

**13 MARLEBOROUGH
GARDENS
EDEN VALE
STANWIX
CARLISLE
CUMBRIA**



**WATCHING BRIEF REPORT
CP. No: 10361/12
05/11/2012**

WA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
COCKLAKES YARD,
CUMWHINTON,
CARLISLE,
CUMBRIA,
CA4 0BQ
TEL: 01228 564820
FAX: 01228 560025
WWW.WAARCHAEOLOGY.COM

WARDELL ARMSTRONG ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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This report covers works as outlined in the brief for the above-named project as issued by the relevant authority, and as outlined in the agreed programme of works. Any deviation to the programme of works has been agreed by all parties. The works have been carried out according to the guidelines set out in the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standards, Policy Statements and Codes of Conduct. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance set out by WA Archaeology Ltd on the preparation of reports.

REVISION SCHEDULE			
	01	02	03
PREPARED BY:	MEGAN STOAKLEY		
POSITION:	Finds Officer		
DATE:	05/11/12		
EDITED BY:	MARTIN RAILTON		
POSITION:	Project Manager		
DATE:	05/11/2012		
APPROVED BY:	FRANK GIECCO		
POSITION:	Project Manager		
DATE:	05/11/2012		

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SUMMARY

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Simon Nesti, RNJ Partnership, on behalf of Creative Support Limited, to undertake an archaeological watching brief on groundworks relating to the proposed development of a single storey extension to the rear of the property at No 13 Marleborough Gardens, Eden Vale, Stanwix, Carlisle, Cumbria (NGR NY 3987 5699). The site lies within a zone of archaeological sensitivity, being within the buffer zone of Hadrian's Wall Scheduled Monument and *Vallum*. Consequently, the client has been advised by Mike Collins, Historic Environment Officer (Archaeology) Hadrian's Wall at English Heritage that, due to its proximity to the Scheduled site of Hadrian's Wall, that it is possible that significant archaeological remains could survive on the site.

The Archaeological Watching Brief was undertaken over three days between the 15/10/2012 and 25/10/12. The watching brief monitored the excavation of groundworks and service trenches across the site. The watching brief revealed modern foundations of a small structure such as a workshop, cellar or boiler room. The foundations comprised 20th century brick walls of post-1930s date. No archaeological remains were noted.

As this archaeological watching brief was conducted as part of a recommendation to observe groundworks in association with the development of a new single storey rear extension, no further work is deemed necessary. However, given the high archaeological potential of the area, it is recommended that any future work be subject to a programme of archaeological investigation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Simon Nesti, of RNJ Partnership and Creative Support Limited, for commissioning the project, and for all assistance throughout the work. Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd would also like to thank Mike Collins at English Heritage and Jeremy Parsons (CCCHES) for all their assistance throughout the project.

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend their thanks to Adrian Sharp of Thomas Armstrong, and all staff at the site in Marleborough Gardens, for their help during this project.

The archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Megan Stoakley and David Jackson. The report was written by Megan Stoakley and the drawings were produced by Adrian Bailey. The project was managed by Martin Railton, Senior Project Manager for WAA Ltd. The report was edited by Martin Railton, Senior Project Manager for WAA Ltd.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 In October 2012, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd were invited by Simon Nesti, RNJ Partnership, on behalf of Creative Support Ltd, to maintain an archaeological watching brief at 13 Marleborough Gardens, Eden Vale, Stanwix, Carlisle, Cumbria (NGR NY 3987 5699; Figure 1), during groundworks associated with the development of a single storey rear extension. The proposed works lie in a zone of archaeological sensitivity, being within the buffer zone of Hadrian's Wall Scheduled Monument and *Vallum* (SAM No.26075). As a result, Michael Collins, Hadrian's Wall Archaeologist for English Heritage requested that all ground reduction be subject to a programme of archaeological observation and investigation. This is in line with government advice as set out in Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012).
- 1.1.2 All groundworks associated with the development of the single storey rear extension had to be excavated under full archaeological supervision and all stages of the archaeological work were undertaken following approved statutory guidelines (IfA 2008), and were consistent with the specification provided by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd (Giecco 2012) and generally accepted best practice.
- 1.1.3 This report outlines the monitoring works undertaken on-site, the subsequent programme of post-fieldwork analysis, and the results of this scheme of archaeological works.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A project design was submitted by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd in response to a request by Simon Nesti, RNJ Partnership, for an archaeological watching brief of the study area. Following acceptance of the project design (Appendix II) by Jeremy Parsons, Historic Environment Officer at Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES), Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by the client to undertake the work. The project design was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 THE WATCHING BRIEF

2.2.1 The works involved a structured watching brief to observe, record and excavate any archaeological deposits from the development site. A watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons, on a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed (IfA 2008).

