Buxton and Leek College Campus, Leek, Staffordshire

Archaeological building recording and watching brief (Volume 2)

Northernmost area of the College Campus, looking south.

ARS Ltd Report 2014/44
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Buxton and Leek College Campus, Leek, Staffordshire

Archaeological building recording and watching brief (Volume 2)

ARS Ltd Report 2014/44

Archaeological Research Services Ltd

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During March and May 2014 Archaeological Research Services Ltd undertook an archaeological watching brief at Buxton and Leek College Campus, Leek, Staffordshire, as part of a planning condition. The watching brief related to the ground-works following the demolition of the Carr Gymnasium and Mill Block, additional ground-works within the entire site and a detail recording of an ex situ late medieval plaster ceiling mounted on a wall of the Carr Gymnasium. The archaeological work also involved an archaeological building recording of two buildings within the campus: the Carr Gymnasium and Mill Bloc prior to their demolition. This report (Volume 2) deals with the archaeological watching brief and recording of the ex situ late medieval plaster ceiling. The results of the archaeological building recording have been submitted within an additional document (i.e. Volume 1).

The results of the archaeological watching brief related to the ground-works at the Buxton and Leek College Campus did not reveal significant archaeological features, deposits or artefacts except for a few residual fragments of pottery and clay pipe of 18th – 20th centuries date.

The recording of the ex situ early 17th century decorated plaster ceiling mounted on an internal wall of the Carr Gymnasium revealed that it consisted of two different panels, although most likely to be from the same ceiling. The ceiling is understood to have been removed from Hall House (now the Red Lion in the Market Place) which was built by the wealthy Jolliffe family in 1607 and possibly the largest timber frame house in the area, although this might have originated from a house or structure adjacent to the Red Lion instead. The ceiling appears to have been removed from its primary building in the late 19th century following re-development of the eastern side of the Market Place in the 1890s.

The ceiling was mounted on the wall with several wrought-iron straps nailed to additional timber joists which had also been nailed to the original ceiling joists when it was removed from its primary location. The original ceiling structure of each panel comprises five timber square joists with flat chamfered edges and run-out stops. The dating of the structure may fall into the mid 17th century onwards as indicated by its typology. The ornate plaster ceiling would have been a later addition to the original ceiling structure as indicated by the chamfered edges designed to be seen, although an overall date of mid 17th century is likely based on its decoration and construction.

The ceiling was repaired in the late 19th century, presumably when the ceiling was removed from its original building and re-erected in the Carr Gymnasium when it was built in 1900.

The final dismantlement of the plaster ceiling revealed additional evidence of the proposed phase of construction of the Carr Gymnasium, establishing that the eastern wall where the ex situ plaster ceiling was mounted was part of a mid to late 19th century structure associated with a timber yard workshop.

A Time Capsule was retrieved from the masonry of the entrance block of the Carr Gymnasium during careful dismantling as this is intended to be re-erected on site as part of a new college building. The Time Capsule consists of a glass jar with an ad hoc lid which acted as the container for two local newspapers, i.e. 'The Leek Times' and 'The Leek Post' both issued on 28th July 1900, the date of the official opening of the Carr Gymnasium, and nine coins minted in the year 1900.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Proposals have been submitted to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (SMDC) for the re-development of Buxton and Leek College Campus, Stockwell Street, Leek (NGR 400508 348402, Fig. 1). A heritage assessment (Hunt Architects 2013) was submitted to the planning authority in support of the planning application. On the basis of this document, SMDC have included a condition on planning permission to secure the recording of two buildings within the campus (the Carr Gymnasium and Mill Block) prior to their demolition and any archaeological remains associated with them in advance of their demolition. This recording (Volume 1) has already been undertaken and submitted to SMDC (Mora-Ottomano 2013). The archaeological planning condition also deals with an additional watching brief consisting of the monitoring and recording any additional features identified during the demolition of the aforementioned buildings as well as the ground-works within the entire College Campus site. Furthermore, the SMDC has also secured the recording of a late medieval (early 17th century) plaster ceiling preserved within the Gymnasium. These recommendations are in line with government guidance as set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)* (DCLG 2012).

1.2 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).

1.3 This report (Volume 2) deals with a targeted archaeological watching brief of the ground-works related to the demolition of the Carr Gymnasium and Mill Block, additional ground-works within the entire site and a detailed recording of the *ex situ* late medieval plaster ceiling. The location of the archaeological watching brief areas is shown on plan (Fig. 2). Previous work involved an archaeological building recording of the Carr Gymnasium and Mill Block prior to their demolition. The results of the previous works have been submitted within an additional document (i.e. Volume 1).

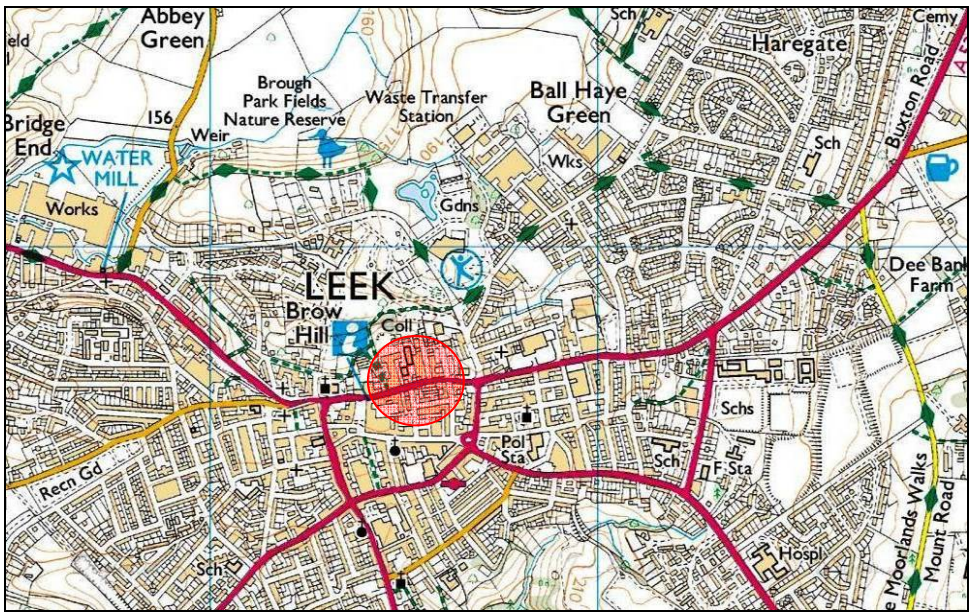

Figure 1: General site location (circled).
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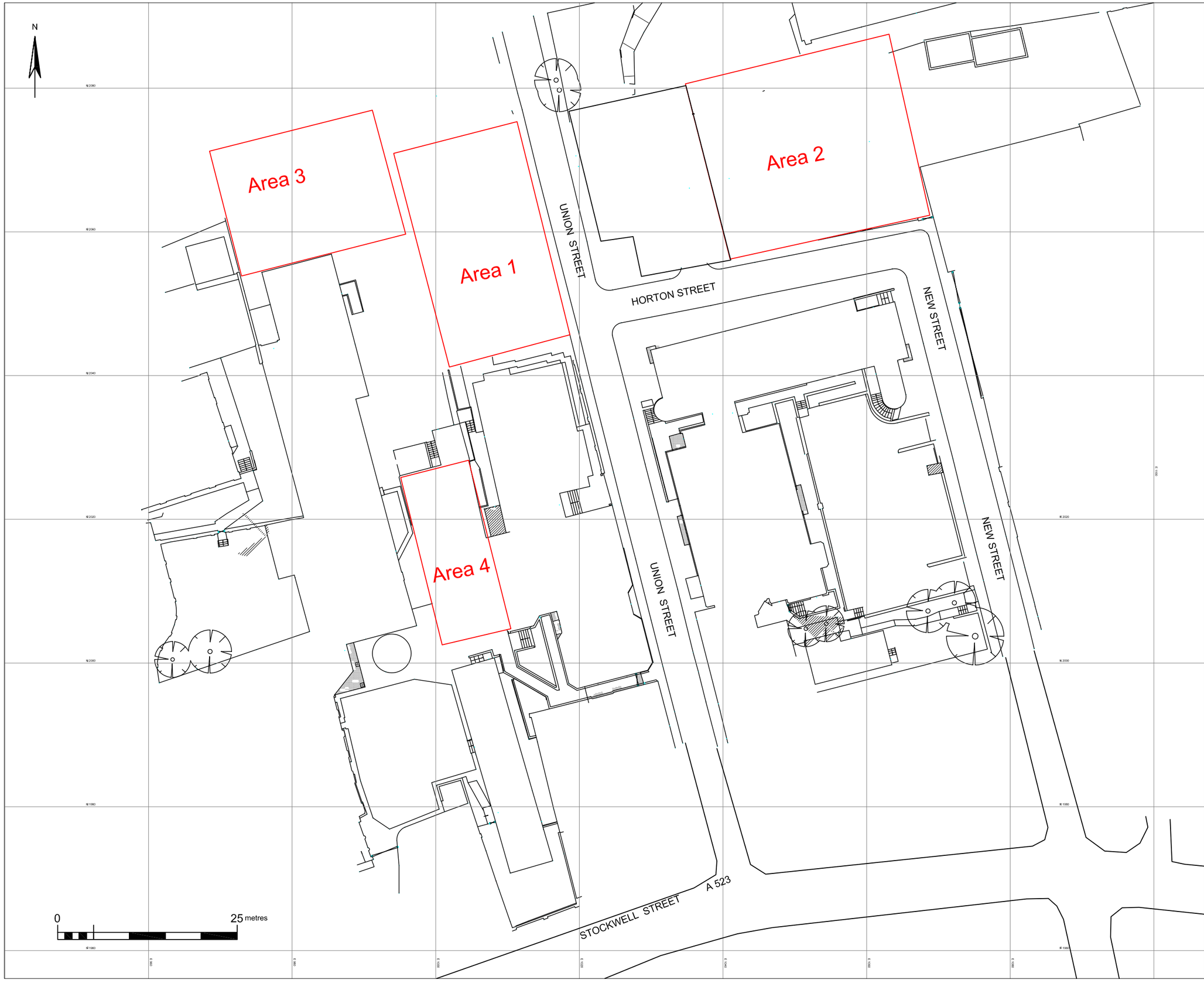

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Site Code: BLC'14
Drawing Ref:
Date: 30 June 2014
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Figure 2:

Plan of the site showing the location of the watching brief areas

Key:

Watching brief area

Notes:

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 The aim of the watching brief was to monitor all ground-works associated with the demolition of the Mill Block and the construction of new buildings on the site to determine the power source and power transmission conduits for the Mill and the presence of medieval archaeological remains within the area of the Carr Gymnasium building.

2.2 The objective of the watching brief was:

- To identify and record sub-surface archaeological remains associated with medieval urban development in the area of the scheme
- To identify and record buried archaeological remains associated in particular with the production and transmission of power throughout the Mill to be demolished
- Where appropriate to secure the recording and assessment of suitable palaeoenvironmental deposits associated with archaeological features where these are encountered during ground works.

