



**COUNTY ARMS PUBLIC HOUSE, LEICESTER ROAD
GLEN PARVA, LEICESTERSHIRE**

**Archaeological Watching Brief
Addendum**

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QUALITY ASSURANCE

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COUNTY ARMS PUBLIC HOUSE, GLEN PARVA, LEICESTERSHIRE

Archaeological Watching Brief Addendum

Contents

Summary.....	iv
Acknowledgements.....	v
1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Project Background.....	1
2 WATCHING BRIEF.....	1
2.1 Introduction.....	1
2.2 Results.....	1
2.3 Finds.....	2
3 CONCLUSION.....	2
3.1 Previous Land Use.....	2
4 ARCHIVE.....	3
4.1 Location and Deposition.....	3
4.2 Copyright.....	3
5 REFERENCES.....	3
APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTION.....	4

Figures and Plates

- Figure 1** Site location
Figure 8 Watching Brief Plan

- Plate 47** General view of watching brief area, looking northeast
Plate 48 General view of wall **1006/2001**, looking west
Plate 49 Detail of wall **1006/2001** showing concrete footing and underlying clay **2006**
Plate 50 Detail of remains of concrete lampposts observed within deposit **2003**
Plate 51 General view of the southern half of the Site following ground reduction
Plate 52 General view of the northern half of the Site following ground reduction

COUNTY ARMS PUBLIC HOUSE, GLEN PARVA, LEICESTERSHIRE**Archaeological Watching Brief
Addendum****Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs to undertake Historic Building Recording and an Archaeological Watching Brief at the former County Arms Public House. The Site is situated on the corner of Leicester Road and Little Glen Road in Glen Parva, approximately 6km south of Leicester, at NGR 456825 298556. This programme of work was required to satisfy a planning condition placed on the development of the Site by The Historic and Natural Environment Team of Leicestershire County Council as advisors to the planning authority (planning application reference: 11/0360/1/PX).

This addendum is intended to be seen alongside the main archaeological report produced by Wessex Archaeology (2012), and replaces the earlier discussion on the results of the Watching Brief.

The watching brief largely encountered structures and deposits relating to the 1930s redevelopment of the Site. These comprised structures and features related to the creation of a terrace and car park for the adjacent County Arms public house. Whilst deposits dating to the later post-medieval period were identified, no evidence for structures associated with Blaby Wharf was encountered. An overburden of demolition material associated with the clearance of the 1930s terrace arrangement covered the site.

The project archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield, under the project code 79890 and will be deposited in due course with Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service, under the accession code X.A160.2011.

COUNTY ARMS PUBLIC HOUSE, GLEN PARVA, LEICESTERSHIRE**Archaeological Watching Brief
Addendum****Acknowledgements**

This project was commissioned by CgMs and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to them in this regard. Survey data for the standing building was provided by The Planning Bureau Limited.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Matthew Weightman. This report was compiled by James Thomson, with illustrations by Chris Breeden. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Chris Moore.

COUNTY ARMS PUBLIC HOUSE, GLEN PARVA, LEICESTERSHIRE**Archaeological Watching Brief
Addendum****1 INTRODUCTION****1.1 Project Background**

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs (hereafter 'the Client') to undertake Historic Building Recording and an Archaeological Watching Brief at the former County Arms Public House, to mitigate the impact of development upon the significance and character of the historic environments and its constituent assets (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 This programme of work was requested by the Client to satisfy a planning condition placed on the development of the Site by The Historic and Natural Environment Team of Leicestershire County Council as advisors to the planning authority (planning application reference: 11/0360/1/PX).
- 1.1.3 The archaeological works were carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; Wessex Archaeology 2011) submitted to and approved by the Historic and Natural Environment Team at Leicestershire County Council (HNELCC) on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.
- 1.1.4 *This addendum is intended to be seen alongside the main archaeological report produced by Wessex Archaeology (2012), and replaces the earlier discussion on the results of the Watching Brief.*

2 WATCHING BRIEF**2.1 Introduction**

- 2.1.1 Tarmac stripping to a maximum depth of 0.3m was monitored over an area of approximately 1.2ha within the car park to the east of the County Arms pub (**Plate 47**; **Figure 8**). Obstructions were then grubbed out and the ground reduced across the Site to a depth of between 0.3m to the south and 0.8m the north.
- 2.1.2 The following section provides a summary of the information held in the Site archive. Observed features and contexts for each monitored area are tabulated as **Appendix 1**.

