

**Darley Street, Darley Abbey, Derbyshire**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**



View of excavation area, trench 2

**ARS Ltd Report 2012/101**

November 2012

**OASIS ID:** archaeol5-138179

**Compiled By:**

Laura Strafford  
Archaeological Research Services Ltd  
Angel House  
Portland Square  
Bakewell  
Derbyshire  
DE45 1HB

[admin@archaeologicalresearchservices.com](mailto:admin@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)

[www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com](http://www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com)

**Checked By:**

Mike Wood

Tel: 01629 814540

Fax: 01629 814657



## Darley Street, Darley Abbey, Derbyshire

### Archaeological Watching Brief

ARS Ltd Report 2012/101

Archaeological Research Services Ltd

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## **Executive Summary**

*In November 2012, Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Derby City Council to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Darley Street, Darley Abbey, Derbyshire, prior to the rerouting of Nut Brook.*

*The watching brief involved recording three trial pits situated along Darley Street, the area proposed for development. No features of archaeological significance or buried land surfaces were revealed.*

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1. Scope of Work**

1.1.1. In November 2012, Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Derby City Council to undertake an archaeological watching brief in Darley Street, Darley Abbey, Derbyshire (figure 1). The watching brief was required prior to work commencing to reroute the course of Nut Brook.

1.1.2. The watching brief involved monitoring three trial pits to assess the presence and preservation of archaeological remains along the development route. Although no known archaeological sites are known to exist in the area due to be directly impacted by the works, the surrounding landscape has known archaeological sites particularly relating to the medieval Darley Abbey. It was therefore determined that given the historic and archaeological importance of the immediate area, there was potential for previously unknown heritage assets to be present along the route of the proposed works. As a result, a condition was attached to the planning consent requiring an archaeological watching brief during ground-works.

### **1.2. Location, geology and background**

1.2.1. The proposed development site comprised a residential street in the centre of the village of Darley Abbey, Derbyshire (NGR: SK 35280 38454, fig. 1). The watching brief area is situated to the north of Darley Abbey Park and passes alongside the Scheduled Monument of The Abbey Public House (HER record number 32468) (Derbyshire County Council 2012), thought to be one of the few remaining upstanding buildings associated with the original Abbey, dating from around 1450 (Derbyshire County Council 2012).

1.2.2. The local superficial geology within the investigation area comprises alluvium, a soft to firm consolidated, compressible silty clay, potentially containing layers of silt, sand, peat and basal gravel (British Geological Association 2012).

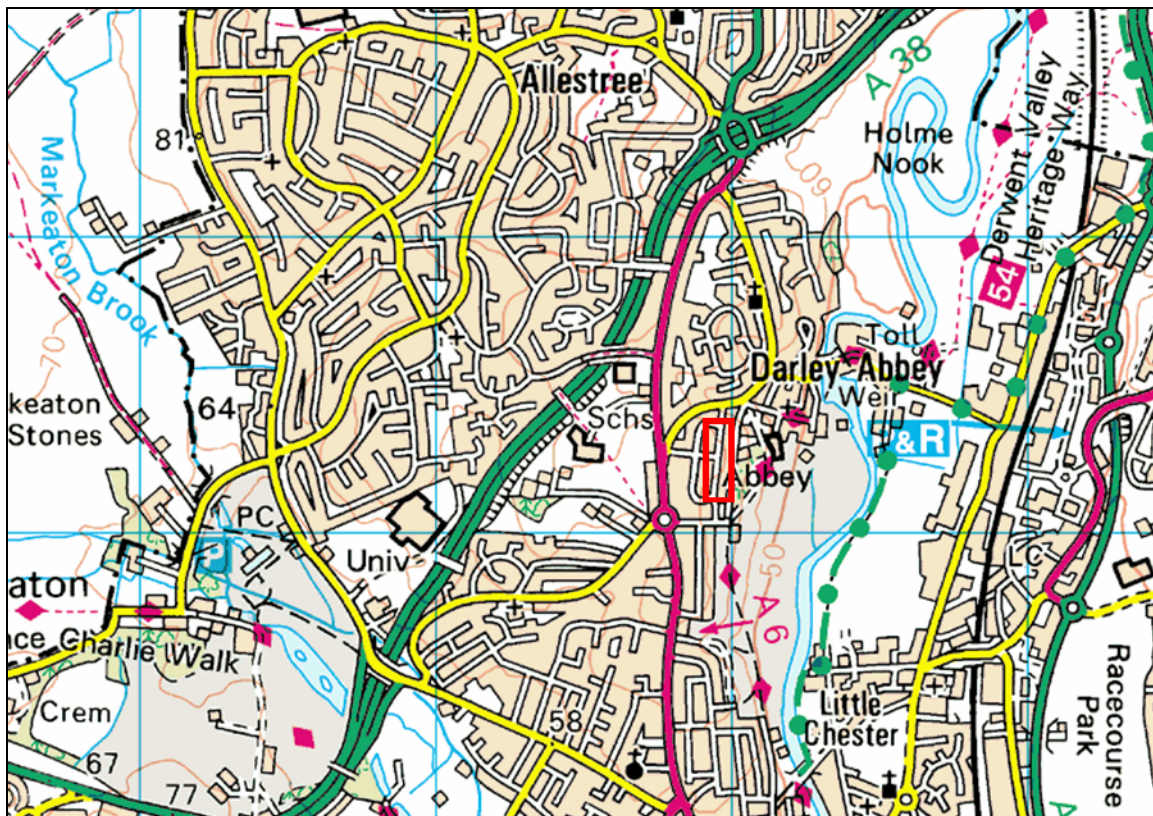
1.2.3. The watching brief is located in a well known area of historic and archaeological importance. A search of the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record (HER) within a 1km radius of the investigation area retrieved 99 records, representing evidence of sustained activity in the area from the Roman period, with some of the most notable entries relating to Darley Abbey and associated medieval buildings.

