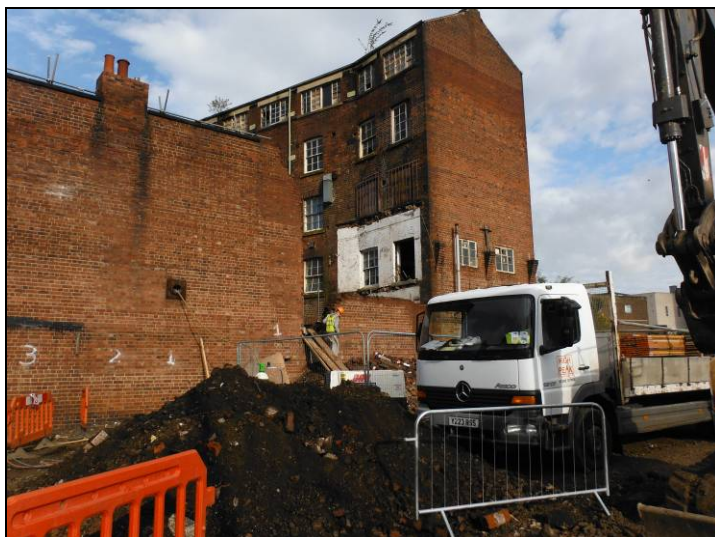


**The former Sydney Works, Matilda Street,  
Sheffield**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**



The former Sydney Works, Sheffield

**ARS Ltd Report 2012/103**

December 2012

OASIS ID: archaeo15 – 138534

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## **The former Sydney Works, Matilda Street, Sheffield**

### **Archaeological Watching Brief**

**ARS Ltd Report 2012/103**

**Archaeological Research Services Ltd**

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## ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

*In October 2012 Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Mott MacDonald to undertake an Archaeological Watching Brief at the former Sydney Works, Matilda Street, Sheffield, prior to the proposed development of the site which will involve the erection of a new building (UTC – Sheffield Hallam University) within the present car park area.*

*A desk-based assessment and building appraisal has previously been submitted to the relevant planning authority (Davies and Mora-Ottomano 2012), which outlines the historical and archaeological research of the site. An additional archaeological building recording of the standing structures has also been prepared (Mora-Ottomano 2012). Thus this report should be used in conjunction with the previously submitted documents.*

*The ground-work initially comprised the excavation of the car park tarmac and concrete surfaces which covered the entire site. Further excavation involved a large amount of deep foundation trenches scattered throughout the site and further shallower service trenches positioned mainly within the eastern area of the site.*

*No significant archaeological deposits or features were encountered. However, towards the south-western end of the site the remains of a brick wall were revealed within a pile cap trench abutting the eastern elevation of Building 2 (formerly part of Sydney Works). These remains appear to have formed part of an electrical sub-station dating from the 1950s. Further masonry structures were uncovered towards the eastern area of the site which consisted of additional brickwork associated with a later extension of the City Saw Mills constructed in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. None of these structures were regarded to bear significant historic, architectural or archaeological significance. The excavated made-ground upper layer yielded a variety of artefacts dating mostly from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century through to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Scope of work**

1.1.1 A planning application for the development of the former Sydney Works, Matilda Street, Sheffield, has been granted subject to conditions specified by South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS). This document has been prepared by Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) on behalf of Mott MacDonald for agreement with SYAS.

1.1.2 A previous desk-based assessment and building appraisal has been undertaken (Davies and Mora-Ottomano 2012) in order to assess the heritage interest within the development area in line with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (CLG 2012). An additional condition of the planning permission required an archaeological building recording of the standing buildings (Mora-Ottomano 2012) along with the archaeological watching brief reported here.

1.1.3 The archaeological watching brief has been carried out under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (DCLG 2012), ‘The Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs’ (Institute for Archaeologists 2008) and a Written Scheme of Investigation issued by Archaeological Research Services Ltd, which was subsequently approved by SYAS (Appendix I).

1.1.4 The NPPF sets out the Government’s planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It sets out the Government’s requirements for the planning system only to the extent that it is relevant, proportionate and necessary to do so. The purpose of the NPPF is to contribute to the achievement of *sustainable development*, which includes “...contributing to, protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment...” (DCLG 2012, 30). The Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide (PPS5) now superseded by the NPPF, is still the only detailed extant Historic Environment guidance) as is a much more in-depth document than the policy statement itself. This practice guide “supports the implementation of national policy, but does not constitute a statement of Government policy” (DCLG/DCMS/EH 2010, 6). This document has been presented by English Heritage as a ‘live’ document and is therefore intended to be subject to future changes as techniques and practice develop.

### **1.2 Location, land use and geology**

1.2.1 The proposed redevelopment site is located between Sidney Street (west), Shoreham Street (east) and Matilda Street (south) towards the southern point of the historic core of Sheffield City Centre and centred on grid reference SK 355 866. The site is roughly rectangular in plan with planning permission currently given for the area immediately east of Porter Brook. This area measures a maximum of 55m north-east to south-west by 80m south-east to north-west. The site is bounded by Porter Brook and public highways on the Shoreham Street and Matilda Street sides and by existing commercial properties (BBC Radio Sheffield) to the north-east. Beyond the north-west and south-east of the site are residential developments, and beyond the north-east and south-west commercial properties.

1.2.2 The site is currently operated as an open, ground level public car park on split levels (presumably reflecting a number of alterations to ground levels over the years). The western side of the car park, which is not subject to this investigation, is higher at *c.* 60m above Ordnance Datum (AOD), whilst the eastern side is lower at *c.* 58m. It is uncertain to what extent this reflects the natural topography.

1.2.3 The British Geological Survey records the site itself as being underlain by a solid geological sequence of carboniferous Lower Coal Measures. The Lower Coal Measures generally comprise a sequence of mudstones, siltstones, sandstones, seatearth and coal seams in repetitive cycles. Underlying siltstones and sands abound in the study area <[www.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer](http://www.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer)>. The solid geology is overlain by drift geology of alluvium associated with the Porter Brook, although the northern corner of the site may be free of these drift deposits. These alluviums give rise to superficial soil deposits of freely draining slightly acid loamy soils (<[www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes](http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes)>; Ove Arup 2005, 5).