2.2.2 The aims and principal methodology of the watching brief can be summarised as follows:

- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record them;
- to carry out further excavation and recording work in adequate time, if intact archaeological remains are uncovered during the project;
- to accurately tie the area watched by the archaeologist into the National Grid at an appropriate scale, with any archaeological deposits and features adequately levelled;
- to sample environmental deposits encountered as required, in line with English Heritage (2002) guidelines;
- to produce a photographic record of all contexts using colour digital, format, each photograph including a graduated metric scale;
- to recover artefactual material, especially that useful of dating purposes;

- to produce a site archive in accordance with MAP2 (English Heritage 1991) and MoRPHE standards (English Heritage 2006).

2.2.3 An area of approximately 25m² was primarily stripped of soil (topsoil). The area was then excavated to a depth of c.0.35m below ground level, revealing three modern construction deposits. Foundation trenches for the new extension were excavated on Thursday 25th October 2012 in the eastern, western and southern parts of the site, forming a rectangular U-shape approximated to c.4.05m x 4.9m, with the foundation cuts measuring approximately 0.8m - 0.9m. The foundation trenches were stripped of topsoil and overburden to the required formation levels at a depth of c.0.75m. Archaeological monitoring and supervision of groundworks associated with the stripping commenced on Monday 15th October 2012. A summary of the findings of the watching brief is included within this report.

2.3 THE ARCHIVE

- 2.3.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the specification, and in line with current UKIC (1990) and English Heritage Guidelines (1991) and according to the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2011). The archive will be deposited at the Carlisle Record Office, with copies of the report sent to the County Historic Environment Record at Kendal, Cumbria, available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier WAA12, MAR-A, CP 10361/12.
- 2.3.2 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd, and English Heritage support the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd, as a part of this national project.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

- 3.1.1 Stanwix lies within the lowland plains of the Solway Basin c.1.6km north of the city of Carlisle and is linked to the city by the Eden Bridge (Figure 1). The Solway Basin lies between the Cumbria High Fells to the south, the rugged terrain of the Scottish Border to the north and the Border Moors and Forests to the north-east (Countryside Commission 1998). The site is situated c.30m to the south-west of Scotland Road and c.100m to the north-east of the River Eden. The site is encompassed by several residential districts, including Willow Holme c.800m to the south-west, Edentown c.1km to the north-west and Knowefield c.1km to the north-east. The site lies at c.25m AOD.
- 3.1.2 The site is located to the rear (south) of the property at No. 13 Marleborough Gardens and is accessed from the north-west via a narrow northwest to south-east aligned brick path on the western side of the property. The site of the proposed groundworks comprises a rectangular area of grass lawn with an area of c.25m² (Figure 2).
- 3.1.3 The solid geology of the Carlisle area comprises soft, reddish Permo-Triassic sandstone of the St. Bees formation, with the less extensive Kirklington sandstones, St. Bees Shales and Stanwix Shales (BGS 2012 on-line). At Stanwix, similar to Carlisle, the bedrock is overlain to a depth of several metres by drift deposits of glacial till that include sands, gravels and boulder clay (*Ibid*). The soils of the region belong to the Clifton association, typically composed of stagnogleys, although some fluvial deposits are present along the margins of the River Eden (SSEW 2012 on-line).

3.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- 3.2.1 **Introduction:** this historical background is compiled mostly from secondary sources, and is intended only as a brief summary of historical developments specific to the study area. References to the County Historic Environment Record (HER) of Cumbria are included where known.
- 3.2.2 **Prehistoric (up to 43AD):** Archaeological remains of prehistoric date are limited within the vicinity of the assessment site. Archaeological excavations conducted at the Cumbria Institute of Art and Design in 2004 c.800m to the north-east of the site revealed a number of ploughmarks and ditches (HERs 41194 & 41195) that were cut into an earlier ground surface (OAN 2004).