1.2.4. Darley Abbey was originally an Augustinian priory, founded by Robert de Ferrers, second Earl of Derby, around 1146. The Abbey, ideally situated next to the river Derwent, became one of the most important in Derbyshire. It was surrendered as part of the Dissolution of Monasteries in 1538 and almost totally obliterated. Very little remains above ground today: The Abbey Public House on Darley Street (HER record number 32468) is thought to have been an upper floor hall house associated with the abbey and dating from around 1450 (Derbyshire County Council 2012). The only other archaeological discoveries reported to have been found are to the south of The Abbey Public House, in Hill Square and New Road. Here, several skeletons were uncovered during the layout of gas mains in the 1920s; a local workman who worked on the service drains on New Road during the 1970's

recalled the discovery of large sandstone blocks of a structural nature being uncovered, but they were not recorded (Robinson 2001, 14).

1.2.5. Darley Abbey lies a little over 2km to the north of Derby city centre within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. By the 17th century a thriving industrial hamlet had developed, eventually home to a large complex of mills. The Evans family, who were keen industrialists, oversaw the development of the Darley Abbey area that we see today (Shakarian 2007). The family built much of the housing which consists for the most part of three storey red brick residences, landscaped the area that is now Darley Park and restored the property known as Darley Hall (Robinson 2001, 11) located on the high ground overlooking the River Derwent.

1.2.6. In 2006 during restoration work on The Old Barn close to the Abbey Barn (SK 3523 3831), an archaeological watching brief uncovered three walls and a narrow path believed to be associated with the medieval abbey (Shakarian, 2006). Two of the walls were substantial structural walls; the third appeared to be a smaller, internal wall. Medieval pottery was discovered beneath the foundation layer of one of the walls, confirming a mid 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century date. A large arched structure believed to be a bridge was also located in close proximity to The Old Abbey public house. The archaeological remains were all preserved *in situ*. In 2007 a further watching brief close to the Darley Street car park (SK 3526 3833, Shakarian 2007) identified a further comparable sandstone wall.



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Figure 1. General site location (outlined in red)



