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Archaeological Services

**An Archaeological Watching Brief at
The Mill Wheel,
Ticknall Road,
Hartshorne,
Derbyshire,
DE11 7AS**

NGR: SK 3256 3213

Donald Clark



**ULAS Report No 2019-102
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Site Name: The Mill Wheel, Ticknall Road, Hartshorne, Derbyshire

Grid Ref: SK 3256 3213

Author: Donald Clark

Client: The Mill Wheel (Hartshorne) Ltd

Planning Ref. 9/2016/0609

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OASIS RECORD

PROJECT DETAILS	Oasis No	universi1-362661		
	Project Name	An archaeological watching brief at The Mill Wheel, Ticknall Road, Hartshorne, Derbyshire (SK 485 272)		
	Start/end dates	30 th July 2019		
	Previous/Future Work	Not known		
	Project Type	Watching brief		
	Site Status	None		
	Current Land Use	Public house yard area		
	Monument Type/Period	None		
	Significant Finds/Period	None		
	Reason for Investigation	NPPF		
	Position in the Planning Process	Planning condition		
	Planning Ref.	9/2016/0609		
PROJECT LOCATION	County	South Derbyshire District Council		
	Site Address/Postcode	The Mill Wheel, Ticknall Road, Hartshorne, Derbyshire DE11 7AS		
	Study Area	50 square metres		
	Site Coordinates	SK 3256 3213		
	Height OD	106m aOD		
PROJECT CREATORS	Organisation	ULAS		
	Project Brief Originator	South Derbyshire District Council		
	Project Design Originator	ULAS		
	Project Manager	John Thomas		
	Project Director/Supervisor	Donald Clark		
	Sponsor/Funding Body	Client/ The Mill Wheel (Hartshorne) Ltd		
PROJECT ARCHIVE		Physical	Digital	Paper
	Recipient		Derbyshire HER	Derbyshire HER
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PROJECT BIBLIOGRA PHY	Type	Grey Literature (unpublished)		
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An archaeological watching brief at The Mill Wheel, Ticknall Road, Hartshorne, Derbyshire (SK 3256 3213)

Donald Clark

Summary

This document is a fieldwork report for an archaeological watching brief carried out by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS), at The Mill Wheel, Ticknall Road, Hartshorne, Derbyshire (NGR: SK 3256 3213) in advance of the construction of a two storey extension.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) had been prepared by The Historic Environment Consultancy on behalf of the client, The Mill Wheel (Hartshorne) Ltd., and ULAS carried out the fieldwork in accordance with the WSI and ClFA guidelines. The development area consisted of a 50 square metre area at the rear of the existing building, currently a back yard. The development area lies on the site of a former water mill and associated industries which was in use from at least the 17th century until the early 20th century.

The watching brief was undertaken as there was potential for below ground archaeological remains relating to former use and associated water management. However during the watching brief no archaeological remains were identified.

The archive for the site will be deposited with the Derbyshire HER with the accession ULAS_MillWheel19.

Introduction

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) were commissioned by The Mill Wheel (Hartshorne) Ltd. to carry out an archaeological watching brief at The Mill Wheel, Ticknall Road, Hartshorne, Derbyshire (NGR: SK 3256 3213; Fig. 1). The work was carried out on the 30th July 2019.

The archaeological work was required by the Planning Authority following advice from the Derbyshire Planning Archaeologist in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, MHCLG 2018). Planning permission had been granted for the erection of a two storey extension at the rear of existing building (9/2016/0609).

The site occupies the area of a former water mill site including a corn mill, iron furnace, screw mill and saw mill but the extent of the 17th-18th century site is not known.

Location and Geology

Hartshorne lies in South Derbyshire, around 9 miles south of Derby and 5 miles east of Burton on Trent. The proposed development area is located within the grounds of The Mill Wheel Public House, off Ticknall Road, Hartshorne (Fig. 1). The site lies at a height of about of 106m OD and the Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of Great Britain Sheet indicates that the underlying geology of the site is likely to be Bromsgrove Sandstone Formation – Sandstone.

