



**THE ARCHAEOLOGY CO.**

Spire Hollins House  
Watching Brief

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June 2016

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## **NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

An archaeological watching brief was a requirement of condition 10 of the planning permission for proposed works at Spire Hollins House. The works included excavations around the west side of the house for the laying of a patio and the building of an extension. The natural bedrock was found c. 0.4m below the ground surface and no archaeological features were discovered.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs Boden who commissioned the survey. The assistance provided by the staff of Derbyshire Records Office is also acknowledged.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 An archaeological watching brief was required as condition 10 of planning permission for the groundworks at Spire Hollins House, Combs, which stated that:

- a) *No development shall take place until a Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological monitoring has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions and*
  - 1. *The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*
  - 2. *The programme and provision to be made for post investigation analysis and reporting;*
  - 3. *Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
  - 4. *Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation*
  - 5. *Nomination of a competent person or persons/organization to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.*
- b) *No development shall take place other than in accordance with the archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (a).*
- c) *Within a period of 12 weeks from completion of the development the archaeological site investigation and post investigation analysis and reporting shall have been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (a) and the provision to be made for publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition shall have been secured.*

1.2 This procedure followed the advice previously given by central government as set out in Planning Policy Guidance: Planning and the Historic Environment (PPG15) and Planning Policy Guidance on Archaeology and Planning (PPG16) which has now been superseded by Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework. This came into effect in March 2012 and requires that "Local planning authorities should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of plan-making or development management publicly accessible. They should also require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible" (NPPF 2012, 141).

The works included groundworks around the west side of the house for the laying of a patio and erection of an extension.

## 2. SITE LOCATION

- 2.1 Spire Hollins House is located on the north side of Long Lane, c. 0.75km northwest of Combs village centre and 3km southwest of Chapel-en-le-Frith. The postal address is Spire Hollins House, Long Lane, Combs SK23 9UT and the National Grid Reference is SK 03449 78850. The building is grade II listed, with the description as follows:

*Spire Hollins and attached outbuildings GV II Farmhouse, now house. C17, restored and extended early C20. Coursed gritstone rubble with large quoins to C17 part. Gritstone dressings. Slate roof with stone ridges. Large, central stone ridge stack and smaller gable end stacks. C19 moulded stone copings and kneelers, topped by ball finials at ridge and eaves, to south gable. Three storeys, two storey C20 addition. Garden elevation - two bays. C20 double glazed doors to north. To south, 4-light recessed and chamfered mullion window. Drip mould with return stops. Mullions and base C20. Similar window above. To north, 3-light recessed and chamfered mullion and transome window with drip mould over. South, street elevation. C20, 5-light recessed and cavetto moulded mullion window with large central semi-circular headed light, rather lower and divided above. High transomes across lights either side. Drip mould with return stops over. To east, similar 3-light window. Above to west, C17 4-light recessed and chamfered mullion and transome window with drip mould over. To east, similar C19 window without drip mould. Above to west, larger, similar window, possibly C19. Attached to north C19 converted outbuildings.*

- 2.2 The groundworks were undertaken on the western side of the house. The ground in this area sloped downwards from west to east and lay c.1m higher than the ground level of the house. The excavation was to remove the earth down to ground level.

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The purpose of a watching brief, as stated by the IFA is:

- “to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, their presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.
- To provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.” (IFA rev.1999)

3.2 The results of a Watching Brief are used to produce a record of the location, nature and date of any archaeological remains encountered on the site. It also adds to the knowledge about the previous history of activity on the current site and its surroundings as well as providing information to influence future planning decisions in the area.

3.3 As stated in the WSI, the research questions were to discover whether there was any below ground evidence of earlier buildings, extensions, or other occupation on the site; and was there any evidence for the land use around the house.

#### **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1 The project was carried out in accordance with the recommendations of The Management of Archaeological Projects 2nd ed. 1991 and the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Code of Conduct.
- 4.2 Photographs were taken using an Olympus E-600 DSLR (12.3 megapixels). Where possible and safe, a 1m scale was used in the photographs and a photograph location plan produced
- 4.3 The site was visited on several occasions between the 10th and 20th of May 2016 when groundworks were undertaken by mechanical digger. Where appropriate plans and sections were produced at 1:100 or 1:20 scale.
- 4.4 An Archaeologist was present during the groundworks. Ground excavation was carried out with a toothless bucket, with opportunities for archaeological observation. The attending archaeologist was given opportunity to direct the machine to stop to allow inspection, excavation and/or recording of potential archaeological features. Where archaeological features are deemed to be present they were archaeologically exposed and recorded. The archaeologist was not present during the excavation of the bedrock.
- 4.5 Following the excavation the flagstones running alongside the building were lifted and the underlying soils removed down to bedrock.
- 4.6 The assessment was carried out in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Watching Briefs



