

A report on an archaeological excavation of the

***FORMER ENROLLED  
PENSIONER GUARD COTTAGE  
1 Surrey Street, Bassendean***



September 2007

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## INTRODUCTION

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1

This report describes and interprets the material remains found during two seasons of archaeological excavations at the *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* at 1 Surrey Street, Bassendean. The two-roomed brick structure is the last well-preserved pensioner guard cottage in the Perth metropolitan area. The report provides recommendations for future implementations of the conservation of the artefacts and the place.

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### Project background and study objectives

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1.1

On behalf of the Bassendean Historical Society, the Town of Bassendean commissioned an archaeological excavation of the *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* at 1 Surrey Street, Bassendean. The survey followed requirements to investigate for physical evidence of past place use within priority areas of the site identified in the 'Pensioner Guard Museum Project' (Bridges and Humphrey 2002). About 200 square metres of the site will be impacted by soil disturbance during construction works associated with the Pensioner Guard Museum Project. The archaeological project aims to extensively sample the impacted areas and remove material under threat and, determine by further excavation of previously undisturbed sub strata, the prior site uses.

This archaeological report presents a working document that provides descriptions and interpretations of the archaeological material unearthed during excavations and how the material may be used to highlight the place's heritage. The report will present recommendations in a manner suitable for future conservation strategies.

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### Historical Background

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1.2

According to the Department of Indigenous Affairs site register, the *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* is not part of any registered Aboriginal sites. No research – archaeological or anthropological – has been undertaken into the place's Indigenous occupation. Given the

place's closeness to freshwater and well known Indigenous sites like Success Hill and Upper Swan Bridge, it is likely that some Aboriginal presence occurred in the 40,000 years that humans have occupied the Swan Coastal Plain (Pearce and Barbetti 1981), but this investigation found no Indigenous artefacts.

The former Pensioner Guard Cottage is on West Guildford<sup>1</sup> town Lot 114, originally a two by ten chain (40.2 by 201 metre), two acre rectangular block fronting Surrey Street to the north and Swan Lot Q owned by F. H. Byrne and later W. K. Shenton to the south (Hillman 1836; Chauncy 1842a, 1842b). An unnamed creek crossing the block west to east would have affected the block's arable usage during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

Little use of West Guildford's town lots occurred until the mid to late 1850s, at which time the newly introduced convict establishment – with a depot at Guildford – sought West Guildford blocks for pensioner guard accommodation. The guards were brought from Britain to oversee prisoners of the convict establishment. On arrival in Western Australia, the guards were guaranteed six-months employment. They were initially disallowed land ownership, but the difficulty in obtaining outside work saw a softening of regulations, with land granted on the condition that guards lived on the property and maintained it for seven years before receiving freehold (Carter 1986: 55).

In June 1855, Guildford depot's commanding officer, Lieutenant Edmund DuCane, reported the firing of bricks and the cutting of timber for a planned 12 pensioner guard cottages in West Guildford. In addition, timber for the allotment's post and rail fences were cut by ticket-of-leave men on Greenmount and transported to the site (DuCane 1855: 635). By June 1856, only four cottages were in the course of construction, with still requiring wall plastering. In December, the cottages were complete. (DuCane 1856a: 111, 1856b: 65). DuCane does not mention the reasons for reducing the number of cottages from 12 to four, but their lengthy construction time (18 months) and DuCane's comment about the new Guildford depot's delayed completion due to the lack of skilled labour to make and fire bricks (Du Cane 1856b: 65), suggests that labour and equipment shortages were to blame.

The extant Lot 114's cottage completion date is unclear, but on October 10 1864 John Law Davis<sup>2</sup>, a guard who arrived in February 1856, received freehold title for Lot 114 (SRO Con 5000, item 477). Davis married Amelia Sarah Wood in July 1856 and was appointed caretaker of the West Guildford cottages in November 1857 (Broomhall 1989: B74), and it is assumed that he, his wife and expanding family occupied the cottage from this date with freehold granted seven years later.

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<sup>1</sup> The suburb's name later changed to Bassendean in May 1922

<sup>2</sup> Erickson (1988) and Broomhall (1989) have the surname spelt 'Davis', but Title Deed data (SRO con 5000 item 477) uses 'Davies'



In 1952, additions to the 1893 residence had a significant impact on the residence that had extensive alterations to the roof, external walls and the verandahs in particular, as well as interior walls, ceilings and doors.

A considerable impact on the cottage's surrounds occurred with Lot 114's subdivision in 1970 and the block's reduction from over 1.25 hectares to 938 square metres.

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### **The excavation area**

1.3

The *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* is on Surrey Street, Bassendean. The place is 8m above sea level and on flat ground. The soil type is Pinjarra Plain comprising various clay formations that border the Swan River from its Darling Range issue to a point south of the Helena River confluence (Playford, Cockbain and Low 1976).

The excavation area around the cottage consisted of brick pavers and verge grass, while a grassed area existed behind the cottage and 1893 structure.

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### **Methodology**

1.4

To address the aims outlined in section 1.1, one fixed point on the south east corner of the *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* was selected to serve as a horizontal datum point. From this point, compass bearing and taped measurements were taken to the six, 1 by 1 metre squares and the one 2 by 2 metre excavation (Figure 2).

Six 1 by 1 metre and one 2 by 2 metre squares were excavated, their placement on the site to test subsurface artefact richness and to provide stratigraphic data. In addition, square placement was away from areas excavated by Lilley and Gibbs in 1991 (Gibbs 1991). Their excavation concentrated on sediments in the cottage's rear (south face), particularly those that existed under the timber 'learn to' demolished shortly before their excavation occurred. Lilley and Gibbs also examined an area near the front (north facing) door (Gibbs 1991). The careful placement of grid squares for the 2007 excavation allowed the integration of the Lilley and Gibbs grid and the resulting archaeological finds from their excavation into this report.

Excavation was by trowel, with soil deposits removed in blocks of similar consistency (units), or when thick, in arbitrary 'spits' of 5 cm unless a notable change in the deposit occurred, in which case the unit ended at the level of the natural stratigraphy. Figure 2 gives square locations.

An automatic level plotted depths, with all squares using the top of the *former Pensioner Guard Cottage's* north step as the height datum (see Figure 2). Deposits from all squares were

sieved separately through a 5 mm screen. All units across the place received individual unit numbers following Museum of London excavation practices (Museum of London 1993).

Stratigraphic sections were drawn when possible, and photographs taken at the start and finish of each unit and spit.



