

# BOLSOVER CASTLE, SOUTH DRIVE

## Report on an archaeological watching brief conducted in October 2014.

Prepared by T. Hooley

October 2014

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General shot of Bolsover Castle, South Drive

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## **SUMMARY**

- Trent & Peak Archaeology was commissioned to undertake an archaeological watching brief on behalf of English Heritage at the site of the South Drive of Bolsover Castle, centred on NGR SK 46997 70675, c. 8.5m AOD (Fig. 1).
- The work was carried out on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014 in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix D).
- Groundworks for the restitution of the South Drive had been deemed necessary, following development of a sinkhole due to heavy rains.
- The location of the sinkhole was in close proximity to a gate and wall, adjacent to the South Drive, which had previously been reinstated in 1997.
- Extensive remodelling of the area around the walls during the previous construction/consolidation work had already reduced the potential for significant archaeological remains to be present in this area.
- No archaeologically significant features were observed during the watching brief.

**Report on the archaeological watching brief at Bolsover Castle, South  
Drive  
NGR SK 46997 70675**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Trent & Peak Archaeology was commissioned to undertake a watching brief on behalf of English Heritage for groundworks relating to the reinstatement of the South Drive at Bolsover Castle following the development of a sink-hole as a result of heavy rain.
- 1.2 The watching brief was instigated to identify the presence of any archaeological remains affected by the groundworks and, if present, to achieve an appropriate level of preservation by record for these features.

## 2. SITE BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Bolsover Castle is located approximately 10km to the east of Chesterfield and 9km to the west of the Nottinghamshire border (Figure 1), centred at NGR SK 46997 70675, c. 8.5m AOD. The castle is to the south of a prominent curve of the A632 (Station Road) within the small town of Bolsover.
- 2.2 The 1:50,000 British Geological Survey Mapping shows that the castle is situated on a bedrock geology of Cadeby Formation- Dolostone which formed approximately 251 to 271 million years ago.  
(<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).
- 2.3 Topographically the castle is situated on a roughly flat outcrop of Dolostone escarpment which suddenly drops off to the west where the solid geology has been described as calcareous mudstone and located at a height of c. 8.5m AOD. This places the castle on a particularly visible promontory within the landscape, especially when approached from the north and the west.



### 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

**Archaeology:** Below is a summary of the archaeological background of Bolsover Castle.

- 3.1 The present-day mansion of Bolsover Castle largely dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, but is located on the site of a formerly fortified Medieval castle, of which little evidence survives today. The most prominent building on the site, the Little Castle, is adjacent to a walled garden whose polygonal shape is believed to replicate the course of an original inner bailey, possibly a ring work dating from the later 11<sup>th</sup> century when the manor of Bolsover was granted to William Peveril, following the Norman Conquest of England. The extent of the Medieval castle has long been thought to be marked by the remains of an earthen bank by the present castle entrance at the north-west end of Castle Street. This bank once extended further, to form an effective south-east barrier across the neck of the dolostone promontory that the castle site occupies; beyond this manmade barrier the castle was defended by steep, natural falls in height.
- 3.2 The Outer Court, a largely open area between the bank and the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Riding School Range has historically been known as *Castle Yard*. It is named so on early survey plans of the castle by Senior in c.1630 and Colbeck in 1739. Knyff's engraving of the castle from 1698 shows the area as a walled and fenced enclosure under grass, an area next to the Riding School Range that was almost certainly used for grazing horses in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. At this time the main approach to the Castle was the driveway along the south-west edge of the promontory, leading to the Terrace Range and the Little Castle steps. The 1780 enclosure map of the town still showed Castle Yard as an open area but now divided into a west and an east half by a straight boundary running through the middle. In the late 18<sup>th</sup> century a small school was built on Castle Street and in 1840 a Gothic-style house built for the school master encroached onto the south-west corner of the Yard, followed later by a new school in 1868-72. By 1875 a drive had been laid out across the east half of the Yard, running between the minor entrance at the end of Castle Street and a gateway into the Great Court, beyond the Riding School Range.
- 3.3 Between c.1900-18 Castle Yard was further divided up, with a tennis court laid out in the eastern part and a bowling green in the west part. After 1945 and the acquisition of the Castle by the Ministry of Works, a bungalow was built near the site entrance (roughly in the position of the later visitor centre), with separate halves for the site custodian and the head gardener. Another track was laid out east of the existing drive and across where the tennis court had been, to a probable equipment store/garage just beyond the east-end of the bungalow. These features still show in the grass during dry spells. Services to the Castle (water, electricity and gas) followed the west edge of the drive.
- 3.4 Six small trenches were excavated for replacing diseased trees alongside the east side of the drive in 1979. The remains of 8 undated human burials were found in three of the holes at depths of 0.7m to 0.8m; they were generally orientated east-west. A post-hole was seen in one trench, and some sherds of medieval pottery recovered from undisturbed stratigraphic levels. Four burials were found in Trench A, three in Trench B and a single one in Trench D, some 56m south of the entrance to the Great Court. These, and other burials found to the north within the *Great Court*, are thought to date to within the 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> century period when the castle site was largely unoccupied.
- 3.5 In 1996 six small test-pits around 0.2m<sup>2</sup> were dug by *Northamptonshire Archaeology* as part of their third season of exploratory investigations at the Castle. These were widely spaced but being relatively small in dimension were only taken to a maximum depth of 0.4m and, consequently, were not informative.
- 3.6 Two T-shaped anchor points 1.1m across and 0.45m deep were excavated by ground-staff for use in a forthcoming tattoo in 1997. In an attempt to locate another





previously established point, an area near anchor point A was de-turfed. This came down on to the gravel surface belonging to the former track mentioned above. The anchor points cut through topsoil, and subsoil to 0.2m depth, and into a consistent limestone rubble and clay soil mixture. No bedrock was exposed (Sheppard 1997).