## 5. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 Although there is no known prehistoric activity on the site itself the surrounding area contains many monuments, and several artefacts from the period have been found. Monuments include Cow Low bowl barrow, Lady Low bowl barrow and the Bull Ring henge monument at Dove Holes. Two polished stone axes and a flint axe from the Neolithic period have also been discovered near Dove Holes. To the west of Combs is the Iron Age hill fort of Castle Naze, which contained Neolithic/Bronze Age flint arrowheads. A bronze age cairn is known at Ladder Hill and various enclosures, believed to be prehistoric, are visible on aerial photographs close to the Chapel-en-le-Frith golf course. (Stroud 1999).
- 5.2 There is no known Roman activity on the site itself, and the evidence for the surrounding area is scant. A Roman Road is known to have run from Buxton to Melandra, which passes to the east of Chapel-en-le-frith. A coin of Constantine (306 – 337) and some Roman pot sherd have been found within Castle Naze (Stroud 1999). Evidence of Late or Post Roman occupation is likewise scant, however, 'Eccles', such as at Eccles Pike is a pre-Anglican name meaning 'church'. The Anglo-Scandinavian high cross of 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> century is located within Chapel-en-le-frith, although this was moved from the Eccles Road, between Chapel-en-le-Frith and Whaley Bridge, where it likely acted as a wayside or boundary cross (Stroud 1999).
- 5.3 The area that became Chapel-en-le-Frith was situated in the Royal Forest of the Peak. The Forest was formally created in the Norman period, although likely had earlier origins. In 1068 Hope and adjacent lands were granted to William Peverel, and in the early 12th century Longdendale (to the north-west) was described as 'waste; woodland, unpastured, fit for hunting'. In 1155 a younger Peverel was disinherited for poisoning the Earl of Chester and his estates were forfeited to the Crown. The estates, including the Peak Forest, continued in the possession of the King until 1372, when they were conferred on John of Gaunt and became part of the estates of the Duchy of Lancaster. On the accession of Henry IV the estates reverted to the Crown by absorption (Stroud 1999).

- 5.4 Chapel-en-le-Frith seems to have come in existence in the early 13th century in an area called Bowden. The foresters and keepers of the deer became so numerous that 'about 1225' they purchased some of the Crown lands and built themselves a chapel. The earliest mention of Chapel-en-le-Frith comes from 1241 where it was called "capellam de Frith", the chapel in the forest (Stroud 1999).
- 5.5 Despite its small size, however, its importance no doubt lay in its siting on long-distance routes and in its markets and fairs (see below). Much of the Peak was being brought into cultivation in the 13<sup>th</sup> century with tenants, predominantly freeholders, paying fines for assarting and then fixed annual rents. The rolls of the Forest Justices recorded all clearings made and these show land being continually added during the first half of the 13th century, just at the time when Chapel-en-le-Frith was coming into being (Stroud 1999).
- 5.6 The importance of Chapel-en-le-Frith on the pack-horse routes of the post-medieval period, and its continued status as a market town, is indicated by the number of 18th century guide stoops pointing to the town. Many of these were erected in 1709, the usual date of Derbyshire stoops. Several roads were turnpiked in the area during the course of the 18th century, so considerably improving access. In the early 1790's plans were made for a canal and tramway to enable goods to be carried to Ashton under Lyne to supply the expanding chemical industries in the region. The subsequent Peak Forest Canal Act was approved in 1794, with work starting on the canal in April and construction of the tramway commencing the following year (Stroud 1999).
- 5.7 Spire Hollins is briefly mentioned in "The Diary of James Clegg of Chapel-en-le-Frith 1708 – 1755", where "Thomas of Spire Hollins" is mentioned. The Directory of Derbyshire for 1827 notes that Adam Fox lived at Spire Hollins by this time, and lists him as a gentleman. The parish burial register for 1834 states that Roger Fox, likely Adams father, lived at Spire Hollins and died 24<sup>th</sup> February. The census returns for 1841 however show several people living there. The first listed are Adam and Sarah Fox, aged 70 and 60 respectively. Adam Fox is listed as a farmer and no children lived with them. Also listed are Abram and Ann Howe. Abram

was a butcher and they lived with their 5 children and servants. George Barrett is also listed, working as a shoe maker. He lived with his 6 children and no wife.

- 5.8 The Plantagenet Roll lists Charles Arthur Abraham at Spire Hollins in 1889 with his wife Mary and three children (The Marquis of Ruvigny and Ranivel 1911). A Trade directory for 1895 lists John Etchells as living at the property, and also notes that William Scott, a detective officer, lived at 2 Spire Hollins (Directory 1895). Spire Hollins was occupied in the early 20th century by J. W. Bailey, the brother of Allen Bailey who died on 31st January 1918 during the first world war. Further, Bill Astell's family lived at Spire Hollins during the Second World War and were informed of his death on the 17th May 1943 (Bowman 2014).

## 6. RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The excavation revealed three main contexts. At the base was context (03), a solid sandstone bedrock which was excavated to a depth of c. 1.4 m. Above this was (02), a yellow brown loamy sand subsoil, with fragments of sandstone and was c.0.2m thick. This lay below the topsoil (01). All contexts sloped downwards from west to east. In the northeast corner context (02) was much deeper, due to the insertion of the garden walls.
- 6.2 A ceramic land drain was discovered running through context (02) north to south. Contexts (01) and (02) contained a small amount of late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery fragments. No other artefacts were discovered.
- 6.3 Following the excavation the flagstones running alongside the building were lifted. This revealed a thin layer of loamy sand over then natural bedrock. A large modern drain ran across the area, cut into the natural, north to south, linking two drains. The excavation revealed that the house sat directly on top of the bedrock, with foundations only a few centimetres deep. The garden walls were built by cutting a face into the bedrock and building the wall up against it.
- 6.4 Regarding the research questions, there was no evidence to suggest that earlier structures had been present in this area. Also, given the shallow depth of the bedrock there was no evidence for the historic land use, although given the lack of structures it was likely used as a garden or for agricultural purposes.

## **7. ARCHIVE**

- 7.1 The results from the archaeological monitoring were negative and as such deposition with the Derbyshire County Record Office and museum is not required.
- 7.2 The site archive shall be prepared and stored according to the UKIC Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term-storage (1990) and the Museum and Galleries Commission Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological collections (1992) 'Standards for the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives'.
- 7.3 A copy of this report will be supplied to the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record comprising a single bound hard copy plus a PDF/A copy on disk. This is on the understanding that it will become a public document after an appropriate period (six months after completion of the field work unless another date is agreed). A copy of the report will also be supplied to the Local Planning Authority responsible for the planning decision as well as being uploaded to the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) and the form completed.
- 7.4 Once a report has become a public document by submission into the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER) the information may be placed on a web-site. Unless we hear to the contrary it will be assumed that our client is agreeable to this. Provision and agreement will be made for the appropriate academic publication of any results that are not to form part of further work.