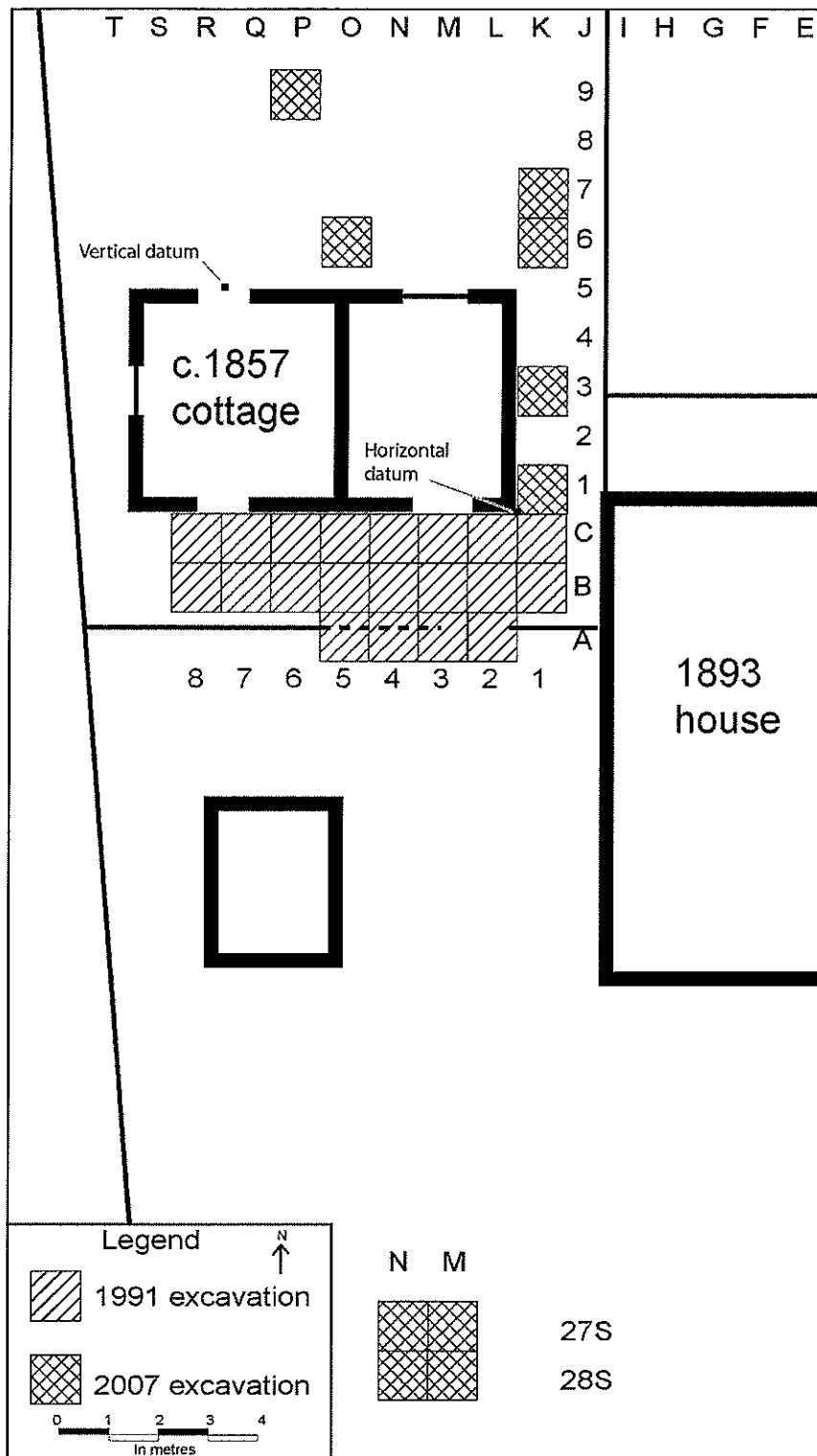


Figure 2. Locations of the 1991 and 2007 excavations

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## THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AND RESULTS

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2

The following chapter describes the excavation and analysis of the *former Pensioner Guard Cottage's* archaeological record. The chapter is in two sections. The first describes excavation progress, providing contextual and stratigraphic information. The second section describes the artefacts recovered, using a functional typology framework.

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### 2007 excavation progress

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2.1

For ease of interpretation, description of the place's excavation occurs separately. The place's excavation collected 167 artefacts from the six 1 by 1 and one, 2 by 2 metre excavations. All excavation locales encountered hard clay soil between 10 and 25 cm below ground surface.

Initial squares K1, K6 and O6 all encountered a layer of yellow builder's sand under the brick pavers. This layer varied between 5 and 14 cm thick across the six squares at the side and front of the cottage. Its obvious association with the recently (1990s) laid brick pavers meant low archaeological potential, resulting in its rapid removal by shovel. In addition, the sand was not sieved. A layer of clay was exposed in K1 and a sandy clay and lumpy clay matrix in K6 and O6. In addition, K1 exposed blue metal, filter material and remains of mortar. These items were associated with the 1990s cottage refurbishment, with the blue metal, filter material – and subsequent exposure of a PVC pipe – associated with the laying of a drainage pipe to stop rising damp in the cottage's walls. However, the stratigraphy's disturbance occurred only along the squares' west margin (Figure 3).



Figure 3. Disturbance in K1's west wall (with blue metal visible) due to installation of drainage pipe. Scales are in 500 mm increments

Removal of the sandy clay and lumpy clay layer in K6 and O6 exposed a large PVC pipe associated with water drainage way from the cottage. This feature was most likely installed during the 1990s cottage refurbishment. Physical proof was not found, but the small PVC pipe found in squares K1 and K3 most likely connected with this larger 30 cm diameter pipe that ran along the cottage's north face. The pipe and the trench dug for its installation took up much of squares K6 and O6's surface area. Due to the disturbance to stratigraphy, squares K6 and O6 were finished. In addition, the 30 cm pipe's placement in front of the cottage meant disturbed stratigraphy on the six metre east-west line (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Large drainage pipe located north of cottage. Scales are in 500 mm increments

Black glass and underglaze ceramic fragments from the small wedge of undisturbed sediment in K6's north margin saw the opening of the neighbouring K7, while K3 and P9 were opened away from areas known to be disturbed. All encountered the yellow builders sand and lower clay unit. K7 and P9 were undisturbed by modern utility installation, but K3 encountered features for conduit to the 1893 house (Figure 5). Two by two metre square MN 27-28's placement at the rear of Lot 114 tested this area's richness. Couch grass removal exposed a true loam matrix.



Figure 5. Ditch features in K3. 'A' associated with an old copper pipe; 'B' with a modern copper pipe; and 'C' with garden reticulation. Scales in 500 mm increments

Accurate recording of artefact provenance during the Lilley and Gibbs 1991 excavation allow an easy combination of material from the two excavations. The Lilley and Gibbs excavation concentrated mostly on the cottage's rear area, using 1 by 1 metre squares (see Figure 1).

