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Form 10-306 (Oct. 1972)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Samuel Smith's Tayern site (the dates 1690-1740) were determined by archeological pipe-stem and ceramic dating. The site is Wellfleet, and has been excavated by archeologists from Plymouth Plantation.

Rumors of the site, re-inforced by occasional "pot hunted" specimens (a 1723 English coin, pewter spoons, clay pipes, etc.) led to professional investigation in 1969. Over 24,000 artifacts were uncovered and cataloged: these included dateable pipe stems, ceramics, wine glasses and drinking containers of the period 1690-1740.

The original building was perhaps 50'x30' and faced south. Bricks were crude and undoubtedly made in Massachusetts. Two square cobblestone cellars were uncovered under the two rooms in the floor. The West cellar was rich in whale bone, indicting that shore whaling was practiced here long before the golden age of whaling (approximately 1800-1865).

Plymouth Plantation artists have drawn a sketch of the building as it may have looked, and superimposed it on a photograph of the excavated foundations—this photo, with three others showing the work in stages, is on the site in the form of a panel exhibit.

A preliminary report has been published, a final one due, and the site re-filled with sand for protection. Today, this site in the pitch pines probably appears much as it has for the last 50 years, a lonely scattering of bricks and ballast stones marking the foundations of an old shore-whaling-fisherman's Tavern. Even though all great timber on Great Island had been cut by 1711, enough grasses remained for grazing cattle and keeping down blowing sand probably into the early 18th century, the time of the Tavern's greatest use.

Significance: 3rd Order

Longitude and Latitude:

Acreage: 1 acre

Treatment Recommended: Routine patrol by Park Rangers--site has

been re-filled filled with sand.

Estimated cost of exposing foundations and cellars, stabilizing same, \$50,000.

Photograph enclosed

	PERIOD (Check One or More as A	ppropriate)		-			
	Pre-Columbian	16th Century	XX 18th Century	20th Century			
	☐ 15th Century	17th Century	19th Century				
	SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	and Known)		•			
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	This site contributed much information on architectural techniques the period, especially as a means of comparing mainland and Cape structures, with additional information on dietary habits of the residents.						
	Over the years, there today, and visi	several families tation is restric		no one lives boaters.			
	A final note of dated 1898, tracing t lots for cattle grazi not found the Tavern, years.	itles back to $164$ ng in $1743$ , not b	efore. It is prob	able that he did			

8	MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL R	EPERENCES .								
	Natural History AugSept. 1971, pp.48-57. Article by Dr. James Deetz and Erik Ekholm.										
	Preliminary Report: Excavations at C-9, Wellfleet, Mass. By Erik Ekholm at										
	James Deetz, Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, Mass., 197 The Cape Codder: Aug. 24, 1972. Article, A Tavern in the Town by Earl G. Rich										
	Esaminer's Report on Title of Robert H. Jenkins, et al. Boston, Mass.										
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