ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

carried out on

Land adjacent to Manors Social Club, Carliol Square, Newcastle upon Tyne
(NGR NZ 251 643)

Prepared for

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Contract No: 11004
Date: July 2006

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Ian Farmer Associates Archaeological Services carried out an Archaeological Evaluation on land adjacent to Manors Social Club, Carliol Square, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6UQ between Monday, June 26th and Friday June 30th, 2006 (Tyne & Wear Archaeology planning reference 2006/0332/01/DET).

The investigation was commissioned by T.J. Hazell Ltd, engineering consultants acting on behalf of a private client, Mr P. Creed and specifically related to a planning application for a development at the aforementioned site.

The investigation consisted of the opening of single trench in a location specified by the Tyne & Wear Archaeology officer. The aim was to locate and if possible record the former medieval city ditch which was thought to be in the area. If the ditch was located any organic/waterlogged deposits were to be sampled for further study.

The trench was ultimately reduced to an area 3m x 2m because of the presence of services and other modern disturbances. A sequence of post medieval and more recent deposits and structures were recorded along with a stone built drain of uncertain date. No trace of a ditch was found.

Several deposits were sampled and subjected to environmental analysis

.The archaeology of the trench was recorded to a modified brief. The trench was subsequently backfilled without further delay. The recommendation is that there should be no further archaeological intervention on this development site

CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Ian Farmer Associates Archaeological Services carried out an Archaeological Evaluation on Land adjacent to Manors Social Club, Carliol Square, Newcastle upon Tyne between June 26th and June 30th 2006 .

1.2 The investigation was commissioned by engineering consultants, T.J.Hazell on behalf of their client, Mr Phil Creed who funded the work. The archaeological evaluation eventually consisted of a single machine cut trench located on a temporary car park adjacent to Manors Social Club, Carliol Square. The predetermined trench size and location was subsequently modified due to existing services and recently disturbed substratum.

1.3 The requirements for the archaeological work followed the advice given by Central Government as set out in Planning Policy Guidance: Note 16 (PPG16), *Archaeology and Planning*, issued by the DoE in 1990, and the recommendations of the Tyne & Wear Archaeological Officer, Jennifer Morrison

1.4 These recommendations largely took into account the following information:

> *"The site lies just outside of the medieval town walls, midway between Plummer and Austin Towers. The projected line of the medieval town wall ditch runs through the site.*
>
> *Evidence for Civil War activity may exist- the ditch was often recut during this period. In 1989 during archaeological excavations on Croft Street, part of a Civil War bastion was uncovered. By the eighteenth century the ditch had been infilled and the site became part of Carliol Croft, an open space beside the town walls.*
>
> *The first development on the site was the construction of the Clergy Jubilee School in 1820. This lay at the southern end of the site and was demolished inn the 1960's. The remainder of the site was mostly open space with small out buildings.*
>
> *Although some disturbance can be assumed during the construction of the central motorway in the early 1970's, the fact that prior to this the central part of the site was relatively undeveloped, suggests that the wall ditch may be partially preserved. Elsewhere the town wall ditch was found to be circa.11.30m wide and 4.5m deep.*
>
> Given the above information for the environs of the site it was decided that an archaeological evaluation should take place before the granting of planning permission for the proposed works. It was therefore considered that a reasonable archaeological response to the planning application would be an evaluation to be carried out prior to consideration of the planning application. A Tyne & Wear brief was therefore issued for an archaeological evaluation to take place.

1.5 This report summarises the topographical, geological, archaeological and historical setting of the site, and presents the results of the archaeological evaluation together with recommendations for future work.

2.0 DEFINITION OF A FIELD EVALUATION

2.1 An archaeological field evaluation is defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists

- *"... a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation determines their character, extent, quality and preservation and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate."*

2.2 The purpose of a field evaluation, as defined by the IFA, is;

- "To gain information about the archaeological resource within a given area or site (including presence or absence, character, extent, date integrity, state of preservation and quality), in order to make an assessment of its merit in a appropriate context.

2.3 The results of a field evaluation are used to;

- Formulate a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource
- Formulate a strategy to initiate the response to a threat to the archaeological resource
- Formulate a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research.

3.0 SITE SETTING AND TRENCH LAYOUT

3.1 The site is located on a temporary car park, on land adjacent to the Manors Social Club., Carliol Square, Newcastle Upon Tyne See Appendix 1, Fig. A1.1 and A1.2.)

3.2 Originally it was decided that a single trench measuring 2m x 11m, aligned NE- SW was to be excavated. This trench was to be at least 4m south of the social club and away from any services. The trench depth was not to exceed 3m.

