

Archaeological Evaluation

Sea Road Woolston Southampton

NGR SU 43750 11240 SOU 1417

BORDER ARCHAEOLOGY

PO Box 36 Leominster Herefordshire HR6 0YQ E-mail: enquiries@borderarchaeology.com

Technical Services

Chapel Walk Burgess Street Leominster Herefordshire HR6 8DE Tel: 01568 610101

Tel/fax: 01568 616900 E-mail: <u>borderarch@btconnect.com</u>

BA0536SWS February 2007



Contents

1	NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY	3
2	INTRODUCTION	4
3	HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	5
4	METHODOLOGY	7
5	RESULTS	8
6	CONCLUSION	14
7	COPYRIGHT	15
8	BIBLIOGRAPHY	15
9	APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT REGISTER	16

Report specification:

Archaeological evaluation: James Archer BSc Report compilation: James Archer BSc & Stephen Priestley MA

Report editing: George Children MA Approved: Neil Shurety



Non Technical Summary

The evaluation carried out at Sea Road Woolston revealed a series of deposits and structures that appeared to be associated with the documented occupation of the site in the 19th and 20th centuries.

A series of modern features were found in Trench 1, which ran approximately 32m along the western side of the site, parallel to the railway line. The finds associated with these features were of modern date, consisting of glass, brick and tile and fragments of linoleum and plastic. Bisecting the trench was a linear concrete footing/foundation of probable post-1850s date.

Trench 2 comprised two sections of trenching, 2a & 2b, and ran 47m along the northern edge of the site, parallel with Sea Road. Trench 2a contained a series of 19th century brick walls aligned along the street frontage and a remnant of masonry walling consisting of two courses, again aligned parallel with the road. These walls may be associated with a building marked in this location on the OS 1st edition map of 1871, which may have incorporated the fabric of a cottage marked on the 1852 tithe map.

Trench 2b revealed structural remains, consisting of brick cellarage and a red and black patterned tile floor, probably associated with the demolished Red Lion public house which occupied the premises of a former brewery and dwelling house marked on the 1852 tithe map.

Underlying these archaeological features were natural deposits consisting of sandy gravel and yellow sand.



2 Introduction

Border Archaeology was instructed by Nicola O'Rourke, Senior Project Manager, Swaythling Housing Society, to carry out an archaeological evaluation of a plot of land located at Sea Road Woolston Southampton (Ref. Dev/NO'R/38). A specification detailing the extent of the fieldwork and the location of trenching was supplied by Alan Morton of Southampton City Council Heritage Conservation Unit (Internal ref. 6375).

The site is located immediately S of Sea Road, a long established routeway of medieval origin leading W to the Itchen Ferry (NGR SU 43750 11240) (**Fig. 1**). Cartographic evidence suggests that the site probably formed part of a large, triangular plot of land that was bisected by the construction of the railway line in the mid 19th century.

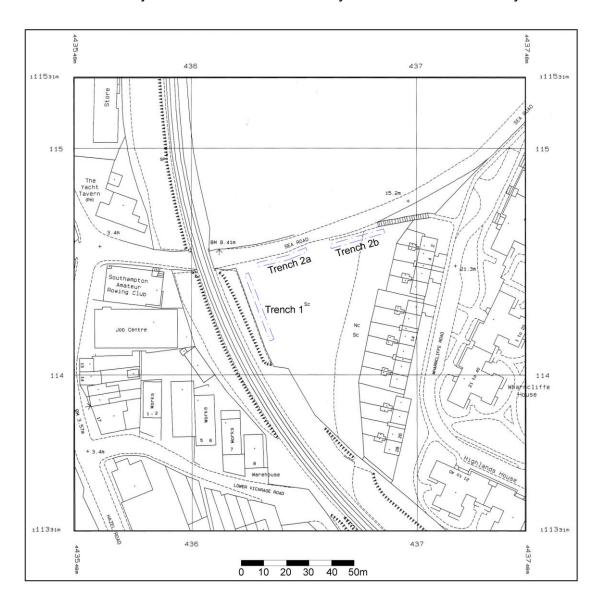


Fig. 1: Site Location Map



2.1 Soils & Geology

Woolston is classified as an unsurveyed urban area; however, to the SE of Woolston the predominant soil type consists of typical argillic brown earths of the HAMBLE series (571z) consisting of deep stoneless well drained silty soils over gravel locally, the underlying geology comprising Aeolian silty drift (SSEW, 1983).

