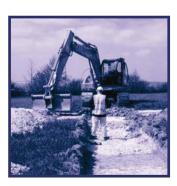
# New College The Avenue Southampton



# Archaeological Evaluation Report



September 2007

# Client: Linden Homes Southern Limited

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#### Linden Homes Southern Limited

#### New College, The Avenue Southampton

#### NGR SU 419 130

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

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#### Summary

In February 2007 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation at New College, The Avenue (NGR SU 419 130), Southampton, Hampshire on behalf of Linden Homes Southern Limited.

The evaluation comprised of 12 trenches totalling 240 m in length. Within Trench 12, located near to the south east corner of the site, a single undated pit (possibly of Iron Age/Roman date) was revealed containing evidence for smithing, probably derived from such activity nearby. A posthole from Trench 10 to the north-west of Trench 12 contained late Iron Age/early Roman pottery and fragments of burnt flint. Other features revealed by the evaluation including stakeholes, postholes and plough scars are likely to relate to post-medieval activity, either when the site was agricultural land or from its development from the 19th century.

#### Addendum 12/09/07

OA returned to site on 11/09/07 in accordance with a condition attached to planning permission by the Southampton City Council Archaeologist.

The condition states

"Planning application 07/01060/OUT:Former New College, The Avenue= the new science block (my ref. 6713).C11 condition. The site roughly coincides with evaluation trench 11. While the excavator identified one feature within it as a "probable tree throw", I feel that it had the appearance of a lined pit and that more work is justified in this area to clarify matters. A single archaeological trench, along the line of the north wall of the science block should therefore be excavated".

The archaeological trench was excavated adjacent to Trench 11. Subsequent to re-investigation and exposure of the entire feature, it was agreed by the City Archaeologist that the initial interpretation of the a tree throw is still valid and no further work is required here. An additional area of trenching related to the recent investigation is illustrated in Fig.2 and Fig.9 in this updated report.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 During the period 05/02/07 to 22/02/07 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation at New College, The Avenue, Southampton. Linden Homes Southern Ltd are proposing a comprehensive redevelopment of the site. An application for planning permission has yet to be submitted. However in order to comply with PPG16 and Southampton policies and following discussions with Alan Morton (Southampton City Archaeologist) an archaeological evaluation of the site was required.
- 1.2 An Outline Scheme of Investigation and desk-based assessment for the evaluation was produced by CgMs (CgMs 2006). OA were contracted by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Linden Homes Southern Limited to implement the investigation. OA produced a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI-OA2006) which has been approved by the City Archaeologist.

# 2 SITE LOCATION

2.1 The site is located at grid reference SU 419 130 and is bounded by The Avenue to the east, Archers Road to the north, Carlton Road to the west and properties fronting Rockstone Place to the south. It occupies a total area of c. 3.3 Hectares. At the time of the investigation the college was no longer in use and had been partially fenced for security purposes.

# **3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

3.1 The site is generally flat (lying at c 25m OD). The underlying geology of the site is brickearth over River Terrace Gravels.

# 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The following is a summary from the desk-based assessment produced by CgMs (CgMs 2006). Historic maps contained in the desk-based assessment are not reproduced here, therefore the desk based assessment should be read in conjunction this document.

# Prehistoric

- 4.1.1 Two Palaeolithic axes are recorded as having been found on the site of the former Ordnance Survey buildings c. 50m to the south of the study site (MSH235). A single Palaeolithic hand axe has been recorded in Rockstone Place c. 40m to the south. There are no other Paleaolithic remains recorded within or in the vicinity of the site. The presence of these hand axes indicates that there is some limited potential for isolated Palaeolithic artefacts in the general vicinity of the site.
- 4.1.2 There are no Mesolithic remains recorded in the vicinity of the site. Therefore, it is considered to have low potential for remains of this date.

- 4.1.3 Three Neolithic stone axes have been recorded c. 400m to the north east of the site. Two were recorded as being found on the 'Bevois Mount' (MSH245) and a polished axe is recorded as having been found in a gravel layer at 26 Cambridge Street (MSH254). Although these finds are indicative of at least some Neolithic activity, the site is considered to have low potential for remains of Neolithic date.
- 4.1.4 Various archaeological investigations focussed on Archers Road to the immediate north west of the site have revealed the remains of a settlement that may have Bronze Age origins and was occupied through to, and including, the Iron Age. The main focus of this settlement appears to have been to the west of the junction of Archers Road and Carlton Road. Various ditches, stakeholes, pits and `pitlets' were recorded at 24-26 Archers Road (MSH1059). Although not securely dated, the features produced 2 sherds of Bronze Age or Mid Iron Age pottery and three worked flint flakes. A Prehistoric ditch was recorded at 19-21 Archers Road (MSH1896). A large ditch was recorded at 15-17 Archers Road containing charcoal, burnt and worked Neolithic/ Bronze Age flint (MSH1198). Iron Age pottery and further worked flint was found redeposited in later features. Undated, but presumed Prehistoric, features comprised pits and ditches.
- The extent of the settlement has yet to be firmly established. However, it may not 4.1.5 extend as far east as the study site. An evaluation and watching brief at 14-20 Archers Road (the opposite side of the road from the study site) failed to reveal any Prehistoric features but did produce some worked flint from the spoil heaps (MSH 1068). The site had not been subject to significant modern disturbance and therefore, the lack of features may indicate that settlement did not extend this far. However, this is only supposition. A watching brief on 5 Archers Road (on the north side of Archers Road from the study site) revealed 2 features, which produced Bronze Age pottery (MSH1064). However, they also contained modern material and therefore are likely to have been disturbed. This indicates that there may have been at least some Bronze Age/Iron Age activity immediately to the north of the site, the nature of which is unclear. The settlement appears to have extended at least 300m to the west of the study site as ditches, post holes, stakeholes and pits of Iron Age/Romano-British date have been recorded at 38-44 Archers Road (MSH1201) and at 12-14 Holt Road (MSH1195). The settlement may have extended as far as Hulse Road to the north where an Iron Age pit was recorded at both 15 Hulse Road (MSH1049) and 23 Hulse Road (MSH2365), both c. 300m to the north.
- 4.1.6 A single worked flint was recorded during a watching brief of 62 and 62a The Avenue c. 50m to the east of the study site (MSH1047). It is not thought that this find indicates that the settlement extended as far east as this.
- 4.1.7 In the light of the above, the study site is considered to have high potential for Prehistoric remains, especially related to the Archers Road Bronze Age/Iron Age settlement. It is possible that the Archers Road settlement did not extend into the site.

4.1.8 However, even if this was the case, it is still considered to have high potential for associated remains. The western side of the study site is considered to have the highest potential for Bronze Age and Iron Age remains.

#### Roman

- 4.1.9 Records held in the Southampton SMR indicate the presence of a Roman occupation/settlement site immediately to the south of the study site. Roman 1st-4th century remains comprising a boundary ditch, two pits and other smaller features were recorded during a watching brief on the London Road Magistrates Court, c. 50m to the south (MSH1464). Pottery, glass, iron nails, a silver coin, tile fragments and shell were recovered from these features. A coin of Constantine II (MSH237) and an unquantified number of other Roman coins (MSH2290) have been recorded on the former Ordnance Survey office site immediately to the south of the study site.
- 4.1.10 A single sherd of Samian pottery was recorded during the evaluation and watching brief of 5 Archers Road (MSH1064). This does not appear to be related to the occupation to the south of the site.
- 4.1.11 The Roman occupation of this area is poorly understood and the exact nature and extent of the Roman occupation has yet to be established. However, it is clear that there was a Roman occupation site immediately to the south of the study site, which may well extend into the site. Therefore, the southern side of the site is considered to have potential for Roman remains associated with this occupation site.

# Saxon

4.1.12 The only evidence for Saxon remains in the vicinity of the study site, is a small sherd of late Saxon pottery at 5 Archers Road (MSH1064). While this is indicative of at least some activity in the area, it is not thought that this relates to a Saxon occupation site. It has been postulated that there could be a Saxon farmstead somewhere in the general vicinity of the study site but there is no evidence to suggest such occupation was within the study site. Therefore, while the presence of Saxon remains cannot be entirely ruled out (especially in relation to relative near proximity of Hamwic), the study site is considered to have low potential for remains of this date.

# Medieval

- 4.1.13 During the Medieval period, the site is likely to have been within agricultural farmland. A farmstead is thought to have stood at somewhere in the region of the Banister Road/Court Road junction c. 125m to the north west of the study site. A documentary reference to the division of farmlands either side of The Avenue is dated 1228, thereby implying the presence of a nearby farmstead at that time. In 1420 there is a reference to the farm at Banister Road. There is little hard archaeological evidence for this farmstead.
- 4.1.14 Padwell Crosse is marked on a map dated 1560 (MSH1898). This is thought to have been one of a line of crosses that may have marked the western limits of the Saxon

town. An inhumation cemetery comprising 'many burials' some of which were in wooden coffins was uncovered at Padwell Cross sometime before 1865 (MSH1467). The date of this cemetery is unclear and consequently the SMR dates it as being of any date between the Roman and Post-Medieval periods. If some of the burials were in wooden coffins, it is considered unlikely that these burials were Roman but could have been Saxon or Medieval in date.