3.3 Subsequently, because of service trench locations and modern disturbance caused by the construction of the slip road, the trench location and size was modified, with the agreement of the Tyne and Wear archaeological officer. The final trench size measured 1.5m x 3m. There was no opportunity of either relocating the trench or increasing the size due to reasons outlined above. A location plan is included in Appendix 1, Fig. A1.3.

4.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

4.1 Details of the geology underlying the site have been obtained from the British Geological Survey. (Map sheet 20, 'Newcastle upon Tyne', Drift edition, 1:50,000, published in 1994) indicates that the site to be underlain by glacial boulder clay, overlying Carboniferous Middle coal measures. The site is approximately 34m above sea level. The underlying relief of the area has been completely altered by development.

4.2 The nearest (and most convenient) bench mark is located on St Andrews Roman Catholic church, on Worswick Street, 130m west of the present site. The value is 35.58m above sea level.

5.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SETTING

5.1 For a brief summary of the location of the site see paragraph 1. 3 above.

6.0 METHODOLOGY

6.1 Ian Farmer Associates Archaeological Services

6.1 The Archaeological Services followed the *Code of Conduct* (IFA) and the *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contracted Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (IFA) throughout the investigation.

6.2 The location of the trench was in accordance with the original brief.(Fig, A1.3)

6.3 A single trench, measuring 2m x 11m was originally specified; however due to the presence of services and other recent disturbance this was significantly reduced – finally to an area measuring 3m x 2m. (Figure A1.4).

6.4 The trench was stepped in, from NE to SW for two reasons; health and safety for ease of access and secondly the archaeological deposits in the north-eastern half of the trench had been completely destroyed by a massive cut (006) which was filled with concrete (003). The close proximity to the A167 (M) slip road suggests that this was associated with its construction. This left an area of archaeological deposits measuring 2m x 1.6m, a long way short of the intended 2m x 11m trench!

6.5 The trench was tied into standing buildings nearby and also the Ordnance Survey grid. The levels taken were directly tied into the permanent Ordnance Survey bench mark located 130m west of the site. This value was 35.58mm above sea level.

6.6 Due to the lack of space and safety constraints, the evaluation trench was cut down to natural deposits by JCB under archaeological supervision. Any archaeological deposits were recorded in section

6.7 Once the trench was shored, sections were cleaned by hand. The sections were drawn at a 1:10 scale. Sections were also photographed using a variety of media, e.g. colour slide, black & white and digital photographs. Contexts were recorded using pre recorded sheets

6.8 Both of the principal sections were drawn, it was observed however that the deposits in the south east facing section (Fig.2.1) mirrored those in the north west facing section. For the purposes of this report, therefore, only the drawing of the south east facing section has been reproduced in this report.

6.9 .Several deposits were sampled by a professional palaeoecologist. The results of this sampling are discussed below and in more detail in Appendix xx.

7.0 RESULTS

7.1 Explanatory Note

7.1 The following description of the archaeological deposits is broken down as follows. The earliest are described first followed by the remainder in ascending order. Where context numbers are missing this is de to repetition of numbers.

7.2 The Trench, Fig A1.3, A2.1. Pl. 3.1a/b, 3.2a/b,3.3a/b,)

7.2.1 The trench measures 3m x 2m and was aligned NE – SW. It was located in the approximate area where the medieval city ditch was thought to be located

7.2.2 The natural boulder clay was located between circa.32.84m and 32.59m above sea level,, from south west to north east. A difference of 0.25m, it was not possible to discern whether this fall is in any way connected with the medieval ditch. If it is, then the ditch has most certainly been destroyed by the excavation of the cut (006) previously mentioned.

7.2.3 Overlying the natural boulder clay was a deposit of silty clay, dark grey/brown/black in colour.(025) This layer was sampled on site by PRS (See Appendix 5). This organic layer produced blackberry/raspberry plant remains, elder seeds and some insect remains. There were some ceramic brick fragments from this layer also. A patchy layer of sandstone fragments lay on the surface of this deposit, context (034)

7.2.4 Context (033) , another deposit of grey brown silty clay without the organic component overlay contexts (034) and (025). This was not sampled.