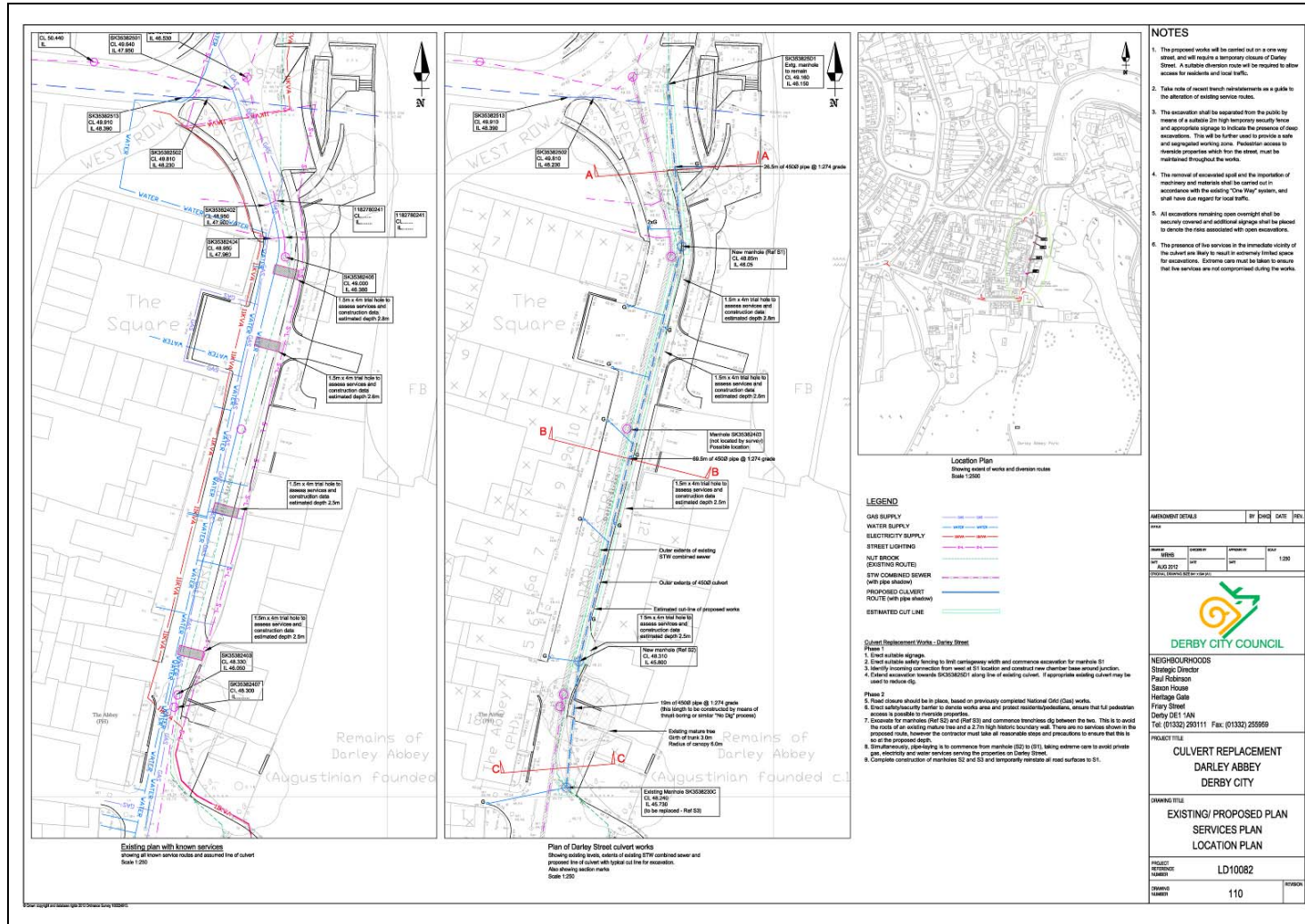


Figure 2. General plan of the area of development (Derby City Council 2012)

## **2. Aims and Objectives**

2.1. The purpose of the watching brief was to ensure that any archaeological features encountered during the ground-works in the specified area were recorded, interpreted and, if at all possible, protected.

## **3. Methodology**

3.1. The specification required that a watching brief should be carried out to observe any ground works taking place for the proposed development, in order to identify any potential archaeological remains. This involved monitoring the excavation of three trial pits along the course of Darley Street. Any potential features or structures were fully cleaned and recorded in accordance with the standards stipulated by the Institute for Archaeologists (2008).

3.2. Trial pits were excavated by machine, using a back-acting toothless ditching bucket under continuous archaeological supervision. The machine removed the road surface and associated made ground in level spits until the first potential archaeological horizon was exposed. Excavation was then closely monitored by a qualified archaeologist in order to identify any archaeological features or deposits.

3.3. A single context recording system was employed. Each layer encountered was given a unique context number and a full written description. Photographs were also taken with a digital camera in order to record the ground work.

3.4. Full details of the methodology are provided in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix I).

## **4. Results**

### **4.1. Trench 1**

#### **4.1.1. Made ground**

4.1.1.1. The made ground (101) was approximately 0.92m thick and consisted of a modern tarmac surface with associated bedding and levelling material, containing a high percentage of rubble and gravel. A service pipe was visible running through this deposit.

#### **4.1.2. Buried Soil**

4.1.2.1. The buried soil (102) comprised mid orange brown sandy clay. The depth is unknown as it extended beyond the limits of the excavation. Although of natural appearance, the deposit did not have the characteristics of alluvium and it should be considered that this deposit represents redeposited natural material, possibly a phase of made ground established in order to stabilise the riverbank area in preparation for the laying of the current Darley Street road surface.

4.1.2.2. No features, finds or deposits of archaeological significance were revealed during the excavation of trench 1.



Figure 3. Trench 1

## 4.2. Trench 2

### 4.2.1. Made Ground

4.2.1.1. The made ground (201) was approximately 0.86m thick and consisted of a modern tarmac surface with associated bedding and levelling material, containing a high percentage of rubble and gravel, with some charcoal present. Two disused service pipes were observed extending through this deposit.

### 4.2.2. Buried Soil

4.2.2.1. The buried soil (202) was approximately 0.52m deep and comprised mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional rubble inclusions. Some waterlogged wood and sandstone blocks were observed, randomly positioned and clearly not *in situ*. Taking into consideration the presence of sandstone blocks believed to be contemporary with Darley Abbey from previous excavations in the area (see 1.2.5 and 1.2.6), the sandstone blocks observed in this deposit may represent a structure associated with the abbey which was disturbed during the insertion of the culvert which was seen to run through the base of this deposit, and were then used as a backfill material. The waterlogged wood looked modern in appearance. This



deposit is likely to represent a mixed redeposited material, put in place after the culvert was inserted in order to backfill the trench.

#### 4.2.3. Alluvium

4.2.3.1. The alluvium (203) comprised dark greyish brown clay, its upper surface positioned at approximately 2.0m below the ground level. Occasional rounded river cobbles were present. The full depth of this deposit is unknown as it extended below the confines of the excavation.

4.2.3.2. No features, finds or deposits of archaeological significance were revealed during the excavation process of trench 2.



