

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit

Written Scheme of Investigation for a watching brief at Peartree House, Peartree Road, Southampton.

15/00312/FUL

4/6/2015

1 Summary

1.1 A watching brief will be held on the construction of two single storey extensions on Peartree House, 8a Peartree Road, Southampton. A condition on the planning permission asks for an archaeological watching brief to be held on the groundworks to make a record of the deposits encountered and to collect any artifacts disturbed. On completion of the work a report will be produced, and the archive will be deposited with the Southampton City Council Museum.

2. Introduction

2.1 The approved work to be carried out at Peartree House will involve the construction of two single-storey extensions: a new fully glazed Reception Lobby supported by steel framing, and an extension of the communal area attached to a recent (c.1960's) building with excavation of foundations of up to about 1.8m with the floor slab excavated about 150mm.

2.2 This project design has been written to the recommended guidelines for archaeological projects laid down by English Heritage in *The Management of Research Projects in the Historic environment* 2006. All work will be carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*.

2.3 The definition of an archaeological watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive. (ClfA 2015).

3 Site location and geology

3.1 Pear Tree House lies between Peartree Avenue and Merridale Road, to the north of Sholing Road at Ordnance Survey grid reference 444181 111940.

3.2 The geology at the site is recorded as River Terrace Deposits 4 - Sand and Gravel. Superficial Deposits formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by rivers. This overlies Wittering Formation deposits - Sand, Silt and Clay. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 40 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period.

<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>.

4. Archaeological and Historical background

4.1. The site lies on the east bank of the River Itchen (fig 1) in Area 16 of the Local Areas of Archaeological Potential (LAAP) as defined in the City of Southampton Core Strategy 2010. The area lies between the Roman settlement of Clausentum at Bitterne Manor, to the north, and the medieval settlement of Itchen Ferry, to the southwest. The Roman road from Clausentum to Noviomagus Reginorum (Chichester) ran approximately 1km to the northeast of the site.

4.2 Peartree House itself was built in the late 16th century by Francis Mylles, who rented Bitterne Manor, on the site of Roman Clausentum, from the Bishops of Winchester who allowed him to take stone from there to build his new house. After Mylles his son-in-law Captain Richard Smith lived in the house. He enclosed ground on Ridgeway Heath to provide a chapel and burial ground, opened in 1620. Peartree House was occupied by the Mylles family for almost three centuries; the last of the family died in 1780, and it was then passed to members of the Speed and Waring families, who were related to the Mylles (see Coles, R. J. (1981). *Southampton's Historic Buildings*. City of Southampton Society). During the early 19th century, the property was extended and the [castellated](#) facade was added (see Vale, Jessica (1980). *Lost Houses of Southampton in Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society*). A later inhabitant was General Shrapnel who lived in Peartree House from 1835 to 1842. The building was used as a school and later a hotel in the 20th century, before being purchased by Southampton Corporation for use as a care home. The building is now run by the Fernside Healthcare Group.

4.3 Sites of interest within 500m of the site are as follows:

MSH388

A large hoard of Bronze Age implements was found in 1898, during the construction of a cottage in Brook Road (now Poole Road), south of Pear Tree Green. The hoard consisted of 41 bronze palstaves, and is thought to have been a founder's hoard.

MSH1851

Undated layers and an undated posthole were observed during a watching brief on land formerly part of the grounds of the Woolston School Annexe, Seaward Road in 1992 (SOU 495). The site area is now known as School Place. No deposits or finds of certain archaeological significance were observed.

MSH 2141

Peartree House (Grade II). Built by 1617 but refaced circa 1800. Two storeys cemented with tiled roof. C17 chimney stack. South facade has castellated parapet. Seven sashes with glazing bars intact on the first floor only. The end window bays project with hipped roofs over. The centre has a veranda on the ground floor of 5 wooden archways with Neo-Tudor heads. The wings have iron balconettes to first floor windows. Tripartite sashes to side elevations. The interior has inglenook fireplaces, mainly blocked.