## **8. COPYRIGHT**

- 8.1 Full copyright of this commissioned report and other project documents shall be retained by the author of the report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Abbreviations

CIfA	Chartered Institute for archaeologists
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
OS	Ordnance Survey

### Published Sources

Bowman 2014 "Voices in Flight: The Wellington Bomber"

CIfA 2014 "Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings and Structures" accessed online at:

[http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa\\_standards\\_buildings.pdf](http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa_standards_buildings.pdf)

Clegg, J. 1755 "The Diary of James Clegg of Chapel-en-le-Frith 1708 – 1755"

English Heritage 2006 "Understanding Historic Buildings – A guide to good recording practice"

The Marquis of Ruvigny and Ranivel 1911 "The Plantagenet Roll of the Blood Royal: The Mortimer-Percy Volume"

"National Planning Policy Framework" 2012 accessed online at [www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk)

Stroud, G. 1999 "Derbyshire Extensive Urban Survey Archaeological Assessment Report: Chapel-en-le-Frith"

### Trade Directories

The Directory of the County of Derby 1827

Directory 1895 "History, Topography, and Directory of Derbyshire"

### Maps

1879 OS Map 1:2500 scale

1898 OS map 1:2500 scale

1922 OS map 1:2500 scale

1973 OS map 1:2500 scale



## Appendix 1: Figures

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Figure 1: Location plan

Figure 2: 1879 OS Map 1:2500 scale