2.2 Results

- 2.2.1 Beneath the tarmac an earlier paved area was exposed along the southern edge of the area comprising an 8m wide steel reinforced concrete surface. The northern edge of the slab was clean and straight indicating the exposed surface was likely its full northern extent. Beneath the slab was mid-brown sandy clay with inclusions of charcoal and gravel (context **1002**). This layer was also partially overlain in the south-eastern corner of the site by **1003** a slightly darker soil but otherwise of the same properties. Underlying these

contexts were undisturbed natural deposits of sandy gravel (context **2005**) and silty clay (context **2006**).

- 2.2.2 Contexts **1002**, **1003**, and **2005** were cut in line with the edge of the concrete by a construction cut relating to an east-west aligned continuous 3 skin thick wall of machine pressed unfrogged brick (context **1006/2001**; **Plate 48**). The wall extended to 2m bgl and sat on a thin concrete foundation (**Plate 49**). Incorporated within the wall were two piers with concrete cores (contexts **1007** and **2010**) containing truncated thick steel wires that had likely supported lamps (observed within the demolition layer **2003**; **Plate 50**).
- 2.2.3 Abutting the northern side of the wall was a made ground deposit of brick rubble and clay (context **2003**). This context overlay pinkish red undisturbed clay (context **2007**) that had been cut for wall **1006/2001**.
- 2.2.4 Overlying **1006/2001** and **2003** was a pale brown sandy rubble demolition deposit (context **1005/2004**) that contained frequent concentrations of both 19th and early 20th century common bricks.
- 2.2.5 Cuts for services were observed within **2005** (**Plate 51**) to the south of the wall and **2007** (**Plate 52**) to the north. These features underlay the demolition deposits **1006/2001** and **2003**.

2.3 Finds

- 2.3.1 A small assemblage of ceramics (**Table 1**) was recovered during the course of the watching brief comprising late post-medieval wares from deposit **1002** that underlay the concrete slabs and a fragment of 19th century porcelain from within rubble deposit **1005**.

Context	Material	Count	Note
1002	Pottery	4	Includes two thick fragments of porcelain tableware and one fragment of brown glazed coarseware. Assemblage likely dates from mid-18 th century to early 20 th century.
1005	Pottery	1	Comprises 1 fragment of porcelain. Likely dates to 19 th century.

Table 1: Finds

3 CONCLUSION

3.1 Previous Land Use

- 3.1.1 The watching brief largely encountered structures and deposits relating to the 1930s redevelopment of the Site. These comprised an earlier concrete paved area along the south of the area that had possibly been the original car park serving the pub, and a linear wall running parallel to it that may have served as a retaining wall supporting a terrace across the northern half of the current car park. The wall supported two lamps, the remains of which were encountered in the adjacent made ground deposit **2003**. Deposits dating to the later post-medieval period were exposed beneath the concrete

slab although no features relating to the former use of the Site were observed. The northern half of the monitored area was overlain by a rubble deposit associated with the levelling of the 1930s terrace in the late 20th century. The inclusion of both 19th and 20th century building material within the made ground indicated that the clearance of the late 20th century also disturbed earlier structures. No further evidence for structures associated with Blaby Wharf was encountered.

4 ARCHIVE

4.1 Location and Deposition

- 4.1.1 The project archive is to be included within the existing archive for the earlier phase of work on the Site (see Wessex Archaeology 2012). This archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield, under the project code 79890 and will be deposited in due course with Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service, under the accession code X.A160.2011.

4.2 Copyright

- 4.2.1 This report, and the archive generally, may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