- 4.1.15 Many of the archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the site have produced small amounts of medieval pottery. These are likely to relate to Medieval manuring of the fields.
- 4.1.16 In the light of the above, the study site is considered to have moderate potential for Medieval agricultural remains.

# **Post-Medieval**

- 4.1.17 The development of the existing buildings on site is being considered in a historic buildings assessment of the site being undertaken by CgMs. This section through an OS map regression chart the development of the site in relation to impact upon any earlier remains that may survive within the site.
- 4.1.18 The first edition OS map (1869) depicts the site as being largely open ground with the exception Archer's Lodge located toward the eastern boundary. By 1897 Archer's Lodge had been replaced by the La Sainte des Sacres Coeurs. The existing detached villas fronting The Avenue and Archers Road had been constructed by this time, with the remaining area being within the grounds of La Sainte Union and the villas. The school building toward canton Road was constructed by 1910 but the rest of the site remained unchanged.
- 4.1.19 The convent chapel to the south western corner of the site is first depicted on the 1933 OS map. By this time the Sainte Union building had been demolished and replaced by the existing building to the north of the main access road and a Clarks College had been constructed behind one of the villas fronting The Avenue. By 1948, a number of buildings and extensions had been added to the Sainte Union school complex and one of the villas fronting Carlton Road had been demolished (presumably destroyed during W.W.II bombing raids).
- 4.1.20 By 1966, the main existing college buildings in the centre of the site had been constructed. The convent and the College Chapel had also been extended into its current form. The halls of residence fronting Carlton Road had been constructed as had a building behind 12 Archers Road. With the exception of the demolition of the villa located at the junction of Archers Road and Carlton Road (no. 12 Archers Road), the site has remained unchanged since 1966. 12 Archers Road is depicted on OS maps up to 1993 after which it disappears, therefore it must have been demolished since 1993.

# 5 **EVALUATION AIMS**

- 5.1 The aims and objectives of the evaluation were as follows:
  - To determine or confirm the general nature of any remains present.
  - To determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains, by means of other evidence.
  - To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains.
  - To determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains.
  - To determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present.
  - To determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of any artefactual evidence present.
  - To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeo-environmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present.
  - To make available the results of the investigation.

# 6 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

#### 6.1 **Scope of fieldwork**

6.1.1 The evaluation consisted of 12 trenches, totalling 240.4 m in length (Fig.2). Trench measurements are given in the table below.

Trench	Dimensions
1	19.6 m x 1.6 m
2	20 m x 1.6 m
3	10.6 m x 1.6 m
4	14.9 m x 1.6 m
5	20 m x 1.6 m
6	31 m x 1.6 m
7	14.5 m x 1.6 m
8	20 m x 1.6 m
9	20/10 m x 1.6 m
10	30 m x 1.6 m
11	20 m x 1.6 m

Trench	Dimensions
12	9.8 m x 1.6 m

#### 6.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

- 6.2.1 Mechanical excavation was carried out with a JCB, fitted with a breaker to remove existing tarmac as appropriate. All mechanical excavation was carried out in such a manner so as to avoid or minimise damage to the archaeological remains. All machinery used was of an appropriate nature and power to suit the situation and the JCB fitted with a ditching bucket. The Project Officer in charge of fieldwork directly supervised all machine work.
- 6.2.2 All undifferentiated topsoil or overburden of recent origin was removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon. Each trench was then cleaned by hand.
- 6.2.3 The depth and complexity of the deposits across the site was characterised. Records were made of the stratigraphy of all trenches.
- 6.2.4 Full written and drawn records of all excavated contexts were made in accordance with best archaeological practice. Archaeological deposits, which were not excavated, were recorded to the maximum extent possible in-situ. Records include overall trench and site plans. A single context planning methodology was used as appropriate. All excavation and recording was in accordance with the IFA Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluations (IFA 2001).
- 6.2.5 Fieldwork procedures unless stated otherwise above were as set out in Appendix 2 and 3 of the OA Field Manual (Wilkinson, D 1992).
- 6.2.6 All levels were referenced to the Ordnance Survey Datum. Trenches 1-5, 7 were referenced to the benchmark located on the wall in front of 8 Archers Row and for the remaining trenches the benchmark used is located on the eastern boundary wall immediately north of St Edmunds RC Church, The Avenue.

# 6.3 **Finds**

- 6.3.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context.
- 6.3.2 Recording, cleaning and conservation of finds followed the IFA *Guidelines for* collection, documentation research and conservation of archaeological materials (IFA 2001).

#### 6.4 **Palaeo-environmental evidence**

6.4.1 Only one context was deemed suitable for sampling for environmental analysis.

#### 6.5 **Presentation of results**

6.5.1 In the following sections the deposits are described by trench. There is additional comment on the finds and the reliability of the results. The stratigraphy of each trench is described individually, in summary form followed by a detailed description. A discussion, interpretation and conclusions of the evaluation then follows. A context inventory, including finds lists, is included in Appendix 1.

#### 7 **RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS**

#### 7.1 Soils and ground conditions

- 7.1.1 The site is located on Brickearth over River Terrace Gravels. The soils were generally fairly poorly drained especially within those trenches that are currently under turf. The stratigraphy below the existing tarmac/make-up or turf/topsoil was similar and comprised a buried soil that probably represented ploughsoil derived from agricultural use of the land prior to the late nineteenth century. This directly overlay the natural brickearth although in most trenches the interface between the two was poorly defined.
- 7.1.2 Although the general weather conditions were often unsettled, there were sufficient breaks in the wet weather to enable the brickearth within each trench to be cleaned by hand to confirm the presence/absence of archaeological features.

# 7.2 **Trench 1**

7.2.1 Trench 1 was positioned on tarmac at the junction of Archers Road with Carlton Road on the north-western corner of the site. It measured 19.6 m by 1.6 m and was orientated east-west. Existing ground level varied from 25.22 - 25.29 m OD. The trench was machine excavated to the natural brickearth to an average depth of 0.65 m. No archaeological features were revealed.

# Stratigraphic description

- 7.2.2 The natural brickearth (103) lay directly below the existing tarmac its associated make-up towards the west end of the trench. Here its surface had become very hard probably as result of compaction during the preparation for the tarmac. A number of irregular features were investigated although all were found to be derived from modern root disturbance.
- 7.2.3 Overlying the brickearth was a loose orange-brown silty clay loam (102) that thickened to 0.36 m at the east end of the trench. It contained post-medieval material including 17th 19th century pottery sherds and clay-pipe fragments and presumably pertains to the use of the site as agricultural land prior to the late 19th century. This was overlaid by the existing tarmac (100) and make-up (101).

# 7.3 **Trench 2**

(See Fig 3)

7.3.1 Trench 2 was positioned within a gravelled area, 14 m south of Trench 1. It measured 20 m by 1.6m m and was orientated east-west. The existing ground level varied from 25.16 - 25.20m OD. The trench was machine excavated to the natural brickearth at an average depth of 0.85 m. A cellar associated with 12 Archers Road (demolished after 1993) cut into the eastern end of the trench and is assumed to have removed any earlier evidence.

# Stratigraphic description

- 7.3.2 The natural brickearth (203) was cut by two linear and narrow gullies (204 and 206) that ran approximately parallel, c. 1.9 m, apart and in a north-west to south-east alignment. Both gullies were of similar dimensions and profile, c. 0.30 m in width and 0.07m in depth, with somewhat irregular sides and flat bases. They were filled with firm grey-brown silty loam, indistinguishable from the overlying layer (202). They contained late 18th 19th century material including glass fragments, pottery, and clay pipe fragments and are likely to represent plough scars pertaining to use of the site prior to the late 19th century.
- 7.3.3 Sealing the above levels was a homogeneous dark orange brown clay loam (202) that was up to 0.50 m thick that pre-dated the construction of 12 Archers Road. This presumably represents agricultural plough soil. This soil was cut by the brick foundations and cellar of the demolished house and sealed by brick rubble (201) that formed the base for the existing stone chipping surface (200).

# 7.4 **Trench 3**

7.4.1 Trench 3 was positioned on a tarmac path immediately to the north of 27 Carlton Road. It measured 15 m by 1.6 m and was orientated north-south. The existing ground level was c 25.06 m aOD. The trench was machine excavated to the natural brickearth at an average depth of 0.64 m, although its northernmost 4.4 m of the trench was abandoned when modern services - presumed live - were encountered.

# Stratigraphic description

7.4.2 The natural brickearth (304) was heavily disturbed by existing roots and was cut by several irregular features. These were filled with dark soil. similar in nature to the overlying topsoil. Each was investigated and found to be derived from modern root disturbance. Overlying natural, layer 303 comprised a homogeneous light brown clay loam, 0.19 m thick and can be equated with the agricultural soil revealed elsewhere. This supported a dark brown clay loam (302) that contained brick and coal fragments – a buried topsoil of recent date. Above were the existing tarmac path (300) and its supporting hogging (301).