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#### **Functional categories and artefact description**

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2.2

Functional typologies and assemblage patterns dominate artefact analysis in historic period archaeology. The basic premise is that there is enough similarity between modern material culture and those items recovered from recent archaeological contexts to assume a 'commonality of function' (Orser 1988:232). Orser (1988) suggests that while possible that a familiar object may have been used for an unusual or unexpected purpose which is invisible to the archaeologist, it can generally be assumed in analysis that objects were used in their usual way, as determined by modern analogies or documentary records. To this he adds the

warning that the accuracy of such functional interpretations will decrease as the distance from the present increases.

Orser's (1988:233) typology is reproduced here (Table 1) with minor additions and modifications making it suitable for the *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* archaeological record. Orser's categories provide a means of organising the description and analyses of the various artefacts seen in the place, and has also been used with success by Gibbs (1995), Allen (2002) and Burke (2003, 2004, 2006) in a Western Australian context with artefact analysis from the Cheyne Beach, Guildford gaol, South Perth Mill, St. Leonards homestead, High Street west, and Guildford Railway Station Precinct excavations and surface surveys respectively.

Table 1. Functional Typology, with examples of artefacts in each subcategory (after Orser 1988:233)

<p><b>1. STRUCTURE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Architectural/construction – flat glass, nails, spikes, mortar, bricks, slate</li> <li>b. Hardware – hinges, tacks, bolts, staples, hooks, brackets</li> <li>c. Furnishings/Accessories – stove parts, furniture pieces, lamp parts, decorative fasteners</li> </ul> <p><b>2. FOODWAYS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Procurement – ammunition, fishhooks, fishing weights</li> <li>b. Preparation – baking pans, cooking vessels, large knives</li> <li>c. Service – fine earthenware, flatware, tableware</li> <li>d. Storage – coarse earthenware, stoneware, glass bottles, canning jars, bottle stoppers</li> <li>e. Food Remains – faunal and floral</li> </ul> <p><b>3. CLOTHING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Fasteners – buttons, eyelets, press studs, hooks and eyes</li> <li>b. Manufacture – needles, pins, scissors, thimbles</li> <li>c. Other – shoe leather, metal shoehorns, clothes hangers</li> </ul> <p><b>4. PERSONAL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Medicinal – medicine bottles, droppers, toiletries</li> <li>b. Cosmetic – hairbrushes, hair combs, jars</li> <li>c. Recreational – clay tobacco pipes, toys, musical instruments, souvenirs</li> <li>d. Monetary – coins</li> <li>e. Decorative – jewellery, hairpins, hatpins, spectacles</li> <li>f. Other – pocket knives, fountain pens, pencils, inkwells</li> </ul> <p><b>5. INDUSTRY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Coal, clinker</li> <li>b. Sea transport – boat-related equipment</li> <li>c. Other</li> </ul>
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Artefact description

2.2.1

The artefacts unearthed during the 1991 and 2007 excavations were sorted into the various categories as described in section 2.2, with results in Table 2. Artefacts from the same unit and of the same function were placed into one bag and given one accession number.

Unfortunately, much of the archaeological material from the 1991 excavation and later site works is unprovenanced. This material is not included in this report's interpretation section.

Table 2. Number of artefacts after sorting into functional categories

Category	Sub-category	Number of artefacts
Structure	A	48
	B	11
	C	4
	<b>Total Structure artefacts</b>	<b>63</b>
Foodways	A	6
	B	2
	C	26
	D	16
	E	27
<b>Total Foodways artefacts</b>	<b>77</b>	
Personal	A	4
	C	8
	D	4
	F	6
<b>Total Personal artefacts</b>	<b>22</b>	
Clothing	A	7
	C	2
<b>Total Clothing artefacts</b>	<b>9</b>	
Unidentified		5
<b>Total</b>		<b>176</b>

Structure	2.2.1.1
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Structure items comprised 36% (n = 63) of the total assemblage. Most of this material (n = 48) was heavily corroded wire and forged nail fragments. Five pieces of flat clear glass, presumably window glass, was recovered. Their thickness varied from 2.9 mm to 4.5 mm, with a mean of 3.5 mm. Window glass fragments comprised both polished plate and crown glass. Polished plate glass is common in archaeological assemblages after c.1870, while crown is common before c.1870 (Boow 1991:101).

Artefacts associated with Foodways easily comprised the bulk of the assemblage (43%, n = 77) recovered from the place, consisting of a diverse range of materials and functions. Much of the place's artefacts comprise bone fragments – mostly sheep – but also some large beef bones (primarily from long bones). Animal remains have preserved well despite the area's low (acidic) soil pH. Bottle fragments for storage functions were black, green, emerald and brown, with some of the emerald and brown glass fragments from beer bottles produced by the Perth and Fremantle Bottle Exchange Company. All bases and some fragments have higher 'champagne' kicks, with most of the green glass associated with wine and champagne bottles (Jones and Sullivan 1984; Jones 1986, 2000). Fragments of soda bottles and their pressure retaining glass ball were also common, but their manufacturer is unknown.

The assemblage's ceramic component comprises mostly earthenware and a small number of porcelain fragments. Most of the earthenware was transfer creamware, but one fragment was multibanded 'Hotel ware' (Figure 6) commonly used in Western Australia by State government operated hotels, railways and ships. There were no gilded peices.