- 3.2.3 Two late Bronze Age socketed axe heads (HER 525) were discovered at King's Meadow c.400m to the south-east of the site. Iron Age pottery (HER 490) was discovered at Rickerby Park c.300m to the south-east of the site.
- 3.2.4 **Roman (c. 43AD-410AD):** although the Roman occupation of England began in 43 AD, it was not until Julius Agricola (77 AD- 84 AD) that the military occupation of Cumbria began (Rollinson 1969). Throughout this period it was the Roman fort at Carlisle (*Luguvalium*), established in 72 AD that formed the principal focus of Roman activity in the area leaving little to no mark on Stanwix.
- 3.2.5 By the early 2nd century, a series of forts that were linked by a road, known as the Stanegate, had been established along the Tyne-Solway corridor. The line of the Stanegate is unclear in the Carlisle/Stanwix area. One possibility for the position of the Stanegate was that the road crossed the River Eden to the east of Carlisle, at Linstock, avoiding Stanwix (Cook and Zant 2007). The other possibility is that the Stanegate would have approached Carlisle along the north bank of the Eden and therefore very likely to have passed through Stanwix (*ibid*).
- 3.2.6 Hadrian's Wall and *Vallum* (HER 5782, SAM 26075) runs northeast to southwest to the east of the site, passing the southern boundary of the site at c.50m - 100m distant. The complex of Hadrian's Wall also includes the Stanwix fort and turret (HER 488), a wall gate (HER 495), a civil settlement (HER 500), a vault (HER 4907) and a horse burial cemetery (HER 434) located to the east. An archaeological watching brief on Church Street c.150m to the north-east failed to locate evidence of the fort (HER 488; Strickland & Wooler 2010, 36).
- 3.2.7 A large quantity of Roman artefacts has been discovered within close proximity of the site to the east and south of the site and within the complex of Stanwix fort (HER 488). These artefacts include coins (HERs 493, 530, 531, 5319, 15500, 17703, 18937, 18944, 18945, 19111, 19164, 19512 & 19601), pottery and tegulae (HERs 532, 533, 19523, 19524 & 42241), architectural fragments (HERs 440, 470, 472, 473, 501 & 528) and metalwork objects (HERs 475, 499, 476, 529 & 5072).
- 3.2.8 **Early Medieval (410 AD-1066 AD):** some evidence of occupation during the early medieval period can be found from the name. Stanwix is thought to be derived from the Anglo-Saxon *Stanwic*, meaning 'stone-town' (Stobbs 2008).
- 3.2.9 Evidence of early medieval occupation within the vicinity of the assessment site comprises a 9th century Anglian cross-head found in the garden of Old Croft (HER 521) c.500m to the north-east of the site boundary, a coin of Cnut (1016-1035) (HER 4434) found while digging the foundations for St.

Michael's Church c.400m to the north-east, and a 10th century Anglian cross-head (HER 13614), possibly a duplicate entry in the HER of the aforementioned cross-head.

- 3.2.10 **Medieval (1066-1485):** Cumberland was not mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1068. Historically the north-west of England is scarcely mentioned until 1092 when William II advanced on Carlisle and removed Dolfin, the Earl of Northumbria. Following this, Cumbria became part of Norman England. William constructed a castle and brought settlers from the south to re-inhabit the newly re-established town (Strickland & Wooler 2010, 18).
- 3.2.11 Evidence for the development of Stanwix during the medieval period is lacking. The earliest reference to an 'Eden Bridge' (HER 25411) was in an early 12th century grant where '*a mill upon the bridge of Hedene to the Priory of Carlisle*' was mentioned. There are a few references to the village within the historical record from the late 12th century onwards. In 1187, the sheriff accounted for the *donum* of *Stanweaga*. In 1195 the tallage of the King's demesne was paid for by the men of *Steinweges* (Strickland & Wooler 2010, 18).
- 3.2.12 Excavations at nearby Scotland Road and Barn Close recorded medieval features. At Scotland Road, a series of postholes were recorded that contained 12th-13th century pottery. At Barn Close an undated cobbled surface, thought to be a medieval feature was recorded (Cook and Zant 2007). In 1976 a minor cobbled road or trackway was discovered, adjacent to Tarraby Lane, thought to be the remains of a medieval road running between Stanwix and Tarraby (Smith 1978). The Priestback Bridge (HER 4542), located c.500m to the south-east, is the site of a late medieval wooden bridge that was replaced by a stone bridge under the Act of 1601.
- 3.2.13 **Post-medieval and Modern (1485- present):** very little is known of Stanwix during the post-medieval period. During the early post-medieval period, Carlisle and the wider region was recovering from warfare and plague that were endemic throughout the later Middle Ages.
- 3.2.14 Post-medieval archaeological remains within the vicinity of the site comprise the Carlisle – Newcastle military road (HER 5081) c.300m to the south-east, a ball weight (HER 19703) situated c.600m to the east and the site of a 19th century racecourse at the Swifts (HER 42230) located c.200m to the west. An archaeological evaluation at the Cumbria Institute of Art and Design c.800m to the north-east of the site revealed a northwest to southeast aligned ditch containing post-medieval pottery (OAN 2004). The early to mid 19th century building at No 9 Eden Mount (EH ID 386713) is the closest Listed Building to the site at c.50m distance to the east.