7.2.5 Context (032) was a tip of khaki yellow clay and rubble mix, perhaps associated with demolition of the city wall? This layer overlay context (032) and was in turn overlain by context (031) , a brown soil with frequent pebble and stone inclusions. Context (030), a grey brown soil with stone inclusions

7.2.6 At the interface between context (031) and (022), a dark grey clayey loam, a linear trench,(028) had been cut, it has a'V' shaped profile and was circa. 1m wide at the top. A stone lined drain (029) of roughly cut sandstone blocks had been inserted into the base of

this cut. . It was difficult to estimate the internal dimensions of the drain as it had partly collapsed. The fill of the drain comprised of a mid brown clay silt with a few pebble size inclusions of sandstone (030). This was again sampled on site and subsequently analysed by PRS (See Appendix 5 below) ecofacts included waterlogged seeds of blackberry, elder and goosefoot, land snail fragments, animal bone fragments, fish remains, diatoms and fungal spores. Artefacts were restricted to ceramic building material and glass. The backfill of the drain cut, (027), comprised of a mix of brown/black soil with frequent inclusions of sandstone of pebble and cobble size. Within this deposit were several sherds of 15th century green glazed pottery. These were the only fragments of medieval pottery recovered from the site and were residual.

7.2.7 The drain and its associated backfill was sealed by a deposit of mid to dark grey brown sandy clay silt,(022) with frequent inclusions of sandstone of pebble and cobble size. This deposit also contained fragments of mortar and plaster, coal, large animal bones and shellfish fragments. Charred barley grains and oak charcoal fragments were also recovered during sampling (Appendix 5 below)

7.2.8 The 19th century stratigraphy of the trench was represented by a sandstone ashlar wall foundation, (010) aligned NE-SW with associated concrete floor (008) and gravel base (009). The deposit, context (007) was a demolition layer associated with the former building on the site. Context (011) was a layer of brown grey sand and appears to be a levelling off deposit covering the demolition rubble.

7.2.9 The final sequence of events includes a massive cut in the north-eastern half of the trench, context (006) which was completely filled with a jumble of soil and rubble overlying concrete (003). This is thought to be associated with the construction of the A167(M) slip road which is only a few metres further east. The cut has completely destroyed the stratigraphic sequence in the north-eastern half of the trench and probably if not all of the medieval city ditch.

7.2.10 The final activity of the site was a construction of a car park, with a layer of tarmac (001) laid over a base of crushed dolomite (002).

8.0 DISCUSSION

8.1 This discussion is based on the stratigraphic sequence seen in the evaluation trench and the available historical information on site.

8.1.1 From the evidence available no trace of the medieval ditch or any post medieval recut was seen. The deposits from the natural clay upwards seem to be of post medieval date, with ceramic building material and clay tobacco pipe stem fragments recovered from the lowest deposits. If so where are the medieval and earlier sequences? One possibility is that the earlier deposits were removed during the construction of the city ditch and subsequent recuts. In turn this means that the natural clay observed at the bottom of the trench has been truncated and is not the true natural surface.

8.1.2 The soil/sediment deposits prior to the stone drain construction support an open ground interpretation possibly after the backfilling of the ditch after the Civil War. The presence of blackberry/raspberry and elder seeds suggests an open ground vegetation of grass, brambles and elder shrubs. The insect remains could be open ground beetles?

8.1.3 If this was open ground, this could be the area known from the records as Carliol Croft, an open space beside the town wall?

8.1.4 The date of the stone lined drain (029) cannot be ascertained with any accuracy. However as it cuts through the ground that makes up Carliol Croft, it could be associated with the first development of the site, the Clergy Jubilee School with associated small outbuildings. The soil accumulation, (022) above the drain could represent the open space between the out buildings.

8.1.5 The wall and associated floor , contexts (010), (008) respectively, represent subsequent 19th - 20th development of Carliol Square, with the demolition rubble layer (007) and associated levelling up (011), together with cut (0060 and associated fill (003) is connected with the construction of the A167(M) slip road nearby.

8.1.6 After the demolition of the buildings on site, the area, although small, was utilised as a private car park – hence the tarmac surface. The site now awaits a further development in its history.

8.1.7 The stratigraphy of the site, allowing for the small size of the evaluation trench, appears to reflect the known documentary history of the area.

9.0 RECCOMENDATIONS

9.1 In conclusion, based on the limited access to the rest of the site due to services and massive disturbance caused by road way construction, it is recommended that no further archaeological intervention take place

9.2 The results of the evaluation were of some value in that the later post medieval history of the site appears to be confirmed by the stratigraphy and the environmental analysis. This may be of value in future work on the surrounding area. However for this particular development, any further archaeological work would be of a little or no value.

10.0 THE FINDS & SAMPLES(APPENDIX 5)

10.1 The finds included artefacts and ecofacts from all the trenches, the artefacts were restricted to three main types, medieval pottery (C.15th century), which was residual and of little value, clay tobacco pipe stem fragments and ceramic brick material

10.2 The ecofacts sampled are discussed in more detail in Appendix 5

11.0 ARCHIVE

11.1 The site archive is currently held at the Newcastle office of Ian Farmer Associates Archaeological Services and consists of artefacts and ecofacts, context sheets, archive index sheets etc. Arrangements will be made to deposit the archive with an appropriate local museum within 6 months following the submission of this report.