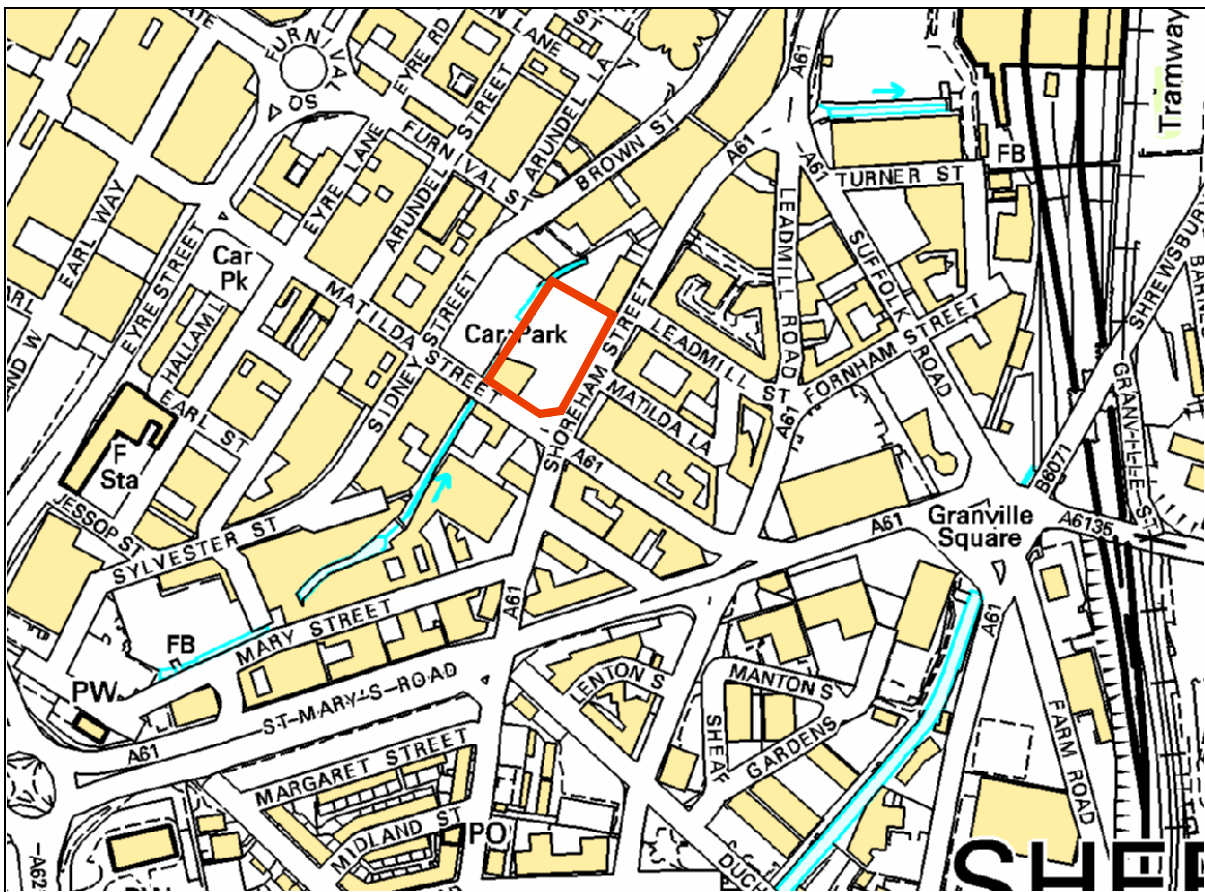


Figure 1: General site location

(Ordnance Survey Data © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence No. 100045420)

## **2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

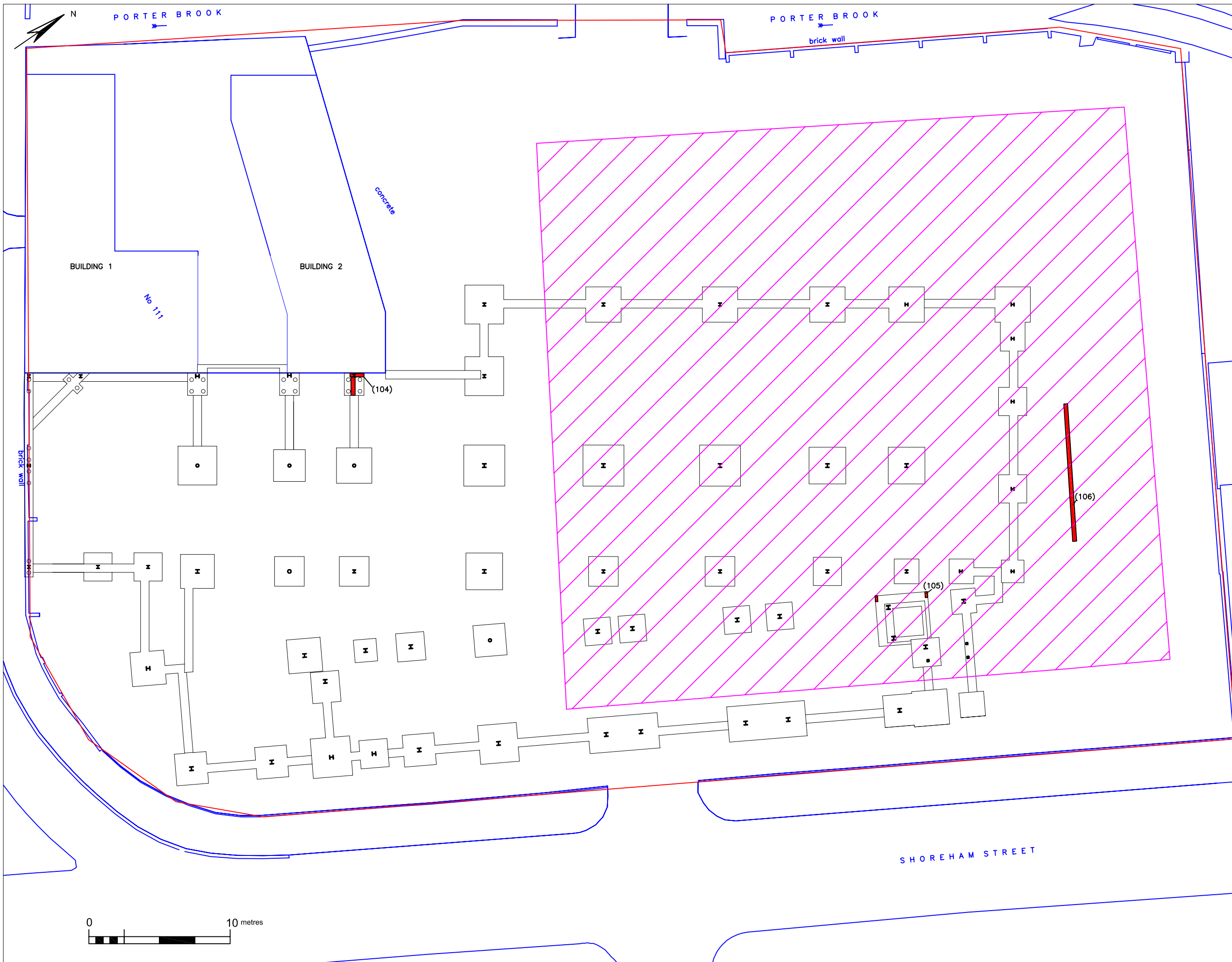
2.1 The archaeological watching brief aimed to provide an appropriate level of preservation by record and interpretation of any archaeological deposits exposed or surface earthworks impacted during the proposed ground-works.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

