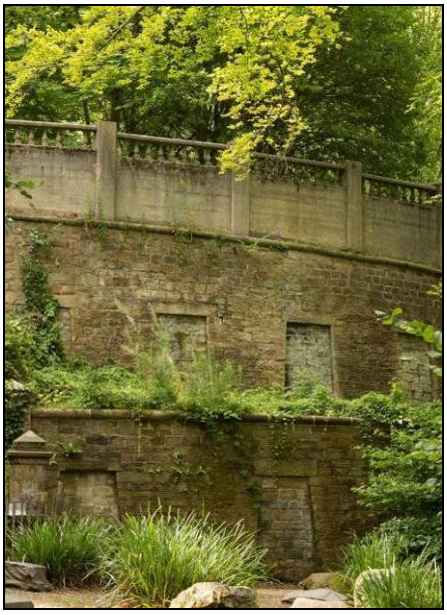
Sheffield General Cemetery – Catacombs – Sheffield, South Yorkshire

Archaeological monitoring and recording



The Catacombs, Sheffield General Cemetery, Sheffield.

ARS Ltd Report 2015/56
April 2015
OASIS ID: archaeol5 – 210103

Compiled By:
Alvaro Mora-Ottomano

Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Aizlewood's Mill
Nursery Street
Sheffield
S3 8GG

admin@archaeologicalresearchservices.com
www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

Checked By:
Dr. Robin Holgate
Tel: 0114 2750140
Fax: 01629 814657

Sheffield General Cemetery – Catacombs – Sheffield, South Yorkshire

Archaeological monitoring and recording

ARS Ltd Report 2015/56

Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Contents

List of Figures

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Sheffield City Council to undertake an archaeological monitoring and recording at Sheffield General Cemetery – Catacombs – Sheffield, South Yorkshire during minor intrusive structural inspection.

The structural inspection carried out within the Catacombs and associated retaining walls within the Sheffield General Cemetery enabled establishing that the Catacombs positioned within the lower level are internally composed of chambers built with brick barrel vaults whose springing courses rest over stone cross walls. Two Catacombs were inspected revealing that their interior had been substantially backfilled with rubble material inserted from the roof through large perforated holes.

The Catacombs within the upper level are different as these were found mostly empty and their construction consists of tall stone walls and secondary concrete ceilings which were created in the 1930s as the basal area of the balustrated parapet above the Catacombs.

The Catacombs structure extends westwards in the form of retaining walls which appear to be an integral part of the entire Catacombs. The lower retaining wall is built against a clay sub-stratum, whereas the upper wall contains a series of later burial chambers whose construction might have undermined the original wall.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Sheffield General Cemetery is a Grade II* registered landscape with English Heritage (recently changed to Historic England) and is on the Heritage at Risk register. The Catacomb structure is Grade II listed. Whilst still referred to as a cemetery the site was formally made a park by an act of parliament in 1979.

1.2 Sheffield General Cemetery is located along the Porter Brook approximately 800m SW from the city centre. The site is bordered by Cemetery Road and Cemetery Avenue / Stalker Lees Road.

1.3 The Catacombs form an above ground linear retaining structure formed of two tiers approximately 15m high at the highest point and with an overall length of *c.*85 metres. The structure supports the main driveway which leads from the gateway lodge (off Cemetery Avenue / Stalker Lees Road) up to the Non-Conformist Chapel in the centre of the site.

1.4 The Parks & Countryside Service became managers of the park site *c.*2012 and, with Property & Facilities Management Service and Historic England, have progressed site improvements including ongoing assessment of risk associated with structures.

1.5 A section of the Catacombs retaining wall collapsed in winter 2012 / 13 and there is evidence of bowing and potential movement elsewhere in the structure. Potentially unstable sections have been shored to manage the risk until their condition is understood.

1.6 Structural investigation of the Catacombs is required to ascertain the structural integrity of the retaining structure and to inform future repair requirements. Thus, an archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken at Sheffield General Cemetery – Catacombs – Sheffield, South Yorkshire (NGR: SK 34080 85928, Fig. 1) during minor intrusive structural investigation as advised by Historic England and South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS).

1.7 This report deals with the archaeological monitoring and recording which has been carried out under the *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)* (DCLG 2012). 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).

1.8 The underlying geology of the site is comprised of mudstone and siltstone, and sandstone of the Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation (British Geological Survey 2005).

Figure 1: General site location (red circle).
(Ordnance Survey Data © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence No. 100045420)

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 The overall aim of the programme of archaeological works was to ensure that any archaeological features, finds or remains revealed during the intrusive structural investigation works of the above ground Catacombs within Sheffield General Cemetery are retrieved, monitored and recorded as appropriate. A full account of specific objectives is provided within a brief designed by Sheffield City Council which was subsequently approved by SYAS (Appendix I).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The brief designed by Sheffield City Council outlines the methodology employed (Appendix I). The archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out by Alvaro Mora-Ottomano (BA Hons, MSc) of ARS Ltd who is a corporate member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ACIfA 5297) and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (2583AFF).

3.2 All aspects of the archaeological monitoring and recording followed the standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA 2014a) and the *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014b).

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 Catacombs were constructed following the purchase of the site in 1834 by the General Cemetery Company although the concrete parapet appears to have been built in the 1930s (information provided by Amanda Cosgrove of Sheffield City Council). A contemporary engraving by Thomas Christopher Hofland shows the Cemetery with the Catacombs soon after its opening in 1836 (available online at: http://www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings/paintings/sheffield-general-cemetery-71126). It is noteworthy that the engraving depicts the Catacombs with an elegant parapet with alternating sections of balusters which bears some resemblance with the existing concrete construction. This may indicate that the original parapet might have suffered significant damage resulting in its total replacement with concrete in the 1930s.

