops. Associated with this was the construction of a new stone wharf. This building stood until the 1820s when it was demolished as part of George Ledwell Taylor's reforms to the site, being replaced by a large Salt Meat Store.
- 4.6.9 Development of the cooperage in the 1760s and 1770s focused on the refitting and development of a square that existed as early as the 1650s and is suggested to be a copy of the Victualling Yard seen at Tower Hill, London. To the east of the cooperage, a new phase of development of the yard was underway. A new brewhouse was built in 1782-3 according to the designs of Samuel Wyatt. A celebrated architect of the time, Wyatt often focused on the more 'polite' buildings even though his significance as a pioneer of industrial building should not be overlooked. In 1786, the old Player brewery became damaged by high winds and its demolition was ordered.
- 4.6.10 To complement the new brewery (excavated as D2/D3 in 2007⁴), a new two-storey North Storehouse and wharf was built to the east of the 1758 North Storehouse. These were completed in 1783 and measured 91m north to south by 23m wide, being longitudinally divided into three units, each with a separate slated roof. The eastern façade had a slightly projecting centre and end sections. To build the wharf, 2000 loads of gravel were taken from the Common belonging to the Board of Ordnance, to the north of the area.
- 4.6.11 Little development of the yard occurred during the Napoleonic war era. Elsewhere in the country, Victualling Yards were expanded in an attempt to prevent having all of the Navy's stores located in one place, a decision that led to the decline in a request

⁴ Humphrey, R. (2008) *Assessment of an Archaeological Excavation at Phases D1 and D2/D3 at Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport, Hampshire*. Pre-Construct Archaeology, unpublished report.

for the development of the yard in the 1820s. However, the decision was made to transfer all stores from Portsmouth to Gosport.

- 4.6.12 In 1827, the yard was finally remodelled following the intervention of the Duke of Clarence, according to the plans of the Civil Architect to the Victualling Board, George Ledwell Taylor. Rather than being a yard concentrating on beer production, plans were made to change the function of structures to include biscuit manufacture and food storage. Expansion of the yard included a certain amount of ground reclamation from the sea and the building of new sea defences. The Rennies built new wharf walls in their present form and position in 1829-30, replacing the stone wharf of the 1770s. Numerous historic drawings exist indicating that there were structural problems with the quay walls. An office building was erected over the old brewhouse area of the site.
- 4.6.13 In 1828, the Victualling Board inherited new responsibilities, which led to modification to the storehouses in the study area. Wyatt's North Storehouse had its floor raised with shingle and paving to the level of the wharf as well as having a third storey added to it to accommodate goods arriving from Portsmouth. Cast iron columns were introduced to support the new roof, the floor was repaved, wooden roof trusses were removed and replaced and the stone cornice was replaced. These works were also conducted as part of Taylor's reforms and the building was now known as the Miscellaneous or Dry Store. This is described as storing meat, cheese, butter, vinegar, suet, wine and spirits on the ground floor and bread in the new third floor. Following the removal of the 1758 brewhouse and beerstore in 1831, new doors and windows were added to the western side.
- 4.6.14 To the west of the Miscellaneous Store a Salt Meat Store was built in 1830-1 over the sites of the demolished 1758 New Brewhouse and Beerstore, although extending further to the west than the previous structures. In order to build this, the reservoir was backfilled with spoil from the newly constructed South Stores. The Salt Meat Store was a single storey building with four aisles with the interior subdivided into an area for salt meat and medical supplies.
- 4.6.15 During the Crimean war of the mid 19th century, an additional shed area for the storage of beef and pork filled the area between Salt Meat and Miscellaneous Stores. In 1888, this became more permanent by the addition of a corrugated roof and windows inserted at the first-floor level. Development of the yard in the mid 19th century also included the introduction of a railway system, allowing for coal to be transported directly to the yard.

