

## **CARILLION REGIONAL BUILDING**

**CLEADON PARK  
ACACIA GROVE, SOUTH SHIELDS, TYNE AND WEAR NE34  
NGR: NZ 3750 6420**

## **REPORT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT AND WALKOVER SURVEY**

**HER Ref.: Cleadon Park  
Planning application: pre-application  
OASIS ID:**

**Contract: 11029**

**Date: Aug 2007**

## **REPORT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT AND WALKOVER SURVEY**

carried out at

**CLEADON PARK**

**ACACIA GROVE, SOUTH SHIELDS, TYNE AND WEAR NE34**

NGR: NZ 3750 6420

Prepared for

**Carillion Regional Building  
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NE31 1AT**

HER Ref.: Cleadon Park  
Planning Application: pre-application  
OASIS ID:

Contract No: 11029

Date: Aug 2007

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

It is understood that it is proposed to develop the currently disused site with residential housing.

On the instructions of Carillion Regional Building, Ian Farmer Associates *Archaeological Services* carried out a desk-based assessment and a walkover survey to appraise the archaeological and historical significance of the site and assess the impact by the demolition and construction work associated with the proposed development.

The site is situated at Cleadon Park, Acacia Grove, South Shields, Tyne and Wear, NE34, and may be located by National Grid Reference NZ 3750 6420.

An assessment of readily available documentary and cartographic evidence suggested that the site lay within open fields until houses were erected in 1924. The walkover indicated large-scale demolition on site, and the surviving semi-detached buildings along the western and northern site boundary date back to 1942.

The proposed development is not thought to impact on any historically or archaeologically significant remains, and no further archaeological work has been suggested.

These recommendations are subject to the requirements of the Tyne and Wear Special Conservation Team.

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1.1 It is understood that it is proposed to develop the currently disused site with residential housing.
- 1.1.2 On the instructions of Carillion Regional Building, Ian Farmer Associates *Archaeological Services* carried out a desk-based assessment and a walkover survey to appraise the archaeological and historical significance of the site and assess the impact by the demolition and construction work associated with the proposed development.

## **2.0 GENERAL STANDARDS**

### **2.1 Compliance**

- 2.1.1 All work is carried out in compliance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), ref. 9.1, and follows the IFA Standards for an archaeological desk-based assessment, ref. 9.2.

### **2.2 Definition**

- 2.2.1 *'The definition of desk-based assessment is a programme of assessment of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specific area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. It consists of a collation of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.'* (IFA, ref. 9.2)

### **2.3 Purpose**

- 2.3.1 *'The purpose of desk-based assessment is to gain information about the known or potential archaeological resource within a given area or site (including presence or absence, character and extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and relative quality of the potential archaeological resource), in order to make an assessment of its merit in context, leading to one or more of the following:*
- *The formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource*
  - *The formulation of a strategy for further investigation, whether or not intrusive, where the character and value of the resource is not sufficiently defined to permit a mitigation strategy or other response to be devised*

- *The formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research. (IFA, ref. 9.2)*

## **2.4 Research Priorities**

2.4.1 The desk-based assessment aims to comply with South Tyneside's Cultural Strategy, the overall objective of which is to develop a framework, which will promote and support the cultural well-being of the Borough.

2.4.2 The South Tyneside Heritage Mapping Project, carried out in 2003, looked into the value and relevance of the cultural sector in South Tyneside and how it could be advanced. The particular strands of history identified as meriting further research and preservation work were:

- Pre-Victorian South Shields;
- Industrial and social history (1850s onwards);
- Some aspects of modern South Shields;
- Records of personal experiences of people who worked in industries which no longer exists in South Tyneside, e.g. shipbuilding, mining, fishing, etc.;
- Musical heritage of the area;
- Maritime heritage.

2.4.3 The desk-based assessment aims to draw attention to any findings relevant to any of the above.

## **2.5 Third Parties**

2.5.1 This report has been prepared for the sole use of the Client for the purpose described and no extended duty of care to any third party is implied or offered. Third parties using any information contained within this report do so at their own risk.

2.5.2 It is recommended that a copy of this report be submitted to the relevant authorities to enable them to carry out their own site assessment and provide any comments.