4.2 The site was previously a quarry and the hillside of the quarry appears to have been utilised to construct the present Catacombs terraced structure (information provided by Amanda Cosgrove of Sheffield City Council). The 1832 J. Tayler's map entitled 'A Map of the town & environs of Sheffield in the West Riding of the County of York' depicts the site undeveloped with several fields adjacent to the Porter Brook. However, it is worth noting that the area where the Catacombs currently lies is mostly occupied by a feature which resembles a broad band of vegetation, although it could also be a disused quarry or even an in-filled and overgrown channel associated with the brook (Fig. 2).

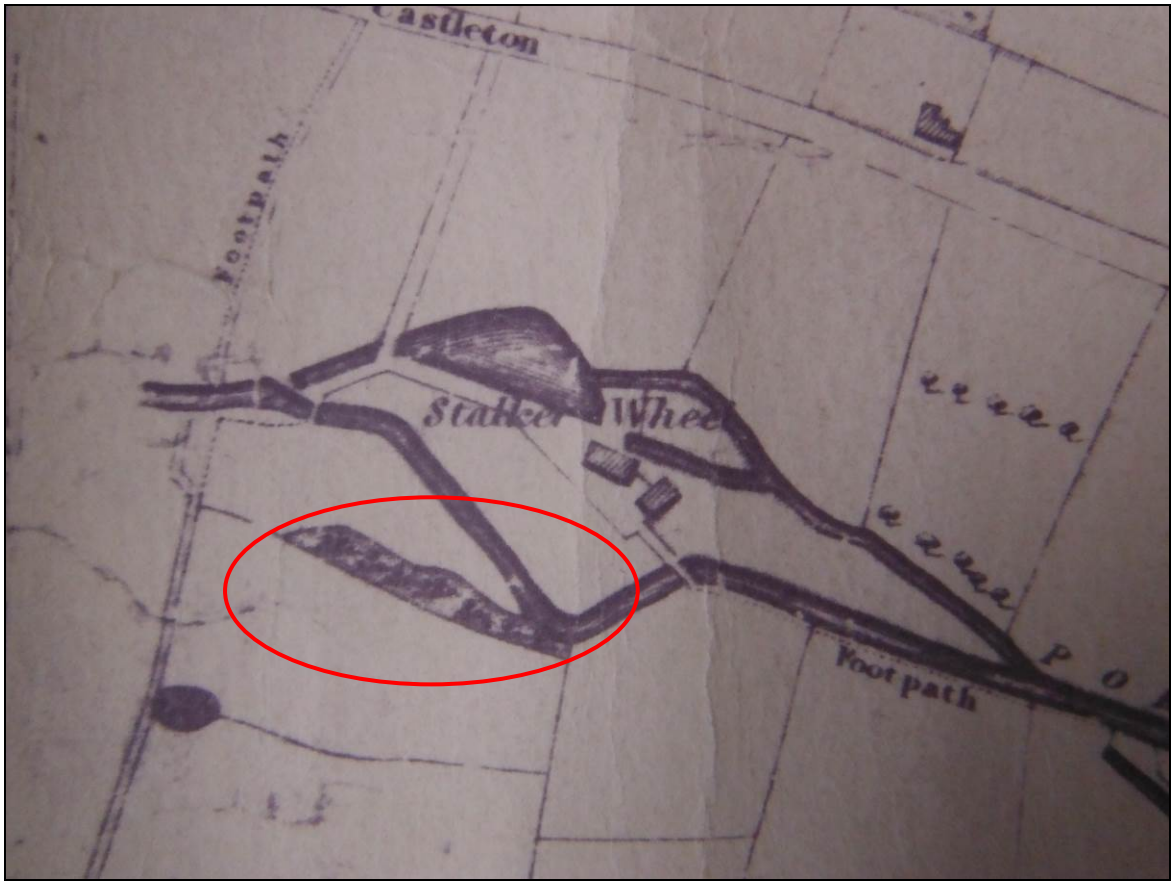


Figure 2: Extract of Tayler's 1832 map showing the area where the Catacombs currently lies (red oval).

5 RESULTS

5.1 The archaeological monitoring and recording were undertaken between 18th and 19th March 2015 to observe minor intrusive work related to structural inspection of selected Catacombs within Sheffield General Cemetery. The general location of the Catacombs within the cemetery is shown on plan (Fig. 3). The location of the Catacombs investigated follows a historical nomenclature shown on a plan supplied by Sheffield City Council (Fig 4).

5.2 The Catacombs are in two terraced levels (lower and upper) built with coursed sandstone squared blocks. The walls are slightly battered with doorways to each Catacomb and topped with a concrete balustraded parapet (Figs 5 and 6). Historical records indicate that the Catacombs were used for burial, although some plots may now be empty enabling appropriate inspection.

5.3 Catacomb DD, within the lower level, was the first one investigated following the removal of some of the uppermost stones blocking the doorway which was recessed 60mm from the outer side of the wall. It was revealed that the doorway had been blocked up with two separate veneer of coursed sandstone masonry decorated with furrowed tooling marks similar to the main Catacombs' wall. The thickness of the original front wall of the Catacomb measures 500mm and the doorway jambs are internally splayed (150mm wide). The interior was mostly obscured by a substantial amount of rubble which appears to have been inserted into the chamber through several large holes that perforate the ceiling. It was established, nevertheless, that the roof consisted of a brick barrel vault (225mm thick) built with hand-made orangey standard bricks bonded with lime mortar. The brick vault is not tied to the main front wall of the Catacomb as there is a gap of 100mm between them (Figs 7 – 13).

