

**BITTS PARK,  
CARLISLE,  
CUMBRIA**



**WATCHING BRIEF REPORT  
CP. No10806  
21/03/2014**



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*Quality Assurance*

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.

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## SUMMARY

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Wardell Armstrong Archaeology was commissioned by LJM Asset Management, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks at Bitts Park, Carlisle Cumbria (NGR NY 39673 56342). The work was to take place on the south side of Bitts Park immediately adjacent to Dacre Road and Carlisle Castle, a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM#27657). Jeremy Parsons, Historic Environment Officer, Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service granted consent for the work, on the condition that archaeological monitoring in the form of a watching brief, be undertaken during all groundworks. Although the area of groundworks did not affect the castle directly, they were close to the scheduled area of Carlisle Castle. The site was also close to the projected course of Hadrian's Wall, which is classified as a World Heritage Site.

The archaeological watching brief was undertaken over ten days between the 17<sup>th</sup> February and 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014. The watching brief monitored all groundworks associated with the erection of a high ropes course and a 2.4m high mesh fence. No significant archaeological remains were noted during the watching brief. However it was noted that much of the ground was composed of a 19<sup>th</sup> century rubbish layer. This consisted mainly of cinder material, containing a large amount of pottery sherds, bottle glass and clay tobacco pipe fragments.

As this archaeological watching brief was conducted as part of a recommendation to observe groundworks in association with the erection of the high rope course, 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

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Wardell Armstrong Archaeology would like to thank Steve Whitehead of LJM Asset Management for commissioning the project, and Mike Gair for his help throughout the work. Wardell Armstrong Archaeology would also like to thank Jeremy Parsons, Historic Environment Officer, Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service, for all his assistance throughout the project.

Wardell Armstrong Archaeology extends its thanks to all the site staff of Contract Fencing Ltd, and Mike Howe Joinery and Groundworks Ltd, for their help during this project.

The archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Sue Thompson and Ed Johnson. The report was written by Sue Thompson and the drawings were produced by Adrian Bailey. The finds were assessed by Megan Stoakley. The project was managed and edited by Frank Giocco, Technical Director, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 In January 2014, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology was invited by LJM Asset Management to maintain an archaeological watching brief at Bitts Park, Carlisle, Cumbria (NGR NY 39673 56342; Figure 1), during groundworks associated with the erection of a high ropes course and perimeter mesh fence.
- 1.1.2 The work was to take place on the south side of the park immediately adjacent to Dacre Road and Carlisle Castle, a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SM#27657). Although the proposed works did not affect the castle directly, the groundworks lay immediately outside the scheduled area of Carlisle Castle. The site was also close to the projected course of Hadrian's Wall, which is classified as a World Heritage Site. As a result, Andrew Davison of English Heritage and Jeremy Parsons of Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service 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).
- 1.1.3 All groundworks associated with the erection of the high ropes course and integrated climbing wall, and 2.4m mesh fence 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 project design provided by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology (Giecco 2012) and generally accepted best practice.
- 1.1.4 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.

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## 2 METHODOLOGY

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### 2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A project design was submitted by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology in response to a request by Carlisle City Council, for an archaeological watching brief of the study area. Following acceptance of the project design by Andrew Davison of English Heritage and Jeremy Parsons of Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology 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) standards.



2.2.3 Archaeological monitoring took place in three phases; Phase 1 monitored the excavation of 82 small post holes around the perimeter of the site for the erection of a 2.4m mesh fence. Phase 2 was the topsoil strip and Phase 3 required the excavation of 23 pits for the footings of the new equipment associated with the high ropes course and climbing wall, (Figure 3). Monitoring of the groundworks was carried out over ten days between the 17<sup>th</sup> February and 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

## 2.3 THE ARCHIVE

2.3.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the specification, and according to the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2011). The archive will be deposited with Carlisle Archive Centre, and a copy of the report will be deposited with Cumbria Historic Environment Service, where viewing will be made available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier **WAA14, BPW-A, CP 10806/14**.

