Brimington Surgery, Church Street, Brimington, Derbyshire.

Archaeological Watching Brief



General view of the investigation area to the front of the surgery

ARS Ltd Report 2013/25 March 2013 OASIS ID: archaeol5 – 145265

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Brimington Surgery, Church Street, Brimington, Derbyshire.

Archaeological Watching Brief

ARS Ltd Report 2013/25

Archaeological Research Services Ltd

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Executive Summary

In March 2013 Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Brimington Surgery to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Brimington Surgery, Church Street, Brimington, Derbyshire. The monitoring was carried out during ground-works relating to an extension on the front of the existing Brimington Surgery building.

The archaeological watching brief identified the remains of a former back-to-back cellar composed of two parallel N·NW/S·SE sandstone walls with a flagstone floor in between. These structural remains formed part of former terraced houses, depicted from the 1835, fronting Church Street. These were demolished in the mid 20^{tb} century as indicated by Ordnance Survey maps. These terraced houses might have originally dated from the early 19^{tb} century.

The natural sub-stratum, consisting mainly of clay with lamination of sandstone and coal seams, was encountered to the east of the watching brief area at 700/800mm below the present ground level.

The easternmost trench was substantially disturbed by a series of services trenches/pipes. No further archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were identified.

1 Introduction

1.1 In March 2013 Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) was commissioned by Brimington Surgery to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Brimington Surgery, Church Street, Brimington, Derbyshire. The work was carried out during groundworks relating to an extension to front of the existing Brimington Surgery building. The work required the excavation of one foundation trench.

1.2 The site is centred at NGR SK 40357 73501 in the centre of Brimington. The surgery is accessed off Church Street.

1.3 The investigation area lies upon Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation, comprising interbedded grey mudstone, siltstone and pale grey sandstone, commonly with mudstones containing marine fossils in the lower part, and more numerous and thicker coal seams in the upper part (British Geological Survey 2012).

1.4 The development area is situated 125m south-west of the Church of St Michael and All Angels (HER record number 2515) which was constructed in 1847 over the site of two earlier chapels of medieval date. The earliest documentary evidence of the establishment of a chapel at this site dates to the late 13th century (Tinsley 2009).

1.5 The site of Brimington Hall (HER record number 2509) lies within a 250m radius of the proposed investigation area. The building is now demolished and although the exact date of the building is unknown, parts of the building such as the hood moulds to the windows suggest 16th century work, and a portion of the old north-west wall indicate an early 15th century date.

1.6 Medieval earthworks (HER record number 2504) in the form of ridge and furrow and building platforms also lie within a 250m radius of the site.

1.7 Historic mapping of the area indicates that a series of dwellings fronted on to Church Street immediately north of the current medical surgery as well as to the south fronting on to Hall Road. These structures appear on maps of the location as early as 1835 but the date of their origin is unknown. To the south of the surgery development has been less intense, with open yard areas and insubstantial outbuildings indicated on historic mapping. All of these buildings and outbuildings were cleared during the 20th century, before the existing surgery was built on the site, and the extent to which this demolition and clearance may have impacted on below-ground archaeology is not known.

1.8 Previous excavation by ARS Ltd in 2009 identified a single brick lined cut feature (HER record number 2517) which probably represents a post-medieval air shaft or well (Tinsley 2009).

1.9 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 Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologist of North East Derbyshire District Council (Appendix I). 1.10 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) and 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.