Figure 3: 1898 OS map 1:2500 scale

Figure 4: 1922 OS map 1:2500 scale

Figure 5: 1973 OS map 1:2500 scale

Figure 6: Excavation Plan

Figure 7: Section

Figure 8: Photo Location Plan

Figure 9: Photo Register

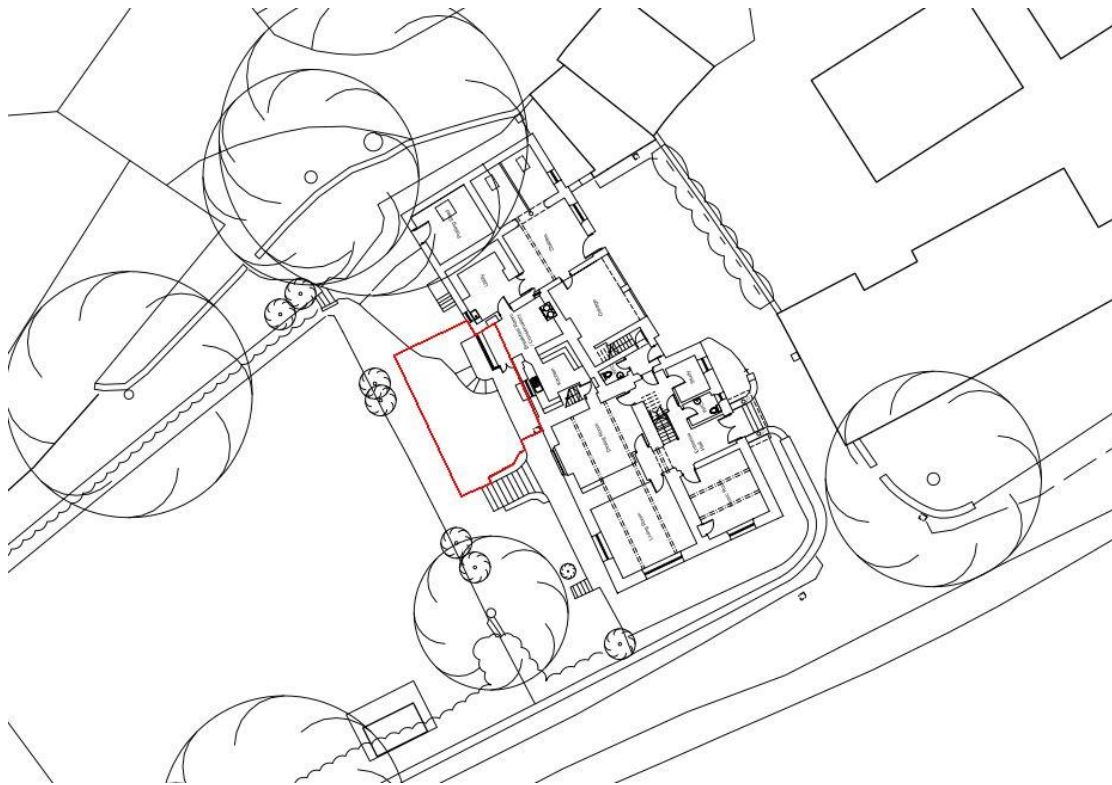


Figure 1: Location plan showing location of watching brief



Figure 2: 1879 OS Map 1:2500 scale showing location of watching brief



Figure 3: 1898 OS map 1:2500 scale showing location of watching brief

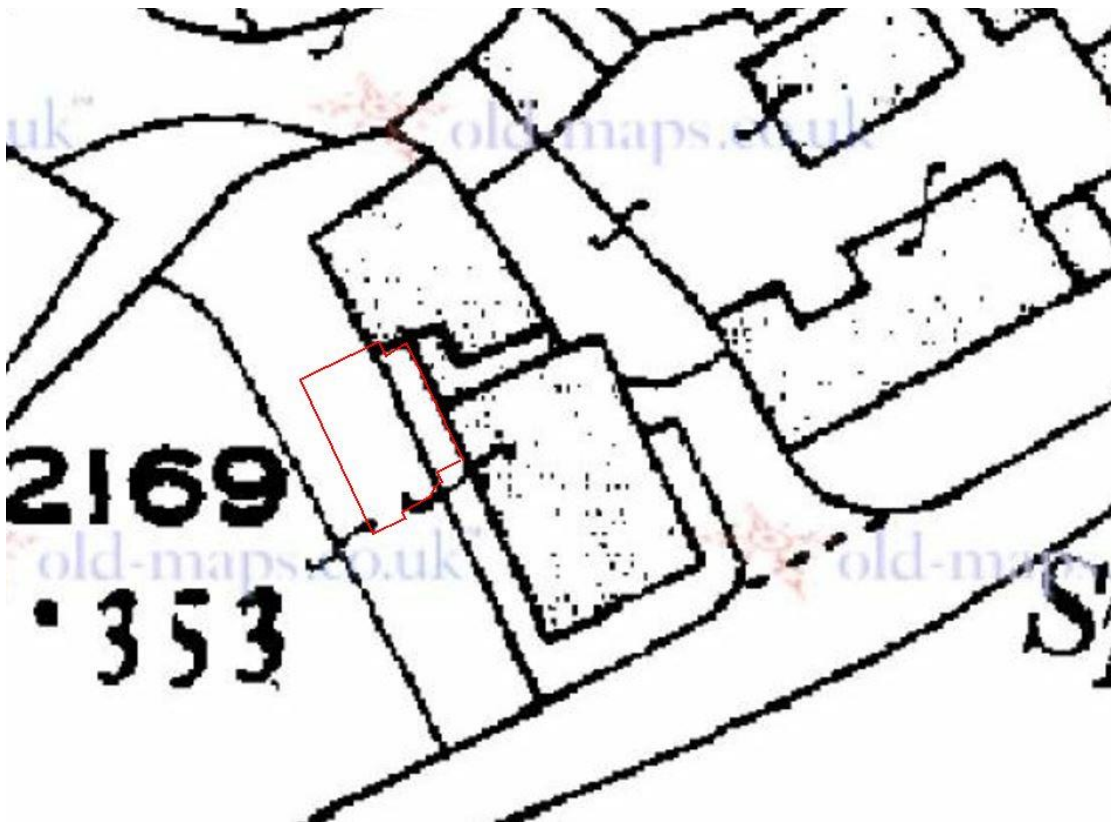


Figure 4: 1922 OS map 1:2500 scale showing location of watching brief

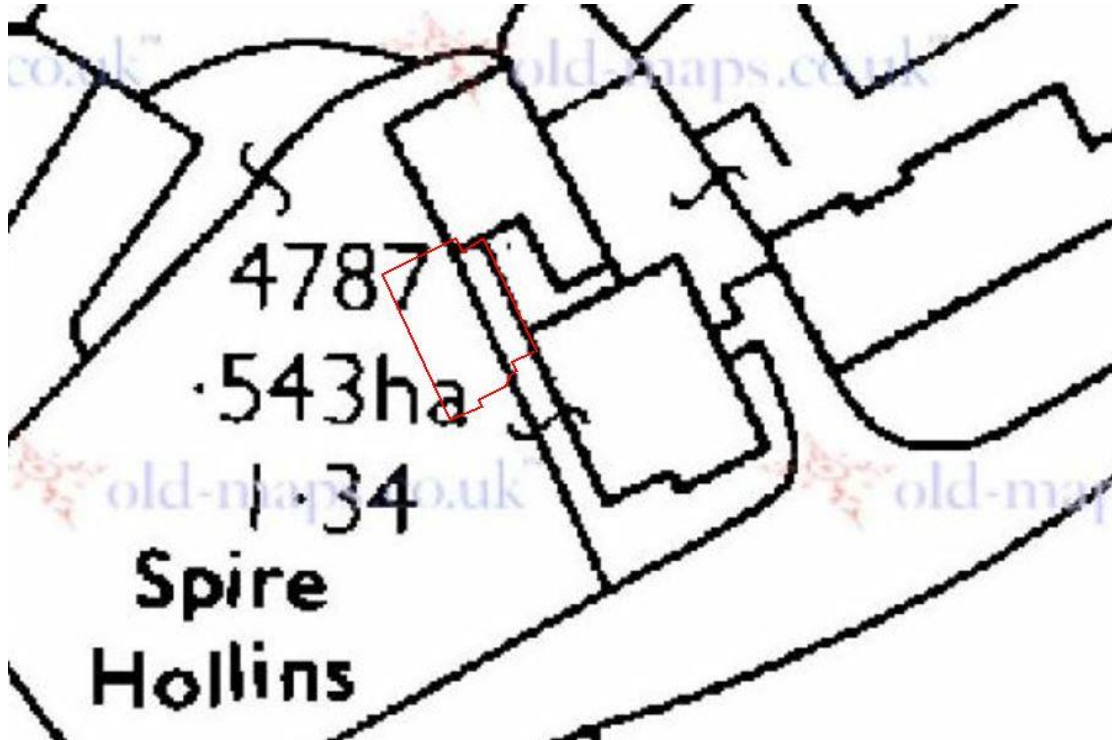
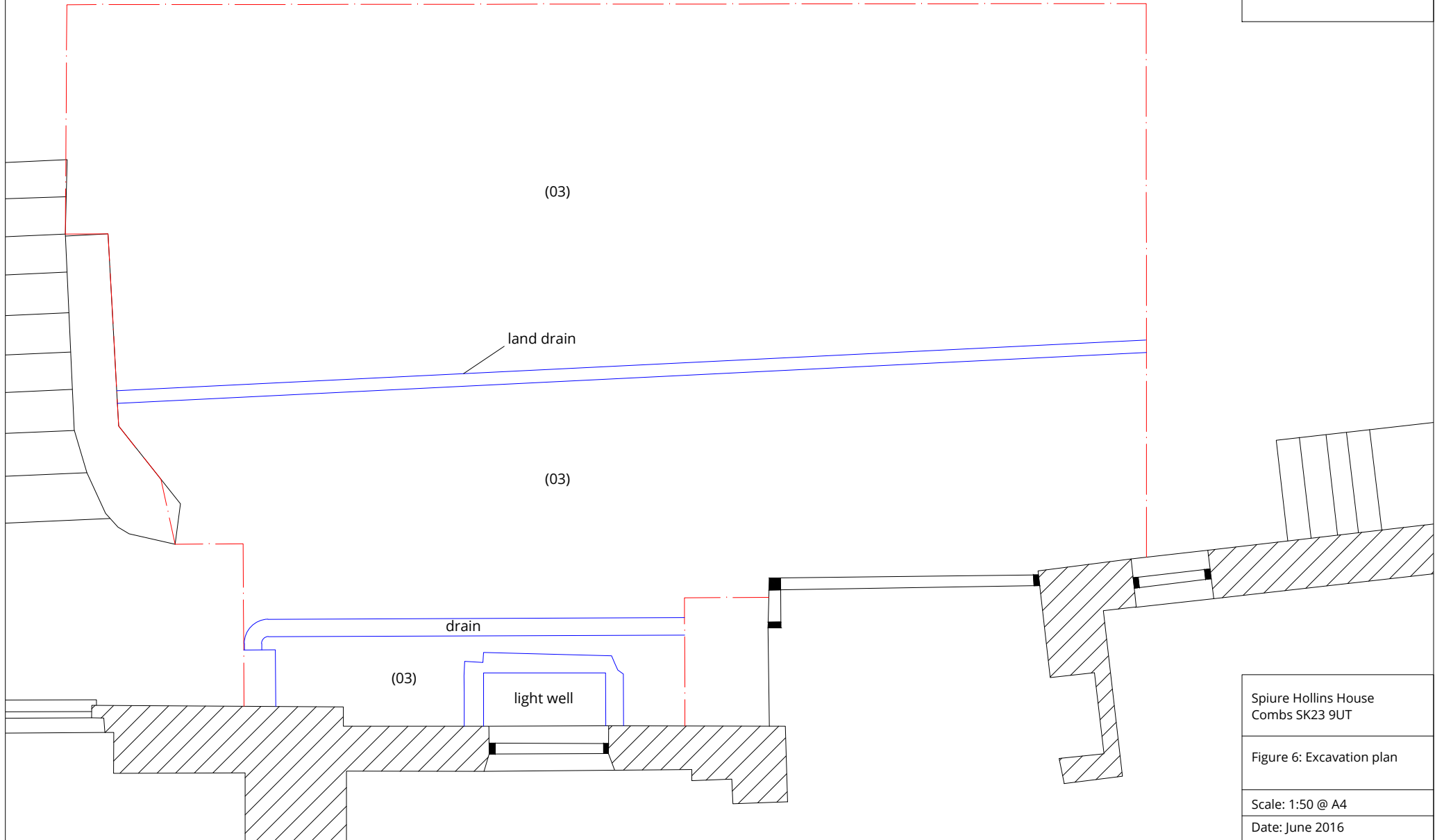


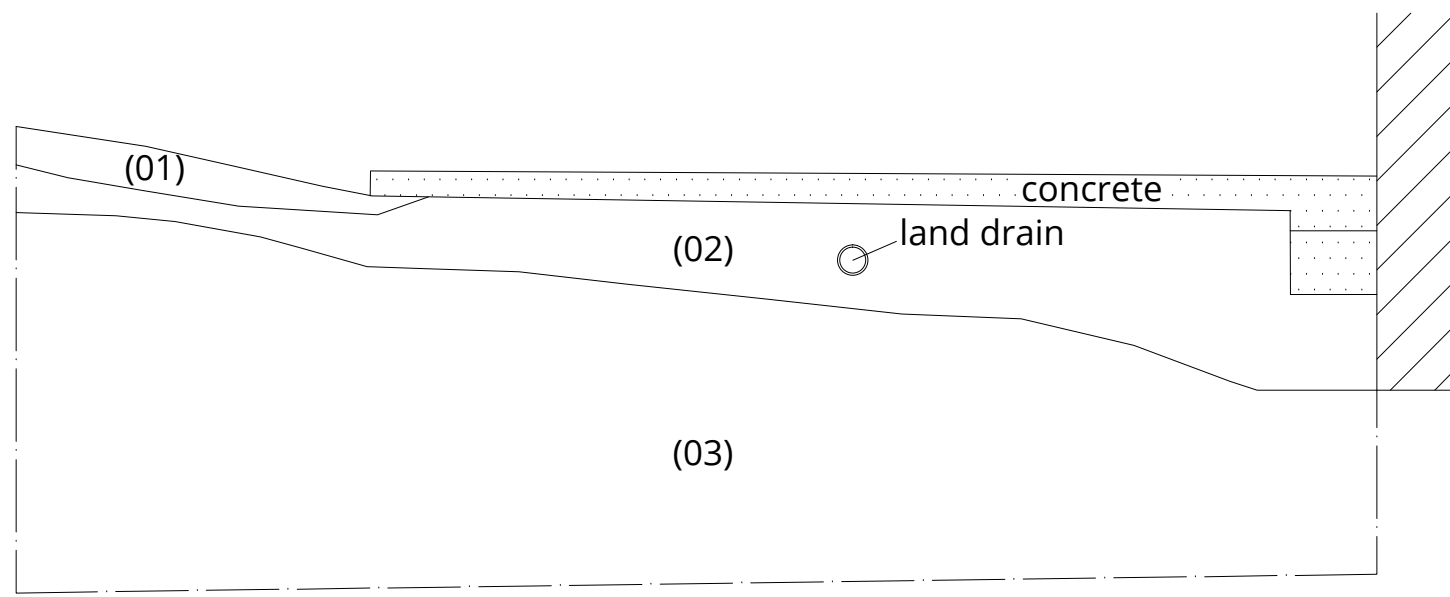
Figure 5: 1973 OS map 1:2500 scale showing location of watching brief