11.2 A copy of the evaluation report will be deposited with the:

Tyne & Wear Archaeology Officer
West Chapel
Jesmond Old Cemetery
Jesmond Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 1NJ

12.0 OASIS

12.1 Ian Farmer Associates Archaeological Services support the Online Access to Index Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) Project. The overall aim of the OASIS Project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeologically grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large scale developer funded fieldwork.

12.2 The online OASIS form has been completed and is awaiting validation by Northumberland SMR thus placing the information into the public domain at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/

13. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author acknowledges the assistance and support of the following people in the archaeological investigation and compilation of this report: the sponsor Mr P. Creed, the commissioning engineers, T.J.Hazell (Engineering Consultants) Ltd and site assistant Mr Jon Welsh.

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

Dr Ian J Stewart
Geoarchaeologist

APPENDIX 1

LOCATION & SITE PLANS

IAN FARMER ASSOCIATES
Geotechnical & Environmental Specialists

Carliol Square
Newcastle upon Tyne
Contract No. 11004
Site Location Maps

Fig. A1.1 Location of Carliol Square (1)

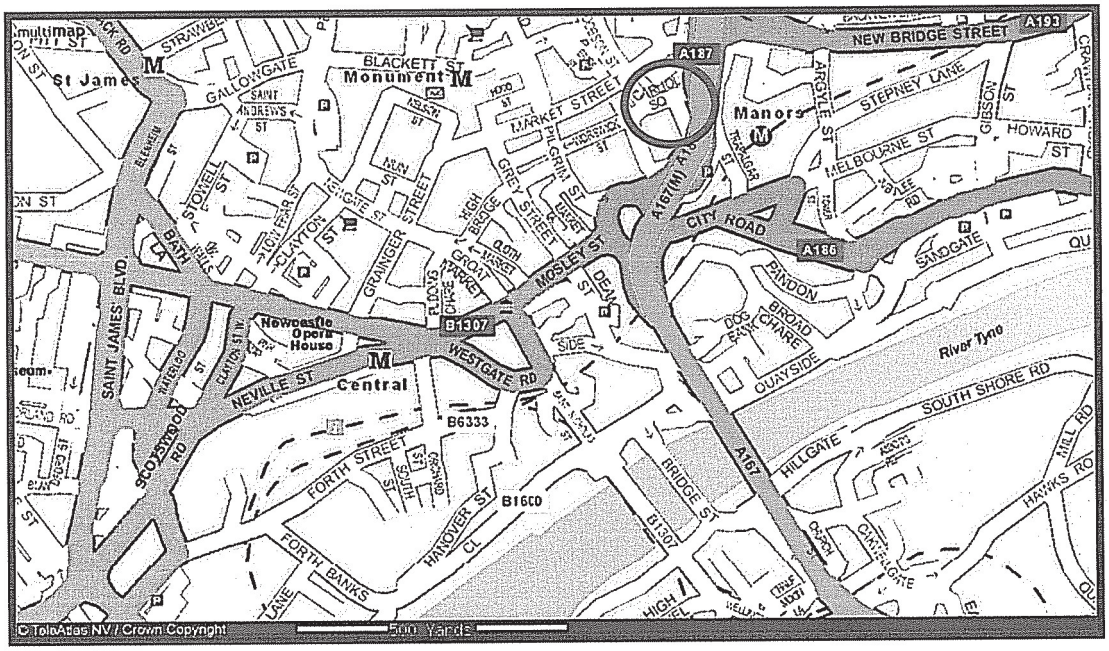
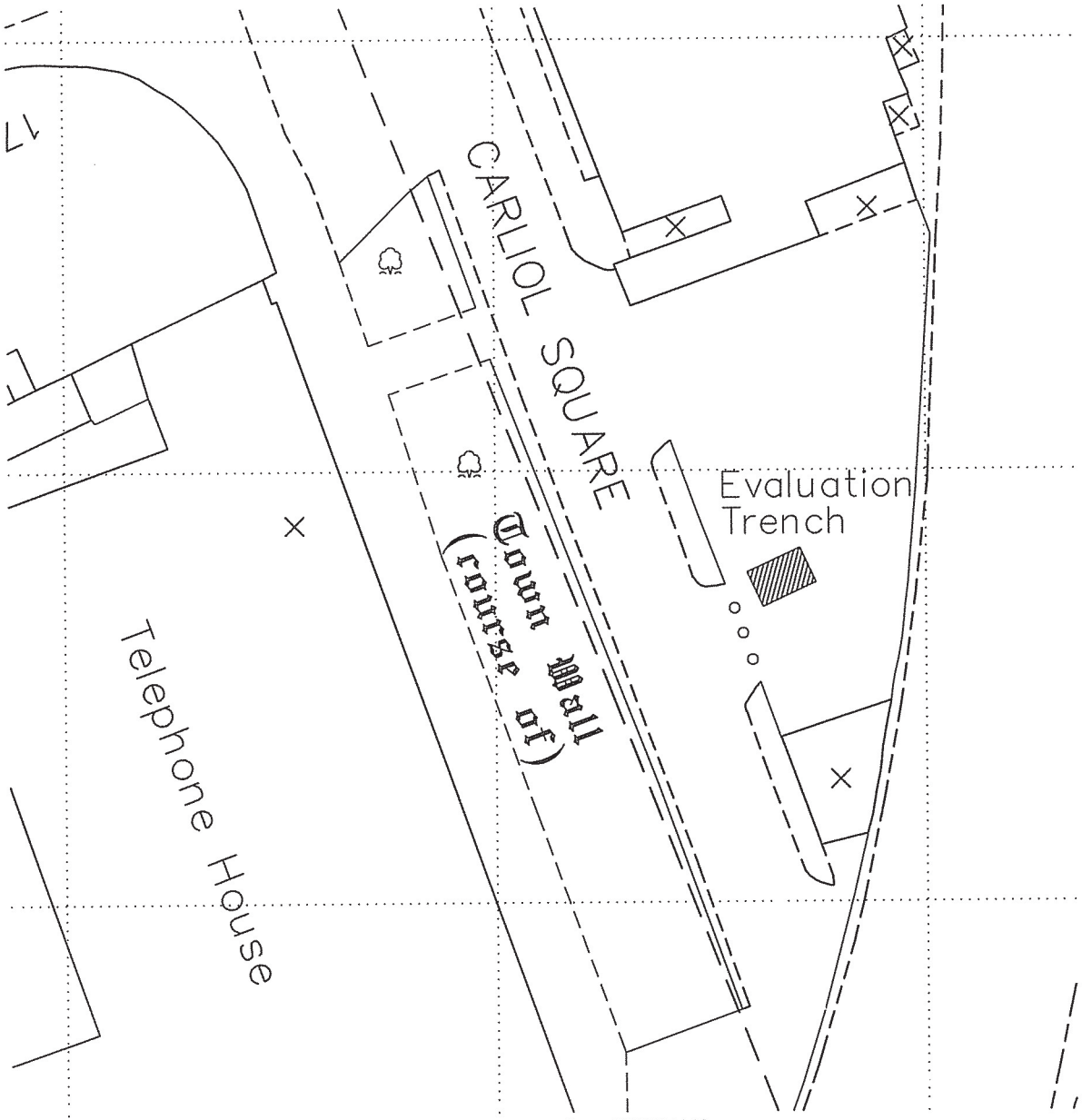