4.6.16 The earliest structure in the area focussed on by this watching brief (and identified from a phased map of 1766-1828⁵) shows a building labelled as 5.14 and described as a 'baving ground'. A 'bavin' is a bundle of brushwood or light underwood, such as used to heat bakers' ovens, differing from a 'Faggot' in being bound with only one 'bavin band' instead of two. Although it is perfectly reasonable to suppose that in a location so close to the later Bakery there would be every need for such a feature, the acquisition of the land in 1787 by the Board of Ordnance suggests that it may never have been built at all⁶. The Clerk's House was built to the north by 1832. This was a rectangular two-storied building with a basement, and stood in a curved-walled garden. The house had five bedrooms, two kitchens, two reception rooms, a bathroom, a scullery, a washhouse and a cellar. A Police Section House was built to the west of the Granary and Bakery structures in 1858 over the 'baving ground'. This was a two-storey structure with rooms for officers on the first floor and a basement. An 'L' shaped Fire Engine House was built to the south of this structure in 1859-60. The tower originally housed an accumulator that provided the yard with hydraulic pressure. This would later be converted into a garage and a workshop.

4.6.17 Although not much change occurred to the site during the First World War, with the naval supplies operations moved to Scapa Flow, the Second World War saw the site severely damaged by the Luftwaffe bombing campaign. The Salt Meat Store, Miscellaneous stores, Police Section House and Clerk's House were all destroyed. A Cold Store was built in the Phase C area in the 1960s and demolished prior to the redevelopment of the yard into residential property.

⁵ Gifford (1999) *Figure 3 Phase II 1766-1828 Royal Clarence Yard*. Gifford, unpublished report.

⁶ Evans, D. (1999) *Some Buildings Reconsidered*. Unpublished report.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 The extent of the proposed development (Fig. 2) was set out by a groundworks engineer employed by the client using a total station theodolite. The development area was rectangular in shape and measured approximately 18.30m north-to-south by 13.00m east-to-west. The area was in use as a car park for a completed phase of the Royal Clarence Yard development, and contractors working for the client removed the Tarmacadam surface of the car-park over the study area using a petrol-engine powered saw and a tracked machine fitted with a toothed bucket. Care was taken not to remove any material other than the car-park surface.
- 5.2 The foundation design of the proposed structure required the excavation of a trench around the perimeter of the area (Fig.3). The area was also divided into four quarters by digging east-to-west and north-to-south aligned trenches. Ground reduction occurred across the four quarters created by these trenches. The car-park was not flat, being angled slightly towards the southeast, and deeper foundations were required in the southeast corner in order to establish a level ground slab.
- 5.3 The trench excavated around the perimeter of the area was equal to the width of the toothless ditching bucket that was fitted to a tracked excavator (approximately 0.70m). The width of the north-to-south and east-to-west trenches that crossed in the centre of the area ranged in width from between 1.00m to 1.50m wide. Both the perimeter trench and the intersecting trenches were excavated to a depth of approximately 0.60m below ground level. As the proposed foundations of the new development comprised reinforced ground beams, it was not necessary to excavate the area down to undisturbed natural stratigraphy as is the case with piled foundations.
- 5.4 An archaeologist monitored all the groundworks. Once an area had been machined, archaeologists cleaned and recorded all of the exposed features. For the most part, this involved the exposure of wall and floor surfaces built from brick and stone rather than discrete soil horizons. Further details of the works can be found in the Method Statement⁷.
- 5.5 Baselines were established on the southern and western sides of the trench. These were surveyed by a Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd surveyor using a total station theodolite and later related to OS data. From these, 1:20 scale hand drawings were

⁷ Gifford (2008) Written Scheme of Investigation for a Watching Brief during Groundworks for New Buildings at North Meadow (NM3 and Refuse/Cycle Stores), Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport, Hampshire. Unpublished report

made with detailed records of all finds, features and deposits uncovered made on *pro forma* context sheets. A representative section was also drawn at 1:10 scale. Single lens reflex and digital photographs were taken of all the features. The recording system followed the Museum of London's single context recording system, except when a multiple context plan was deemed appropriate. The resulting archive created from the works will be deposited with the local repository defined in the method statement. Finds were transferred to Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd offices in London for processing.

- 5.6 All finds, features and deposits were levelled and related to Ordnance Datum heights. This was achieved by the traversing of a temporary benchmark onto the site from one established in the Phase C area of redevelopment of the site. This had a value of 3.80m OD.
- 5.7 These works are covered by the generic site code for the Royal Clarence Yard redevelopment programme, which is B1790D.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