2.5.3 The comments given in this report and the opinions expressed herein are based on the information obtained from the desk study and site reconnaissance. No intrusive investigation has been carried out to confirm the actual ground or environmental conditions.

- 2.5.4 Any risks identified in this desk study are perceived risks based on information reviewed. Actual risks can only be assessed following a physical investigation of the site.
- 2.5.5 This report has been based, in part, on information supplied by others. The report has been prepared on the basis of that information being accurate.
- 2.5.6 The conclusions presented in this report are based on the guidance available at the time of preparation of the report. No liability can be accepted for the retrospective effects of any changes or amendments to legislation or guidance.

## **2.6 Site Archive**

- 2.6.1 The site archive will be deposited in the appropriate local museum within six months of completion of the report.
- 2.6.2 Tyne and Wear Specialist Conservation Team will require confirmation that the archive has been submitted in a satisfactory form to the relevant museum before recommending to the local planning authority that the condition should be fully discharged.

## **3.0 SITE**

### **3.1 Site Location & Description**

- 3.1.1 The site is situated on land adjacent to Acacia Grove, Cleadon Park, NE34, approximately 3.5km to the south of the town centre of South Shields in Tyne and Wear and may be located by National Grid Reference NZ 3750 6420.
- 3.1.2 Recent OS mapping depicts the site to be roughly rectangular and occupying an area enclosed to the north by Prince Edward Road, to the west by King George Road, to the south by Acacia Court and to the east by Ashgrove Avenue.
- 3.1.3 A site location plan is included in Appendix 1, Figure A1.1.

### **3.2 Geological & Topographic Setting**

- 3.2.1 Details of the geology underlying the site have been obtained from the British Geological Survey map, Sheet No. 21, 'Sunderland', solid and drift edition, 1:50,000 scale, published 1978.
- 3.2.2 The geological map indicates the site to be underlain by superficial glacial deposits of Devensian Upper or Pelaw Clay, described as a 'dark brown to purple-brown weak silty clay with scattered stones'. The superficial deposits are indicated to be underlain by Middle Coal Measures of Carboniferous. The geological map also indicates sandstone of the Permian Basal (Yellow) Sands



and Upper Magnesian Limestone of the Permian immediately to the east of the site.

- 3.2.3 A geological report obtained from Landmark indicates the site to be underlain by sandstone of the Grindpost Member of Carboniferous age. Further information provided in the Landmark data sheets indicate the site to be underlain by Magnesian Limestone of Permian age.
- 3.2.4 Assessing the above information and the borehole records from the ground investigation it would appear that the site, rock head, consists of Permian strata which would suggest that the boundary between the Permian and the underlying Carboniferous is further west than indicated on the geological map.
- 3.2.5 A benchmark on Prince Edward Road places the northwest corner at 24.62m above OD. Additional levels of 25.0m and 25.3m above OD in the northeast and southwest corners, respectively, suggest a slight downward slope to the northwest.

### **3.3 Previous Investigation**

- 3.3.1 On behalf of Carillion Regional Building, Ian Farmer Associates carried out a geotechnical site investigation, ref. 9.3, as well as an environmental desk study, ref. 9.4.
- 3.3.2 Although the ground investigation was not undertaken by archaeologists, there is nonetheless nothing in the geological logs to suggest underlying archaeology at the borehole and trial pit locations.

## **4.0 DOCUMENTARY AND CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES**

### **4.1 Documentary Sources**

4.1.1 Documentary sources were consulted at the following locations:

- National Monuments Record (NMR), [www.english-heritage.org.uk/NMR](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/NMR)
- Tyne and Wear Historic Environment Record (SMR), Jesmond Old Cemetery, Newcastle
- Tyne and Wear Archives, Blandford House, Newcastle
- South Shields Local Studies, Central Library, South Shields
- Durham Records Office, County Hall, Durham
- Various websites

## 4.2 Cartographic Sources

4.2.1 The following cartographic sources were consulted:

- Archive plans
- OS maps
- Building Control Plans

## 4.3 Historic Environment

4.3.1 Consultation of the above sources resulted in an inventory of archaeological sites and historic buildings in the vicinity of the site location NZ 3750 6420.

