
TRINITY COURT ROMAN WAY CORBRIDGE

REPORT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

March 2011



Prepared for: <i>Isos Developments Ltd.</i>	By: <i>The Archaeological Practice Ltd.</i>
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TRINITY COURT CORBRIDGE

REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Prepared by:

The Archaeological Practice Ltd.



PROJECT: Archaeological watching brief at development site
LOCATION: Trinity Court, Corbridge
CLIENT: Isos Developments Ltd.
SITE GRID REF: NY 986 648
FIELDWORK: 14th December 2010 and January 7th 2011
OASIS REF: thearcha2-93392

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SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was carried out on 14th December 2010, and 7th & 10th January 2011 on land surrounding Trinity Court, Corbridge, close to the recorded position of a medieval chapel and cemetery and in an area known from previous sporadic and ad hoc discoveries to contain Roman burials associated with the nearby fort.

A watching brief on borehole excavations carried out as part of geotechnical investigations ahead of the redevelopment of Trinity Court, Roman Way, Corbridge, produced evidence for made ground to depths between 0.40 and 1.40 metres, giving way to boulder clays and gravels below those depths. The evidence appears to suggest that the surface deposit of modern made ground and topsoil is deepest on the south frontage and towards the east end of the current buildings.

The excavation in December 2010 of five boreholes as part of geotechnical investigations for the redevelopment of the site revealed no finds or features demonstrating the survival of archaeologically significant remains, or shedding significant light on the underground topography of the area. However, one of two further boreholes, excavated in January 2011 on the Trinity Terrace frontage, produced over 20 sherds of Roman pottery, along with burnt organic remains and some modern pottery.

Although it was not possible to determine with certainty that the Roman pottery finds were directly associated with the burnt material, as seems likely, it seems reasonable to postulate that the process of coring disturbed in situ Roman deposits, most likely to be those associated with a Roman cemetery which is known to have extended from the east side of the nearby Roman fort, or its vicus.

It is concluded, therefore, that while the majority of excavations associated with geotechnical investigation did not produce evidence for sub-surface archaeological remains, a single excavation and borehole on the south side of the current building, sited several meters from the building in an area less likely to have been disturbed by its foundations, did disturb significant Roman deposits. Further, it is considered likely that further remains of Roman origin lie undisturbed in that area, and that others may occur to the north and east of the building, up to depths of c.1m, outside the area of disturbance caused when the present building foundations and associated service trenches were installed.

On the basis of the above findings it is recommended that further evaluation of the site by archaeological trenching should take place in areas more than 0.5m away from the current building foundations that are likely to be disturbed to depths over 0.40m. Evaluation should focus on areas likely to have been least disturbed by the construction of foundations and services associated with the current Trinity Court building.

1. PURPOSE OF THE WATCHING BRIEF

The Archaeological Practice Ltd. were instructed by HMM Architects, on behalf of Isos Developments Ltd. to carry out an archaeological watching brief at Trinity Court, Roman Way, Corbridge. The work was requested by the Assistant County Archaeologist for Northumberland in order to mitigate the potential impact of geotechnical investigations being carried out by 3E Consulting Engineers in advance of the redevelopment of the site on the west side of Corbridge. The watching brief was requested because the site lies in an area between Corbridge medieval village and Roman Fort, close to the position of a medieval chapel in an area where Roman burials have previously been reported.

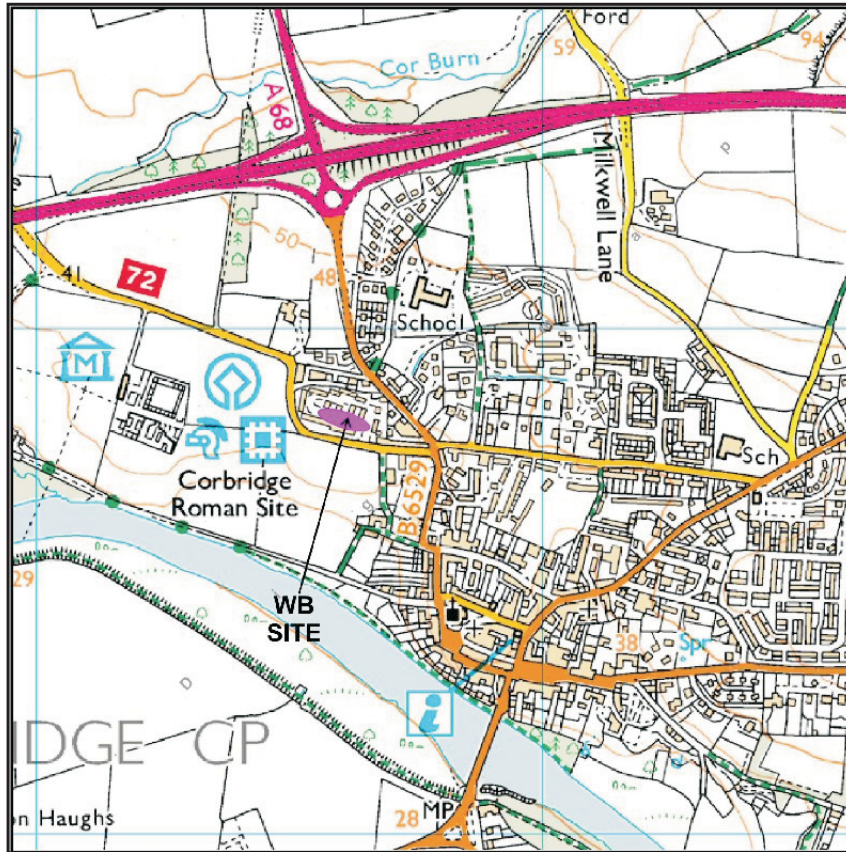
2. CULTURAL HERITAGE BACKGROUND

Human activity within the bounds of the assessment area is unattested for the Mesolithic, Neolithic or Bronze Age periods. This lack of evidence is not unexpected given the extent of Roman, medieval and later activity in the area and the presence of modern housing developments which have prohibited fieldwork there. Limited evidence from the wider environs suggests that this relatively resource-rich area would have been exploited from the earliest times, the undulating lowlands of south Northumberland providing a range of wildlife habitats for hunter-gatherer exploitation and suitable conditions for early farmers. The nature and density of landholding within this lowland area during the later prehistoric period is unknown and settlement within the assessment area undocumented, although it may be assumed that the immediate locality, as an agriculturally resource-rich environment, was farmed. Aerial photographs provide evidence of discrete late prehistoric or Romano-British farmsteads locally, representative of a class of settlement found in the coastal lowlands of north-east England and the Borders.