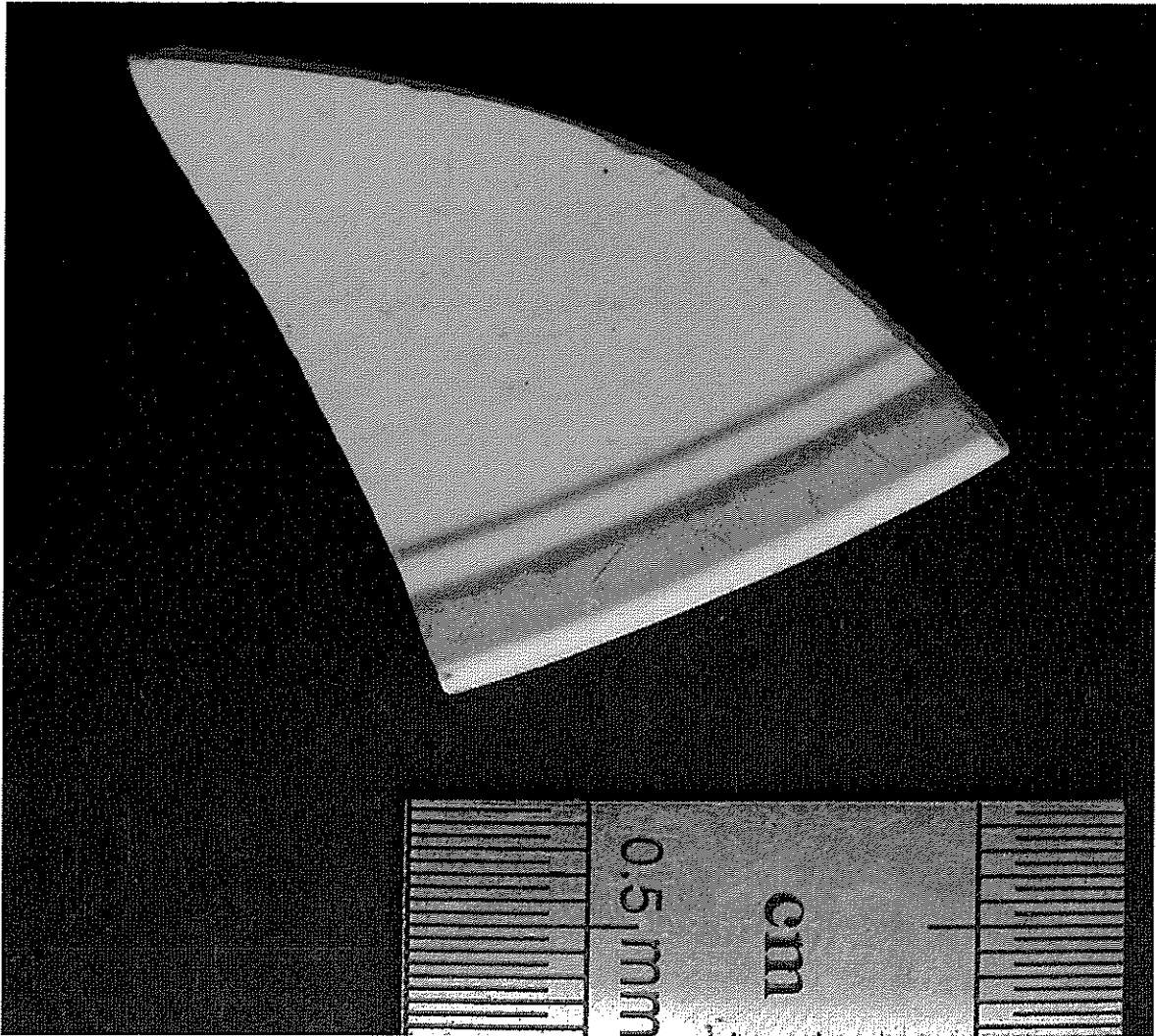


Figure 6. Banded 'Hotel ware' from K6 unit 3. Scale in 0.5 mm increments

Square P9 north of the cottage produced a feature associated with the place's Foodways artefacts. The strong clay soils preserved what appears to be small furrows commonly seen in vegetable gardens. The feature – comprising parallel lines of different coloured soil types (Figure 7), exists 25 cm below the place's present ground surface.



Figure 7. Parallel lined garden feature from square P9, and possible trellis stake near the square's west margin. Scales in 200 mm (right) and 500 mm (top) increments

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Personal

2.2.1.3

The place contains a sizable range of personal objects (n = 22). These include medicine bottle fragments, a stoneware pot and numerous children's toys of plastic and metal (Figure 8). One small fragment of English blue slate was unearthed in B1 spit 1 of the 1991 excavation and a slate pencil and writing slate from K7's units 11a and 11b respectively. English blue sheet slate is common in Western Australian sites, the material imported from Britain for roofing, but the slate at the *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* site is for writing because of the inscribed lines on both sides of the artefact (Figure 9). Many coins were unearthed during the 1991 excavation, but all are unprovenanced and provided little contextual detail.



Figure 8. Toy soldier. Scale in 0.5 mm increments

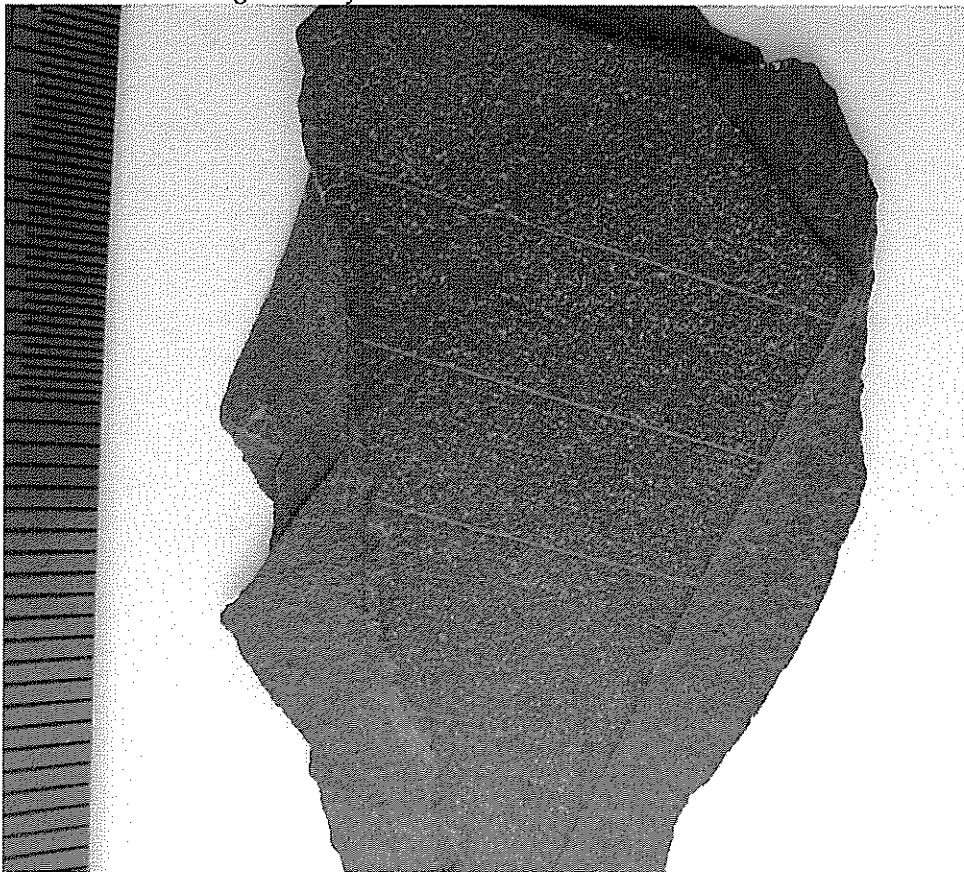


Figure 9. Writing slate with scribed lines. Scale in 1 mm (lower) and 0.5 mm (upper) increments

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Clothing

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2.2.1.4

Artefacts associated with this category comprise many shell buttons (in highly fragmented condition), three brass buttons (including one button from a military uniform), two modern steel caps from safety boots and a shoe eyelet.