3 Historical & Archaeological Background

Sea Road appears to have marked the boundary of a pre-Conquest estate at South Stoneham, which is described in two charters dating from *c*.978-1016 and 1045, respectively. The line of the road is marked on historic maps of the area dating back to the early 17th century and an enclosure map of 1814 shows a number of buildings on the site immediately S of Sea Road predating the rapid development of the area in the midlate 19th century (**Fig. 2**).

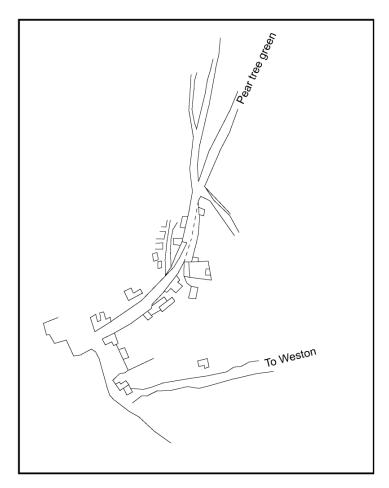


Fig. 2: Extract from 1814 Enclosure Map of the Parish of St Mary Extra, Southampton

Based on the cartographic and documentary evidence, it was anticipated that there could be the remains of structures of medieval or early post-medieval (i.e. pre-19th century) date on the site immediately S of Sea Road. It was also considered possible that the archaeological evidence on the site could include features such as boundary ditches of medieval date, for instance, the estate boundary running along the line of Sea



Road described in the two 11th century charters and boundary ditches associated with properties that apparently stood to the S of Sea Road during the medieval / early post-medieval period. The boundaries of the plots associated with these properties could have extended for some distance to the rear of the street frontage on Sea Road, parallel with the course of the railway line, although direct cartographic or documentary evidence for this is lacking.

Cartographic evidence, specifically the 1852 tithe map for the parish of St Mary Extra, Southampton, indicates that the site lay within a large, triangular plot of land immediately to the S of Sea Road, subdivided into several smaller enclosures (**Fig. 3**). A large complex of buildings, consisting of an L-shaped structure with a long rectangular range immediately to the NE (marked as No. 299 on the tithe map) is described as a 'Dwelling House, Brewery & Offices' which was owned and occupied by a Mr John H. Bell. Bell occupied the brewery premises at Sea Road until as late as 1871 and by 1881 it was referred to as the Red Lion public house. To the SW of the brewery, the tithe map shows a series of buildings extending SW along the Sea Road street frontage comprising Plot Nos. 300 and 301, listed as 'a house, garden and offices' (recorded as Prospect House in the 1871 census), and Plot No. 302, described as a 'cottage and gardens'.

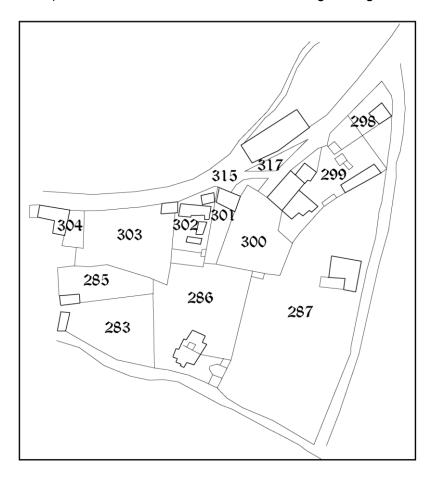


Fig. 3: Extract from 1852 Tithe Map of the Parish of St Mary Extra, Southampton

The OS 1st edition 6-inch map of 1871 (**Fig. 4**) reveals that the area had undergone major changes since 1852, doubtless associated with the construction of the railway in the early 1860s which bisected the western half of the original triangular plot. The complex of buildings in the NE corner of the plot, denoted as 'a dwelling house, brewery and offices' in the 1852 tithe map, is shown as essentially intact and unaltered.