- 6.1 Masonry [2284] was observed in the foundation trench that was excavated towards the southwest corner of the study area (Fig. 3). Where seen this measured 0.70m north-to-south and 0.35m east-to-west, and appeared to be positioned on an east-to-west alignment. The full depth of the feature was not exposed. The height on the upper surface was recorded at 3.40m OD. It was made from 3 tiles glazed and stamped with '3 3/4' which were laid end to end. Spot dating of these suggest that they are 19th century. These were laid on a bed of bitumen, presumably to act as a waterproofing/sealing material. On either side of the tiles unfroged red bricks were laid end to end. Only one course of these bricks remained, although it is likely that there would have originally been more and that they would have formed either side of a drain. The bricks appeared unbonded and there was no indication of further bitumen lining that would have potentially filled the inside of the feature. This masonry appeared to be built within or upon a layer of ground raising consisting of gravel and demolition rubble that, due to waterlogging, was not investigated in greater detail.
- 6.2 In the southeast of the area the material was reduced to a greater depth than elsewhere in the proposed new development. Excavation here stopped at a height of approximately 3.20m OD. An east-to-west aligned wall, [2282], was seen across this area. It was made from well-fired, unfroged red bricks. It was not continuous, with several protruding sections towards the north and an area of truncation towards the west. Where seen it measured 3.80m east-to-west and a maximum of 0.54m north-to-south. As excavation ceased at approximately 3.20m OD, the full depth of the feature was not observed. Heights on the top of the wall ranged from 3.22m OD to 3.26m OD. Analysis of the bricks suggest that they were machine moulded and dated from 1850+. However, and as has been seen across other phases of works on the site, the quality of many stock moulded bricks is of a high enough quality to appear machine moulded and this later date is therefore potentially misleading.
- 6.3 To the north of wall [2282] was masonry [2283] which was more substantial than wall [2282] and consisted of a rectangular structure with western, northern and southern walls, the latter two extending beyond the eastern limit of excavation of the area. It measured 2.34m north-to-south by 1.36m east-to-west. The full depth of the masonry was not exposed although more than 2 courses of brickwork were seen. Backfilling what was assumed to be the interior of the feature was a deposit of made ground combined with demolition rubble, which has been recorded elsewhere on the site as context [2287]. The masonry would appear to be too large for a drain and is perhaps the foundation of a structure that was situated in this area prior to the construction of

the Police Section House in the mid 19th century. It seems unlikely, however, that the 'baving house' first identified in the 18th century would have extended this far to the east, although it remains a possibility that it belonged to a contemporary and related feature. A brick sample was dated to 1850+, although as noted above this may be misleading.

6.4 Large wall foundations revealed in the south and the west of the site appear to correlate with the position of the Police Section House, which was built in 1858. The largest of these were two parallel red brick walls that were extended to the north from the southern section of the site. Masonry [2289] measured 6.70m long, was 4.00m wide and 0.60m deep. A maximum height of 3.46m OD was recorded on top of the walls with a height of 2.67m OD at the base. It was composed of two parallel walls spaced 1.10m apart, the inside faces of which were rendered with cement. The floor that joined the two walls was also seen to be covered with the same cement render, this giving an appearance of a continuous lining to the feature. This feature would seem to represent a drain or culvert within the foundations of the 1858 building. Two cannonballs were recovered from the demolition rubble backfill of this channel. The westerly of the two walls was seen to return to the west at both its northern and southern ends. The southern return was not fully recorded as it was only observed in the north-facing section of the area. At the north, this return was seen to continue for approximately 1.50m before it entered the southwestern quarter of the site where ground reduction was not required to the same depth as to the east and where the wall was therefore not observed. It was recorded further still to the west in the perimeter foundation trench as context [2285]. This was made from identical bricks as [2289] and measured 0.40m wide by 0.70m long, where seen. Heights ranged from 3.46m OD to 3.52m OD. The easterly return of the eastern element of wall [2289] was revealed again in the eastern perimeter foundation trench. Here, masonry [2293] was seen to extend from the southern edge of the foundation. It consisted of a single course of bricks arranged with their stretcher faces abutting one another. In total, the masonry measured 1.10m long by 0.26m wide at a height of 3.06m OD. There was no indication of the foundation [2289] having truncated this masonry, suggesting that the two were contemporary.