Figure 4. Trench 2

#### 4.3. Trench 3

##### 4.3.1. Made Ground

4.3.1.1. The made ground (301) was approximately 0.90m thick and consisted of a modern tarmac surface with associated bedding and levelling material, containing a high percentage of rubble and gravel. One disused service pipe was observed extending through this deposit.

##### 4.3.2. Buried soil

4.3.2.1. The subsoil (302) comprised a dark grey brown gritty sandy silt mottled with mid-orange silty clay, including frequent angular to sub-rounded poorly sorted pebble sized stones and infrequent rubble. This deposit exceeded 1.40m at its deepest point and extended beyond the confines of the excavation, hence its true extent is unknown. A service pipe was

observed extending through this deposit. Given the mixed nature, it is likely that this deposit represents redeposited natural material, used to backfill the trench after the insertion of the service pipe, hence is similar to (202).

4.3.2.2. No features, finds or deposits of archaeological significance were revealed during the excavation process of trench 3.



Figure 5. Trench 3. Scale 1m.

## 5. Conclusion

5.1. In November 2012, Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Derby City Council to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Darley Street, Darley Abbey, Derbyshire, prior to the proposed development of the site.

5.2. The watching brief involved recording an exposed section of the area proposed for development. No significant archaeological deposits, finds or features were encountered.

## **6. Publicity, Confidentiality and Copyright**

6.1. Any publicity will be handled by the client.

6.2. Archaeological Research Services Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

## **7. Statement of Indemnity**

7.1. All statements and opinions contained within this report arising from the works undertaken are offered in good faith and compiled according to professional standards. No responsibility can be accepted by the author/s of the report for any errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in any such report(s), howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived.

## **8. Archive Deposition**

8.1. A digital and paper archive will be prepared by Archaeological Research Services Ltd, consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data, which will be deposited at the Derby Museum and Art Gallery (accession number: DBYMU 2012-258) in January 2013.

## **9. Publication**

9.1. A summary of the project, with selected drawings, illustrations and photographs, will be submitted within 2 years of the completion of the project to Derbyshire Archaeological Journal for publication. The results of the work will be published at least in summary form in Derbyshire Archaeological Journal.

## **10. Acknowledgements**

10.1. Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank all those involved with the archaeological project, especially Derbyshire City Council for commissioning the work, and Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologist for Derbyshire County Council for monitoring and providing advice throughout the project.



## 11. References

British Geological Survey. 2012. Geology of Britain Viewer. [Available online] <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html> [Accessed 9th November 2012].

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## 12. Appendix

### 12.1. Appendix I: Darley Street Written Scheme of Investigation

**Darley Street, Derby, Derbyshire**

**Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological  
Watching Brief**



**Archaeological Research  
Services Ltd**

#### 1 Introduction

1.1 This scheme of works relates to the renewal/rerouting of Nut Brook alongside Darley Street, Derby, passing the Abbey Public House (figure 1). Groundwork will largely be confined to within the carriageway, which may restrict or preclude any archaeological potential. However, the trial pits to be excavated will provide an opportunity to inform Derbyshire County Council on the archaeological potential within the immediate area.

1.2 Given the historic importance of the area Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologist for Derbyshire County Council, recommended that a programme of archaeological monitoring (an active and continuous watching brief) be carried-out during the redevelopment.

1.3 A specification has been issued for the programme of archaeological monitoring to be carried out during all groundworks likely to extend beneath modern surface and levelling deposits (elements of new dig where a depth of 50cm will be exceeded).

1.4 This written scheme of investigation details the works to be undertaken during an archaeological watching brief at the site.

1.5 The objective of the watching brief is to ensure that any heritage assets encountered during the works in the specified area are recorded and understood.

#### 2 Background

2.1 Darley Abbey was originally an Augustinian priory, founded by Robert de Ferrers, second Earl of Derby, around 1146. The Abbey, ideally situated next to the river Derwent, became one of the most important in Derbyshire. It was surrendered as part of the Dissolution of Monasteries in 1538 and almost totally obliterated. Very little remains above ground today: the Abbey public house on Darley Street (a Scheduled Monument) is thought to have been an upper floor hall house associated with the abbey and dating from around 1450 (SMR 32468). The only other archaeological discoveries reported to have been found



are to the south of this building in Hill Square and New Road. Here, several skeletons were uncovered during the layout of gas mains in the 1920's (Robinson 2001, 14). A local workman who worked on the service drains on New Road during the 1970's recalled the discovery of large sandstone blocks of a structural nature being uncovered, but they were not recorded.