Spiure Hollins House Combs SK23 9UT
Figure 6: Excavation plan
Scale: 1:50 @ A4
Date: June 2016



274.83m AOD  
^



274.83m AOD  
^

Spiure Hollins House Combs SK23 9UT
Figure 7: South facing section
Scale: 1:50 @ A4
Date: June 2016

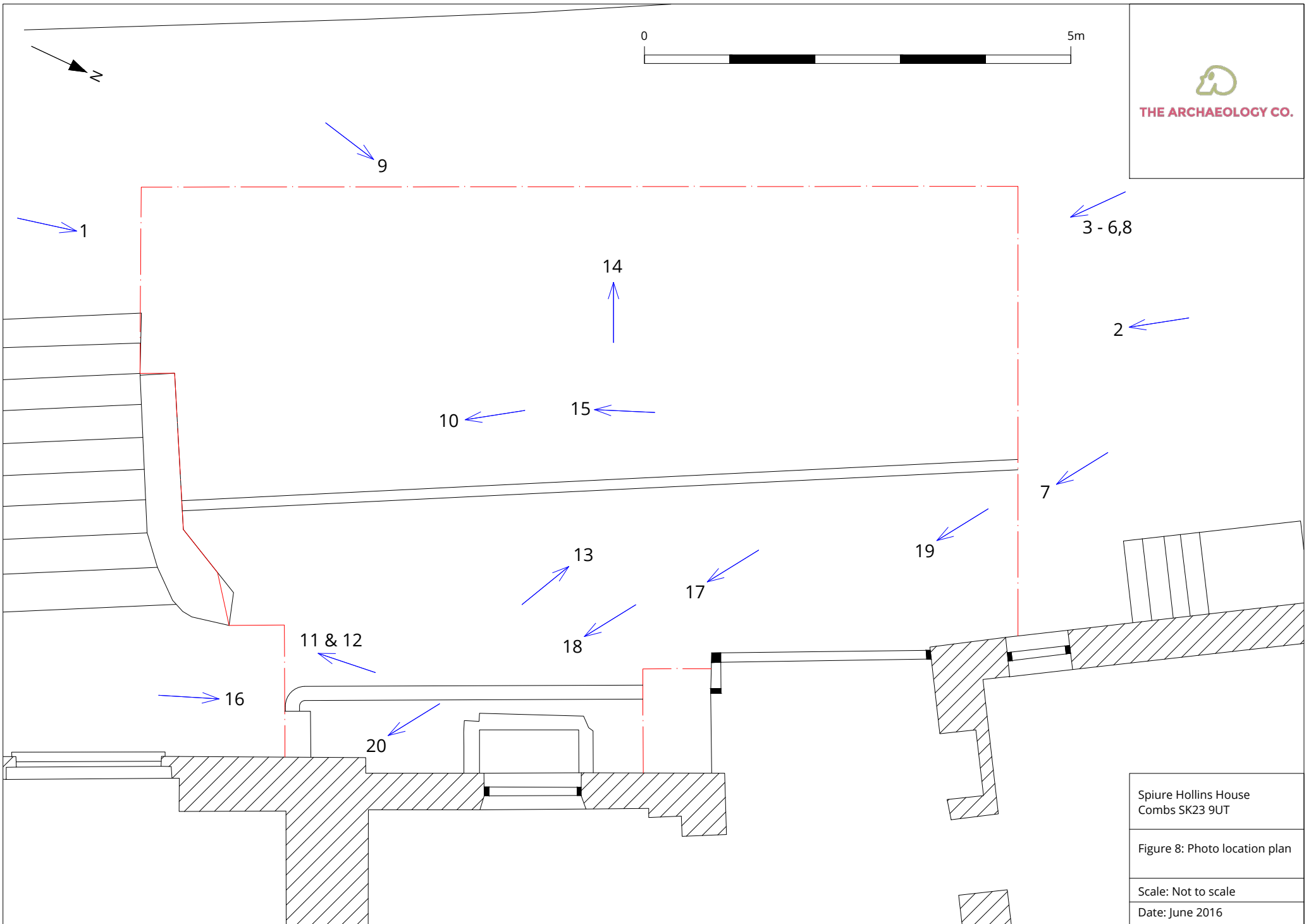




Figure 9: Photo Register

<b>Plate No.</b>	<b>Digital No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>View to</b>
1	P1018513	Site prior to excavation	N
2	P1018514	Site prior to excavation	S
3	P1018518	After removal of turf	S
4	P1018522	Removal of topsoil	S
5	P1018524	Context (02)	S
6	P1018525	Context (02)	S
7	P1018528	Excavation of garden wall and concrete	S
8	P1018538	Natural bedrock (03)	S
9	P1018540	Natural bedrock (03)	N
10	P1018536	Southern end showing remains of land drain	S
11	P1018549	Bedrock cut for wall	SW
12	P1018551	Shaped bedrock for wall construction	SW
13	P1018583	Final excavation through bedrock (03)	NW
14	P1018584	East facing section	W
15	P1018585	Removal of southwestern corner of excavation	SW
16	P1018588	Flagstone surface prior to lifting	N
17	P1018594	Area after removal of flagstones	E
18	P1018596	Modern drain and bedrock below flagstones	E
19	P1018600	Bedrock below northern flagstones	E
20	P1018598	House foundations resting on bedrock	E