6.5 The western side of the area also contained large red brick foundations that appeared similar to those as seen in the southeast quarter. Wall [2288] was seen in the perimeter foundation trench. It was made from unfrogged red bricks and where seen measured 0.70m north-to-south by 0.80m east-to-west. It ranged in height from 3.32m OD to 3.56m OD. This extended on a north-to-south alignment and is likely to be the same wall as masonry [2291] that was also seen in the perimeter foundation trench to the north,

- 6.6 Wall [2291] was seen in the western foundation trench of the study area. It measured 7.00m long (as seen) by 0.60m wide. Heights ranged from 3.43m OD to 3.66m OD. It was made from unfrosted red bricks of a similar style to [2289]. Approximately half way along the length of the masonry a timber had been inserted into the western side of the wall. This measured 3.42m OD in height and was 1.18m long by 0.14m wide. It was exposed only in plan so its full depth was not observed. This was a purposeful and intentional design feature of the wall and may have represented a threshold or similar entranceway. Several red bricks of a similar style to those used in wall [2291] were seen to hold the timber in place. There was also a thin spread of cement on the bricks to the east of the timber suggestive of a course of bricks having been removed or an attempt to cover over the brick surface having been made.
- 6.7 More red brick foundations were seen in the northwestern corner of the area. These were recorded as [2292] and made from unfrosted red bricks nearly identical to those seen in foundations [2288], [2289] and [2291]. Although the masonry here appeared to represent a corner, this was misleading and was only due to its exposure in the perimeter foundation trench. The north-to-south aligned wall here is almost certainly the continuation of wall [2291] and representative of one of the foundations of the 1858 Police Section House. A westerly spur is somewhat of an anomaly as, like [2285], it projects beyond what is assumed to be the rectangular foundations of the structure. This may have been part of an additional basement or a peculiarity of the foundation design not accounted for in the historical map plan. The bricks of both of these walls were keyed into one another, proving that they date from the same construction phase. In total, they measured 2.20m east-to-west and 2.40m north-to-south, with spot heights of between 3.40m OD and 3.82m OD being recorded.
- 6.8 Sealing all of the masonry remains recorded in both the outer perimeter foundation trench as well as the southeast quarter was a deposit of mixed made ground [2287]. This was firmly compacted and a mid to dark grey-brown colour, and was composed of a combination of sand, silt, clay and gravel. It measured greater than 0.20m deep at a height of between 3.57m OD and 3.65m OD. This horizon represents a layer of ground raising that was deposited across the area following the demolition of the Police Section House and Clerk's Office after both were bomb damaged as a result of the Luftwaffe bombing campaign in WWII. An additional horizon of made ground was recorded as context [2286] in the east-facing section (Fig. 4). This was composed of a crumbly crushed mortar deposit that was free from demolition rubble. This too represents post-war ground raising prior to the establishment of the modern day car park surface. It was in turn overlain by pink-red gravel levelling deposit and the modern Tarmacadam surface.

- 6.9 The excavation of connecting service trenches was made through ground-raising horizons that did not impact upon any archaeologically relevant finds, features or deposits.
- 6.10 A dearth of finds recovered from the works is attributed to the observed remains consisting primarily of masonry, and ground raising and demolition rubble horizons dating from the late post-medieval to modern period. Backfill layer [2287] was composed of silt, sand, clay and gravel with occasional fragments of brick and tile with no finds of pottery, metal, bone, glass or stone recovered. Excavation of *in situ* archaeological horizons beneath these foundations was not observed owing to the shallow nature of the foundation design of the new structure. The cannonballs seen in the removal of backfill of [2289] are detailed in Appendix 5.