2.3.2 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology, and English Heritage, supports 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, as a part of this national project.

## 3 BACKGROUND

### 3.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

3.1.1 Bitts Park is located to the north of the centre of the city of Carlisle, and to the north side of Carlisle Castle. The projected line of Hadrian's Wall runs across the northern edge of the park (Figure 1). Bitts Park is a flat area of land bounded on the south by the castle complex, on the west by the main West Coast Railway line, on the north by the River Eden, and by Castle Way and Eden Bridges to the east (Figure 2).

3.1.2 The development area was situated on the northern edge of Dacre Road and was the site of the former crazy golf course at the southern end of the Bitts Park, adjacent to the public car park (Figure 2; Plate 1).



*Plate 1: Area of groundworks showing former crazy golf course*

3.1.3 The underlying geology of the proposed development area is Red Sandstone, overlain by glacial deposits of boulder clay (British Geological Survey, 2001). The boulder clay has been deposited by ice and is derived from bedrock traversed by glacial movement and is heterogeneous (SSEW, 1984). Two rivers run close to the study area, the River Eden and the River Caldew. The Eden is the principal river which passes through the modern city towards the Solway Firth and was an important watercourse throughout the historical development of Carlisle.

## 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.
- 3.2.2 **Prehistoric Period (pre c. AD 43):** there is extensive evidence for prehistoric activity within and around Carlisle, including the remains of prehistoric ploughing at Blackfriars Street and Lowther Street. Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery was found at Scotby Road, including Grooved Ware and Beaker pottery, and a collared urn and burnt mound were excavated at Garlands Hospital (Perriam 1992, 3). Flints of Neolithic and Bronze Age date have also been found, and two socketed Late Bronze Age axes were found at Kings Meadow, Stanwix (HER No. 525).
- 3.2.3 **Romano-British Period:** Roman occupation of Carlisle is first indicated by the presence of a turf and timber fort. This fort, dating to approximately 70 AD, was possibly centred on the present Castle Green south of the proposed utility works. This fort predates the later much larger Roman town of *Luguvalium*, and was post-dated by another fort across the Eden in the Stanwix area. At that time the Romans established a fort at the northern end of the present city centre, and this quickly expanded to become a substantial civilian settlement over 40 acres in area. The withdrawal by the Romans from Scotland in circa AD 80, and the building of Hadrian's Wall from AD 122, probably had a substantial impact on the settlement.
- 3.2.4 The Wall was a composite military barrier, which in its final form comprised several separate elements; a stone wall fronted by a V-shaped ditch, and a number of purpose-built stone garrison fortifications such as forts, milecastles and turrets. To the south, a large earthwork and ditch, known as the Vallum was built parallel to Wall, as well as a metalled supply road linking the garrison forts, known as the 'Roman Military Way'. The Wall began in the east, at Wallsend in Tyneside and continued to the west terminating at Bowness-on-Solway in Cumbria, a distance of 80 Roman miles (73.5 English miles or 117 kilometres). The Wall, conceived by Hadrian was to be 10 feet wide and c.15 feet high. The front face of the wall most likely sported a crenulated parapet, behind which the soldiers patrolled along a paved rampart-walk (Bedoyere 1998).
- 3.2.5 By c. AD 200 Carlisle, known as *Luguvalium*, seems to have been granted special status, and it continued to flourish, with a large number of houses, shops, administrative and other public buildings, until the end of the Roman occupation at around AD 400.
- 3.2.6 The Roman roads which have been located through archaeological investigation may not form the total extent of the traffic system as seen by

the discovery of the street found at Tullie House which failed to fit into any grid system yet devised. This suggests the Roman civil town had a different alignment to the earlier fort. Evidence for the existence of a post 2<sup>nd</sup> century ditch may relate to urban defences of the Roman civil town. The uncovering of the Roman cemeteries outside the civil town boundaries indicates that Roman Carlisle was similar in size to its medieval counterpart (Ferguson 1890, 365-374).