3.1 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Alvaro Mora-Ottomano of ARS Ltd during the months of September and October 2012. All machine excavation on the site was observed to ensure that no archaeological remains were disturbed. Any features or structures were fully cleaned and recorded in accordance with the standards stipulated by the Institute for Archaeologists (2008). The records consisted of the following:

- Any features or structures were photographed, recorded and, where possible, fully excavated. All the contexts were recorded on pro-forma sheets and context register was maintained.
- Photographs were taken using a 35mm SLR camera with black and white print film and colour.

3.2 The location of the watching brief area is illustrated below (Fig. 2). Full details of the recording methodology are provided in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix I).



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

Site Code: UTC'12 Watching brief  
 Drawing Ref:  
 Date: 03-December-2012  
 Drawn: AMO  
 Scale: 1:250@A3

Figure 2: Location of foundation and service trenches

- Key:
- site boundary
  - archaeological features
  - area of service trenches
  - H foundation trenches

Notes:

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## 4 RESULT

4.1 The ground-work initially comprised the excavation of the car park tarmac and concrete surfaces which covered the entire site. Further excavation involved a large amount of deep foundation trenches scattered throughout the site and further shallower service trenches positioned mainly within the eastern area of the site. The location of the foundation and service trenches is shown on the site plan (Fig. 2).

4.2 The ground-work excavation was monitored in order to determine the potential, presence, extent, depth, state of preservation and significance of any potential archaeological remains identified from a previous archaeological desk-based assessment prepared by ARS Ltd in February 2012 (Davies and Mora-Ottomano 2012). The potential remains may be associated with former buildings located along Shoreham Street with a north-west return along the eastern boundary of the site; and a smaller saw mill structure located towards the centre of the site. These former structures were erected during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and appear to have been demolished around the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, although the central saw mill was significantly extended around the third quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century until its recent demolition to create the present car park.

4.3 The foundation trenches reached an overall depth of 2.50m and the stratigraphy consisted of a series of made-ground layers overlying the natural sub-stratum (Figs 3 – 5). The uppermost made-ground layer (101) was composed of mixed demolition material, rubble and hardcore within a soft silty clay matrix yielding an overall thickness of *c.* 400 to 500mm. This layer overlay another made-ground stratum (102), varying in composition although composed mainly of demolition material, rubble and silty clay with an overall thickness of *c.* 800mm. This in turn overlay a lower made-ground layer (103), of similar characteristics and thickness to the layer above, which sealed the natural sub-stratum at approximately 2 to 2.50m below the present ground level.

4.4 The nature of the excavation, involving deep trenches through fairly loose made-ground layers, hindered slightly the watching brief as close inspection of the excavated material was not always possible due to their instability, which was increased during periods of heavy rain resulting in the collapse of the trenches. It was also difficult to retrieve artefacts although the site did not produce a considerable amount of them. Nevertheless, the watching brief successfully identified archaeological deposits which are described below.

4.5 An 'L-shaped' brickwork (104) was revealed abutting the eastern elevation of Building 2 (formerly part of Sydney Works) at approximately 900mm below ground level (Figs 2 and 6). The masonry consisted of two brick-wall of standard red bricks (9" x 4½" x 3") bonded with lime mortar; and represents the remnants of an electrical sub-station which was constructed around the 1950s as indicated by cartographic records. The brickwork was left intact and unexcavated as the trench in which wall (104) was revealed, was a smaller and shallower type designed as a cap for four steel-cased concrete piles.

4.6 Towards the south-eastern area of the site a large pit, excavated to house the base of a lift, exposed a NE/SW brick wall (105) which was partially truncated by the excavation (Figs 2 and 7). The upper course of wall (105) was found at *c.* 600mm below ground level. The brickwork consisted of three brick-walls of standard red bricks of which a total of five courses were dismantled during the excavation, exposing the masonry remains within the

trench sides. This wall appears to have been associated with the later construction of the City Saw Mills as indicated by the 1992 Ordnance Survey map.

4.7 Further remains of the later City Saw Mills were also uncovered within a service trench towards the eastern boundary of the site consisting of a long brick wall (106) running north-west to south-east (Figs 2 and 8). This wall was also found at 600mm below ground level and left *in situ* as the proposed service did not require deeper excavation. The wall was built with standard red bricks with shallow frogged bases; and when uncovered, the wall reached an overall length of approximately 10 metres.