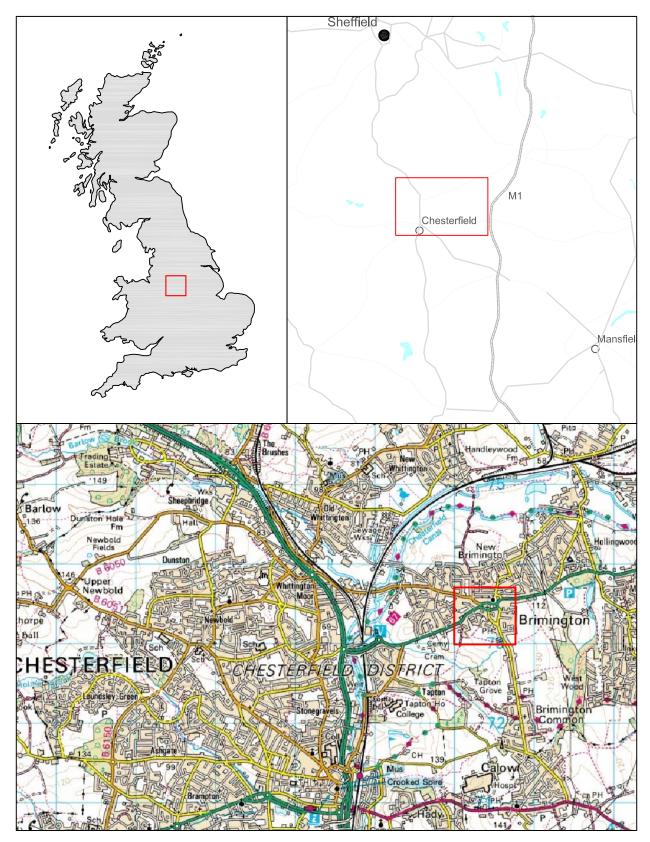


Figure 1. Site Location

2 Aims and Objectives

2.1 The objective of the watching brief was to ensure that any archaeological features encountered during the ground-works for the extension were recorded and interpreted.

3 Methodology

3.1 A detailed project design –Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)– was prepared by Archaeological Research Services (ARS) Ltd. which was subsequently approved by Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologists of North Derbyshire District Council (Appendix I).

3.2 ARS Ltd provided an archaeological officer at all times during the ground-works. A toothless ditching bucket was used at all times. The on-site archaeologist was given the opportunity to stop site work in order to investigate and fully record any exposed archaeological features such as masonry or floors. Adequate time was allowed for the recording of any such features.

3.3 Where any features of potential archaeological significance were identified by the archaeologist, all further excavation was carried out by hand.

3.4 The archaeologist inspected and monitored the upcast spoil from the excavations.

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

3.6 Where archaeological features and/or deposits were identified during the watching brief, then a sufficient quantity of the said features were investigated by hand to allow their date, nature and degree of survival to be ascribed. All features thus investigated were recorded in plan and section and any significant archaeological finds recovered were retained for analysis. Any archaeological features identified were 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 observable, was recorded.

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

3.8 The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the respective guidance by the Institute for Archaeologists (2008).

3.9 ARS Ltd ensured that heavy plant or machinery was not operated in the immediate vicinity of archaeological remains until the remains had been recorded.

3.10 A risk assessment was undertaken before commencement of the work and health and safety regulations were adhered to at all times.