5.4 Catacomb OO, within the lower level, was also the subject of a similar investigation removing a few stones from the upper left corner of the blocked-up doorway which was recessed 80mm. The blocking here consisted only of a single leaf. The internal character of this Catacomb was comparable to its counterpart although it was better observed as the rubble deposit did not filled in the entire the chamber. Indeed, the springing course of the barrel vault was discerned over a stone cross wall. The brick vault is also detached from the front wall of the Catacomb although a secondary infill between them was also discerned which may represent the result of an improvised reinforcement. A small trial pit was subsequently excavated over the roof of the Catacomb through a thin topsoil layer which in turn overlay the natural sub-stratum composed of light yellowing clay. The *intrados* of the barrel vault was established at 650mm below the topsoil of the terraced platform above. This excavation also showed that the rolled moulding coping stones of the lower Catacombs have no fittings and/or scars of any railings or similar type of fence protection (Figs 14 – 18).

5.5 A loose section of stonework between the doorways of Catacombs NN and OO was removed establishing the springing course of the brick barrel vault and stone cross wall recessed approximately 600mm from the face of the wall. There was loose rubble infill between the brick/stone and the inner face of the façade wall (Figs 19 – 22).

5.6 The upper level of the Catacombs was also studied by means of several inspection holes through the main front wall and blocked-up doorways. Several stones of the top three courses of the blocked-up doorway of Catacomb D were removed which were

recessed approximately 100mm from the face of the wall. The construction of the front wall is equivalent to the lower level with an overall thickness of 500mm. However, the interior of the chamber was different from the vaults encountered within the lower level, consisting of tall stone walls supporting a concrete ceiling. The concrete construction is clearly a later insertion thought to have taken place in the 1930s. However, the tall stone walls built with roughly hewn sandstone rubble built to courses without any sign of vault construction may indicate that the upper Catacombs might have encompassed flat ceilings, possibly supported by bridging beams or similar elements. The Catacomb is a complete void but with some rubble deposited across the floor. The chamber measures 5.05 metres in length by 2 metres in width and the height is approximately 2.20 metres. Traces of four equidistance iron columns/posts were discerned within the floor and projecting out the ceiling, despite severe oxidation and decay. These posts would have originally extended vertically through the timber shuttering and spans which facilitated the initial concrete casting process and thus they may be regarded as reinforcing rods of the basal area of the balustraded parapet. Further oxidation stains caused by decomposed iron rods/poles or a reinforcing cage of the above concrete structure were observed along the inner side of the blocked-up doorway (23 – 29).

5.7 Catacombs I and R were opened up on the basis that the inspections would be made from the opening and no intrusion into the Catacombs would take place. The findings were similar to Catacomb D although it appears that the concrete deck reduces in level in line with the sloping path over the Catacombs. Indeed, the concrete soffit of Catacomb I is 450mm lower than the *intrados* of the original doorway lintel; and the soffit of Catacomb R is 620mm lower than the *intrados* of its doorway's lintel. In both Catacombs there is a concrete wall built off the front edge of the concrete deck which extends up to support the high level concrete balustrade parapet on top of the Catacombs. There are no ties between the concrete wall and the inner face of the façade stone wall. The floor of Catacomb I is covered with a substantial amount of rubble debris, whereas Catacomb R contains well-preserved brick-built sub-divisions which would have acted as separate burial chambers within the Catacomb (Figs 30 – 34).

5.8 Additional monitoring works took place on 22nd of April 2015 to observe further structural inspection within two retaining walls which are an integral part of each level of the Catacombs' structural masonry that extends towards the west. The upper retaining wall is a revetment of several burial vaults with memorial monuments and/or tomb stones.

5.9 The first inspection took place within the upper level at approximately 18 metres from the western end of the wall where a large amount of dressed stones of the outer face of the wall have tumbled and is currently shored with timber joists, planks and boards. The missing outer skin has revealed rubble infill composed of elongated and fairly flat sandstone rubble laid slightly irregular and bonded with coarse lime mortar. The removal of several rubble exposed a brick wall at 830mm from the face of the retaining wall which appears to be a U-shaped chamber built against the inner side of the retaining wall. The brick wall extends further down. The interior of chamber measure approximately 750mm in width and its inner face appears to be slightly lime washed. The brickwork consists of hand-made orangey standard size bonded with lime mortar. The base of the chamber contains soil which could be covering an interment. The tomb stone of this burial chamber was identified above the retaining wall (Figs 35 – 39).

5.10 Immediately to the right of the outer side of the exposed wall, a basal section of an adjacent concrete burial chamber was viewed (Fig. 40). This is rather intriguing as the memorial monument above refers to burials dating from the late 19th century onwards,

although the concrete construction is more likely to date from the first quarter to mid 20th century instead. It is likely that later re-interments had taken place within the entire cemetery, particularly along the driveway above the Catacombs, as indicated by a inscribed plaque (Fig. 41) situated within a blocked-up doorway of the western side of the upper Catacombs which reads:

WITHIN THIS VAULT
WERE RE-INTERRED IN 1933
THE REMAINS OF THOSE ORIGINALLY BURIED
AT BRUNSWICK CHAPEL
BETWEEN THE YEARS 1833 AND 1855.
THE MEMORIALS ACROSS THE PATH WERE
ALSO REMOVED AT THE SAME TIME.

5.11 The construction of these burial chambers might have undermined the upper retaining wall although the chambers themselves probably act as a convenient revetment for the present driveway.

5.12 Approximately 2 metres east of the inspection hole, a test pit was dug to expose the foundation of the retaining wall. This was excavated to a depth of 1.3 metres although the exposed wall continues downwards. Nevertheless, it was established that the upstanding retaining wall, with furrowed dressed squared blocks, sits over a foundation wall, consisting of four slightly irregular courses (with an overall thickness of *c.*600mm) of large sandstone rubble bonded with hard mid grey lime mortar, which in turn overlies a lower wall, composed of smaller sandstone fairly flat and elongated rubble bonded with a rather thick matrix composed of light reddish brown sandy silt with occasional specks of whiteish lime mortar. The section across the test pit shows that the lower wall cuts through the natural clay sub-stratum (Figs 42 – 44). It is possible that the lower wall may be associated with an earlier structure, such as a boundary wall, as indicated by the 1832 Tayler's map (Fig. 2).