However, there had been a significant expansion of building activity to the SW of the brewery. The house and offices occupying Plot Nos. 300 and 301 and the cottage occupying Plot No. 302 on the 1852 tithe map appear to have been substantially rebuilt by 1871 and further to the SW along Sea Road, a row of terraced houses had been built adjacent to the railway line.

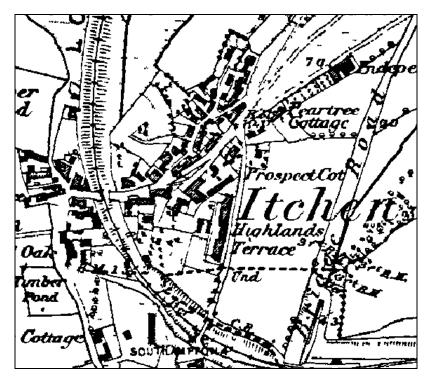


Fig. 4: Extract from OS 1st edition 6-inch map of 1871 showing Sea Road Woolston

4 Methodology

Full written, drawn and photographic records were made in accordance with archaeological practices set out in *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994; revised 2001). Border Archaeology adheres to the IFA's *Code of conduct* and *Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology.*

Non-significant (post 1850) deposits, features and structures were recorded in plan and section at a scale of 1:50 or in elevation at a scale of 1:20, depending on size. Significant deposits, features and structures were recorded in plan at a scale of 1:20 and in section or elevation at a scale of 1:10. Features within the trenches were photographed using 10.3MPX digital and 35mm formats. A detailed stratigraphic record was made using a context numbering system.

An initial evaluation area of 200sq.m was reduced to 181.5sq.m due to the location of the site entrance leading off Sea Road, which made it possible to excavate only 47m along the northern boundary of the site.

Trench 1, located on the W edge of the site, ran approximately 32m N-S parallel to the railway line and measured 2m wide; Trench 2 (comprising Trench 2a & Trench 2b) ran



47m along the northern edge of the site, either side of the site entrance, and was 2.5m wide. Trench 2a was located to the W of the site entrance and measured 22m; Trench 2b was to the E of the entrance and measured 25m.

All spoil and removed material were visually scanned for artefacts, which were recorded and, where appropriate, retained. A temporary benchmark of 13.4m AOD was established on the site.

5 Results

5.1 Trench 1

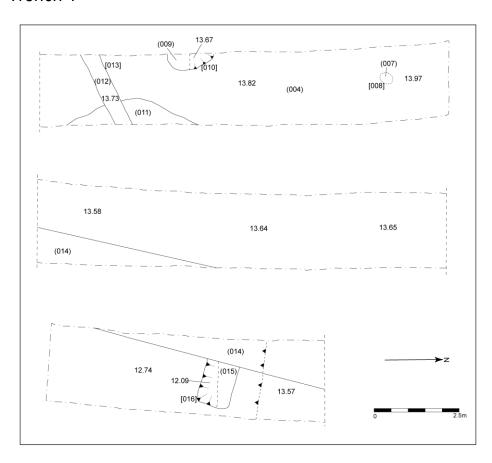


Fig. 5: Plan of Trench 1 showing location of features

Trench 1 (**Figs. 5 & 6**) was located on the western side of the site and ran approximately 32m N-S parallel to the railway line. The trench revealed 17 contexts, the uppermost of which (001) was a loose dark brown humic deposit containing building rubble and modern rubbish, with frequent modern CBM, ceramics, glass, metalwork, plastic and wood fragments, extending trench wide to a maximum depth of 0.4m.