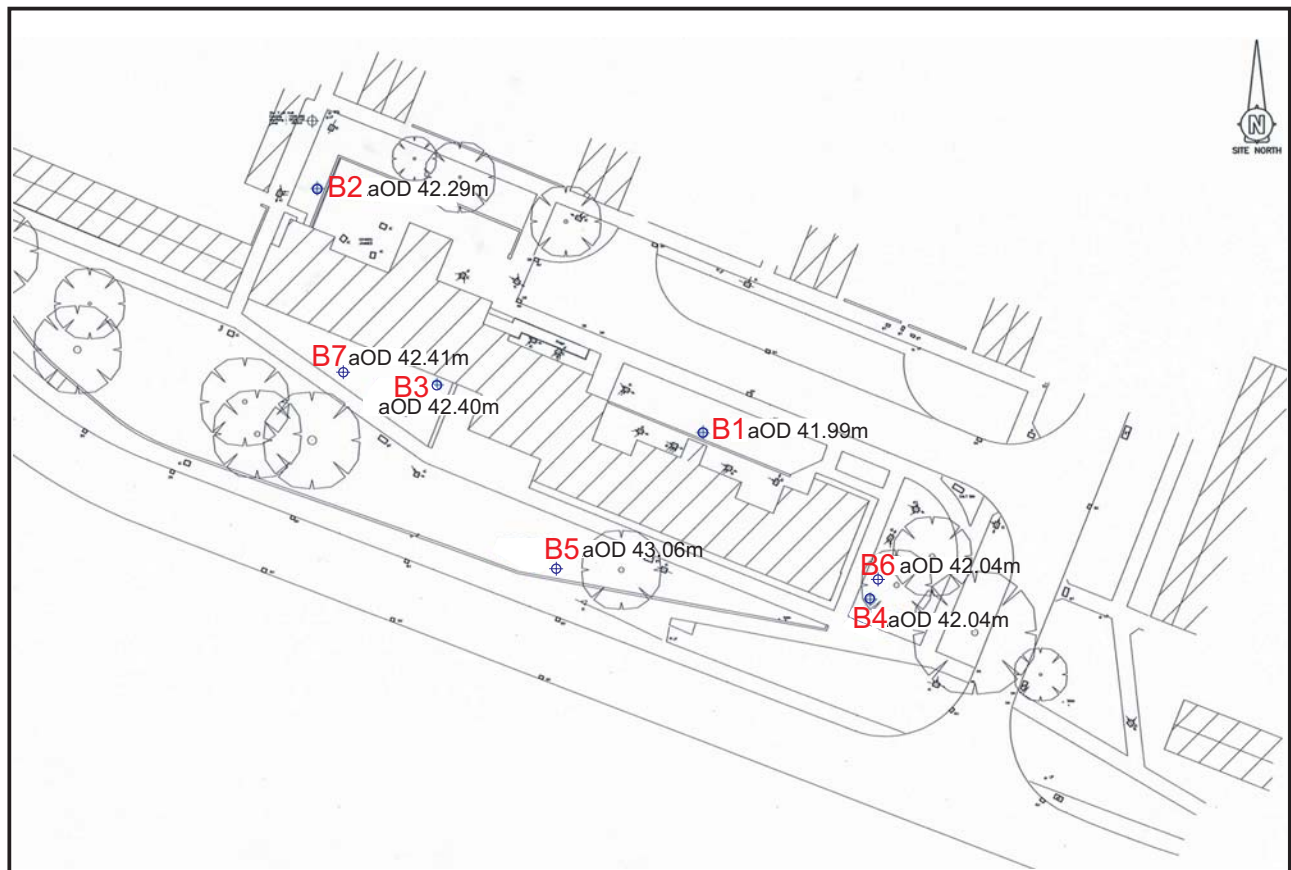
Roman military and civil occupation in the close vicinity of Corbridge is well-attested by the surviving remains of Roman *Corstopitum*, one kilometre to the north-west, and an earlier military supply-base on adjacent land at Red House Farm. Dere Street, an important Roman Road crosses the Tyne between the present village and Roman fort site, and it has been suggested on the basis of excavated remains that a Roman cemetery follows a road east from *Corstopitum* into the modern heart of Corbridge along Well Bank. In addition to masonry imported to medieval and modern Corbridge as building material, a considerable quantity of Roman artefacts have been found in the town, but none attests with certainty to Roman occupation or settlement within the medieval and modern town.

Little is known about settlement in the vicinity of *Corstopitum* following the end of Roman administration in the early fifth century until a religious house was founded on the site of the present church of St. Andrew in the later seventh or early eighth century. It has been suggested that a settlement was founded on the site of modern Corbridge to take advantage of a river ford when the Roman bridge became unusable. There is considerable documentation for the later medieval history of Corbridge, but little for the pre-conquest settlement, while material evidence is provided by surviving parts of the church and a range of artifactual discoveries.

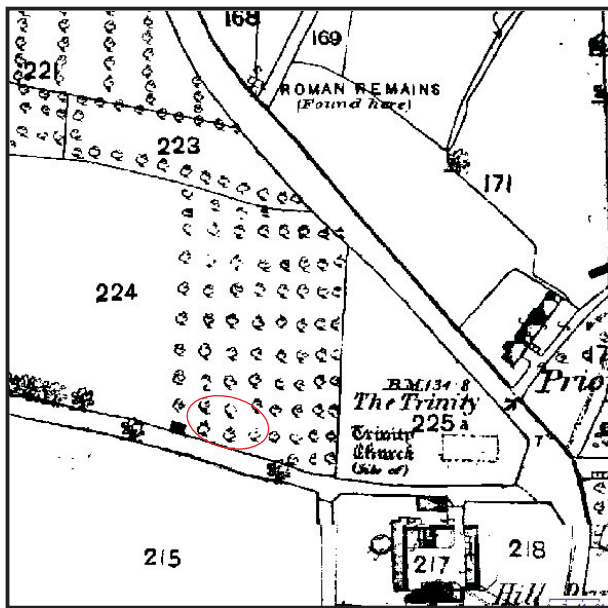
Corbridge reached the peak of its medieval prosperity in the thirteenth century, at which time it was second in size in the region only to Newcastle. The most prominent monuments dating from this period, both visible from parts of the current assessment area, are the modified church of St Andrew and the fortified Vicar's Pele, dating to around the year 1300. It is likely that by this time the present structure of the town was in place; indeed, it is likely that its structure was fixed after becoming a *burgh* in the late tenth or early eleventh centuries and a



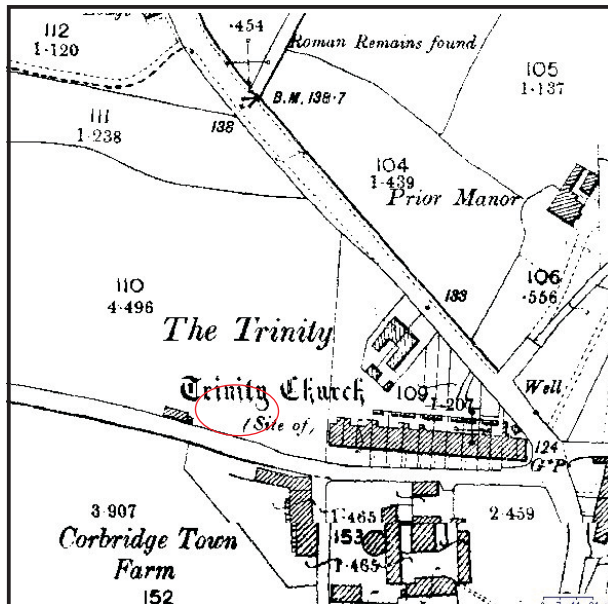
Illus. 01: Location of the development plot on the west side of Corbridge.



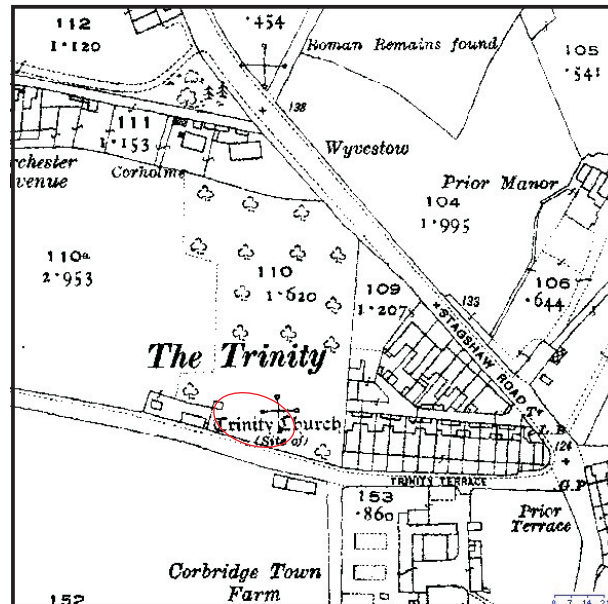
Illus. 02: The location of the investigations surrounding Trinity Court (original plan supplied by client).