4.8 No evidence of additional structures and/or archaeological deposits was identified. Residual artefacts were recovered from made-ground layer (102). It is noteworthy that amongst the artefacts four intact jars were recovered within a shallow piling trench adjacent to Building 1 along Matilda Street. These jars might have been discarded within the upper made-ground layer from former neighbouring works such as chemists, cutlers, silversmith, etc as indicated from earlier Goad Fire Insurance maps. An assessment of the finds is included in the following section 5.



Figure 3: Foundation trench along the southern boundary of the site, looking west



Figure 4: Foundation trench within the northern area of the site, looking north



Figure 5: Foundation trench within the south-western area of the site, looking west (scale 2m)



Figure 6: Brickwork (104) abutting Building 2, looking north-west (scale 1m)



Figure 7: Brick wall (105), looking north-east (scale 1m)



Figure 8: NW/SE brick wall (106) towards the eastern area of the site, looking west (scale 1m)

## **5 FINDS ASSESSMENT**

Mike Wood BA (Hons) MLitt MIFA

### *Introduction*

5.1 A mixed assemblage of pottery, tile, clay tobacco pipe and a glass bottle was recovered from a layer of made-ground (102) at the Sheffield UTC site adjacent to the former Sydney Works, Matilda Street, Sheffield.

### *Methodology*

5.2 The material was counted and weighed in grams, then examined visually to identify any diagnostic pieces and the overall condition of the assemblage. Reference was made to published guides where possible (Dumbrell 1983, Oswald 1975, Higgins and Pavey 1994). A summary of the material is recorded in Table 1.

Context	Material	Count	Weight (g)	Comments	Date
102	Pottery	6	63	Porcelain decorated with willow pattern. Three plates are present, one with a scalloped edge.	late 19th C
102	Pottery	14	1313	Red earthen ware with black glaze	18th-early 20th C
102	Pottery	1	30	Small pitcher or milk/sauce vessel for table. Decorated with yellow slip overlaid with white and brown horizontal lines	19th-20th C
102	Pottery	1	4	Fragment decorated with yellow and pale blue slip	19th-20th C
102	Pottery	1	46	Yellow slipped dish	19th-20th C
102	Pottery	1	35	White glazed bowl with blue horizontal line decoration	19th-20th C
102	Pottery	1	76	White glazed bowl	19th-20th C
102	Pottery	1	15	White glazed stoneware. Possible tankard?	19th-20th C
102	Pottery	1	10	Rim of yellow glazed bowl	19th-20th C
102	Pottery	1	31	Red salt glazed vessel. Decorated with horizontal curving pattern.	19th-20th C
102	Pottery	41	1279	Large stoneware chemist bottle marked 'Lovatt & Lovatt Langley Mill Nottingham'.	1895-1930
102	Pottery	4	1213	Large stoneware chemist bottle. The stamp is illegible apart from '9'.	late 19th-early 20th C
102	Pottery	1	1103	Large stoneware chemist bottle. The stamp is illegible apart from '32'.	late 19th-early 20th C
102	Pottery	1	1078	Large stoneware chemist bottle. The stamp is illegible apart from '23'.	late 19th-early 20th C
	TOTAL	75	6296		
102	Clay pipe	1	15	Decorated with entwined leaves up the rear and front of the bowl	1840-1880
102	Glass	1	95	Neck and top of a distinctive late 18th century wine bottle. cf: Dumbrell 1983	1780-1790
102	Ceramic	3	2104	Drainage pipe fragments	undated
102	Tile	1	12	Wall tile decorated with a brown stylised leaf design	19th-20th C

Table 1: Artefact catalogue

## Results

5.3 A mixed assemblage of pottery, tile, clay tobacco pipe and a glass bottle was recovered from a layer of made-ground (102) at the Sheffield UTC site. Being derived from made-ground, some variation in date is expected and there is no certainty that the material was all derived locally, perhaps during levelling of a previous building, or was imported as hardcore from another location. However, the assemblage broadly dates from the later 19<sup>th</sup>

century with the only diagnostic piece not fitting this range being the neck and rim of a late 18<sup>th</sup> century wine bottle, which may have been a residual artefact incorporated in the made-ground.

5.4 Of interest is the presence of four, large, spouted chemist jars, one of which can be identified as being made by Lovatt and Lovatt at Langley Mill in Nottinghamshire and gives a date range of 1895 – 1930 for production at this site (Fig. 13). As the jars are intact, this suggests they may have been dumped on site rather than carried in hardcore and may imply a druggist or chemist was located on site in this period. The pottery by contrast is a mix of tablewares typical of the late Victorian and early 20<sup>th</sup> century and could be found on many sites in the area.

*Recommendations for further work*

5.5 None of the material warrants any further work or illustration. All the artefacts were photographed for future reference and a selection of the entire assemblage is provided below (Figs 9 – 13). All the artefacts are in a stable condition and require no further conservation. All the finds could be discarded or passed to a teaching collection.



Figure 9: Miscellaneous artefacts 1 of 5



Figure 10: Miscellaneous artefacts 2 of 5



Figure 11: Miscellaneous artefacts 3 of 5





Figure 12: Miscellaneous artefacts 4 of 5



Figure 13: Miscellaneous artefacts 5 of 5

## **6 CONCLUSION**

6.1 A desk-based assessment and building appraisal has previously been submitted to the relevant planning authority (Davies and Mora-Ottomano 2012) which outlines the historical and archaeological research of the site. An additional archaeological building recording of the standing structures has also been prepared (Mora-Ottomano 2012). Thus this report should be used in conjunction with the previously submitted documents.

6.2 The ground-work initially comprised the excavation of the car park tarmac and concrete surfaces which covered the entire site. Further excavation involved a large amount of deep foundation trenches scattered throughout the site and further shallower service trenches positioned mainly within the eastern area of the site.