Fig. A1.2 Location of Cariol Square (2)



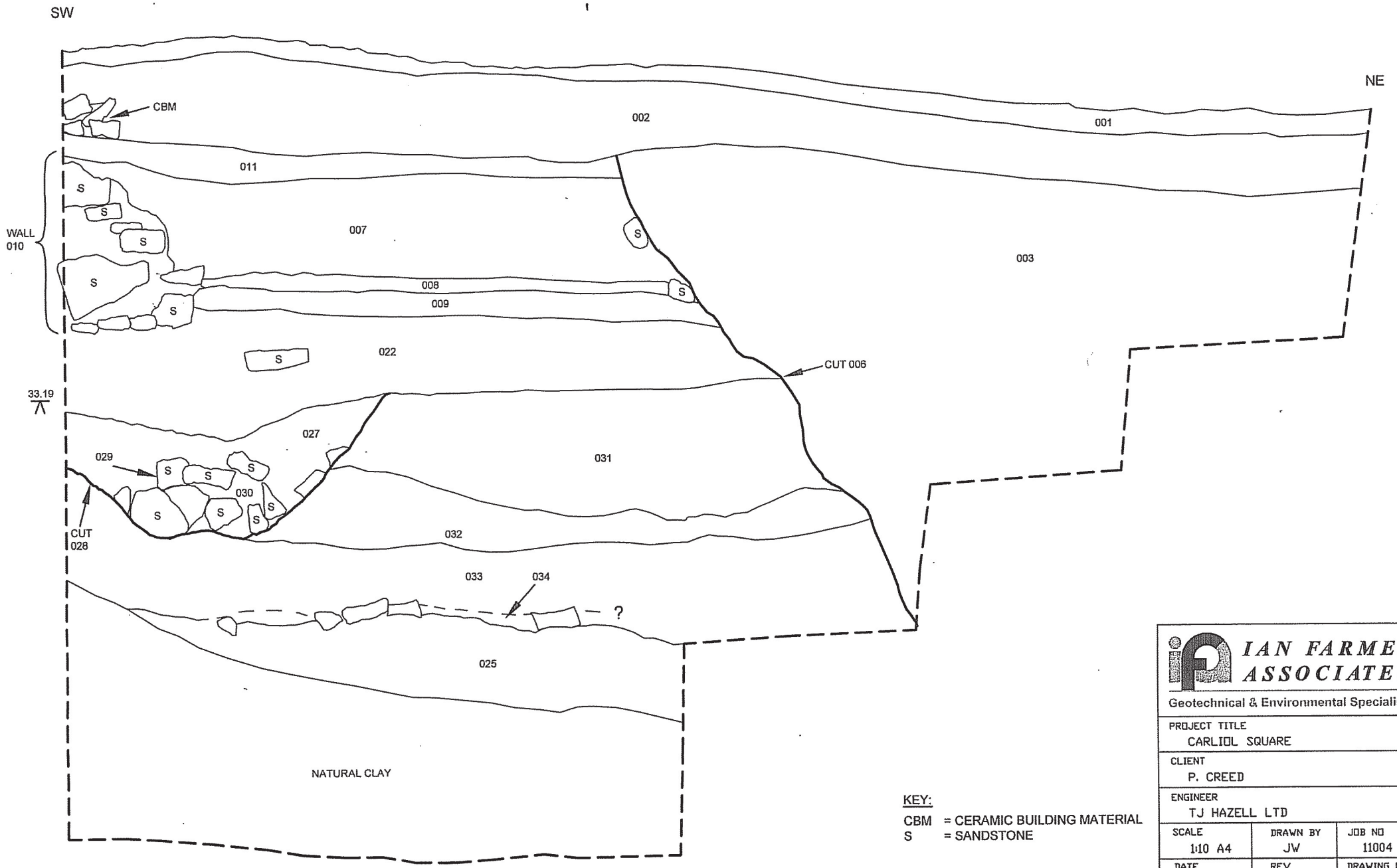
IAN FARMER ASSOCIATES
Geotechnical & Environmental Specialists

PROJECT TITLE: CARLIOL SQUARE		
CLIENT: P. CREED		
ENGINEER: TJ HAZELL LTD		
SCALE: 1:500 A4	DRAWN BY: OS	JOB NO: 11004
DATE: 28.06.06	REV: A	DRAWING NO: A1.3

APPENDIX 2

SECTION DRAWING

SOUTH EAST FACING SECTION OF EVALUATION TRENCH



KEY:

CBM = CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL
S = SANDSTONE

IAN FARMER ASSOCIATES
Geotechnical & Environmental Specialists

PROJECT TITLE: CARLIOL SQUARE		
CLIENT: P. CREED		
ENGINEER: TJ HAZELL LTD		
SCALE: 1:10 A4	DRAWN BY: JW	JOB NO: 11004
DATE: 28.06.06	REV: A	DRAWING NO: A2.1

APPENDIX 3

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

IAN FARMER ASSOCIATES
Geotechnical & Environmental Specialists

Carliol Square
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Contract No. 11004
Photographic Record