7.5.1 Trench 4 was positioned on a lawn between No's 8 and 10 Archers Road. The existing ground level varied from 25.08 m to 25.23 m OD. The trench measured 14.9 m by 1.6 m and was orientated north-south. The trench was machine excavated to the natural brickearth at an average depth of 0.70 m.

# Stratigraphic description

7.5.2 The natural brickearth (402) was found to be dirty and very root disturbed from nearby trees and shrubs, with the underlying gravels exposed in a small area. A number of shallow irregular features filled with dark soil were investigated and proved to be modern root disturbances. Overlying the natural was a 0.54 m thick, homogeneous, grey brown silty clay loam (401) that contained late 18th - 19th century material including glass fragments, pottery, CBM and clay pipe fragments This soil presumably predates the construction of the existing houses on Archers Road and probably represents agricultural soil. The soil was overlaid by modern topsoil and turf (400).

# 7.6 **Trench 5**

7.6.1 Trench 5 was positioned on tarmac immediately to the east of No 8 Archers Road. It measured 20 m by 1.6 m and was orientated north south. After removal of the tarmac, a layer of compacted brick rubble overlying a thick concrete slab was encountered over most of the trench. Subsequent to an attempt to break the slab, the trench was abandoned in agreement with Alan Morton (Planning Archaeologist, Southampton City Council).

# 7.7 **Trench 6**

(See Fig.4)

7.7.1 Trench 6 was positioned largely on grass, adjacent to the east side of No 2 Archers Road and flanking the eastern boundary of the site (The Avenue). It measured 31 m by 1.6 m and was orientated north south. The existing ground level varied from c 25.38 m to 25.64 m OD. The trench was machine excavated to the natural brickearth at an average depth of 0.60 m.

# Stratigraphic description

- 7.7.2 The natural brickearth (602) was heavily disturbed by existing roots from nearby trees and shrubs and was very damp and spongy towards the south end of the trench.
- 7.7.3 Three postholes (cuts 603, 605 and 607) were revealed. These formed a north-south alignment, running parallel to The Avenue. All the postholes were circular, measuring 0.25-0.28 m in diameter and they varied in depth from 0.07-0.09 m. Each was filled with similar soil comprising dark brown silt loam containing fragments of coal, brick and slate, implying a relatively recent date, possibly contemporary with the existing buildings to the west.

7.7.4 A number of other features were also investigated and are likely to have been caused by modern disturbance or root disturbance.

# 7.8 Trench 7

(See Fig.5)

7.8.1 Trench 7 was positioned on grass immediately to the rear of No 27 Carlton Road. It measured 14.5 m by 1.6 m and was orientated east-west. The existing ground level varied from c 24.98 m to 25.04 m OD. The trench was machine excavated to the natural gravel and brickearth at an average depth of 0.90 m.

# Stratigraphic description

- 7.8.2 The natural orange gravel (703) was exposed over much of the trench with overlying brickearth (702) surviving mainly towards the north and south ends of the trench. Towards the north of the trench was a linear gully (706), aligned approximately north-west to south-east. The gully, discontinuous, was 0.40 m in width and 0.08 m deep with shallow sides to a flat base. It was filled with light brown silty clay loam containing 17th 19th century glass and clay pipe fragments. Its date and alignment suggest that it represents the continuation of the 'plough marks' revealed in Trench 2, to the north. Towards the south of the trench, a circular pit (704) was investigated, measuring 1.32 m across and 0.20 m in depth. It was filled with redeposited natural gravel interlaced with lenses of dark loan containing 19th century glass and clay pipe fragments. Given the nature of its fills it may represent a tree throw.
- 7.8.3 Sealing the above levels was a 0.75 m thick deposit of homogeneous dark brown clay loam (701) containing brick, glass and clay pipe fragments. The nature of the soil and its date is similar to the ploughsoil elsewhere on the site, although it was notably of greater depth. Layer 701 was overlaid by modern topsoil and turf (700).

# 7.9 Trench 8

(See Fig.6)

7.9.1 Trench 8 was positioned on tarmac close to the northern edge of the car park and located centrally within the former college. It measured 20 m by 1.6 m and was orientated east-west. The existing ground level varied from c 25.43 m to 25.47 m OD. The trench was machine excavated to the natural brickearth at an average depth of 0.55 m.

# Stratigraphic description

7.9.2 A number of brick footings and rubble-filled pits (modern 'tree throws'?) of recent date cut the natural brickearth. Towards the west of the trench, a circular pit (804), measuring c 1.15 m in diameter and 0.30 m deep was revealed. This contained loose redeposited brickearth and CBM fragments of a possible post-medieval date, slate and two sherds of worn/abraded 13th - 14th century pottery. At the eastern end of the trench was a single circular stakehole (806) that contained small fragments of copper oxide.

7.9.3 The features were sealed by upto 0.30 m depth of loose orange-brown clay loam (802) that contained slate and 17th - 18th century clay pipe fragments, but included 3 small worn sherds of 13th - 14th century pottery. This was overlaid by a make-up deposit (801) associated with the existing tarmac.

# 7.10 Trench 9

(See Fig.7)

7.10.1 Trench 9 was positioned on grass within an open space towards the south of the site. The T-shaped trench measured 20 m east-west and 10 m north-south and was 1.6m in width. The existing ground level varied from c 24.87 m to 24.99 m OD. The trench was machine excavated to the natural brickearth at an average depth of 0.80 m.

# Stratigraphic description

- 7.10.2 The natural brickearth was found to be much disturbed by roots, presumably by the presence of existing shrubs and trees located nearby. A number of cut features were revealed most notably three small rectangular pits or postholes (903, 907 and 914) aligned in a north-east to south-west direction.
- 7.10.3 Pit 907 measured 0.94 x 0.50 m and was 0.24 m deep with straight sides to an irregular base. Its lower fill comprised redeposited brickearth containing small fragments of coal and its upper fill (908), a loose grey-brown clay loam, contained late 17th early 18th century clay pipe fragments, glass fragments and small worn sherds of 13th 14th century pottery. Pit 903, measured 1.0 x 0.50 m and 0.10 m deep. It was irregular with a grey-brown silt loam containing fragments of charcoal and coal.
- 7.10.4 Seemingly aligned at right angles to the north-west of the above pit/posthole alignment were two circular postholes 905 and 912, measuring 0.36 m across and 0.12 m deep and 0.45 m and 0.25 m deep respectively. Both were filled grey-brown clay loam containing coal fragments, the latter also containing small slate fragments. A further circular posthole (910) was recorded towards the east end of the trench. This measured 0.30 m across and 0.11 m in depth and was filled with similar soil to above and containing coal fragments. It seems probable that these features are contemporary and the similarity of their fills to the overlying soil (901) would apply a relatively recent date perhaps fence lines associated with the use of the land for agricultural use in the post-medieval period. Alternatively these features could be associated with fences or outbuildings within the grounds of La Sainte Union during the late 19th century and later.
- 7.10.5 Overlying the above features and natural was a 0.22 m thick deposit of orange-brown clay loam (901) containing occasional coal and burnt clay fragments, residual pottery including two 13th 14th century sherds and a sherd of Roman New Forest ware of mid 3rd 4th century date. This was overlain by the existing topsoil and turf (900).

# 7.10.6 Trench 10

(See Fig.8)

7.10.7 Trench 10 was positioned on tarmac within the central car park immediately the rear of the southern college building that flanks The Avenue. It measured 30 m by 1.6 m and was orientated north south. The existing ground level varied from c 25.06 m to 25.11 m OD. The trench was machine excavated to the natural brickearth at an average depth of 0.80 m.

#### Stratigraphic description

- 7.10.8 The natural brickearth was found to be very mottled as a result of modern root disturbance and was found to be cut by a number of stakeholes and a single posthole. The stakeholes largely occurred in two groups although no alignments could be ascertained.
- 7.10.9 Stakeholes 1009, 1110 and 1011 occurred in a cluster near the northern end of the trench, all were circular and varied in diameter from 0.04 - 0.10 m and 0.07 - 0.08 m in depth. Two of the postholes had tapered bases. All were filled with loose greybrown clay loam similar to the overlying soil (1002). Stakehole 1009 contained burnt flint and Stakehole 1011 contained a sherd of late 17th century - 19th century pottery. The second feature cluster was located near the centre of the trench (1005, 1007and 1007) and included a slot-like feature (1005) measuring 0.28 x 0.07 m and 0.06 m deep with a tapered end. This was possibly formed by a plank driven end on into the ground. A further isolated stakehole (1004) was located towards the south end of the trench. All these features contained similar fills of loose grey-brown clay loam. Cut 1012 contained a worn/abraded pottery sherd of 13th - 14th century date. A posthole (1008), located between the two clusters of stakeholes, was oval in shape and measured 0.71 x 0.49 m and 0.31 m in depth. This was filled with redeposited brickearth containing fragments of burnt flint and four sherds of late Iron Age /early Roman Age pottery. A small worn fragment of roof tile(?) possibly post-medieval in date is believed to be intrusive.
- 7.10.10 The natural brickearth and features were sealed by an homogeneous orange-brown clay loam (1002), 0.38 m thick, containing occasional slate and post-medieval brick fragments. This was overlaid by the make-up deposits (1001) and tarmac (1000) for the existing car park.

