



Land to the rear of 77-89 Church Road Redfield, Bristol

Archaeological Watching Brief Report



Bristol City Council Planning Ref: 13/03993/F
Accession Number: BRSMG 2016.67
Ref: 114360.01
October 2016



**Land to the rear of 77-89 Church Road,
Redfield, Bristol**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Prepared for:

David Cahill Design Consultants
Unit 2, Office 4
Tower Lane Business Park
Warmley
Bristol, BS30 8XT

On behalf of:

Diverse Construction
Corners
28 Grange Park
Westbury-on-Trym
Bristol
BS9 4BP

Prepared by:

Wessex Archaeology
Unit 9, Filwood Green Business Park
1 Filwood Park Lane
Bristol
BS4 1ET

www.wessexarch.co.uk

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Bristol City Council Planning Application: 13/03993/F**



Quality Assurance

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Planning Application Ref.	13/03993/F	Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)	361146 173429		

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Archaeological Watching Brief

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Plate 1: East facing representative section of foundation trenches



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Archaeological Watching Brief

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by David Cahill Design Consultants Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during initial groundworks on land to the rear of 77-89 Church Road (Planning Application ref. 13/03993/F). No features or deposits of archaeological significance were revealed.

The watching brief took place on 21st July and 18th August 2016.



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Archaeological Watching Brief

Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by David Cahill Design Consultants Ltd., on behalf of Diverse Construction. The fieldwork was undertaken by Roy Krakowicz, this report was compiled by Sam Fairhead with illustrations by Nancy Dixon.

The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Andy King.



Land to the rear of 77-89 Church Road, Redfield, Bristol

Archaeological Watching Brief

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by David Cahill Design Consultants Ltd (the Client) to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks on land to the rear of 77-89 Church Road (the Site). The watching brief was undertaken in order to discharge Condition 8 of the planning consent (13/03993/F).

1.1.2 The new development will consist of:

- *erection of a terrace of four houses*
- *provision of access from Heber Street*

1.1.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) outlining the initial strategy and methodology by which Wessex Archaeology (WA) would implement the programme of archaeological works (WA 2016) was prepared and submitted to the City Archaeologist (CA), acting on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA) for approval, prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 The Site comprised an approximately 0.1ha parcel of land immediately south of Heber Street, to the rear of 77-89 Church Road, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 361146 173429, and level at a height of 23m above Ordnance Datum (**Figure 1**). The Site was most recently occupied by workshops and a courtyard in use for car sales and storage.

1.2.2 The underlying geology is sandstone of the Redcliffe Sandstone Member (British Geological Survey).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following is summarised from the approved WSI (WA 2016).

2.2 Summary

Romano-British

2.2.1 Whilst evidence has been found for Romano-British occupation in the wider surroundings, there is no evidence suggesting occupation within the Site itself. Human remains found at Victoria Avenue, 300m south-east of the Site were radiocarbon-dated to between 340 and 640 AD. It has been suggested that a short section of the line of Church Road follows part of the Sea Mills to Bath Roman road. This section is located a considerable distance to the east of the Site.



Medieval

- 2.2.2 The Site area lay within the medieval manor of Barton Regis, which is recorded in the Domesday Survey. The manor was held by the King before passing to the Berkeley family. In 1608 it was acquired by Thomas Chester of Knolle Park after which the estate was gradually broken up and sold off.

Post-medieval and modern

- 2.2.3 The Moorfields area was first developed for housing during the first half of the 19th century. The earliest useful cartographic source is the 1842 Tithe Map which shows the Site as open land within a cluster of development and the eventual route of Heber Street already laid out. Ordnance Survey mapping shows that by the 1880s terraced housing was already constructed along Heber Street including within the Site. During the 1960s the housing on the Site was cleared and used thereafter as a car sales lot.
- 2.2.4 A nearby evaluation in 2005 revealed a brick-built culvert and remains of a probable 18th-century building (BaRAS 2005).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and objectives

- 3.1.1 With due regard to the ClfA *Standard and guidance: archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014b), the principle aim of an archaeological watching brief is to record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices, and in compliance with the *Code of conduct* and other relevant by-laws of ClfA.
- 3.1.2 In furtherance of the project aim, the following objectives were defined:
- *to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works; including*
 - *To ensure their preservation by record to the highest possible standard;*
 - *To confirm the approximate date or date range of the remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;*
 - *To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains;*
 - *To determine the condition and state of preservation of the remains; and*
 - *To determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present.*
 - *to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard; and*
 - *To prepare a report on the results of the watching brief.*

3.2 Fieldwork methodology

- 3.2.1 A detailed description of the watching brief methodology is set out in the WSI (WA 2016).