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## **DISCUSSION AND PLACE SIGNIFICANCE**

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**3**

Section 2 described the place's excavation, artefacts and documentary evidence about place use. Section 3 interprets this material and determines place significance using archaeological evidence as identified from the *former Pensioner Guard Cottage*.

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### **Discussion**

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**3.1**

Analysis of the artefacts from the Lilley and Gibbs 1991 excavation (Gibbs 1991) and the 2007 excavation allow an understanding of place use over time. In addition, the assemblage provides a rare opportunity to observe the lifestyle of groups not traditionally included in historical documents – the pensioner guards and their families, and the later working class. Despite much nonprovenanced material, a small amount of the archaeological assemblage most likely comprises artefacts deposited by Davis and his family. Metal buttons – one possibly from a pensioner guard's tunic (Figure 10), forged nails, thin window glass and low-fired orange brick are all artefacts strongly linked to the place's mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century use.



Figure 10. Button possibly from a pensioner guard's tunic. Scale in 0.5 mm increments

The location of various artefacts provide clues to place use. Many artefacts were unearthed from the cottage's south – an area that once contained a timber lean to for kitchen purposes. The large collection of bone, charcoal and kitchen utensils supports the historical record of a food preparation role for this part of the place. However, the unearthing of many children's toys – like glass and ceramic marbles, lead based soldiers and toy animals also suggest the area's use by children for recreation. In addition, toys made of ceramic, glass, lead and finally plastic suggest a children's recreation use over many years. The many children's toys strongly suggest the area's use for children's play, yet aspects of how children spent their growing years during the 19<sup>th</sup> century are poorly covered in Western Australian historical documents. The *former Pensioner Guard Cottage's* archaeological assemblage is one of a small but growing number of Western Australian archaeological sites covering lifestyle aspects not covered by historical texts. It is typical regarding its many children's possessions, for

excavations done at the police officer's quarters at the nearby Guildford gaol, at the South Perth mill and Cheyne's Beach Whaling Station found similar material (Gibbs 1995; Allen 2002; Burke 2003).

Other artefacts provide subtle clues to behaviour. Writing slate from three squares and a slate pencil are important artefacts reflecting the changes in education that occurred with the place's residents over time. At the time of the cottage's construction during the 1850s, many Western Australians – child and adult – were illiterate. However, by the late 1890s, most could read or write (Fletcher 1981: 560). District schools, like Guildford from the 1860s and West Guildford from 1906 (Carter 1986: 213), were one of the main reason for adolescent literacy improvement, while mechanics' institutes (Guildford 1866) and technical schools later at Midland Junction helped adult reading and writing skills. However, many reading and writing skills were taught or honed in a home environment. The writing slate and pencil are reminders of this.

The large assemblage of bone – primarily sheep – suggests that mammal meat played an important part in people's diets. Furthermore, the discovery of many sheep teeth – from the cottage's rear and front excavation squares – indicate that dishes incorporating sheep head were cooked on the site, and that possibly sheep were kept on the hoof on site. Dishes incorporating sheep head are rare in 21<sup>st</sup> century Western Australians' diets, but were common in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, particularly sheep brains in children's dishes. Interestingly, no fish or crustacean remains were found, despite Bassendean residents' strong social link with the Swan River (Carter 1986: 186) with mullet and bream stocks, and freshwater streams like Bennett Brook with gilgie. Also missing from the assemblage were artefacts – like hooks and sinkers – associated with fish procurement.

The archaeological evidence suggesting the possibility of sheep on the hoof for food purposes suggests self-sufficiency by the place's members at one stage in the area's history. The features unearthed in square P9 suggesting the keeping of a garden further support self-sufficiency. The archaeological record supplements the historical record in this case, with a photograph of one of the four pensioner guard cottages in Surrey Street showing trellises in front of the structure (Figure 11). In addition, the 1938 water board plan of the place shows trellises for vines west and south of the cottage, while fruit trees grow at the rear of Lot 114.

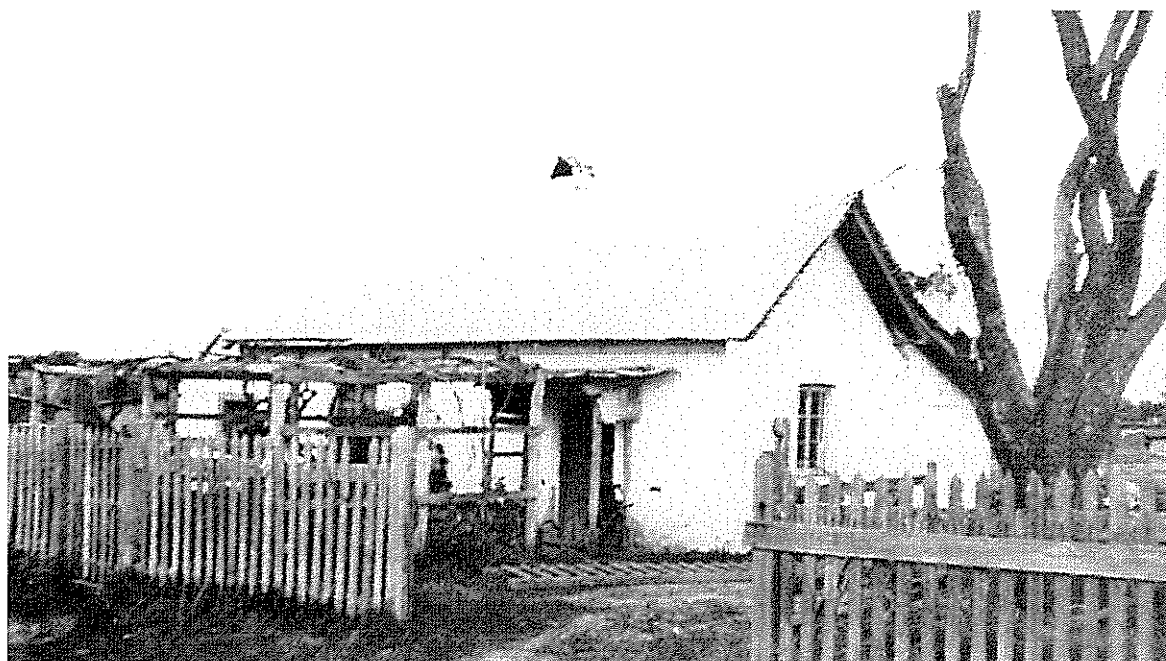


Figure 11. One of the four Bassendean pensioner guard cottages, photographed sometime during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century (BL 24673P)

The archaeological assemblage clearly indicates West Guildford town Lot 114's continued occupation since c.1857. Much of the archaeological record from the area once occupied by the cottage's kitchen dates mostly to the 19<sup>th</sup> century – a dating pattern continued by finds of 19<sup>th</sup> century material from squares north of the cottage. However, most of the material removed from square MNs27-28 dates to the mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> century. This material is a reminder of the block's use through to modern times. In addition, it alerts researchers to rubbish disposal practices – with refuse burial in one's backyard about 20 metres from the structure's back door – and suggests the preservation of archaeological remains dated to the lot's earliest use also in this area.