5.13 A similar inspection consisting of a small hole and test pit was also undertaken within the lower retaining wall of the Catacombs at 11 metres from the western end of the wall. The construction of the wall was similar to its counterpart consisting of a single skin of squared dressed sandstone with rubble infill yielding an overall width of 650mm. The rubble infill of this level is smaller and slightly more regularly laid. The natural clay sub-stratum was identified behind the wall. The test pit reached a depth of approximately 900mm, establishing the natural bedrock. The entire exposed wall appears to be a single phase of construction whose squared blocks are decorated with furrowed dressing (Figs 45 – 47).

5.14 The concrete balustrade parapet capping the upper Catacombs appears to have been a later insertion replacing an original and integral parapet. The secondary concrete structure intruded into the Catacombs substituting the original roof structure as well as the actual parapet. The state of the concrete feature will be the subject of further structural studies as deterioration of the feature has been noted. Although this will not have an impact on the archaeological work, a photographic record of the damaged areas within the entire concrete parapet was undertaken on 22nd of April 2015 which will form part of the project archive. A selection of photographs illustrating the damage is provided below (Figs 48 – 52).

Figure 3:

Plan of the cemetery showing the location of the Catacombs

Key/note:

Original drawing supplied by Sheffield City Council (not to scale)

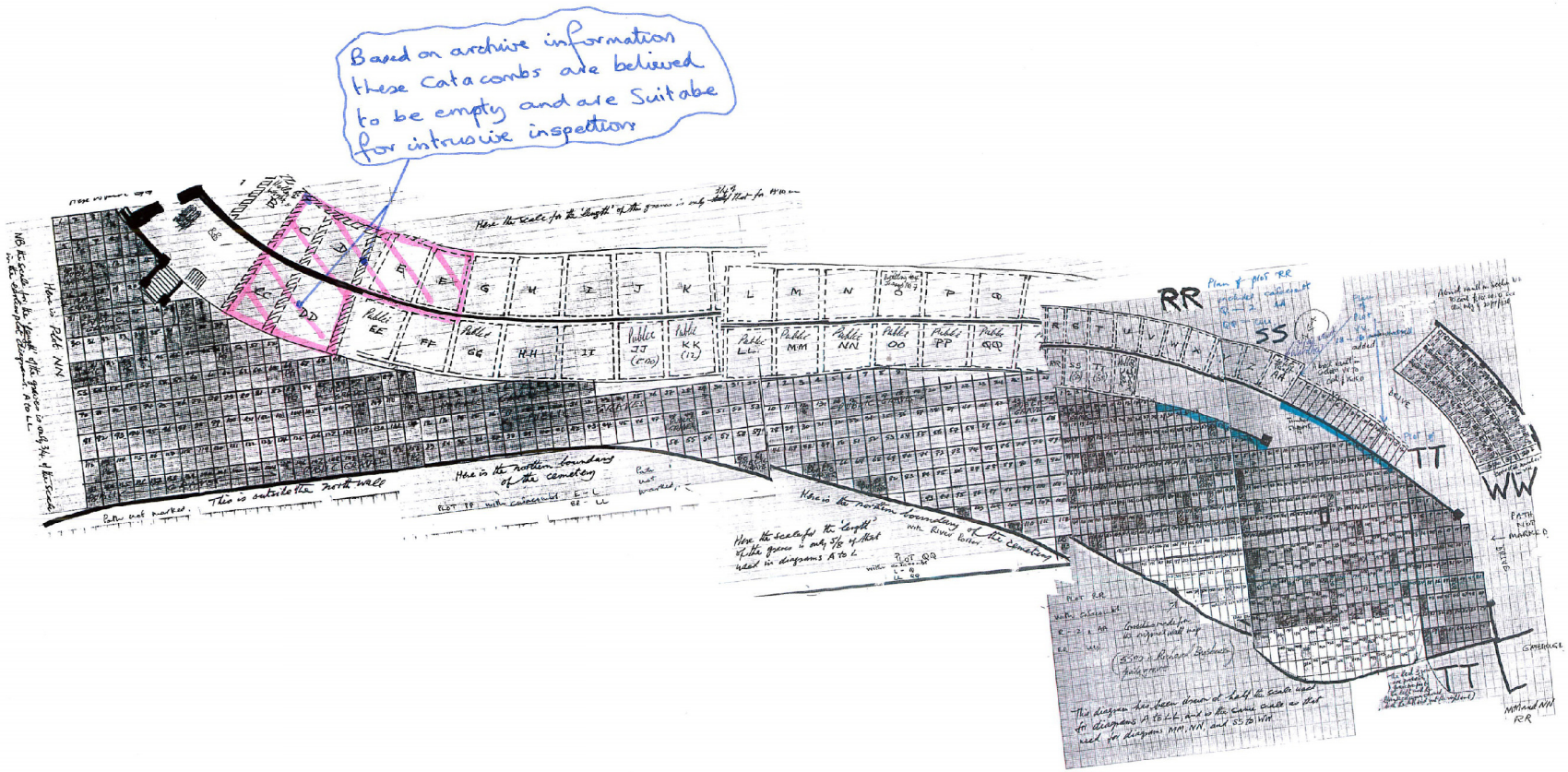


Figure 4:

Historic plan of the Catacombs showing individual plots

Key/note:

Original drawing supplied by Sheffield City Council (not to scale)

N

Figure 5: General view of the Catacombs, looking east.

Figure 6: Westernmost end of the upper level of the Catacombs.

Figure 7: Catacomb DD within the lower level.