- 3.2.15 Modern archaeological remains within the vicinity of the site comprise the site of an early 20th century fountain (HER 18595) situated c.200m to the north-east, the Carlisle tram system depot (HER 40968) located to the south and a pillbox (HER 6311) situated c.850m to the north-east.
- 3.2.16 The 1925 Ordnance Survey map records two small north-south aligned walls attached to the rear (southern elevation) of the building on the location of the proposed groundworks. A third wall is located along the southern boundary of the site and runs parallel (roughly west-east) to the property. This small structure is possibly the start of a small extension for a cellar, a boiler room or a workshop.
- 3.2.17 The 1937 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 3) records a small structure attached to the southern elevation of the property on the location of the proposed groundworks.

3.3 PREVIOUS WORK

- 3.3.1 Within a 1km radius of the site boundary there were around 50 previous archaeological interventions. Within the immediate vicinity to the site boundary there have been several previous archaeological interventions that will be discussed below.
- 3.3.2 In 1984 an excavation was undertaken to the rear (east side) of the Cumbria Park Hotel on Scotland Road c.500m to the north of the site, which revealed a previously unsuspected north curtain wall, rampart and interval tower of the Roman fort (Dacre 1985).
- 3.3.3 In 1999 Carlisle Archaeology Ltd undertook an excavation at Stanwix Primary School located c.300m to the north-east. Four trenches were excavated, which revealed a possible floor surface and a layer of cobbling, as well as several sherds of Roman pottery dated to the 2nd century. It was stated that in the remaining two trenches archaeology may survive below the surface of the tarmac (Giecco and Reeves 2000).
- 3.3.4 A watching brief at 18-22 Scotland Road to the north of the site revealed the remnants of the fort wall. Very little of the wall remained and robbing of the stone was fairly common. A gold guinea of Charles II was found close to the south-eastern limit of the site (Reeves 2001).
- 3.3.5 In 2007 a watching brief was undertaken during test-pitting on the B6264 Brampton Road c.700m to the north-east of the site. Five test pits were excavated. One test pit revealed undated archaeological deposits close to the site of Stanwix fort (CFA Archaeology Ltd. 2007).

- 3.5.6 An archaeological evaluation undertaken in 2009 on land at 54 Scotland Road situated to the north of the site revealed evidence for Roman activity in the form of an extensive cobbled surface, a wide north-south aligned ditch and a well (Martin 2009).
- 3.5.7 In December 2009 an archaeological evaluation undertaken on land at St George's Crescent, located c.400m to the south-east of the site, revealed evidence relating to the Roman vicus of the fort at Stanwix. Well preserved archaeological deposits with a tight date range (AD c120-170) extended across the site (Greenlane Archaeology 2010, 15). A total of 26 pottery sherds were recovered, including sherds of amphorae with graffito on the rim, which may indicate numeracy/literacy consistent with a military character (*Ibid*, 36).
- 3.5.8 An archaeological watching brief on Church Street situated c.150m to the north-east failed to locate any evidence of the Roman fort or walls. Residual sherds of Roman and medieval pottery were found as well as a number of post-medieval artefacts (Strickland & Wooler 2010, 35).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1 The watching brief monitoring was undertaken over a period of three days in October 2012. The first phase was conducted on Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th October 2012, followed by a second phase on Thursday 25th October 2012. The former related to the controlled stripping of the topsoil and modern construction deposits on the location of the proposed rear extension whilst the latter related to groundworks required for the foundation trenches (Figure 2).