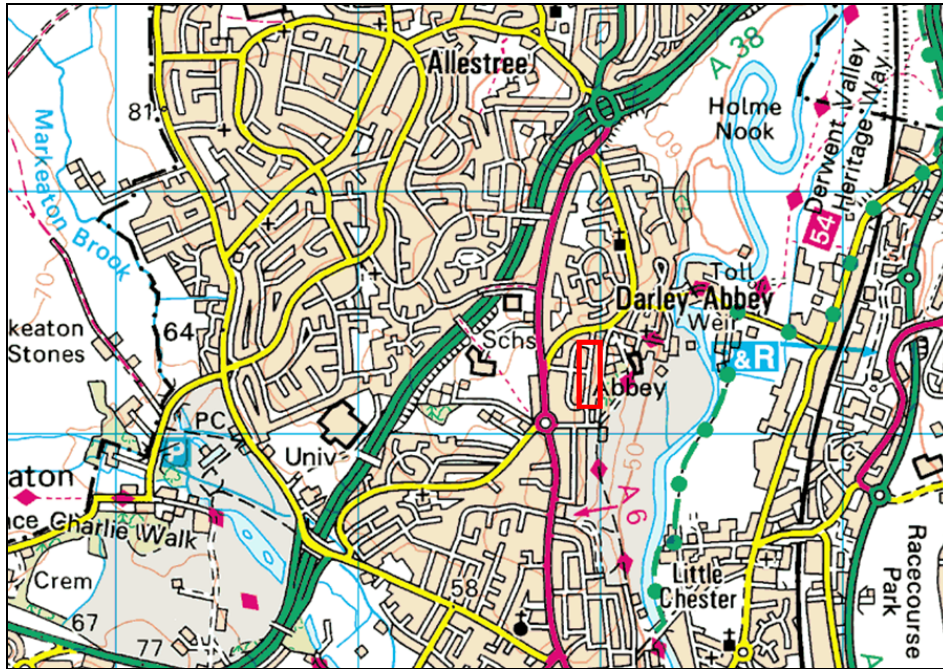


Figure 1. Location of the site (highlighted in red)

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2.2 More recently, however, below-ground evidence for medieval structures presumably associated with the abbey have come to light. In 2006 during restoration work on The Old Barn (Shakarian, 2006) close to the Abbey Barn (SK 3523 3831), an archaeological watching brief, uncovered three walls and a narrow path believed to be associated with the medieval abbey (Shakarian, 2006). Two of the walls were substantial structural walls; the third appeared to be a smaller, internal wall. Medieval pottery was discovered beneath the foundation layer of one of the walls, confirming a mid 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century date. A large arched structure believed to be a bridge was also located in close proximity to The Old Abbey public house. The archaeological remains were all preserved *in situ*. In 2007 a further watching brief close to the Darley Street car park (SK 3526 3833, Shakarian 2007) identified a further comparable sandstone wall.

2.3 There is likely to be modern surfacing and levelling material to a depth of around 50cm.

### 3 Objectives

3.1 The objective of the watching brief is to ensure that any archaeological features encountered during the ground works in the specified are recorded and interpreted and, if at all possible protected.

## 4 Fieldwork Methodology

### 4.1 Watching brief

4.1.1 All relevant groundworks will be undertaken by a suitable mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket once any overlying concrete and stone has been removed. Archaeological monitoring will not entail excavation beyond the total areas exposed by the development works. Arrangement will be made to avoid any tracking of machinery across recently stripped areas until the areas have been checked and cleared by a representative of Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd). If significant archaeological features are identified, the Development Control Archaeologist for Derbyshire County Council, will be notified and a decision taken as to the best method of proceeding.

4.1.2 Excavation will be carried out in spits. This will provide the maximum visibility of cut features such as postholes and pits and will allow for minimum disturbance of buried masonry structures. The attending archaeologist will supervise mechanical excavation to ensure maximum archaeological visibility.

4.1.3 ARS Ltd will provide a suitably qualified archaeologist at all times during any ground works on the site to undertake a watching brief. The on-site archaeologist will be given the opportunity to stop site work in order to investigate potential archaeological features and adequate time will be allowed for recording any such features.

4.1.4 A written, drawn and photographic record will be maintained during the watching brief plus all significant archaeological remains will be recorded and/or retrieved. All excavations will be recorded in accordance with normal principles of archaeological evaluation upon pro forma context sheets. All significant architectural features will be photographed (with scale) *in situ* and their location recorded on a plan of the site.

4.1.5 Where archaeological features and/or deposits are identified during the watching brief, then a sufficient quantity of the said features will be investigated by hand to allow their date, nature and degree of survival to be ascribed. All features thus investigated will be recorded in plan and section and significant archaeological finds recovered will be retained for analysis. Any archaeological features identified will be photographed and drawn in plan at a scale of 1:20 and in section at a scale of 1:10. The stratigraphy, where relevant and apparent, will be recorded.

4.1.6 For brick structures, the record will include details of brick dimensions and type (handmade/machine-made, plain/frogged), mortar (colour, composition, hardness) and the extent of structures (number of courses, thickness in skins).

4.1.7 A plan of the excavated areas will be maintained, features noted and section lines recorded. All drawings will be carried out at an appropriate scale and all contexts will be recorded using a single context recording system. The site archive will include plans and sections at an appropriate scale, a scale photographic record, and full stratigraphic records on recording forms/context sheets or their electronic equivalent. Should archaeological features be present then the locations and height AOD of the features will be accurately fixed, surveying in either the planning baselines or the features themselves.

4.1.8 The watching brief will be undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2008a). The records will follow standard conventions set by the Museum of London Archaeological Services (MoLAS) 2002.

