

# **The Hazardous Project Site Report - October 1999**

## **Introduction**

Due to very poor weather conditions prevailing in the bay from the time of last year's report through until early May we were unable to dive on the site, therefore the concretions were not lifted as hoped.

However during the early dives of this year it was noted that sand levels at the north end of the site appear to be the same as last season. Sand cover at the southern end generally appeared the same, except that datum D6 at the southern extreme of the site was missing, this may have been caused by trawling in the area as the peg was later found south east of it's position among the rocks. This datum has been repositioned and designated D6/99. No other obvious damage was noted. Seabed levels in the middle of the site around the main area of concretions, south of the cannon ball mound changes continually making this area very unstable.

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## **Artifacts**

Visits to the site were limited during the early part of the season, due to poor visibility on site and outside pressures, on each visit a check was made for small loose artifacts, none was found. A large section of lead with uniform holes in it (filter/strainer) was noted close to base of datum D33 in July. This had disappeared by the next visit, however it reappeared some 2-3 metres to the south in October, was measured in to datum's and lifted along with a number of concretions from central area of site and stored in fresh water. Further planning of exposed concretions with drawing frames was carried out in this central area. (Not yet add to main plan).

Artifact number:

MS250.99

Concretions

Feature O - 99

Feature N - 99

Feature M - 99

Feature L - 99

Feature K - 99

Feature J - 99

Feature I - 99

Feature H - 99

Feature G - 99

See attached plan showing concretions lifted.

The display at Earnley Gardens continues to receive large numbers of visitors through out the summer months and will be future improved during the winter. We intend to start work dismantling and recording the concretions over the winter months with the continued assistance of Garry Momber and a small team from Hants and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology.

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## **Diving Schedule**

Diving operations were carried out on eight separate days. This resulted in twenty-five man-hours spent under water by the following divers:- Peter Jolly, Jason Knowles, Iain Grant, Garry Momber, Janet Witheridge, Robin Witheridge, ADU.

The dates of diving were 16<sup>th</sup>. May, 13<sup>th</sup>. June, 11<sup>th</sup>. and 25<sup>th</sup>. July, 6<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. August, 5<sup>th</sup>. and 12<sup>th</sup>. September, 17<sup>th</sup>. October.

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## **Intentions for 2000**

Continue to monitor general seabed movement on site.

Survey and lift exposed artifacts from site generally.

Continue to extend mapping with drawing frames of central area, lifting any concretions considered vulnerable, wet storing for recording etc, over winter months.

With the acquisition of a digital video camera and housing, filming of the site for archive records will be undertaken when conditions allow.

Research possibility of transferring records onto computer.

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