2.3 The watching brief also aimed to record the early 17th century plaster ceiling (and its method of fixing) on the Gymnasium wall.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 A detailed brief was prepared by Stephen Dean, Principal Archaeologist, Staffordshire County Council (Appendix I), which outlines the methodology employed. The archaeological watching brief was carried out by Alvaro Mora-Ottomano (BA Hons, MSc) of ARS Ltd who is a corporate member of the Institute for Archaeologists (AIfA 5297) and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (2583AFF).

3.2 All aspects of the archaeological watching brief followed the standards outlined in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (IfA 2013a) and the *Code of Conduct* (IfA 2013b). Moreover, the recording of the plaster ceiling was conducted according to the guidelines in *Recording Historic Buildings* published by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (1996), *Understanding Historic Buildings –A guide to good recording practice* by English Heritage (2006) and the *Standards and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (revised 2008). Descriptions and structural terms used follow Brunskill (2000), Curl (1997) and Lynch (1994) wherever possible.

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

4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 The brief prepared by Stephen Dean, Principal Archaeologist, Staffordshire County Council, includes an archaeological and historical account of Leek (Appendix II). Prior to the archaeological building recording, a heritage assessment (Hunt Architects 2013) was submitted to the planning authority in support of the planning application. The assessment

includes a concise historical and archaeological background of the site, supplemented by cartographic and pictographic records. Further revised study concerned with the campus site is incorporated within an archaeological building recording report submitted to SMDC as part of the planning condition concerned here (Mora-Ottomano 2013). Thus, these documents should be used in conjunction with this report.

5 RESULTS

The watching brief was undertaken in four areas within the College Campus site whose location is shown on plan (Fig. 2). The results are then sub-divided by the relevant areas including the *ex situ* plaster ceiling inside the Carr Gymnasium.

5.1 Area 1

5.1.1 This area was located within and around the footprint of the Mill which was monitored during demolition, as part of an intra-demolition strategy, and subsequent ground-works. Following the demolition of the standing Mill structure, the stratigraphic sequence encountered during the watching brief consisted of a concrete floor surface (101), with an overall thickness of 150mm, with a basal thin plastic sheeting. Directly beneath this concrete floor there was a layer of clean medium sand (102), approximately 100mm thick, which overlay Type 1 hardcore (103) comprising large angular gravel, approximately 100mm thick, used as bedding for the concrete floor. All of these layers were present across the entirety of the site (Area 1).

5.1.2 Directly underneath the floor surfaces was a thick layer composed of brown and occasional orange mottles silty clay with lenses of fine sand (104), yielding a maximum thickness of 2 metres towards the northern end of Area 1 and 900mm at the southern end. This was fairly compacted, and it seems likely that this deposit was placed prior to the construction of the Mill in order to level the site and prepare the ground for its construction.

5.1.3 The natural sub-stratum (105) was encountered immediately below the levelling layer and consisted of a pale yellow and blue silty clay layer with large stone inclusions and patches of dark grey mudstone particularly towards the southern end of the site. The excavation did not expose any traces of the former transmission power mechanism of the former Mill. Furthermore, no archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were identified (Figs 3 – 7).

Figure 3: Concrete floor of the demolished Mill block, looking north.

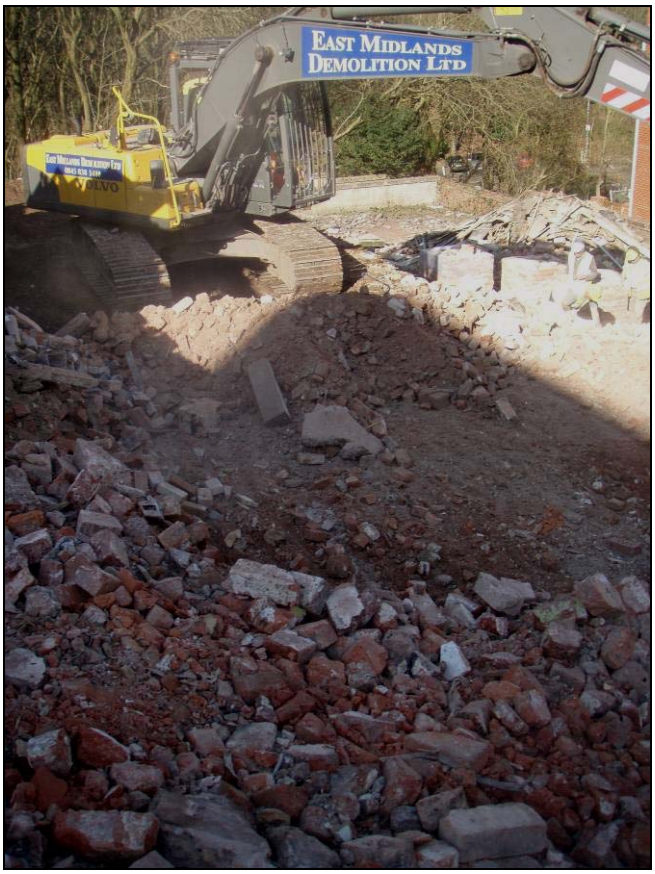


Figure 4: General view of the excavation of the Mill's ground floor, looking north.

Figure 5: Made ground layer beneath the concrete floor of the Mill, looking north.

Figure 6: Excavation of the made ground layer, looking east.

Figure 7: Stratigraphic sequence down to the natural sub-stratum.

5.2 Area 2

5.2.1 This area was located along the northern side of Horton Street and immediately to the east of a recently built 'Engineering Building' which forms part of the present College Campus re-development. The entire area is divided into two terraced parcels with a revetment along the central east/west axis of the area creating the sub-divisions. The northern sub-division appears to have already been reduced considerably disturbing therefore the horizon of the natural sub-stratum. No excavation will be undertaken within this sub-division but instead it will be raised with a new made ground layer.

5.2.2 The southern (upper) sub-division was formerly occupied by a building whose construction appears to have reduced partially the horizon of the natural sub-stratum. Indeed, the stratigraphic sequence prior to the construction of the former building was observed within the edge of the excavation area. It was established that the entire site was covered by a made ground layer (201) composed of dark brown silty clay with frequent fragments of modern demolition material forming therefore the so-called overburden. This overlay a sub-soil layer (202) with an overall thickness of 400mm which in turn overlay the natural sub-stratum (203) composed of yellowish clay (Figs 8 – 10). The proposed construction within this area will involve piling foundations whose steel capping and linking joists will be constructed within a made layer that is going to be laid over the already truncated natural horizon. Thus this area produced negative results. Moreover, no artefacts (even residual and/or unstratified) were identified.

Figure 8: Excavation of Area 2, looking west.

Figure 9: North-facing section showing the stratigraphy of Area 2, looking south-west (scale 1m).

Figure 10: Detail of the stratigraphic sequence, looking south (scale 1m).

5.3 Area 3

5.3.1 This area was located immediately to the north of the so-called 'Main Building' of the College Campus which will cover the western section of the proposed 'School of Art' building extending eastwards to Union Street. The southern section of this area was reduced to a maximum of 1.10 metres sloping down gradually northwards. The northern section was hardly excavated as only a thin tarmac surface was removed. The overall overburden (301) yielded a thickness of 700mm throughout the area. This overlay a made ground (302) which was rather uneven and contained numerous services trenches. This made ground layer, composed of dark brownish grey firm silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks, produced four fragments of clay pipe stems, and six sherds of white glazed pottery. These artefacts, although residual, represent 18th – 20th centuries utilitarian objects used for storage, preparation and consumption of food, drink, etc. which are by no means unusual within the character of such a made ground/levelling layer.

5.3.2 Small pockets of sub-soil (303) were observed within the southern section of the excavated area. Its thickness was established following a small sondage excavated in close proximity to the Main Building to the south and was also observed along the western edge of Area 3. This consisted of mid greyish brown firm silty clay with an overall thickness of 20mm thick. The sub-soil overlay the natural sub-stratum (304) which was composed of light yellowish brown clay, and its undisturbed horizon was established at a height of 189.39 metres AOD (Figs 11 – 15).

Figure 11: General view of Area 3, looking south.

Figure 12: Excavated southern section of Area 3, looking west (scale 1m).

Figure 13: Detail of the stratigraphic sequence of Area 3, looking west (scale 1m).

Figure 14: Sondage in close proximity to the 'Main Building' to the south, looking east (scale 1m).

Figure 15: Detail of excavated sondage through the sub-soil exposing the natural clay sub-stratum (scale 1m).

5.4 Area 4

5.4.1 This area corresponds to the Carr Gymnasium where the archaeological watching brief aimed to determine the presence of medieval archaeological remains. However, the ground-works involved during the demolition programme was deemed to not warrant archaeological monitoring as it entails dismantling the concrete floor with no further ground reduction. Moreover, the present ground floor level of the Gymnasium is much lower that the ground surface surrounding the building's footprint. In addition to this, the natural sub-stratum within the adjacent Area 3 was established at approximately 1 metre higher than the present concrete floor which may imply that the natural horizon had been partially truncated. At any rate, the existing concrete floor's make-up/levelling layer is not intended to be excavated and instead a new thick layer would be laid as the sub-base for a raised area with terraced steps and landscaping as part of the proposed re-development. Therefore, following discussions with Stephen Dean, Principal Archaeologist for Staffordshire County Council, it was agreed that a watching brief on the ground-works would not be necessary in this instance.

5.5 Plaster ceiling

5.5.1 Although no below ground recording and monitoring was necessary within the Carr Gymnasium, an *ex situ* early 17th century plaster ceiling mounted on an internal wall was the subject of a rigorous recording prior to the demolition of the building. The plaster ceiling will be retained but special attention was given to the method employed to fix the ceiling to the wall. The plaster ceiling was protected with a metallic mesh and mounted on the wall with

several wrought-iron straps nailed to additional timber joists which had also been nailed to the original ceiling joists when it was removed from its primary location (Figs 16 – 18). Although the ceiling appears to be a single panel, close inspection enabled establishing that it is composed of two separated panels (Panel 1 to the left and Panel 2 to the right) carefully joined together. This was clearly perceived following their dismantlement showing that each panel contains a separate frame and iron straps fixed into the wall (Figs 19 and 20).

5.5.2 Following the removal of the metallic mesh and prior to the application of a dressing cover, as part of the conservation operation, the panels were recorded photographically in detail. Despite being currently separate panels, they are most likely to be part of the same ceiling as they share equivalent decoration and matching dimensions, including their moulded framing border. It is understood to have been removed from Hall House (now the Red Lion in the Market Place) which was built by the wealthy Jolliffe family in 1607 and possibly the largest timber frame house in the area situated on the east side of the Market Place. It was built, apparently in 1607, by Thomas Jolliffe, who like earlier members of his family had prospered in the wool trade. It contained an ornamented plaster ceiling with a representation of the triumph of death and symmetrical foliated low relief design.