- 3.7 In 2002 a set of 27 small pits were dug for a marquee on the platform that is thought to have been created for the former tennis court. Despite its supposed flatness, the ground slopes gently westwards and northwards, changing in elevation by over a metre. The west edge of the supposed tennis court platform has a pronounced dip of 0.2m, and the ground falls a further half-metre to the drive. The site chosen for the marquee is relatively prominent. No definite archaeological features were observed and the finds only included one sherd of medieval pottery; the rest were relatively late in date. Along the west side of the marked area the gravelled track was encountered in two pits and a concrete slab in two other pits was found to overlie a drainage pipe which had run alongside the track between the Ministry of Works bungalow and the outlet near the toilet block at the north end of the Yard. Other pits along this side had a consistent sequence of topsoil, subsoil, broken limestone with soil (referred to locally as '*ratchel*') and bedrock. Bedrock was found at only 0.35-0.55m depth and had not been penetrated by any obvious archaeological features. The '*ratchel*' in one pit may have been disturbed by a feature, but this was uncertain. Most pits forming the short sides and the east long side of the rectangle contained introduced material – varying from individual layers of re-deposited stone and soil, brick dust and chippings, ground stone, tile and brick, mortar, yellow clay and dark clay soil (possibly buried topsoil). These layers went down to an average depth of 0.45m and appear to have been introduced. Although some fragments of plaster and old tiles were found amongst the rubble, most finds were 19<sup>th</sup> century or early 20<sup>th</sup> century in date. The only early finds were a single medieval pot sherd and a piece of daub, both re-deposited. In two-thirds of the total of 27 pits bedrock was found at a depth of 0.5-0.6m; with the ground sloping naturally from east to west (Sheppard 2002).
- 3.8 The decision was made in the late 1990s to erect a new visitor centre within the castle grounds, close to the existing entrance and over the site of the by-now demolished bungalow. As a first step, an evaluation excavation was carried out across the footprint of the new building and the surrounding area affected. This was followed by an excavation of the full site. In 1997 two evaluation trenches, numbered 01 and 02, were excavated. Trench 01 penetrated the bank of the former Medieval castle's outer bailey and the underlying buried soil was found to contain pottery dating from the late Saxon to the early Medieval period, thereby dating the bank's construction to after the late 11<sup>th</sup> century. The remaining part of the trench and Trench 02 provided other evidence for Medieval occupation of the area. Here the topsoil was found to go down to 0.2m and the subsoil to 0.35m. The natural limestone was found to have dips suggestive of fissures in the underlying rock. A year later the full area to be occupied by the new building was excavated. Here, large post-pits belonging to part of an aisled timber-building were found. This was interpreted as a structure running north-south, with either one or two aisles, this point remaining uncertain as a later quarry pit had removed evidence for any former east aisle. A series of smaller post-pits at the south end of the building could have been for an outshot, perhaps replaced by a fence on a slightly different alignment. Finds from the post-pits and a nearby cess-pit collectively indicated a probable domestic use of the building and a construction date in the first half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. An alternative function as an administrative building might explain its more public position close to the likely site entrance. The building's use terminated towards the end of the same century. These dates correlated with what is known from the limited documentary record of the castle (Sheppard 1998a, Sheppard 1998b, Sheppard 1999).
- 3.9 From the visitor centre evaluation and a subsequent watching brief on the south-east side of the bank it was concluded that the surviving earthen bank of the Medieval castle had a total width of about 12m and survives, with topsoil, to less than 1.5m in height. Such a low height-width ratio would result from a reduction in the height of the



bank prior to the present wall being built upon its crest. References in documents from 1771-75 to workmen 'getting stone in the Castleyard Bank' suggests that part of the bank was actively quarried to provide stone for building 'a fence wall in the Castle Yard' (*Nottinghamshire Archives, Portland Collection Bundle 15*). Part of the wall skirting the east side of Castle Yard demonstrated a lower buttress and some concrete reinforcements. Although it is not clear if Knyff shows a wall along this side of the Castle Yard, both the survey plans suggest that there had been one; Colbeck's plan in particular shows a dark line around most of the castle's perimeter and this is lacking where the banking was present instead. The reference of 1771-75 probably relates to the introduced boundary that was added to cut the Yard in two halves and which is shown on the enclosure map. The play-area (TPA report 005/2014) is near the point at where the earthen bank terminated and the walling started. There is a notable inward kink to the wall's route here which is not evident on the early survey plans (or the enclosure map). This, and the evident reinforcing of the slope, might suggest that this area has suffered slippage in the recent past.

- 3.10 The castle site is a promontory position along the escarpment of a limestone plateau, naturally defended on three sides and a favoured position for a settlement requiring security. There is no conclusive evidence for use of the site in the Prehistoric or Romano-British periods, but finds from under the earthen bank included features and 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century pottery indicative of a pre-Conquest settlement; this is further supported by the old-English origin of the Bolsover name. A lack of such finds elsewhere in the town might suggest that the focus of settlement may have been within the area of the Outer Bailey of the castle. The evaluation excavation of the visitor centre site found that it was extremely difficult to identify subtle features in the subsoil at Bolsover where feature fill with a high stone content was almost indistinguishable from the surrounding material and in an area already disturbed by former buildings and an aborted attempt to construct a works compound. Both here, and during the main excavation, the features became most evident once they had penetrated into the underlying natural bedrock and their fills showed up in contrast to the surrounding limestone. The discovery of the aisled hall, fence-posts and a cess-pit showed that the site has an important archaeological potential, the full nature of which was not at first obvious during the evaluation stage. The clearance of a relatively large area, 15m x 39m to a formation depth of 0.7m provided the rare opportunity to record the first known medieval structure within the castle site. Few castle sites have been explored sufficiently to determine how their ground-plans were organised, especially in the outer bailey areas. From the 13<sup>th</sup> century the typical castle may have had several halls, each the focus of a different household or social group. It is reasonable to conclude that other structures and associated features might have existed within Castle Yard and that some evidence for these survives.



## 4. METHODOLOGY

TPA will provide archaeological monitoring of excavations with a proposed maximum depth of 600mm for restitution of the South Drive, and repair of the southern retaining wall (Figure 3). The methodology followed will conform to the WSI (Appendix D)

### 4.1 **Machining**

Initial stripping of topsoil and overburden in all other areas will be carried out under archaeological supervision, the client must ensure that the contractor has been made aware of the archaeological constraint on their operations.

Wherever possible the contractor must ensure the use of a toothless ditching bucket on any excavator/machine so that a clean surface can be exposed and the archaeologist can inspect the deposits revealed. Foundation/service trenches should also be excavated with a toothless bucket where possible. Any exceptions to this must only occur following agreement with the archaeologist on site. There should be no trafficking by vehicles on the exposed surface until the archaeologist has agreed that there are no archaeological deposits of significance.