4.2 PHASE 1: TOPSOIL AND CONSTRUCTION DEPOSITS STRIP

- 4.2.1 The Phase 1 Watching Brief covered the controlled stripping of deposits on the site prior to the main excavation of the foundation trenches (Figure 2).
- 4.2.2 The topsoil was stripped by a mechanically tracked JCB 360 mini-excavator with a 1m toothless bucket. The topsoil **(101)** was present across the site to a depth of c.0.10m (Plate 1). Beneath the topsoil, three modern construction deposits **(102, 103 and 104)** were visible (Appendix 1). These deposits contained a large amount of modern construction rubble comprising bricks, tile and fragments of plastic pipes and glass.
- 4.2.3 Deposit **(102)** comprised dark grey to black grit, measuring a depth of c.0.05m below the topsoil **(101)** (0.10m – 0.15m). Deposit **(103)** comprised dark grey gritty clay, measuring a depth of c.0.05m below deposit **(102)** (0.15m – 0.20m). Deposit **(104)** comprised red-brown silty clay, measuring a depth of 0.05m below deposit **(103)** (0.20m – 0.25m).
- 4.2.4 At a depth of c.0.20m, modern brick foundations **(105, 106, 107 & 109)** were revealed, which were cut into deposits **(104)**. The foundations comprised a small north-south aligned chamber **(105; Plate 2)** with a modern, steel-enforced concrete floor. The dimensions of the chamber measured 1.5m x 1.05m. The chamber was partially excavated with a c.0.3m toothed bucket to a depth of c.0.90m and remnants of a modern, concrete, steel-wire enforced floor were revealed. The chamber **(105)** was backfilled with modern construction rubble, including bricks, tiles, plastic pipes and glass **(114)**.



Plate 1: Topsoil stripping and wall (107) (facing north-east)



Plate 2: Modern brick foundations: wall (106) and chamber (105) (facing south)

- 4.2.5 Wall (106) adjoined the southern side of the chamber (105) and ran north-south to the southern boundary of the site (Plate 2). The dimensions of wall (106) measured 3m x 0.2m x 0.32m. A series of three steps were revealed at the southern end of wall (106). Wall (109) was adjoined to the eastern wall of chamber (105) and ran west-east across the eastern half of the site. The dimensions of wall (109) measured 3.6m x 0.2m x 0.18m. Wall (107) ran west-east across the southern boundary of the site and was joined to the southern end of wall (106) (Plate 3). The dimensions of wall (107) measured 4m x 0.2m x 0.22m.
- 4.2.6 No archaeological remains were noted during the first phase of the watching brief.



Plate 3: Modern wall (107) (facing west)

- 4.2.7 The date of the foundation walls was modern (20th century). Map regression analysis of the site records a small structure on the location of these foundations in the mid-1920s and late 1930s (Figure 3). It is possible that the brick foundations revealed during the watching brief are the foundations of

the small structure recorded on the 1937 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 3). This cannot, however, be determined with any certainty. The function of the structure is unknown, although it was possibly used as a boiler room, a cellar or it was in use as part of a workshop.

- 4.2.8 A modern north-south aligned drain (**108**) was also revealed in the south-west corner of the site and was cut into deposit (**104**).

4.3 PHASE 2: FOUNDATION TRENCHES

- 4.3.1 The Phase 2 Watching Brief was conducted on Thursday 25th October 2012 and aimed to monitor all subsequent groundworks associated with the excavation of the foundation trenches (Figure 2).

- 4.3.2 The groundworks began with the excavation of the easternmost foundation trench. This trench was northwest - southeast aligned and measured 4.9m x 1m to a maximum depth of c.0.90m below ground level. The southernmost trench was NE/SW aligned and measured 6.4m x 0.8m to a maximum depth of 0.75m below ground level (Plate 4). The final foundation trench was located in the western part of the site and measured 4.9m x 0.8m to a maximum depth of 0.85m.

- 4.3.3 The stratigraphic matrix was consistent across the site. All of the deposits comprised modern made-ground. Deposit (**110**) comprised red, gritty sandy clay that was most likely a continuation of deposit (**104**) (0.20m – 0.32m). Deposit (**111**) comprised grey sandy silt and was excavated to a depth of 0.52m (0.32m – 0.52m). Deposit (**112**) comprised light yellow-brown sand and was excavated to a depth of c.0.75m (0.52m – 0.75m). Deposit (**113**) comprised compact red gritty clay (0.75m – c.0.90m). No archaeological remains were noted.



Plate 4: Southernmost foundation trench (facing south-west)

4.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

- 4.4.1 No archaeological finds of note were recovered, and no environmental samples were retained during the groundworks.