Illus. 03: The Trinity Court site on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Plan, c.1858.



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Illus. 05: The Trinity Court site on the Third Edition Ordnance Survey Plan, c.1919.

borough in the late twelfth century, its status and extent defined by the completion of a town ditch in the same period.

The boundaries enclosing the medieval town set a limit on urban expansion which was not greatly exceeded until recent times. Centred upon the church and market place was the present pattern of streets, along which settlement radiated towards the walls in the form of small houses with attached gardens, crofts and elongated burgage plots. This pattern of settlement survived the decline of the town following destruction at the hands of Scottish raids in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, following which the market and churchyard, together with the population and economic importance of the town, contracted.

Despite this contraction, it appears unlikely that the area of the current proposed development ever formed part of the town, although the field upon which Roman Way was developed in the 20th century is listed on the 2nd & 3rd editions of the Ordnance Survey plan (dated c.1898 & 1920, respectively) as 'The Trinity', with the site of Trinity Church shown by the roadside some 60-70m south of the development plot. It is possible, therefore, that medieval or post-medieval burial remains may survive in the locality. However, it appears that the site of Trinity church is imprecisely defined, since it appears some distance to the east on the earlier, 1st edition Ordnance Survey plan.

3. THE WATCHING BRIEF

The aims of the watching brief were to determine whether archaeological features or deposits were present on the site, and to make an appropriate record of any such finds by photographic and other means. Attendance by an archaeologist was requested by the Assistant County Archaeologist within the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team.

Accordingly, three visits were made between December 2010 and January 2011. Five boreholes were excavated on the 14th December 2010, and two others were excavated on the south side of the existing building on 7th and 10th January 2011. All boreholes were undertaken using a mini percussive rig.

4. RESULTS

In December 2010 a total of five boreholes, c.8 cm in diameter, were drilled to depths of between two and five metres (see *Illus. 02* for borehole locations).

Site 1:

Location: On the north side of the existing Trinity Court building.

Depth: The core reached a maximum depth of 4 metres.

Description: The core consisted of mixed topsoil and clay-based made-ground to a depth of 0.4m. This sat upon firm dark brown sandy clay to a depth of 1.9metres. Beneath this a loose dense orange/brown clay containing fine gravel was noted to the end of the investigations at 4 metres.

Interpretation: The position of Borehole 1 immediately adjacent to the north wall of the existing building was reflected in the disturbed nature of upper deposits reported. The natural sub-soil appears to occur here at the relatively shallow depth of 0.4m. No finds of archaeological significance were found within this core sample.

BOREHOLE 1



Illus. 06: The location of Borehole 1 on the north side of Trinity Court, viewed from the east.



Illus. 07: The location of Borehole 1 on the north side of Trinity Court, viewed from the west.



Illus. 08: The core produced from Borehole 1.

Site 2:

Location: at the east end of the north side of the existing Trinity Court building.

Depth: The core reached a final depth of 5 metres.

Description: The core consisted of mixed topsoil and clay-based made-ground to a depth of 0.5m. This sat upon firm dark brown slightly sandy clay to a depth of 2.6metres. Beneath this lay 0.7m thick band of medium dense brown clay/sand and gravel on top of stiff dark sandy/gravelly clay followed by medium dense brown sandy clay to the end of the investigations at 5 metres.

Interpretation: Borehole 2, sited adjacent to the north wall of the existing building, produced disturbed upper deposits to a depth of 0.5m, at which depth the natural sub-soil was located. No finds of archaeological significance were found within this second core sample.

Site 3:

Location: Towards the west end of the south side of the existing Trinity Court building.

Depth: The core reached a final depth of 5 metres.

Description: The core consisted of mixed topsoil and clay-based made-ground, including some ash, to a depth of 0.5m. This sat upon a firm, dark brown, sandy clay with lenses of gravels to a depth of 2.2 metres. Beneath this lay a 0.7m thick layer of mottled grey silty/sandy gravel on top of a brown clay with sand & gravel inclusions, giving way to a loose brown coarse sand starting at 3.40 metres and persisting to the maximum depth of the bore at 5 metres.

Interpretation: The core consisted of mixed topsoil and clay-based made-ground to a depth of 0.5m, below which were natural deposits. The upper, mixed deposit appeared to contain some ashy inclusions, but whether these were of ancient or modern origin could not be determined. No finds of archaeological significance were found within this core sample.

Site 4:

Location: On the east side of the existing Trinity Court building, close to its south-east corner and closest to the likely site of a medieval chapel.

Depth: The core reached a final depth of 4 metres.

Description: The core consisted of mixed soil and disturbed, dark-brown clay to a depth of 1.4m. This sat upon loose-medium dense brown sandy gravel to the end of investigations at 4 metres.

Interpretation: The core consisted of mixed topsoil and clay-based made-ground to a depth of 1.4m, below which were natural deposits. No finds of archaeological significance were found within this core sample.

Site 5:

Location: In the centre of the south side of the existing Trinity Court building.

Depth: The core reached a final depth of 3 metres.

BOREHOLE 2



Illus. 09: The location of Borehole 2 at Trinity Court, viewed from the north.



Illus. 10: Borehole 2 during coring.



Illus. 11: The core produced from Borehole 2.

BOREHOLE 3



Illus. 12: The location of Borehole 3 on the south side of Trinity Court, viewed from the west.



Illus. 13: Borehole 3 viewed from the south.



Illus. 14: The core produced from Borehole 3.



Illus. 15: The location of Borehole 4 at the south-east corner of Trinity Court, viewed from the east side.



Illus. 16: The core produced from Borehole 4.



Illus. 17: Sandstone present at c.1.5metres in Borehole 4.

Description: The core consisted of soil and disturbed dark brown clay made-ground to a depth of 1.4m. This sat upon loose-medium dense brown sandy gravel to the maximum depth of investigations at 3 metres.

Interpretation: The core consisted of mixed topsoil and clay-based made-ground to a depth of 1.4m, below which were natural deposits. No finds of archaeological significance were found within this core sample.

[In January 2011 two further boreholes, c.8 cm in diameter, were drilled to depths over seven metres (see *Illus. 02* for borehole locations). Each hole was manually dug to a depth of 1.2metres (c.30cm wide) as part of the investigations.]

Site 6:

Location: On the east side of the existing Trinity Court building, immediately adjacent to Site 4 (above).

Depth: The core reached a final depth of 7.7 metres.

Description: The core consisted of mixed soil and disturbed, dark-brown clay to a depth of 0.65m. This sat upon a light brown coarse sand with sandstone gravel to a depth of 5.4 metres, below which a mix of gravel and sandstones (weathered bedrock) was noted to the bottom of the borehole.

Interpretation: The core consisted of mixed topsoil and clay-based made-ground to a depth of 0.65m, below which were natural deposits. No finds of archaeological significance were found within this core sample.

Site 7:

Location: On the south of the existing Trinity Court building, west of the position of Site 3 (above).

Depth: The core reached a final depth of 7.2 metres.

Description: Core 7 consisted of soil and disturbed, dark-brown sandy clay which was observed in the hand-excavated pit to a depth of c0.65 metres.¹ This sat upon a dense, brown sandy clay with sandstone gravel inclusions which borehole evidence shows extended to a depth of 5.1 metres. Beneath this a dark brown sandy clay was observed on top of a sandy brown sandstone gravel, which was noted to the bottom of the borehole.