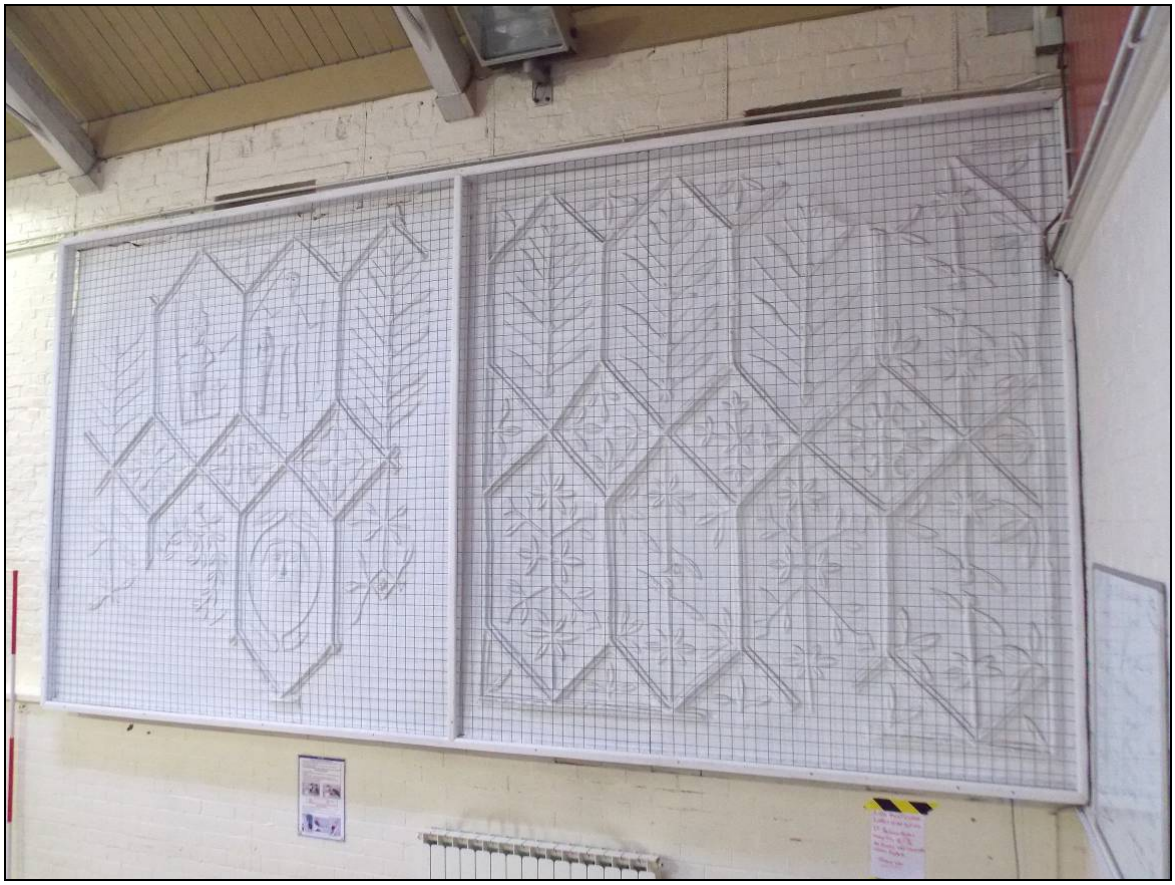


Figure 16: Plaster ceiling protected with a metallic wired mesh (scale 2m).

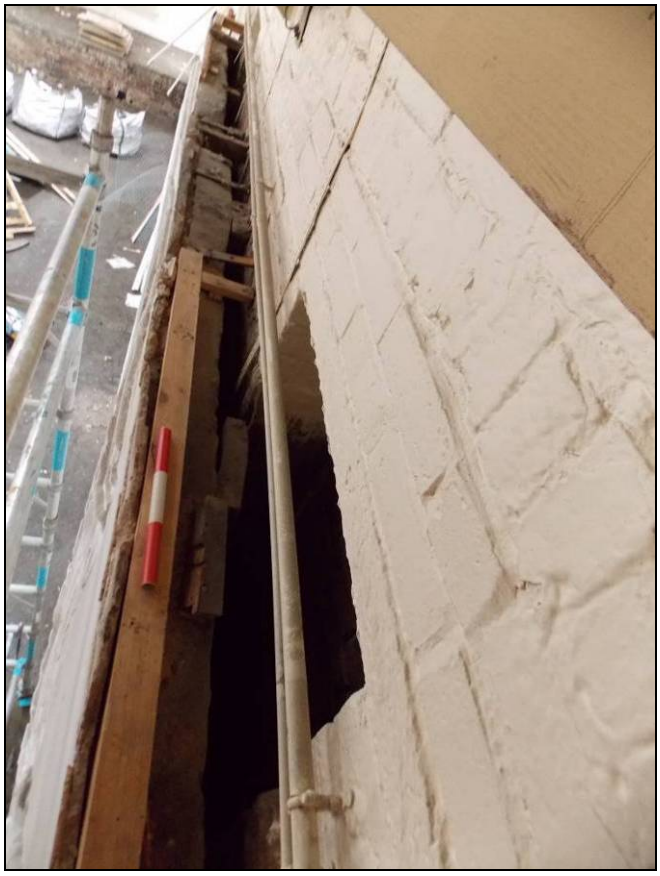


Figure 17: Upper edge of the plaster ceiling mounted on the east wall (scale 300mm).

Figure 18: Lateral edge of the plaster ceiling mounted on the east wall, looking south.

Figure 19: Panel 1 fully dismantled from the wall.

Figure 20: Detail of iron strap supporting the frame of Panel 2.

Panel 1

5.5.3 Panel 1 measures 2.70 metres in height, 2.74 metres in width and *c.*150mm in thickness. The low relief design is framed with a thin moulded rib with internal sub-divisions in triangular, square kite and elongated hexagonal shapes creating plates or boards with internal designs including the representation of the triumph of death amongst foliated plates, although no detailed assessment of the art and meaning of the plasterwork appears to have been conducted. The low relief has suffered some deterioration and later repair are discernable (Figs 21 – 23). The edges of the plaster are either concealed with later scantling battens or repaired with later plaster. The representation of the death depicts an anthropomorphized skeleton with a long spade (on the left hand) and a lance (on the right hand). Adjacent to the death is a person which appears to be wrapped in a shroud tied with ropes although the bust is mostly exposed (Fig. 24). The lance is targeting a gentleman (denoted by his moustache and beard) within the adjacent plate (Fig. 25). Within the lower section there is another bearded figure which may represent god (Fig 26).

5.5.4 The reverse side of the ceiling panel was examined during the dismantlement prior to its transportation outside the building for curation and conservation. It was established that the ceiling structure is composed of five timber square joists (*c.*110mm x 110mm) with flat chamfered edges on the soffit, each measuring exactly 1" (2.54cm) in width (Figs 27 and 28). The joists extend across most of the panel's width and are positioned approximately 500mm apart, creating a robust frame composed of two members along the upper and lower extremities of the panel, a central member and two intermediate ones between the centre and the top/bottom edges.

5.5.5 There are also three later plank-like joists nailed to the primary joists creating a frame from where ropes and slings could be threaded through in order to facilitate its lifting and transportation to the Gymnasium. The edges of the primary joists were sawn off when the ceiling panels were removed from the original building and thus their true ends have been lost. However, the left edge of the uppermost joist (as determined by its attached position on the wall) is slightly longer and retains a run-out chamfer stop (Fig. 29). Moreover, the left lateral edges retain their true ends as indicated by their sawn-off tenons (Fig. 30). These ends also have run-out stop chamfers although mostly obscured by later plaster repair. The chamfered edges indicate that the ceiling would have originally consisted of exposed beams and joists, and the plaster ceiling added at a later time.

5.5.6 The top face of the joists contains a small number of snapped small nails as well as vacant holes created by former nails. These might have secured floorboards although the limited number of nails may indicate that the boards directly over the joist might have acted as a sub-floor for additional floorboards. While it is tempting to suggest that the structure might have acted as a loft floor which did not require a sturdy surface systematically nailed to the joists, the joists concerned here would have been tenonned into a central bridging beam rather than into a tie-beam of the roof truss. Thus, it is suggested that the plaster ceiling would have originally been positioned on the ground or intermediate floor rather than within the uppermost storey of its primary building. Alternatively, the ceiling structure could have been composed of exposed joists with plasterboards strips nailed to timber noggings attached to the side of the joists (e.g. Swindells 1992, 164). Unfortunately, no evidence of such common construction was identified.

5.5.7 Although it was established that the plaster is applied onto rivens laths split by hand which are nailed to the structural timber joists of the original plasterwork, it became apparent that a later coating of plaster, including areas reinforced with metal mesh, has been applied to the original structure (Figs 31 and 32). Furthermore, some of the laths are also later replacements including wooden laths possibly split from fruit boxes as exhibited by traces of rather illegible red printed writing (Fig. 33). In addition to this, a fairly thick (*c.*30mm) veneer of lime ash plaster screed has been applied to the underside of the ceiling and secured to the sides of the original joists with nails. At first glance, this veneer was thought to have been applied as a mean of floor/ceiling insulation; however, close inspection revealed a series of incised inscriptions which appear to have been made before the plaster set as part of a former restoration work. The main inscription is located immediately behind the bearded gentleman adjacent to the representation of the death and reads 'A. D. 1897 Repaired By F. P. of Leek' (Fig. 34). An adjacent engraving (positioned within the area behind the legs of the death) reads 'Repa' and it is thought to have been intended for 'Repaired' but the size of the writing is much larger and so, its creator might have realized that the space between the joist would have not accommodated the proposed note (Fig. 35).

5.5.8 The panel was safely carried to a lorry with long slings around it to be stored temporarily at the head office of Hirst Conservation situated in Sleaford, Lincolnshire; whilst the re-development work continue before a suitable building within the campus is selected for its display (Fig. 36).

Figure 21: General view of Panel 1 (scale 2 x 100mm).

Figure 22: Upper section of Panel 1.

Figure 23: Lower section of Panel 1.

Figure 24: Detail of figures within the right side of the upper section (scale 100mmm).

Figure 25: Detail of figure within the left side of the upper section (scale 100mmm).

Figure 26: Detail of figure within the lower section (scale 100mmm).

Figure 27: Reverse side of Panel 1.

Figure 28: Original timber joist with flat chamfered edges (scale 100mm).

Figure 29: Ceiling joist with stop chamfer (scale 100mm).

Figure 30: Ceiling joist with sawn-off tenon (scale 100mm).

Figure 31: Detail of riven laths and different plaster veneers.

Figure 32: Repaired area with metal mesh.

Figure 33: Detail of replaced lath with printed writing (arrow).