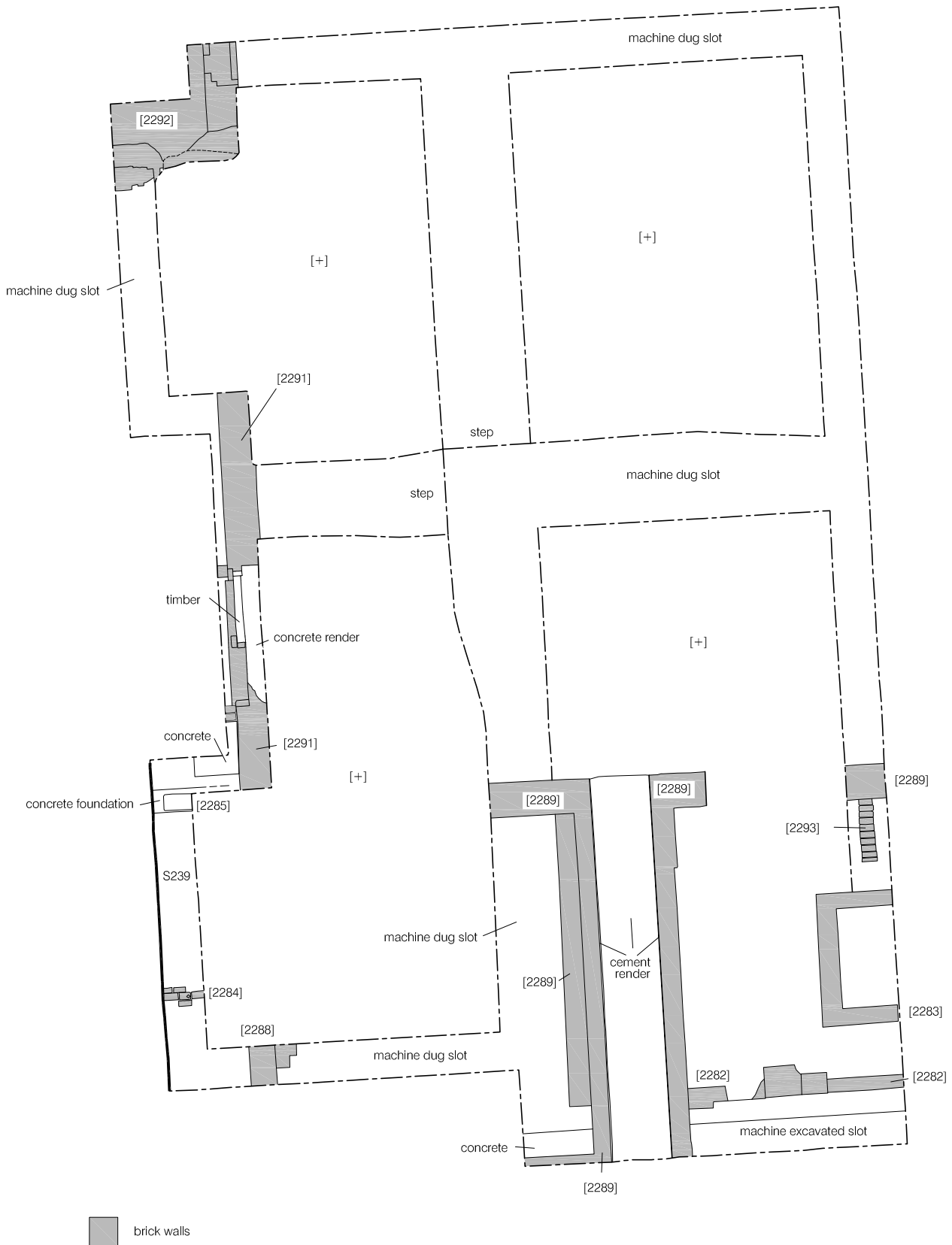
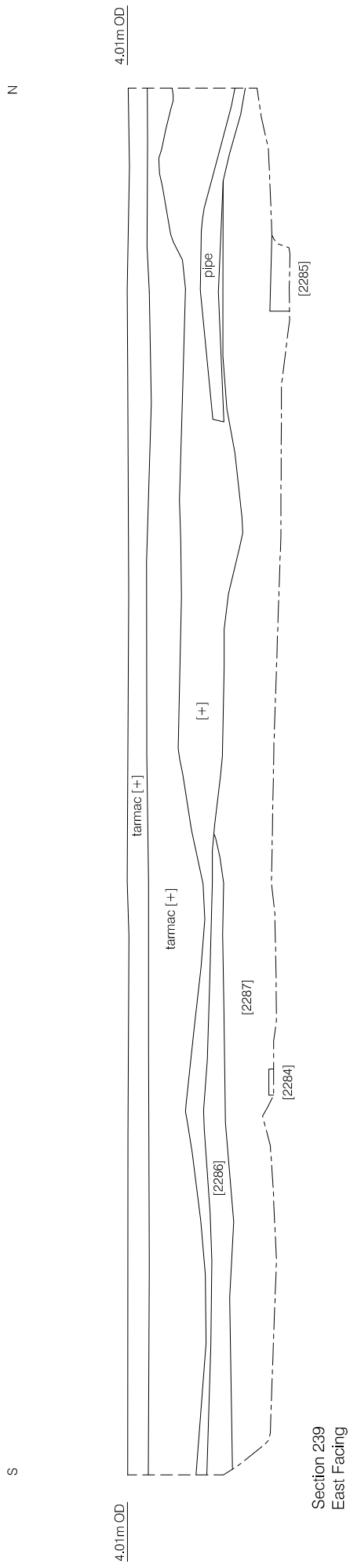