Within the upper part of the deposit, excavated by hand prior to the boring rig being set in place, a total of 26 sherds of ceramic material were recovered (*Illus. 30i*), of which four were modern (2 willow-pattern body sherds, a white glazed rim sherd and a fragment of brick) and 22 identified as more ancient, probably all Roman (*Illus. 30ii*). The bulk of the older assemblage comprised 14 sherds of pottery (one base sherd, one rim sherd, 12 body sherds) in a sandy, buff-white fabric, possibly Crambeck and potentially all from a single vessel. In addition were a single body sherd in sandy orange-buff fabric, a single body sherd in a hard, slightly-sandy dark grey reduced fabric, and a single rim sherd in a soft, buff-brown fabric (the existence of some grit on the interior surface of which suggests it is probably a piece of mortarium). The remaining five sherds of ceramic material were fragments of brick in

¹ The method of digging the narrow surface pit for Borehole 7 precluded precise depth measurement.

BOREHOLE 5



Illus. 18: The location of Borehole 5 on the south side of Trinity Court, viewed from the south-west.



Illus. 19: The core produced from Borehole 5.



Illus. 20: Sandstone present at a depth of c.1 metre in Borehole 5.



Illus 21: The hand-dug first phase of Borehole 6, viewed from the north-east.



Illus 22: The hand-dug hole at a depth of 1.2m before the commencement of boring.



Illus 23: The coring rig in use.



Illus 24: Samples from Borehole 6 taken from c.1.5 - 3m below ground level.



Illus 25: Sample taken from c.4.5m below ground level.



Illus 26: Samples taken from c.5 - 6m below ground level, showing clay-based deposits.

BOREHOLE 7



Illus. 27: The location of borehole 7, on the south side of Trinity Court, viewed from the south.



Illus. 28: Borehole 7, during drilling, with spoil from hand-excavated initial pit in foreground.



Illus. 29: Borehole 7 spoil-heap from the initial hand-dug test pit, from which fragments of Roman pottery and brick were retrieved.

soft reddish and brownish fabrics. A total of nine fragments of burnt, black material, perhaps bone, were also picked out of the spoil in association with the ceramic finds.

Interpretation: The core consisted of mixed topsoil and clay-based made-ground to a depth of 0.65m, below which were natural deposits. The finds of Roman and some modern ceramic materials came from the upper, hand-excavated part of the strata where they appeared to be associated with burnt organic materials. Unfortunately, the narrowness of the excavated hole and mixing of spoil deposits meant that it was not possible to gauge the precise depth from which the Roman finds were excavated and whether they were indeed directly associated with the sparse burn deposits.

5. CONCLUSIONS

A watching brief on borehole excavations carried out as part of geotechnical investigations ahead of the redevelopment of Trinity Court, Roman Way, Corbridge, produced evidence for made ground to depths between 0.40 and 1.40 metres, giving way to boulder clays and gravels below those depths. Although somewhat conflicting (note the results of closely adjacent boreholes 3/7 and 4/6, above), the evidence suggests that the surface deposit of modern made ground and topsoil is deepest on the south frontage and towards the east end of the current buildings.

Only on the south frontage, where hand-dug pits were excavated prior to boring two cores in January 2011, did a single borehole produce evidence of archaeological remains. Here, close to the centre of the current façade, over 20 sherds of ceramic material interpreted as Roman were recovered along with some fragments of burnt material possibly carbonised bone.

Although it was not possible to determine with certainty that the Roman pottery finds were directly associated with the burnt material, as seems likely, it seems reasonable to postulate that the process of coring disturbed *in situ* Roman deposits. The concentration of pottery, together with its possible association with charred bone and location within an area known to have produced Roman burials, suggests that the deposits encountered may be associated with the Roman cemetery which extended from the east side of the nearby Roman fort, or its vicus. It is suggested that the burial disturbed by boring was part of a Roman cremation cemetery associated with Corbridge Roman fort to the west.

The discovery of *in situ* Roman burials would be highly significant since, despite the extensive archaeological research carried out within the Hadrian's Wall corridor and at its outpost forts, relatively little is known about Roman burials and cemeteries. Indeed, there have been few significant excavations of cemeteries, and those that have taken place have tended to be relatively small-scale. Examples of cremation burials, often including grave goods, have been recorded at South Shields (Snape 1994, 1995), Vindolanda (Birley 1961, 187-8), Housesteads (Crow 1995, 22), Birdoswald (Wilmott 1993), Carlisle (Charlesworth 1978), High Rochester (Charlton and Mitcheson 1984) and elsewhere, as well as at Corbridge, where one of the cremations uncovered on the course of the Corbridge Bypass in 1974 was accompanied by a fine enamelled copper alloy vessel (Casey and Hoffman 1995, 24). Excavations carried out at Birdoswald by Newcastle University and English Heritage in 2009 provided evidence for a larger cemetery than those previously uncovered, with diverse funerary rights, confirming the continuity of the cremation rite in the 3rd and 4th centuries AD.

Indeed, in contrast to much of the rest of Roman Britain, the practice clearly continues to be widespread on and in the vicinity of the Roman Wall into the late Roman



Illus. 30

i: The assemblage of modern and Roman ceramic material and burnt remains recovered from the upper deposits excavated from Borehole 7 (Roman pottery to left of view, ancient brick at mid centre, burnt organic material to upper left and modern brick & pottery bottom right).

ii: Rim and base sherds from the assemblage of Roman pottery recovered from Borehole 7



period and was never significantly supplanted by inhumation. Another distinctive aspect of the cremation rite in the Wall zone is the widespread recovery of busta (in-situ burial of the cremation on the pyre site). However, previous attempts to divide the cremation rites into two simple categories (those in which the pyre is buried *in situ* and those in which the ashes are removed from the pyre and buried) are now regarded as flawed, as confirmed by the evidence for the multifarious and complex nature of cremation rites observed at Birdoswald in 2009.

An alternative suggestion for the existence of this concentration of Roman pottery from a borehole at Trinity Crescent, Corbridge is that the sherds could be from a midden deposit, although it is problematic to envisage the existence of such a deposit in this area so far outside the Roman fort and *vicus*.

It is concluded that the majority of excavations associated with geotechnical investigation had little or no impact upon surviving archaeological remains, either because they were placed between putative graves, or on ground previously disturbed by the foundations of the current building. However, a single excavation and borehole on the south side of the current building, sited several meters from the building in an area less likely to have been disturbed by its foundations, did disturb significant Roman deposits. It is considered likely that further remains of Roman origin lie undisturbed in that area, and that others may occur to the north and east of the building, up to depths of c.1m below current ground levels, outside the line of the current building foundations and associated service trenches.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that further evaluation of the site by archaeological trenching should take place in areas more than 0.5m away from the current building foundations that are likely to be disturbed to depths over 0.40m. Evaluation should focus on areas likely to have been least disturbed by the construction of foundations and services associated with the current Trinity Court building.

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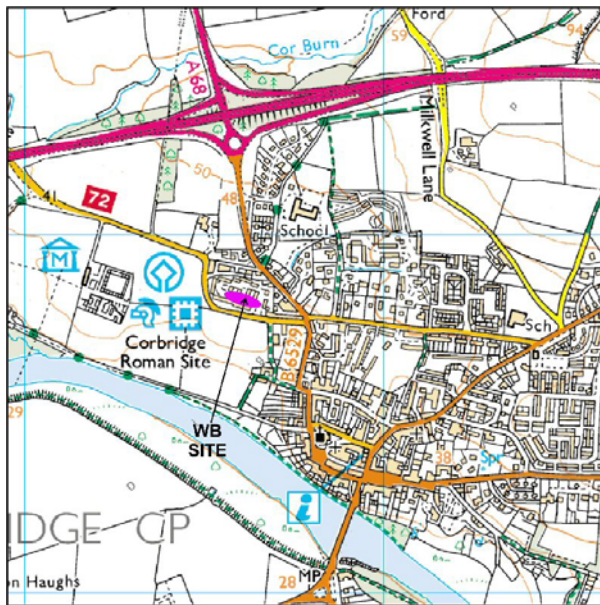
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APPENDIX 1: Trinity Court, Corbridge: Project Design for an Archaeological Watching Brief. Prepared by The Archaeological Practice Ltd. 8th December 2010.