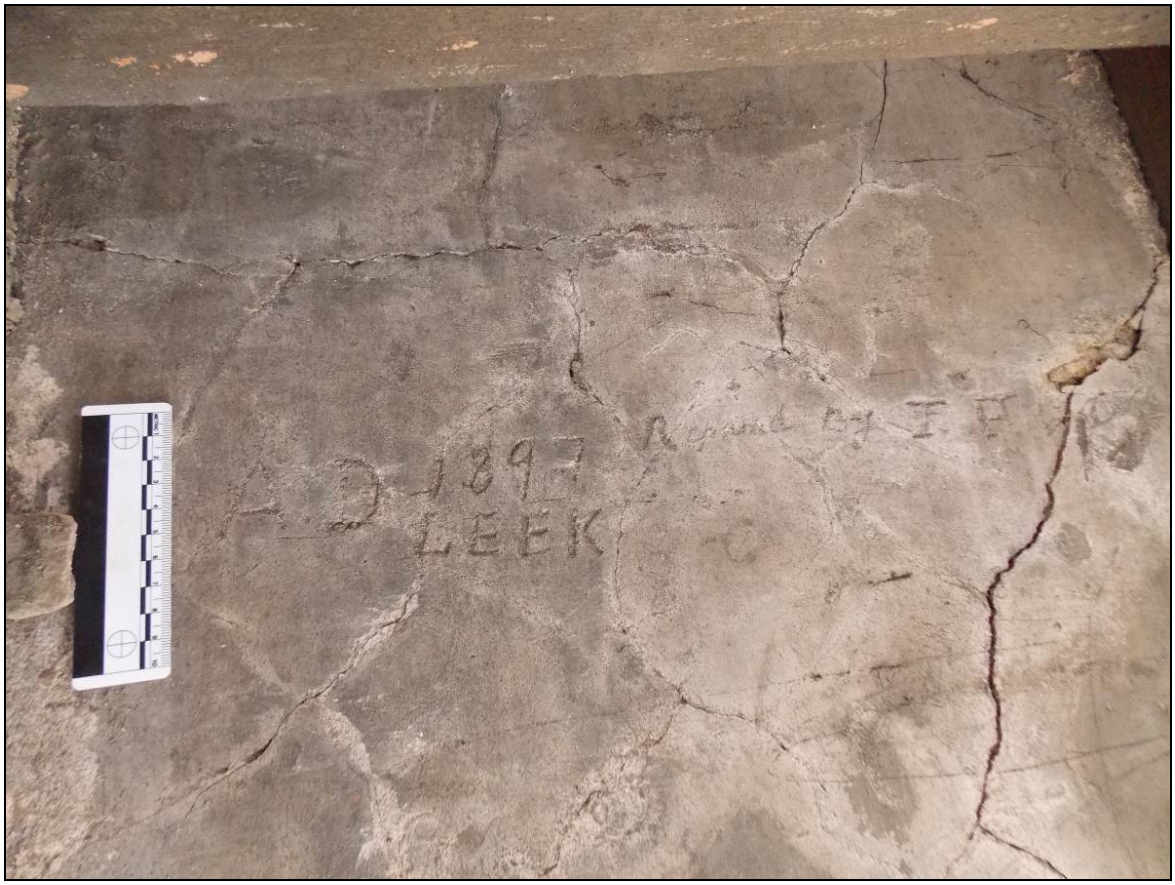


Figure 34: Detail of inscription on the later lime ash plaster veneer (scale 100mm).

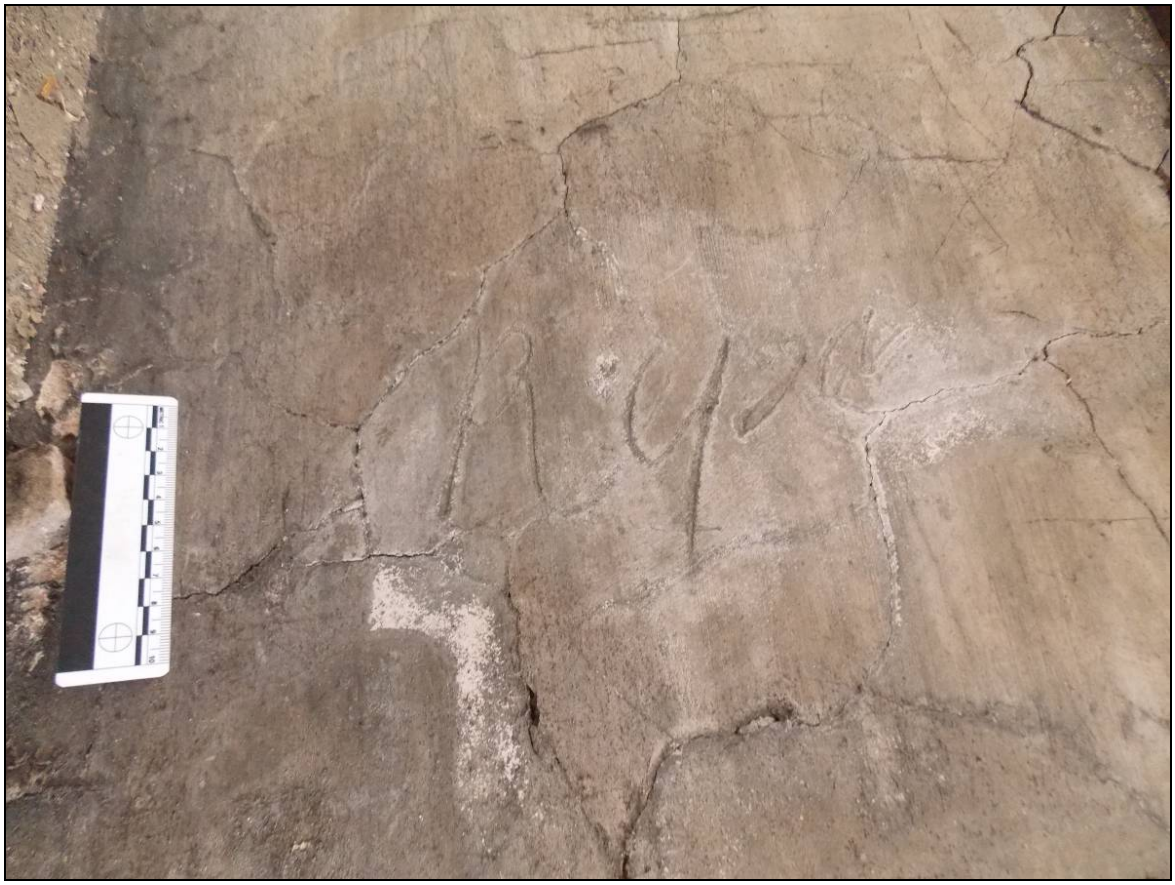


Figure 35: Further inscription on the later plaster veneer (scale 100mm).

Figure 36: Transporting Panel 1 to a lorry outside the Carr Gymnasium.

Panel 2

5.5.9 Panel 2 measures 2.70 metres in height, 2.60 metres in width and *c.*150mm in thickness. The slight discrepancy of width with its counterpart is dictated by the secondary joint created when the panels were mounted on the wall; however, their surrounding moulded ribs are of equivalent dimensions. The low relief design consists of symmetrical foliated plates or boards comparable to Panel 1 suggesting therefore that they both were originally part of the same ceiling. This panel is more complete although slight damage is also discernable (Figs 37 – 41). Of note are two fixed U-shaped wrought-iron hooks which might have been designed to hang items such as lighting oil lamps (Figs 37 and 42).

5.5.10 The reverse side was also examined whose construction was comparable to the one of Panel 1 (Fig. 43). This also includes a thick lime ash veneer between the side of the joists with similar incised inscriptions within both upper and lower sections of the panel. The upper inscription reads 'R. J. Holliday' and the lower is very similar and reads 'Repaired By R. J. Holliday' (Figs 44 and 45). An additional 'R' (possibly for Repaired) is also inscribed above the lower inscription although this once again appears to have been an abandoned note due to its large calligraphy (Fig. 46).

5.5.11 One of the lateral edges was not concealed by later planks, thus showing the original superimposition of joists, riven laths and plaster coating (Fig. 47). Indeed, the original plaster application was discerned consisting of three-coats plaster applied to riven laths nailed across the ceiling joists. The first render coat (*c.*8mm thick) was squeezed throughout the spaces between the laths so it spread out behind them to form keys that, when set, held the plaster in

place. The render coat would have been scored to create a key for the second layer often called the floating coat (*c.*6mm thick) which provided an even surface for the final layer. This also was keyed. The final or setting coat (*c.*3mm thick) was trowelled smoothly to provide a suitable surface for decoration. The composition appears to be of lime and sand mixed with water. Animal hair was applied to the first two coats in order to bind the material together.

5.5.12 This panel was also safely carried to the Hirst Conservation lorry (Fig. 48). The dismantlement of the panels enabled viewing the brickwork behind them containing two long recessed niches equivalent to another one to the north forming a regular layout (Fig. 49). These were recognized during the building recording of the Gymnasium (Mora-Ottomano 2013), but it was not known that each niche contains a wooden shelf, and so it is likely that the uncovered one might have also contained a similar feature for storage as part of a mid to late 19th century structure associated with a timber yard workshop as identified on the aforementioned previous archaeological building recording (*ibid.*). Moreover, the sequential development of the construction of the Carr Gymnasium proposed on the building recording was further elucidated through the identification of a clear construction break/joint between the east and south walls of the Gymnasium (Fig. 50).

Figure 37: General view of Panel 2 with two hooks denoted by red circles (scale 2 x 100mm).

Figure 38: Upper left section of Panel 2 (scale 2 x 100mm).

Figure 39: Upper right section of panel 2 (scale 100mm).

Figure 40: Lower left section of Panel 2 (scale 2 x 100mm).

Figure 41: Lower right section of panel 2 (scale 100mm).

Figure 42: Detail of the lower U-shaped iron hook.

Figure 43: Reverse side of Panel 2.

Figure 44: Detail of upper inscription on the lime ash plaster (scale 100mm).

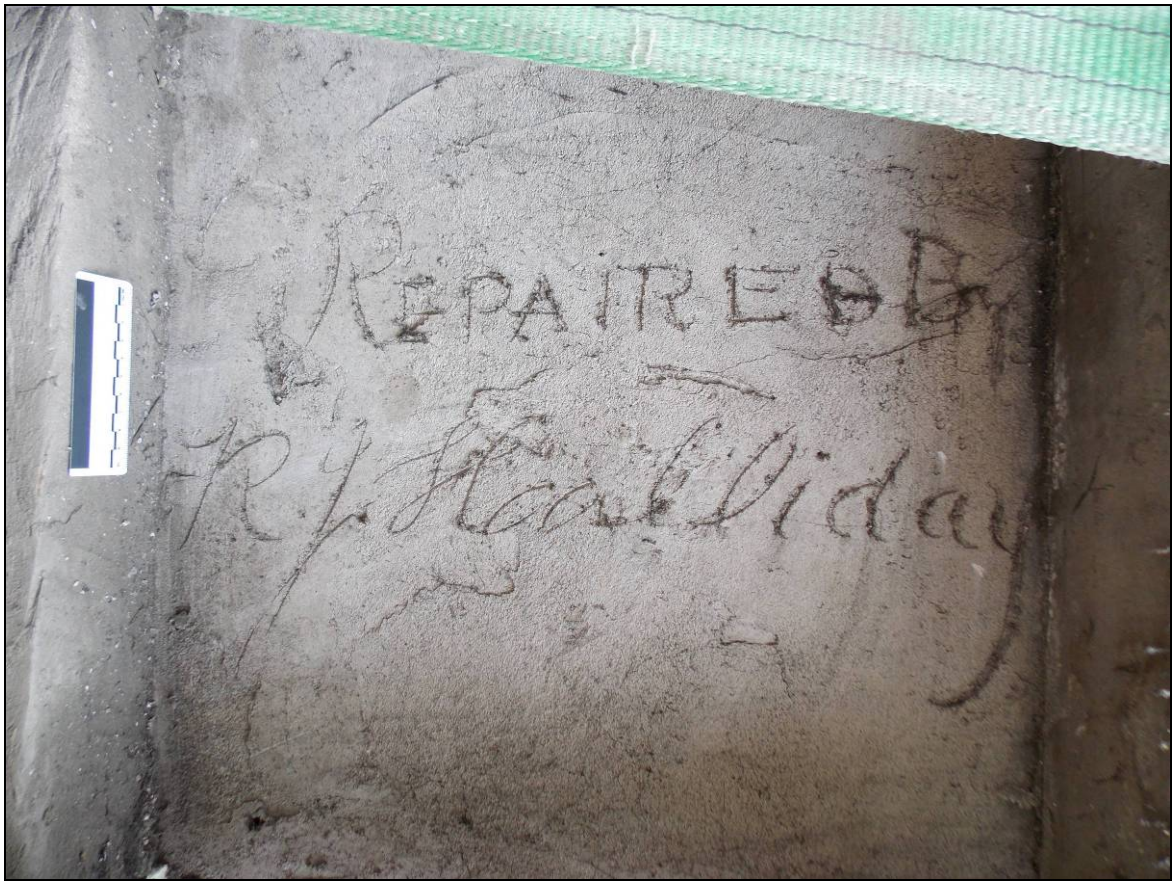


Figure 45: Detail of lower inscription on the lime ash plaster (scale 100mm).