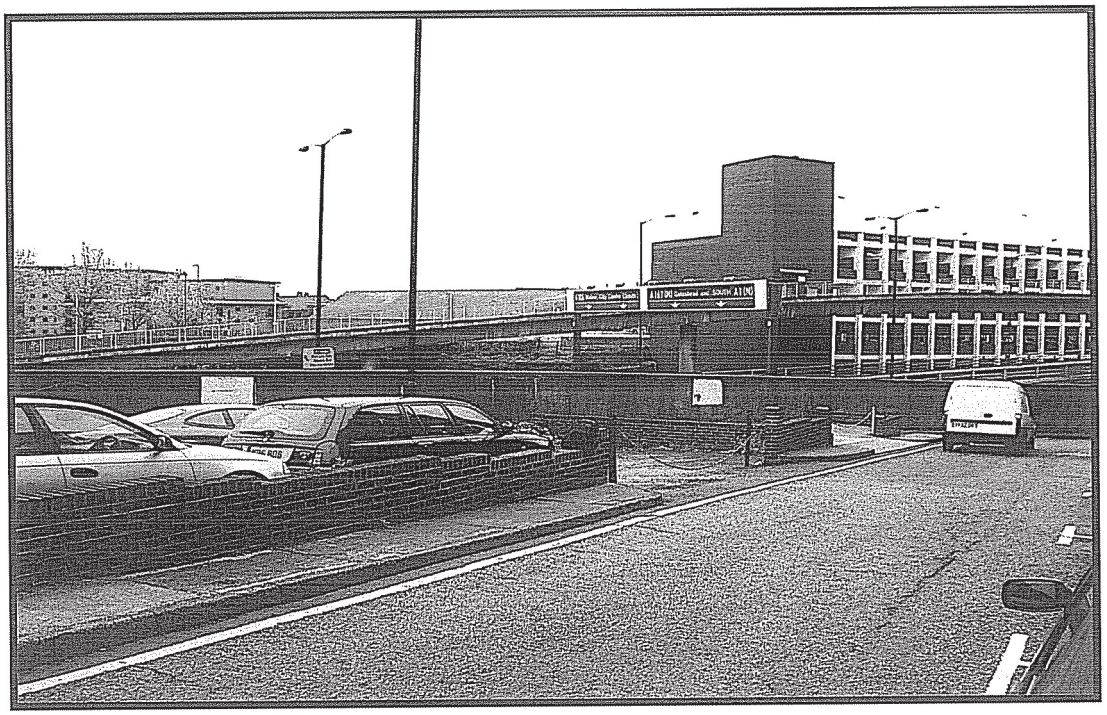


Plate 3.1a: Site of evaluation trench looking South East

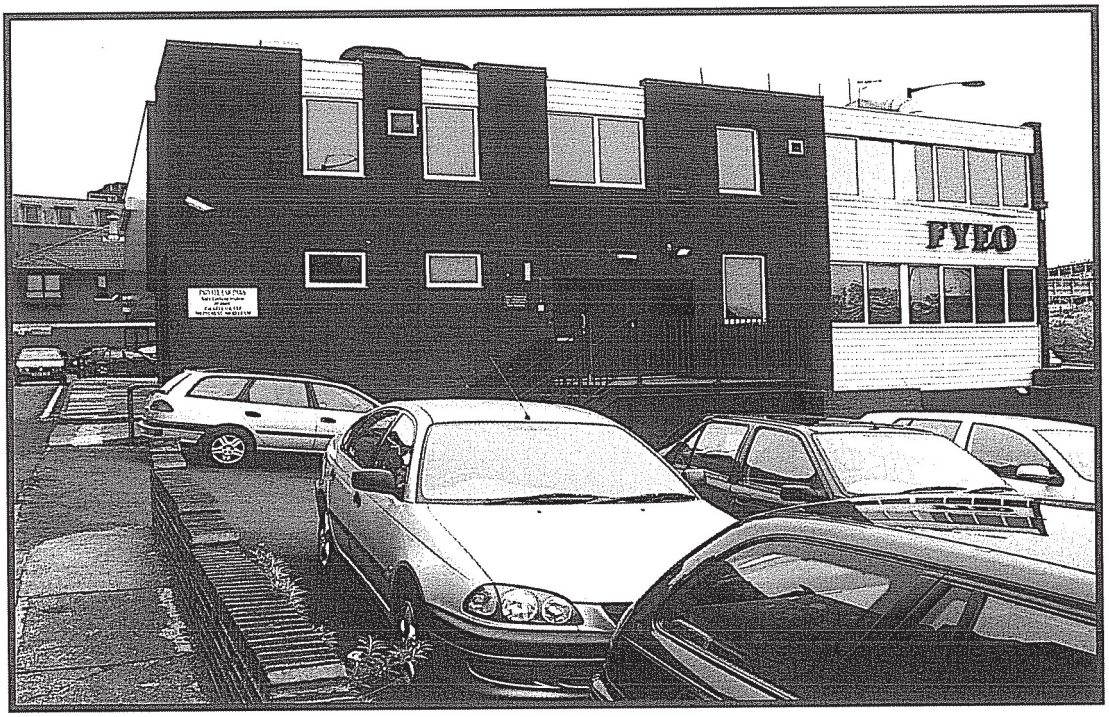


Plate A3.1b: View North from evaluation trench location

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Carliol Square
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Contract No. 11004
Photographic Record

Plate A3.2a: North West facing section of evaluation trench (Scale 2m)