3.2.7 *Medieval and Post-Medieval Periods:* following the withdrawal of the Legions in the early part of the 5<sup>th</sup> century, Carlisle probably continued to be occupied, and it housed an important monastic community from the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The arrival of the Normans in 1092 heralded a period of major change, during which the city was enclosed by walls. Throughout the Middle Ages and up to the Jacobite rebellion in 1745, Carlisle was a major frontier city on the borders of England and Scotland. Throughout this period the Sheepmount has always been outside the limits of settlement, with no evidence of any use, apart from as pasture land until its use as one of the city tips in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century (Jones 2005).

### 3.3 PREVIOUS WORK

- 3.3.1 In 1997 Carlisle Archaeology Ltd carried out a limited trial excavation on the football pitches in Bitts Park, immediately to the north of the footpath development. Aerial photographs of the pitches seemed to show two possible playing card shaped crop marks. However, the subsequent excavations failed to record any evidence of Roman activity (*Pers. Comm.* Giecco 2014).
- 3.3.2 There have been a number of archaeological investigations within the area defined as the City of Carlisle Hazard Area (HER No. 3560) to the south of the site. All of these uncovered significant evidence of Roman occupation. These include major excavations at The Lanes (McCarthy 2000; McCarthy, Padley and Henig 1982); Botchergate (Zant 1997; Giecco, 2001, Lancaster University Archaeology Unit 2000); and the millennium excavations on Castle Green conducted during 1998-2001 (Zant 2004).
- 3.3.3 The position of Hadrian's Wall crossing of the Eden was located in 1951 when a number of bridge stone's were dredged up. A ground penetrating radar survey was carried out in 1997 south of the confluence of the rivers Eden and Caldew by Carlisle Archaeology Ltd, and recorded strong geophysical anomalies on the projected line of the wall at a depth of between 2 and 3m below the current ground surface (*Pers. Comm.* Giecco 2014).

- 3.3.4 In 2005 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd conducted an archaeological evaluation on the east bank of the River Caldew, northwest of the current proposed works. The evaluation failed to locate any Roman archaeology, the earliest recorded deposit being a 19<sup>th</sup> century rubbish tip (Jones 2005).
- 3.3.5 In 2008 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd maintained an archaeological watching brief at the Sheepmount Sports Centre, Carlisle during the excavation of an electricity cable trench. Similarly, deposits relating to 19<sup>th</sup> century rubbish tipping were recorded. No Roman frontier related archaeology was observed (Jackson 2008).
- 3.3.6 In 2011 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd maintained an archaeological watching brief along the southern edge of Bitts Park Carlisle during groundworks for a new footpath and associated lighting. Although shallow the excavation work once again revealed a large quantity of 19<sup>th</sup> century rubbish along with some demolition material, all suggestive of a rubbish tip.
- 3.3.7 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief immediately northwest of the current development in 2013 during groundworks for drain repairs. The earliest deposits again related to 19<sup>th</sup> century rubbish tipping (Mounsey 2013).

#### **3.4 HADRIAN'S WALL WORLD HERITAGE SITE**

- 3.4.1 Hadrian's Wall was designated as a World Heritage Site in 1987 and forms the most complex and best preserved of the frontiers of the Roman Empire. (English Heritage 2002). The World Heritage Site (WHS) comprises a visual envelope between 1km and 6km from the site in order to serve as a buffer zone to protect the site and its immediate landscape from development detrimental to the visual amenity of the site (*ibid*).
- 3.4.2 The WHS is centred on the military installations constructed from AD 122 on the orders of the Emperor Hadrian. The WHS also includes other Roman sites and structures which predate Hadrian's Wall, such as the arrangement of forts along the Cumbrian Coast between Bowness-on-Solway and Ravenglass, and incorporates a wealth of pre-Roman and post-Roman sites and landscapes (*op.cit.*). Hadrian's Wall was constructed in the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century on a line connecting the Tyne and the Solway and represented at various times the northern frontier of Roman Britain.
- 3.4.3 The more detailed history of Hadrian's Wall is well documented and is summarised in numerous publications (Breeze and Dobson 2000; Daniels 1978 and Birley 1961).