#### 7.11 Trench 11

(See Fig.9)

7.11.1 Trench 11 was positioned on tarmac within the car park that flanks the southern boundary of the site and the playground for St Anne's Convent School. It measured 20 m by 1.6 m and was orientated east west. The existing ground level varied from c 24.97 m to 25.04 m OD. The trench was machine excavated to the natural brickearth at an average depth of 0.80 m.

Stratigraphic description

- 7.11.2 The natural brickearth (1103) was found to be cut at the eastern end of the trench by a cluster of 8 stakeholes (1005, 1007, 1009, 1111, 1113, 1115, 1121and1122). A further stakehole (1117) was located near the west end of the trench and may be associated the whole tentatively forming a south-west to north-east alignment. All the stakeholes were circular with diameters measuring 0.07 0.08 m, although the easternmost stakeholes (1005, 1007) were somewhat larger at 0.14 m and 0.21 m respectively. All contained similar fills of light brown clay loam, often with slate and brick fragments. The similarity of their fills (and with overlying layer 1102), their form and size would imply a post-medieval date.
- 7.11.3 Near to the eastern end of the trench was a north-south aligned flat-bottomed 'linear' feature (1119). This measured c.1.90 m in width and was very shallow, at 0.07 m in depth. It was filled with very clean re-deposited brickearth containing a few charcoal flecks. The origin of this feature is unclear and may represent a localised staining of the natural brickearth rather than a true 'cut feature'. A number of other 'natural' features were investigated and were seen to be root holes and a probable 'tree throw'.
- 7.11.4 Overlying the above was a 0.38 m thick deposit of orange-brown clay loam (1102). This contained slate, clay pipe, coal and brick fragments. The loam was overlaid by make-up deposits (1101) associated with the existing tarmac surface (1100).
- 7.11.5 **Trench 12** (See Fig.10)
- 7.11.6 Trench 12 was positioned on tarmac immediately to the north of St Edmunds Church, close to the main entrance to the site on The Avenue. It measured 9.8 m by 1.6 m and was orientated east west. The existing ground level varied from c 24.76 m to 2.84 m OD. The trench was machine excavated to the natural brickearth at an average depth of 0.80 m.

# Stratigraphic description

- 7.11.7 The natural brickearth (1203) was found to be cleaner and less mottled than elsewhere on the site and was cut by a single pit (1204) that was partially exposed against the southern side of the trench. The visible portion of the pit indicated it was circular, measuring c 2.3 m in diameter and 0.30 m deep with shallow concave sides and base. It was filled with a clean redeposited brickearth with some lumps of grey clay. A small quantity of burnt flint fragments and two flint flakes were retrieved from its fill. A sample of its fill produced small quantities of hammer scale and spheroidal hammer slag.
- 7.11.8 Sealing the pit and natural was a mixed loose orange-brown clay loam (1202). This was 0.40 m thick and contained modern brick and mortar fragments. This was overlain by a make-up deposit (1201) associated with the existing tarmac surface (1200).

# Pottery (See Appendix 4)

7.12.1 A total of 32 sherds of pottery weighing 208g were recovered. These are mostly of medieval and post-medieval date but include four late Iron Age/Early Roman sherds and one definite Roman sherd.

# Flint (See Appendix 5)

7.12.2 A total of nine flints and 924 g of burnt unworked flint was recovered. The flint assemblage comprises five flakes, a piece of irregular waste, a fragmentary flake core, an end scraper and a notched flake, probably from an unspecialised flake industry of late Neolithic or Bronze Age date

# Clay Pipes (See Appendix 6)

7.12.3 A total of 10 pieces of clay pipe weighing 43g were recovered. Most pieces are stems ranging in date from 17th to 19th century.

Ceramic building material (See Appendix 7)

7.12.4 A total of 9 pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 150g were recovered. The assemblage consists of small, mostly very worn, pieces of red brick and roof tile. All of this appears to be post-medieval in date.

#### Glass

7.12.5 The glass assemblage comprises 5 pieces weighing 51g. This was briefly scanned and consists of small pieces of 17th- to 19th century domestic green bottle glass and a single small piece of 19th or 20th-century clear window glass (from context 908).

# Iron

7.12.6 Four fragments of iron weighing 60 g were recovered 4 contexts all of which are of 18th - 19th century date. Two are nails, the other unidentified.

# 7.13 Palaeo-environmental remains

# Animal bone

7.13.1 A total of 8 fragments of animal bone weighing 45 g were recovered from 4 contexts, all were post-medieval in date. The assemblage is too small to warrant further comment.

# Flots and Residues (See Appendix 8)

7.13.2 Two samples were taken from the site for the purpose of environmental assessment. Sample <1>, from stakehole 806, contained some hammer scale associated with small fragments of copper oxide. Only sample <2>, from pit 1204, had any plant remains, all of which was wood charcoal ≤4mm, but also contained hammer scale and spheroidal hammer slag.

# 8 **DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION**

# 8.1 **Reliability of field investigation**

- 8.1.1 The evaluation represents a 1.2 % sample of the proposed development area (as depicted on Figure 2) and therefore the results can only be an indication of the potential for the absence/presence of archaeological remains across the site. However the evaluation did not reveal any evidence of large-scale post medieval or modern impacts on the underlying geology. Therefore where an absence of archaeological features has been recorded in individual trenches this can also be defined as an absence of historical activity in these locations.
- 8.1.2 Similarly the quantities and date of finds retrieved from the post medieval and modern soils overlying the natural brickearth are liable to represent a broader indication of the extent of historical activity since material (if present) from a larger area of the site than investigated in the trenches will have been transported through historic plough action.

#### 8.2 **Overall interpretation**

- 8.2.1 The evaluation revealed only two features that can be attributed, with any degree of certainty, to the use of the site prior to the post-medieval period. Both features (posthole 1008 in Trench 10 and pit 1204 in Trench 12) occur towards the south-east of the site. Posthole 1008 could feasibly of late Iron Age date (and pit 1204 is probably no earlier).
- 8.2.2 The presence of small quantities hammerscale from pit 1204 is indicative of smithing in its vicinity.
- 8.2.3 It is likely that the other features on the site pertain to the use of the site as agricultural land in the post-medieval period or with its later development in the 19th century. Worn and abraded sherds of medieval pottery recovered from overlying plough soils from some trenches attests to medieval and post-medieval manure spreading and plough redistribution. In the main such features were distinguishable by the relatively dark fills often similar to the overlying plough soil that was identified most trenches, in contrast to the fills of the earlier features which were characterised by redeposited brickearth. The clusters of stakeholes within Trenches 10 and 11 form no coherent arrangement but are likely to form part of fences or enclosures. The rectangular postholes in Trench 9 (903, 907, 914) are more coherent and point to a more substantial structure, perhaps a fence gate or other structure datable to the 17th century or later. Plough scars within Trenches 2 and 7 attest that this part of the site remained under the plough until the 19th century.
- 8.2.4 The brick footings revealed in Trench 8 concur closely with Archer's Lodge as depicted on the Ordnance Survey maps published in 1846 and 1870.

#### **APPENDICES**

Trench	Ctxt No	Туре	Comment	Finds
001				
	100	Layer	Tarmac	
	101	Layer	Modern make-up	
	102	Layer	Buried ploughsoil	Pottery, clay pipe, flint
	103	Layer	Natural brickearth	
002		·		
	200	Layer	Stone chippings (modern)	
	201	Layer	Modern make-up	
	202	Layer	Buried ploughsoil	Pottery, flint
	203	Layer	Natural brickearth	
	204	Cut	Plough scar?	
	205	Fill	Fill of Plough scar?	Animal bone, clay pipe glass
	206	Cut	Plough scar?	
	207	Fill	Fill of plough scar?	Pottery, iron, CBM
003				
	300	Layer	Tarmac	
	301	Layer	Modern make-up	
	302	Layer	Buried topsoil	
	303	Layer	Buried ploughsoil	
	304	Layer	Natural brickearth	
004				
	400	Layer	Turf and topsoil	
	401	Layer	Buried ploughsoil	Flint, Pottery, Clay Pipe, CBM
	402	Layer	Natural brickearth	
005				
	500	Layer	Tarmac	
	501	Layer	Brick rubble over concrete	

#### APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

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Trench	nch Ctxt Type No		Comment	Finds
	600	Layer	Turf and topsoil	
	601	Layer	Buried ploughsoil	Pottery, Iron, Flint
	602	Layer	Natural brickearth	
	603	Cut	Posthole	
	604	Fill	Fill of posthole	
	605	Cut	Posthole	
	606	Fill	Fill of posthole	
	607	Cut	Posthole	
	608	Fill	Fill of posthole	
007		·	·	·
	700	Layer	Turf and topsoil	
	701	Layer	Buried ploughsoil	Pottery
	702	Layer	Natural brickearth	
	703	Layer	Natural gravel	
	704	Cut	Tree throw	
	705	Fill	Fill of tree throw	Glass, Pottery, CBM, Animal Bone
	706	Cut	Plough scar?	
	707	Fill	Fill of plough scar?	Clay Pipe, Glass
008		·	·	
	800	Layer	Tarmac	
	801	Layer	Modern make-up	
	802	Layer	Buried ploughsoil?	Iron, Pottery, Iron, Clay Pipe
	803	Layer	Natural brickearth	
	804	Cut	Pit	
	805	Fill	Homogeneous pit fill	CBM, Pottery, Slate, Flint, Animal Bone
	806	Cut	Stakehole	
	807	Fill	Fill of stakehole	
009			· ·	
	900	Layer	Turf and topsoil	
	901	Layer	Buried ploughsoil	Pottery
	902	Layer	Natural brickearth	
	903	Cut	Tree root	