Figure 3
Plan of Trench
1:100 at A4



Section 239
East Facing



Figure 4
Section 239
1:25 at A4

7 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 The impact level of the new development ceased at approximately 3.20m OD in the east of the trench and 3.40m OD in the west. A deeper foundation trench was dug around the perimeter of the area at a height of approximately 0.60m to 0.70m below the modern ground surface, this being approximately 3.40m OD in the west and 2.97m OD in the east.
- 7.2 Masonry remains that appeared different from the presumed foundations of the Police Section House were seen in the surrounding foundation trench and the reduced area to the southeast. These included a possible drain run, an early east-to-west aligned wall and a rectangular brick feature. These were markedly different from the later foundations observed, although what structure they relate to would be unknown if it is the case that the 'bavin ground' was never actually constructed. There remains the possibility that they represent isolated drainage channels that led to other structures to the east and west. The wall may have related to a crude yard or an associated surface.
- 7.3 The large red brick foundations uncovered on the site are most likely to date from the Police Section House that was built in 1858 and bomb damaged during the Second World War. This was known to have consisted of several storeys including a basement. A timber addition to the western wall suggests the location of an entranceway. Additional contemporary foundations, revealed in the northwest corner of the site, were seen to extend to the west of the probable western external wall of the building.
- 7.4 Sealing all of the features observed in these works were several relatively shallow horizons of made ground. These presumably date from the period following the structure's damage in the Second World War and its subsequent demolition. These were overlain by modern gravel hogging as a precursor to the Tarmacadam car park surface. Connecting service trenches were made through this layer.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited would like to thank Andy Shelley and Helen Moore of Gifford for commissioning this project on behalf of Berkeley Homes (Southern) Ltd, and Hannah Fluck, Hampshire County Council Planning Archaeologist, for monitoring the work. The author would like to thank Stuart Watson for assistance with fieldwork, Jennifer Simonson for the illustrations, and Kevin Hayward for ceramic building material dating. Tim Bradley managed the project and the report was edited by Jon Butler.

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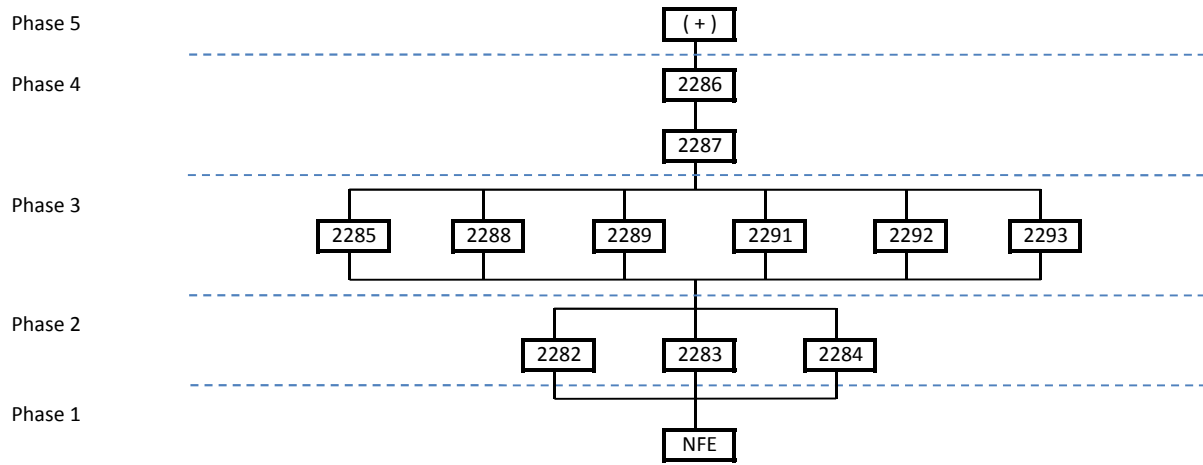
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APPENDIX 1 CONTEXT REGISTER