5 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1.1 *Phase 1:* the site was stripped of topsoil to create a working area, under archaeological supervision. Modern brick foundations were revealed in construction deposits, which were possibly the remnants of a cellar, boiler house or workshop that was constructed in the 1920s to 1930s, as recorded on the 1937 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 3). No archaeological remains were noted.
- 5.1.2 *Phase 2:* the excavation of all foundation and service cuts were monitored during the watching brief. No archaeological remains were noted.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.2.1 As this watching brief was conducted as a condition of ground works relating to the proposed development of a single storey extension, no further archaeological work is deemed necessary. However, given the site's location in relation to the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site (SAM No. 26075), it is recommended that any work conducted in the future be subject to a similar programme of archaeological investigation.

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE

Context Number	Context Type	Description
101	Deposit	Topsoil
102	Deposit	Modern made ground: loose, dark-grey, black grit
103	Deposit	Modern made ground: dark grey clay with frequent construction rubble
104	Deposit	Modern made ground: reddish-brown silty clay
105	Walls	Modern brick foundations of small structure, possibly a cellar, part of a workshop or boiler room
106	Wall	North-south modern wall foundations:
107	Wall	East-west aligned modern wall foundations:
108	Drain	Modern drain
109	Wall	East-west aligned modern wall foundations.
110	Deposit	Modern made ground: reddish-brown silty clay. Most likely the same as deposit (104)
111	Deposit	Modern made ground: grey sandy silt (occasional stones)
112	Deposit	Modern made ground: light yellow-brown sand
113	Deposit	Modern made ground: reddish gritty clay
114	Deposit	Modern construction layer: deliberate backfill of chamber (105). Comprises bricks, tiles, plastic pipes, metal pipes and concrete

Table 1: List of Contexts issued during Watching Brief

APPENDIX 2: PROJECT DESIGN

WARDELL ARMSTRONG ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Project Design No CP10361

**PROJECT DESIGN FOR
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
WATCHING BRIEF
AT
13 MARLEBOROUGH GARDENS,
EDEN VALE,
CARLISLE**

NGR: NY 3987 5699

**FOR
CREATIVE SUPPORT LIMITED**

Martin Railton BA (Hons) MA MifA
WA Archaeology Ltd
Cocklakes Yard,
Cotehill,
Carlisle
Cumbria
CA4 0BQ
Tel: (01228) 564820
Fax: (01228) 560025
Email: m.railton@wa-archaeology.com

9th October 2012



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1 INTRODUCTION AND LOCATION

- 1.1 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd has been invited by Simon Nesti, RNJ Partnership, on behalf of Creative Support Limited, to undertake an archaeological watching brief on land at 13 Marleborough Gardens, Eden Vale, Carlisle. This watching brief is to take place during the construction of a single story extension to the rear of the existing property (Figure 1). The site is situated approximately 1km to the north of Carlisle city centre, on the east side of the confluence of the River Eden and the River Caldew. The site is centred on National Grid Reference NY 3987 5699.
- 1.2 The site lies in a zone of archaeological sensitivity, being within the buffer zone of Hadrian's Wall Scheduled Monument and *Vallum*. Hadrian's Wall is probably the most complex and best preserved of the frontiers of the Roman Empire (Austen and Young 2002). Begun in AD 122, the wall was a composite military barrier, which in its final form, comprised a stone wall fronted by a V-shaped ditch, and a number of purpose-built stone garrison fortifications such as forts, milecastles and turrets. A large earthwork and ditch, built parallel with, and to the south of the Wall, known as the *Vallum*, and a metalled road linking the garrison forts, which is known as the 'Roman Military Way', completed the northern military boundary. The northern military boundary was designated as a World Heritage Site in 1987.
- 1.3 An archaeological watching brief has therefore been requested by Mike Collins, Historic Environment Officer (Archaeology) Hadrian's Wall at English Heritage, in order to monitor the excavation work within this area. This is in line with government advice as set out in Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012).
- 1.4 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) is for the archaeological watching brief, which is to be undertaken during all groundworks associated with the proposed extension. This WSI is to be approved by Jeremy Parsons, Historic Environment Officer, Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES), prior to the start of the project.