1. INTRODUCTION

The following represents a project design for a programme of archaeological investigation to mitigate the impact of a series of borehole excavations proposed as part of geotechnical investigations to be carried out by *3e Consulting Engineers* in advance of the redevelopment, by *Isos Developments Ltd.*, of part of Roman Way, Corbridge, Northumberland. The invasive work may impact upon archaeological remains associated with Corbridge Roman fort and associated cemetery, as well as the early medieval village. The purpose of the watching brief is to record any deposits or artifacts revealed by the boring activities and to comment on the make up of sub-surface deposits.

Given the potential archaeological sensitivity of the site, the Northumberland County Council Assistant Archaeologist has stipulated that a watching brief should be carried out during the geotechnical works in order to record any archaeological remains of importance revealed during the excavations and to investigate the nature of sub-surface deposits so that a strategy for further evaluation and/or mitigation can be effectively determined.



Illus. 01: Location of the development plot on the west side of Corbridge.

Illus. 02: Location of the development plot in Roman Way, Corbridge.

Illus. 03: View of the site, apparently then an orchard, as depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey Plan (surveyed c.1860)

Illus. 04: View of the site, apparently still an orchard, shown on the 3rd edition Ordnance Survey Plan (c.1920)

2. FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

2.1 Watching Brief

2.1.1 The Field Investigation will be carried out by means of Archaeological Watching Brief within the area outlined in red on *Illus. 02*. All work will be carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) and will follow the IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations.

2.1.2 All archaeological staff will be suitably qualified and experienced for their project roles. Before commencement of work they will have been made aware of what work is required under the specification and they will understand the aims and methodologies of the project.

2.1.3 In order for the above to be successfully implemented, the developer will inform the archaeological contractor directly prior to the commencement of excavations required for the installation of services, etc., within the area highlighted on *Illus. 02*, and will keep the contractor apprised of the schedule for any subsequent excavations so that visits can be timetabled accordingly. The archaeological contractor will, in turn, keep the Northumberland County Council Conservation Team (NCCCT) apprised of any significant discoveries.

2.1.4 All sections and deposits exposed during construction operations will be systematically examined to identify, excavate, sample and record, as appropriate, any previously unidentified archaeological features which survive within the area of excavation and which are threatened by development works.

2.1.5 All excavations undertaken within the designated area will be subject to this watching brief.

2.1.6 Any archaeological deposits encountered will be recorded photographically. Specifically, the individual cores produced by drilling will be photographed and inspected in order to record any archaeological remains within them and any stratigraphic distinctions apparent which shed light upon the nature of sub-surface deposits. Photographic recording shall also be undertaken where no archaeological features are encountered, and include general working shots.

2.1.7 Should any archaeological features be identified, sufficient time will be allowed to investigate and record these features within practicable operational parameters.

2.1.8 In the event of the discovery of archaeological remains which are of greater significance than anticipated, work will cease and the NCCCT Archaeologist and a representative of the developer will be notified. An assessment will be made of the importance of the remains and a mitigation strategy for recording or preservation *in situ*, as appropriate, will be agreed upon by all the parties.

2.1.9 Should additional staff time and resources be deemed necessary by the archaeological contractor to excavate, record and sample revealed archaeological features, a contingency 5 person-days will be allowed.

2.1.10 Should the groundworks not exceed modern disturbance or, equally, should they exceed the depth at which archaeological remains are present the NCCCT Archaeologist will be contacted in order to establish whether the watching brief need continue in these specific areas.

2.1.11 In the event of human burials being discovered, the archaeological contractor will procure and comply with all statutory consents and licences under the Burial Act 1857. Where any part of a human burial is disturbed the whole burial will be archaeologically exhumed.

2.1.12 Appropriate procedures under the relevant legislation will be followed in the event of the discovery of artifacts covered by the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996.

2.2 Recording

2.2.1 A full and proper record (written, graphic and photographic, as appropriate) will be made for all work, using pro-forma record sheets and text descriptions appropriate to the work. Written descriptions should comprise both factual data and interpretative elements. Accurate scale plans and section drawings will be drawn at 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 scales as appropriate. Sections will be related to Ordnance Datum (i.e. levels will be recorded as above Ordnance Datum – aOD).

2.2.2 The stratigraphy of the excavation will be recorded even when no archaeological deposits have been identified.

2.2.3 Where stratified deposits are encountered, a 'Harris' matrix will be compiled.

2.2.4 The excavation will be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on a 1:1250 or 1:500 map of the area, using a total-station-theodolite.

2.2.5 A photographic record of all contexts will be taken in colour transparency and black and white print and will include a clearly visible, graduated metric scale. A register of all photographs will be kept. The location of all photographs will be recorded on a plan base.

2.2.6 Drawings, photography and written records of discrete features, where deemed necessary, will be sufficient to allow interpretation of the material and the preparation of a report on the site.

2.3 Finds Processing

2.3.1 All processing, storage and conservation of finds will be carried out in compliance with the relevant IFA and UKIC (United Kingdom Institute of Conservation) guidelines.

2.3.1 Artefact collection and discard policies will be fit for the defined purpose.

2.3.2 Finds will be scanned to assess the date range of the assemblage with particular reference to pottery. Artefacts will be used to establish the potential for all categories of finds, should further archaeological work be necessary.

2.3.3 All bulk finds which are not discarded will be washed and, with the exception of animal bone, marked. Marking and labelling will be indelible and irremovable by abrasion. Bulk finds must be appropriately bagged and boxed and recorded. This process will be carried out no later than two months after the end of the excavation.

2.3.4 All small finds will be recorded as individual items and appropriately packaged. Vulnerable objects must be specially packaged, and textiles, painted glass and coins stored in appropriate specialist systems. This process will be carried out within two days of the small find being excavated.

2.3.5 Assessment and analysis of artefacts and environmental samples will be carried out by an approved, named specialist.

2.3.6 The deposition and disposal of artefacts will be agreed with the legal owner and recipient museum prior to the work taking place. Where the landowner decides to retain artefacts, adequate provision will be made for recording them.

2.3.7 During and after the excavation and watching brief, all objects will be stored in the appropriate materials and storage conditions to ensure minimal deterioration and loss of information (this will include controlled storage, correct packaging, regular monitoring of conditions, immediate selection for conservation of vulnerable material). All storage will have appropriate security provision.

2.4 Environmental Sampling and Dating

2.4.1 If significant archaeological deposits are encountered, selective sampling will be carried out in a manner consistent with *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and *Archaeological Science at PPG16 Interventions: Best Practice for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists* (English Heritage 2003). Jacqui Huntley, English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science (0191 3743643), has been consulted for advice regarding a sampling strategy for dating and environmental evidence.

2.4.2 Bulk samples of 30 litres will be taken from fills/deposits evidently resulting from or modified by human activity. Deposits fills totalling less than 30 litres in volume will be sampled in their entirety. Samples will be taken from all deposits/fills containing charcoal, unless the contexts are evidently subject to modern contamination.

2.4.3 Laboratory processing of samples shall only be undertaken if deposits are found to be reasonably well dated, or linked to recognisable features and from contexts the derivation of which can be understood with a degree of confidence.

2.4.4 The potential requirement for specialist analyses is an unavoidable risk in all such investigations. Although the evaluation results would suggest that the likelihood of such analyses being required in this case is relatively low, the possibility can not be entirely dismissed, and the investigation of any features/deposits which are considered significant would be undertaken as a non-negotiable part of this specification. Any such analyses would be carried out by specialists and priced to the client on a cost-only basis.