### 4.2 **Exposed trenches**

Within Health & Safety constraints, the contractor will ensure access to service and/or foundation trenches to permit examination/cleaning and where necessary recording of sections. It is important that time is allowed for such work, before any form of backfilling occurs. Where excavation can be quickly demonstrated not to have revealed significant archaeological deposits, delay will be minimal.

### 4.3 **Spoil-heaps**

Where practical and safe to do so, all spoil heaps will be regularly examined for archaeological material, this will include the use of a metal-detector.

### 4.4 **Recording – general**

Recording will as a minimum include the location and extent of the monitored areas of excavation, their depth, and the deposits exposed, both by scale drawing (section and/or plan where applicable) and photograph (monochrome prints/digital).

## 5. RESULTS

- 5.1 The site was initially stripped to a depth of 400mm, entailing the removal of topsoil until the underlying hardcore was exposed. The sinkhole appeared to extend underneath the concrete base/foundation of the wall and therefore a test-pit was excavated at the intersection between the gate wall and the external wall of the castle. This test-pit showed that the main concrete foundations of the wall were still intact and that the hardcore extended to roughly 3 metres below modern ground-level without bedrock being reached. It was determined that this hardcore extended throughout the excavated area around the gate to a depth of roughly 3m below modern ground-level, removing the possibility of any remains of archaeological significance within the expected impact depth of the intervention.

## 6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1 The structural engineering undertaken in 1997 to re-erect the south drive wall and gate was evidently a substantial project involving a large amount of extensive groundwork involving excavation through all overlaying strata to bedrock. Any remains of archaeological significance that were potentially present within this area would have been removed during the groundwork undertaken in 1997.



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## APPENDIX A Index of Archive and Arrangements for Deposition

<i>Field Records</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Number</i>
Watching brief record sheets	Record of visit and work carried out	1
Photographs:-		
Digital	All views	34
Black and White	All views	5
<i>Documents</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Number</i>
Written scheme of investigation	Statement of the aims, objectives and methodology for the project.	1
Health & Safety	Safe working statement & risk assessment	1
Report to client	Report of findings of the watching brief.	1

The archive is currently held in the offices of Trent & Peak Archaeology, Unit 1, Holly Lane, Chilwell, Nottingham, NG9 4AB. Copies of this report will be distributed as documented in the WSI. As no archaeological finds were recovered during the Watching Brief, there are no archival requirements in respect of material accessioning to museum storage facilities.