2 WATCHING BRIEF

- 2.1 A watching brief consists of a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. Reasonable access to the site for the purposes of monitoring the watching brief will be afforded to the watching archaeologist (IfA 2008).
- 2.2 The proposed development will comprise the construction of a single story extension to the south of 13 Marleborough Gardens (shown in red on Figure 1). This will involve the stripping of topsoil and the construction foundation trenches for the extension, and associated service trenches.
- 2.3 The watching brief will conform to the following standard: all topsoil stripping, ground reduction, and excavation of foundations trenches shall be subject to observation by the archaeologist. This observation shall involve the systematic examination and accurate recording of all archaeological features, horizons and artefacts identified. Should intact archaeological remains be uncovered during the project, the archaeologist on site will be given a reasonable period of uninterrupted access, ensuring he/she is enabled to carry out further excavation and recording. All work will be carried out in accordance with the codes and practices outlined by the Institute for Archaeologists regarding archaeological watching briefs (IfA 2008).
- 2.4 The aims and principal methodology of the watching brief can be summarised as follows:
- to determine the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains;
 - to produce a photographic record of all contexts using colour digital and monochrome formats as applicable, each photograph including a graduated metric scale;
 - to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes;
 - to sample any environmental deposits encountered according to the WA Archaeology standard sampling procedure and in consultation with appropriate specialists.
 - to prepare a site archive in accordance with MoRPHE standards (English Heritage 2006);
 - depending upon the results of the work, to prepare a report for publication;
- 2.5 The work will reference the North-West Regional Research Framework (Brennand 2006, *Research and Archaeology in North West England*) and the Hadrian's Wall Research Framework (Symonds & Mason 2009).

- 2.6 All non-modern finds will be collected and retained for processing. Ceramics and animal bone will be collected in bulk and recorded by context. Significant *in situ* finds will be recorded in three dimensions prior to collection. All appropriate procedures will be followed in the event of the discovery of artefacts covered by the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996.
- 2.7 Any environmental evidence found during the work will be sampled as recommended by the English Heritage regional Scientific Advisor, and undertaken according to the Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd standard sampling procedure and nationally agreed procedures (English Heritage 2002), the recommended sample sizes for dry deposits being 30-60 litres and for wet deposits the sample sizes should be approximately 5 litres.
- 2.8 In the event that human burials are revealed, the archaeologist will procure and comply with all statutory consents and licences under the Burial Act 1857. The Conservation Team, English Heritage, the client, the police and the Coroner's office will be informed immediately upon the discovery of the remains. The removal of the remains will be done under a Section 25 Licence obtained from the Ministry of Justice. Wherever possible the whole burial will be archaeologically excavated.
- 2.9 All written records will utilise the WAA pro-forma recording sheets. Plans and sections will be drawn on water resistant permatrace at a scale of 1:20 and 1:10 respectively. A full photographic record in monochrome, colour slide and digital formats will be maintained. A combination of single and multi-context planning will be utilised. The site will be levelled with respect to the Ordnance Datum, with excavated areas tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 2.10 This process will culminate in the production of a bound client report with each page and paragraph numbered, following the guidance set out by English Heritage in the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 2nd Edition 1991) and in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (English Heritage 1st Edition 2006) which now replaces it, including:
- a site location plan, related to the national grid.
 - the dates on which the project was undertaken.
 - a concise, non-technical summary of the results
 - a description of the methodology employed, work undertaken and the results.
 - plans and sections at an appropriate scale.
 - a list of, and spot dates for, any finds recovered and a description and interpretation of the deposits identified.

- a description of any environmental or any other specialist work undertaken and the results obtained.
 - a table summarising the deposits, features, classes and numbers of artefacts encountered and any spot dating of significant finds.
 - recommendations for further analysis if applicable.
- 2.11 The report will describe and interpret areas of defined archaeology, and an assessment and statement of the actual and potential significance of the archaeology will be made within the broader context of regional and national archaeological priorities. The research questions will take into account the themes of the North West Regional Archaeological Research Framework (Brennand 2007) and the Hadrian's Wall Research Framework (Symonds & Mason 2009). The report will also include a discussion of the palaeoenvironmental potential of the site.