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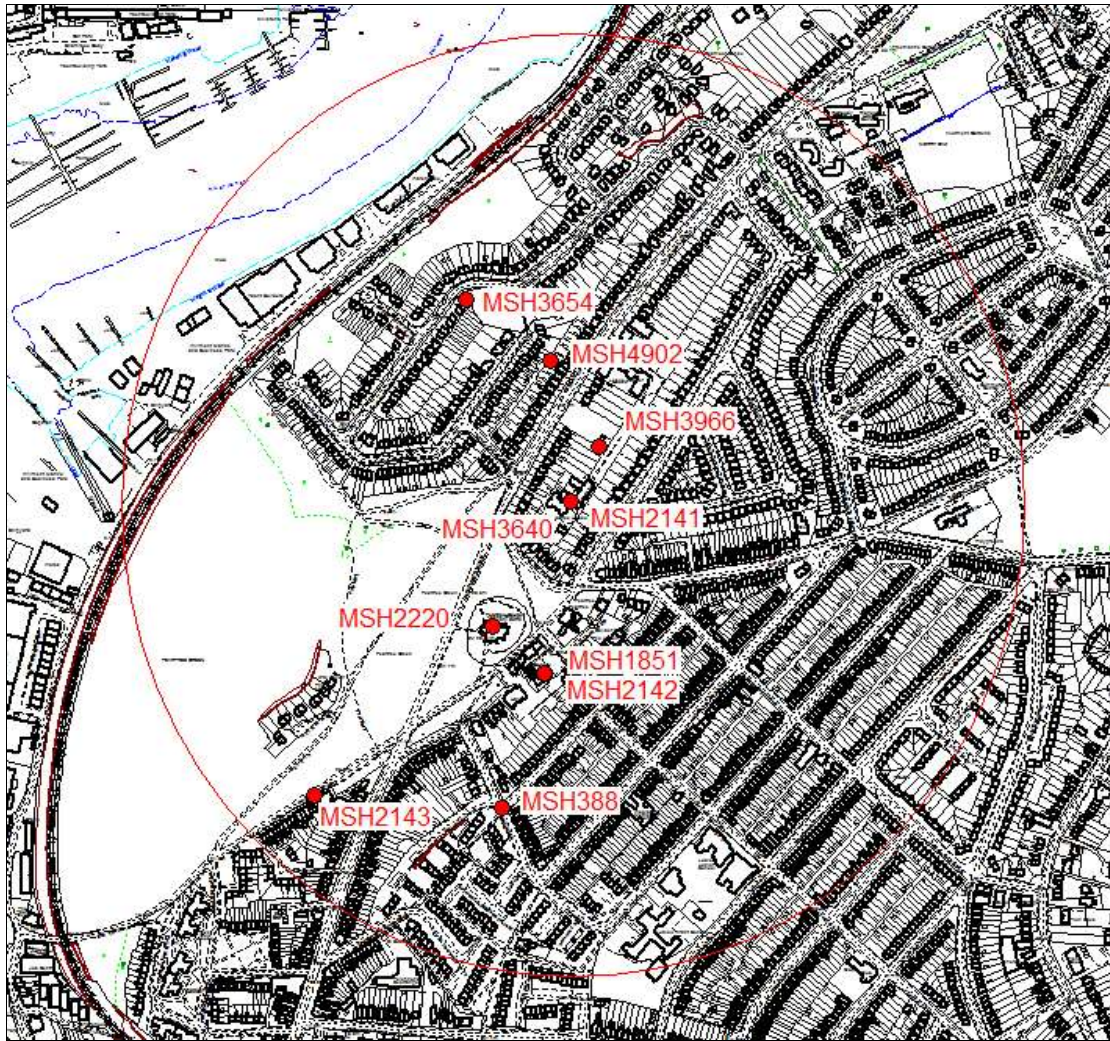


Figure 1. Known sites of interest within 500m of the site. The site lies in the centre of the red circle at the point identified by MSH2141 and MSH3640.

MSH2142

Woolston Secondary Mixed School (Grade II). 1857. Built by The National Society in memory of Reverend William Lewis Davis. Originally 2 buildings, now linked at ground floor level. Built of coursed rubble. One storey and attics. Slate roof with ridge tiles. Gable ends with stone coping and kneelers, long and short quoins. Windows are mullioned or mullioned and transomed casements with hood moulding to windows in gables. South-east building has a spirelet with louvred lantern and weathervane. The south-west building has a bellcote over the gable. Plinth. Gabled weather porches with tablet above porch to south-east building.

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MSH2143

Peartree Green United Reform Church (Grade II). 1838. Built as a Congregational Church in Neo-Decorated style. Built of yellow brick with slate roof. Gabled front with stone spirelet. Three windows, the central one traceried, the side ones lancets. Arched

doorcase. The nave is of 5 bays with brick and stone buttresses and lancet windows. Cast iron forecourt railings.

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MSH2220

Built as Jesus Chapel in 1620 to serve the part of the old Parish of St Mary which lay across the Itchen (St Mary Extra). It is said to have been built using stone rubble from Bitterne Manor. The only part of the original building remaining is the centre west gable, and an adjacent window. In 1822 a west porch and south transept were added by E Burrough and J Ede in Neo-Tudor style. In 1846 a north aisle was added, in 1866 an east aisle, and a new chancel and south chapel in 1883

MSH3640

The grounds of the late 16th century Peartree House (MSH2141). The garden is shown on the 1881 map but has since been redeveloped for housing.

MSH3645

Former grounds of Ridgeway Castle. Ridgeway Castle was built in the late 18th century as a castellated mansion with grounds. It was demolished in 1855. By 1859 a new house called Ridgeway had been constructed, demolished c1920.

MSH3966

Overgrown flint structure at the rear of 30/32 Peartree Avenue, shown on historic maps back to 1897.

MSH4902

There was apparently a medieval house called "Riggeweye", first documented in 1291, on or near the site of the later Ridgeway House (MSH3645). A hamlet called Ridgeway is mentioned in 1659.

5 Purpose/aims of the archaeological fieldwork

5.1 The purpose of the fieldwork is to make a record of the deposits within the site, and collect any artifacts revealed.

6 Archaeological methodology

6.1 A Southampton site code will be issued by the HET and will be used throughout the project to identify the site records and artifacts.

6.2 Photographs will be taken with colour transparency film and monochrome film. Digital pictures will also be taken.

6.3 Any finds recovered will be retained and processed according to the standards laid down in "Standards for the Creation, Compilation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives" (Southampton City Council, 2007).

6.4 The watching brief will have the necessary equipment. The minimum will be stationery, recording forms, cameras, film, photographic scales, tapes, safety equipment, and trowel.

6.5 A context number will be allocated to all finds. All pre-AD1850 finds will be retained, and a sample of post-AD1850 will be retained.

6.6 A metal detector will be used to check for metal artifacts.

6.7 All archaeological personnel will report to the Site Manager on arrival at the site. All site regulations will be observed. All statutory and site-specific health and safety regulations will be followed.

6.8 Close liaison will take place between the Site Manager (or equivalent) and the archaeological observer to ensure that all groundworks are observed.

6.9 The archaeological contractor will inform the HET when the specified fieldwork has begun, and when it has been completed.

7 Post-excavation methodology

7.1 Fair copies will be made of rough site notes and sketches. Photographs will be catalogued and cross-referenced to the recording forms when they have been returned from processing. The site records will be entered into an Access database

7.2 All metal finds other than those made of gold and lead (and those exemptions set out in "Standards for the Creation, Compilation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives") will be x-radiographed as part of the recording process and in advance of the Collections Assessment described below.

7.3 At an early stage of the post-excavation process, Southampton City Council's Curator of Archaeological Collections will carry out a Collections Assessment of the material archive, as stipulated in "Standards for the Creation, Compilation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives".

7.4 To ensure the long-term stability of the finds and their availability for future study, all conservation work will be carried out as necessary; full records (which will form a part of the archive) will be kept of any treatment given.

7.5 The assessment of conservation needs and subsequent necessary work will be carried out by a qualified archaeological conservator, or in a recognised conservation laboratory which has been approved by the Curator of Archaeological Collections.

7.6 All finds and other items of archaeological interest removed from the site will be analysed and recorded by specialists, subject to the approval of the HET. All specialist work will be carried out as necessary, to agreed standards, and with the approval of the HET, based on the results of assessments of the material which will be carried out as the first stage of the post-excavation process. Specialist work may need to be carried out on all metalwork; all bone, including worked bone and human remains and other organic remains; industrial waste; ceramic material; glass; and lithic material. The pottery and stone type series housed by Southampton City Council's Archaeology Collections will be used as reference material.

7.7 Data about complete, identifiable, itemised objects will be transferred onto Southampton City Museum's Archaeological Object Record Sheets. The sheets will then be entered into the computerised Archaeological Collections Object Database.

8. Report preparation and contents

8.1 Once the site data and artefacts have been analysed, a summary report will be written within four weeks of the end of the fieldwork. The report will be structured as in Appendix A. The report will include a summary sheet (see appendix B).

8.2 The archaeological contractor will send a copy of the report in PDF format to the HET for approval. Once it has been approved, the archaeological contractor will send a full-colour paper copy of the report to the developer, the HET (for the Historic Environment Record (HER)), and the Special Collections section of Southampton Public Library.

8.3 A full-colour paper copy of the report will be deposited as part of the archive (see below).

8.4 The archaeological contractor will supply the HET with one copy of the approved report in PDF format (for the HER), either by email or on disk as appropriate. The PDF should be text searchable with good quality figures and images. All report drawings and photographs are to be included in the PDF file, and the selecting of text and graphics security option must be set at "allowed". At the same time, the archaeological contractor will supply the HER Officer (her@southampton.gov.uk) with a trench plan, registered to the National Grid; also a digital copy of trench plans and feature-distribution or phase plans (where phase plans are appropriate). The format will be MapInfo TAB or Auto CAD DWG/DXF.

8.5 At the same time, the archaeological contractor will supply the HER Officer with digital copies of the photographs used in the report, for general use by the HET and HER. These will be supplied in TIFF format at least 600 dpi resolution.

8.6 The archaeological contractor will retain full copyright of the report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the Client for the use of the report by the Client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the specification. The archaeological contractor in addition gives permission for the HET to freely copy the report and photographs for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process, without reference to the archaeological contractor.

8.7 At the appropriate time, the archaeological contractor will send a short report of the evidence for inclusion in the summaries compiled by relevant journals (these are defined as any or all of: "Past", "Britannia", "Medieval Archaeology", "Post-medieval Archaeology").

8.8 On completion of the fieldwork the HET will decide if the results require a wider publication than the limited-distribution report allowed for above. If so, this will be the subject of a separate agreement with the client, after which the archaeological contractor will prepare a report of an appropriate standard to an agreed timescale and arrange its publication in an appropriate form.

9 Copyright

9.1 Southampton City Council shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs, and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project.

10 Archive deposition

10.1 "Archive" here means the documentary and material archive as defined in *Standards for the Creation, Compilation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives* (SCC 2007). Southampton City Council will be the depository of the archive, once the period of post-excavation analysis and report-writing is complete, and will assume title to all material recovered from the fieldwork for inclusion in its collections. A timescale for the handing over of the archive will be included in the post-excavation programme.

10.2 The contractor will prepare, compile, and present the archive in accordance with the standards laid down in "Standards for the Creation, Compilation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives" (Southampton City Council, 2007).

10.3 The archaeological contractor will deposit the archive, making allowance for the long-term archive-storage costs that will be incurred by Southampton City Council, including the costs of deposition of the digital archive with the Archaeology Data Service (see Appendix 11 of "Standards for the Creation, Compilation and Transfer of Archaeological Archives").

10.4 The archaeological contractor will copy the written and drawn archive onto microfiche which will form part of the archive.

11 Staffing

11.1 The work will be carried out by experienced archaeologists, under the supervision of Dr AD Russel BA, PhD, MCIfA.

12 Health and Safety

12.1 The Health and Safety Policies of Southampton City Council apply to its entire staff wherever they work. The Safety Manager for the Archaeology Unit is Dr AD Russel BA PhD MCIfA who can be contacted on 023 8063 4906.

12.2 The archaeologists will liaise closely with the main contractor, in regard to site specific health and safety requirements.

13 Insurances

13.1 Southampton City Council's insurance, including public liability, covers its entire staff wherever they work.

14 Monitoring procedures

14.1 The project will be monitored for Southampton City Council by the Planning Archaeologist or other member of the HET.

15 Procedures for reporting unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries.

15.1 Should significant or complex discoveries be made, the archaeologist on site will contact the Archaeology Unit Manager on 023 8063 4906. The Archaeology Unit Manager will contact the client and the Southampton City Council Planning Archaeologist.

Dr AD Russel
9/06/15

APPENDIX A

CONTENTS LIST
PRESENT LANDUSE, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY. The geology as recorded by the Geological Survey will be discussed with reference to the actual site geology found during fieldwork.
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND Including a map regression and summary of information in secondary/published sources.
ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND Known archaeological sites or findspots in the vicinity, with location plan.
REASON FOR PROJECT, PROJECT AIMS
METHODOLOGY Amended from the WSI as appropriate to include trench dimensions and any restrictions on fieldwork.
DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS For all areas/trenches with significant archaeology (with interpretation and dating)
CONCLUSION To include all periods present on the site, including those represented only by residual finds in later stratigraphy. The results will be discussed with reference to the documentary evidence, and the significance of the site in its broader archaeological, historical and landscape setting.
BIBLIOGRAPHY
LOCATION PLANS Site and trench location plans based on 1:1250 OS mapping, indicating areas surveyed by different methods.
OTHER PLANS Detailed plans of all areas/trenches with significant archaeology at an appropriate scale.
All plans will be correctly related to the national grid
All drawings will include levels related to ordnance datum
PHOTOGRAPHS To illustrate specific points in the text.
APPENDICES
Appendix 1 CONTEXT LIST with soil descriptions, phases, etc
Appendix 2 FINDS REPORT Table of all artefacts recorded, listed by context and material type, with an assessment (check artefact types and dating included).

APPENDIX B: SUMMARY SHEET CONTENT

The report will include a summary sheet giving the information in the table below.

Site name/address
SOU site code (this should also be included on the front cover)
Contractor site code
HET consultation number
Planning application number (if relevant)
Grid reference of centre of site - 8 figures, including prefix (eg SU).
Fieldwork dates (full start and end dates in form day/month/year)
Type of fieldwork
Name of contracting unit
Report author
Name of client
Non-technical summary to include <u>all</u> periods represented on the site, including those present only as residual finds in later contexts.)