Underlying (001) was a friable dark brown humic topsoil deposit (002), with moderate sand and gravels and incorporating frequent modern debris. This deposit extended trench-wide with an average thickness of 0.25m and overlay (003), a friable mid brown gravelly loam subsoil with frequent modern ceramic sherds, CBM fragments and metal objects. This deposit measured 0.2-0.3m in thickness.



Partially overlying (003) at the northern end of the trench was (006), a loose brick rubble deposit measuring 0.2m in thickness, which apparently represented a slightly earlier phase of demolition than (001).

Cutting (003) were a series of modern features and deposits. At the northern end of the trench, (003) was cut by [008], an irregular sub-circular cut measuring 0.4m N-S \times 0.35m E-W \times 0.24m. [008] was filled by a soft dark brown humic loam with very frequent gravel and frequent root disturbance (007). The nature of this deposit seems consistent with the fill of a tree bole.



Plate 1: Structure (014) looking S

Along the western edge of the trench, (003) was cut by a slightly irregular sub-circular cut [010] measuring 1.35m N-S x >0.5m x 0.15m. This cut exhibited a sharp break of slope at the top, concave sides and a rounded slightly concave base. Filling [010] was (009) a loose dark brown gravelly humic loam with frequent brick fragments, plastic, glass and linoleum fragments.

Bisecting the trench on an ENE-WSW alignment and cutting (003) was a rectilinear cut [013] measuring >2m ENE-WSW x 0.52m N-S x 0.66m. This comprised a sharp break of slope at the top, slightly concave sides and a regular flattish base. Filling [013] was a cohesive pale greyish-yellow clayey sand with no inclusions (012). This deposit formed the backfill of a modern trench of unknown function, which is likely to have been associated with $19^{th}/20^{th}$ century activity.



Bisecting the trench on an NNE-SSW alignment and cutting (003) was a linear concrete footing/foundation measuring >12.5m NNE-SSW x 1m E-W (014) (**Plate 1; Figs. 5 & 6**). This footing was partially overlaid by a compact mid reddish-brown sandy gravel (017). The exact nature and extent of this footing were undefined due to the limits of the evaluation but a post-1850s date seems likely.

Cutting (003) at the southern end of the trench was a rectangular cut with a sharp break of slope at the top, steep slightly concave sides and a flattish base [016]. This cut measured 1.2m E-W x 0.92m N-S x 0.65m and was filled by (015), a soft dark brown / mid yellowish-brown, humic loam / sandy loam with frequent modern CBM, slate and mortar fragments. Cut [016] seemed to be associated or contemporary with structure (014).

Located along the eastern edge of the trench underlying (003) and overlying (004) was a small irregular spread of material (011) consisting of loose dark greyish-brown gravelly loam of varying thickness. This deposit seemed to comprise a mixture of material from (002) and (003) and probably indicated a natural hollow or undulation, especially as no finds were identified.

Underlying (003) were natural deposits (004) and (005). Deposit (004) consisted of a cohesive sandy gravel underlying which, at the southern end of the trench, was (005), a homogenous yellow sand.

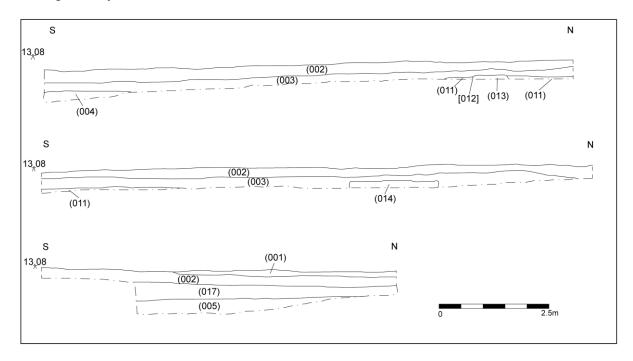


Fig 6: E-facing section of Trench 1

5.2 Trench 2a

Trench 2a (**Figs. 7 & 8**) was located immediately W of the site entrance and ran E-W parallel to Sea Road. The trench measured 22m × 2.5m and revealed nine contexts.