Trench	Ctxt No	Туре	Comment	Finds
	904	Fill	Fill of tree root	
	905	Cut	Posthole	
	906	Fill	Fill of posthole	Flint
	907	Cut	Pit	
	908	Fill	Fill of pit	Clay Pipe, Slag, Animal Bone, Pottery, Glass
	909	Fill	Fill of pit	
	910	Cut	Posthole	
	911	Fill	Fill of posthole	
	912	Cut	Posthole	
	913	Fill	Fill of posthole	
	914	Cut	Pit (unexcavated)	
	915	Fill	Fill of pit (unexcavated)	
010		1		,
	1000	Layer	Tarmac	
	1001	Layer	Modern make-up	
	1002	Layer	Buried ploughsoil?	CBM, Pottery, Flint
	1003	Layer	Natural brickearth	
	1004	Cut	Stakehole	
	1005	Cut	Stakehole	
	1006	Cut	Stakehole	
	1007	Cut	Stakehole	
	1008	Cut	Posthole	
	1009	Cut	Stakehole	
	1010	Cut	Stakehole	
	1011	Cut	Stakehole	
	1012	Fill	Fill of stakehole	Pottery
	1013	Fill	Fill of stakehole	
	1014	Fill	Fill of stakehole	
	1015	Fill	Fill of stakehole	
	1016	Fill	Fill of posthole	Flint, CBM, Pottery
	1017	Fill	Fill of stakehole	Flint
	1018	Fill	Fill of stakehole	

Trench	Ctxt No	Туре	Comment	Finds
	1019	Fill	Fill of stakehole	Pottery
011				
	1100	Layer	Tarmac	
	1101	Layer	Modern make-up	
	1102	Layer	Buried ploughsoil?	Clay Pipe, Pottery, Flint
	1103	Layer	Natural brickearth	
	1104	Layer	Buried topsoil	
	1105	Cut	Stakehole	
	1106	Fill	Fill of stakehole	
	1107	Cut	Stakehole	
	1108	Fill	Fill of stakehole	
	1109	Cut	Stakehole	
	1110	Fill	Fill of stakehole	
	1111	Cut	Stakehole	
	1112	Fill	Fill of stakehole	
	1113	Cut	Stakehole	
	1114	Fill	Fill of stakehole	
	1115	Cut	Stakehole	
	1116	Fill	Fill of stakehole	
	1117	Cut	Stakehole	
	1118	Fill	Fill of stakehole	
	1119	Cut	Shallow depression	
	1120	Fill	Fill of shallow depression	
	1121	Cut	Stakehole (unexcavated)	
	1122	Fill	Fill of stakehole (unexcavated)	
012				
	1200	Layer	Tarmac	
	1201	Layer	Modern make-up	
	1202	Layer	Subsoil	
	1203	Layer	Natural brickearth	
	1204	Cut	Pit	
	1205	Fill	Fill of pit	Flint

#### **APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

CgMs	2006	Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation, New College, The Avenue, Southampton
OA	2006	Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation at New College, The Avenue, Southampton
SCC	1997	Standards for the Deposition of Archaeological Archives with Southampton City Council

#### **APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS**

Site name: New College, The Avenue, Southampton Site code: SOU 1406 Grid Reference: NGR SU 419 130 Type of evaluation: Trial trench Date and duration of project: 05/02/07 to 22/02/07 Summary of results:

The evaluation comprised of 12 trenches totalling 240 m in length. Within Trench 12, located near to SE corner of a site, a single undated pit (possibly of Iron Age/Roman date) was revealed containing evidence for smithing, probably derived from such activity nearby. A posthole from Trench 10 to its the north-west within Trench 10 contained late Iron Age/early Roman pottery and fragments of burnt flint, possibly forming part of structure pertaining to a contemporary settlement located to the SE part of the site. Other features including stakeholes, postholes and plough scars are likely to pertain to post-medieval activity, either when the site was agricultural land or from its development from the 19th century.

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Southampton Museum in due course, under the site code SOU 1406.

#### **APPENDIX 4 POTTERY**

By John Cotter and Lisa Brown

#### Introduction and Methodology

A total of 32 sherds of pottery weighing 208g were recovered. These are mostly of medieval and post-medieval date but include four ?prehistoric sherds and one definite Roman sherd. All the pottery was examined and spot-dated during the present assessment stage. For each context the total pottery sherd count and weight were recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, followed by the context spot-date which is the date-bracket during which the latest pottery types in the context are estimated to have been produced or were in general circulation. Comments on the presence of datable types were also recorded, usually with mention of vessel form (jugs, bowls etc.) and any other attributes worthy of note (eg. decoration etc.).

#### Date and Nature of the Assemblage

Overall the pottery assemblage is in a poor condition and mostly comprises fairly small worn sherds, although some post-medieval sherds are fairly fresh. Ordinary domestic pottery types are represented (see Table 1 below).

Most of the assemblage appears to be of high medieval date (13th-14th century) and comprises pottery types common to the Southampton area (Brown 2002) which include local Hampshire wares, a few sherds of Laverstock ware (Wilts.) and possibly a single small sherd of Saintonge green glazed ware from south-west France. Jugs, cooking vessels and possibly an oil lamp are represented. The post-medieval assemblage, consists of relatively local Verwood-type ware (late 17th to early 19th century) and widely circulated types as late as the 19th century including Staffordshire-type whiteware tablewares.

Four small worn sherds of prehistoric or Roman grog-tempered ware were recovered from context (1016) which produced no pottery of later date (see note below). A further sherd of late Roman New Forest colour coated ware was recovered from context (901) in association with medieval pottery.

The small worn nature of the assemblage suggests that much of it could derive from medieval or post-medieval manure spreading and plough redistribution, or other fairly superficial human activity. The prehistoric and Roman sherds hint at earlier activity in the area.

#### **Bibliography**

Brown, D.H. 2002 Pottery in Medieval Southampton, 1066-1510.

# **POTTERY FROM POSTHOLE 1008**

#### By Lisa Brown

Four sherds (13g) all in grog-tempered ware were retrieved from the investigations. Three sherds derive from the same parent vessel, the other a slightly different, soapier fabric with a little (leached) platey shell and red-fired surfaces. One sherd of the group of three is a neck-curve fragment, probably part of a necked jar (or possibly a jar with elongated bead).

The fabric is consistent with a late Iron Age or early Roman date, probably best placed about 50BC-100AD but could go on somewhat longer as a native Romano-British ware. Certainly no earlier than Late Iron Age.

Table	A4.1	Pottery
		•

Context	Spot-date	Sherds	Weight	Comments
102	L17-E19C	1	20	Prob Verwood-type ware ?jar base
202	13-14C?	1	6	Local Pink Sandyware (LOPS)? Worn bs
207	c1770-1830	2	8	Bs Creamware & bs ?Midlands brown stoneware ?tankard
401	c1770-1830	4	19	Bs Creamware & 3x worn bss medieval glazed ?jugs 13- 14C incl Laverstock (LV) & S. Hampshire Redware (SHRW)?
601	13-14C?	3	23	Worn glazed med bss prob incl LOPS & SHRW
701	18-E19C	1	28	Poss London brown salt-glazed stoneware. Jug neck/pouring lip with finely reeded ext in the style of late Westerwald stoneware reeded jug necks.Cream Ballclay fabric
705	19C	1	3	Staffs mass produced white earthenware w blue transfer print (TFPT)
802	13-14C	3	22	All small/worn. 2x glazed med jug bss incl LV & prob LOPS? 1x flat cookpot/pipkin base (sooted ext) with allover int greenish-yellow glaze, poss ?Local Whiteware (LOWW)
805	13-14C	2	10	Small/worn. Jar base Southampton Coarseware (STCW), glazed jug bs prob LV or LOWW?
901	13-14C	3	14	Small/worn. 2x STCW incl jar base. 1x ROMAN bs (8g) New Forest colour coated ware folded beaker Mid 3C+ (ident. Ed Biddulph)
908	13-14C	2	6	Small/worn bss STCW & prob Saintonge green glazed ware jug (SOGG)
1002	L17-E19C	2	15	1x prob Verwood ware small bs w int glaze. 1x v worn unident bs - fine pink, prob medieval. Unusual edge wear - poss used as metalling in a path or track?
1012	L17-E19C	1	5	Verwood ware
1016	LIA/Roman	4	13	Worn ?Late Iron Age/Roman bss. Soft grey-brown grog-tempered fabrics, 2 with significant organic- tempering as well (but prob not Anglo-saxon). 1 piece from near rim area
1019	13-14C	1	4	SHRW worn bs
1102	13-14C?	1	12	V worn bs. Poss fine ?STCW but from an odd thick vess - possibly from the stem area of a double-shelled oil lamp?
Total		32	208	

# APPENDIX 5 THE FLINT AND BURNT UNWORKED FLINT

By Hugo Lamdin-Whymark

A total of nine flints and 924 g of burnt unworked flint was recovered from evaluation trenches at New College, Southampton. The flint assemblage comprises five flakes, a piece of irregular waste, a fragmentary flake core, an end scraper and a notched flake. These flints are relatively undiagnostic, but the flakes were of relatively squat proportions and struck using hard hammer percussion with little or no platform abrasion. This indicates these flakes are the products of an unspecialised flake industry of late Neolithic or Bronze Age date; a date in the latter period is most probable. The scraper was manufactured on a small side-trimming flake and exhibits limited abrupt retouch to the distal edge. The notch is present on the proximal left-hand side of a blade-like flake; it measures 13 mm wide by 4 mm deep. Neither of these retouched tools can assist in further refining the date of this assemblage. The burnt unworked flint was crack-crazed and generally red to grey in colour. The assemblage is shown by context in Table 1.

The struck flints exhibit post-depositional edge-damage, indicating they were probably exposed for a period prior to incorporation into the contexts from which they were recovered. The raw material for both the struck flint and burnt unworked flint was small abraded and frost shattered pebbles available from local flint gravel deposits.

In summary, the flint assemblage is very limited and can only be dated broadly, but a date in the Bronze Age is most probable. The condition of the flint suggests it did not directly enter the feature after knapping or use, but was exposed prior to burial. The flint and burnt unworked flint may, however, be broadly contemporary with some of the features from which it was recovered.

CATEGORY TYPE	102	202	401	601	805	906	1002	1016	1017	1102	1205	Grand Total
Flake		1	1					1			2	5
Irregular waste			1									1
Unclassifiable/fragmentary core						1						1
End scraper										1		1
Notch				1								1
Burnt unworked flint (g)	6 (10 6)			1 (10)	1 (10)		8 (151)	29 (395)	1 (17)	1 (34)	9 (201)	56 (924)
Grand Total	6	1	2	2	1	1	8	30	1	2	11	65

Table A5.1: The flint assemblage by context

# **APPENDIX 6 CLAY PIPES**

by John Cotter

The pipes were recorded in a similar way to the pottery (see Table below). A total of 10 pieces of clay pipe weighing 43g were recovered. Most pieces are stems ranging in date from 17th to 19th century. Some are clearly quite worn, particularly the earlier pipe stems. There is a single damaged pipe bowl fragment which is typologically datable to the late 17th or early 18th century. Otherwise the assemblage is unremarkable and typical of domestic refuse. No further work is therefore recommended.

Context	Spot- date	Stem	Bowl	Mouth	Tot sherds	Tot Wt (g)	Comments
102	18- 19C	1	0	0	1	4	Worn. Stem bore c1.8mm
205	19C	1	0	0	1	4	SB c1.25mm
401	L18- 19C	3	0	0	3	9	2x worn 17/18C stems (SBs 3 & 2.5mm). 1x narrower fresher stem SB 1.8mm
707	17- 18C	1	0	0	1	3	Worn. Stem bore c3mm
802	17- 18C	1	0	0	1	8	Worn. Stem bore c3mm
908	L17- E18C	0	1	0	1	8	Damaged pipe bowl with stubby heel/flattened spur. Bowl forward sloping. SB c3mm
1102	19C	2	0	0	2	7	2x stems. 1 worn 17/18C stem (SB c3mm). 1x narrower fresher stem SB c1.25mm
Total		9	1	0	10	43	

# Table 1: Clay Pipes

#### APPENDIX 7 THE CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

by John Cotter

#### Introduction and Methodology

A total of 9 pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 150g were recovered. All the CBM was examined and spot-dated during the present assessment stage in a similar way to the pottery (see elsewhere) and the data recorded on an Excel spreadsheet. As usual, the dating of broken fragments of ceramic building material is an imprecise art and spot-dates derived from them are necessarily broad and should therefore be regarded with caution.

#### Date and Nature of the Assemblage

The CBM assemblage consists of small, mostly very worn, pieces of red brick and roof tile. All of this appears to be post-medieval in date.

#### Recommendations

In view of the small size and poor condition of the assemblage, no further work is recommended.

Context	Spot-date	Sherds	Weight (g)	Comments
207	med/post-med	1	10	Poss roof tile edge? Red sandy. Very worn
401	18/19C?	2	79	V worn lump of red brick or land drain with trace of surface and poss curvature. Also 1x frag buff roof tile
705	18/19C?	2	22	Red roof tile frags. 1 with trace of square nail hole
805	post-med?	2	9	1x scrap dark red sandy ?brick or?tile edge, possibly brick more likely. 1x shapeless lump light orange brown soft ?brick or ?fired daub
1002	post-med	1	23	Shapeless lump fine red brick
1016	post-med?	1	7	Small worn piece fine sandy red ?roof tile with one definite surface and poss traces of opposite v worn surface. Max 12mm thick. Probably post-med but uncertain
Total		9	150	

Table A7.1: Ceramic Building Material

#### **APPENDIX 8 ASSESSMENT OF FLOTS AND RESIDUES**

By Luke Howarth

#### Introduction

Two samples were taken from the site for the purpose of environmental assessment. Sample <1> (0.25L of soil) was taken from a stakehole, which contained fragments of copper. Sample <2> was a 40L soil sample taken from a shallow pit, identified as 'prehistoric' [1204]. Sample <2> was processed using the flotation method, which is described below, while sample <1> was wet-sieved.

#### Methodology

The samples were processed by wet-sieving to  $500\mu$ m. (sample <1>) and by mechanical flotation (sample <2>) in a modified Siraf-type machine, with the sample held on a  $500\mu$ m mesh and the flot collected on a  $250\mu$ m mesh. The flots and residues were air-dried and a brief assessment was carried out. The residues were sorted by eye and any ecofactual or artefactual remains were removed and recorded After any artefactual or ecofactual material was removed the sterile residues were disposed of. The flot from sample <2> was examined under a binocular microscope at x10 and x20 magnification. Sample <1> produced no flot.

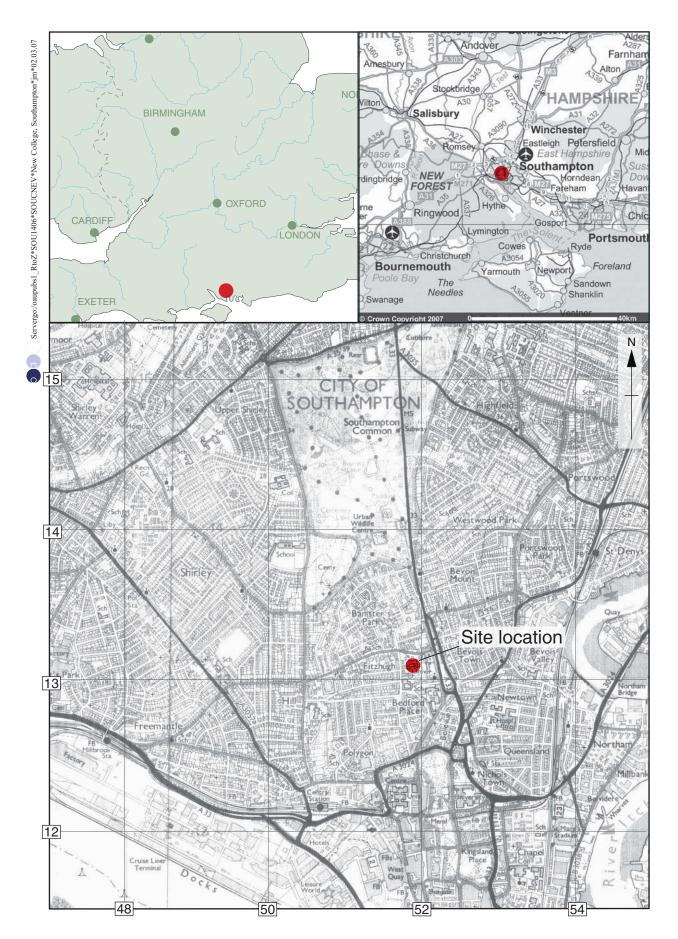
To facilitate assessment, the flot from sample <2> was passed through a 2mm sieve and a count of 25 fragments of CPR was made. Fragments of charcoal were randomly extracted, fractured and examined in transverse section.

#### Results

The heavy residues from the samples contained relatively small amounts of ecofactual material. Only sample  $\langle 2 \rangle$  had any plant remains, all of which was wood charcoal  $\leq 4$ mm. The charcoal fragments are all irregular lathe shaped pieces and show some sign of a ring porous property (possibly oak - *Quercus* sp(p.)). No seeds or other charred plant remains were visible. The residues from both samples contained hammerscale and spheroidal hammer slag in the finer fractions (<4mm). Sample <1> contained some hammer scale associated with small fragments of copper oxide. Sample <2> contained most of the hammerscale and spheroidal hammer slag. A find of cinder was also made in sample <2>. Only one piece of cinder was found in the >4mm fraction and no other finds relating to metalworking were made in the fractions above 4mm in either sample.

#### Interpretation

The presence of hammerscale is indicative of smithing. There is however a limited amount of other metalworking remains, particularly in the larger fractions. This would suggest that the samples were not taken at the site of working but possibly adjacent to it. The charcoal and cinder are probably associated with metalworking but again are only of small fragmentary pieces, which are easily transported.



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Figure 1: Site location

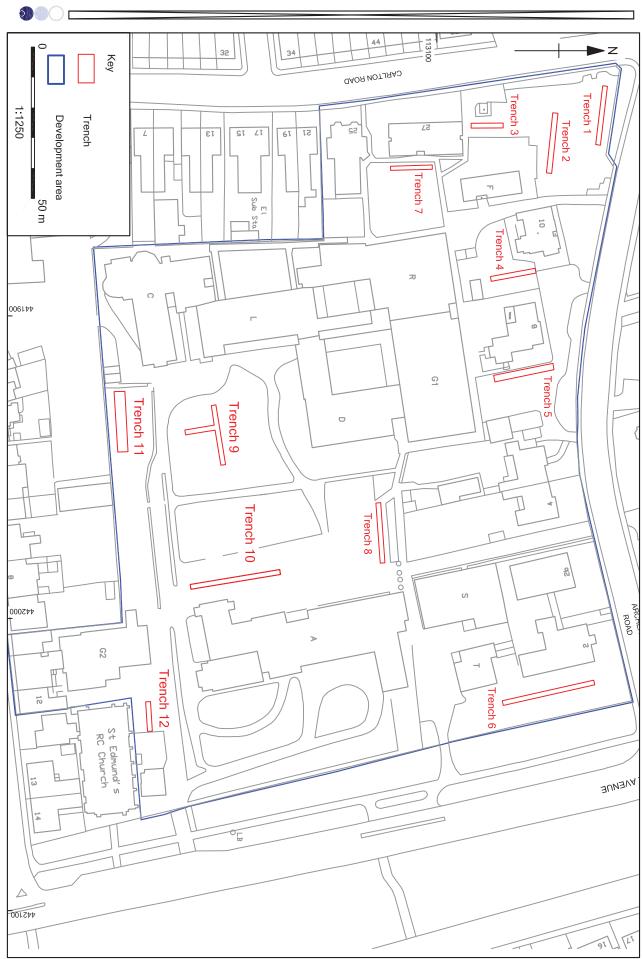


Figure 2: Trench location





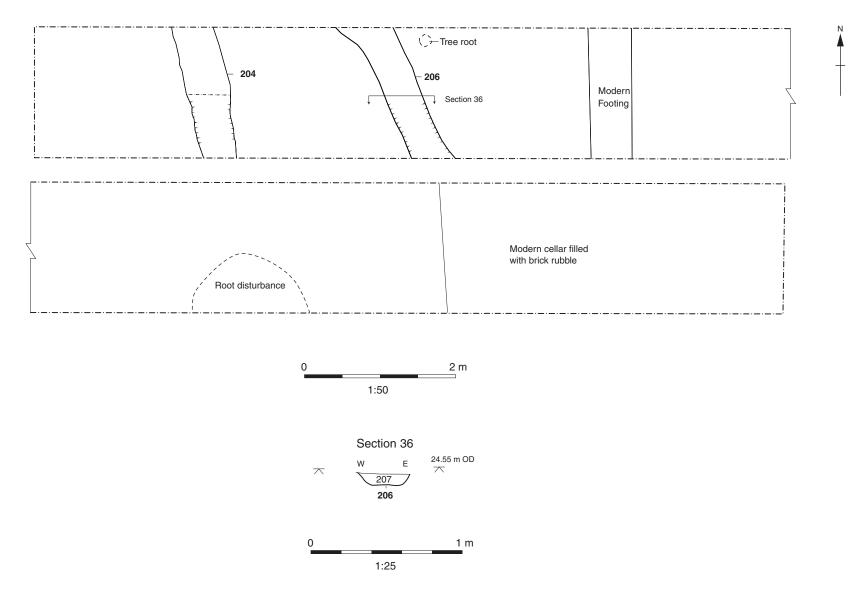
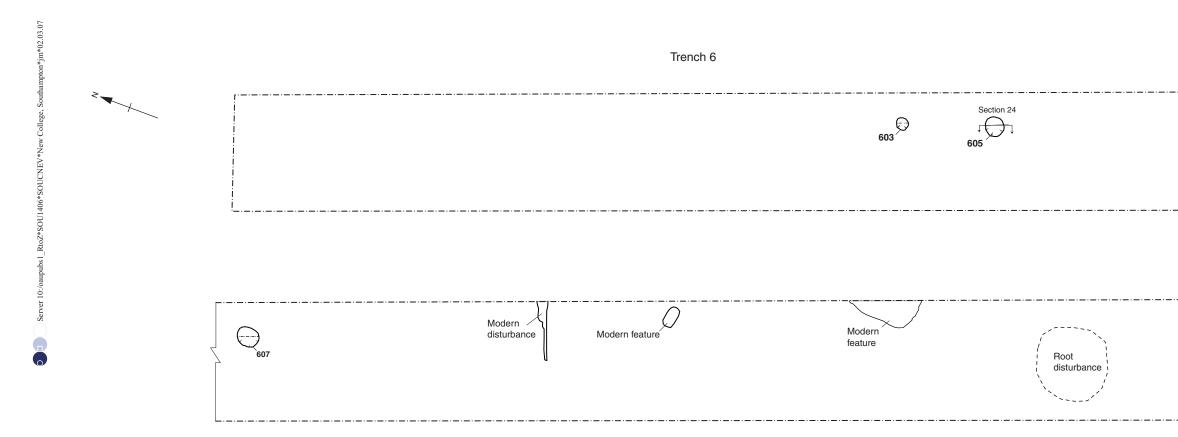