**APPENDIX B Plates**



**Plate 1: general view pre excavation**



**Plate 2: Sink hole**





**Plate 3: Excavation of area**



**Plate 4: Test pit**





**Plate 5: Section of area excavated to a depth of 300mm**



**Plate 6: Area excavated to 400mm**



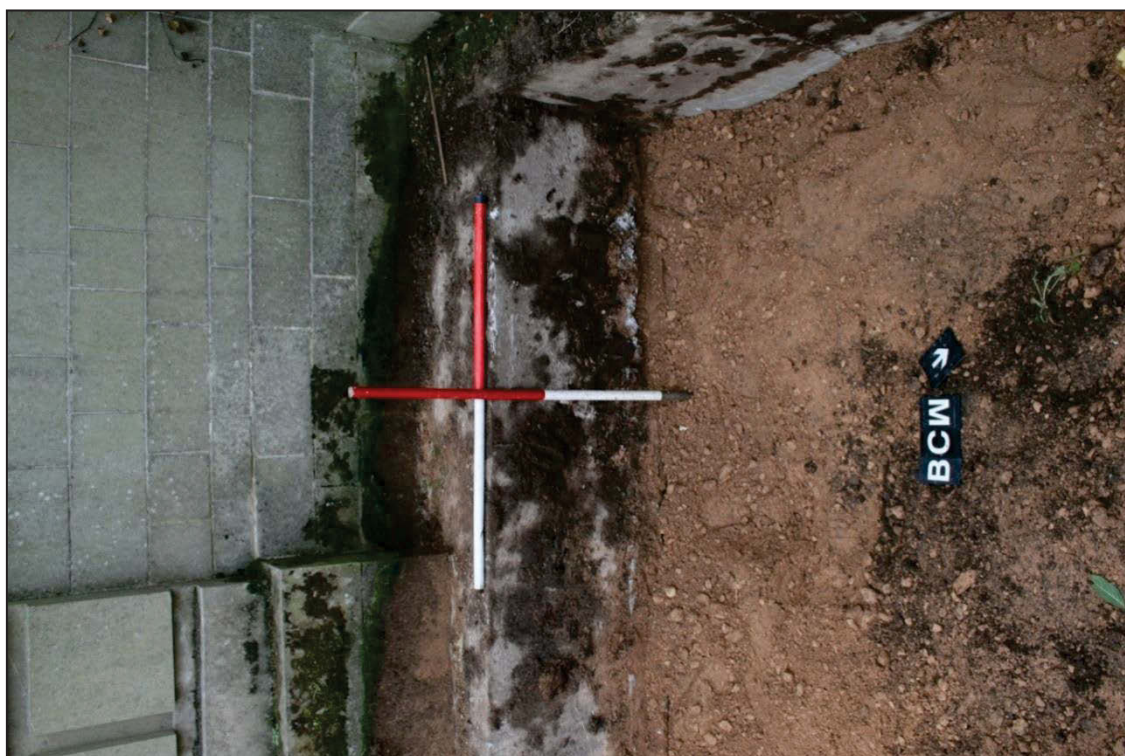


Plate 7: Section at concrete base of the northern side of the gate wall



Plate 8: Section at concrete base of the northern side of the gate wall





Plate 9: Section showing the topsoil on top of the sub ground hardcore



Plate 10: Section at concrete base of the southern side of the gate wall





Plate 11: Section at concrete base of the northern side of the gate wall

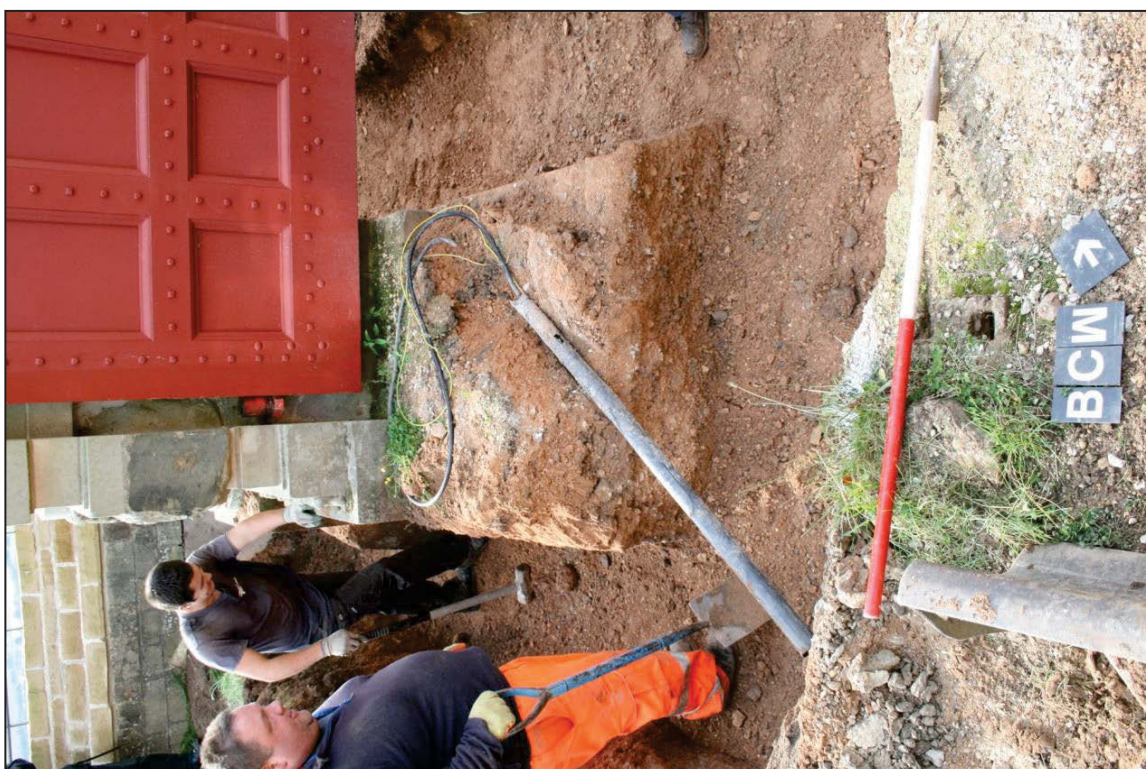
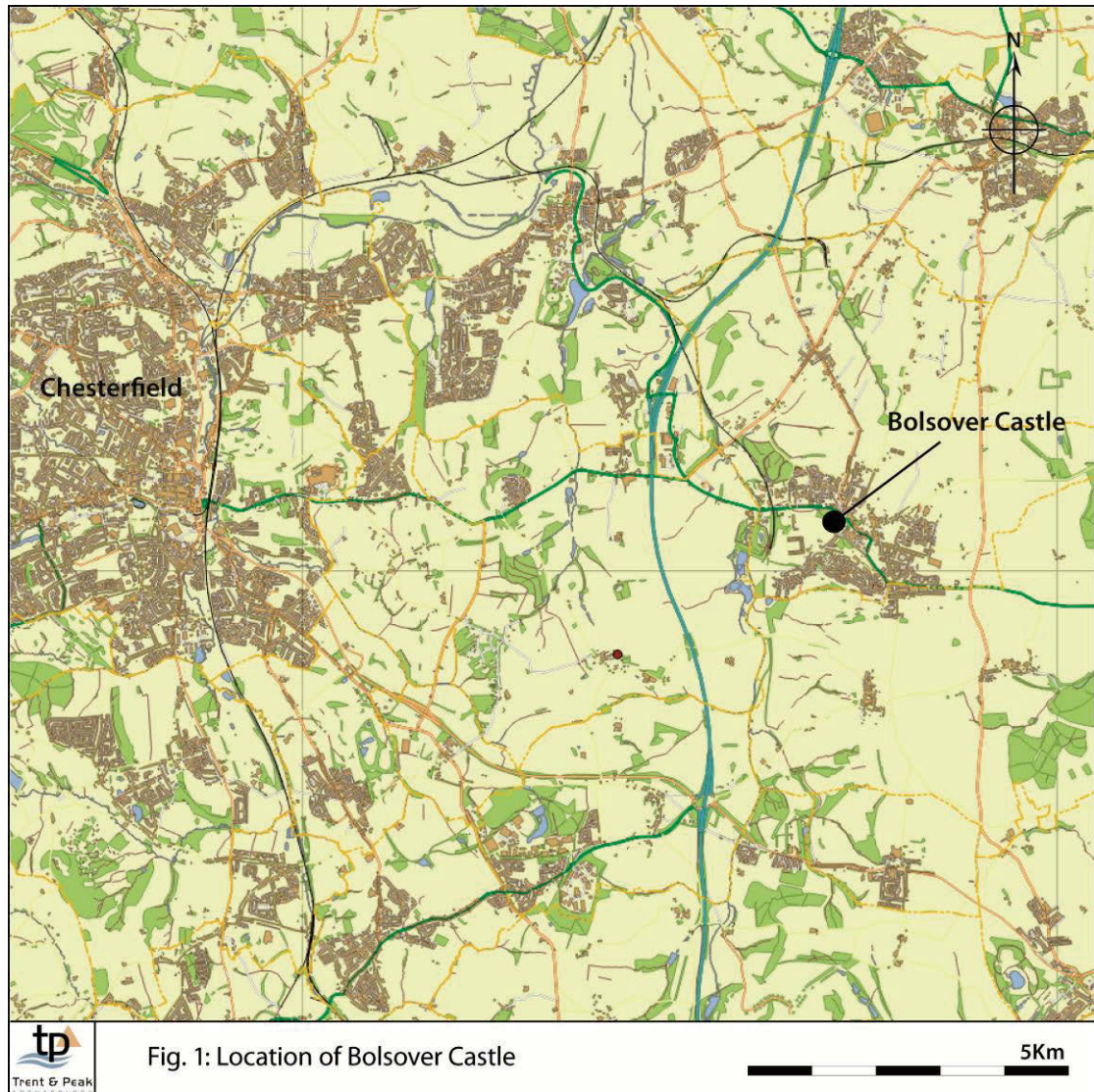