4 Results

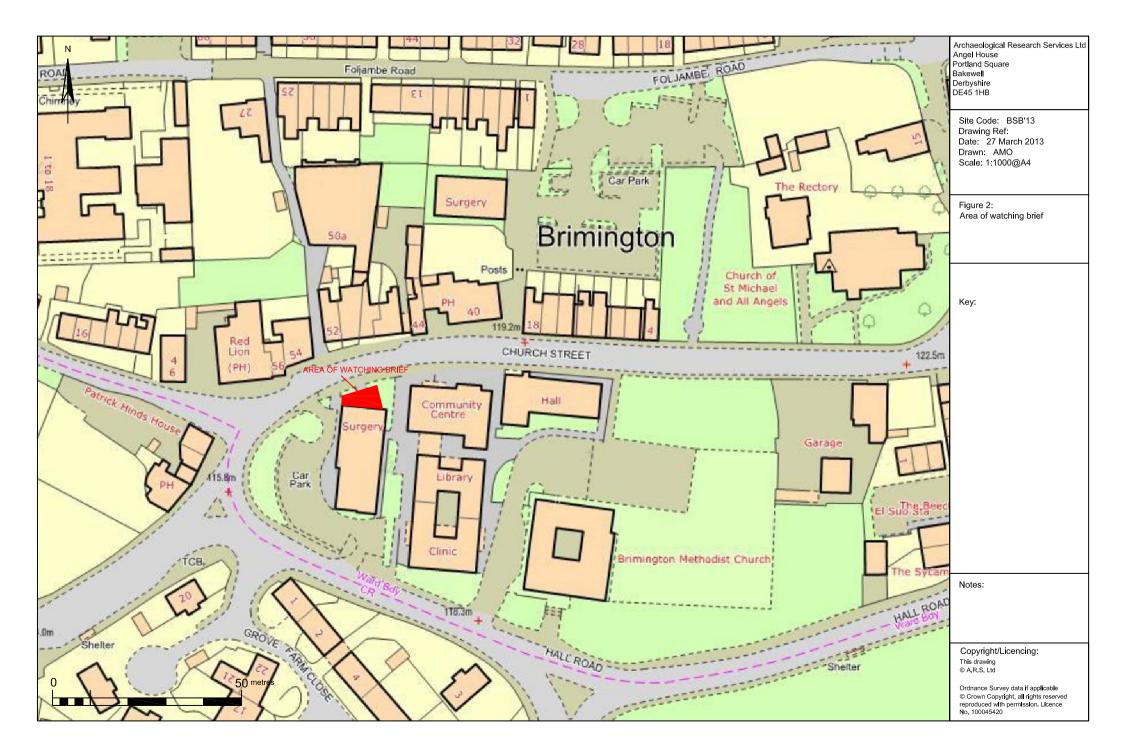
4.1 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the 8th March 2013 to observe the ground-works associated with the construction of an extension to the front of the surgery (Fig. 4). The location of the excavated trench is shown on the site plan (Fig. 2). A detailed plan of the excavated trench is also included on a plan (Fig. 3). The excavation consisted of an L-shaped foundation trench, measuring approximately 9 metres (E/W) and 6 metres (N/S) in length, 1 metre in width and reached a maximum depth of 1.50 metres within the western half of the long E/W trench and an overall depth of 300/400mm within the eastern half of the long trench and its N/S return towards the surgery building.

4.2 The stratigraphic sequence consisted of a thin layer of topsoil (eastern side) and a paved concrete surface (western side) which in turn overlay a thin layer of made-up ground. Beneath the aforementioned overburden deposits, a substantial sandstone wall (105) was uncovered at 350mm below the present ground level (Fig. 5). This wall was aligned N·NW/S·SE and was built with coursed roughly hewn sandstone rubble, bonded with yellowish white lime mortar. The remains, which extend beyond the foundation trench, were part of a back-to-back cellar as the deposits around the wall consisted of mixed demolition material (including standard brick fragments) backfilling the cellars. Indeed, backfill deposit (107) to the east of the wall was fully excavated, revealing a flagstone floor (104) to a depth of approximately 1.50 metres below the ground level (Fig. 6).

4.3 An equivalent and parallel wall (106) was found approximately 3.50 metres to the east (Fig. 6). The natural sub-stratum, consisting mainly of clay with lamination of sandstone and coal seams, was encountered to the east of the latter wall at 700/800mm below the present ground level (Figs 7 and 8).

4.4 These structural remains formed part of former terraced houses, depicted from the 1835, fronting Church Street. These were demolished in the mid 20th century as there are no indications of these properties on Ordnance Survey maps dated after the 1950s edition. These terraced houses might have originally dated from the early 19th century.

4.5 The easternmost trench was substantially disturbed by a series of services trenches/pipes. No further archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were identified.