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### **The place's archaeological significance**

3.2

The objective of the archaeological excavation has been to investigate for physical evidence of past uses of West Guildford town Lot 114, 1 Surrey Street. The many artefacts found during excavation supplement the place's known history, but also provide important clues about area use over time not referred to in historical documents. The archaeological remains contain common components of many other Western Australian archaeological sites – both residential and retail – from this period (Allen 2002; Burke 2003, 2006), but items from the large faunal and personal assemblages are rare. In total, 1 Surrey Street's archaeological record is unique, associated with a site type now rare in Western Australia. No other



archaeological assemblage from a pensioner guard site exists in Western Australia (a collection housed at the University of Western Australia is missing), while pensioner guard sites like Lake Coogee and North Fremantle that existed until recently have been destroyed due to development. Therefore, the place's archaeological remains at a State and regional level are afforded a high scientific and rarity significance value.

This discussion stresses that both the standing pensioner guard cottage *and* surrounding space containing archaeological information are highly significant. It is unfortunate that the installation of drainage to elevate raising damp in the cottage – particularly the large pipe unearthed in squares K6 and O6 – seriously impacted sediments with high archaeological potential. The discovery of subtle soil colour changes suggesting the preservation of gardening techniques from the 19<sup>th</sup> century in square P9, is a reminder that archaeological information comprises not only portable artefacts but non-portable features easily damaged or destroyed during trench digging.

The following Statement of Significance relates to the place's archaeological material and potential only, and should in no way be connected to the buildings' heritage value.

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Statement of Significance	3.2.1
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The archaeological excavations conducted in 1991 and over 1 and 3 September 2007 concludes that there is high scientific and rarity significance for the place's archaeological record at a regional and State level.

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Aesthetic Value	3.2.1.1
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The *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* structures are significant landmarks, and the sub-surface archaeological record adds much to the place's aesthetic value.

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Historic Value	3.2.1.2
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Pensioner guard 'villages' existed at Bassendean, two sites in Claremont, North Fremantle, Lake Coogee, Lynton, Greenough and Perth city. The building at 1 Surrey Street Bassendean is the last pensioner guard cottage of these sites and a physical reminder of a little known part of Western Australia's mid-colonial period. It has high significance in relation to an important phase of the State's history (Criterion 2.2).

---

Social Value

3.2.1.3

The *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* archaeological record is highly significant for its physical link to the place's function as a residence for members of the local community not commonly mentioned in the historical record (Criterion 4.1).

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Rarity

3.2.1.4

The *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* archaeological record comprises uncommon components of mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century Western Australian lifestyle. The remains have high rarity significance.

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Condition

3.2.1.5

The grounds containing the *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* archaeological record are in good condition. The site has been, in places, heavily disturbed by the mechanical introduction of electrical conduit and drainage pipes, but areas south and north of the cottage and 1893 residence retain well-preserved stratified archaeological deposits.

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Recommendations

3.3

The place's archaeological remains comprise uncommon artefacts of mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century Western Australian sites, while as a whole, the archaeological record is very rare given its association with a pensioner guard and his family. It is thus afforded high archaeological significance at a regional and State level.

The excavated archaeological material has some monetary value. The pensioner guard button is very rare, and if displayed, should be in a secure receptacle.

- *Recommendation 1: The sediments surrounding the former Pensioner Guard Cottage contain archaeological information. Any works that disturb this sediment must be monitored by a qualified historical archaeologist. Figure 12 specifies areas of high, moderate and low archaeological significance;*

- *Recommendation 2: The 1991 and 2007 excavations provide a rare collection of material remains associated with a group of people with little recorded history. The material is sufficient for a tertiary 4<sup>th</sup> year honours dissertation. This would provide a better understanding of this group of people.*

- *Recommendation 3: The assemblage's long-term storage in conditions conducive for artefact preservation is important. The very good preservation of the 1991 artefacts in the humidified conditions in the Town of Bassendean's Local Studies Collection suggests that storage of the 1991 and the 2007 material should be continued in this environment. If shortage of storage space becomes an issue in future, the Town of Bassendean should approach the Museum of Western Australia regarding the assemblage's storage.*