Plate 12: Section of the original position of the sink hole



**APPENDIX C Figures**



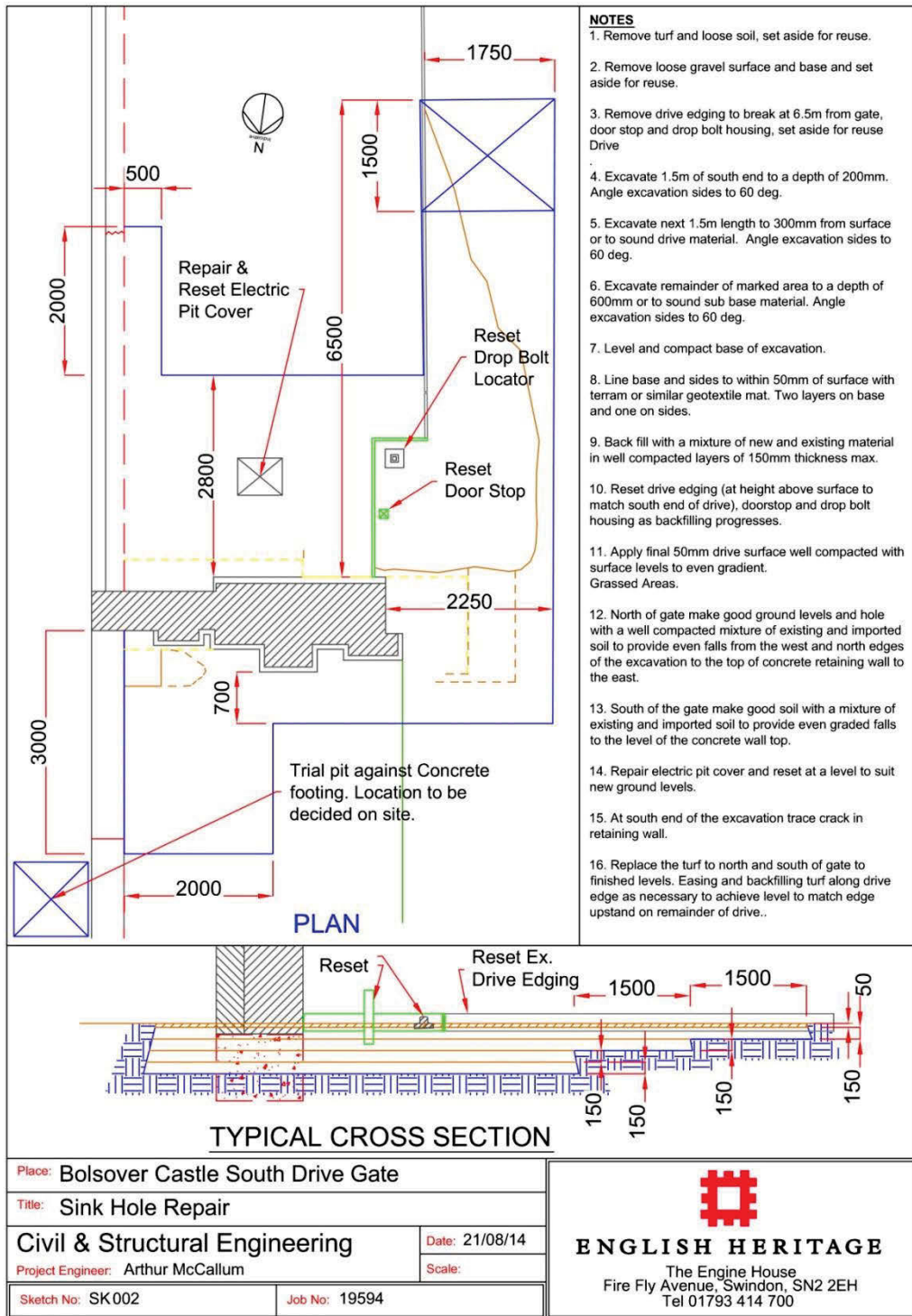


Figure 2: Proposed works





**Figure 3: Location of watching brief within the castle grounds.  
(English Heritage.2014).**

<http://list.english-heritage.org.uk/resultsingle.aspx?uid=1108976>



## APPENDIX D Written Scheme of Investigation



**Bolsover Castle, South Drive**

**DERBYSHIRE**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Written Scheme of Investigation.**

**2014**

**TPA Project Code BCW8**

**TPA Report no 110/2014**

**Prepared by Dr. Paul Johnson**

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**Bolsover Castle,**

**Bolsover,**

**DERBYSHIRE**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)**

## **1. BACKGROUND**

**Site Name:** Bolsover Castle South Drive, Bolsover.

**NGR:** SK 4600 3372

**Client:** English Heritage.

**Planning Application No.:** English Heritage. County monument number 1012496

**Brief:** N.A.

**Proposed Development:** Restitution of South Drive following development of a sinkhole

**Geology:** Limestone Bedrock

**Previous Archaeological Evidence:** *TPA have conducted archaeological monitoring works elsewhere within the Castle grounds (see bibliography).*