4.3.2 The National Monuments Record (NMR) listed no sites and buildings within grid square NZ 37 64.

4.3.3 An extended search of South Shields provided the following information with regards to the pre-historic and early historic setting of the area:

NMR Number	Description	Location	Period
NZ 46 SW 1	flint scatter	South Shields, NZ 409 640	Mesolithic
NZ 36 NE 1	two polished stone axes	South Shields, estuary of the River Don, NZ 352 654	Neolithic
NZ 36 NE 12	socketed axe	South Shields, Trow Rocks, NZ 384 667	Late Bronze Age
	Monument 26511, winged axehead	South Shields NZ 36 67	Bronze Age
	The Lane, various pre-historic finds	South Shields, The Lane, NZ 365 679	Roman
NZ 36 NE 4	South Shields Roman Fort	South Shields, Arbeia, NZ 365 679	Roman
NZ 36 NE 5	Monument 26405, Roman cemetery	South Shields, NZ 3649 6755	Roman

NZ 36 NE 7	Monument 26407, Roman altars	South Shields, NZ 36 67	Roman
NZ 36 NE 41	Monument 26499, Roman vicus	South Shields, NZ 364 678	Roman
NZ 36 NE 44	Monument 26504, Roman buildings	South Shields, NZ 365 681	Roman
NZ 36 NW 4	Monument 26523, supposed Roman fort	South Shields, NZ 338 653	Roman
NZ 36 NE 15	Monument 26425, barbed spearhead or angon	South Shields, NZ 365 679	Anglo-Saxon
NZ 36 NE 22	St Hilda's Monastery and Nunnery	South Shields, NZ 36 67	Anglo-Saxon
NZ 36 NE 1061	Ridge and furrow	South Shields, NZ 377 660	Medieval
NZ 36 NE 83	South Shields Medieval town	South Shields, NZ 3607 6611	Medieval
NZ 36 SE 47	Ridge and furrow	South Shields, NZ 372 636	Post-Medieval

4.3.4 The following information was available from the Tyne and Wear Sites and Monuments Record (SMR):

SMR Number	Description	Location	Period
952	Harton Village	NZ 377 649	Medieval
7792	South Shields, Sunderland Road, Cleadon Cottage (site of)	NZ 3821 6377	Early Modern, 19 <sup>th</sup> C
2397	Cleadon, Limestone Quarry (site of)	NZ 3824 6364	Modern, 19 <sup>th</sup> C

2398	Cleadon, Limestone Quarry (site of)	NZ3828 6364	Modern, 19 <sup>th</sup> C
2399	Cleadon, Limestone Quarry (site of)	NZ 3845 6398	Modern, 19 <sup>th</sup> C
2400	Cleadon, Limestone Quarry (site of)	NZ 38386412	Modern, 19 <sup>th</sup> C
2477	West Harton, Rifle Range (site of)	NZ 3695 6392	Modern 19 <sup>th</sup> C
5494	Harton, Heavy Anti Aircraft Battery (site of)	NZ 366 639	Modern, 20 <sup>th</sup> C
5502	Harton, Rocket Battery (site of)	NZ 366 639	Modern, 20 <sup>th</sup> C
5537	Harton, Searchlight Battery (site of)	NZ 367 648	Modern, 20 <sup>th</sup> C

4.3.5 The following historic buildings were listed at the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR):

SMR Number	Description	Status	Location	Period
8101	Harton, Sunderland Road, Church of St Peter, Boundary Wall	LB2	NZ 3760 6500	Early Modern, 19 <sup>th</sup> C

4.3.6 A plan of the sites and buildings of the historic environment is provided in Appendix 1, Figure A1.3.

4.3.7 A review of the history of the site has been conducted based on readily available historical plans and maps. Selected maps are included in Appendix 3.