Figure 8: Detail of blocked-up doorway of Catacomb DD.

Figure 9: Inspection opening of Catacomb DD.

Figure 10: Opening into Catacomb DD.

Figure 11: Detail of blocking veneers.

Figure 12: Detail of wall thickness of the lower Catacombs.

Figure 13: Brick barrel vaulted chamber.

Figure 14: Doorway of Catacomb OO.

Figure 15: Brick barrel vault springing from a stone cross wall.

Figure 16: Detail of secondary infill between the brick vault and the external stone masonry of Catacomb.

Figure 17: Excavation over the brick vault.

Figure 18: Detail of excavated area showing brick vault *extrado*.

Figure 19: Wall between Catacombs NN and OO.

Figure 20: Opening within wall between Catacombs NN and OO.

Figure 21: Detail of the opening.

Figure 22: Internal view showing the external masonry, rubble infill and masonry of the Catacomb inside.

Figure 23: Detail of the stone wall and brick vault of the Catacomb inside.

Figure 24: Doorway of Catacomb D within the upper level.

Figure 25: Detail of doorway of Catacomb D.

Figure 26: Inspection hole within the blocked-up doorway of Catacomb D.

Figure 27: General view of the interior.

Figure 28: Basal area of Catacomb D with oxidised residues.

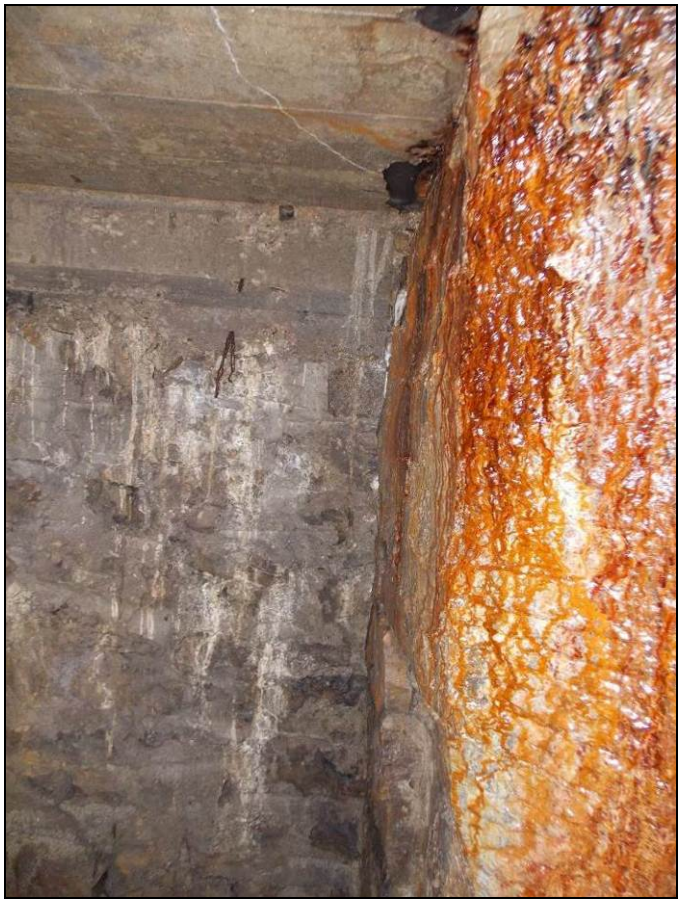


Figure 29: Further oxidation along the inner side of the blocked-up doorway.

Figure 30: Doorway of Catacomb I.

Figure 31: Original doorway jamb with internal splayed edges.

Figure 32: Internal view of Catacomb I with substantial deposited rubble.

Figure 33: Doorway of Catacomb R.

Figure 34: Catacomb R with brick burial chambers.

Figure 35: Upper retaining wall with missing outer stone veneer boarded up.

Figure 36: Inspection hole through the exposed rubble infill.

Figure 37: Brick wall abutting the rubble infill of the retaining wall.

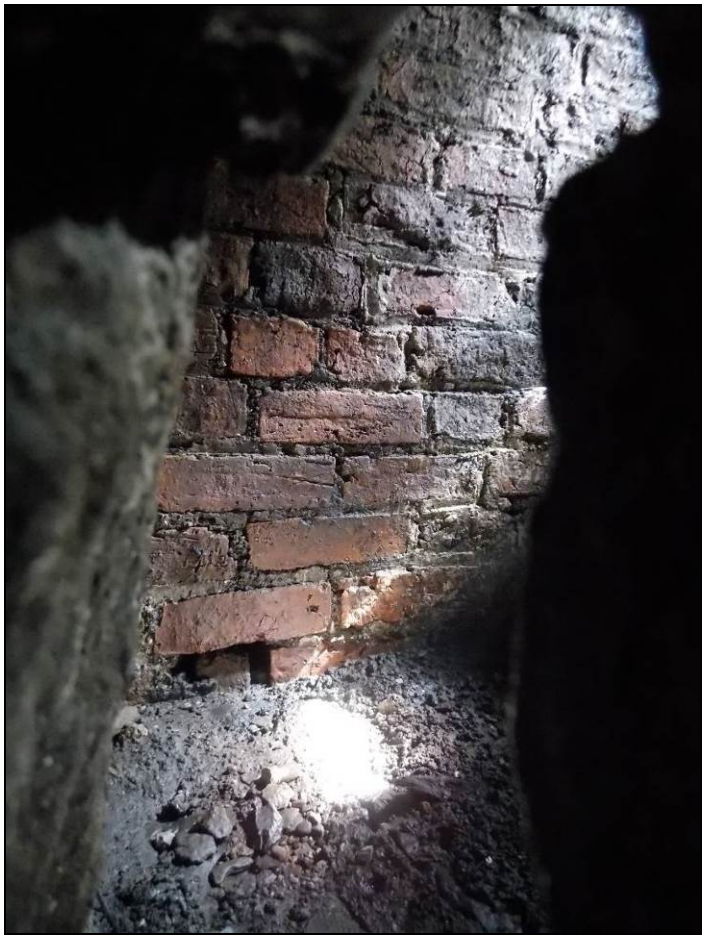


Figure 38: Internal view of the brick vault.