- 3.2.2 The fieldwork consisted of the monitoring of initial groundworks by an experienced archaeologist. The mechanical excavation was undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant supervision by WA.
- 3.2.3 A full photographic record was maintained using digital cameras, and archaeological features and deposits were surveyed using GPS equipment and related to the Ordnance Survey.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

- 4.1.1 No features or deposits of archaeological significance were revealed.
- 4.1.2 The natural geological deposits uniformly consisted of stiff clay, varying in colour from mid reddish-brown to light grey (**104**). Overlying **104** was a layer of weathered sandy silts and clay (**103**), yellowish-brown in colour. These layers were encountered between 0.4m and 0.9m bgl. Overlying **103** was a thin layer of possible buried top/sub soil, **102**, encountered between 0.2 and 0.3m bgl and probably representing remains of the original ground level, prior to construction of 19th-century terraced housing.
- 4.1.3 Ground level had clearly been reduced in recent years as the uppermost layer (**101**) consisted of coarse gravel and rubble fragments and contained post-medieval and modern material (**Plate 1**).

5 STORAGE AND CURATION

5.1 Museum

- 5.1.1 The designated receiving museum will be Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery. The Curator of Archaeology has been contacted in advance of the fieldwork for an accession number/Site code and to obtain information regarding the appropriate archive preparation standards.

5.2 Archive

- 5.2.1 The site archive will be prepared for long-term storage in accordance with current guidelines (e.g. Walker 1990; MGC 1994 *etc.*). It is proposed in principle that, subject to the wishes of the landowner, the entire archive will be donated to Bristol Museum and Art Gallery as the designated repository. Provision has been made for the cost of long term storage in the post-fieldwork costs.
- 5.2.2 The complete Site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Bristol Museum and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; Brown 2011; ADS 2013; ClfA 2014c).
- 5.2.3 All archive elements will be marked with the unique Wessex Site code **114360** and the Bristol Museum accession number BRSMG 2016.67 and a full index will be prepared. The archive comprises the following:
- 1 Document wallet of paper records and A4 graphics
 - 21 jpeg digital photographic images
- 5.2.4 Until final deposition with the museum the archive will be stored at the offices of WA West in Bristol.



- 5.2.5 A copy of the fieldwork report and ArcGIS Shapefiles of the surveyed spatial digital data of the watching brief area will be submitted to the Bristol Historic Environment Record. The existing OASIS form (OASIS ID **wessexar1-256662**) will be completed and a pdf copy of the report will also be uploaded.

5.3 Copyright

- 5.3.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by WA Ltd under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The Museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.

5.4 Security Copy

- 5.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

6 REFERENCES

6.1 Bibliography

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Unpublished client report T21831.01



7 APPENDICES

7.1 Appendix 1: OASIS

Project name Land to the rear of 77-89 Church Road, Redfield

Short description of the project In August 2016 a Watching brief was undertaken on land at the rear of 77 to 89 Church Road, Redfield in Bristol. The site had formerly been developed for terraced housing in the latter half of the 19th-century, which was demolished by the 1960s. Modern clearance of the site had caused significant disturbance and no archaeological deposits or features were exposed by the new development groundworks.

Project dates	Start: 21-07-2016 End: 18-08-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	25613 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location	
Country	England
Site location	CITY OF BRISTOL CITY OF BRISTOL BRISTOL Land to the rear of 77 -89 Church Road, Redfield
Postcode	BS5 9JT
Study area	0.1 Hectares
Site coordinates	ST 61146 73429 51.458015154839 -2.559295132142 51 27 28 N 002 33 33 W Point

Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Bristol City Council
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Andy King
Project supervisor	Roy Krakowicz



Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body Diverse Construction Ltd

