



Castle House, Lincoln Street Bristol

Archaeological Watching Brief Report



Bristol City Council Planning Ref: 10/5355/F
Bristol Museum Accession Code: BRSMG 2016.89
Ref: 114130.01
October 2016



**Castle House, Lincoln Street,
Bristol**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Prepared for:

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

On behalf of:

Mr G. Phillips
111 Stokes Croft
Montpelier
Bristol
BS1 3RW

Prepared by:

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

www.wessexarch.co.uk

October 2016


**WA ref: 114130.01
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Planning Application: 10/5355/F**



Quality Assurance

Project Code	114130	Accession Code	BRSMG 2016.89	Client Ref.	-
Planning Application Ref.	10/5355/F	Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)	360765 173312		

Version **Status*** **Prepared by** **Checked and Approved By** **Approver's Signature** **Date**

v01	E	Sam Fairhead	AK		30/09/2016
File:	X:\PROJECTS\114130\Reports\114130_Castle House WB_Report_V01				
File:					
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* I = Internal Draft; E = External Draft; F = Final

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Archaeological Watching Brief

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Archaeological Watching Brief

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of a new block of flats at the former Bike Direct site, Lincoln Street, Bristol (Planning Application ref. 10/5355/F & 14/00891/COND). The watching brief revealed the remains of red brick structural features associated with 19th-century buildings that formerly stood on the site.

The watching brief fieldwork took place on various dates between 21st July and 17th August 2016.



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Archaeological Watching Brief

Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by David Cahill Design Consultants Ltd. The fieldwork was undertaken by Cai Mason, Sam Fairhead and Roy Krakowicz. The report was compiled by Sam Fairhead with illustrations by Nancy Dixon. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Andy King.



Castle House, Lincoln Street, Bristol

Archaeological Watching Brief

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by David Cahill Design Consultants Ltd. to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of a new block of flats (Planning Application refs. 10/05355/F & 14/00891/COND) at the former Bike Direct site, Lincoln Street, Bristol (hereafter 'the Site').
- 1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was previously submitted (AA 2014) in order to satisfy Condition 9 of the Planning Consent for the original Application. The archaeological watching brief fieldwork, the submission of this report and deposition of the site archive will fulfil Condition 15.

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The Site is located in the Lawrence Hill area of Bristol, and consists of an approximately 305 square metre parcel of land, most recently in use as a private car-park on the western side of Lincoln Street, centred on NGR 360765 173312 (**Figure 1**). The Site is level at 19m aOD, the underlying geology consists of sandstone of the Redcliffe Sandstone Member (British Geological Survey).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The following is partly summarised from the submitted WSI (AA 2014).

2.2 Summary

- 2.2.1 The earliest detailed cartographic depiction of the Site is Plumley and Ashmead's map of 1828 which shows market-garden cultivation, with the route of the Wain Brook immediately to the west and one of possibly two redirected watercourses running through the Site area. This raised the question of whether archaeological remains associated with tanning, brewing, milling and other industries requiring the proximity of a watercourse would be preserved.
- 2.2.2 The line of Lincoln Street was laid out sometime between the issue of Ashmead's maps of 1854 and 1874. By the latter date, terraced housing had been constructed along the Lincoln Street frontage, with industrial buildings to the north-east and a brewery depicted as bordering the Site to the north.
- 2.2.3 By the early 1900s, Ordnance Survey maps show the Site as fully developed with a combination of industrial and domestic buildings, all of which survived the blitz and were cleared for redevelopment relatively recently.



2.3 Aims and objectives

2.3.1 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.

2.3.2 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.*

2.4 Fieldwork methodology

2.4.1 A detailed description of the watching brief methodology is set out in the WSI (AA 2014).

2.4.2 The fieldwork consisted of the monitoring of initial groundworks including ground reduction, foundation trenching and service runs by an experienced archaeologist. The mechanical excavation was, where possible, undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant supervision by WA. Machine excavation proceeded to the required construction levels or the top of archaeological levels whichever was the higher. Where practicable and without causing unreasonable delay to the construction programme, groundwork was temporarily halted whilst investigations were carried out by WA staff.

2.4.3 A full photographic record was maintained using digital cameras, and archaeological features and deposits were surveyed using GPS equipment and related to Ordnance Survey.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1.1 The watching brief revealed the remains of several structures associated with 19th -century buildings formerly present on this Site.