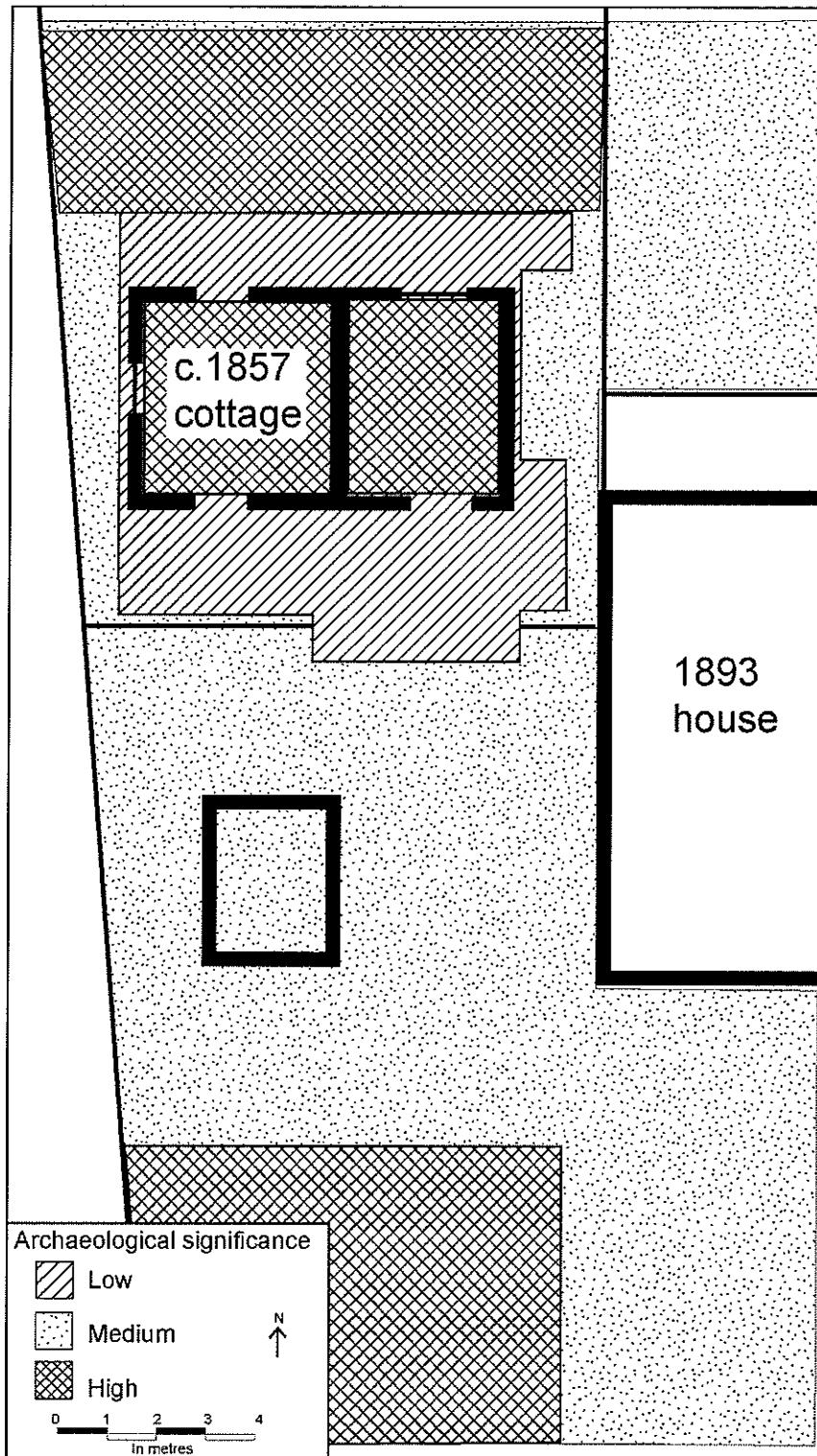


Figure 12. Areas of high, medium and low archaeological significance

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## CONCLUSION

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4

The Town of Bassendean on behalf of the Bassendean Historical Society commissioned Shane Burke to do an archaeological investigation of the *former Pensioner Guard Cottage* at 1 Surrey Street, Bassendean. The investigation's main objective was to investigate for physical evidence of past site use and assess the significance of any evidence found.

Three days of archaeological excavation unearthed artefacts that combined with an earlier 1990s excavation allowed a fuller understanding of the place's use than previously known. The archaeological assemblage comprises uncommon artefacts components than those seen at many other Perth and Fremantle archaeological sites, and therefore the assemblage is afforded a high archaeological significance at a State level.

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## APPENDIX

### 2007 excavation

*Foodways category (storage, food and service sub-categories)*

Square	Unit	Artefact category	Artefact sub-category	Artefact cat. number	Artefact description
K1	1	-	-	-	No artefacts
	4a	Structure	C	BPGC1	Copper pipe
	4a	Structure	A	BPGC2	Painted plaster
	4a	Foodways	E	BPGC3	Sheep bone fragments
	4a	Structure	B	BPGC4	Iron nail
	4a	Structure	A	BPGC5	Brick fragments
	4a	Structure	A	BPGC6	Timber
	4a	Structure	B	BPGC7	Wire insulation
	4a	Foodways	D	BPGC8	Glass fragments
	4a	Foodways	D	BPGC9	Ceramic bowl fragment
	4a	Foodways	C	BPGC10	Ceramic plate green lined
	4b	Structure	A	BPGC11	Brick fragments
	4b	Foodways	E	BPGC12	Sheep bone fragments
	4b	Unknown	-	BPGC13	Metal object
	4b	Personal	A	BPGC14	Glass fragment
	4b	Structure	A	BPGC15	Masonry
	6	-	-	-	No artefacts
K3	12	-	-	-	No artefacts
	14	Structure	A	BPGC16	Lime
	14	Structure	A	BPGC17	Lime
	14	Structure	A	BPGC18	Brick
	14	Structure	A	BPGC19	Brick
	14	Personal	A	BPGC20	Blue glass fragment
	14	Foodways	E	BPGC21	Fish scale
	14	Structure	B	BPGC22	Iron nails
	14	Structure	A	BPGC23	Roof tile
	14	Foodways	E	BPGC24	Sheep bone
	14	Structure	A	BPGC25	Painted plaster
	14	Structure	A	BPGC26	Slate
	14	Foodways	C	BPGC27	Ceramic plate blue sprigging
	14	Personal	C	BPGC28	Flower pot fragment
K6	2	-	-	-	No artefacts
	3	Foodways	A	BPGC29	Charcoal from hearth
	3	Structure	A	BPGC30	Painted masonry
	3	Structure	A	BPGC31	Plaster
	3	Structure	A	BPGC32	Plaster
	3	Structure	B	BPGC33	Iron nails
	3	Foodways	E	BPGC34	Sheep's teeth
	3	Structure	A	BPGC35	Brick fragment
	3	Structure	A	BPGC36	Paint flake
	3	Structure	A	BPGC37	Mortar chunk
	3	Structure	C	BPGC38	Plastic pipe
	3	Structure	A	BPGC39	Window glass – some thin
	3	Structure	B	BPGC40	Brass tack
	3	Structure	A	BPGC41	Plaster
	3	Structure	A	BPGC42	Timber
	3	Foodways	C	BPGC43	Ceramic plate fragments – including blue lined 'Hotel ware'



	8	Structure	B	BPGC44	Iron nails
	8	Foodways	D	BPGC45	Glass storage bottle fragments
	8	Structure	A	BPGC46	Painted masonry
	8	Structure	A	BPGC47	Brick fragment
	8	Structure	B	BPGC48	Iron nails
	8	Structure	A	BPGC49	Plaster
	8	Foodways	E	BPGC50	Bone fragment
O6	5	-	-	-	No artefacts
	7	Structure	A	BPGC51	Painted plaster
	7	Foodways	E	BPGC52	Bone fragments
	7	Personal	F	BPGC53	Writing slate
	7	Unknown	-	BPGC54	Unknown object
	7	Structure	B	BPGC55	Iron nails
	7	Foodways	D	BPGC56	Green and clear glass bottle fragments
	7	Clothing	A	BPGC57	Plastic button
	7	Foodways	A	BPGC58	Charcoal from hearth
	7	Foodways	D	BPGC59	Bristol ware bottle fragment
	7	Foodways	C	BPGC60	Ceramic plate fragments blue underglaze
K7	10				No artefacts
	11a	Personal	F	BPGC61	Slate pencil
	11a	Foodways	D	BPGC62	Black glass bottle fragments
	11a	Foodways	C	BPGC63	Ceramic plate fragments
	11a	Foodways	B	BPGC64	Yellow ware fragment
	11a	Unknown	-	BPGC65	Unknown white objects
	11a	Foodways	C	BPGC66	Ceramic plate fragments – blue underglaze
	11a	Structure	B	BPGC67	Iron nails
	11a	Foodways	E	BPGC68	Sheep teeth
	11a	Foodways	E	BPGC69	Sheep bone
	11a	Unknown	-	BPGC70	Unknown corroded iron object
	11a	Foodways	A	BPGC71	Charcoal from hearth
	11a	Structure	A	BPGC72	Louvred window glass
	11b	Structure	A	BPGC73	Louvred window glass
	11b	Structure	A	BPGC74	Brick fragments
	11b	Structure	B	BPGC75	Iron nails
	11b	Personal	F	BPGC76	Writing slate
	11b	Unknown	-	BPGC77	Small white pieces
P9	13				No artefacts
	15	Structure	A	BPGC78	Painted plaster
	15	Structure	B	BPGC79	Iron nails
	15	Structure	A	BPGC80	Brick fragments
	15	Foodways	A	BPGC81	Trellis posy remains
	15	Structure	C	BPGC82	Brass tap fitting
	15	Foodways	D	BPGC83	Clear and black glass bottle fragments
	15	Personal	A	BPGC84	Blue glass fragment
	15	Foodways	E	BPGC85	Bone fragment
	15	Personal	F	BPGC86	Writing slate fragment
	15	Structure	C	BPGC87	Electrical insulator
	15	Foodways	A	BPGC88	Charcoal from hearth
	15	Foodways	C	BPGC89	Ceramic plate fragments blue underglaze
MNs27-28	16	Foodways	C	BPGC90	Ceramic plate fragments