4.1.9 In the unlikely event that human remains are discovered, they will initially be left *in-situ* and, if removal is deemed necessary, this will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant Ministry of Justice regulations.

4.1.10 Archaeological Research Services Ltd will ensure that heavy plant or machinery will not be operated in the immediate vicinity of archaeological remains until the remains have been recorded. Contractors and plant operators will be notified that any observations of archaeological remains must be reported immediately to the archaeologist on site.

4.1.11 A risk assessment will be undertaken before commencement of the work and health and safety regulations will be adhered to at all times.

4.1.12 Should archaeological remains be encountered for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard, then work on site shall cease and the development control archaeologist shall be notified immediately. Site works will not re-commence until resources are in place to secure preservation *in situ* or adequate archaeological treatment of the relevant remains.

## **5 Artefact and Ecofact collection and Recording**

5.1 Artefact collection policy will be concerned with the provision of adequate samples for meeting the objectives of the work. All finds of medieval and earlier date will be collected as a matter of course. Discarded artefactual materials will be described and quantified through assignment to broad categories in the field. Analysis of finds will be undertaken, as necessary, by suitably qualified specialists. Retained finds will be cleaned, marked, catalogued and packed in materials, as appropriate, for long term storage (see Archive Deposition below).

5.2 Unstratified finds will only be collected where they contribute significantly to the project objectives or are of particular intrinsic interest. Finds of 'treasure' will be reported to the Coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act (1996).

5.3 Collection and policies for structural remains and industrial residues have been set out by the Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA, 1993). The presence of such materials within a context will be recorded even where comprehensive retention is not considered appropriate.

5.4 The representative from Archaeological Research Services Ltd will inspect and monitor the upcast spoil from the site investigations, and where artefacts likely to relate to the tram workings are present, a sample will be collected.

5.5 If significant waterlogged deposits are found, which are judged to be of palaeoenvironmental significance in relation to archaeological deposits, contingency will be set aside to allow for retrieval and assessment of such samples.

## **6 Monitoring Arrangements**

6.1 Ideally, At least one week prior notice of the commencement of the groundworks will be given to the Derbyshire County Archaeologist.

Steve Baker,  
Derbyshire County Council,  
Shand House,  
Dale Road South,  
Matlock,  
Derbyshire DE4 3RY  
Tel: 01629 539773

6.2 Archaeological Research Services Ltd will liaise with the Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist at regular intervals throughout the course of the work.

## **7 Report**

7.1 Within two months of the completion of the watching brief and building recording, Archaeological Research Services Ltd will produce a report which will include:

- Non-technical summary
- Introductory statement
- Aims and purpose of the project
- Methodology
- A location plan showing all excavated areas and any archaeological features with respect to nearby fixed structures and roads
- Illustrations of all archaeological features with appropriately scaled hachured plans and sections.
- An objective summary statement of results
- Conclusions
- Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices

- Index to archive and details of archive location
- References
- Statement of intent regarding publication
- Confirmation of archive transfer arrangements
- A copy of the approved scheme of works (DCA brief or WSI)
- A copy of the OASIS form

7.2 Copies of the final report will be deposited with the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record.

## **8 Archive Deposition**

8.1 A digital, paper and artefactual archive will be prepared by Archaeological Research Services Ltd, consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data (in a format to be agreed by the repository museum which in this case is the Derbyshire City Museum and Art Gallery). The archive will be deposited within two months of the completion of the fieldwork. The accession number for the archive is DBYMU 2012-258. The Development Control Archaeologist and Museum Curator will be notified in writing on completion of the fieldwork with projected dates for the completion of the report and deposition of the archive. The date for deposition of the archive will be confirmed in the report and the Development Control Archaeologist informed in writing on final deposition of the archive.

8.2 All artefacts and associated material will be cleaned, recorded, properly stored and deposited in the archive (see above).

8.3 A full set of annotated, illustrative pictures of the site, excavation, features, layers and selected artefacts will be supplied to the HER and deposited with the archive as digital images on a CD ROM along that will be attached with the report.

8.4 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. All parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the HER. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included within the archive).

## **9 Changes to Methodology or Work Programme**

9.1 Changes to the approved methodology or programme of works will only be made with prior written approval of the Derbyshire County Archaeologist.

## **10 Publication**



10.1 A summary of the project, with selected drawings, illustrations and photographs, will be submitted within 2 years of the completion of the project to Derbyshire Archaeological Journal for publication. The results of the work will be published at least in summary form in Derbyshire Archaeological Journal.

## 11 References

English Heritage, 1995. *A strategy for the care and investigation of finds*, English Heritage.