Historical and Archaeological Background (From WSI)

The proposal site is within a site on the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record, relating to a former water mill site including a corn mill, iron furnace, screw mill and saw mill from at least the 17th century until the mid-20th century, Historic mapping shows that these sites were fed from a mill pond east of Ticknall Lane, with the main mill race running south of the site past the Grade II listed former mill house (dating from the late 18th century). The site to the north was presumably powered by further water management not extant by the time of the late 19th century mapping, either by culverts beneath the road or further channels off the main mill race. The 19th century mill buildings were substantially more extensive than those preserved today, and the extent of the 17th-18th century site is unknown. There is consequently potential for below ground archaeological remains on the site, relating to these former industrial uses and to the associated water management.

Archaeological Objectives

The main objectives of the watching brief were:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within undisturbed parts of the development site
- To assess the artefactual and environmental potential of any archaeological deposits encountered
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site
- To produce a site archive for deposition with an appropriate museum and to provide information for accession to the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record.

Within the stated project objectives, the principal aim of the watching brief is to establish the nature, extent, date, depth, significance and state of preservation of any archaeological deposits identified on the site in order to determine the potential impact upon them from the proposed development.

Research Objectives

While the nature, extent and quality of archaeological remains within the area of investigation for the project remained somewhat of an unknown quantity until archaeological work was undertaken, it was possible to determine some initial broad objectives derived from *East Midlands Heritage* research agenda (Knight *et al.* 2012). The watching brief therefore had the potential to contribute to the following research aim.

Post Medieval: 8.3.2. How did water management and land drainage change the landscape during this period?

Methodology

All work followed the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (The Historic Environment Consultancy) and was carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (Cifa) Code of Conduct (2014) and adhered to their Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (2014).

The project involved the observation by an experienced professional archaeologist during the ground works. Excavation was carried out with a machine appropriate for the work fitted with a toothed bucket to expose the underlying strata. The machine did not track over any surfaces until the archaeologist has inspected the area.