Figure 3: Trench 2, plan and section

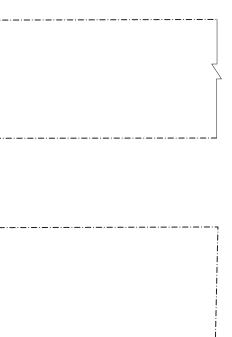


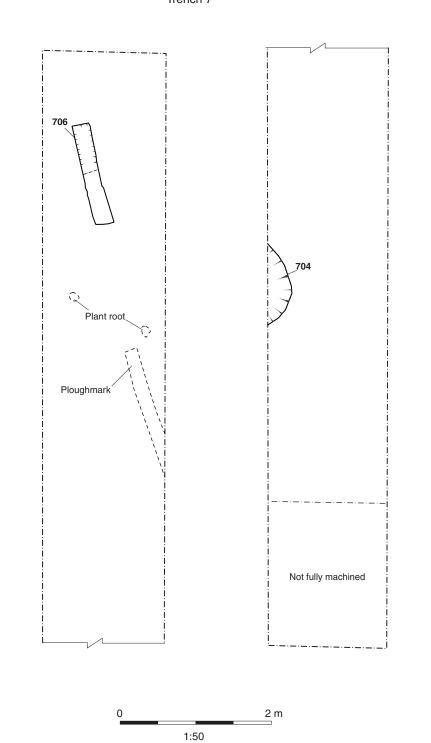












Trench 7

Ν



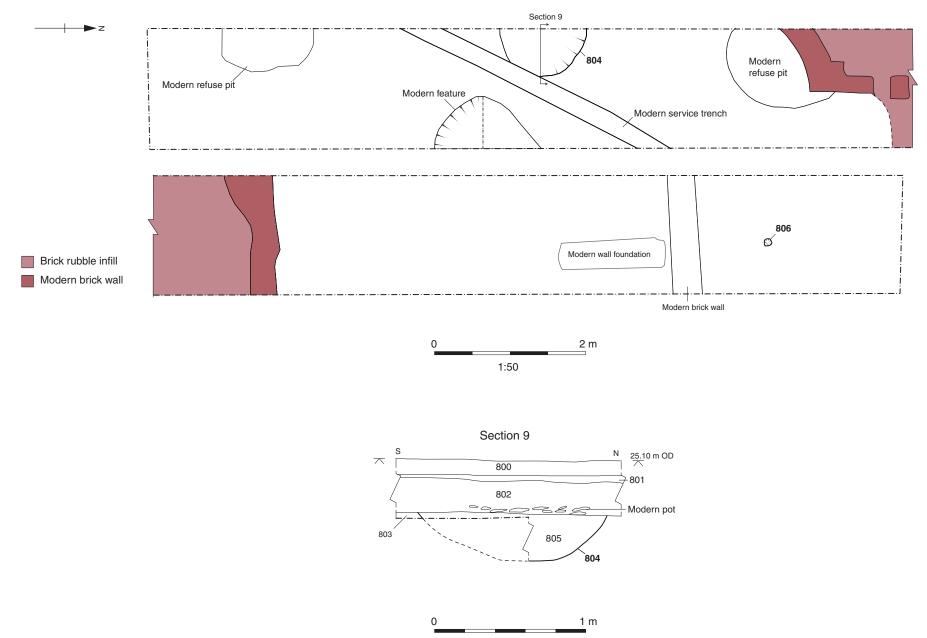
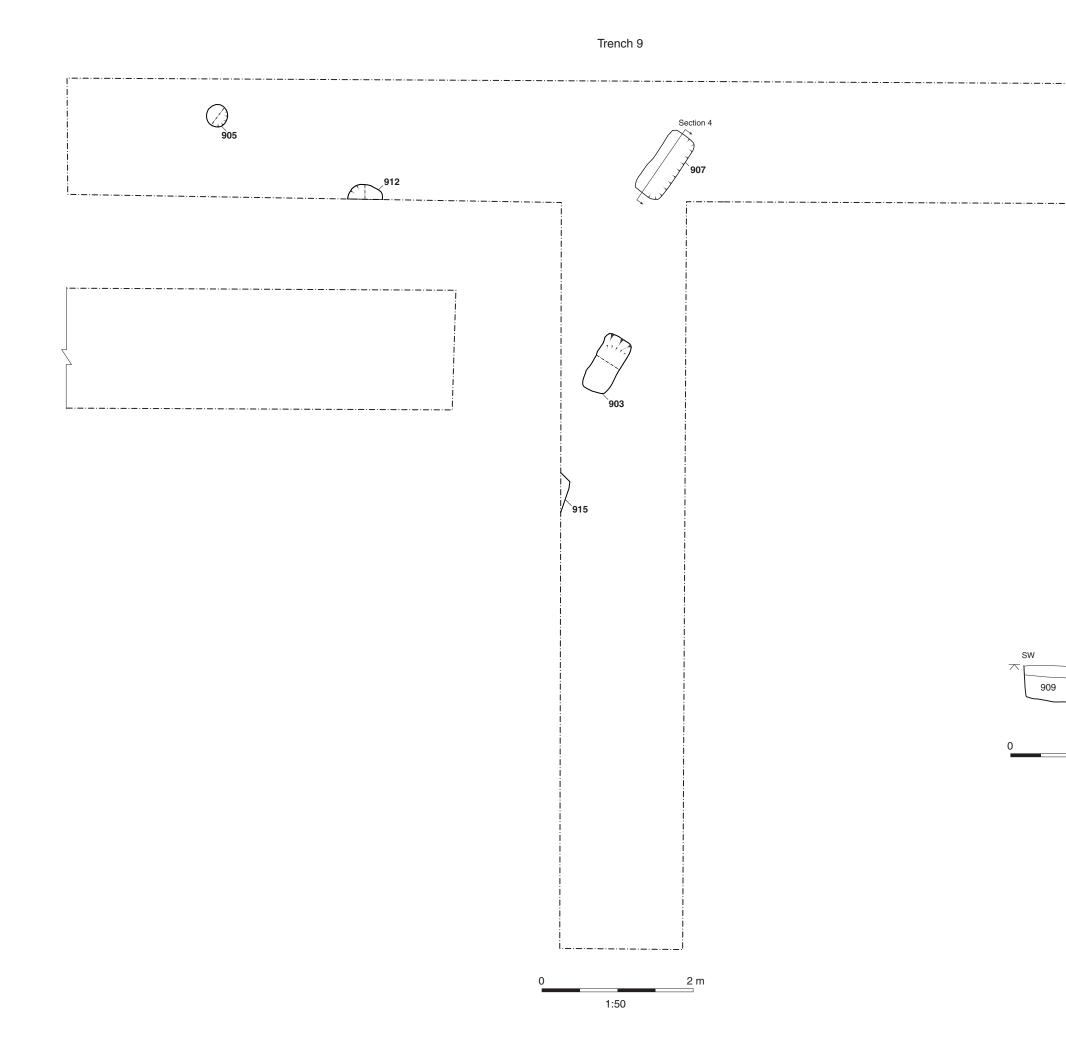
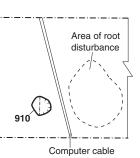
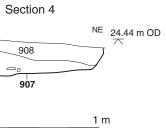


Figure 6: Trench 8, plan and section

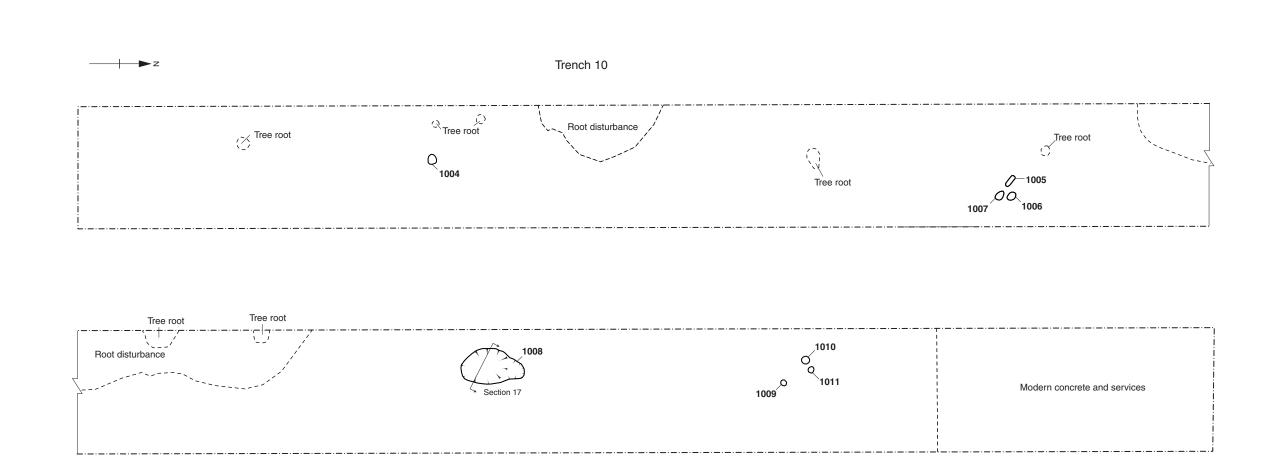




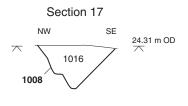
N



1:25



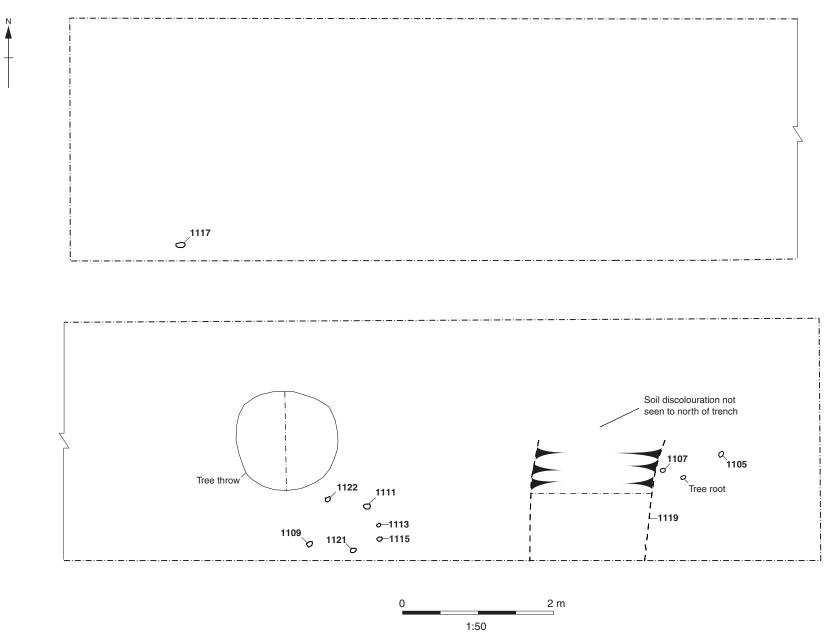


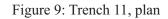






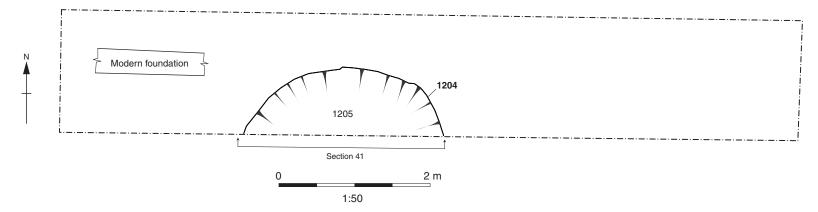














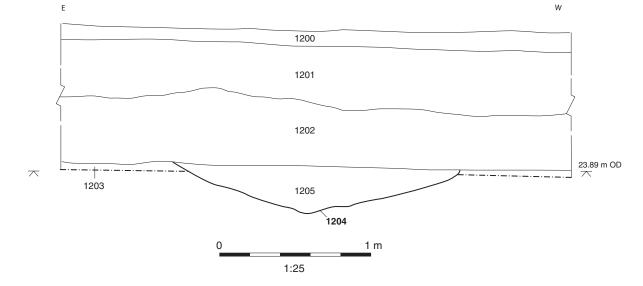


Figure 10: Trench 12, plan and section