Figure 46: Additional lower inscription on the lime ash plaster.

Figure 47: Detail of plaster coats and laths (scale 100mm).

Figure 48: Transporting Panel 2 to a lorry to the north of the Gymnasium.

Figure 49: Southern end of the east wall following the dismantlement of the ceiling (scale 1m).

Figure 50: Detail of construction break/joint between the east and south walls (scale 300mm).

5.6 Time Capsule

5.6.1 A Time Capsule was retrieved from the masonry of the entrance block of the Carr Gymnasium. The Time Capsule was intact as the masonry of the aforementioned block was carefully dismantled as it is intended to be re-erected on site as part of a new college building. An inventory of the Time Capsule is provided below. The inventory includes a photographic record and description of the items. The College aims to display the Time Capsule, along with a contemporary counterpart, at the entrance to the College when the building work is completed.

Items 1 and 2 (Figs 51 – 53)

5.6.2 This is in essence the container of the Time Capsule composed of a glass jar (Item 1) with an *ad hoc* lid (Item 2). Item 1 consists of a transparent thick glass jar with occasional bubbles within its fabric that has hints of greenish hue. It measures 177mm in height with an overall diameter of 100mm although the body tapers slightly towards the shoulder yielding a maximum diameter of 116mm. The base has a sharp convex push-up and relief marks consisting of an initial 'P' and a number '93' both protruding out within the push-up. The body is plain despite its slight tapered shape and contains side mould seams up to the collar and also absent across the base. The upper area is rounded although with an abrupt break to the neck which is also tapered becoming narrower towards the top where it meets a slightly irregular collar or lip measuring 80mm in diameter.

5.6.3 Item 2 appears to have been an improvised lid created with a thick papier mache-like stuff although employing a kind of plaster base rather than flour.

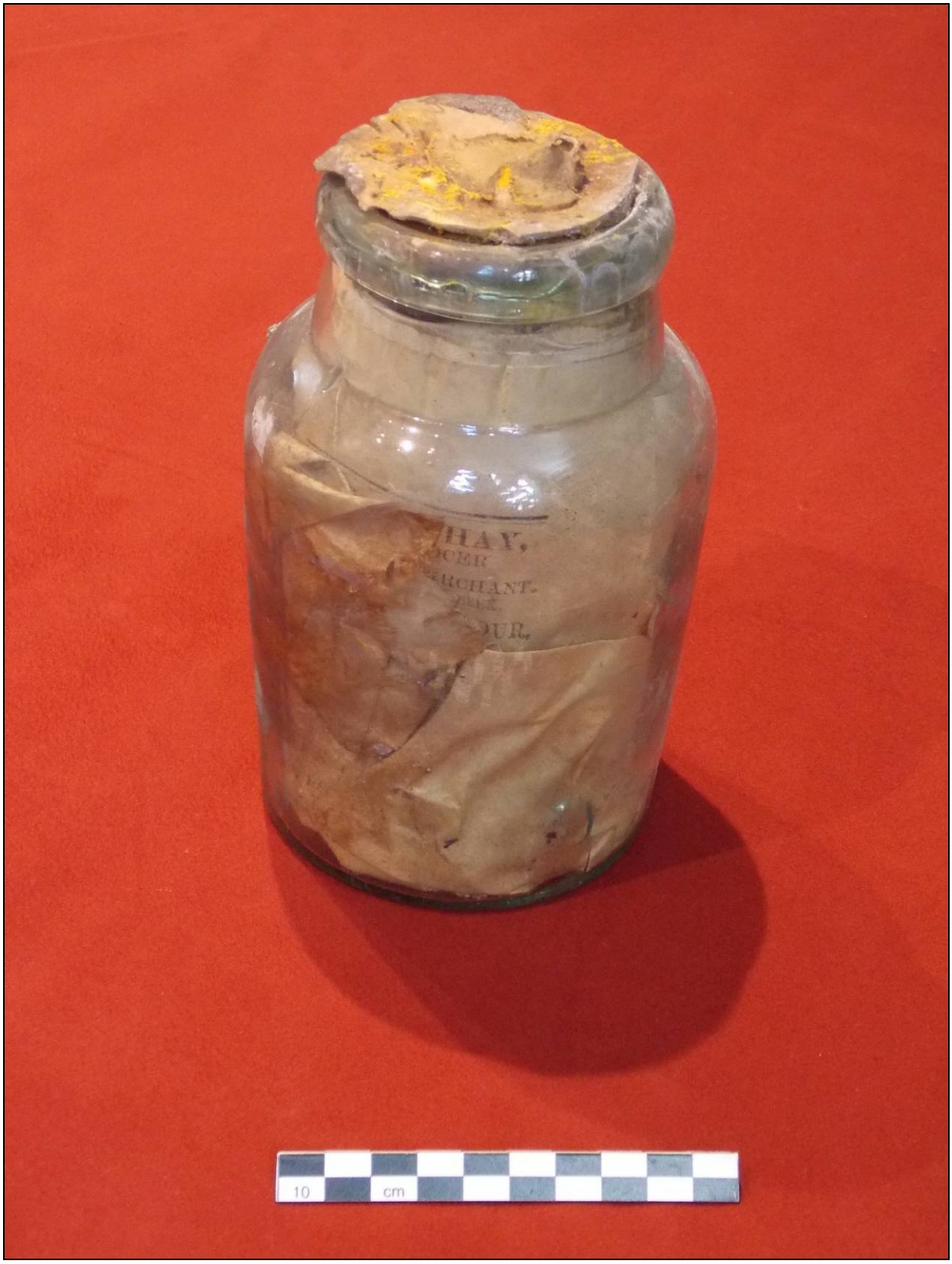


Figure 51: Glass jar (Item 1) with a lid (Item 2).

Figure 52: Additional view of Items 1 and 2 showing internal items.

Figure 53: Detail of the jar following the removal of its lid.

Figure 54: Complete assemblage.

Items 3 and 4 (Figs 54 – 59)

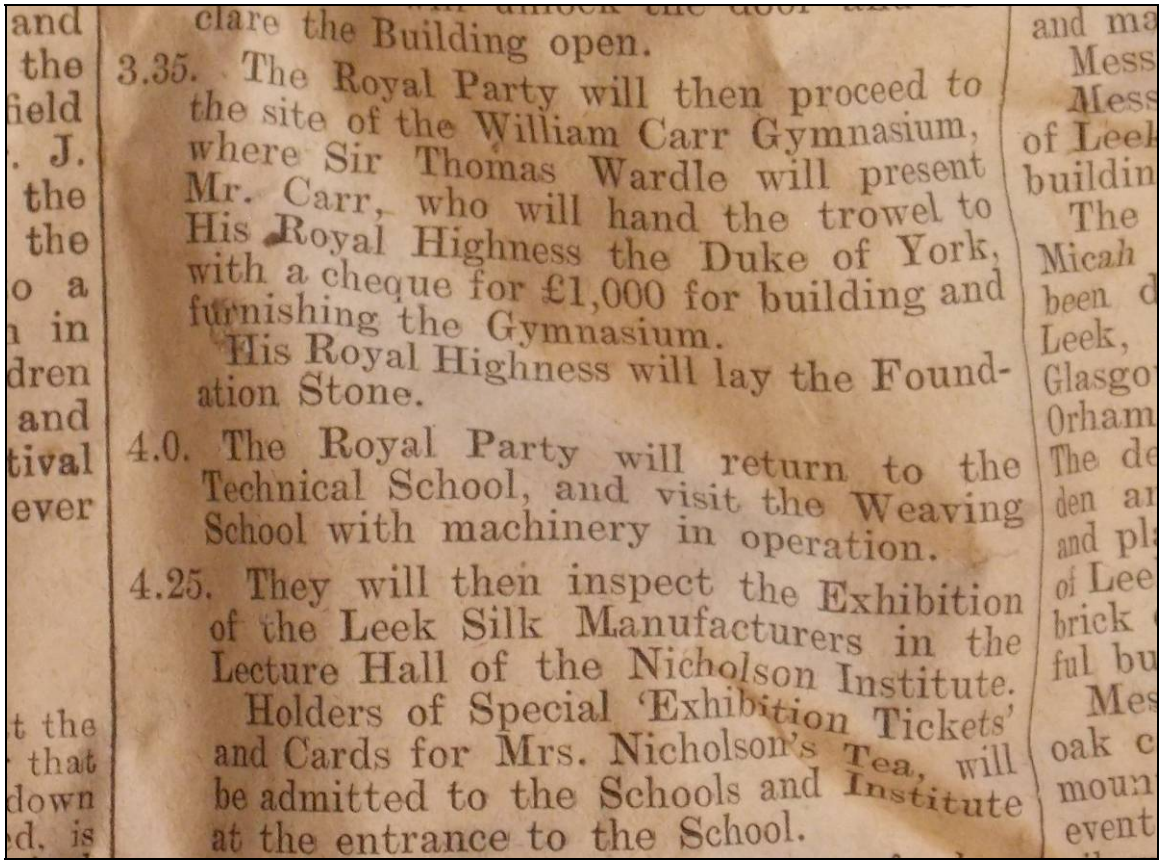
5.6.4 Items 3 and 4 consists of two local newspapers i.e. 'The Leek Times' and 'The Leek Post' both issued on 28th July 1900, date of the official opening of the Carr Gymnasium, matching the commemorative plaque produced by sculptor A. Broadbent which reads:

This BVILDING – devoted to the PHYSICAL
EDVCATION of the YOVTH of LEEK – is the gift of
WILLIAM CARR – a native of the town
This CORNER STONE was laid by HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
PRINCE GEORGE FREDERICK ERNEST ALBERT
DVKE OF YORK
on the twenty eighth day of July Anno Domini
one thousand and nine hundred
ROBERT WRIGHT JOHN HALL
Chairman of the Vrban District Council Chairman of the Education Committee
Wm. Sugden & Son. Architects. Thomas Grace. Builder
A. Broadbent. Sculptor. K. Parkes. Secretary

5.6.5 Both newspapers contain articles about the official opening of the Gymnasium by the Duke and Duchess of York. It is worth noting that the date of the newspapers matches the commemorative plaque, although the articles state that the Royal visit was going to take place the following day. Of note also is the depiction of the Carr Gymnasium behind the Nicholson Institute as the entrance block is shown with a small dome which might have original been intended as part of its architectural design but modified with a plainer flat roof instead.