2.5 Production of Site Archive

2.5.1 The site archive will be prepared to the standard specified in MAP 2 and in accordance with the UKIC guidelines. This will include the indexing, ordering, quantification and checking for consistency of all original context records, object records, bulk finds records, sample records, skeleton records (if recovered), photographic records, drawing records, photographs, drawings, level books, site note-books, spot dating records, and conservation records; and ensuring that all artefacts and ecofacts recovered and retained from the site are packed and stored in the appropriate materials and conditions and that all their associated records are complete. This will be completed by the end of the field work. A summary account of the context record will be included and written by the supervising archaeologist.

2.5.2 The archive will be submitted to the Great North Museum, Newcastle upon Tyne, within 6 months of the end of the fieldwork. The location of artefacts will be stated in the archive.

2.6 Production of Final Report

2.6.1 The report will be bound, with each page and paragraph numbered. It will include as a minimum the following:

- A summary statement of methodologies used.
- A location plan of the site and a location plan of all excavations.
- Plans and sections of any features recorded.
- A summary statement of results, including an attempt to model the nature and depth of deposits across the site
- .
- A table summarizing the deposits, features, classes and numbers of artefacts encountered and spot dating of significant finds.
- Conclusions, including an assessment of the archaeological potential of the site which considers whatever can be deduced about the sub-surface stratigraphy of the site, including differences in levels of 'made ground', as well as the level of previous disturbance and the nature, location and scale of the current development proposals.
- Recommendations for any further archaeological work prior to and/or following the determination of planning consent.

2.6.2 Copies of the report will be provided within two months of the completion of fieldwork to the developer and the Northumberland County Archaeological Officer. An additional report will be lodged with the County SMR.

2.7 Publication of Results of Archaeological Works

2.7.1 A summary of the results of the investigation will be prepared for *Archaeology in Northumberland* and submitted to the Northumberland HER Officer, by December of the year in which the work is completed.

2.7.2 The Contractor will, at the request of the English Heritage Archaeologist for Hadrian's Wall, also prepare a short report on the work for publication in an agreed journal.

2.8 OASIS

2.8.1 The Archaeological Contractor will complete the online form for the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations Project (OASIS), following consultation with the Northumberland HER Officer. The Contractor agrees to the procedure whereby the information on the form will be placed in the public domain on the OASIS website, following submission to or incorporation of the final report (see 2.6) into the Northumberland County HER.

3. EXECUTION OF THE SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

3.1 The Developer has appointed The Archaeological Practice Ltd. as a professionally competent Archaeological Contractor, on agreed terms, to execute the scheme as set out in the brief supplied by the County Archaeology Service.

3.2 The present project design must be submitted for approval and, if necessary, modification by the County Archaeology Service before work on-site can proceed.

3.3 The Developer will allow the County Archaeology Service and the appointed contractor all reasonable access to the site for the purposes of monitoring the archaeological scheme, subject only to safety requirements.

3.5 The archaeological contractor appointed to manage the execution of the scheme shall ensure that:

3.5.1 the appropriate parties are informed of the objectives, timetable and progress of the archaeological work

3.5.2 the progress of the work is adequately and effectively monitored and the results of this are communicated to the appropriate parties.

3.5.3 significant problems in the execution of the scheme are communicated at the earliest opportunity to the appropriate parties in order to effect a resolution of the problems.

3.6 The archaeological contractor will carry, and will ensure that other archaeological contractors involved in the scheme carry appropriate levels of insurance cover in respect of Employers Liability, Public and Third Party Liability & Professional Indemnity.

3.7 The archaeological contractor will liaise with the appointed CDM Planning Supervisor and prepare or arrange for the preparation of a Safety Plan for the archaeological work.

3.8 At or before the commencement of the scheme the Developer, the appointed Archaeological Contractors, the County Archaeological Officer and other appropriate parties will agree arbitration procedures to be followed in the event of any unresolvable difficulties or disputes arising from the scheme

3.9 Careful assessment has led to the definition of a number of research objectives which identify with a high degree of likelihood the kind of archaeological deposits which the investigation will encounter. Nevertheless, it is possible that discoveries will be made which could not reasonably have been foreseen on the basis of all the information currently available. Any difficulties arising from unforeseen discoveries will be resolved by discussion between all the parties involved. There will be a presumption, the investigation having been carried out in accordance with the schedule set out in this document, and to the satisfaction of the County Archaeological Officer, and all other considerations being equal, that no executive or financial obligation shall attach to any particular party in the event of unforeseen discoveries being made, and that the executive and financial responsibility for dealing with such unforeseen discoveries shall rest outside the currently agreed scheme of investigation.

3.10 The Archaeological Contractor(s) appointed to execute the scheme will procure and comply with all statutory consents and licences under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act 1981 regarding the exhumation and interment of any human remains discovered within the site, and will comply with all reasonable requirements of any church or other religious body or civil body regarding the manner and method of removal, re-interment or cremation of the human remains, and the removal and disposal of any tombstones or other memorials discovered within the site. The Developer will incur all costs resulting from such compliance.

4. TIMETABLE AND STAFFING

Personnel:

Archaeological Practice

PA: Project Archaeologist

AA: Assistant

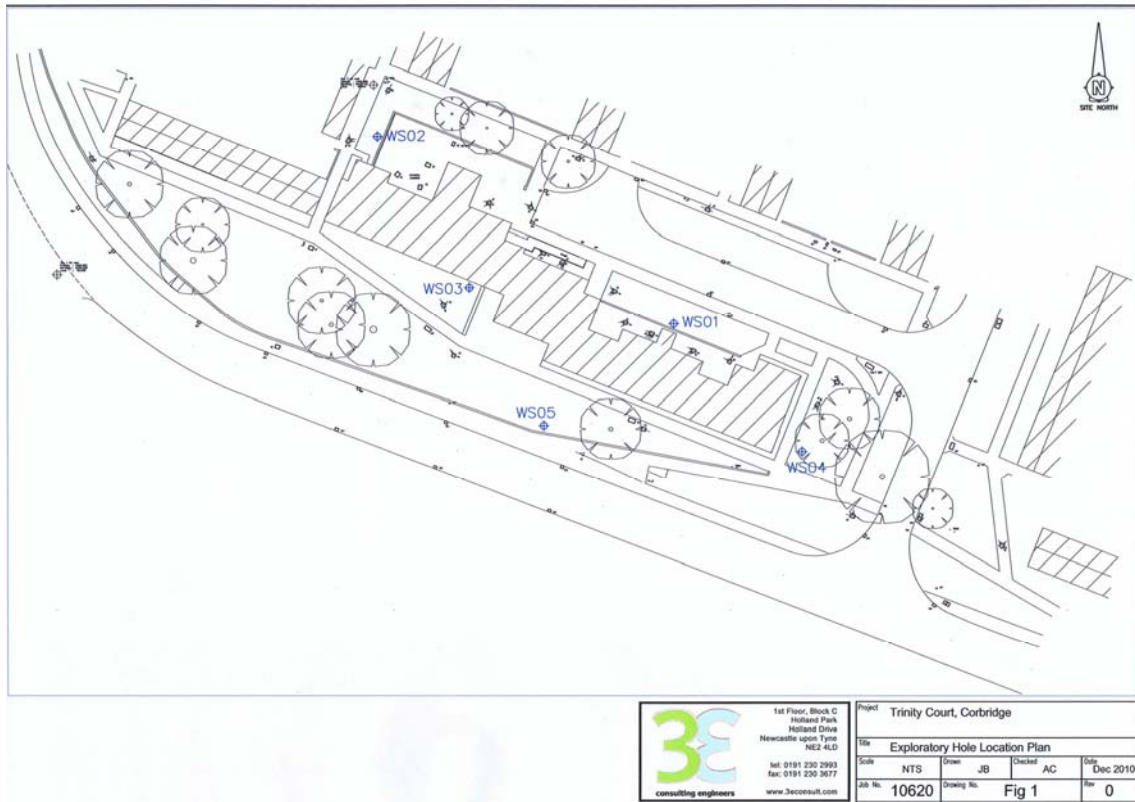
Archaeologist

Sub-Contractors

ASUD: Palaeoecology Research Services

LAJ: Lindsay Allason-Jones

APPENDIX 2: Borehole data supplied by 3e Consulting Engineers



NOTE: The following core logs numbered WSO1-5 refer to Boreholes 1-5; while BH1 & BH2 refer to Boreholes 6 & 7 (see Section 4, above).