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## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken over 10 days between the 17<sup>th</sup> February and 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014. Archaeological monitoring took place during all groundworks which were carried out in three phases. All post holes for the perimeter fence were excavated by hand. All topsoil stripping and excavation work was carried out by a tracked mini excavator. Twenty-three pits were excavated for the footings of the high ropes course (Figure 3).

### 4.2 PHASE 1

4.2.1 Phase 1 consisted of the excavation of 82 small post holes for the erection of a 2.4m mesh fence. The post holes were an average of 0.35m x 0.35m x 0.70m and were located around the perimeter of the former crazy golf course, immediately west of the Bitts Park Lodge, and the public car park. The site is adjacent to Dacre Road, to the north of Carlisle Castle (Figure 3; Plate 2). The stratigraphy varied around the perimeter, but all consisted of made ground deposits covered by 0.15m of dark brown, silty topsoil (100).

4.2.2 The Bitts Park Lodge is built on an artificial mound and the postholes skirt this mound. Below 0.25m of topsoil (100), an orange brown gritty sandy clay (103) was observed to a depth of 0.40m+, containing frequent brick fragments. This probably represents the base of the made ground deposits forming the mound on which the lodge is situated.

4.2.3 To the southern edge of the site, along the edge of the car park, a dark brown-black gritty deposit (104) containing frequent brick and rounded cobbles was observed to a depth of 0.30m. Deposit (104) was located above a black cindery made ground deposit (102).

4.2.4 The southwest boundary of the site runs parallel to Dacre Road. Topsoil (100) sealed a dark grey brown gritty silt with frequent brick and stone inclusions (105), which is likely to have formed part of the base for the road, and was possibly part of flood defences in this area. Along the northwest boundary, topsoil (100) lay above subsoil (101), comprising a mottled orange brown sandy clay subsoil measuring an average depth of 0.10m. The topsoil also lay above the black, cinder deposit (102).

4.2.5 A large amount of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery sherds, bottle glass and clay tobacco pipe fragments were recovered from the made up ground (102).



*Plate 2: Post holes for perimeter fence facing southwest*



*Plate 3: Topsoil strip facing southeast*

### 4.3 PHASE 2

4.3.1 Phase 2 monitored the topsoil strip. An irregular shaped area measuring roughly 65m x 65m was stripped using a tracked mini digger and a toothless

ditching bucket. An average of 0.20m of topsoil (100) was removed to expose subsoil (101). The concrete footings of the former crazy golf course were removed as part of this phase (Figure 3; Plate 3). All excavated topsoil was retained on site for use in the new development.

4.3.2 A single find was recovered during the topsoil strip, a Victorian shilling dating to 1900.

4.3.3 No archaeology was observed as part of the topsoil strip.

#### 4.4 PHASE 3

4.4.1 Phase 3 monitored the excavation of 23 pits for the footings of the high ropes course. These pits varied in size from the smallest, 1m x 1m, to the largest pit 3m x 3m and were an average of 1.20m in depth (Figure 3).

4.4.2 Pit 1 was the largest pit and was located in the north of the development area, measuring 3m x 3m by 1m in depth. Subsoil (101) was present to a depth of 0.20m above the layer of the black deposit (102) measuring 0.05m in depth. This overlaid a second orange sandy clay subsoil (106) (Plate 4).



*Plate 4: Pit 1 facing southeast*

4.4.3 Pit 1 was linked to Pit 7 and Pit 8 by narrow trenches, 0.70m wide and 1m in depth. In the eastern trench the cut for a rubbish pit [107] was observed, filled by (108), a black cinder deposit (Plate 5). This rubbish pit measured 3m in length by 4m+ in width and was 0.80m+ deep. Frequent 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery, glass and clay pipe were recovered. Deposit (108) appears to be the same material as deposit (102).