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12.2. **Appendix II: OASIS Record**

# 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: archaeol5-138179**

### Project details

Project name	Darley Street, Darley Abbey, Derbyshire
Short description of the project	In November 2012 Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Derbyshire County Council to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Darley Street, Darley Abbey, Derbyshire. The monitoring was carried out prior to the rerouting of Nut Brook. No finds, features or buried land surfaces of archaeological significance were found.
Project dates	Start: 21-11-2012 End: 26-11-2012
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	NONE None
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	DERBYSHIRE DERBY DERBY Darley Street
Postcode	DE22 1DY
Study area	10.00 Square metres
Lat/Long Datum (other)	SK 35280 38454

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project brief originator	Derbyshire County Council
Project design originator	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project director/manager	Mike Wood
Project supervisor	Mike Wood

Type of sponsor/funding body  
Developer

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Derby Museum and Art Gallery

Digital Archive ID DBYMU 2012-258

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography"

Paper Archive recipient Derby Museum and Art Gallery

Paper Archive ID DBYMU 2012-258

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Matrices", "Photograph", "Report", "Unpublished Text"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Darley Street, Darley Abbey, Derbyshire

Author(s)/Editor(s) Laura Strafford

Other bibliographic details ARS Report Number 2012/101

Date 2012

Issuer or publisher Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Place of issue or publication Bakewell

Description Watching Brief Report

Entered by Laura Strafford (laura@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)

Entered on 8 January 2013

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### 13 Addendum

– Alvaro Mora-Ottomano (B.A. Hons, M.Sc.)

13.1 Alvaro Mora-Ottomano, Projects Officer with Archaeological Research Services Ltd, undertook a further watching brief on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013 as two additional small trenches (numbered 4 and 5) were excavated following supplementary repair of a manhole and service pipes. These trenches revealed archaeological remains which were intended to be retained. The location of the trenches and the archaeological features are shown on a detailed plan (Fig. 6). These trenches are also shown overlying the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Ordnance Survey map issued in 1900 as some of the remains may relate to structures illustrated on the map (Fig. 7).

13.2 Trench 4 was located opposite ‘The Abbey’ Public House along Darley Street (Fig. 8). This trench revealed a short section (600mm N/S) of a brick wall immediately below a layer of topsoil (Fig. 9). The wall was slightly curved and composed of four leaves yielding an overall width of 500mm. The bricks measured 10” x 4½” x 3” and were bonded with white putty cement mortar. A maximum of six courses were observed and it was established that the eastern side corresponded to the inner side of a chamber which was backfilled with demolition material, whereas the outer side was abutted by topsoil. The brick wall extends beyond and below the trench.

13.3 These remains relate to a large circular structure depicted from the first edition of Ordnance Survey which continued through to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century as indicated by cartographic records. The structure might have been associated with the former Paper Mill; however, its character has not been determined, although it bears high resemblance with a kiln. Nevertheless, it is suggested that the structure might have been somewhat associated with the adjacent Paper Mill which also formed part of the industrial process associated with the nearby cotton mill. Indeed, “The Evans’ paper mill on the opposite side of the river also produced the paper to wrap and package the final products [of the local cotton produced in the nearby Boar’s Head Mill]. It was these buildings that allowed the factory to operate effectively and competitively, and also contributed to the range of skills required from the workforce. The ancillary buildings are therefore an integral part of the complex and, to a greater or lesser extent, the Outstanding Universal Value of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site” (Atkins 2010, 11).

13.4 Trench 5 was located immediately to the north of Darley Abbey Club (Fig. 10). This trench exposed a short section (1.50 metres in length) of a slightly curved sandstone wall (aligned approximately east to west) at 800mm below the tarmac road surface (Fig. 11). The wall was built with coursed large roughly hewn sandstone rubble bonded with white lime mortar and clay with small pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks. It consisted of two courses yielding an overall thickness/height of 500mm. This wall, intended to be retained, extends beyond the trench towards the east and west.

13.5 Another sandstone wall (503), composed of fairly random rubble, was identified towards the eastern edge of the trench which abutted the northern face of wall (502) (Figs 12 and 13). This wall was rather irregular with a thick foundation, composed of mortar and cobbles, below the southern end of the wall whereas the remaining section was devoid of