3.1.2 The structures comprised three red brick walls, an area of probable brick flooring and one concrete structure (**Figure 1**). The most substantial wall, **104**, protruded 6m from the south-west corner of the Site on a north-east/south-west alignment and was a maximum of 0.6m in width. The former car park surface had sloped up slightly from south-east to north-west

so that the structure, **104** was approximately 0.8m below ground level. A shorter and narrower section of wall, **105**, abutted **104** from the south-east and survived for a length of 2.7m on a north-west/south-east alignment (**Plate 1**). Wall **105** was a maximum of 0.23m in width.

- 3.1.3 The alignment of wall **104** appears to correspond with one of the probable diverted watercourses from the Wain Brook, first shown on Plumley & Ashmead's map of 1828. Later this alignment is shown as a field boundary on the 1840s Tithe map of the district. The line of this field boundary continued to survive as a property division amidst the gradual development of the site, as depicted on Ashmead's map of 1874 and the 1880s published edition OS survey map. Eventually the boundary was incorporated in the south-eastern wall of a large industrial building first shown on the 1903 -1904 edition OS plan (**Figure 1**) and was apparently demolished by the time of the 1918 edition OS plan.
- 3.1.4 Wall **105** corresponds to one of the rear property boundary walls between the terraced houses that fronted Lincoln Street.
- 3.1.5 A probable concrete foundation, **106**, extended on a north-east/south-west alignment for a length of 3.8m, from the southern edge of the Site. Wall **106** was probably associated with a warehouse structure shown on later 20th-century OS plans that replaced the terraced housing.
- 3.1.6 The third wall, **108**, was located approximately 5m east of wall **104**, on a similar alignment as **106**. Wall **108** survived for a length of 8m and a width of 0.25m with a short south-eastern return at each end (**Figure 1**). This structure corresponds to the rear wall of one of the terraced properties first shown on the Ashmead map of 1874 and was almost certainly contemporary with wall **105**. Immediately west of **108** was a small patch of heavily damaged brick surface, **107**, which is likely to be the remains of an external yard surface associated with the same property (**Plate 2**).
- 3.1.7 All the structures recorded were cut into/bedded on a layer of made ground, **103**, and overlain by a further layer of made ground/demolition rubble (**102**), evidently imported for the construction of the recent car park. The exposed structures were at approximately the same height as Lincoln Street.

4 STORAGE AND CURATION

4.1 Museum

- 4.1.1 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 (including the finds) will be donated to and deposited with 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.

4.2 Preparation of Archive

- 4.2.1 The complete Site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts 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).



4.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the unique Wessex Archaeology Site code 114130, the Museum accession code BRSMG 2016.89 and a full index will be prepared. The archive comprises the following:

1 document case of paper records & A4 graphics

31 jpeg digital photographic images

4.2.3 Until final deposition with the museum the archive will be stored at the offices of WA West in Bristol.

4.2.4 A copy of the fieldwork report and ArcGIS Shapefiles of the watching brief area will be submitted to the Bristol Historic Environment Record. The existing OASIS form (OASIS ID **wessexar1-262458**) will be completed and a pdf copy of the report will also be uploaded.

4.3 Discard policy

4.3.1 WA follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections* (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.

4.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993 and 1995; HE (formerly EH) 2011).

4.4 Copyright

4.4.1 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*.

4.5 Security Copy

4.5.1 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.

5 REFERENCES

5.1 Bibliography

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6 APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1: OASIS

OASIS ID: wessexar1-262458

Project details

Project name	Castle House, Lincoln Street, Bristol
Short description of the project	Watching brief on ground works associated with construction of block of flats
Project dates	Start: 21-07-2016 End: 12-09-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	114130 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	WALLS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CITY OF BRISTOL CITY OF BRISTOL BRISTOL Castle House, Lincoln Street, Bristol
Postcode	BS5 0BL
Study area	305 Square metres
Site coordinates	ST 60765 73312 51.456936783755 -2.564766277717 51 27 24 N 002 33 53 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Mr Tony Broad
Project design originator	Absolute Archaeology
Project director/manager	Andy King
Project supervisor	Cai Mason, Sam Fairhead, Roy Krackowicz
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Mr Tony Broad



Project archives
Physical Archive Exists? No
Digital Archive recipient Bristol Museum and Art Gallery
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient Bristol Museum and Art Gallery
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Report", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Castle House, Lincoln Street, Bristol. Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s) Fairhead, S.
Other bibliographic details 114130.01
Date 2016
Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication Bristol



Coordinate system:
OSGB36
(OSTN02/OSGM02)



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Date:	05/10/2016	Revision Number:	0
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Site location plan overlaying the 1903-1904 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map


Figure 1



Plate 1: Walls 104 and 105 from south-west



Plate 2: Damaged yard surface 107 from north

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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