6.3 No significant archaeological deposits or features were encountered. However, towards the south-western end of the site the remains of a brick wall were revealed within a pile cap trench abutting the eastern elevation of Building 2 (formerly part of Sydney Works). These remains appear to have formed part of an electrical sub-station dating from the 1950s. Further masonry structures were uncovered towards the eastern area of the site which consisted of additional brickwork associated with a later, City Saw Mills constructed in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. None of these structures were regarded to bear significant historic, architectural or archaeological significance. The excavated made-ground upper layer yielded a variety of artefacts dating mostly from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century through to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## **7 PUBLICITY, CONFIDENTIALITY AND COPYRIGHT**

7.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client.

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

## **8 STATEMENT OF INDEMNITY**

8.1 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.

## **9 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION**

9.1 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 offered to Sheffield Museum in the first instance for curation.

## 10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

10.1 Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank all those involved with the archaeological project, especially Lee Geddes of Mott MacDonald for commissioning the work, Rob Stobo of Wates Construction for providing help during the fieldwork and Dinah Saich of South Yorkshire Archaeology Service for monitoring and providing advice throughout the project.

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## **APPENDIX I: SPECIFICATIONS**

# The former Sydney Works, Matilda Street, Sheffield

## Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Work



The extant buildings on the site looking south-east

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August 2012

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# The former Sydney Works, Matilda Street, Sheffield

## Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Work

August 2012

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Project Background**

This document comprises a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for a programme of historic building recording and monitoring of both exterior and interior works at the former Sydney Works, Matilda Street, Sheffield.

A previous desk-based assessment and building appraisal has been undertaken to accompany a planning application for redevelopment of the site, and the work outlined within this WSI relates to the securing of a planning condition as an acceptable means of mitigation any impact upon the historic environment as a part of this development. This scheme of works is based upon in initial consultation with South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS). This document has been prepared by Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) for Mott Macdonald for agreement with SYAS.

### **1.2 Location and Land-Use**

The proposed redevelopment site is located between Sidney Street (west), Shoreham Street (east) and Matilda Street (south) towards the southern point of the historic core of Sheffield City Centre and centred on grid reference SK 355 866. The site is roughly rectangular in plan with planning permission currently given for the area immediately east of Porter Brook. This area measures a maximum of 55m north-east to south-west by 80m south-east to north-west. The site is bounded by Porter Brook and public highways on the Shoreham Street and Matilda Street sides and by existing commercial properties (BBC radio Sheffield) to the north-east. Beyond the north-west and south-east of the site are residential developments, and beyond the north-east and south-west commercial properties.

The site is currently operated as an open, ground level public car park on split levels (presumably reflecting a number of alterations to ground levels over the years). The western side of the car park (tarmac), which is not subject to this investigation, is higher at c.60m AOD, whilst the eastern side (concrete) is lower at c 58.0m. It is uncertain to what extent this reflects the natural topography.

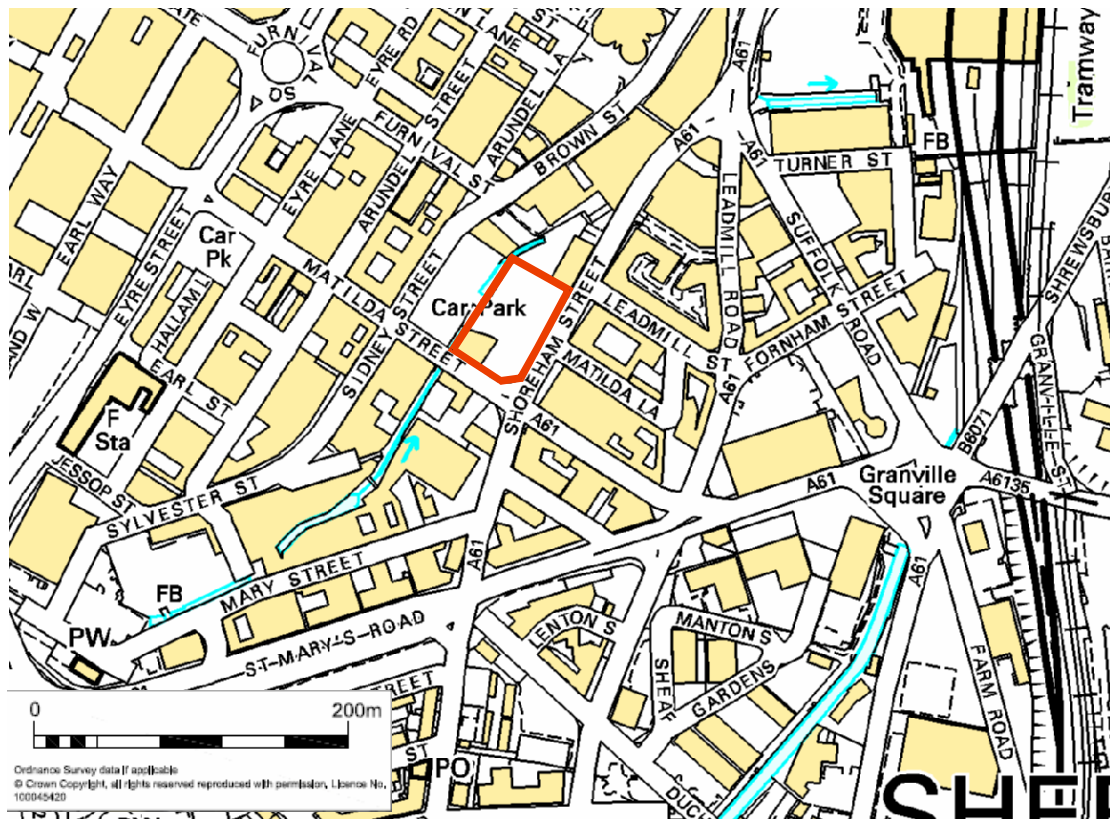


Fig. 1 Location of site.