	16	Foodways	D	BPGC91	Bone fragments
	16	Clothing	C	BPGC92	Boot steel caps (2)
	16	Structure	A	BPGC93	Electrical wiring
	16	Foodways	A	BPGC94	Charcaol
	16	Personal	D	BPGC95	Coins
	17	Foodways	D	BPGC96	Bone fragments
	17	Personal	D	BPGC97	Coins
	17	Structure	A	BPGC98	Brick fragments
	17	Personal	F	BPGC99	Bag handle

## 1991 excavation

Square	Spit	Artefact category	Artefact sub-category	Artefact cat. number	Artefact description
A2	1	Foodways	D	BPGC170	Glass storage containers
	1	Structure	A	BPGC171	Iron nails
	1	Personal	C	BPGC172	Plastic children's toy
	1	Foodways	E	BPGC173	Beef bone
A2	2	Foodways	C	BPGC161	Ceramic plate fragments
	2	Structure	A	BPGC162	Iron nails
A4	1	Foodways	E	BPGC163	Beef bone
	1	Structure	A	BPGC164	Iron nails
	1	Clothing	A	BPGC165	Glass button
	1	Foodways	C	BPGC166	Ceramic plate fragments
A8	1	Foodways	C	BPGC104	Ceramic plate fragments
	1	Foodways	E	BPGC105	Sheep bone
	1	Clothing	A	BPGC106	Shell button
	1	Personal	C	BPGC107	Children's toy
	1	Foodways	B	BPGC108	Large spoon ladle
B1	1	Foodways	C	BPGC151	Ceramic plate fragments
	1	Structure	A	BPGC152	Iron nails
	1	Personal	F	BPGC153	Writing slate
	1	Foodways	D	BPGC154	Glass storage containers
	1	Foodways	E	BPGC155	Sheep and beef bone
B1	2	Foodways	D	BPGC138	Glass storage containers
	2	Foodways	C	BPGC139	Ceramic plate fragments
	2	Personal	C	BPGC140	Clay smoking pipe bowl
	2	Foodways	E	BPGC141	Sheep bone
B2	1	Foodways	C	BPGC125	Ceramic plate fragments
B3	1	Foodways	C	BPGC118	Ceramic plate fragments
	1	Foodways	E	BPGC119	Sheep bone
B4	1	Foodways	C	BPGC130	Ceramic plate fragments
	1	Personal	C	BPGC131	Children's toys
	1	Foodways	E	BPGC132	Sheep bone
B4	2	Foodways	C	BPGC148	Ceramic plate fragments
	2	Structure	A	BPGC149	Iron nails
	2	Foodways	E	BPGC150	Sheep bone
C1	1	Personal	D	BPGC133	Sixpence
	1	Foodways	E	BPGC134	Ceramic plate fragments
	1	Foodways	D	BPGC135	Glass storage containers
C1	2	Foodways	E	BPGC109	Sheep bone
	2	Foodways	C	BPGC110	Ceramic plate fragments
C3	1	Structure	A	BPGC156	Iron nails
	1	Personal	C	BPGC157	Plastic toy
	1	Clothing	A	BPGC158	Shell button
	1	Foodways	D	BPGC159	Glass storage containers

	1	Foodways	E	BPGC160	Sheep bone
C3	2	Clothing	A	BPGC111	Brass button
	2	Structure	A	BPGC112	Iron nails
	2	Foodways	C	BPGC113	Ceramic plate fragments
C5	1	Personal	C	BPGC114	Hard rubber smoking pipe
	1	Structure	A	BPGC115	Window glass
	1	Foodways	E	BPGC116	Sheep bone
	1	Structure	A	BPGC117	Iron nails
C5	2	Structure	A	BPGC126	Iron nails
	2	Personal	A	BPGC127	Medicine bottle fragments
	2	Foodways	E	BPGC128	Bird bone
	2	Foodways	C	BPGC129	Ceramic plate fragments
C6	1	Foodways	C	BPGC174	Ceramic plate fragments
	1	Structure	A	BPGC175	Iron nails
	1	Foodways	E	BPGC176	Sheep bone
C6	2	Clothing	A	BPGC121	Two brass buttons
	2	Foodways	E	BPGC122	Sheep bone
	2	Foodways	C	BPGC123	Ceramic plate fragments
	2	Structure	A	BPGC124	Many nails
C7	1	Clothing	A	BPGC99	Shell button
	1	Clothing	C	BPGC100	Shoe eyelet
	1	Foodways	E	BPGC101	Sheep bone
	1	Foodways	C	BPGC102	Ceramic plate fragments
	1	Structure	A	BPGC103	Many wire nails
C9	1	Foodways	D	BPGC136	Glass storage containers
	1	Structure	A	BPGC137	Iron nails
TP3	1	Foodways	C	BPGC120	Ceramic plate fragments
D1	1	Foodways	C	BPGC142	Ceramic plate fragments
	1	Structure	A	BPGC143	Iron nails
	1	Personal	D	BPGC144	One penny
	1	Personal	C	BPGC145	Children's toy
	1	Foodways	D	BPGC146	Glass storage containers
	1	Foodways	E	BPGC147	Sheep bone
D1	2	Foodways	C	BPGC167	Ceramic plate fragments
	2	Structure	A	BPGC168	Iron nails
	2	Foodways	E	BPGC169	Sheep bone