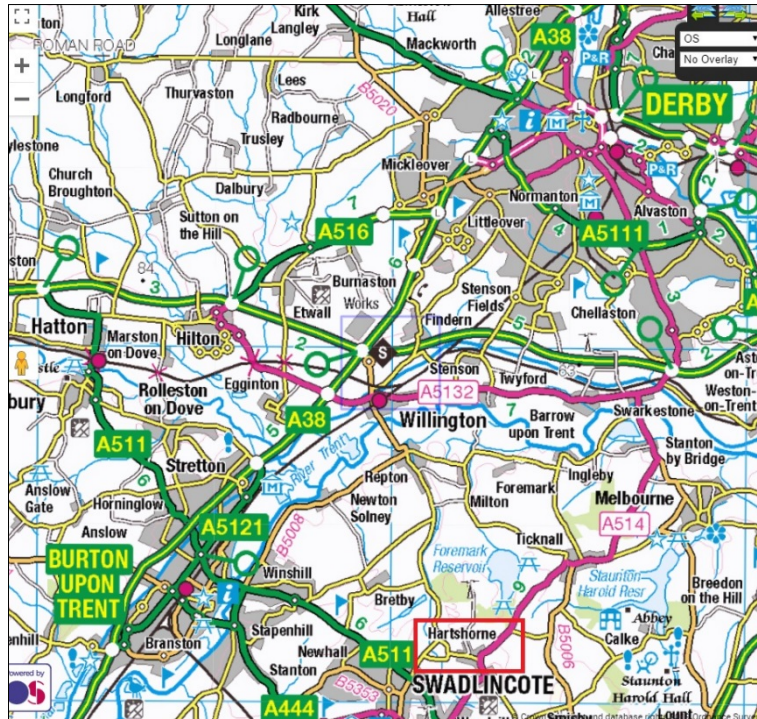


Figure 1: Location of Hartshorne within Derbyshire

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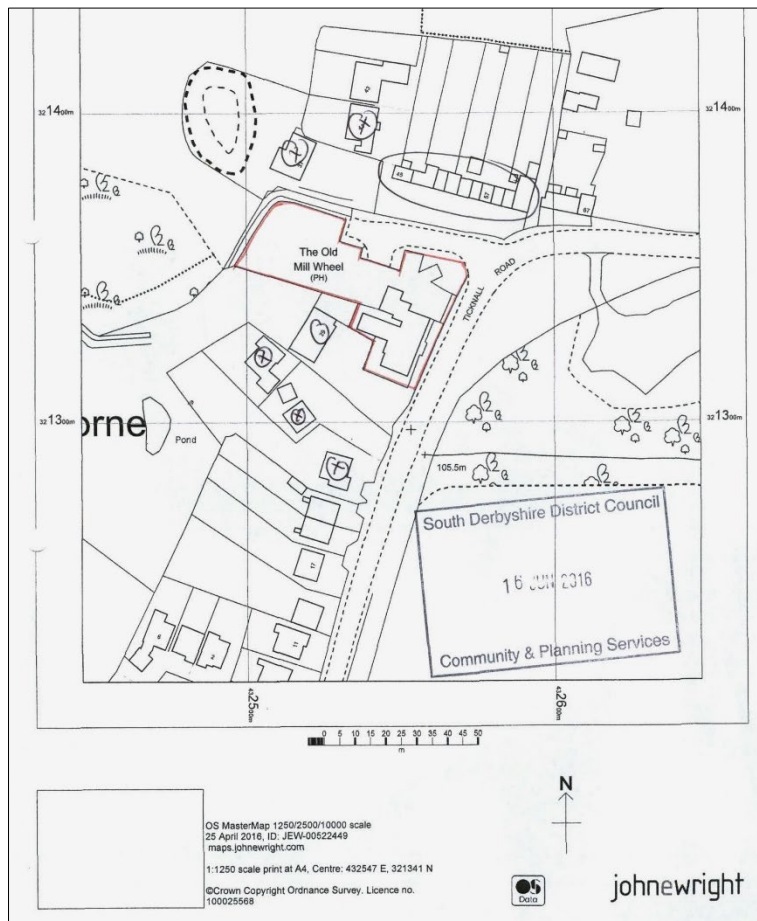


Figure 2: Site location within Hartshorne, red outline (provided by client)

Results

A foundation trench was excavated by mini digger with toothed bucket, and also by hand, under continual archaeological observation (Fig. 3). The concrete surface had been removed from the area of the trench to allow access to the ground beneath.

Photographs were taken prior to excavation by the mini digger and, although a cramped space, visibility and access to the trench was good. The machine reduced the level in shallow spits and it was clear that the ground had been disturbed in this area (Figs 4-7). The trench was excavated to a depth of approx. 1.50m and only in one small area was the natural substratum observed (Fig. 5). Seven drain pipes and one gas pipe were exposed and the walls of the trench showed relatively modern activity and make-up of the ground level. Modern breeze blocks, 18th century brick and builders sharp sand was observed in the trench walls with a similar mixture of material throughout the length of the trench to an approximate depth of 1m. Beneath the layers of building rubble and debris a homogenous green brown material was observed. This may relate to earlier activity on the site but due to the depth and the fact that the trench walls were collapsing no further investigation was possible. No archaeological features or deposits were positively identified during the watching brief.