Figure 39: Tomb stone (arrow) of the brick vault partially observed below.

Figure 40: Basal section of adjacent concrete structure with metal and glass aggregate/packing.

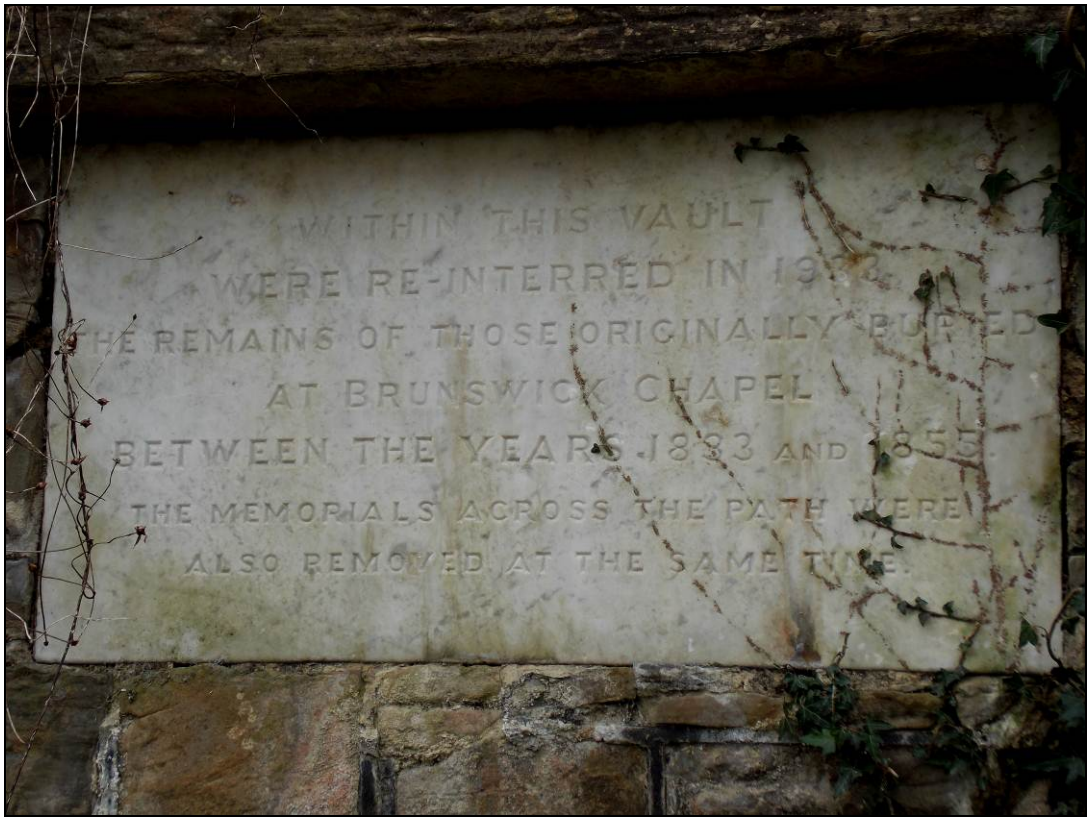


Figure 41: Inscription within a blocked-up doorway of one of the upper Catacombs.

Figure 42: Test pit adjacent to the partially demolished retaining wall of the upper level.

Figure 43: Test pit showing an earlier phase of construction beneath the foundation of the retaining wall.

Figure 44: West facing section through the test pit.

Figure 45: Location of trial hole and pit within the lower retaining wall.

Figure 46: Detail of trial hole.

Figure 47: Detail of test pit showing the wall over the natural bedrock.

Figure 48: Section of the concrete parapet with missing balusters.

Figure 49: Plinth of balustrade showing exposed iron reinforcing cage.

Figure 50: Detail of exposed reinforced cage and fracture.

Figure 51: Exposed reinforced rod as a result of spalling.

Figure 52: Severe fracture within the parapet.

6 CONCLUSION

6.1 The structural inspection carried out within the Catacombs and associated retaining walls within the Sheffield General Cemetery established that the Catacombs positioned within the lower level are internally composed of chambers built with brick barrel vaults whose springing courses rest over stone cross walls. Two Catacombs were inspected and their interiors have been substantially backfilled with rubble material inserted from the roof through large perforated holes.

6.2 The Catacombs within the upper level are different as these were found mostly empty and their construction consists of tall stone walls and secondary concrete ceilings which were created in the 1930s as the basal area of the balustrated parapet above the Catacombs.

6.3 The Catacombs structure extends westwards in the form of retaining walls which appear to be an integral part of the entire Catacombs. The lower retaining wall is built against a clay sub-stratum, whereas the upper wall contains a series of later burial chambers whose construction might have undermined the original wall.

7 PUBLICITY, CONFIDENTIALITY AND COPYRIGHT

7.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client.

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

8 STATEMENT OF INDEMNITY

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

9 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

9.1 A digital and paper archive will be prepared by ARS Ltd, consisting of all primary written documents, drawings, photographs and electronic data, which will be deposited at an appropriate repository.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

10.1 ARS Ltd would like to thank all those involved with the archaeological project, especially Amanda Cosgrove, Project Officer of Sheffield City Council for commissioning the work and providing useful information; and Zoe Kemp of Historic England, for monitoring and providing advice throughout the project.

11 REFERENCES

British Geological Survey. Geology of Britain Viewer. Available online at: http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html?src=topNav [Accessed 27 April 2015].