### 1.3 Previous Work

To accompany the initial planning application, a desk-based assessment and building appraisal were undertaken (Davies and Mora-Ottomano 2012) in order to assess the heritage interest within the development area in line with the requirements of the *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)* (CLG 2012). The findings of the assessments are summarised below:

*Prior to the later 18<sup>th</sup> century, there is no known activity within the proposed development site. However, the proximity of the medieval Sheffield deer park and post-medieval to 18<sup>th</sup> century isolated industrial buildings within the wider study area, means that there is a low potential for sub-surface remains of these periods to be preserved on the site, depending on localised truncation from later buildings*

*During the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, large quantities of made-ground were brought into the proposed development site. This may have been a concerted project in order to make marginal and boggy areas more suitable for laying out street grids. The 1808 Fairbanks map depicts the partially canalised Porter Brook, and this initial water management may also have occurred as the streets were laid-out.*

*The first structures appear in the proposed development site from 1832, and by the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (1853), the western half of the site is almost completely built-up, the Porter Brook fully canalised and culverted in places and a number of buildings in the central part of the eastern side of the site labelled as 'Timber'. At this time none of the structures appear to correspond to the maximum extent of the presently extant buildings, although the building assessment demonstrated that parts of the original footprint may be preserved within the present structures. The results of earlier geotechnical surveys have shown that a number of these structures potentially remain preserved on the site as sub-surface archaeological features.*



*The 'U'-shaped range of buildings presently extant on the site, in combination with the cartographic evidence, reveal much about the developmental sequence of the site. The southern range was originally built in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century as a small workshop, which developed into the present configuration of ranges in the 1920s. The northern range was originally built in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century as a small workshop, becoming part of a larger industrial installation at the turn of the century. The combined ranges contained silver smith and cutlery workshops relating to the former 'Sidney Works' to the west of the Porter Brook.*

*The later infill within the central courtyard of the extant buildings lies within the footprint of a small range erected in the 1920s. This range was a lavatory as denoted on the 1934 Goad Insurance Plan and then was used for industrial finishing for a variety of professions through the 20<sup>th</sup> century. No original fixtures and fittings remain within the extant buildings, except for few steel fittings of a drive mechanism within the basement of the southern wing, and a cast-iron fireplace in the northern range. The extant buildings, whilst primarily dating from the earlier 20<sup>th</sup> century, respect the footprint of the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century structures on the site, and in some cases may incorporate earlier fabric. Whilst the extant range bears little architectural merit, it is of some local historical significance and therefore modification to the buildings has the potential to impact upon surviving historic fabric.*

*Any redevelopment within the site that may have sub-surface impact, depending on the specific design, has the potential to impact upon the sub-surface archaeological remains that are present, resulting in a loss of significance. The deposits to the west of the brook are likely to be more deeply buried, but of higher interpretative potential. The deposits to the east of the Porter Brook are likely to be shallow and at greater risk from the excavation of new foundations.*

## **2. HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING**

### **2.1 Scope**

As part of the pre-application archaeological work, a historic building appraisal was undertaken, which incorporated a significant volume of black and white 35mm photography as a primary record and an assessment of the current fabric and condition of the structure. This also included compilation of existing architectural plans and elevations. This work will be augmented to compile a full record of the building in its current condition. The completed building recording will result in a detailed understanding of the form, function and phasing of the standing buildings. The buildings (including curtilage structures) and their immediate setting will be examined. This work will augment the existing understanding of all features, fixtures and fittings relevant to the original and subsequent historical uses of the site. The historic building recording will be undertaken in advance of the commencement of development works, and is tentatively timetabled for August-September 2012.

### **2.2 Archival Study**

An archival study of the site and buildings has been undertaken. This has included assessment of the following sources, and the information has fed into the understanding of the condition and development of the buildings on site:

- Plans and maps of the site and its immediate environs, including historical maps and including pre- and post-war Ordnance Surveys, up to the present day
- Trade and Business Directories
- Place and street name evidence
- Oral history evidence
- Historical documents and photographs (including aerial) held in libraries, archives and museums – those held by Sheffield Local Studies Library and Sheffield Archives must be studied, as a minimum; for metal trades buildings, the Hawley Collection (University of Sheffield) must also be consulted
- Records and information held by Sheffield City Council's Conservation team
- The South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)
- Appropriate archaeological and historical journals and books
- Geotechnical data, where available.

### **2.3 Photographic Recording**

A general photographic record has been made of the building exterior and interior, and including some detail photographs, as part of the historic building appraisal. This existing record is in black and white 35mm print and colour digital formats and will be augmented to produce a full record of the interior, exterior, fixtures and fittings and architectural detail. Representative detail photographs will be taken in medium format using a graduated scale as discussed with South Yorkshire Archaeology Service. Where

necessary perspective control will be used. This photographic record will be supplemented by 35mm colour slide photography, especially where colour is an aspect that needs to be recorded, e.g. decoration.

A photographic register detailing (as a minimum) location and direction of each shot will be completed along with a plan detailing the location and direction of each photograph.

## **2.4 Drawn Record**

The existing drawn record is based upon checked architects plans and elevations and will be augmented to meet the standards given below.

The drawn record will comprise checked and annotated floor plans and elevations showing features of historic significance, and where possible, constructional phasing. As a minimum, long and cross drawn sections will be made of each range. Interpretive sketch illustrations will also be undertaken and used in the interpretation, assessment and recording of the building. Evidence for construction techniques and sequences will be noted and appropriately illustrated (e.g. tool marks, preparation of structural timbers, carpenters' marks).

## **2.5 Scientific Analysis**

Given the known condition and age of the building, it is not envisioned that scientific analysis will be appropriate to the understanding of its historic development. Nevertheless, a contingency will be negotiated to allow for the analysis of any significant historic materials uncovered which are shown to have the potential to answer key interpretive questions about the historical development of the site.

## **2.6 Report Preparation**

Record photographs will be printed at a minimum of 5" x 4" and they will be accompanied by a fully indexed field archive consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographic negatives and a complete set of labelled photographic prints. Labelling will be in indelible ink on the back of the print and will include:

- film and frame number
- date recorded and photographers name
- name and address of feature/building
- national grid reference.

Photographic prints will be mounted in appropriate archival stable sleeves.

A written report will be produced including a non-technical summary outlining the results of the recording exercise. The report will detail who undertook the building recording, when the work was done, where the site/building is located, what recording was undertaken and why the work was required. The report will include as a minimum:

- A synthesis of the information gathered during the archival study

- A discussion of the construction sequence and use of the building
- an analysis of the results that will allow an understanding of the building's historical and architectural significance to be established.
- An assessment of the building's contribution to the area's historic character.

The report will be fully illustrated, including as a minimum:

- a location map at not less than 1:2500
- a site plan at not less than 1:500
- copies of all historic map extracts consulted with the buildings/site clearly visible and outlined
- a complete set of copies of all photographs (excluding duplications) and selected slides - of at least laser copy standard - appropriately labelled or captioned
- the photographic record plans
- reproductions of the record and sketch drawings made.

A copy of the agreed WSI will also be bound into the back of the report. SYAS will be sent 1 hard copy and 1 digital copy of the final report. A selection of relevant photographs will be included in the hard copy for illustrative purposes, while the digital copy will include the complete scanned photographic record.

### **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING – WATCHING BRIEF**

#### **3.1 Scope**

Monitoring of work under archaeological supervision will take two forms within the proposed development. Interior monitoring of soft stripping and alterations will be undertaken to augment the understanding of the historic buildings as set out above through the application of historic building recording. In addition monitoring of external groundworks will allow for a record to be compiled of any unknown archaeological deposits or remains which may be impacted upon by the development. With both internal and external monitoring it is envisioned that it will begin with continuous monitoring which can be re-assessed with SYAS according to a set timetable. Should there be little heritage interest, or it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of SYAS that later truncation has removed previous archaeological levels, then the watching brief could be downscaled to an intermittent monitoring of works. Monitoring of groundworks and interior renovation will follow the development timetable, which will be communicated to SYAS at the earliest opportunity.

Should archaeological deposits or remains of especial significance be uncovered in the course of the monitoring of groundworks, then work in that area will cease and SYAS will be alerted in order to initiate a discussion as to the best way forward. Options will be discussed with the client and SYAS which will include the potential for preservation of significance remains in-situ.

#### **3.2 Methodology - Interior**

Upon commencement of renovation and redevelopment of the buildings within the development site, a qualified historic buildings specialist will be present on site to monitor soft stripping and alterations. Where new fabric is encountered, or detail which illustrates the historic use and development of the buildings, photographic, drawn and text records will be made to the standards described above.

#### **3.3 Methodology - Exterior**

Removal of modern concrete will be undertaken in advance of the commencement of monitoring, but development groundworks involving deeper removal of overburden (that is vegetation, turf, loose stones, rubble, made ground, tarmac, hardcore, building debris etc) will be undertaken by machine and supervised by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

Removal of overburden by machine will be undertaken using a back-acting excavator fitted with toothless or ditching bucket only. Where materials are exceptionally difficult to lift, a toothed bucket may be used. Subsoils (B horizons) or deep, uniform deposits (commonly industrial backfill or brick in-fill if archaeological deposits survive) may also be removed by back-acting excavator but only in areas specified by the archaeologist on site, and only with archaeological supervision.

Where structures, finds, soil features and layers of archaeological interest are exposed or disturbed by construction works, the archaeologist will be provided with the opportunity to observe, clean, assess, excavate by hand, and where appropriate, sample and record these features and finds. If the contractors or plant operators notice archaeological remains, they will immediately tell the archaeologist. The sampling of deposits for

palaeoenvironmental evidence will be a standard consideration, and arrangements will be made to ensure that specialist advice and analysis are available if appropriate.

Heavy plant will not be operated in the vicinity of archaeological remains until they have been recorded, and the archaeologist on site has allowed operations to recommence at that location. Sterile subsoils (C horizons) and parent materials below archaeological deposits may be removed without archaeological supervision.

### **3.4 Artefact and Ecofact Recovery**

ARS Ltd will comply fully with the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996 and the Code of Practice to which it refers.

Discovery of any human remains believed to be less than 50 years old will be reported to the coroner and to SYAS. For archaeological remains, SYAS will be contacted in the first instance and where excavation is required this will be conducted under the relevant legislation and, if necessary, a Ministry of Justice licence.

Flint, animal bones or post-medieval and modern pottery will be collected as bulk samples by context although significant artefacts will be three-dimensionally recorded prior to processing. Finds will be recorded, cleaned and bagged and submitted for post-excavation assessment. All artefacts and other finds from significant archaeological deposits will be collected, identified by stratigraphic unit, catalogued, and retained.

The following environmental sampling strategy has been based on previously agreed sampling methodologies, created in concert with local authority curators and English Heritage Regional Science Advisors.

Archaeological contexts with potential for environmental or industrial residual remains will be sampled. Where practicable, 30-40 litres from such contexts will be assessed. Features with a palaeoenvironmental potential will be initially sampled and floated through graduated sieves. If the context has the potential to contain organic residues then further sampling will take place as appropriate. The sampling of contexts such as linear ditch fills will target the primary ditch silts as these have the potential to inform on the contemporary landscape at the time the ditch was initially cut and in use, but given the taphonomic problems associated with secondary ditch fills and their potential for intrusive and residual material, these will not be assessed in the same level of detail. Samples will be taken where, for example, they may inform about the re-use or change in use of a feature.

The field method for palaeoenvironmental assessment will include putting 100% of samples through a 10mm mesh and then collecting the residue (this will remove the larger pebbles in the gravel as well as maximise finds recovery of lithics and pottery). However, where there is a possibility of human or animal remains being present, including cremated human remains, the whole sample will be floated. Of the remaining material 10 litres (or all of the material if it is less) will then be floated and the flots and residues collected. These will be collected in graduated brass sieves with the smallest having a minimum mesh size of 300 microns. Once the deposits have been assessed those that show good potential for further results will be floated in full.

This strategy will ensure that all deposits with potential for containing palaeoenvironmental residues (such as botanical macrofossils, animal bone and invertebrates) are assessed while at the same time ensuring that excessive time is not wasted on sterile deposits that will add nothing to furthering understanding.

Furthermore, it will mean that any further work can be targeted specifically to those deposits that have demonstrable potential.

Deposits with the potential for industrial residues will be bulk sampled for specialist processing off site.

### **3.5 Site Recording**

Areas observed will be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on a 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area. The site will be recorded using a single context planning system in accordance with the ARS Ltd field recording manual.

A full and proper record (written, graphic and photographic as appropriate) will be made for all work, using pro-forma record sheets and text descriptions appropriate to the work. Accurate scale plans and section drawings will be drawn at 1:100, 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 scales as appropriate.

The stratigraphy of the site will be recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified.

All archaeological deposits and features will be recorded with above ordnance datum (AOD) levels.

A photographic record of all contexts will be taken in high-resolution colour digital and black and white print and will include a clearly visible, graduated metric scale. A register of all photographs will be kept. A selection of working shots will also be taken to demonstrate how the site was investigated and what the prevailing conditions were like during excavation.

A diary of the progress of the archaeological work will be kept including details of liaison and monitoring meetings, visits and record of staff on site.

### **3.6 Post-Fieldwork**

Following completion of the watching brief ARS Ltd will produce a report which will include (as a minimum):

- Non-technical summary
- Introductory statement
- Aims and purpose of the project
- Methodology
- A location plan showing all observed 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 this specification
- A copy of the OASIS form

As an IfA Registered Organisation, ARS Ltd only use specialists who can provide the required level of expertise. The following specialists will be employed where required:

- Prehistoric finds – Dr. Clive Waddington (ARS Ltd)
- Botanical Macrofossils – Paul Flintoft (ARS Ltd)
- Human Remains – Kate Mapplethorpe (ARS Ltd)
- Animal Bone – Louisa Gidney (Durham University) or Jen Wood (osteoaarchaeologyservices)
- Pollen – Dr. Ben Gearey (Birmingham Archaeo-Environmental)
- Medieval and post-medieval pottery – Chris Cumberpatch
- Clay Pipe – Suzie White
- Glass – Dr. Hugh Willmott
- Industrial Metallurgist – Rod Mackenzie



#### **4. ARCHIVING REQUIREMENTS**

The site archive shall contain all the data collected during the investigative work, including records, artefacts and ecofacts. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. Adequate budget will be included from the inception of the project to allow for the satisfactory compilation and deposition of the archive, including the storage charges now payable. The building recording will be offered to Sheffield Archives in the first instance for curation, while the below ground archive (watching brief element) will be offered to Museum Sheffield.

ARS Ltd will either arrange for copyright on the deposited material to be assigned to the archive, or will licence the archive to use the material, in perpetuity; this licence would allow the archive to reproduce material, including for use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.

Adequate resources shall be provided during fieldwork to ensure that records are checked and internally consistent.

The integrity of the primary field record will be preserved. Security copies in digital format will be maintained where appropriate.

The archiving process will follow that now required by the recently published *Archaeological Archive Deposition Policy for Museums in Yorkshire and the Humber* (Turnpenny 2012).

A summary report of an appropriate length, accompanied by illustrations, will be prepared and submitted in digital format, for publication in *Archaeology in South Yorkshire*.

Provision will also be made for publicising the results of the work locally by offering papers to local forums or presenting work to interested local history groups and societies.

#### **5. MONITORING**

SYAS will be responsible for monitoring the archaeological work as set out, and ARS Ltd will give at least two weeks' notice of commencement of all stages of fieldwork.

The need for contingency work to be undertaken will be discussed with and agreed by SYAS whilst work is on-going. Any alterations to the agreed programme, found to be necessary, will also be discussed and agreed between ARS Ltd and SYAS.

The fieldwork will be undertaken by Alvaro Mora-Ottomano, who has previously undertaken work on the site, and will provide continuity through the course of the project. In the event of substantial/significant remains being exposed in the watching brief, additional resources will be made available.

#### **6. HEALTH AND SAFETY**

A full health and safety risk assessment will be carried out prior to each episode of fieldwork commencing. All people working on the site will be briefed on the safety requirements whilst working on-site and given access to a copy of the risk assessment and all ARS Ltd staff working on the site will undergo a Health and Safety induction to working at each quarry site. ARS Ltd maintains a strict health and safety policy and the appointed Health and Safety Officer for the company is Chris Scott.

## **REFERENCES**

Davies, G. and Mora-Ottomano, A. 2012. *The Former Sydney Works, Matilda Street, Sheffield. An Archaeological and Historic Building Assessment in Advance of the Proposed UTC Redevelopment.* Unpublished report prepared by Archaeological Research Services Ltd for Mott Macdonald.

Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG), Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and English Heritage (EH). 2010. *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide.* London, TSO.

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Turnpenny, M. 2012. *Archaeological Archive Deposition Policy for Museums in Yorkshire and the Humber.* Guidelines prepared by York Museums Trust for Renaissance Yorkshire.

Walker, K. 1990. *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage.* London, UKIC

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**OASIS ID: archaeol5-138534**

### Project details

Project name	the former sydney Works, matilda Street, Sheffield --Watching brief
Short description of the project	watching brief during groundwork for the construction of new foundation and services trenches. no significant archaeology found.
Project dates	Start: 15-09-2012 End: 15-10-2012
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SOUTH YORKSHIRE SHEFFIELD SHEFFIELD the former Sydney Works, Matilda Street, Sheffield
Study area	200.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	SK 3550 8660 53 -1 53 22 29 N 001 27 58 W Point

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project brief originator	South Yorkshire Archaeology Service
Project design originator	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project director/manager	Mike Wood
Project supervisor	Alvaro Mora-Ottomano

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive Exists?	No

### Project bibliography

1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	The former Sydney Works, Matilda Street, Sheffield. An archaeological watching brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Mora-Ottomano, A.
Date	2012
Issuer or publisher	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Bakewell
Entered by	Alvaro Mora-Ottomano (alvaro@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)
Entered on	17 September 2013

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