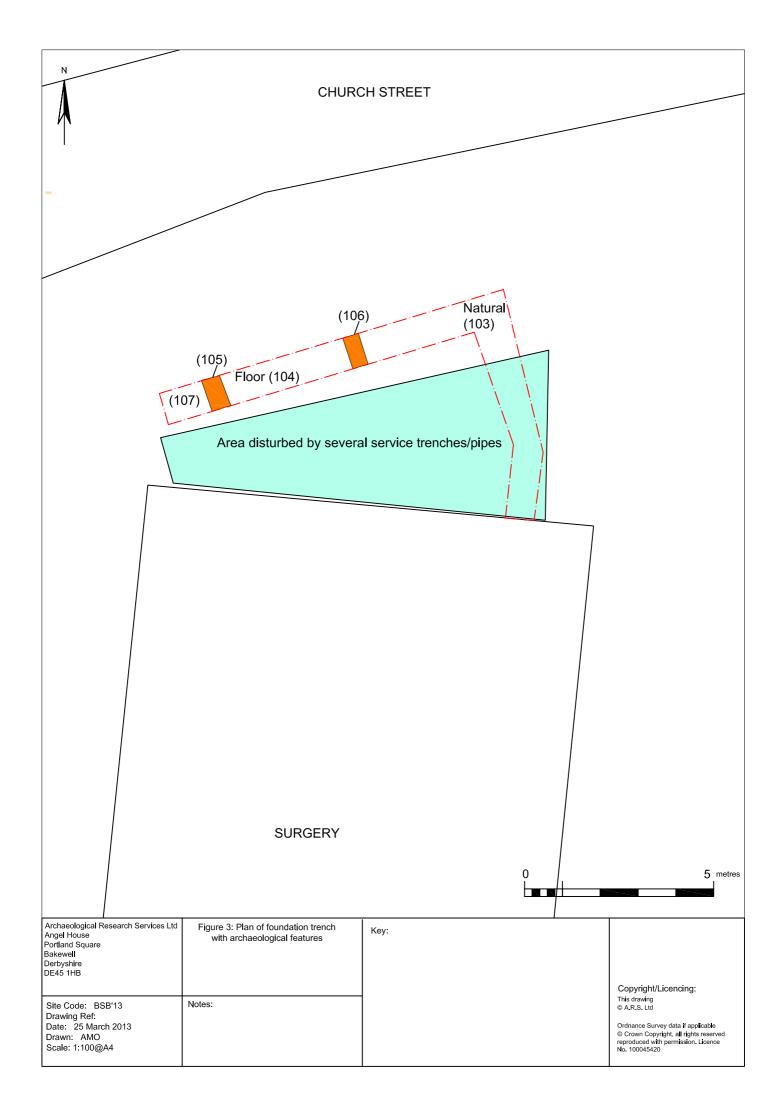




Figure 4: Excavation to the front of the surgery, looking south



Figure 5: Wall (105), looking north (scale 1m)



Figure 6: Wall (105) and flagstone floor (107), looking east (scale 1m)



Figure 7: Wall (106) between a seam of coal and cellar backfill (104), looking west (scale 1m)



Figure 8: Natural sub-stratum revealed within the eastern side of the trench, looking north (scale 1m)

5 Conclusion

5.1 The archaeological watching brief identified the remains of a former back-to-back cellar composed of two parallel N·NW/S·SE sandstone walls

5.2 with a flagstone floor in between. These structural remains formed part of former terraced houses, depicted from the 1835, fronting Church Street. These were demolished in the mid 20th century as indicated by Ordnance Survey maps. These terraced houses might have originally dated from the early 19th century.

5.3 The natural sub-stratum, consisting mainly of clay with lamination of sandstone and coal seams, was encountered to the east of the watching brief area at 700/800mm below the present ground level.

5.3 The easternmost trench was substantially disturbed by a series of services trenches/pipes. No further archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were identified.

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 and is intended to be deposited at the Chesterfield Museum (accession number 2013.13) in November 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.

10 Acknowledgements

10.1 Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank all those involved with the archaeological project, especially the building contractor, staff of Brimington Surgery and Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologist of North East Derbyshire District Council for monitoring and providing advise throughout the project.

11 References

British Geological Survey 2012. Geology of Britain Viewer [online]. Available at: <u>http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html?src=topNav</u> [Accessed 14th January 2013].

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) 2010. *Planning Policy Statement* 5: *Planning for the Historic Environment*. London, The Stationery Office.

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) 2012. *National Planning Policy Framework*. London, The Stationery Office.