MAP, DATE & SCALE	SITE	SITE SURROUNDINGS
<b>OS, 1862 1:10,560 (Fig. A3.1)</b>	The site lies within open fields of North Field.	The field boundary to the north is marked by a hedge, a footpath and a west-flowing stream which originates from Harton's Nook approximately 200m to the east of the site. Harton's Nook lies on a north-south road. Along this road to the north lies Harton village; to the south lie Cleadon Old House, the Cleadon quarries and Cleadon Laws. A small pond lies 400m to the southwest of the site from where a small stream flows northward through a water trough approximately 250m to the southwest, combines with the stream from Harton Nook approximately 100m to the west of the site before flowing westward towards Harton Moor. Harton and Whitburn Colliery is situated more than 1.2km to the west.
<b>OS, 1898 1:10,560 (Fig. A3.2)</b>	No significant change.	A small pond lies approximately 80m to the south of the site. Some development has taken place approximately 650m to the west around South Shields Union Workhouse.
<b>OS, 1915/16 1:2,500 (Fig. A3.3)</b>	No significant change.	Approximately 125m to the north residential development has taken place around the newly constructed South Avenue.
<b>OS, 1921 1:10,560</b>	No significant change.	The extent of the southward residential development of Harton immediately north of the site is shown in this edition. Cleadon Quarry to the southeast is disused. Water from the streams is used at Harton Laundry and Dye Works approximately 750m to the northwest.
<b>OS, 1938 1:10,560 (Fig. A3.4)</b>	Residential development occupies the site edges with a central open space.	Prince Edward Road to the north, King George Road to the west, Acacia Grove to the south and Ashgrove Avenue to the east of the site have been constructed and encircle the site. Residential development occupies the space to the east of King George Road. To the west largely open fields remain. The stream from Harton Nook appears to have been culverted.
<b>OS, 1942 1:2,500 (Fig. A3.5)</b>	This edition shows approximately forty residential plots to the periphery of the site with several trees and a central space.	Residential development has spread further south, and a school has been built approximately 150m to the south.
<b>OS, 1951/52 1:10,560</b>	No significant change.	The open fields across King George Road are used as a golf course.

<b>OS, 1956 1:2,500</b>	No significant change.	A civil defence control centre has been built approximately 50m to the west of the site.
<b>OS, 1967/68 1:10,560</b>	No significant change.	The areas of Harton and Cleadon Park are densely populated. There is an area of refuse at 650m to the south west of the site.
<b>OS, 1970 1:2,500 (Fig. A3.6)</b>	No significant change.	A roundabout has been created immediately to the northwest of the site from which John Reid Road (B1300) is planned to lead southwest ward.
<b>OS, 1976/77 1:10,000</b>	No significant change.	The north-flowing stream appears to have been culverted. The area to the north of the course of the B1300 has been developed with residential properties, and the South Shields General Hospital has been extended. Temple Memorial Park occupies the area to the south of the B1300.
<b>OS, 1993 1:1,250</b>	No significant change.	No significant change.
<b>OS, 2000 1:1,250 (Fig. A3.7)</b>	No significant change.	No significant change.
<b>OS, 2006 1:10,000 (Fig. A3.8)</b>	The houses along Prince Edward Road and King George Road remain, but the properties on either side of Acacia Grove and along Ashgrove Avenue have been cleared.	No significant change. Harton and Cleadon Park are densely populated areas. To the west of the site lie the open ground and leisure centre of Temple Memorial Park.

4.3.8 The inventory of archaeological sites and historic buildings indicates past activity in the region from Mesolithic times and in the vicinity of the site ranging from Medieval to Modern times.

4.3.9 The inventory suggests that physical remains from the Modern period may be expected on site.

4.3.10 The likelihood of physical remains from any other period is slight, but the presence or absence can only be proven or disproved during intrusive archaeological investigations.

#### 4.4 Land-use History

4.4.1 The consultation of the above sources led to the following understanding of the site:

4.4.2 The site lay undeveloped to the south of the Medieval village of Harton (SMR 952) until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, see Fig. A3.1.