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Window Sampling Log

WS01

Site Name: Trinity Court, Corbridge
 Client: ISOS Housing
 Project No: 10620

Ground Level:
 Easting:
 Northing:

Contractor: G.E.D

Key:
 = Water Strike Depth & No.
 = Resting Water Depth & No.
 D = Small Disturbed Sample
 B = Large Disturbed Sample

W = Water Sample
 HSV = Hand Shear Vane (kPa)
 SPT = Standard Penetration Test
 N = SPT N Value

Plant: Mini Percussive Rig
 Date: 14/12/2010
 Logged By: JB

Samples/Tests			Strata Details					Well	
Depth (m)	Type	Results	Depth (m) (Thickness)	Strata Description	Depth (m)	Level (AOD)	Legend	Strike	Log
0.20	D	N6(-1/1/1/2/2)	(0.30)	MADE GROUND: Topsoil.	0.90 1.00 1.30	1.0			
			0.30	MADE GROUND: Brown clayey slightly gravelly SAND. Gravel is sandstone. Firm to stiff dark brown sandy gravelly CLAY. Gravel is angular to subangular sandstone and coal. 0.80 Becoming firm and silty.					
			0.40						
			(1.10)						
			1.50	Stiff dark brown gravelly CLAY. Gravel is fine to coarse subangular coal and sandstone.					
			(0.40)						
2.00	C	N15(4/4/4/4/3)	2.10	Loose to medium dense brown mottled orangey brown and grey clayey very sandy fine to coarse angular to rounded GRAVEL of sandstone and mixed lithology.	2.00				
2.40	D								
3.00	C	N8(2/1/1/3/2/2)	(2.10)						
4.00		QN50/235mm(17/7/5/15/20/10)	4.00	End of Exploratory Hole at 4m	4.00				

Groundwater Observations			Window Sample Run				General Remarks
No.	Struck (m)	Remarks	From (m)	To (m)	Dia. (mm)	Recovery (%)	
1	3.5						1). Boreholes terminated at 4m due to refusal.



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Window Sampling Log

WS02

Site Name: Trinity Court, Corbridge
Client: ISOS Housing
Project No: 10620

Ground Level:
Easting:
Northing:

Contractor: G.E.D

Key:
 = Water Strike Depth & No.
 = Resting Water Depth & No.
 D = Small Disturbed Sample
 B = Large Disturbed Sample

W = Water Sample
 HSV = Hand Shear Vane (kPa)
 SPT = Standard Penetration Test
 N = SPT N Value

Plant: Mini Percussive Rig
 Date: 14/12/2010
 Logged By: JB

Samples/Tests			Strata Details				Well		
Depth (m)	Type	Results	Depth (m) (Thickness)	Strata Description	Depth (m)	Level (AOD)	Legend	Strike	Log
0.10	D		(0.15)	MADE GROUND: Topsoil.					
			(0.35)	MADE GROUND: Stiff dark brown sandy gravelly CLAY. Gravel is fine to medium subangular coal, sandstone and occasional ash.					
			0.50	Firm dark brown silty sandy slightly gravelly CLAY.					
0.80	D								
1.00	C	N4(-/-/1/1/1/1)			1.0				
1.50	D		(2.10)						
2.00	C	N6(-/-/2/2/2)			2.0				
2.20	D								
			2.60						
				Medium dense brown clayey sandy subrounded GRAVEL of mixed lithology.					
3.00	C	N10(2/3/4/2/2/2)	(0.70)		3.0				
			3.30						
			(0.40)	Stiff dark brown sandy gravelly CLAY.					
			3.70						
4.00	C	N16(3/2/3/3/5/5)	(1.30)	Medium dense brown clayey sandy subrounded GRAVEL of mixed lithology.	4.0				
5.00	C	N21(3/2/2/4/4/11)	5.00		5.0				
				End of Exploratory Hole at 5m					

Groundwater Observations			Window Sample Run				General Remarks
No.	Struck (m)	Remarks	From (m)	To (m)	Dia. (mm)	Recovery (%)	
1	3.2						



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Window Sampling Log

WS03

Site Name: Trinity Court, Corbridge
 Client: ISOS Housing
 Project No: 10620

Ground Level:
 Easting:
 Northing:

Contractor: G.E.D

Key:
 = Water Strike Depth & No.
 = Resting Water Depth & No.
 D = Small Disturbed Sample
 B = Large Disturbed Sample

W = Water Sample
 HSV = Hand Shear Vane (kPa)
 SPT = Standard Penetration Test
 N = SPT N Value

Plant: Mini Percussive Rig
 Date: 14/12/2010
 Logged By: JB

Samples/Tests			Strata Details					Well	
Depth (m)	Type	Results	Depth (m) (Thickness)	Strata Description	Depth (m)	Level (AOD)	Legend	Strike	Log
0.10	D		(0.20) 0.20	MADE GROUND: Topsoil.					
0.30	D		(0.30) 0.50	MADE GROUND: Stiff dark brown sandy gravelly CLAY. Gravel is fine to coarse subangular sandstone, coal and occasional ash and glass.					
1.00	C	N9(1/1/2/2/2/3)	(0.60) 1.10	Stiff dark brown slightly silty slightly sandy gravelly CLAY. Gravel is fine to coarse subangular to rounded sandstone and coal.	1.0				
1.20	D		(1.10)	Firm brown slightly silty sandy gravelly CLAY.					
1.80	D		1.70	Becoming firm to stiff					
2.00	C	N19(1/5/6/5/4/4)	2.20		2.0				
			(0.70) 2.90	Brown mottled grey clayey sandy fine to coarse subangular GRAVEL of sandstone.					
3.00	C	N11(1/1/1/2/4/4)	(0.50) 3.40	Stiff brown sandy gravelly CLAY.	3.0				
			(1.60)	Loose brown slightly silty coarse SAND.					
4.00	C	N6(1/2/1/1/2/2)	5.00		4.0				
5.00	C	N7(1/1/2/1/2/2)		End of Exploratory Hole at 5m	5.0				

Groundwater Observations			Window Sample Run				General Remarks
No.	Struck (m)	Remarks	From (m)	To (m)	Dia. (mm)	Recovery (%)	
1	3.2						



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Window Sampling Log

WS04

Site Name: Trinity Court, Corbridge
 Client: ISOS Housing
 Project No: 10620

Ground Level:
 Easting:
 Northing:

Contractor: G.E.D

Key:
 = Water Strike Depth & No.
 = Resting Water Depth & No.
 D = Small Disturbed Sample
 B = Large Disturbed Sample

W = Water Sample
 HSV = Hand Shear Vane (kPa)
 SPT = Standard Penetration Test
 N = SPT N Value