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014a. *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Briefs*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. Available online at: http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/IfASG-Watching-Brief.pdf [Accessed 27 April 2015].

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014b. *Code of Conduct*. Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. Available online at: http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/Code-of-conduct-revOct2013.pdf [Accessed 27 April 2015].

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

APPENDIX I: SPECIFICATIONS AND OASIS FORM

Brief For Archaeological Watching And Recording
Sheffield General Cemetery S11 8NT - Catacomb Structural Investigation

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 Sheffield General Cemetery (SGC) is a Grade II* registered landscape with English Heritage (EH) and is on the HAR register. The Catacomb structure is Grade II listed. Whilst still referred to as a cemetery the site was formally made a park by an act of parliament in 1979.

1.2 SGC is located along the Porter Brook approx. 800m SW from the city centre (see att. plan). The site is bordered by Cemetery Road and Cemetery Avenue / Stalker Lees Road.

1.3 The catacombs form an above ground linear retaining structure formed of three tiers approx. 15m high at the highest point. The structure supports the main driveway which leads from the gateway lodge (off Cemetery Avenue / Stalker Lees Road) up to the Non-Conformist Chapel in the centre of the site.

1.4 The Parks & Countryside Service became managers of the park site circa 2012 and, with Property & Facilities Management Service and English Heritage, have progressed site improvements including ongoing assessment of risk associated with structures.

1.5 A section of the Catacombs retaining wall collapsed in winter 2012 / 13 and there is evidence of bowing and potential movement elsewhere in the structure. Potentially unstable sections have been shored to manage the risk until their condition is understood.

1.6 Structural investigation of the catacombs is required to ascertain the structural integrity of the retaining structure and to inform future repair requirements. Some intrusive work is required for this, see below.

1.7 William Saunders engineering have been appointed to undertake the structural investigation work, Alan Milner is the lead engineer for the work. The work is part funded by English Heritage who have advised on the scope of the work and may wish to monitor the archaeological fieldwork.

1.8 The two English Heritage officers currently involved are:

Rose Thompson – Heritage at Risk Office covering Yorks & Humber
Zoe Kemp – Architect covering Yorks & Humber

1.9 The client representative and Project Manager for the work is:

Amanda Cosgrove, Sheffield City Council, Parks & Countryside Service.

2.0 THE COMMISSION BRIEF

2.1 The aim of this archaeological watching / recording work is:

> To ensure that any archaeological features, finds or remains revealed during the intrusive structural investigation works of the above ground Catacombs within Sheffield General Cemetery are retrieved, monitored

and recorded as appropriate.

2.2 An Archaeological consultant is required to undertake a watching and recording role covering the intrusive investigation works.

2.3 Minimum outputs of this commission are

- On-site watching brief for the duration of the works
- Recording report with appropriate illustrations documenting the findings of the watching brief and detail of any artefacts / finds.

2.4 In summary the intrusive work to be carried out by William Saunders is:

- Carry out intrusive inspection of the stone catacombs by opening selected entrances
- Carry out intrusive inspection of the two failed sections of retaining walls

2.5 The intrusive investigation work for the catacombs is provisionally planned to take place over two on **Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd January 2015**. It possible that this work could extend to three days depending on the ease of accessing the catacombs.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 General

3.1.1 The work shall be carried out by appropriately qualified and experienced staff as per the supplied quote and agreed within the appointment terms.

3.1.2 The archaeological consultant must give the minimum required notice to EH and SYAS of the commencement of fieldwork in order that arrangements for monitoring can be made (this is usually one week's notice for SYAS and three weeks' notice (or shorter period by mutual arrangement) for EH.

3.2 Watching brief

3.2.1 The archaeological consultant is required to undertake the watching brief for the duration of the works on site. If it becomes clear during the monitoring that little of archaeological interest is likely to survive on the site, the contractor should discuss their work with the monitor. A joint decision will be made on reducing the work to an intermittent watching brief or ceasing observation of ground works.

3.2.2 The archaeological consultant will report any significant or unexpected discoveries immediately to the structural investigation consultants / contractors (via Alan Milner or other nominated site supervisor) and to the client Project Manager (Amanda Cosgrove).

3.2.3 Where structures, features or finds of archaeological interest are exposed or disturbed by the works, the archaeological consultant must be given the opportunity to observe, clean, assess and, where appropriate, hand excavate, sample and record these features and finds.

3.2.4 There is a record of burials for the catacombs and the intrusive investigation work will be focused on a small number of vacant plots. As part of this commission
3.2.5 the archaeological consultant is required to advise the client and on site staff

plus take action relating to any human remains which are revealed as part of the work. This advice / action must comply with relevant legislation including Ministry of Justice (formerly Home Office), Diocesan and other regulations, as appropriate.

3.2.6 All finds that are 'treasure' (in terms of the Treasure Act 1997) will be reported to the Coroner and appropriate procedures then followed.

3.2.7 Where archaeological remains are observed by contractors or plant operators, they must immediately notify the archaeological consultant.

3.3 Archive

3.3.1 Upon completion of fieldwork, any samples taken will be processed and all finds will be cleaned, identified, assessed, spot-dated and properly stored.

3.3.2 A field archive will be compiled, comprising all primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs.

3.3.3 The field archive should be deposited with the appropriate museum or other archive (specified in the accompanying planning report). The archaeological contractor must contact the archive at the beginning of the project to arrange this and then to discuss conservation issues identified during the project.

3.4 Report

3.4.1 The archaeological consultant will provide a written, illustrated report within 1 month on completion of their fieldwork.