Figure 55: Unfolded newspapers (Items 3 and 4).

Figure 56: 'The Leek Post' newspaper (Item 3).



clare the Building open.

3.35. The Royal Party will then proceed to the site of the William Carr Gymnasium, where Sir Thomas Wardle will present Mr. Carr, who will hand the trowel to His Royal Highness the Duke of York, with a cheque for £1,000 for building and furnishing the Gymnasium.

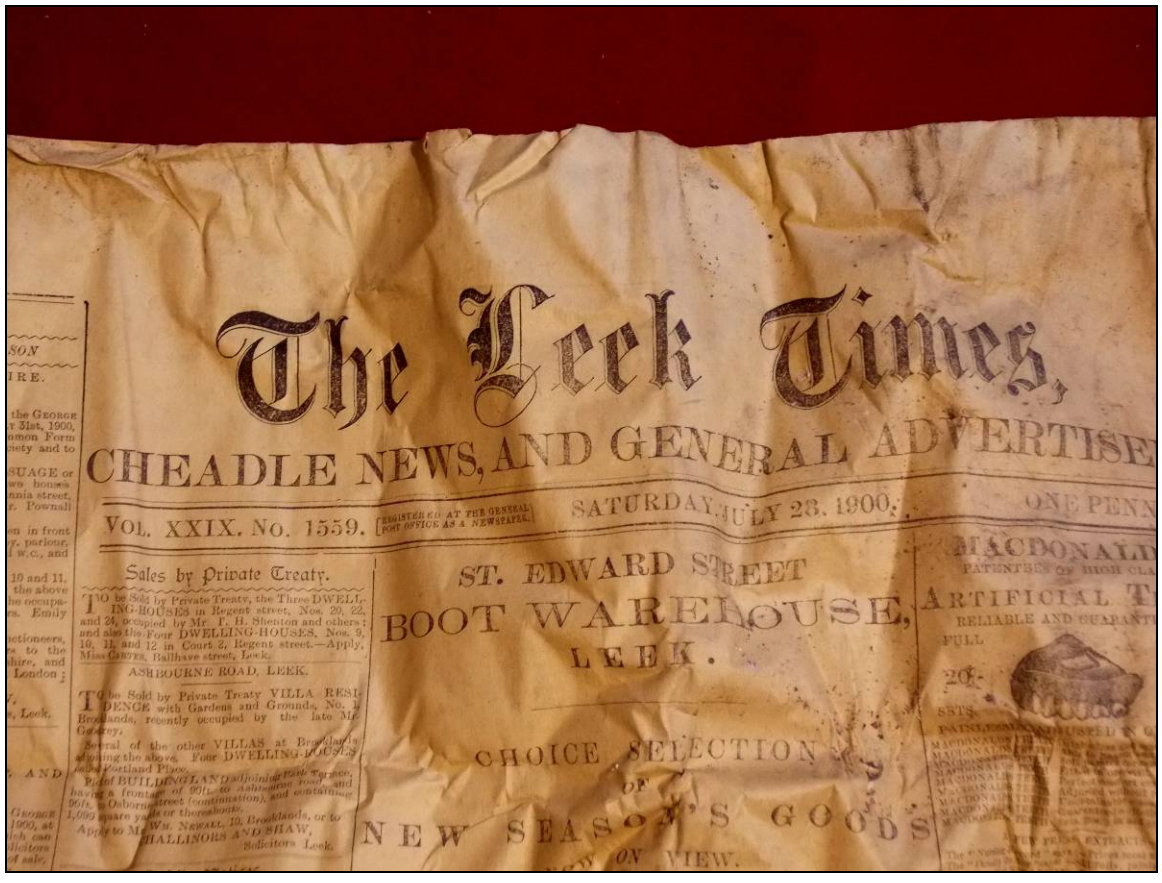
His Royal Highness will lay the Foundation Stone.

4.0. The Royal Party will return to the Technical School, and visit the Weaving School with machinery in operation.

4.25. They will then inspect the Exhibition of the Leek Silk Manufacturers in the Lecture Hall of the Nicholson Institute.

Holders of Special 'Exhibition Tickets' and Cards for Mrs. Nicholson's Tea, will be admitted to the Schools and Institute at the entrance to the School.

Figure 57: Extract of the Royal Visit's article within Item 3.



The Leek Times,

CHEADLE NEWS, AND GENERAL ADVERTISE

VOL. XXIX. No. 1559. SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1900.

Sales by Private Treaty.

ST. EDWARD STREET
BOOT WAREHOUSE,
LEEK.

CHOICE SELECTION
NEW SEASON'S GOODS

Figure 58: 'The Leek Times' newspaper (Item 4).

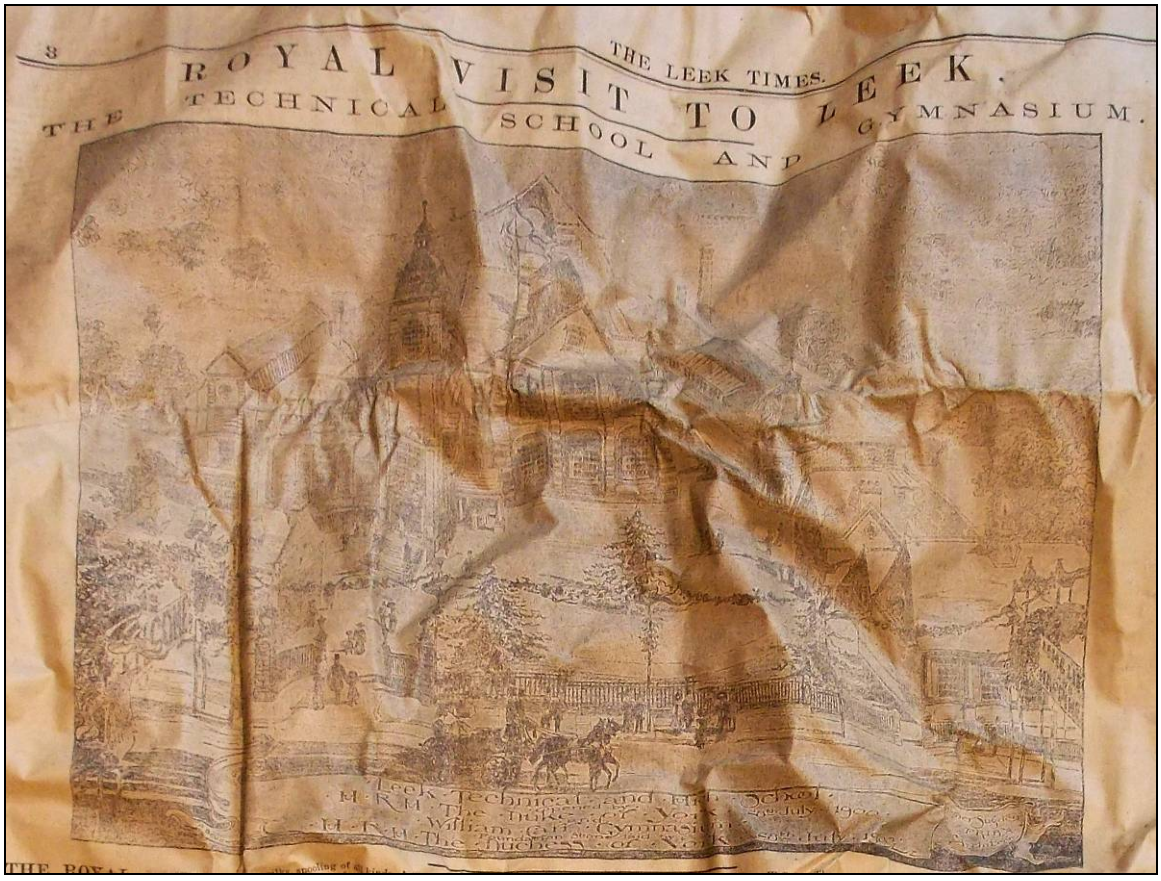


Figure 59: Reverse side of the newspaper with an article of the Royal visit to Leek.

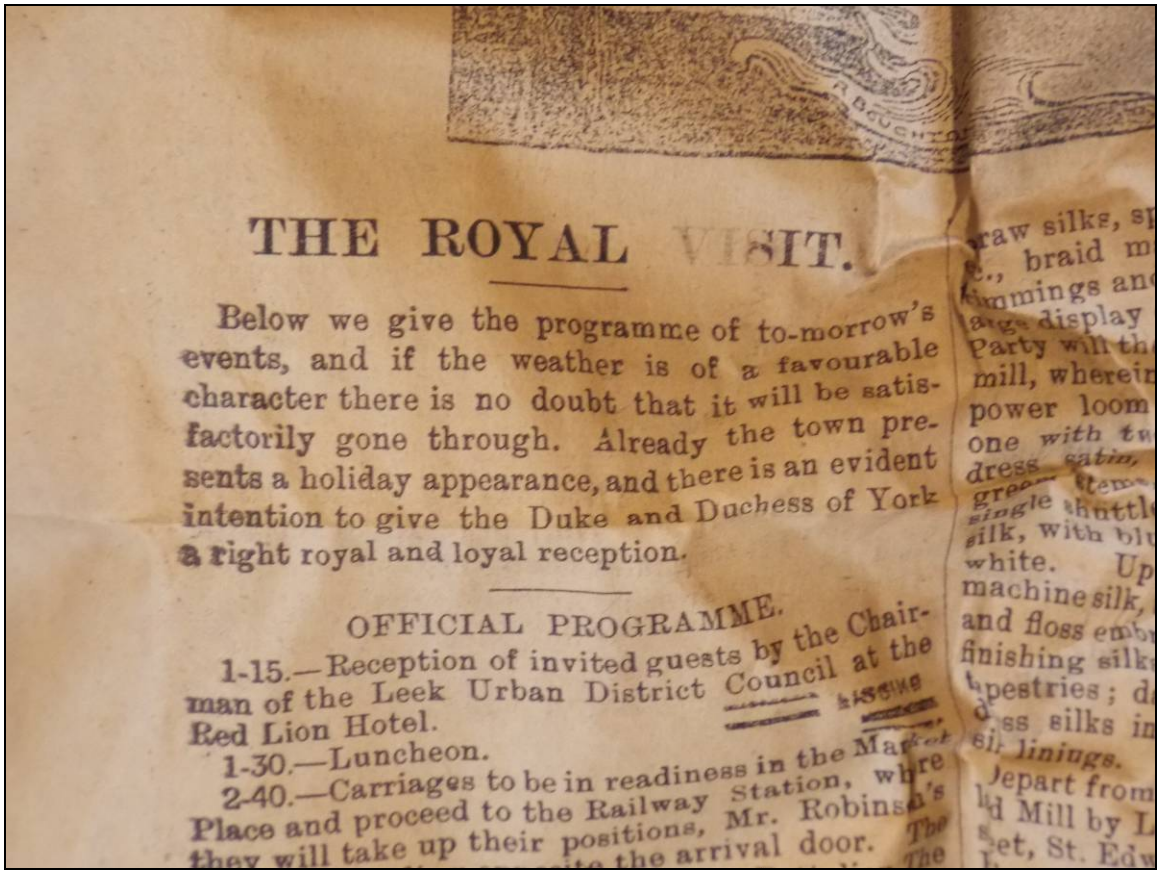


Figure 60: Extract of the Royal Visit's article within Item 4.