Site Code	Context No.	Plan	Section	Type	Description	Interpretation	Date
B1790D	2282	Bike/Bin Store	N/A	Masonry	Unfrogged red brick	Early wall	Post-medieval
B1790D	2283	Bike/Bin Store	N/A	Masonry	Unfrogged red brick	U-shaped foundation	Post-medieval
B1790D	2284	Bike/Bin Store	S239	Masonry	Brick and tile drain	Base of a truncated drain	Post-medieval
B1790D	2285	Bike/Bin Store	S239	Masonry	Unfrogged red brick	E-W aligned foundation	Post-medieval
B1790D	2286	Bike/Bin Store	S239	Layer	Crushed mortar	Ground raising	Post-medieval
B1790D	2287	Bike/Bin Store	S239	Layer	Demolition rubble	Ground raising	Post-medieval
B1790D	2288	Bike/Bin Store	N/A	Masonry	Unfrogged red brick	E-W aligned foundation	Post-medieval
B1790D	2289	Bike/Bin Store	N/A	Masonry	Unfrogged red brick	N-S aligned channel wall	Post-medieval
B1790D	2291	Bike/Bin Store	N/A	Masonry	Unfrogged red brick	N-S aligned foundation	Post-medieval
B1790D	2292	Bike/Bin Store	N/A	Masonry	Unfrogged red brick	Foundation	Post-medieval
B1790D	2293	Bike/Bin Store	N/A	Masonry	Unfrogged red brick	Single course of brickwork	Post-medieval

APPENDIX 2: STRATIGRAPHIC MATRIX



APPENDIX 3 CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL ASSESSMENT

By Kevin Hayward

Introduction and Aims

A small brick assemblage⁸ (8 examples weighing 24.9kg) was retained from the trenches. These were examined at Pre-Construct Archaeology as part of an assessment of the building material.

This assessment serves a number of purposes:

- The identification (under binocular microscope) of the fabrics and forms of the brick assemblage from the Cycle and Refuse Store;
- In each section - identify any interesting or unusual pieces that warrant retention;
- A phase summary relating the fabrics and forms of the brick types to the different workshops and phases at the site;
- The compilation of a stone catalogue (Gosportbinstore.cat), which accompanies this assessment;
- Rationalisation of the brick assemblage and recommendation for further analysis.

Methodology

The building materials were examined using the London system of classification with a fabric number allocated to each object. The application of a 1kg mason's hammer and sharp chisel to each example ensured that a fresh fabric surface was exposed. The fabric was examined at x20 magnification using a long arm stereomicroscope or hand lens (Gowland x10). Where possible, comparison was then made with the Pre-Construct Archaeology Building Material reference collection in order to provide a match. However, because many of the fabrics were found to be unique to Hampshire, an additional pre-requisite was to compile a local fabric collection. After analysis the common fabric types were discarded. Any unusual or interesting fabrics were retained.

Brick fabric and form

An overview of the ceramic building material assemblage at Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport, by fabric and form serves to quantify the common fabrics and highlight the presence of any unusual or interesting fabric types that may provide valuable dating evidence in the phase summary.

3032nr3033; 3033

⁸ Contexts 2281; 2282; 2283; 2288

The brick from this phase of the excavation consists almost entirely of the red 3033 fabric either as reused stock (hand made) form or machined production with sharp arises.

In form, the stock moulded brick here e.g. [2289] is identical to other parts of the site like Area D1-D3; Area C and the attenuation tank, being quite long (230mm x and average width 105mm) and quite thin (58-62mm). Red stock moulded bricks were manufactured nationally between 1450 and 1900 but here the solitary reused example [2289] is well made with a soft brick cement which would indicate manufacture sometime between 1700 and 1800.

By contrast, the machined bricks are much wider (110mm) and thicker (68mm) with sharp arises e.g. [2282]; [2288]; [2289] and indicate that all of the recorded wall structures from this part of the site post-date 1850.

A transitional fabric resembling the early post-medieval maroon (1664-1725) 3032nr3033 but also machined (so 1850+) was present [2283].

Fabrics - Detail

3033

The dominant brick fabric at Gosport – present as a number of variants. Outside of London the red brick fabric 3033 continues to be manufactured locally and used into the 18th to 19th centuries. and this is evident in the construction phases of the refuse/cycle store and elsewhere at Royal Clarence Yard.

Most are well made, and hence the solitary stock moulded brick [2289] resembles machined bricks in form as clinker and organics did not need to be added to make the clay stretch further as there was plenty available in relation to demand.

The variants are (both as machined and stock-moulded form)

3033a [2282] [2288] very fine red/orange brick with shelly linear fragments (some dissolved) and scattered calcium carbonate. Occasional silty nodules 2-3mm scattered throughout.

3033b Red brick with numerous medium size glassy quartz 2mm occasional silty chunks and scattering of clinker giving the brick a sandy crispy feel comparable with post-great fire fabrics in London 3032 and 3034. up to 5cm long some red iron oxide very occasional black iron oxide often

Mortar

The mortar from this phase consists of two late forms. First Roman cement, a hard gritty brown mortar used to adhere the bricks from [2288] and [2289], and a hard very white shelly

mortar resembling Portland cement from the brickwork at [2283] and [2282]. Both were patented in the very early 19th century and were in widespread use during the Victorian area.

Phase Summary

The phasing summary will assess the overall character of the building material assemblage from each phase and (where possible) relate their fabric and form (including evidence for reuse) to the proposed date and function for each occupation phase from this part of the excavation.

1850+

Nearly all of the brickwork recorded in structures from this phase of the excavation ([2282] [2283] [2288] and [2289]) consists of machined red brick bonded either in hard brown Roman Cement or hard grey Portland Cement, which indicates that construction could only have begun after 1850. Machine bricks were manufactured only after 1850, whilst the widespread use of Portland and Roman Cement is a feature of the second half of the 19th century.

Recommendation and Rationalisation

As part of the rationalisation process, a fabric collection of bricks and mortar from 18th and 19th century Gosport has been collated. This can be consulted when sites from the same area have been assessed.

A study into the source and dynamics of building material manufacture and use by the Admiralty in the 18th and 19th century would warrant some investigation. Otherwise no further investigation is required.

Distribution

Context	Size (no. of frags)	Date range of material		Latest dated material	
2282	3	1850	1950	1850	1950
2283	2	1664	1850	1664	1850
2288	1	1850	1950	1850	1950
2289	2	1500	1950	1850	1950

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APPENDIX 4 CANNONBALL ASSESSMENT

By Rob Nicholson

Two iron cannonballs were recovered as stray finds from the site. They measured 6" (15cm) in diameter and weighed 31.5 pounds (14.3kg) suggesting that they may have been 32 pounders. As part of the royal naval yard they are a not unexpected find on site.

APPENDIX 5 OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-60802

Project details

Project name North Meadow (Refuse/Cycle Stores), Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport,

Short description of the project An archaeological watching brief was undertaken between 26th and 27th January 2009 by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on the construction of a refuse and cycle store on land at North Meadow, Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport, Hampshire. The works consisted of the monitoring of ground reduction and the excavation of foundation and service trenches for the new stores. Excavation of the perimeter foundation trench and ground reduction in the southeast corner of the area revealed several phases of masonry remains and ground raising. Investigation of naturally occurring deposits was not possible due to the relatively high impact height and unpiled nature of the proposed structure foundations. Foundations of a two storey Police Section House that was built in 1858 were revealed. This was subsequently demolished following bomb damage sustained in WWII and later covered over to form the modern day car park surface.

Project dates Start: 26-01-2009 End: 27-01-2009

Previous/future work No / No

Any associated project reference codes B1790D - Sitecode

Type of project Recording project

Site status Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area

Current Land use Residential 1 - General Residential

Monument type WALLS Post Medieval

Significant Finds BRICKS Post Medieval

Investigation type 'Watching Brief'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country England

Site location HAMPSHIRE GOSPORT GOSPORT Refuse/Cycle Stores at North Meadow

Postcode PO12 1AX

Study area 240.00 Square metres

Site coordinates SU 61754 00662 50.8016574795 -1.123572305520 50 48 05 N 001 07 24 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation PCA

Project brief Gifford

originator

Project design
originator Gifford

Project
director/manager Tim Bradley

Project supervisor Richard Humphrey

Type of
sponsor/funding
body Developer

Name of
sponsor/funding
body Berkeley Homes (Southern) Ltd



Project archives

Physical Archive
recipient Hampshire County Council

Physical Contents 'Ceramics','Metal'

Digital Archive
recipient Hampshire County Council

Digital Contents 'Ceramics'

Digital Media
available 'Database','Text'

Paper Archive recipient	Hampshire County Council
Paper Contents	'Ceramics'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Drawing','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section'

Project bibliography 1

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