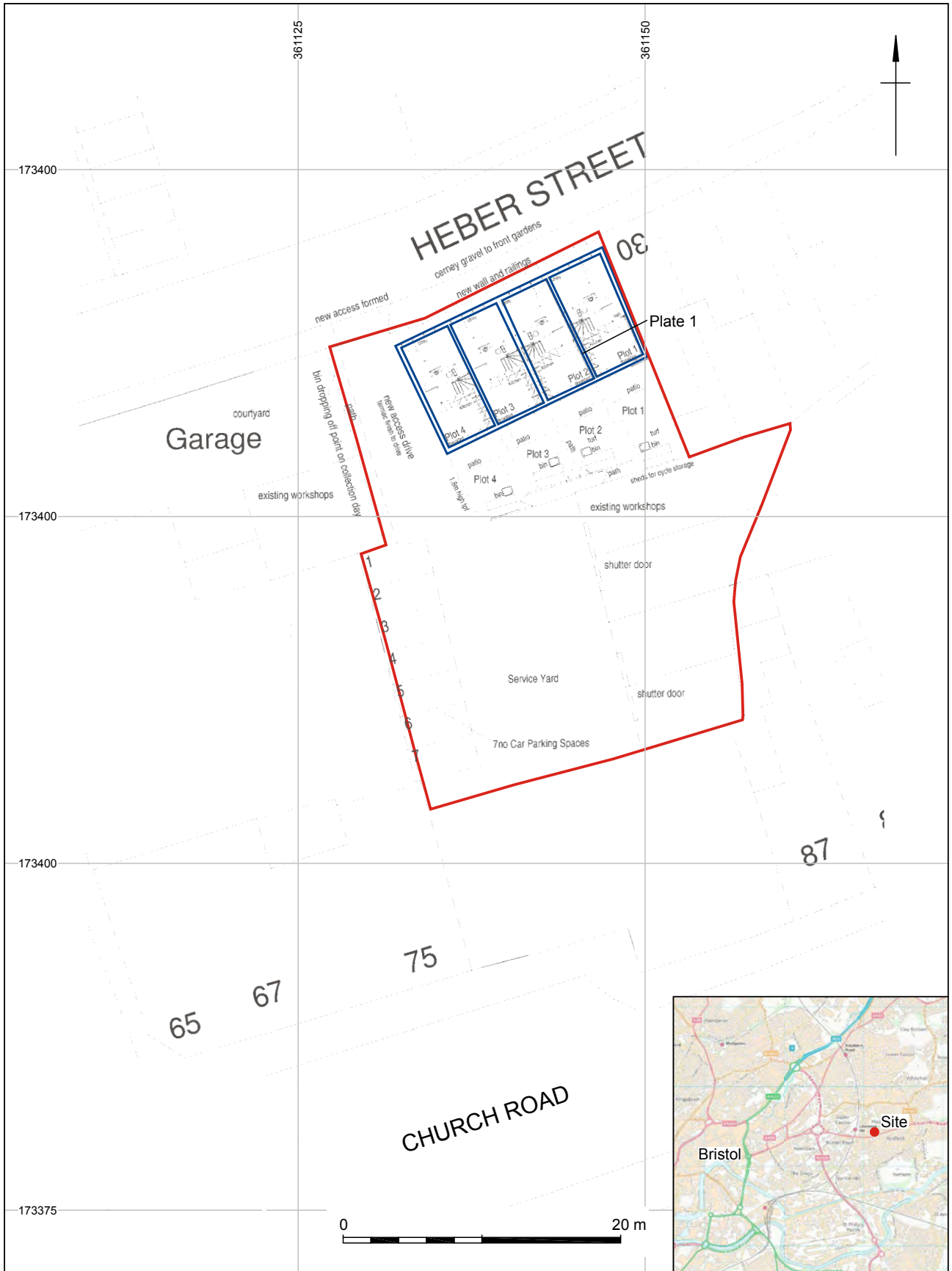
Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery
Digital Archive recipient Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery
Paper Archive recipient Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Diary", "Map", "Report", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Land to the rear of 77 - 89 Church Road, Redfield, Bristol, Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s) Fairhead, S.
Other bibliographic details 114360
Date 2016
Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication Bristol
Description A4 bound booklet

Entered by Andy King (a.king@wessexarch.co.uk)



- Site boundary
- Footings (watched)



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Date:	26/09/2016	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:400 @ A4	Illustrator:	ND
Path:	X:\PROJECTS\114360\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\WB\2016_09_26\114360_WB.dwg		

Site location plan

Figure 1



Plate 1: East facing representative section of foundation trenches

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Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk



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