IfA 2008. *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief.* Available online at: <u>http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa_standards_watching.pdf</u> [Accessed 14th January 2013].

Tinsley, A. 2009. Brimington Surgery, Church Street, Brimington, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. Report on a Watching Brief. Bakewell: ARS Ltd. Unpublished client report, ARS Ltd Report No. 2009/65

APPENDIX I: SPECIFICATIONS

Brimington Surgery, Church Street, Brimington, Derbyshire.

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief



1. Introduction

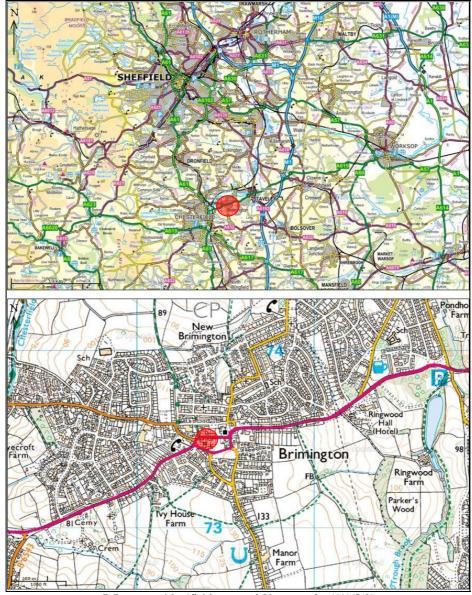
- 1.1. This scheme of works relates to a proposed extension to Brimington Surgery, Church Street, Brimington, Derbyshire (NGR SK 40357 73501) (figure 1). The site lies within an area likely to contain buried archaeological deposits potentially relating to the medieval core of Brimington.
- 1.2. The local planning authority's development control archaeologist has recommend that a programme of archaeological monitoring be carried out to address the heritage information requirements of NPPF para 128 (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012).
- 1.3. This document is a written scheme of investigation (WSI) confirming the nature of the archaeological watching brief to be undertaken by Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd).

2. Background

- 2.1. The development area is situated 125m south-west of the Church of St Michael and All Angels (HER record number 2515) which was constructed in 1847 over the site of two earlier chapels of medieval date. The earliest documentary evidence of the establishment of a chapel at this site dates to the late 13th century (Tinsley 2009).
- 2.2. The site of Brimington Hall (HER record number 2509) lies within a 250m radius of the proposed investigation area. The building is now demolished and although the exact date of the building is unknown, parts of the building such as the hood moulds to the windows suggest 16th century work, and a portion of the old north-west wall indicate an early 15th century date.
- 2.3. Medieval earthworks (HER record number 2504) in the form of ridge and furrow and building platforms also lie within a 250m radius of the site.
- 2.4. Historic mapping of the area indicates that a series of dwellings fronted on to Church Street immediately north of the current medical surgery as well as to the south fronting on to Hall Road. These structures appear on maps of the location as early as 1835 but the date of their origin is unknown. To the south of the surgery development has been less intense, with open yard areas and insubstantial outbuildings indicated on historic mapping. All of these buildings and outbuildings were cleared during the 20th century,

before the existing surgery was built on the site, and the extent to which this demolition and clearance may have impacted on below-ground archaeology is not known.

- 2.5. Previous excavation by ARS Ltd in 2009 identified a single brick lined cut feature (HER record number 2517) which probably represents a post-medieval air shaft or well (Tinsley 2009).
- 2.6. Consideration of the above evidence suggests high potential for below-ground archaeology relating to medieval and post-medieval occupation within the investigation area.



© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100045420 Figure 1: Site location (circled in red)

3. Objectives

3.1. The objective of the watching brief is to ensure that any archaeological features encountered during the course of the groundworks are recorded and interpreted.

4. Fieldwork Methodology

- 4.1. The groundworks will be undertaken by a suitable mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. 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 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.
- 4.2. Excavation will be carried out in spits. This will provide the maximum visibility of cut features such as postholes and pits, and avoid damage to any buried structural remains. The attending archaeologist will supervise mechanical excavation to ensure maximum archaeological visibility.
- 4.3. ARS Ltd will provide an archaeological officer 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.
- 4.4. 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.
- 4.5. 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.
- 4.6. 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).
- 4.7. 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.