Items 5 – 13 (Figs 61 and 62)

5.6.6 These items correspond to nine coins minted in the year 1900. These are as follows:

- Item 5: Crown
- Item 6: Half Crown
- Item 7: One Florin Two Shillings
- Item 8: One Shilling
- Item 9: Six Pence
- Item 10: Three Pence
- Item 11: One Penny
- Item 12: Half Penny
- Item 13: Farthing

Figure 61: Obverse side of Items 5 – 13.

Figure 62: Reverse side of Items 5 – 13.

6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

6.1 The results of the archaeological watching brief related to the ground-works at the Buxton and Leek College Campus did not reveal significant archaeological features, deposits or artefacts except for a few residual fragments of pottery and clay pipe of 18th – 20th centuries date.

6.2 The recording of the *ex situ* early 17th century decorated plaster ceiling mounted on an internal wall of the Carr Gymnasium revealed that it consisted of two different panels, although they are most likely to be from the same ceiling. The ceiling is understood to have been removed from Hall House (now the Red Lion in the Market Place) which was built by the wealthy Jolliffe family in 1607 and possibly the largest timber frame house in the area, although this might have originated from a house or structure adjacent to the Red Lion instead. The ceiling appears to have been removed from its primary building in the late 19th century following re-development of the eastern side of the Market Place in the 1890s (Currie and Greenslade 1996).

6.3 The ceiling was mounted on the wall with several wrought-iron straps nailed to additional timber joists which had also been nailed to the original ceiling joists when it was removed from its primary location. The original ceiling structure of each panel comprises five timber square joists (*c.*110mm x 110mm) with flat chamfered edges on the soffit, each measuring exactly 1" (2.54cm) in width and run-out stops. The dating of the structure may fall into the mid 17th century onwards as most chamfers above 40mm are likely to be early 16th century or earlier, while most after 1650 are less than 2" (Hall 2005, 163 and 165). Moreover, square joists are also a common feature of the 2nd half of the 17th century (*ibid.* 164).

6.4 The ornate plaster ceiling would have been a later addition to the original ceiling structure as indicated by the chamfered edges designed to be seen, although an overall date of mid 17th century is rather likely based on its decoration and construction.

6.5 The ceiling was repaired in the late 19th century presumably when the ceiling was removed from its original building, and re-erected in the Carr Gymnasium when it was built in 1900.

6.6 The final dismantlement of the plaster ceiling revealed additional evidence of the proposed phase of construction of the Carr Gymnasium, establishing that the eastern wall where the *ex situ* plaster ceiling was mounted was part of a mid to late 19th century structure associated with a timber yard workshop.

6.7 A Time Capsule was retrieved from the masonry of the entrance block of the Carr Gymnasium which was carefully dismantled as it is intended to be re-erected on site as part of a new college building. Thee Time Capsule consists of a glass jar with an *ad hoc* lid which acted as the container for two local newspapers, i.e. 'The Leek Times' and 'The Leek Post' both issued on 28th July 1900, the date of the official opening of the Carr Gymnasium, and nine coins minted in the year 1900.

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 of both the archaeological building recording and watching brief will be prepared by ARS Ltd, consisting of all primary written documents, drawings, photographs and electronic data, which will be deposited at The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent (accession number 2013.LH.61) within three months of completion of fieldwork.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

10.1 ARS Ltd would like to thank all those involved with the archaeological project, especially Andy Hunt and James Limbourne of Hunt Architects Ltd for commissioning the project; staff of Capita for arranging access for the archaeological watching brief; staff of Hirst Conservation for accommodating the recording of the plaster ceiling during its dismantlement and transportation; and Stephen Dean, Principal Archaeologist for Staffordshire County Council, for monitoring and providing advice throughout the project.

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APPENDIX I: SPECIFICATIONS AND OASIS FORM

SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

BUXTON AND LEEK COLLEGE CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT, STOCKWELL STREET, LEEK

November 2013

Staffordshire County Council

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Proposals have been submitted to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (SMDC) for the demolition of a pair of buildings on the Buxton and Leek College Campus, Stockwell Street, Leek (NGR 400508 348402). These buildings comprise a 19th century converted mill building and a purpose built early 20th century gymnasium. Taking into consideration the sensitivity of both buildings, SMDC have included a condition on planning permission to secure the recording of these structures and any archaeological remains associated with them in advance of their demolition. SMDC have also secured the preservation and removal of a late medieval plaster ceiling preserved within the gymnasium. While the preservation and removal of this important fixture is not part of this Specification, its recording is. The objective of this specification therefore is to establish a framework which is acceptable to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), acting on the advice of the County Principal Archaeologist (CPA), within which a building recording and targeted watching brief may be carried out. As such this document details the requirements for the building recording and the below ground archaeological watching brief.

1.2 The building recording will be conducted in accordance with this specification and will be carried out in accordance with a Level 3 survey as detailed in the English Heritage volume 'Understanding Historic Buildings. A Guide to Good Recording Practice' (2007). Both the building recording and the watching brief will be carried out by an appropriately experienced archaeological organisation (and personnel) following the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Code of Conduct (2013) and the relevant IfA standard and guidance. All stages of the project will be carried out in accordance with the requirements established in the English Heritage volume entitled the 'Management of Archaeological Projects' (MAP2). Any variation in the WSI will be agreed in advance by the developer and the LPA.

1.3 Bearing in mind the nature of the buildings to be surveyed the appointed archaeological organisation (AAO) may use this Specification as a Project Design (PD). Alternatively they may wish to prepare a separate PD however this must satisfy the aims and objectives laid out in this document and must conform to the relevant IfA standard and guidance.

2.0 HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The origins of Leek are unclear although archaeological work within the town does point to human activity during the Bronze Age. The place name could suggest both Saxon and Scandinavian activity in the area although at present the only evidence for early medieval activity relates to several stone crosses present within St. Edwards Churchyard on Stockwell Street. Leek is mentioned at Domesday (1086) and fragments of a 12th century cooking pot have been found in this area. it has been suggested that the rise on which St. Edwards Church is located (and the surrounding area) is the site of the pre-

Conquest settlement of Leek and that post-Conquest activity also centred around this area.

2.2 The town of Leek was founded in the early 13th century by the Earl of Chester and received both a market (1207) and a town charter (probably by 1215). The recent Extensive Urban Survey (EUS) of Leek identifies burgage plots along St. Edwards Street, Derby Street and Church Street/Stockwell Street centred around a large market place. The town appears to have thrived during the medieval period, functioning as a central place for the buying and selling of agricultural produce and the necessities of life. However, it wasn't until the arrival of the silk industry during the 18th century that the size of the town altered dramatically. Indeed, the historic character of Leek today owes much to the influence of the silk mills and their owners with several mill buildings surviving along with the terraced cottages of the mill workers and the larger villas of the owners and managers further out of town.

2.3 The Leek EUS places the development site within Historic Urban Character Area (HUCA) 1: Historic Core which it describes as having high archaeological potential and historic value as well as high aesthetic and communal value. It is not clear how far along Stockwell Street to the east medieval occupation extended. Historic mapping during the 18th and 19th centuries, coupled with broad street frontages at this time would suggest the amalgamation of building plots as far east as Union Street. However, to date there has been no archaeological work in this area of Leek to prove or disprove this hypothesis.

2.4 The prosperity brought to Leek during the 18th and 19th century with the growth of the silk industry is writ large throughout its built heritage of the period. By 1862, Leek boasted eleven silk mills and while many have since been demolished the remaining examples with their location, scale and (in some cases) architectural embellishments speak of their importance to the town and the mill-owning families. The growth of workers and managers housing is mirrored by broader housing developments along Leek's principal roads.

2.5 Leek also attracted allied trades and industries to the town including a dying and chemicals industry which survives in part into the 21st century. Wardles, based on Macclesfield Road was based on the site of an earlier 17th/18th century mohair mill and by the later 19th century had cemented Leek's association with the Arts and Crafts Tradition. Thomas Wardle had invited William Morris to Leek and in 1875 he arrived to learn more of the dying process. Indeed, it was Wardle who first printed Morris' designs onto silk. In 1884 the Grade II* Nicholson Institute was opened by Joshua Nicholson, a prominent silk manufacturer as a free library, art gallery and museum. Subsequently an art college developed around the institute during the 20th century with the mill building to be demolished housing courses on pottery and design. The gymnasium was built in the early 20th century to provide a

place for exercise and, apart from minor modifications retains its open, hall-like feel.

3.0 PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Project Aim

3.1.1 To carry out a Level 3 photographic, written and drawn survey of the structures to be demolished and a scaled photographic recording of the medieval plaster ceiling and its method of connection to the gymnasium wall (drawn and photographic record). This should be carried out to the standards identified in the EH volume ' Understanding Historic Buildings. A Guide to Good Recording Practice' (2006) and in accordance with the IfA standards and guidance for '*the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures*' (revised 2008).

3.1.2 To undertake a watching brief during groundworks associated with the demolition of the building and the construction of new buildings on the site to determine the power source and power transmission conduits for the mill and the presence of medieval archaeological remains within the area of the gymnasium building.

3.2 Project Objectives (Level 3 Building Recording)

3.2.1 To identify the earliest elements of the mill and gymnasium buildings to be impacted during the demolition project and prepare a developmental history of the structures through written description and phase plans.

3.2.2 To record evidence for power transmission, the role of changing power sources and working and manufacturing areas throughout all floors of the mill.

3.2.3 To record the gymnasium in detail as an example of early 20th century sports provision. Also to record the commemorative plaque outside the main entrance and the medieval plaster ceiling preserved on the gymnasium wall. Attention should also be given to recording the methods employed to fix the ceiling to the gymnasium wall.

3.2.4 To prepare a high quality and comprehensive photographic, drawn and written record of the buildings to be demolitshed and provide a comprehensive review of them in a local and regional historical context.

3.2.4 To secure the analysis, conservation and long-term storage of any artefactual/ ecofactual material recovered from the site.

3.3 Project Objectives (Archaeological Watching Brief)

3.3.1 To identify and record sub-surface archaeological remains associated with medieval urban development in the area of the scheme.

3.3.2 To identify and record buried archaeological remains associated in particular with the production and transmission of power throughout the mill to be demolished.

3.3.3 To undertake a watching brief during the stripping out and demolition process. This element relies on their being an appropriate demolition methodology.

3.3.4 Where appropriate to secure the recording and assessment of suitable palaeoenvironmental deposits associated with archaeological features where these are encountered during groundworks.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Building Recording Methodology

4.1.1 The archaeological contractor is asked to design a programme of monitoring and recording to be carried out during those stages of development involving substantial ground disturbance. The project should include the following as appropriate:

1. Initial Level 3 building recording of mill building and gymnasium to be demolished. The recording should also include the commemorative plaque on the exterior of the gymnasium and the medieval plaster ceiling (and its method of fixing) on the gymnasium wall. The general recording process should include (where appropriate) the general structure and surviving fixtures, fittings power sources and transmission systems and floor/ working surfaces within the mill building and gymnasium. This should be carried out prior to any stripping out or other conversion works.

2. Archaeological watching brief during the stripping out/demolition of the mill building. This work is to be informed by the agreed demolition methodology and should follow the relevant IfA standard and guidance and the content of this Specification.