*Plate 5: Pit 7 showing rubbish pit [107] facing northwest*

4.4.4 Pit 7 and Pit 8 were also linked to Pit 10 and Pit 11 by narrow trenches (Figure 3). A rubble deposit of broken bricks and mortar (**109**) measuring 4m x 5m and 0.30m in depth was observed around Pit 10, above subsoil (**106**). The rubble was overlaid with a thin deposit of (**102**).



*Plate 6: Pit 10 showing rubble deposit (**109**) facing southeast*

4.4.5 No other features were observed during the excavation of the remaining pits. The black cinder deposit **(102)** was observed across much of the area, below the topsoil and above subsoil **(109)**. Frequent 19<sup>th</sup> Century pottery, glass and clay pipe fragments were recovered from **(102)**.

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## 5 FINDS ASSESSMENT

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### 5.1 FINDS ASSESSMENT

5.1.1 Artefacts were recovered from two contexts during the archaeological watching brief at Bitts Park, Carlisle, Cumbria. They consisted of 19<sup>th</sup> Century pottery, bottle glass fragments and clay tobacco pipe fragments.

### 5.2 POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY

5.2.1 Post-medieval pottery was recovered from two contexts (102) and (108).

5.2.2 The largest ceramic group retrieved from the watching brief comprised Whiteware (Refined Earthenware). Refined white earthenware was used for tea and table wares from the 1830s onwards.

5.2.3 Notable vessel groups include fragments from teapots, jars, jugs, teacups, plates, egg cups, a chamber pot, saucers and tureens.

5.2.4 Frequent sherds of white earthenware plate were recovered during the pit excavations. Staffordshire was one of the main pottery manufacturing centres or counties in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and it is highly likely that much of the pottery from this assemblage originated from these potteries (Laing 2003, 125).

5.2.5 There were also frequent sherds of transfer printed pottery, with cups, saucers, plates and teapots present. "Willow Pattern", possibly the best known transfer printed pattern, was Chinese or oriental in design, and developed by Thomas Turner from a design by Thomas Minton in the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century (Laing 2003, 125). The design was taken up by Staffordshire potteries in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century and it became particularly fashionable after c.1820 (*Ibid*). Of particular interest is a transfer printed tea cup advertising a tea company (Enterprise Tea Company?) at 12 English Street Carlisle. Another item of local interest is a plate marked "County Hotel Carlisle" (Plate 7).

5.2.6 Sherds of two nursery transfer printed ware were recovered from context (102). A small plate is decorated with a scene "this is the dog [that caught the cat] that killed the rat". Four sherds of a small cup may have formed part of a set (Plate 8).

5.2.7 Sponge ware from Staffordshire and Scotland was also present. During the 19<sup>th</sup> Century this was manufactured as cheap utilitarian ware. Purple and brown sponge ware is likely to be Scottish in origin and is represented in the form of bowls, plates and cups.

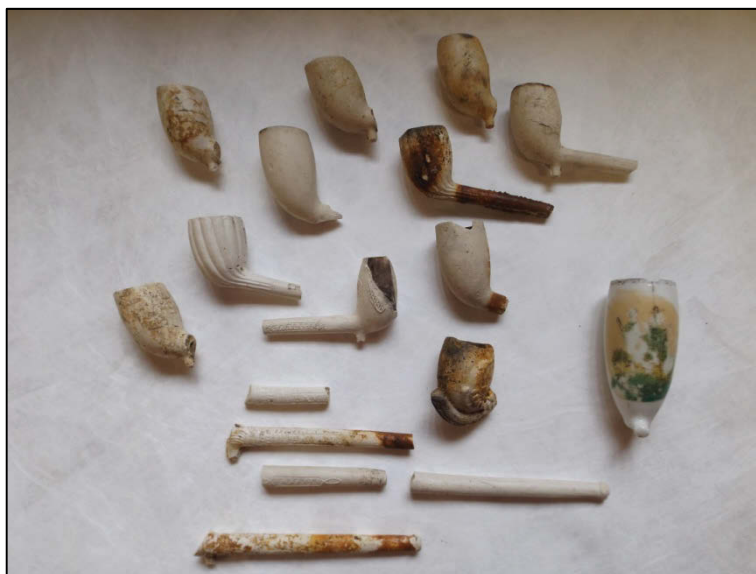
5.2.8 Other types of 19<sup>th</sup> Century pottery recovered from the watching brief comprise stoneware, fine china, and earthenware. Several transfer printed items have been hand painted over the transfer pattern.