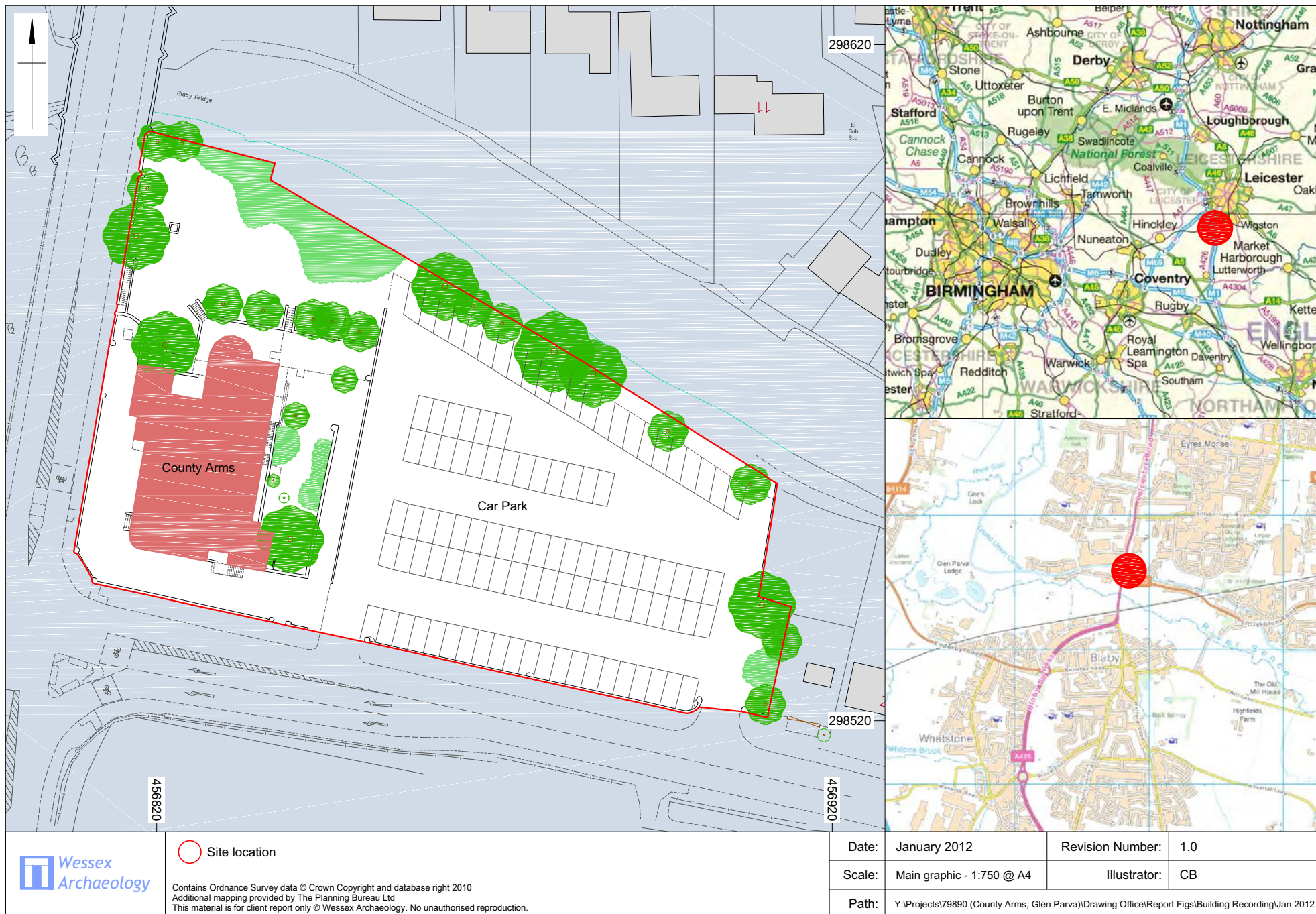
5 REFERENCES

Wessex Archaeology 2011. *The County Arms Public House, Leicester Road, Glen Parva, Leicestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Watching Brief.*

Wessex Archaeology 2012. *County Arms Public House, Leicester Road, Glen Parva, Leicestershire: Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Watching Brief.* Unpublished report ref: 79890.03.