## Appendix 2: Plates



Plate 1: Site prior to excavation



Plate 2: Site prior to excavation



Plate 3: After removal of turf



Plate 4: Removal of topsoil



Plate 5 Context (02)



Plate 6: As above



Plate 7: Excavation of garden wall and concrete



Plate 8: Natural bedrock (03)



Plate 9: Natural bedrock (03)



Plate 10: Southern end showing remains of land drain



Plate 11: Bedrock cut for wall



Plate 12: Shaped bedrock for wall construction





Plate 13: Final excavation through bedrock (03)



Plate 14: East facing section



Plate 15: Removal of southwestern corner of excavation



Plate 16: Flagstone surface prior to lifting



Plate 17: Area after removal of flagstones



Plate 18: Modern drain and bedrock below flagstones



Plate 19: Bedrock below northern flagstones



Plate 20: House foundations resting on bedrock

## **Appendix 3: OASIS Form**

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Manage Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#)  
[| Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

## Printable version

**OASIS ID: thearcha4-252788**

### Project details

Project name	Spire Hollins House Watching Brief
Short description of the project	A watching brief during goundworks at Spire Hollins House, Combs
Project dates	Start: 10-05-2016 End: 27-05-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE. None
Significant Finds	NONE. None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Building refurbishment/repairs/restoration
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	DERBYSHIRE HIGH PEAK CHAPEL EN LE FRITH Spire Hollins House
Postcode	SK23 9UT
Study area	60.3 Square metres
Site coordinates	SK 03449 78850 53.306310482004 -1.948234994214 53 18 22 N 001 56 53 W Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	The Archaeology Co.
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Steve Baker



Project director/manager Steven Price  
Project supervisor Steven Price  
Type of sponsor/funding body Landowner

#### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)  
Title Spire Hollins House: watching Brief  
Author(s)/Editor(s) Price, S  
Date 2016  
Issuer or publisher The Archaeology Co.  
Place of issue or publication Manchester  
Description Report of the watching Brief containing description of finds, drawings and photographs  
  
Entered by Steven Price (Steven@thearchaeologyco.uk)  
Entered on 24 May 2016

## OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](mailto:Historic England) for OASIS help and advice  
© ADS 1996-2012 Created by Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012  
cite only: <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm> for this page

## **Appendix 4: Written Scheme of Investigation**





Spire Hollins House, Combs  
Written Scheme of Investigation

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July 2015

## 1: Introduction

Steven Price of The Archaeology Co. has been commissioned to prepare a WSI for monitoring works to be carried out during the works proposed at Spire Hollins House. It is a requirement of condition 10 of the planning permission consent that:

- a) *No development shall take place until a Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological monitoring has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions and*
  1. *The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*
  2. *The programme and provision to be made for post investigation analysis and reporting;*
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The works include modifications to the house and extensions. Groundworks will be undertaken around the south and west side of the house for the laying of a patio.

## 2: Site Location

Spire Hollins House is located on the north side of Long Lane, c. 0.75km northwest of Combs village centre and 3km southwest of Chapel-en-le-Frith. The postal address is Spire Hollins House, Long Lane, Combs SK23 9UT and the National Grid Reference is SK 03449 78850. The building is grade II listed, with the description as follows:

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### **3: Historical Background**

Although there is no known prehistoric activity on the site itself the surrounding area contains many monuments, and several artefacts from the period have been found. Monuments include Cow Low bowl barrow, Lady Low bowl barrow and the Bull Ring henge monument at Dove Holes. Two polished stone axes and a flint axe from the Neolithic period have also been discovered near Dove Holes. To the west of Combs is the Iron Age hill fort of Castle Naze, which contained Neolithic/Bronze Age flint arrowheads. A bronze age cairn is known at Ladder Hill and various enclosures, believed to be prehistoric, are visible on aerial photographs close to the Chapel-en-le-Frith golf course. (Stroud 1999).

There is no known Roman activity on the site itself, and the evidence for the surrounding area is scant. A Roman Road is known to have run from Buxton to Melandra, which passes to the east of Chapel-en-le-frith. A coin of Constantine (306 – 337) and some Roman pot sherd have been found within Castle Naze (Stroud 1999).

Evidence of Late or Post Roman occupation is likewise scant, however, 'Eccles', such as at Eccles Pike is a pre-Anglican name meaning 'church'. The Anglo-Scandinavian high cross of 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> century is located within Chapel-en-le-frith, although this was moved from the Eccles Road, between Chapel-en-le-Frith and Whaley Bridge, where it likely acted as a wayside or boundary cross (Stroud 1999).

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Chapel-en-le-Frith seems to have come in existence in the early 13th century in an area called Bowden. The foresters and keepers of the deer became so numerous that 'about 1225' they purchased some of the Crown lands and built themselves a chapel. The earliest mention of Chapel-en-le-Frith comes from 1241 where it was called "capellam de Frith", the chapel in the forest (Stroud 1999).