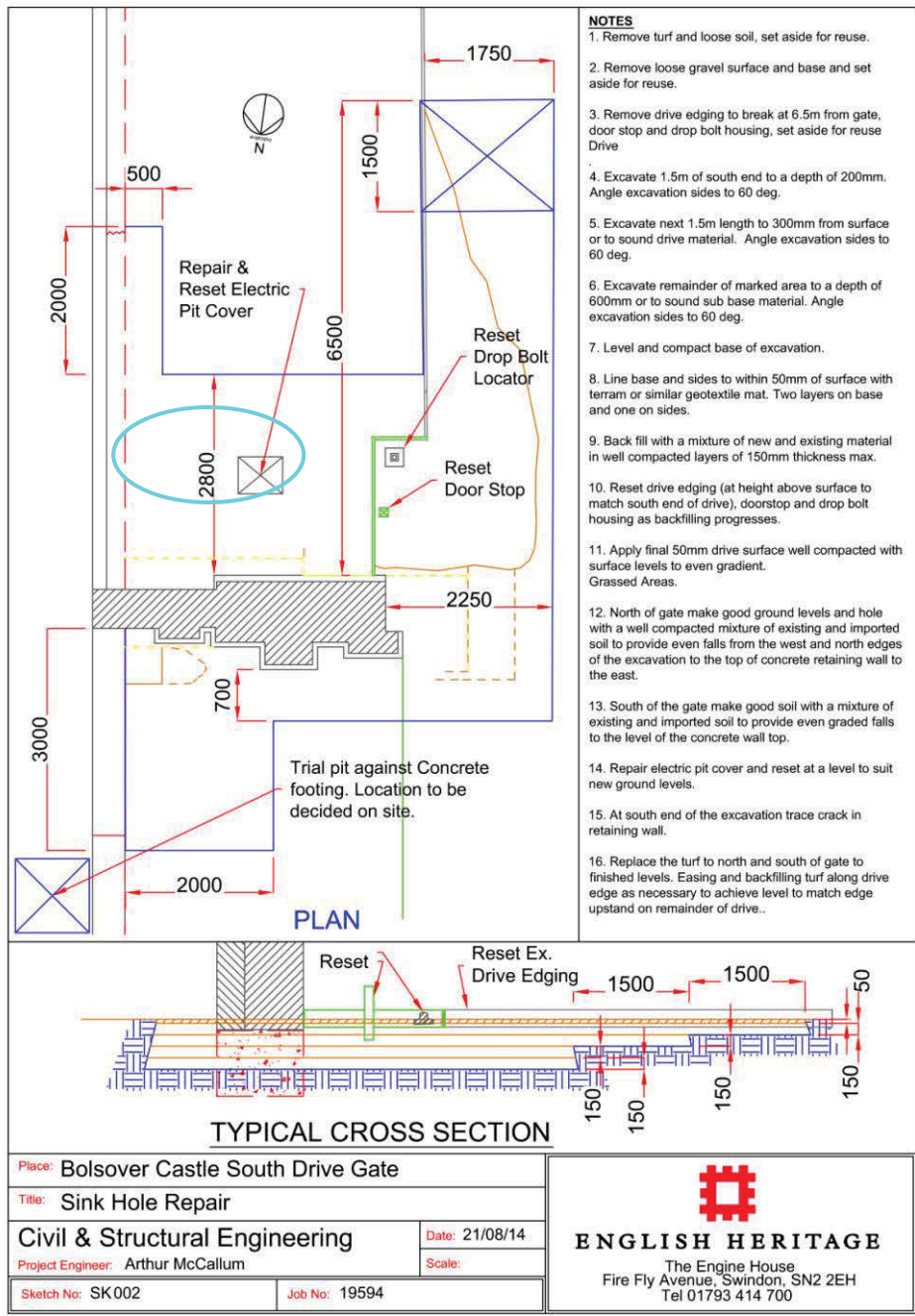


Figure 1: Proposed works

## 2. OBJECTIVES

### **2.1. The objective of the archaeological watching brief can be stated as:**

To identify the presence of any archaeological remains to be affected by any intrusive aspects of the development and to achieve an appropriate level of *preservation by record*. Where practical (within the constraints of the watching brief and development), this will include an assessment of the overall extent, date and state of preservation of archaeological remains. Any features of geoarchaeological significance will also be recorded and where there is the potential for palaeoenvironmental data, an appropriate level of sampling will be undertaken.

### **2.2. The proposed archaeological work comprises:**

Continuous archaeological monitoring of intrusive ground works with the potential to impact on features and layers of archaeological significance, with the prior agreement of the Inspector of Ancient Monuments Tim Allen (English Heritage).

All recording will result in 'the preparation of a report and ordered archive, in line with the guidelines of the IfA Institute for Archaeologists (*Standard and Guidance: for an archaeological watching brief* published October 1994, revised September 2001 and October 2008).

## 3. METHODOLOGY

### **3.1 General conditions**

*Staffing.* The work will be undertaken by suitably qualified members of TPA according to accepted archaeological practice and the Standard & Guidance' produced by the Institute for Archaeologists.

*Notice of the commencement of the Watching Brief.* The Watching Brief will begin on a date to be agreed with the client and will continue until the groundworks have been completed.

*Services.* The client will be responsible for carrying out service checks prior to groundworks, and will provide plans of all services within the development area.

*Base maps.* The client is requested to supply copies (preferably digital) of base maps for Trent & Peak Archaeology to use in the report.

*Contingency.* If an unusually high volume of artefacts, or deposits worthy of palaeoenvironmental investigation are recovered, these may be subject to a request for contingency funding covering additional staffing and/or specialist attendance and post-excavation analysis. No requests for contingency funding would be made without the approval of the English Heritage Project Manager. Should archaeological remains be encountered that cannot be treated to a satisfactory and proper standard within the resources allocated to the watching brief the English Heritage Principal Inspector will immediately be informed. This may entail ceasing site work until recourses are in place to either ensure preservation *in situ* or adequate treatment of the archaeological remains.

*Report.* A record of the results, whether positive or not, will be made and presented in an appropriate report format to the English Heritage Principal Inspector within 6 weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. For further details of the report structure see below (Detailed Specification of Archaeological Recording).

*Fencing.* The client will be responsible for securing the site from unauthorised public access.

### 3.2 Fieldwork

The archaeological contractor will implement the following procedure:

**TPA will provide archaeological monitoring of excavations with a proposed maximum depth of 600mm for restitution of the South Drive and repair of the southern retaining wall.**

#### *Machining*

Initial stripping of topsoil and overburden in all other areas will be carried out under archaeological supervision, **and the client must ensure that the contractor has been made aware of the archaeological constraint on their operations.**

Wherever possible the contractor must ensure the use of a toothless ditching bucket on any excavator/machine so that a clean surface can be exposed and the archaeologist can inspect the deposits revealed. Foundation/service trenches should also be excavated with a toothless bucket where possible. Any exceptions to this must only occur following agreement with the archaeologist on site. There should be no trafficking by vehicles on the exposed surface until the archaeologist has agreed that there are no archaeological deposits of significance.

#### *Exposed trenches*

Within Health & Safety constraints, the contractor will ensure access to service and/or foundation trenches to permit examination/cleaning and where necessary recording of sections. **It is important that time is allowed for such work, before any form of backfilling occurs.** Where excavation can be quickly demonstrated not to have revealed significant archaeological deposits, delay will be minimal.