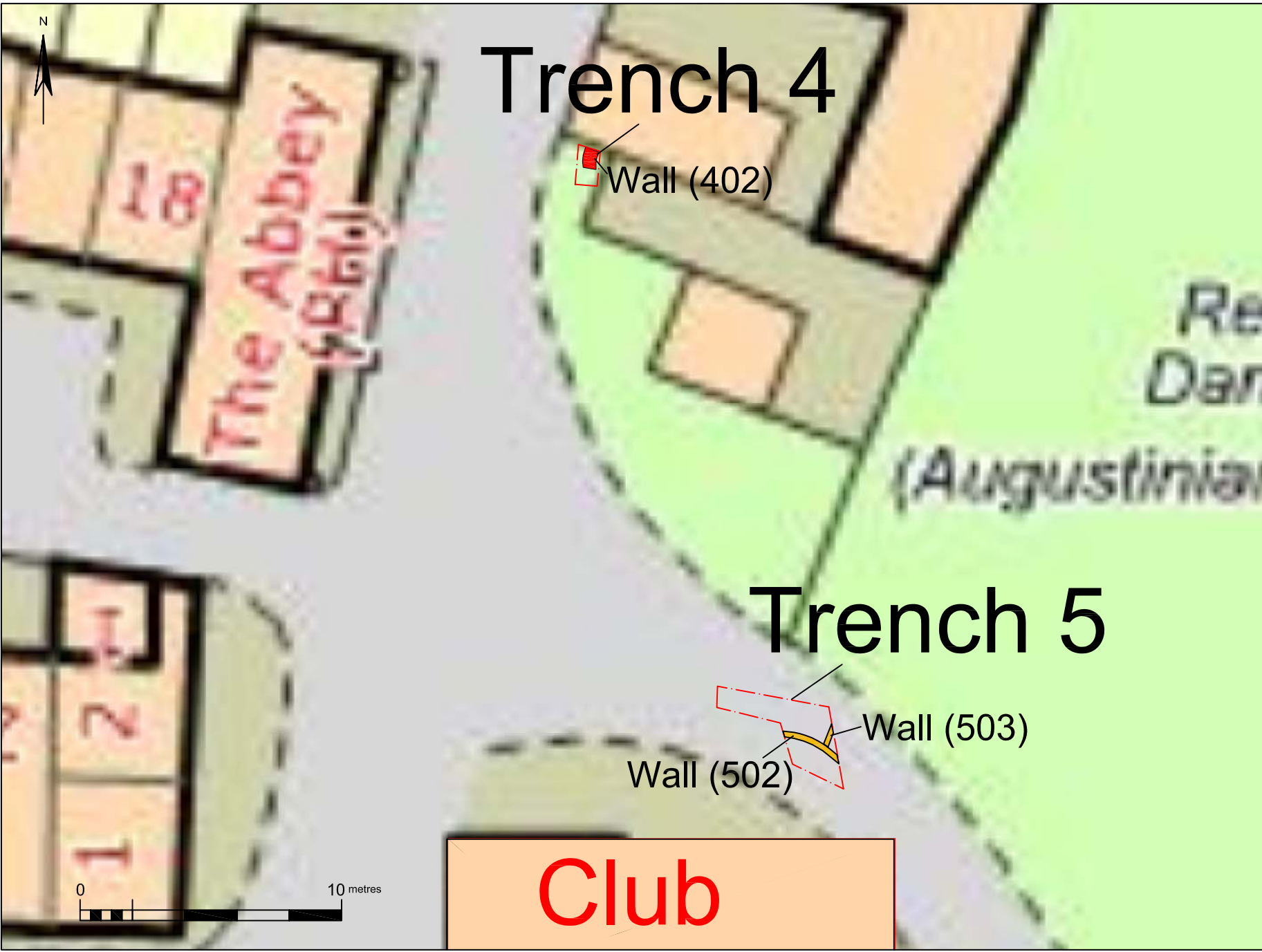
such foundation-like deposit. The restricted excavation and unstable condition of the trench limited the investigation.

13.6 Chloe Oswald, Conservation Officer at Derby City Council, notified the author that Dave Barrett, County Archaeologist of Derbyshire County Council, had visited the site with a local historian whose opinion of the remains uncovered in trench 5 might have originally been associated with a former bridge. However, the main (and properly built) wall (502) was clearly curved which is inconsistent with the construction of a bridge as this would normally be built entirely across a water course. The latter abutment (503) did not resemble any possible structure associated with a bridge, such as piers.

13.7 Although the evidence are very limited to formulate a plausible interpretation, it is suggested that the slightly curved wall (502) might have been associated with a former leat or sluice as its southern projection might be linked to the remains depicted on earlier cartographic records (Fig. 7). This leat is shown on the 1708 map and may relate to an earlier monastic mill, as well as the later Paper Mill (Atkins 2010, 13). The later poorly-built abutment (503) is not fully understood although it might have acted as a secondary buttress of wall (502).

## References

Atkins 2010. Darley Abbey Mills and Stables. Strategy Document.



# Trench 4

Wall (402)

# Trench 5

Wall (502)  
Wall (503)

Club

Archaeological Research Services Ltd  
Angel House  
Portland Square  
Bakewell  
Derbyshire  
DE45 1HB

Site Code: DSD'13  
Drawing Ref:  
Date: 28 March 2013  
Drawn: AMO  
Scale: 1:200@A4

Figure 6: Location of  
trenches 4 and 5 with  
archaeological remains

Key:

Notes:

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Archaeological Research Services Ltd Angel House Portland Square Bakewell Derbyshire DE45 1HB	Figure 7: Location of trenches 4 and 5 overlying the 2nd edition of Ordnance Survey map issued in 1900	Key:	Copyright/Licensing: This drawing © A.R.S. Ltd  Ordnance Survey data if applicable © Crown Copyright, all rights reserved reproduced with permission. Licence No. 100045420
Site Code: DSD'13 Drawing Ref: Date: 28 March 2013 Drawn: AMO Scale: 1:750@A4	Notes:		





Figure 8: Trench 4 opposite 'The Abbey' Public House along Darley Street, looking north-west (scale 1m)



Figure 9: Trench 4 with brick wall (402), looking north (scale 1m)





Figure 10: Trench 5 to the north of Darley Abbey Club, looking south-west



Figure 11: Stone wall (502), looking south (scale 1m)





Figure 12: Wall (502) and later abutment wall (503), looking east (scale 1m)



Figure 13: Wall (503), looking north-east (scale 1m)