*Plate 7: Transfer printed ware from Carlisle*



*Plate 8: Transfer printed ware for the nursery*



*Plate 9: Clay Pipe stems and bowls*

### 5.3 CLAY TOBACCO PIPE

- 5.3.1 Frequent fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recovered from contexts (102) and (108) and include both stem fragments and bowls (Plate 9).
- 5.3.2 All of the fragments most likely date to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. One pipe has the stamp "TW" inscribed on the bowl. Thomas White, of Edinburgh, were a well-known company who manufactured pipes between 1823 and 1876, however one pipe is marked with TW on the bowl and a makers stamp of 'Pringle' and 'Carlisle'. Pringle was registered as a pipemaker in Carlisle between 1851 and 1897.
- 5.3.3 Other maker's stamps include Hamilton – which may be a Hexham pipe maker, and E. Feron of Glasgow.
- 5.3.4 A single bowl is decorated with an eagle's talon. The bowl is unusually round and is thought to represent an egg. This pipe dates to around 1840.
- 5.3.5 A single glazed china pipe bowl was probably purely decorative (Plate 9). This would have had a metal cap and a separate stem.

### 5.4 GLASS

- 5.4.1 A number of glass bottles were recovered from contexts (102) and (108).
- 5.4.2 Of particular interest are two chemists bottles from Carlisle; one pale blue bottle is marked N. Nailor, Chemist, Carlisle and another is labeled J.B. Grieve, Chemist, Carlisle.

- 5.4.3 One green-coloured bottle, is marked Carlisle and has a thistle motif, but is incomplete. A brown glass bottle is marked "HOPE" of Carlisle and is likely to be a beer bottle.
- 5.4.4 The glass bottles and fragments are of 19<sup>th</sup> Century date.



*Plate 10: Glass Bottles recovered during the watching brief*

## 5.5 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

- 5.5.1 The assemblage retrieved from the watching brief at Bitts Park was recovered from a rubbish tip of 19<sup>th</sup> century date and as such, the assemblage is of low archaeological interest. No further work is recommended on the artefacts. Consequently, the finds were not retained and the archive will be deposited at Carlisle Archives Centre.

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## 6 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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### 6.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1.1 Parts of the perimeter fencing post holes were excavated through raised banks of rubble, situated above 19<sup>th</sup> century rubbish deposits composed mainly of black cinder containing a large amount of pottery, bottle glass and clay pipe fragments. The raised banks are the result of much of the area having been raised by the deposition of 19<sup>th</sup> century rubbish in order to prevent flooding from the nearby River Eden. It was on these deposits that much of Bitts Park was laid out. Previous excavations in Bitts Park have revealed similar 19<sup>th</sup> century rubbish deposits.
- 6.1.2 Other than the 19<sup>th</sup> Century rubbish deposits, no features of archaeological interest were observed.

### 6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.2.1 As this watching brief was conducted as a condition of groundworks relating to the erection of a high ropes course and associated perimeter fence, no further archaeological work is deemed necessary. However, given the site's location in relation to Carlisle Castle and the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site, 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
 

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<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Context Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
100	Deposit	Topsoil
101	Deposit	Subsoil
102	Deposit	19 <sup>th</sup> Century Made Up Ground (Cinder)
103	Geology	Made ground
104	Structure	Made ground
105	Deposit	Made ground
106	Deposit	Subsoil
107	Deposit	Cut of pit
108	Deposit	Fill – Same as 102
109	Deposit	Brick Rubble

*Table 4: List of Contexts issued during Watching Brief*

## APPENDIX 2: FIGURES

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