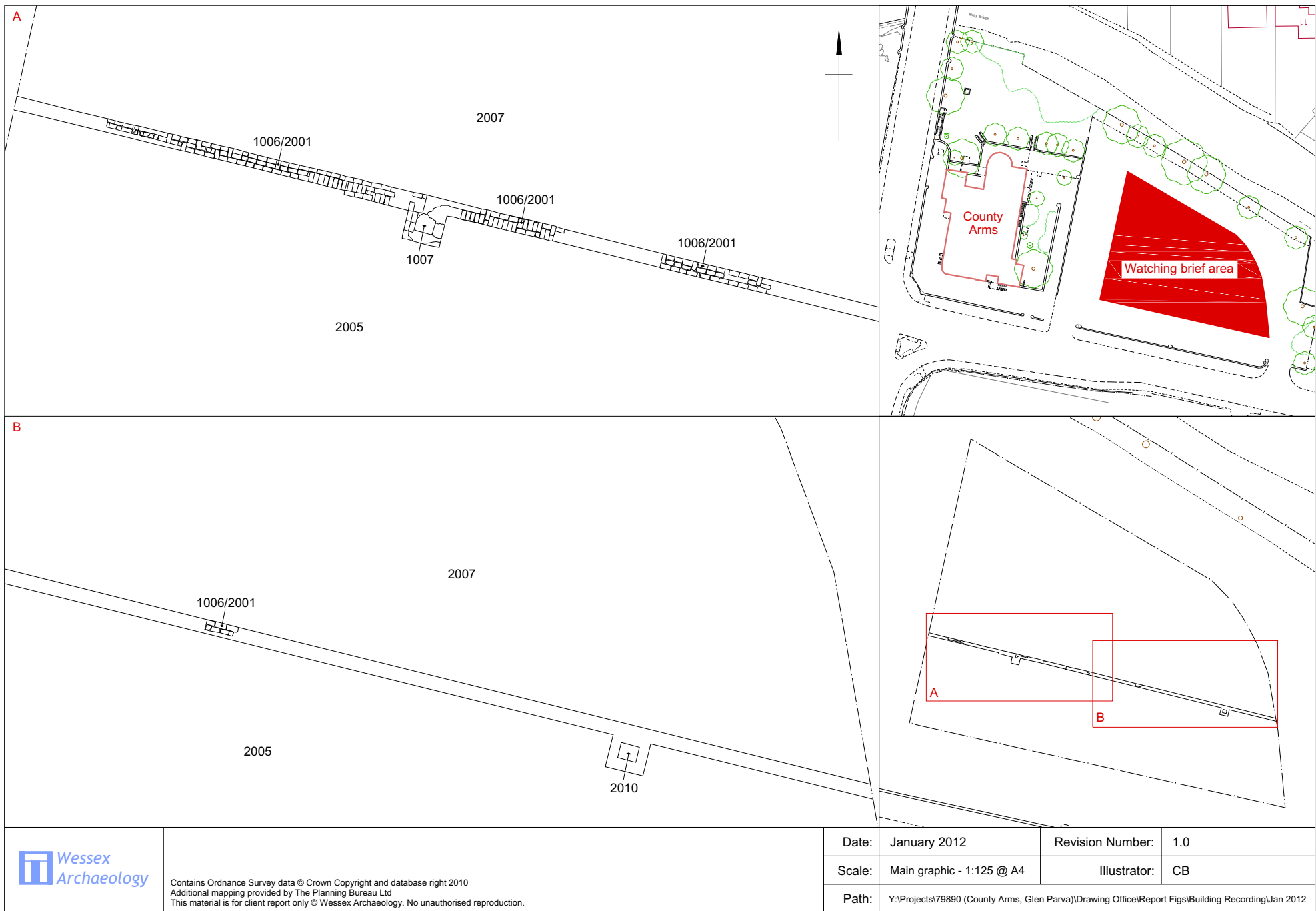
APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTION

Area	Context	Category	Description	Depth bgl (m)
Car Park	1000	Surface	Tarmac	0.00-0.05
Car Park	1001	Surface	Concrete cast in slabs with steel grill reinforcement	0.05-0.22
Car Park	1002	Subsoil	Mid brown sandy clay with moderate angular sandstone <6cm, and occasional redbrick and charcoal fragments	0.62+
Car Park	1003	Subsoil	As 1002 but darker	0.22-0.27
Car Park	1004	Construction cut	Cut for 1006	0.22+
Car Park	1005	Made-ground	Pale brown sandy gravel rubble with occasional patches of clay and redbrick	0.05+
Car Park	1006	Retaining wall	3 course thick linear east-west aligned footing of machine pressed un-frogged brick measuring 23x11x5cm	0.22+
Car Park	1007	Lamp foundation	Concrete core within pier of 1006/2001 with steel wires/rebar within	0.30+
Car Park	2001	Retaining wall	Same as 1006	0.22-1.72
Car Park	2002	Construction cut	Same as 1004	0.22-2.00
Car Park	2003	Made-ground	Dark silty clay with common brick rubble and filtered dust and debris. Overlies 2007	0.22+
Car Park	2004	Made-ground	Gravelly deposit of concrete, brick fragments and dust. Overlies 2003	0.05-0.22
Car Park	2005	Natural	Mid yellow-brown sand with common gravel <0.4cm. Overlies 2006	0.22-1.22
Car Park	2006	Natural	Dark grey-brown silty clay	2.22+
Car Park	2007	Natural	Mid pinkish red clay, with rounded stones <4cm	0.50+
Car Park	2008	Service Trench	Linear cut, approx. 1m wide, aligned NW-SE	0.50-c.1.30
Car Park	2009	Fill of 2008	Dark black material with occasional organic material, brick fragments and broken stone slab <60cm	0.50-c.1.30
Car Park	2010	Lamp foundation	Concrete core within pier of 1006/2001 with steel wires/rebar within. Similar to 1007	0.30-1.72



Site location

Figure 1



Watching brief plan

Figure 8



Plate 47: General view of watching brief area, looking north-east



Plate 48: General view of wall 1006/2001, looking west

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Plate 49: Detail of wall 1006/2001 showing concrete footing and underlying clay 2006



Plate 50: Detail of remains of concrete lampposts observed within deposit 2003



Plate 51: General view of the southern half of the Site following ground reduction



Plate 52: General view of the northern half of the Site following ground reduction

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