The uppermost deposit was a loose dark brown humus, rubble and modern rubbish deposit (201), extending trench-wide to a maximum depth of 0.45m and containing frequent modern CBM, ceramics, glass, metal, plastic and wood fragments.

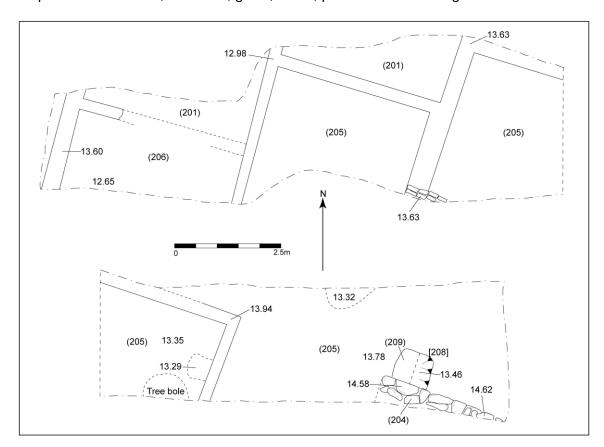


Fig 7: Plan of Trench 2a showing location of features



Plate 2: N-facing elevation of wall (204)

Underlying (201) at the eastern end of the trench was a friable mid brown gravelly loam with frequent modern CBM fragments, Fe objects and occasional modern ceramic



sherds (202). This deposit was 0.2-0.3m thick and extended 8.5m from E to W. Underlying upper deposits (201) and (202) was (207) a loose mixed brick rubble deposit with frequent CBM fragments and concrete and occasional Fe objects and late 19th/20th century ceramic sherds. This deposit extended trench-wide with a variable thickness up to a maximum of 1.3m.

At the E end of the trench, underlying (207), the partial remains of an E-W stone wall (204) were identified, measuring >2.8m EW \times 0.5m NS \times 0.25m and consisting of roughly dressed limestone blocks (**Plate 2**; **Fig. 8**). The average size of the blocks used was 370mm x 300mm x 250mm with an average joint width of 40mm.

Appearing on the same stratigraphic level as (204) was a series of 19th century building remains (203) consisting of concrete and brick foundations relating to a number of buildings along the frontage of Sea Road. Also appearing at this level was a rectangular cut measuring 0.8m NS x 0.85m EW x 0.22m [208], which was filled by a friable mid greyish-brown silty sand with moderate small rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecking (209).

Natural deposits were encountered underlying 19th century structures (203) and (204) and these consisted of two distinct deposits, (205) and (206). (205) was a loose yellowish-brown sandy gravel overlying yellow sand (206).

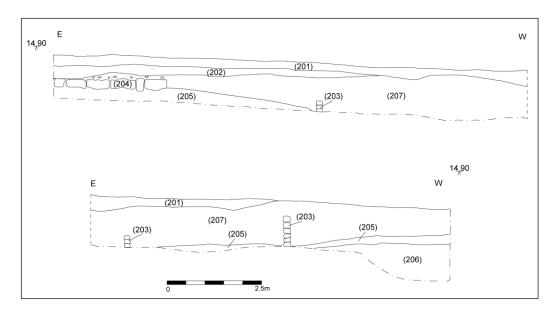


Fig 8: N-facing section of Trench 2a

5.3 Trench 2b

The trench (**Fig. 9**) revealed five contexts, the uppermost of which consisted of a loose dark brown humus, rubble and modern rubbish deposit (301) extending trench-wide to a maximum depth of 0.45m and containing frequent modern CBM, ceramics, glass, metalwork, steelwork, plastic and wood fragments.