3 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 3.1 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd is fully compliant with HSE guidance and legislation. It is the duty of all personnel, under the Health and Safety at Work Act etc 1974, to take reasonable care for the health and safety of him/herself and other persons who may be affected by his/her acts or omissions at work. He/she must also co-operate with the Technical Director regarding any duty or requirement imposed on the Technical Director or any other person by or under any of the relevant statutory provisions so far as it is necessary to enable that duty or requirement to be performed or complied with. Any personnel contravening relevant statutory provision may be prosecuted in a Sheriff Court (Scotland) or Magistrates' Court. All personnel taking part in field work have a responsibility to adhere to sensible standards of behaviour. Personnel are made aware that fieldwork activities have inherent hazards which staff members minimise with appropriate safety precautions. However, the potential dangers make it imperative that personnel co-operate by behaving responsibly in order to reduce the risk of accidents.
- 3.2 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd Health and Safety Statement conform to the provisions of the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM) Health and Safety Manual. Field projects are undertaken according to the SCAUM Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (SCAUM 2010) and according to the Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Standard Safety Procedure. Risk assessments are undertaken prior to any fieldwork taking place and staff are fully briefed regarding on site hazards and safe working procedure. Full consideration will be given to health and safety issues during all fieldwork for this project.

4 STAFFING AND METHODOLOGY

4.1 The work will be undertaken under the overall direction of Martin Railton, BA (Hons), MA, MIfA, WAA Senior Project Manager. The watching brief will be undertaken by a WAA Project Archaeologist at supervisor level or above, to be confirmed at commencement of the watching brief. All staff are highly experienced archaeologists with significant experience of both urban and rural sites throughout the North of England and Southern Scotland.

4.2 The processing of any finds uncovered will be managed by Megan Stoakley, WAA Finds and Archives Officer. The company will undertake first-aid conservation, but if further stabilisation is required there will be consultations with staff from the University of Durham. Soil samples requiring specialist work will be assessed, and recommendations for analysis will be made in consultation with Jacqui Huntley at the University of Durham. Specialist Services which may be utilised:

Illustration	Adrian Bailey, WAA Illustrator
Lithics	David Jackson, WAA Ltd
Roman Pottery	Louise Hird, Archaeological Consultant
Medieval Pottery	Cathy Brooks, Archaeological Consultant.
Post Medieval Pottery	Jenny Vaughn, Archaeological Consultant
Environmental analysis	Don O'Meara, WAA Environmental Officer
Human Remains	Jocelyn Strickland, WAA Palaeopathologist
Conservation	Archaeological Services, University of Durham
Post Medieval Glass	Dr Hugh Wilmott, University of Sheffield
Wood	Ian Tyers, University of Sheffield

4.3 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology Ltd is the archaeological contracting division of Wardell Armstrong LLP. The company has a fully staffed professional field team and is highly experienced in the assessment and recording of archaeological sites and monuments throughout the north of England and south-west Scotland. Based near Carlisle, Cumbria, the company has considerable experience extending over more than thirteen years of archaeological investigation.

5 WORK TIMETABLE

5.1 The project can be implemented immediately after the acceptance of the project design by Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service.

- 5.2 The watching brief will be undertaken on a day-by-day basis, in consultation with the RNJ Partnership and the client's contractor, Thomas Armstrong.
- 5.3 The opportunity will be given for Jeremy Parsons, Historic Environment Officer, CCCHES and Mike Collins, Historic Environment Officer (Archaeology) Hadrian's Wall, English Heritage, to inspect the site during the project.
- 5.3 Copies of this report will be deposited within the Cumbria County Council HER, and the WAA archive no later than two months following the completion of all fieldwork.

6 PUBLICATION

- 6.1 Depending on results, the findings of the watching brief may be published in summary form in the Newsletter of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society. If justified an article may be produced for publication in a suitable specialist journal, in agreement with the Client, English Heritage and CCCHES, for which a separate costing will be required.
- 6.2 WA Archaeology and Cumbria County Council, support the **Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS)** project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by WA Archaeology, as a part of this national project.

7 ARCHIVE, OWNERSHIP AND STORAGE OF FINDS

- 7.1 All finds belong to the landowner, but initially they will be transferred to WA Archaeology Ltd's premises at Cocklakes. Agreement will be sought on the final deposition of finds prior to the fieldwork commencing.
- 7.2 During and after the groundworks, all recovered artefacts will be stored in the appropriate 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 materials). All work will be carried out in compliance with IfA Guidelines for Finds Work and those set by UKIC.
- 7.3 Ultimately it is recommended that the curation of both finds and the site archive should be vested in Tullie House Museum.
- 7.4 The site archive will be prepared to the standard specification in the Management of Archaeological Projects, appendix 3 (HBMC 1991), and Brown, DH, 2007, *Archaeological Archives A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation*.

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APPENDIX 3: FIGURES