Plant: Mini Percussive Rig
 Date: 14/12/2010
 Logged By: JB

Samples/Tests			Strata Details					Well	
Depth (m)	Type	Results	Depth (m) (Thickness)	Strata Description	Depth (m)	Level (AOD)	Legend	Strike	Log
0.20	D		(0.30) 0.30	MADE GROUND: Topsoil.					
1.00	C	N14(-/2/3/4/4/3)	(1.10) 1.40	MADE GROUND: Reworked firm to stiff dark brown silty sandy gravelly CLAY. Gravel is mixed lithology.	1.0				
1.80	D			Loose to medium dense brown slightly clayey sandy fine to coarse sub angular to rounded GRAVEL of sandstone and mixed lithology.					
2.00	C	N9(2/2/3/2/2/2)			2.0				
3.00	C	N4(1/1/1/1/1/1)	(3.60)		3.0				
4.00	C	N5(2/1/1/2/1/1)			4.0				
5.00	C	N11(3/2/2/2/2/5)	5.00						
				End of Exploratory Hole at 4m					

Groundwater Observations			Window Sample Run				General Remarks
No.	Struck (m)	Remarks	From (m)	To (m)	Dia. (mm)	Recovery (%)	
1	4.0						



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Window Sampling Log

WS05

Site Name: Trinity Court, Corbridge
 Client: ISOS Housing
 Project No: 10620

Ground Level:
 Easting:
 Northing:

Contractor: G.E.D

Key:
 = Water Strike Depth & No.
 = Resting Water Depth & No.
 D = Small Disturbed Sample
 B = Large Disturbed Sample

W = Water Sample
 HSV = Hand Shear Vane (kPa)
 SPT = Standard Penetration Test
 N = SPT N Value

Plant: Mini Percussive Rig
 Date: 14/12/2010
 Logged By: JB

Samples/Tests			Strata Details					Well	
Depth (m)	Type	Results	Depth (m) (Thickness)	Strata Description	Depth (m)	Level (AOD)	Legend	Strike	Log
1.00	C	N16(4/5/4/5/4/3)	(0.30) 0.30	MADE GROUND: Topsoil.	1.00				
			(1.10) 1.40	MADE GROUND: Reworked firm to stiff dark brown silty sandy gravelly CLAY . Gravel is mixed lithology.					
2.00	C	N10(2/1/2/2/3/3)	(1.60) 3.00	Loose to medium dense brown slightly clayey sandy fine to coarse sub angular to rounded GRAVEL of sandstone and mixed lithology.	2.00				
3.00	C	N11(3/2/2/2/5)	3.00	End of Exploratory Hole at 3m	3.00				

Groundwater Observations			Window Sample Run				General Remarks
No.	Struck (m)	Remarks	From (m)	To (m)	Dia. (mm)	Recovery (%)	
		No Groundwater Encountered					



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Cable Percussion Log

BH1

Site Name: Trinity Court, Corbridge
 Client: ISOS Housing
 Project No: 10620

Ground Level:
 Easting:
 Northing:

Contractor: JB Site Investigations

Key:
 ↓ = Water Strike Depth & No.
 ↓ = Resting Water Depth & No.
 D = Small Disturbed Sample
 B = Large Disturbed Sample
 W = Water Sample
 U100 = Undisturbed U100 Sample
 S/C = SPT (split spoon/cone)
 N = SPT N Value

Plant: Cable Percussive Rig
 Dates: 07/01/2011
 Logged By: JB

Samples/Tests			Strata Details				Well		
Depth (m)	Type	Results	Depth (m) (Thickness)	Strata Description	Depth (m)	Level (AOD)	Legend	Strike	Log
			0.20	MADE GROUND: Turf over TOPSOIL					
0.50	D		(0.45) 0.65	MADE GROUND: Brown very clayey sandy GRAVEL of sandstone, brick and concrete.					
1.00	D	N14 (3/3/4/3/4/3)	(1.05)	Medium dense light brown coarse SAND with occasional subrounded gravel of sandstone.	1.00				
1.20	D								
1.20	S								
1.50	B		1.70						
2.00	D	N15 (5/4/4/4/4/3)		Loose to medium dense brown coarse SAND with occasional subrounded gravel of sandstone and occasional bands of soft to firm dark brown silty clay.	2.00				
2.00	S								
3.00	S	N6 (3/2/1/1/2/2)	(3.70)		3.00				
3.01	B								
3.02	D								
4.00	D	N3 (2/2/1/1/-/1)			4.00				
4.00	S								
5.00	D	N15 (7/5/4/3/4/4)	5.40		5.00				
5.00	S								
6.00	D	N50 (16/9/17/8/14/11)	(0.40) 5.80	Brown fine to coarse subangular to subrounded GRAVEL and COBBLES of mixed lithology including sandstone.	6.00				
6.00	S								
			(0.50) 6.30	Possible weathered bedrock recovered as dense coarse angular GRAVEL of sandstone and occasional mudstone.					
			(0.80)	Possible weathered bedrock recovered as coarse angular GRAVEL of sandstone.					
7.00	D	N91	7.10		7.00				
7.00									
			(0.60) 7.70	Possible weathered bedrock recovered as coarse angular GRAVEL of sandstone and occasional mudstone.					
7.70		N71/150mm	7.70						
End of Exploratory Hole at 7.7m									

Groundwater Observations				Chiselling			General Remarks
No.	Struck (m)	20min Level (m)	Remarks	From (m)	To (m)	Hours	
1	4.2	4.2		6.8 7.6	7.0 7.7	00:45 01:00	



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Cable Percussion Log

BH2

Site Name: Trinity Court, Corbridge
 Client: ISOS Housing
 Project No: 10620

Ground Level:
 Easting:
 Northing:

Contractor: JB Site Investigations

Key:
 ↓ = Water Strike Depth & No.
 ↓ = Resting Water Depth & No.
 D = Small Disturbed Sample
 B = Large Disturbed Sample
 W = Water Sample
 U100 = Undisturbed U100 Sample
 S/C = SPT (split spoon/cone)
 N = SPT N Value

Plant: Cable Percussive Rig
 Dates: 10/01/2011
 Logged By: JB

Samples/Tests			Strata Details				Well		
Depth (m)	Type	Results	Depth (m) (Thickness)	Strata Description	Depth (m)	Level (AOD)	Legend	Strike	Log
			0.10	Made Ground: Turf over TOPSOIL.					
0.50	D		(0.90)	MADE GROUND: Firm dark brown sandy gravelly CLAY. Gravel is fine to coarse subangular sandstone, coal and occasional ash and glass.					
1.00	D		1.00	Loose to medium dense brown clayey slightly gravelly fine to medium SAND. Gravel is fine to coarse subrounded sandstone.	1.0				
1.20	D								
1.20	S	N9 (2/3/2/3/2/2)							
1.30	B								
2.00	D				2.0				
2.00	S	N20 (3/3/4/5/4/7)	(2.70)						
3.00	B				3.0				
3.00	S	N19 (3/4/5/5/4/5)							
4.00	D			Loose brown slightly silty gravelly fine to medium SAND. Gravel is fine to coarse subrounded sandstone. 4.50 Becoming very silty with depth.	4.0				
4.00	S	N5 (1/-/1/1/2/1)	(1.40)						
5.00	D			Firm dark brown very sandy CLAY.	5.0				
5.00	S	N16 (2/3/3/4/5/4)	5.10						
			(0.35)						
				Brown very sandy subrounded GRAVEL of sandstone.					
			5.45						
6.00	D			Possible weathered bedrock recovered as dense coarse angular GRAVEL of sandstone.	6.0				
6.00	S	N40 (4/6/6/8/12/14)	(1.30)						
7.00	D			End of Exploratory Hole at 7.2m	7.0				
7.00	S	N50/75mm (25/13/50/-/-)	7.20						

Groundwater Observations				Chiselling			General Remarks
No.	Struck (m)	20min Level (m)	Remarks	From (m)	To (m)	Hours	
1	3.8	3.5		6.7	7.2	01:30	