3.4.2 The National Monuments Record shall also be invited to receive copies of both archives and reports.

3.4.3 A report will be produced to include the following:

- background information
- a summary of the works carried out
- a description and interpretation the findings
- an assessment of the importance of the archaeology found

3.4.4 All excavated areas must be accurately mapped with respect to nearby fixed structures and roads, and all archaeological features should be illustrated with appropriately scaled plans and sections. The report should be appropriately illustrated, including all of the following (unless agreed otherwise):

- a location map
- a site plan showing all identified features of archaeological interest
- detailed plans and sections of features as appropriate
- a selection of scanned photographs of work in progress
- artefact / finds illustrations

3.4.5 A printed and bound copy of the report must be supplied to SYAS for incorporation into the South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record. A digital copy of the report must also be supplied.

3.4.6 A printed and bound copy of the report must be supplied to Rose Thompson, Heritage At Risk Officer, English Heritage, 37 Tanner Row, York, YO1 6WP. A digital copy of the report should also be supplied.

3.4.7 Should the reports contain any material relevant to archaeological science, then a copy should also be sent to Andy Hammon, English Heritage Regional Science Advisor, at the York regional office.

3.4.8 Acceptable digital formats are:

- text (Word);
- images (JPG at no less that 300 dpi. resolution).

Please pdf emailed documents.

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

3.4.10 Provision must be made for publicising the results of the work locally, e.g. by presenting a paper at South Yorkshire Archaeology Day and talking to local societies.

3.4.11 The archaeological contractor must complete the online OASIS form at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/.

4.0 QUOTATION RESPONSE

4.1 The following information is to be included within the quotation response:

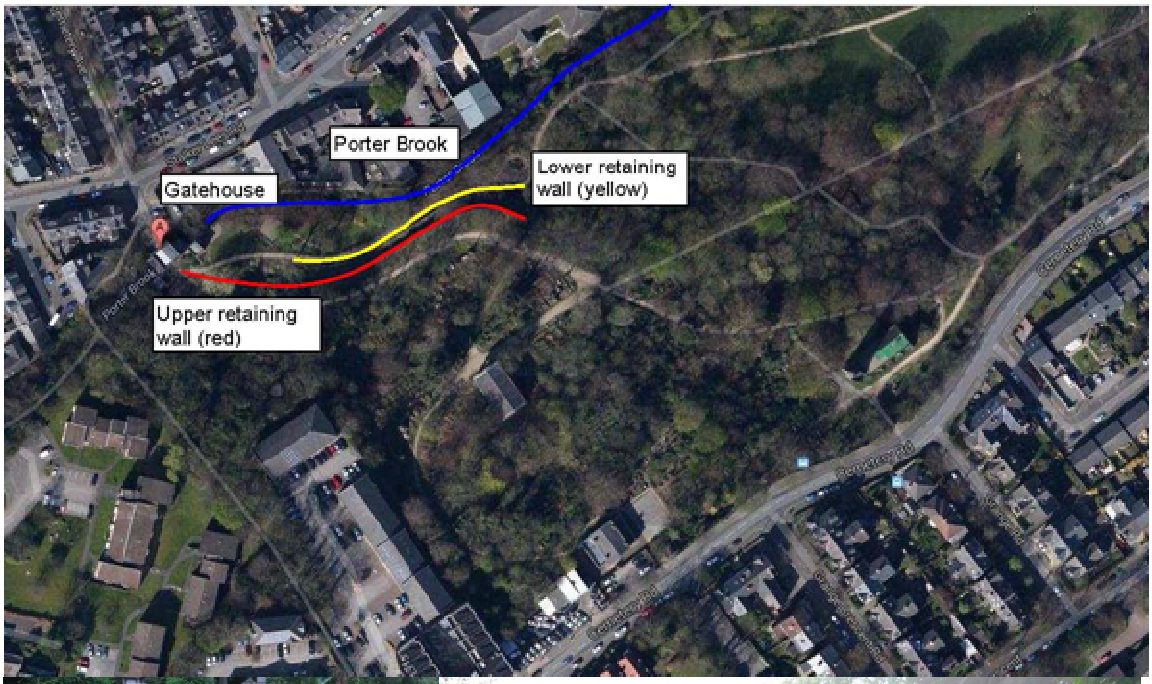
- How you will undertake the commission including named personnel (including any sub-contractors) who will work on the project, their relevant skills and experience.
- Project plan / timescales
- Cost plan for the commission to include a day rate for the fieldwork work.

4.2 The quotation response should be emailed to Amanda Cosgrove by 5 pm Wednesday, 7th January, 2015.

Amanda Cosgrove
Project Officer
Parks & Countryside
Brook Road
Sheffield City Council
S8 9FL

Tel: 0114 2736375
Email: amanda.cosgrove@sheffield.gov.uk

Sheffield General Cemetery – Catacomb location plan and images



OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

Printable version

OASIS ID: archaeol5-210103

Project details

Project name	Sheffield General Cemetery - Catacombs - Sheffield, south Yorkshire. Archaeological watching brief
Short description of the project	Watching brief during structural inspection within the Catacombs, partially revealing some Catacombs. No finds or burials were identified.
Project dates	Start: 18-03-2015 End: 22-03-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	CEMETERY Post Medieval
Monument type	PARK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Listed Building Consent

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SOUTH YORKSHIRE SHEFFIELD SHEFFIELD Sheffield General Cemetery - Catacombs-
Study area	100.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	SK 3408 8592 53.3687798054 -1.48775358872 53 22 07 N 001 29 15 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project brief originator	Sheffield City Council
Project design originator	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Project director/manager	Dr. Robin Holgate

Project supervisor	Alvaro Mora-Ottomano

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	South Yorkshire SMR
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	South Yorkshire SMR
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Photograph","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Sheffield General Cemetery -Catacombs- Sheffield, South Yorkshire. Archaeological watching brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Mora-Ottomano, A.
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Archaeological Research Services Ltd.
Place of issue or publication	Bakewell

Entered by	Alvaro Mora-Ottomano (alvaro@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)
Entered on	29 April 2015

OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice