



© Southampton City Council

Southampton Archaeology Unit Report 1297

Archaeological Watching Brief at 214 Bursledon Road, Southampton. SOU 1742

AD Russel BA PhD MCIfA and T Riley BA (Hons) M.Sc

2017

Client: Mr Pavel Danek



Contents

1. Summary	3
2. Introduction	3
3. Site location, topography and geology	4
4. Archaeological and Historical background	5
5. Aims of the watching brief	5
6. Watching brief methodology	6
7. Results	6
7.1 Natural deposits.....	7
7.2 Uncertain date	7
7.3 Modern	7
8. Conclusions.....	9
9. Bibliography	9
Appendix 1. Context details.....	10

Cover photo: excavation of foundations in progress.

Summary Sheet

Site name/address: 214 Bursledon Road, Southampton. SO19 8NB
SOU site code: SOU 1742
Contractor site code: SOU 1742
HET consultation number: 7978
Planning application number: 16/00091/FUL
Grid reference of centre of site: 446068 112305
Fieldwork dates: 27/01/17 and 28/01/17
Type of fieldwork: Watching Brief
Name of contracting unit: Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit
Report author: Tobias Riley and Andrew Russel
Report number: 1297
Name of client: Mr Pavel Danek
Summary: Mr Pavel Danek obtained planning permission to build on land at 214 Bursledon Road, Southampton. A watching brief condition was placed on the planning permission because the site lies in Area 16 of the Local Areas of Archaeological Potential, and was some 65m from the line of the Roman Road from Southampton to Chichester. The watching brief was held on the excavation of the foundation trenches. Nothing of certain archaeological significance was found. The natural was clay, overlain by a layer of early modern or later garden soil. The only possible archaeological feature was feature 3, a hollow in the natural that contained a few burnt flints. The flints were reddened rather than shattered, and could have been caused by a bonfire at any date. The topsoil was checked for finds and no pre-20 th century artifacts were found.

Report on an Archaeological Watching 214 Bursledon Road, Southampton. SOU 1742

By T Riley BA (Hons) MSc and AD Russel BA PhD MCIfA

1. Summary

Mr Pavel Danek obtained planning permission to build on land at 214 Bursledon Road, Southampton. A watching brief condition was placed on the planning permission because the site lies in Area 16 of the Local Areas of Archaeological Potential, and was some 65m from the line of the Roman Road from Southampton to Chichester. The watching brief was held on the excavation of the foundation trenches. Nothing of certain archaeological significance was found. The natural was clay, overlain by a layer of early modern or later garden soil. The only possible archaeological feature was feature 3, a hollow in the natural that contained a few burnt flints. The flints were reddened rather than shattered, and could have been caused by a bonfire at any date. The topsoil was checked for finds and no pre-20th century artifacts were found.

2. Introduction

2.1 A proposal to build a 4-bed house at 214 Bursledon Road, was approved under the planning reference number 16/00091/FUL.

2.2 The site lies in Area 16 of the Local Areas of Archaeological Potential as defined in the City of Southampton Local Plan and Core Strategy 2010 and a watching brief was required as a condition of the development.

9. Archaeological evaluation/watching brief investigation [Pre-Commencement Condition]

No development shall take place within the site until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the archaeological investigation is initiated at an appropriate point in development procedure.

10. Archaeological evaluation/watching brief work programme [Performance]

The developer will secure the completion of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the archaeological investigation is completed.

2.3 The Archaeology Unit of Southampton City Council carried out the watching brief on two days, the 27/01/2017 and 28/01/2017. The observations were made by Dr AD Russel BA PhD MCIfA.

2.4 The project was managed by Dr AD Russel BA PhD MCIfA. The report illustrations were prepared by T Riley and the report was edited by Dr AD Russel. On completion of the archaeological work the archive will be deposited with Southampton City Council Museums under Accession Number: 2017.15.

3. Site location, topography and geology

3.1. The property lies to the south of Bursledon Road at grid ref 446068 112305 (fig 1). The site lies at some 51m OD.

3.2 According to the geology map the site lies the sands silts and clays of the Wittering formation (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

3.3 Topographically the site lies on the east side of a valley in which flows ‘the Harefield/Sholing stream’ (Burgess 1982, 15).



Fig 1. Site location plan. Site marked with red star and dot-dash line.
© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved Southampton City Council. LA 1000 19679 2016.

4. Archaeological and Historical background

4.1 The site lies within Area 16 of the Local Areas of Archaeological Potential (LAAP) as defined in the City of Southampton Core Strategy 2010. Area 16 covers any part of the city not covered by Areas 1–15.

4.2 Late 19th century maps show that the site was rough pasture in an area called Sholing Common (fig 2).

4.3 The site lies in an area of scattered prehistoric finds, some 65m from the line of the Roman Road from Southampton to Chichester.

4.4 Bursledon Road was built as a turnpike by the Bursledon Bridge Company after construction of Bursledon Bridge in 1798, following an Act of Parliament the previous year (<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.asp?compid=41969>).



Fig 2. The 1866-69 (published 1871) Ordnance Survey map showing the approximate position of the site. Sheet LXV

© Crown Copyright. All rights reserved Southampton City Council. LA 1000 19679 2016.

5. Aims of the watching brief

5.1 The aims of the watching brief were 'To make a record of any archaeology disturbed by the works and to determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality, and date of any archaeological remains encountered, as dictated by current best practice. For the purposes of this project archaeology will be deemed to be significant if it dates from before 1800' (Southampton Archaeology 2016).

5.2 An additional aim was 'To identify and record the nature, dimensions, and relationship of natural deposits on the site, and to assess the potential of the natural deposits to contain or conceal archaeology' (Southampton Archaeology 2016).

6. Watching brief methodology

6.1 The methodology followed that specified in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Southampton Archaeology 2016). The foundation trenches were observed. The services were to be routed through the building to the southeast to utilise the service runs to the house next door, no 214.

6.2 All archaeological records were made using the Southampton City Council archaeological recording system. Soils were recorded following the soil Survey Handbook and colours of deposits were recorded using the Munsell Soil Color Chart and these are used in this report (Munsell Color 2000). Contexts 1–6 were assigned.

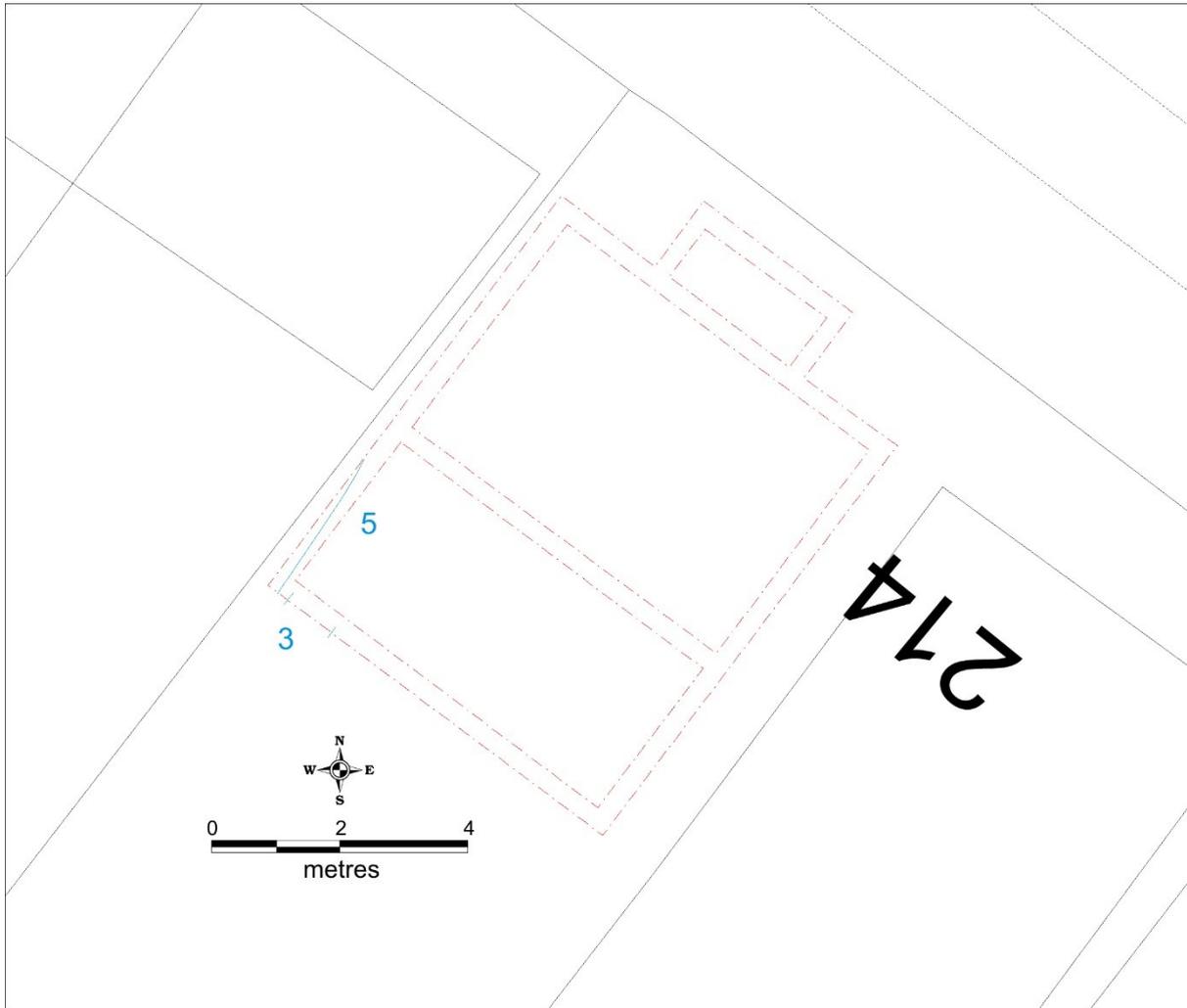


Fig 3. Outline of building foundations shown in red. Features 3 & 5 in blue.

7. Results

The foundation trenches were dug with a small tracked excavator. Two features were observed in the southwest corner of the site (fig 3). The results are presented in chronological order from the oldest to the most recent. Appendix 1 lists basic details of the contexts.

7.1 Natural deposits

7.1.1 The natural, found some 450mm below ground level, was assigned context 2. It was a very pale brown (10YR7/4) clay mottled with pale grey sand (fig 4). The mottling could have been the result of leaching of the top of the clay.



Fig 4. North-facing section of south trench, showing layers 1, topsoil, and 2 natural clay.

7.2 Uncertain date

7.2.1 Feature 3 was a hollow in the natural in the southwest corner of the site. It had a gently sloping profile east to west, the north edge had been removed by the machine (fig 5). It was 0.90m long, east to west and 0.18m deep. It was filled by (4), a dark greyish brown (10YR4/2) gravelly soil with occasional burnt flints. The flints were reddened rather than shattered. There were small fragments of brick at top of of fill 4.

7.3 Modern

7.3.1 Feature 5 was a hollow in the southwest corner of the site. Its east edge had been removed by the machine. It was 2.55m long, north to south, at least 0.35m wide and 0.15m deep (fig 6). It was filled by (6), a dark greyish brown (10YR4/2) gravelly soil with iron panning. The fill contained abundant modern rusty iron fragments.

7.3.2. Layer 1 was above natural clay 2 and fills (4) and (6) of the features. It was a slightly stony, dark greyish brown (10YR4/2) silty clay loam. It had a very gravelly patch in its southwest corner, possibly relating to a car parking area. In the west of

the site it contained a strip of gravel and crushed bricks with a shallow wall footing perhaps delineating a driveway.



Fig 5. North-facing section through feature 3.



Fig 6. East facing section through feature 5.

8. Conclusions

The only possible archaeological feature was feature 3, a hollow in the natural that contained a few burnt flints. The flints were reddened rather than shattered, and could have been caused by a bonfire at any date. The topsoil was checked for finds and no pre-20th century artifacts were found.

9. Bibliography

Burgess, L., 1982 *Streams and Watercourses of Southampton* (revised edition).

Munsell Color, 2000, *Munsell Soil Color Charts*, New Windsor.

Southampton Archaeology 2016. *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief at 214 Bursledon Road, Southampton.*

Appendix 1. Context details

CONTEXT	CATEGORY	KEYWORD	MUNSEL PAGE	COL	TEXTURE	DESCRIPTION	FILL OF	ABOVE	BELOW	PERIOD
1	LAYER	GARDEN SOIL	10YR	4/2	SILTY CLAY LOAM	V gravelly patch in SW corner? Hardstanding, greasy feel, possibly car parking area. Further machining to W shows strip of gravel & crushed brick with shallow wall footing along E-edge of driveway.		2,4,6		Modern
2	LAYER	NATURAL	10YR	7/4	CLAY	Natural clay mottled with pale grey sand.		N/A	1, 4, 6	Natural
3	FEATURE	HOLLOW	N/A	N/A	N/A	Hollow in natural in SW corner of site. Gently sloping profile E-W. N-edge removed by machine.				Uncertain
4	FILL	HOLLOW	10YR	4/2		Gravelly soil with occasional burnt flints. Flint reddened rather than shattered. Brick frags at top of feature.	3	2	1	Uncertain
5	FEATURE	HOLLOW	N/A	N/A	N/A	Hollow in SW corner of site. E-edge removed by machine.				Modern
6	FILL	HOLLOW	10YR	4/2		Fill of hollow in top of natural clay. Gravelly soil with iron panning. Soil abundantly iron rich with modern rusty rubbish. Garbage activities?	5	2	1	Modern