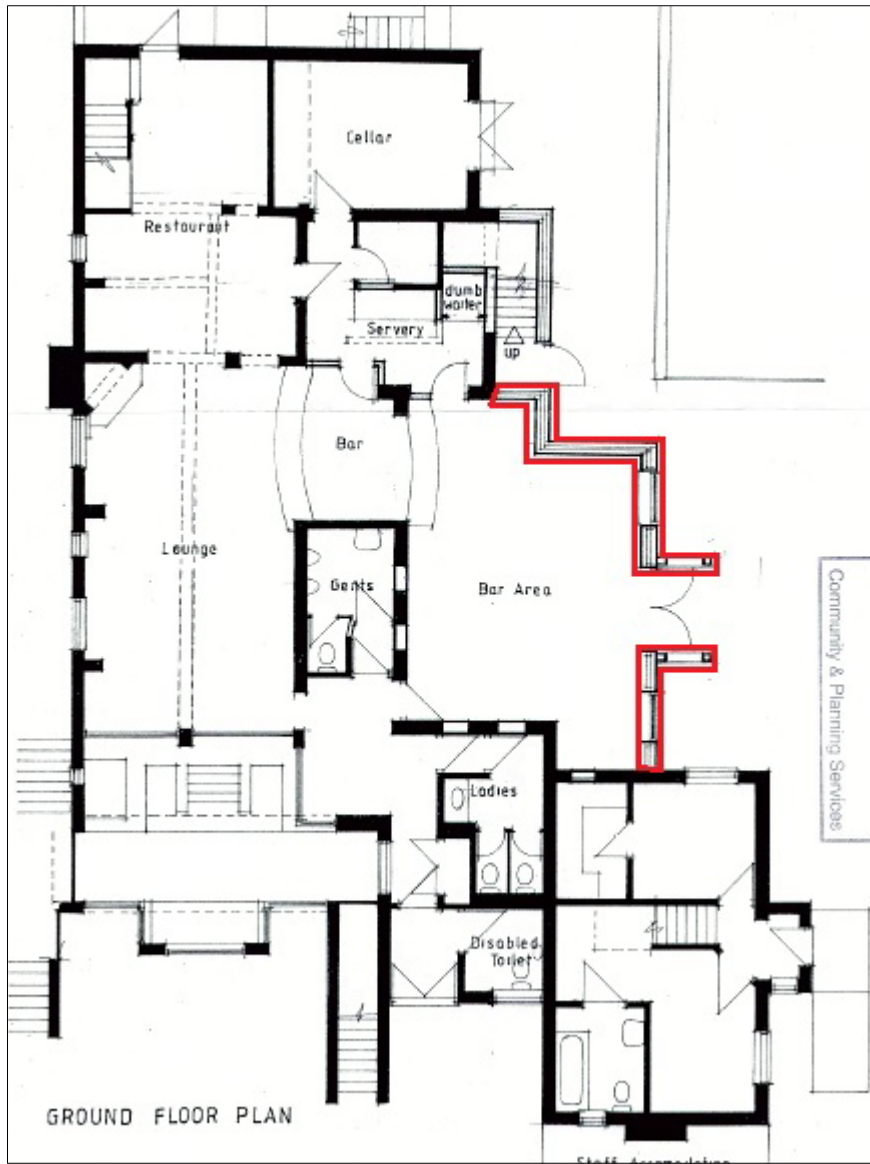


Figure 3: Floor plan of existing building with position of foundation trench outlined in red (provided by client)



Figure 4: Area of trench prior to excavation with mini digger, concrete had been removed prior to visit by archaeologist.



Figure 5: Natural substratum observed in small area of trench, drains visible



Figure 6: An area within the trench disturbed by three modern drains



Figure 7: An area of the trench fully excavated revealing build-up of material which included breeze blocks, 18th century brick and two layers of builders' sharp sand



Figure 8: Trench following completion of excavation, looking north

Conclusion

Although there was potential for below-ground archaeological remains, due to the known activity on the site in the post-medieval period, no archaeological evidence was observed, and it can be concluded that the groundworks did not disturb any archaeological remains. The development area did not reveal any evidence relating to the research objective, *the development of industry and its impact upon landscape and settlement morphology*.

Archive and publication

The archive for this project will be deposited with Derbyshire HER with accession number ULAS_MillWheel19 and consists of the following:

- 1 Unbound copy of this report (ULAS Report No. 2019-102)
- 1 Photo Record sheet
- 1 Contact sheet of digital photographs
- 1 CD digital photographs

Since 2004 ULAS has reported the results of all archaeological work through the *Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) database held by the Archaeological Data Service at the University of York.

A summary of the work will also be submitted for publication in a suitable regional archaeological journal in due course.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Dr Peter Wardle of The Historic Environment Consultancy for preparing the WSI. Thanks are also due The Mill Wheel (Hartshorne) Ltd for their help and co-operation with the project. The project was managed for ULAS by John Thomas.

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