Underlying this rubble overburden were the structural remains of a substantial 19th century building (302) (**Plate 3; Fig. 9**) and cellarage (303) (**Plate 4; Fig. 9**). Remains associated with (302) were located at the eastern end of the trench and included a



series of tiered floors (some with intact black and red tiling), two hearths and a series of wall foundations. These consisted of unfrogged brick constructed on concrete foundations.

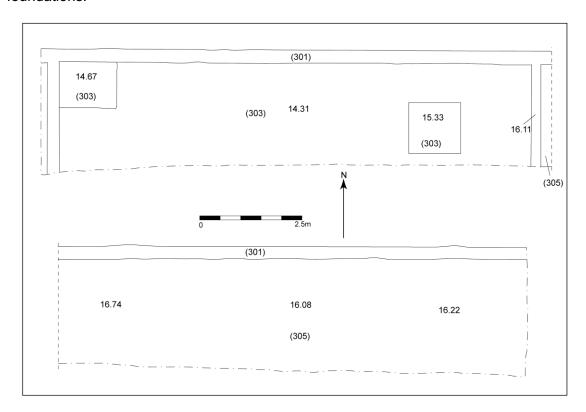


Fig 9: Post-excavation plan of Trench 2b



Plate 3: Structure (302), looking W





Plate 4: Cellarage (303), looking E

The cellarage (303) was located immediately W of (302) and measured 11.5m E-W x > 3m N-S x > 2m, comprising the entire western end of the trench. The construction was entirely of unfrogged brick with an off-centre pier at the eastern end and a small partitioned area in the NW corner. Filling (303) was a loose brick rubble deposit (304).

Underlying structural remains (302) at the eastern end of the trench were natural deposits (305), consisting of friable yellowish-brown sandy gravel.

6 Conclusion

A series of modern features were found throughout Trench 1; the finds associated with these features were of 20th century date, consisting of glass, CBM and fragments of linoleum and plastic. Also revealed were a modern service trench [013], a post-medieval pit [016] and a substantial modern concrete footing (014).

Trench 2a contained a series of brick walls of 19th century date (203) aligned along the street frontage and the remnant of a stone wall consisting of two masonry courses (204), again aligned parallel with the road. These walls may be associated with a rectangular building marked as a cottage on the 1852 tithe map and which appears to have been partially rebuilt before 1871. Associated with these structures were a number of utility pipes. Also identified was a single pit of unknown age and function [208].



Trench 2b revealed evidence of substantial 19th century brick cellarage and a geometric red and black patterned tiled floor, presumably representing the remains of the Red Lion public house which occupied the premises of a former brewery marked on the tithe map of 1852.

No archaeological evidence of activity was found dating from earlier than the 19th century. The structures encountered were wholly expected and fit in with the results of the map regression survey carried out prior to the evaluation.

7 Copyright

Border Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs & 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 Project Specification.

8 Bibliography

- 1814 Enclosure Award for the Parish of St Mary Extra Southampton
- 1852 Tithe Apportionment for the Parish of St Mary Extra Southampton
- 1841-1901 Census Returns for the Parish of St Mary Extra Southampton

8.1 Cartography

(All maps were obtained from the Hampshire Record Office, Winchester unless otherwise stated)

- 1814 Enclosure Map for the Parish of St Mary Extra Southampton
- 1852 Tithe Map for the Parish of St Mary Extra Southampton
- 1871 Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6-inch map (Hampshire 65 SE)



9 Appendix 1: Context register

9.1 Trench 1

Context Number	Description		
(001)	Loose dark brown humus and brick rubble deposit, frequent modern		
()	rubbish and scrap metal. Up to 0.5m in thickness and extending across		
	whole trench. Overlies (002)		
INTERPRETATION:	Post Second World War rubble overburden		
(002)	Friable dark brown humic deposit, frequent modern debris and 10% sand		
,	and gravels, thickness variable, extending across entire trench. Underlies		
	(001); overlies (002), (006)		
INTERPRETATION:	Humic soil deposit and modern rubbish derivative of post Second World		
	War vegetation and dereliction.		
(003)	Friable mid brown gravelly loam incorporating post-medieval CBM,		
,	metalwork and ceramics. Measures 0.2–0.3m in thickness and extends		
	across the trench. Cut by [008], [010], [013], [014]; overlies (011)		
INTERPRETATION:			
(004)	Fairly cohesive sandy gravel. Underlies (011)		
INTÉRPRETATION:	Natural		
(005)	Friable yellow sand. Underlies (011)		
INTÉRPRETATION:	Natural		
(006)	Loose brick rubble deposit. Up to 0.2m in thickness and extent variable.		
. ,	Underlies (001); overlies (007), (009), (012), (015)		
INTERPRETATION:	Generic number applying to layers of demolition/destruction beneath (002).		
(007)	Friable dark brown humic loam, 30% gravel. Measures 0.4m EW x 0.24m.		
. ,	Underlies (002), (006); fills [008]		
INTERPRETATION:	Fill of tree bole		
[008]	Sub-circular irregular cut. Cuts (003); filled by (007)		
INTERPRETATION:	Tree bole		
(009)	Loose dark brown gravelly humic loam incorporating brick fragments,		
	plastic, glass and linoleum fragments. Underlies (002), (006); fills [010]		
INTERPRETATION:	Fill of [010].		
[010] Sub-circular cut measuring 1.35m NS x >0.4m EW x 0.46m, sha			
	slope at surface, concave sides, moderate break of slope at base, concave		
	base. Cuts (003); filled by (009)		
INTERPRETATION:	Possible rubbish pit.		
(011)	Loose dark greyish-brown gravelly loam of varying thickness. Underlies		
	(003); overlies (004), (005)		
INTERPRETATION:	Spread of material probably indicative of natural hollow.		
(012)	Cohesive pale greyish-yellow clayey sand. Full extent undefined but up to		
	0.52m wide. Underlies (002), (006); fills [013]		
INTERPRETATION:	Fill of modern utility trench.		
[013] Linear trench orientated ENE-WSW measuring 0.52m wide x			
	break of slope at base sharp, sides slightly concave, base undefined. Cuts		
INTERDRETATION	(003); filled by (012)		
INTERPRETATION:	(003); filled by (012) Modern utility trench.		
INTERPRETATION: (014)	(003); filled by (012) Modern utility trench. Concrete foundations/footings overlaid in part by compact sandy gravel.		
(014)	(003); filled by (012) Modern utility trench. Concrete foundations/footings overlaid in part by compact sandy gravel. Underlies (017); overlies [018]		
(014) INTERPRETATION:	(003); filled by (012) Modern utility trench. Concrete foundations/footings overlaid in part by compact sandy gravel. Underlies (017); overlies [018] Modern footings.		
(014)	(003); filled by (012) Modern utility trench. Concrete foundations/footings overlaid in part by compact sandy gravel. Underlies (017); overlies [018] Modern footings. Soft dark brown and mid yellowish-brown humic loam/sandy loam, 30%		
(014) INTERPRETATION:	(003); filled by (012) Modern utility trench. Concrete foundations/footings overlaid in part by compact sandy gravel. Underlies (017); overlies [018] Modern footings.		



[016]	Rectangular cut measuring >1.20m EW x 0.92m NS x 0.65m deep, break of slope at top sharp, sides steep slightly concave, break of slope at base sharp, base flat. Cuts (003); filled by (015)
INTERPRETATION:	Cut of modern pit. Possibly contemporary with structure (014).
(017)	Compact mid reddish-brown (with lenses of yellow sand) sandy gravel, occasional fragments of CBM. Deposit measures up to 0.51m thick. Overlies (014)
INTERPRETATION:	Levelling deposit partially overlying modern footings (014)
[018]	Linear cut, measuring >12.5m NNE-SSW x 1m E-W, depth unknown as unexcavated. Underlies (002), (006); cuts (003); filled by (014)
INTERPRETATION:	Cut for concrete footing/foundation (014) measuring >12.5m

9.2 Trench 2

Context Number	Description			
(201)	Loose dark brown humus and brick rubble deposit, frequent modern re and scrap metal, up to 0.5m in thickness and extending across whole			
	trench. Overlies (202)			
INTERPRETATION:	Post Second World War rubble overburden			
(202)	Friable mid brown gravelly loam, frequent post-medieval CBM fragments, Fe objects and occasional post-medieval ceramic sherds. Deposit measured up to 0.3m thick. Overlies (207); underlies (201)			
INTERPRETATION:	Subsoil			
(203)	Series of post-medieval building remains aligned along street frontage. Underlies (207), overlies (205), (206)			
INTERPRETATION:	Generic number given to all C19 building remains identified in this trench			
(204)	Limestone masonry wall, average size of materials 0.37m x 0.3m x 0.25m, direction of faces N, orientation E-W, dimensions as revealed >2.8m E-W x 0.5m N-S x 0.25m. Underlies (207); overlies (205), (206)			
INTERPRETATION:	Post-medieval wall			
(205)	Loose yellowish-brown sandy gravel			
INTERPRETATION:	Natural gravels			
(206)	Friable yellow sand			
INTÉRPRETATION:	Natural			
(207)	Loose mixed brick rubble, frequent CBM fragments and occasional (Fe) objects and post-medieval ceramic sherds. Extent variable but up to 1.3m. Underlies (202); overlies (203), (204), (209)			
INTERPRETATION:	Generic context number applying to layers of demolition rubble underlying (202)			
[208]	Rectangular cut measuring 0.8m N-S x 0.85m E-W x 0.22m, break of slope at top sharp, sides moderately sloping, break of slope at base moderate, base slightly concave. Underlies (209); cuts (205), (206); filled by (209)			
INTERPRETATION:	Post-medieval pit of unknown function			
(209)	Friable mid greyish-brown silty sand, 15% small rounded pebbles & 5% charcoal flecking, measures 0.8m N-S x 0.85m E-W x 0.22m. Underlies (207); fills [208]			
INTERPRETATION:	Fill of pit [208]. Significant root activity throughout pit			

9.3 Trench 3

Context Number	Description
(301)	Loose dark brown humus and brick rubble deposit, frequent modern refuse and scrap metal. Up to 0.5m in thickness and extending across whole trench. Overlies (302), (304)
INTERPRETATION:	Post Second World War rubble overburden



(302)	Structural remains, including floors, hearths and wall foundations. Underlies (301); overlies (305)
INTERPRETATION:	Structural remains relating to Red Lion PH, listed as 'Dwelling House, Brewery and Offices' in 1852
(303)	Brick walling, English Garden Wall Bond, up to 20 courses surviving, measures 11.5m E-W x >3m N-S x >2m. Underlies (304); overlies [306]
INTERPRETATION:	Walling of basement/cellarage associated with and situated immediately W of the Red Lion PH
(304)	Loose reddish-brown brick rubble deposit measuring 11.5m E-W x >3m N-S x >2m. Underlies (301); overlies (303)
INTERPRETATION:	Rubble fill of cellar
(305)	Friable yellowish-brown sandy gravel. Underlies (302); cut by [306]
INTERPRETATION:	Natural
[306]	Rectangular cut, measuring 11.5m E-W x >3m N-S x >2m. Underlies (303), (304); cuts (305)
INTERPRETATION:	Basement/cellarage associated with and situated immediately W of the former Red Lion PH

Document Control

Job title	Sea Road Woolston Southampton	Job No	BA0536SWS	
Report written by Stephen Priestley MA & James Archer BSc				
Report edited by George Children MA				
Issue No	Status	Date	Approved for issue	
1	Final	February 2007	Neil Shurety	