Despite its small size, however, its importance no doubt lay in its siting on long-distance routes and in its markets and fairs (see below). Much of the Peak was being brought into cultivation in the 13<sup>th</sup> century with tenants, predominantly freeholders, paying fines for assarting and then fixed annual rents. The rolls of the Forest Justices recorded all clearings made and these show land being continually added during the first half of the 13th century, just at the time when Chapel-en-le-Frith was coming into being (Stroud 1999).

The importance of Chapel-en-le-Frith on the pack-horse routes of the post-medieval period, and its continued status as a market town, is indicated by the number of 18th century guide stoops pointing to the town. Many of these were erected in 1709, the usual date of Derbyshire stoops. Several roads were turnpiked in the area during the course of

the 18th century, so considerably improving access. In the early 1790's plans were made for a canal and tramway to enable goods to be carried to Ashton under Lyne to supply the expanding chemical industries in the region. The subsequent Peak Forest Canal Act was approved in 1794, with work starting on the canal in April and construction of the tramway commencing the following year (Stroud 1999).

#### **4: Assessment of Archaeological Potential and Significance**

##### **Prehistoric**

Although the surrounding area has revealed traces of prehistoric activity, the potential for the site itself to contain prehistoric archaeology is low to Medium. Artefacts found from the period would add to the body of information about the prehistory of the area and the significance of such archaeology would be regional.

##### **Roman**

The surrounding area has scant evidence of Roman activity and the potential for the site itself to contain Roman archaeology is low. Artefacts found from the period would add to the body of information about the Roman period of the area and the significance of such archaeology would be regional.

##### **Medieval/post Medieval**

The land was forested and agricultural throughout this period and has not been subsequently developed upon. The potential for the site to contain Medieval/post Medieval archaeology is medium. Artefacts found from the period would add to the body of information about this period. The significance of such archaeology would be local.

##### **Industrial**

Additions to the house and other buildings were made during this period, although the site as a whole has seen relatively little development to reduce the

potential for other periods. The potential for the site to contain Industrial archaeology is low – medium and such artefacts would be of local significance.

## **5: Research Questions**

Research questions shall include:

Is there any below ground evidence of earlier buildings, extensions, or other occupation on the site;

Is there any evidence for the land use around the house.

## **6: Watching Brief**

### **6.1: Aims**

The purpose of a watching brief is to allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works. It also provides an opportunity for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

### **6.2: Method**

An Archaeologist shall be present during any groundworks. Ground excavation is to be carried out with a toothless bucket or toothless ditching bucket in level spits, with opportunities for archaeological observation. The attending archaeologist will be given opportunity to direct the machine to stop to allow inspection, excavation and/or recording of potential archaeological features. Where archaeological features are deemed to be present they shall be archaeologically exposed and recorded. Recording shall take the form of digital photography (DSLR 10Megapixel minimum). Should significant archaeology be discovered then 35mm b/w SLR print film shall also be used to record features, along with colour slide film where colour is an important component. An appropriate photo scale shall be present in each of the shots and a photo register compiled, recording the direction and subject of each shot. Features shall be located in

plan at 1:50 scale. If the features warrant it, details of will be drawn at 1:20 and sections also produced. The assessment will be carried out in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Watching Briefs

### **6.3: Reporting**

Following the watching brief, the results will be described within a fully illustrated report, which will include the following:

1. A non-technical summary of the survey's findings;
2. Introductory statements;
3. Aims and objectives;
4. The background to the survey, which will include an outline of the planning context, the survey dates and location details;
5. An outline of the survey methodology;
6. Results of the watching brief;
7. Conclusions;
8. A set of measured scaled drawings;
9. A photograph register including the direction of shot as well as details of the subject;
10. A copy of the Online access to the index of archaeological investigations form (OASIS);
11. A catalogue of photographs and other archive items;
12. Archive location; and
13. Appendices containing a copy of the WSI and other essential technical and supporting detail.

### **7: Archive**

The site archive will follow the procedures set out in the "Procedures for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives" document by Museums in Derbyshire. The archive will be placed with Buxton Museum who has been notified using the notification form from the above document. Should the project produce archaeologically significant finds then the museum and development control archaeologist shall be notified at the earliest opportunity and an accession number drawn for the site. Decisions on the significance of finds archives should be supported by the recommendations/assessments of suitably

qualified specialists and the guidance of the appropriate museum curator and development control archaeologist. Should the project produce no archaeologically significant finds then a report shall be submitted to Derbyshire HER (1 bound copy plus PDF/A on CD) and the OASIS record completed, including an upload of the report as well as digital images. The Development Control Archaeologist will be notified by email once deposition has taken place.

#### **8: Staff**

Steven Price of the Archaeology Co. is nominated to carry out the works, although the client may choose otherwise. All fieldwork will be undertaken by Steven Price BA (Hons.) MA, MPhil, PCIfA as well as other trained staff under his guidance, should it be warranted. Steven Price will also compile the report and undertake any CAD work.

#### **9: Monitoring**

Monitoring shall follow the guidelines set out in the ClfA's Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs. Monitoring will be undertaken against the WSI and visits will be documented. Non-compliance with the agreed WSI or project design must be pointed out by the monitor to the archaeologist undertaking the work, and their client if appropriate, at the earliest opportunity. The archaeologist on site shall keep the Development Control Archaeologist (Steve Baker) abreast of the works, so that he may monitor the work on behalf of the local planning authority. He should also be notified immediately of any significant findings.

#### **10: Timetable**

The watching brief is largely dependent on the contractor, although within 12 weeks of the completion of the development the reporting shall have been completed.

#### **11: General**



All project staff will adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The project will follow the requirements set down in the appropriate Standard and Guidance notes prepared by the Institute for Archaeologists and all staff will wear appropriate PPE.