#### *Spoil-heaps*

Where practical and safe to do so, all spoil heaps will be regularly examined for archaeological material, this will include the use of a metal-detector.

### 3.3 Recording – general

Recording will as a minimum include the location and extent of the monitored areas of excavation, their depth, and the deposits exposed, both by scale drawing (section and/or plan where applicable) and photograph (monochrome prints/digital). For further details of the recording methodology see below

*(Detailed specification of archaeological recording by Watching Brief).*

#### *Project staff*

The watching brief will be managed by Paul Johnson (Project Manager) and the attending archaeologist will be decided based on staffing commitments when a commencement date for the work is decided. The attending archaeologist will be at Project Officer or Project Supervisor level.

#### *Reporting and Liaison*

A report on the results, whether positive or not, will be prepared in the appropriate format and presented to the client and the curator within 6 weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. Should the results of the watching brief warrant it then a detailed report will also be submitted for publication in the Derbyshire Archaeological Journal and an appropriate specialist publication covering the period from which the remains have been dated. For further details of the contents of the report see below (Detailed Specification of Archaeological Recording by Watching Brief).

The English Heritage Principal Inspector will be given a minimum of one week notice of the commencement of the watching brief, and TPA will continue to liaise closely throughout the period of the works. The curator will be free to visit the site to monitor fieldwork subject to access conditions imposed by the client and/or landowner, and adherence to relevant health and safety guidance.



### **3.4 Welfare, Access and Insurance**

The client will ensure safe access to the ground-works and if possible make toilet and hand-washing facilities available to archaeological staff.

#### *Services Checks*

The client will make available all information relating to buried services prior to the commencement of intrusive groundworks.

#### *Insurance/compensation*

As part of York Archaeological Trust, TPA carries the appropriate public, third party and employee insurances, copies of which are available for inspection if required.

Any compensation claims for disruption to the land should be directly between the client and landowner.

### **3.5 Health and Safety**

TPA will adhere to all relevant health and safety regulations. No archaeological staff will be allowed to enter the site until they have undergone a health and safety induction organised by TPA and/or the principal contractor. TPA will complete a task specific risk assessment safe working method statement before the commencement of the watching-brief, and copies of this will be made available to the client. This will be in compliance with the industry guidelines laid out in FAME Manual, *Health & Safety in Field Archaeology*. TPA staff will wear appropriate personal protective equipment at all times.

## **4 DETAILED SPECIFICATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING**

The investigation will be carried out in accordance with the code of conduct of The Institute for Archaeologists.

Within the confines of site safety, contexts (the smallest usefully-definable unit of stratification) will be cleaned by hand and recorded.

All finds will be assigned an individual finds code. *In-situ* finds will be recorded three dimensionally, while finds from spoil will be noted in relation to their location within the trench/stripped area.

Excavation will be sufficient to securely establish the character and where possible date, and stratigraphic relationship of features.

In the event that important archaeological remains are uncovered, the client's site representative will be informed immediately, with a proposal for the most effective measures for dealing with the remains. If they cannot be preserved *in situ*, their excavation may require contingency resources and additional time: the English Heritage Principal Inspector will be informed of such events and their input requested.

#### *Human Remains*

Should human remains be uncovered they will initially be left in situ and provided with appropriate protection. The English Heritage Principal Inspector and the Coroner will be informed immediately and a Ministry of Justice burial license obtained to permit removal where necessary.

#### *Recording*

Plans of all contexts including features will be drawn on drafting film in pencil at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50, and will show at least:

context numbers,  
all colour and textural changes,  
principal slopes represented as hachures,

levels expressed as O.D. values, or leveled to permanent features if benchmark absent, sufficient details to locate the subject on a 1:500 plot of the area of ground-works and o.s 1:2500 map (i.e the national grid).

Sections will show the same information, but leveling information will be given in the form of a datum line with O.D/arbitrary value; the locations of all sections will be shown on the plan.

Photographs of each context will be taken as monochrome prints and digital images (as per Brown 2007), together with general views illustrating the principal features of the excavations.

Written records will be maintained as laid down in TPA recording manual (as accepted by all regional county archaeologists).

#### *Sampling (Palaeoenvironmental & Industrial residues)*

Appropriate sampling of deposits of palaeoenvironmental potential and residues and debris from industrial processes will be conducted in accordance with Table 1 (see below), with appropriate amendments following subsequent specialist advice. Specialist palaeoenvironmental advice will be provided by James Rackham and/or members of the School of Geography, University of Nottingham. Samples (both palaeoenvironmental and industrial) will be assessed, followed by full analysis and reporting where appropriate following receipt of specialist advice and liaison with the English Heritage Principal Inspector.

**Table 1 – Preliminary Site Sampling Strategy\***

feature type	Sediment condition	Overall scope of sampling	MM	C14	Po/Dm	Ch	BP/BS	Bo	Wd
Sampling method: s				A4x1cm (seal)	Film caps or column in gutter + Clingfilm	Min.30L+ Tubs (specialists to advise as to appropriate level of sub sampling of deposit)			wrap each bit sep.
Man-made feature	Waterlogged organic (looks 'peaty')	each occurrence series of samples if thick (>150mm)			*	*	*	*	*
buried soil	Dry visible charred material	each occurrence (C14 selected: best is twigs then laver then flecks)		*		*		*	
	Waterlogged organic	each occurrence, at thickest point	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Dry visible charred material	each occurrence, at thickest point, series of samples if thick (>150mm)	*	*	*	*		*	
Any	Wood structure	retain all, keep damp, bag each timber		*					*
Industrial residues / debris etc.		All process stages to be represented					*		

\*Adjustments to be made following specialist advice and liaison with DCC DCA where appropriate.

**Abbreviations** MM Micromorphology C14 Radiocarbon Po/Dm Pollen/diatoms Ch Charred material BP Waterlogged Beetles/Plant remains Bo small bone Wd wood. BS – Bulk Sample (industrial waste/residues/processing debris)

#### 4.1 Post-excavation Processing

All finds will be stored as recommended in "First aid for finds" (by the Archaeology section of the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation), and marked with the site and find codes, and relevant accession numbers. These will be deposited with English Heritage collections store (Wrest Park) on completion of the report, subject to the provisions of the brief and the agreement of the client. Any Prehistoric pottery will be submitted for assessment to Dr.D.Knight (TPA), Romano-British pottery to Ruth Leary (Independent), Anglo-Saxon/Medieval pottery/tile to L.Elliott & Dr.H.Jones (TPA), Flint to J.Brown (Associate of TPA).