3. A programme of post-fieldwork analysis, archiving and publication in an appropriate journal.

4.1.2 A written record of the progress of the building recording shall be maintained

and supported by the production of plans, elevations and sections drawings through appropriate portions of the building complex (at appropriate scales). A Photographic record (monochrome prints and polychrome slides) will also be maintained and supported by an index and site plan of shot locations.

4.1.3 If finds are located of a significance beyond that which might have been anticipated before the development began, development shall cease where they might be disturbed in order that provision for their adequate recording or preservation may be made in consultation with the LPA or personnel nominated by them. Contingency provisions should be made within the programme of work for this.

4.1.4 Under advice from the AAO the developer shall clear debris and material from the buildings to allow the archaeologists access to adequately record the buildings.

4.1.5 The developer shall afford access to the development site for the purposes of archaeological monitoring to officers of the LPA or personnel nominated by them at all reasonable times upon compliance with the requirements of health and safety.

4.1.6 The developer shall give the LPA or personnel nominated by them at least ten days' notice in writing of the commencement of the development, and shall keep them informed of the progress of the watching brief during the period in which it is carried out.

4.1.7 The project archive shall be compiled in accordance with the guidelines contained in Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC, 1990), and Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections (Museum and Galleries Commission, 1992)

4.1.8 The archaeological contractor should agree all on-site working practices with the developer at the earliest opportunity and identify those elements of the construction programme requiring time for recording.

4.1.9 The archaeological contractors should comply with all Health and Safety requirements stipulated by the Main Contractor, ensure that their staff wear the correct PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) at all times and that a Risk Assessment for the work is prepared in advance and reviewed at regular intervals.

4.1.10 The project should also attempt to place the project findings into their historical and geographical context through cartographic and documentary research.

4.1.11 The project should be conducted by an archaeological organisation working in accordance with the By-laws of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).

Archaeologists working on the project should not attempt tasks outside of their areas of competence.

4.2 Archaeological Watching Brief on Groundworks Methodology

4.2.1 The archaeological contractor may use this specification as their WSI or may choose to prepare a separate WSI detailing the recording works to be undertaken during groundworks. If the contractor chooses to prepare their own WSI this must take into account the requirements of this specification. The project should include the following as appropriate:

1. Soil and overburden stripping to be carried out under archaeological supervision using a toothless bucket on a back actor leaving a smooth and flat surface;

2. Inspection of sub-soil for archaeological features;

3. The rapid investigation and recording of any archaeological features/deposits;

4. Sub-soil stripping to be carried out under archaeological supervision using a toothless bucket on a back actor leaving a smooth and flat surface;

5. Examination of any service and foundation trenches (with the exception of areas which have already been stripped to a clean subsoil surface and seen by the archaeologist to be devoid of archaeological features) and the subsequent recording of any exposed archaeological deposits;

6. Examination of spoil-heaps for archaeological material;

7. A programme of post-fieldwork analysis, archiving and publication.

4.2.2 A written record of the progress of the watching brief shall be maintained and supported by the production of plans and sections drawings (at appropriate scales). A photographic record (monochrome prints and polychrome slides) will also be maintained and supported by an index and site plan of shot locations.

4.2.3 All spoil removed during groundworks is to be scanned visually and using a metal detector to recover small finds. Any finds to be recovered should be recorded and their location noted on a site plan at a relevant scale. The finds should be retained, recorded and discussed within the report and recommendations made for further conservation. The necessity for the long term conservation of finds from the site will be agreed with the archaeological contractor and the County Archaeologist as an advisor to the LPA. Contingency provisions should be made within the programme of work for this.

4.2.4 If necessary, arrangements shall be made for development to be interrupted for reasonable periods in order that satisfactory records might be made.

4.2.5 Features encountered should be appropriately sampled for paleoenvironmental remains. This work should be undertaken in line with current English Heritage guidance and should be agreed following discussion with the County Archaeologist advising the LPA. Contingency provisions should be made within the programme of work for this.

4.2.6 If finds are located of a significance beyond that which might have been anticipated before the development began, development shall cease where they might be disturbed in order that provision for their adequate recording or preservation may be made in consultation with the LPA or personnel nominated by them. Contingency provisions should be made within the programme of work for this.

4.2.7 The developer shall afford access to the development site for the purposes of archaeological monitoring to officers of the LPA or personnel nominated by them at all reasonable times upon compliance with the requirements of health and safety.

4.2.8 The developer shall give the LPA or personnel nominated by them at least ten days' notice in writing of the commencement of the development, and shall keep them informed of the progress of the watching brief during the period in which it is carried out.

4.2.9 The project archive shall be compiled in accordance with the guidelines contained in Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC, 1990), and Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections (Museum and Galleries Commission, 1992)

4.2.10 The archaeological contractor should agree all on-site working practices with the developer at the earliest opportunity and identify those elements of the construction programme requiring time for recording.

4.2.11 The project should also attempt to place the project findings into their historical and geographical context through cartographic and documentary research.

4.2.12 The project should be conducted by an archaeological organisation working in accordance with the By-laws of the Institute for Archaeologists. Archaeologists working on the project should not attempt tasks outside of their areas of competence.

4.2.13 Any articulated human remains which are encountered must initially be left in situ until a licence to excavate has been granted by the Department of Justice (Tel: 02070 355532). The provisions for analysis, assessment and reburial of

any human remains encountered during groundworks should be discussed with representatives of the County Council and the LPA Archaeologist. A contingency for the recording and excavation of articulated human remains should also be agreed in advance. Similarly provision for the reburial on consecrated ground of any human remains encountered during groundworks should also be made.

4.2.14 Any material recovered which would be regarded as Treasure under the terms of the Treasure Act should be reported to the coroner.

5. PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND DEPOSITION OF ARCHIVE

5.1 A report on the results obtained should be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and personnel nominated by them within 8 weeks of the completion of site work. The results of the building recording and the archaeological watching brief should be written up as a single report. This should include consideration of:

1. non-technical summary.

2. the aims and methods adopted in the course of the recording.

3. the nature, location, extent, date, significance and quality of any archaeological and environmental material uncovered including aspects of the built heritage.

4. the anticipated degree of survival of archaeological deposits and structures on the site not disturbed by development - surviving areas of archaeological potential should be indicated on the site plan.

5. appropriate illustrative material including maps, plans, sections, and drawings at an appropriate scale and scaled photographs. For the building recording element an index of photographs should be included along with floor plans showing the position of specific photographs.

6. summary of results placing the buildings and the archaeological remains identified within their local, regional and national context.

7. description of the archive and the location for its long-term deposition.

5.2 If significant remains are recorded during the project, then it may be necessary to undertake a full programme of analysis and publication in accordance with the guidelines contained in English Heritage's Management of Archaeological Projects 2. If this is the case, then a timetable and programme of work for this aspect of the project will need to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for agreement.

5.3 The post excavation work shall be carried out immediately on completion of site investigations. The site archive shall be prepared in accordance with established professional guidelines.

5.4 The draft written and illustrated report of the building recording and watching brief shall be forwarded to Staffordshire Count Council and the Conservation Officer for Staffordshire Moorlands District Council for comment. Following this a final copy (hard copy and pdf version on CD Rom) will be sent to the following:

i) the client
ii) Staffordshire County Council
iii) Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

5.5 The copy of the report sent to the County Council should be accompanied by a completed copy of the Activity and Source Submission Form (see appendix 1).

5.6 The archive and finds, including a copy of the watching brief report, shall be deposited at an appropriate museum, such as the Potteries Museum and Art Gallery at Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent. The museum guidelines regarding the acceptance of such material should be taken into account. The recipient museum shall be informed in advance of the date when the watching brief is to commence.

5.7 The written report will become publicly accessible, as part of the Staffordshire Historic Environment Record, within six months of completion. The appointed archaeological contractor shall also submit a short summary report for inclusion in the next edition of the journal West Midlands Archaeology within 6 months of the completion of the fieldwork. Where considered appropriate (and in discussion with SCC and SMDC), the appointed archaeological contractor may also submit a report for publication in a relevant journal. Contingency should be included for this work within the overall quotation.

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If you wish to comment on the contents of this brief or require additional information, then please contact Stephen Dean at the address below:

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Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH

Tel: (01785) 277290
Email: Stephen.dean@staffordshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Staffordshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record Activity and Source Submission Form

Submission date -

Site Activity or Event

Name of **event** (eg. Watching Brief at The Blue Boar, Ipstones.)

Location of **event** (eg. The Blue Boar P.H. Overton Lane, Ipstones.)

NGR

Civil Parish

Brief Description of **event** (eg. Watching brief during cellar alterations and renovation, prior to conversion to residential use.)

"Activity Type(s)" (highlight as appropriate) *Air Photography / Evaluation-trial excavation / Field Walking / Measured survey-drawing / Geophysical survey / Archaeological excavation-full / Archaeological excavation-part / Field survey / Photogrammetric survey / Rectified photo survey / Photographic record /AP interpretation / Salvage-rescue excavation / Watching brief / Environmental sampling / Post-excavation analysis / Documentary research*

Commencement date (eg. 01-May-1978)

Completion date (eg. 02-Sept-1983)

Organisation or contractor details (organisation name, address, telephone, e-mail etc.)

Report Details

Date

Type of document (highlight as appropriate) *Written / Photographic / Cartographic / Drawn*

Title

Author(s)

Brief summary of contents

Brief description of document (eg. Written text with illustrations, bibliography and references. Appendices dealing with environmental sampling. 32 pages. *etc.*)

Cross references to Staffordshire SMR (if applicable please list Primary record numbers)

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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Printable version

OASIS ID: archaeol5-174831

Project details

Project name	Buxton and Leek College Campus, Stockwell Street, Leek, Staffordshire
Short description of the project	In March 2014 Archaeological Research Services Ltd. was commissioned by Buxton and Leek College to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Buxton and Leek College Campus, Stockwell Street, Leek, Staffordshire. The scheme of works was related to the demolition of a 19th century converted mill building and gymnasium on the campus as well as additional areas where ground-works related to proposed newe buildings took place. No archaeological features or depostis were found; and only few residual fragments of 18-19th century clay pipe and pottey were found. In addition to this, the recording of an ex situ early 17th century ornate plaster ceiling was undertaken as well as the recording of a time capsule found during the carefully dismantled gymnasium entrance block as this is intended to be re-erected within a new building of the campus.
Project dates	Start: 10-03-2014 End: 30-06-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	Building Recording - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial
Monument type	MILL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	STAFFORDSHIRE STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS LEEK Buxton and Leek College Campus
Postcode	ST13 6DP
Study area	200.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	SK 0050 4840 53.0325771684 -1.99254325537 53 01 57 N 001 59 33 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project brief originator	Staffordshire County Council
Project design originator	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project director/manager	Robin Holgate
Project supervisor	Alvaro Mora-Ottomano
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Potteries Museum and Art Gallery
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive recipient	Potteries Museum and Art Gallery
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Drawing","Photograph","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Buxton and Leek College Campus, Leek, Staffordshire. Archaeological watching brief
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Mora-Ottomano, A.
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Bakewell

Entered by	Alvaro Mora-Ottomano (alvaro@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)
Entered on	30 June 2014

OASIS:

Please e-mail English Heritage for OASIS help and advice