- 4.4.3 Harton's first reference dates back to 1074 – 80, with the number of bondages and tenements varying over time. The 1768 plan shows a nucleated settlement, the L-shape of which does not exhibit traditional two rows. Due to re-building since 1900, the historic pattern has been lost with only the occasional structure warranting listing, see 4.3.3.
- 4.4.4 Making previously no mention of the street, Ward's Directory 1924 lists 23 properties along Acacia Grove.
- 4.4.5 Ward's Directory 1930 refers to further developments along Prince Edward Road, and King George Road. These are assumed to be depicted in the OS mapping of 1938.
- 4.4.6 Additional changes to the site and its surrounds have been identified from OS mapping since 1938, mainly the advent of semi-detached houses in 1942, listed in section 4.3.5, culminating in the demolition of properties at Acacia Grove prior to 2006. These changes are of minimal archaeological and historical significance.

#### **4.5 Anticipated Preservation Conditions**

- 4.5.1 Cartographic and documentary evidence suggests that the site was undeveloped till 1924 when housing was constructed which was subsequently rebuilt by 1942, part of which had in turn been demolished by 2006.
- 4.5.2 Some 1942 housing appears to have survived along Prince Edward Road and King George Road whilst the centre of the site is disused.

#### **5.0 SITE VISIT**

- 5.1.1 To relate cartographic and documentary information to features visible on the ground and to assess the potential benefit of geophysical survey, a site visit was carried out on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007.
- 5.1.2 A CD of digital photographs taken during the visit, the digital photograph contact sheets, and the photographic index are included in Appendix 4.
- 5.1.3 The site was found to be bound by Prince Edward Road to the north, King George Road to the west, the remnants of Acacia Road to the south and new housing to the east.
- 5.1.4 Parking was available to at the entrance to Acacia Road, but the remainder of the road was fenced off to traffic and pedestrians.
- 5.1.5 The current extent of the demolition on site had not been shown on the recent aerial photograph and recent OS mapping and had occurred since the site walkover conducted by Ian Farmer Associates in October 2006. Of the 1942 semi-detached houses, only six properties, nos 213 to 223, remained along

King George Road, and a terrace of four residences survived along Prince Edward Road to the east of the site. Several of the properties were empty.

- 5.1.6 The site was largely occupied by coarse grassland, and within the fenced-off area central to the site were storage areas for building materials.

## **6.0 IMPACT OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

- 6.1.1 The semi-detached buildings that remain on site first appear on OS mapping of 1942 and have little historical significance.
- 6.1.2 Although the proposed development plans were not available the archaeologist at the time of writing, it is likely that the last surviving buildings may also be demolished to make room for the intended residential development.
- 6.1.3 The foundations of the proposed development will have a substantial impact on the ground conditions.

## **7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1.1 Whether or not the last surviving building on site will be demolished, they are of little historical significance and further building survey or photography is not recommended.
- 7.1.2 With the entire site having been developed previously, it is unlikely that any archaeological remains of significance survive below ground, and neither geophysical survey nor further intrusive archaeological investigations are recommended.
- 7.1.3 These recommendations are subject to the requirements of the Tyne and Wear Specialist Conservation Team, who have been forwarded a copy of this report.

## **8.0 OASIS**

- 8.1.1 Ian Farmer Associates *Archaeological Services* support the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigation (OASIS) Project. The overall aim of the OASIS Project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large-scale developer-funded fieldwork.
- 8.1.2 *Archaeological Services* therefore completed the online OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis>. Submission and validation of a completed OASS form places the information into the public domain on the OASIS website.
- 8.1.3 A copy of the form submitted for validation has been included in Appendix 5.



## **9.0 REFERENCES**

- 9.1 Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2000, *Code of Conduct*, IFA, Reading
- 9.2 Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1999, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, IFA, Reading
- 9.3 Ian Farmer Associates, 2006, *Cleadon Park – Report on Site Investigation*, IFA Report No. 30023 Oct 06, Gateshead
- 9.4 Ian Farmer Associates, 2007, *Cleadon Park – Report on Desk Study*, IFA Report No 30188 Aug 07, Gateshead

For and on behalf of Ian Farmer Associates (1998) Limited

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**APPENDIX 1**  
**DRAWINGS**

**APPENDIX 2**  
**GEOLOGY REPORT**

**APPENDIX 3**  
**CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES**

**Archive Plans**

**OS Maps**

**APPENDIX 4**  
**DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

## **APPENDIX 5**

### **OASIS**