#### 4.2 Archive

The archive will be fully indexed and contain where relevant:

- copies of correspondence relating to fieldwork
- site notebooks/diaries
- original photographic records
- site drawings (plans, sections, elevations)
- original context records, matrix diagrams showing stratigraphic sequence of all contexts.
- artefacts
- original finds records
- original sample records
- original skeleton records
- computer discs and printout

#### 4.3 Archive and Finds Deposition

Initial contact with the English Heritage Collections Store (Wrest Park) will be made before the commencement of fieldwork, using the appropriate notification form.

Where necessary the documentary archive will be sent to the NMR for copying.

Finds will remain the property of the client with deposition to English Heritage Collections Store subject to their approval.

The paper and digital archive generated by TPA will remain the property of the Unit until deposited within the English Heritage Collections Store:

English Heritage and museum store curator will be notified in writing on completion of fieldwork, with a proposed timetable for deposition of the archive. This should be confirmed in the project report.

English Heritage must be informed in writing on final deposition of archive.

#### 4.4 Report

A verbal report and where appropriate textual summary will be provided to the client on completion of fieldwork. Within 6 weeks of the end of the fieldwork, a final report on results will be completed and copies provided to:

The client

English Heritage Principal Inspector for accession to the HER. This will include a copy of the report in PDF format on CD along with indexed copies of all digital on site photography.

English Heritage (copies sent to both the Scheduled Monument files at Derngate, and a copy for the properties department).

The report will include:

- Non-technical summary
- Introductory statement
- Aims and purpose of the project
- Methodology
- An objective summary statement of results
- Conclusion
- Illustrations at appropriate scales, all to include levels tied to Ordnance Datum.
- Illustrative site photography, including key features and working shots
- Supporting data - tabulated or in appendices, including as a minimum a basic quantification of all artefacts, ecofacts and structural data including recommendations for retention/discard and proposals for conservation.
- Index to archive and details of archive location; confirmation of archive transfer arrangements including a provisional timetable for deposition.
- References
- A copy of the OASIS form

#### *Dissemination*

The results will be submitted for publication within the annual summary, if applicable, in *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal*. If significant results are discovered then an individual report of an appropriate level of detail, will also be submitted for publication to a suitable academic journal.

#### *Copyright*

Trent & Peak Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved excepting that it hereby provides exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project, with no limitation on the number of times that the client may reproduce any report. The client's contribution will be acknowledged in any future use of the work by TPA.

#### **4.5 OASIS**

Prior to commencement of the fieldwork an OASIS online record will be initiated (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>). A copy of this document will be included in the report.

#### **4.6 Monitoring**

All phases of the investigation will be undertaken in line with the relevant '*Standard and Guidance*' documents prepared by the IfA (Institute for Archaeologists).

TPA will keep the client English Heritage informed of all material facts of the archaeological investigations. This will include agreeing any changes to the approved methodology or programme of works, and invitations to inspect any uncovered remains at appropriate stages in the fieldwork programme. The English Heritage Principal Inspector will be free to visit the site at any stage of the fieldwork

#### **6 PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

A provisional timetable will be agreed once a date for commencement of the main ground works has been confirmed. As soon as a project start date is confirmed the English Heritage Principal Inspector will be informed.

## References

Brown, D.H. 2007 *Archaeological Archives – A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (IFA/AAF).

BGS Geology Viewer <http://maps.bgs.uk/geologyviewer>

In addition, the following TPA reports are relevant to archaeological work at Bolsover Castle:

005/2014 Bolsover Castle Play Area WSI

005/2014 Bolsover Castle Play Area WSI

019/2014 Bolsover Castle Play Area Watching Brief

020/2014 Bolsover Castle Path Extension

037/2014 Bolsover Castle, Bolsover. Derbyshire. Report of an Archaeological Watching Brief on the extension and reduction of footpaths and tree planting

012/2013 The Fountain Garden, Bolsover Castle, Derbyshire. Trial-pits for locating a drain

015/2013 Bolsover Castle: Ground Penetrating Radar in the Fountain Garden

033/2013 An Impact Assessment for a Proposed Play Area at Bolsover Castle, Derbyshire



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## Printable version

**OASIS ID: trentpea1-193547**

### Project details

Project name	Bolsover Castle, South Drive, Watching Brief
Short description of the project	Archaeological Watching Brief undertaken during groundworks to reinstate part of the South Drive of Bolsover castle and to re-landscape the margins of said drive, following the development of a sinkhole due to heavy rains in the Autumn of 2014
Project dates	Start: 10-10-2014 End: 11-10-2014
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Other 8 - Land dedicated to the display of a monument
Monument type	CASTLE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Recorded Observation", "Watching Brief"
Prompt	Scheduled Monument Consent

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	DERBYSHIRE BOLSOVER OLD BOLSOVER Bolsover Castle, South Drive
Postcode	S44 6PR
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SK 46997 70675 53.2307500607 -1.29587359306 53 13 50 N 001 17 45 W Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Trent and Peak Archaeology
Project brief originator	English Heritage/Department of Environment
Project design originator	Dr. Paul S. Johnson
Project	Dr. Paul S. Johnson

director/manager  
 Project supervisor Tom Hooley  
 Type of sponsor/funding body English Heritage

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No  
 Digital Archive recipient Wrest Park  
 Digital Contents "Stratigraphic","other"  
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Text"  
 Paper Archive recipient Wrest Park  
 Paper Contents "Stratigraphic","other"  
 Paper Media available "Context sheet","Correspondence","Map","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Report"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
 Title Bolsover Castle, South Drive: Report on an archaeological watching brief conducted in October 2014  
 Author(s)/Editor(s) T. Hooley  
 Other bibliographic details TPA report number: 122/2014  
 Date 2014  
 Issuer or publisher Trent and Peak Archaeology  
 Place of issue or publication Nottingham  
 Description A4, comb-bound document and PDF of the same  
 Entered by Paul Johnson (pjohnson@yorkat.co.uk)  
 Entered on 27 October 2014

## OASIS:

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