- 4.8. The watching brief will be undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2008) and *Code of Conduct* (2012).
- 4.9. Any human remains discovered 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.
- 4.10. ARS 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 archaeological officer on site.
- 4.11. A risk assessment will be undertaken before commencement of the work and health and safety regulations will be adhered to at all times.

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 section 8 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 ARS Ltd will inspect and monitor the upcast spoil from the site investigations, and unstratified pottery will be retained only if it is of early post-medieval date, or earlier.
- 5.5. It is not considered likely that waterlogged or palaeoenvironmental will be encountered at any stage of this project. However, should such remains be identified work will cease and a meeting arranged between ARS Ltd, the landowner and the Development Control Archaeologist to discuss further procedures.

6. Monitoring Arrangements

6.1. Reasonable prior notice of the commencement of the ground works will be given to the Derbyshire County Council Development Control Archaeologist. The DCA contact will be:

Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologist, Derbyshire County Council, Shand House, Dale Road South, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3RY

steve.baker.@derbyshire.gov.uk Tel: 01629 585146 Mob: 07781 850742 Fax: 01629 585507

6.2. ARS Ltd will liaise with the Derbyshire Development Control Archaeologist at regular intervals throughout the course of the work, and the Development Control Archaeologist will be notified of any findings promptly upon completion of the project.

7. Report

- 7.1. 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 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 WSI

- A copy of the OASIS form
- 7.2. A single bound copy of the report along with a .pdf copy on digital CD 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. The archive will be deposited at:

Chesterfield Museum and Art Gallery

St Mary's Gate Chesterfield Derbyshire S41 7TD Tel: 01246 345727 Fax: 01246 345720 <u>museum@chesterfield.gov.uk</u>

- 8.2. An accession number has been assigned (2013.10). 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.
- 8.3. All artefacts and associated material will be cleaned, recorded, properly stored and deposited in the archive (see above).
- 8.4. 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.
- 8.5. At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <u>http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/</u> 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 Development Control 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

Department for Communities and Local Government. 2012. National Planning Policy Framework. Available online at: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/21</u> <u>16950.pdf</u> [Accessed 4th Macrh 2012].

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OASIS ID: archaeol5-145265

Project details

Project name	Brimington	Surgery
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Short description of the project	In March 2013 Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Brimington Surgery to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Brimington Surgery, Church Street, Brimington, Derbyshire. The monitoring was carried out during groundworks relating to an extension on the front of the existing Brimington Surgery building. The work had been requested by the Development Control Archaeologist for Derbyshire County Council and required an archaeologist to be on site to observe all ground works and to ensure preservation by record of any archaeological deposits discovered. The watching brief partially revealed a structure consisting of two sandstone walls with an inner paved flagstone surface. The position of this structure roughly relates to the mapped position of known dwellings on Church Street identified on an 1876 Ordnance Survey map. No further significant archaeological features, deposits, buried land surfaces or small finds were identified within the extent of excavation.
Project dates	Start: 08-03-2013 End: 08-03-2013

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Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Other 2 - In use as a building
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"

Project location

Country	England
Site location	DERBYSHIRE CHESTERFIELD BRIMINGTON Brimington Surgery

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project brief originator	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project design originator	Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Project
director/managerRobin HolgateProject
supervisorAlvaro Mora-Ottomano

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	Chesterfield Museum
Digital Archive recipient	Chesterfield Museum
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Chesterfield Museum
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Publication type	
Title	Brimington Surgery, Church Street, Brimington, Derbyshire
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Mora-Ottomano, A.
Other bibliographic details	ARS Report NUmber 2013/25
Date	2013
lssuer or publisher	ARS Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Bakewell
Description	Watching Brief Report
Entered by Entered on	Alvaro Mora-Ottomano (alvaro@archaeologicalresearchservices.com) 8 October 2013

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