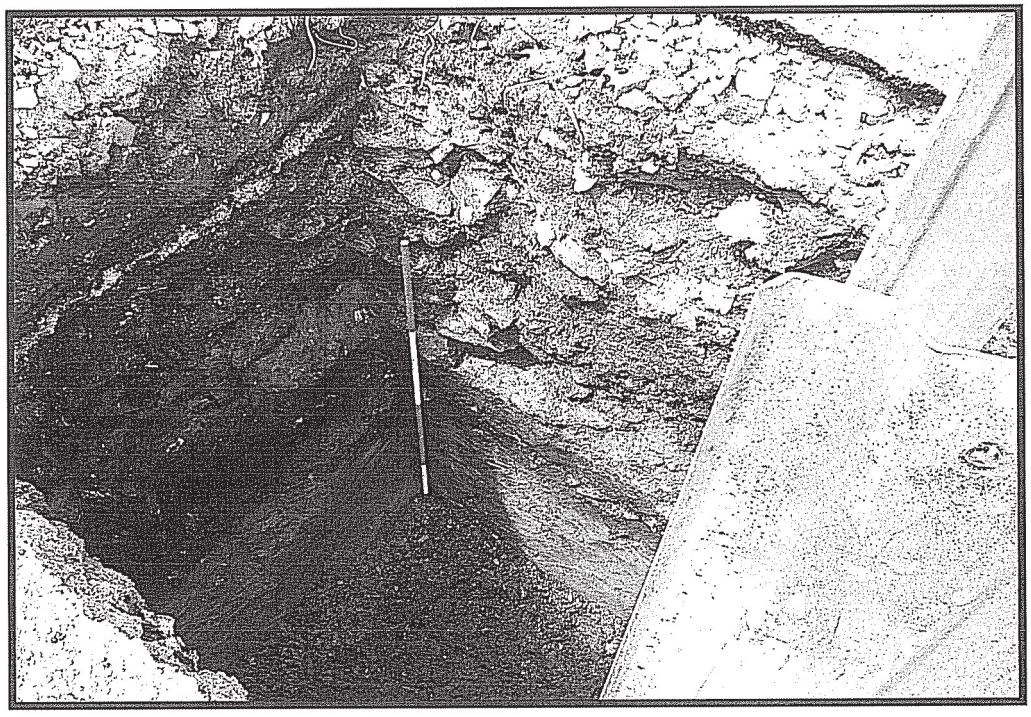

Plate A3.2b: North East facing & South East facing sections (Scale 2m)

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Newcastle Upon Tyne
Contract No. 11004
Photographic Record

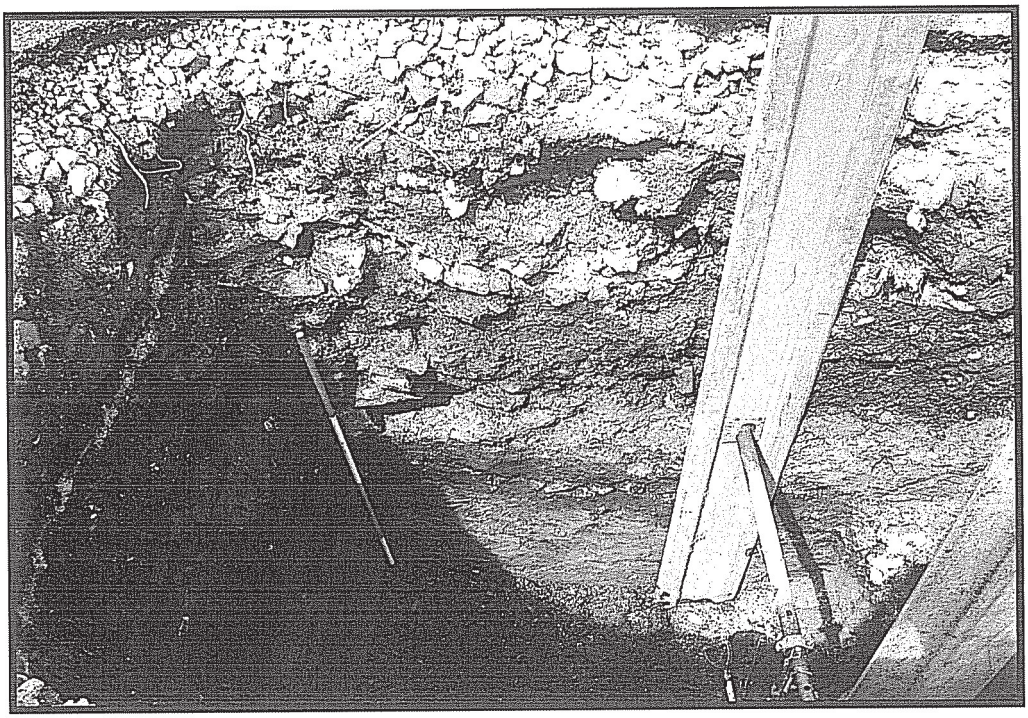


Plate 3.3a: South East facing section of trench (Scale 2m)

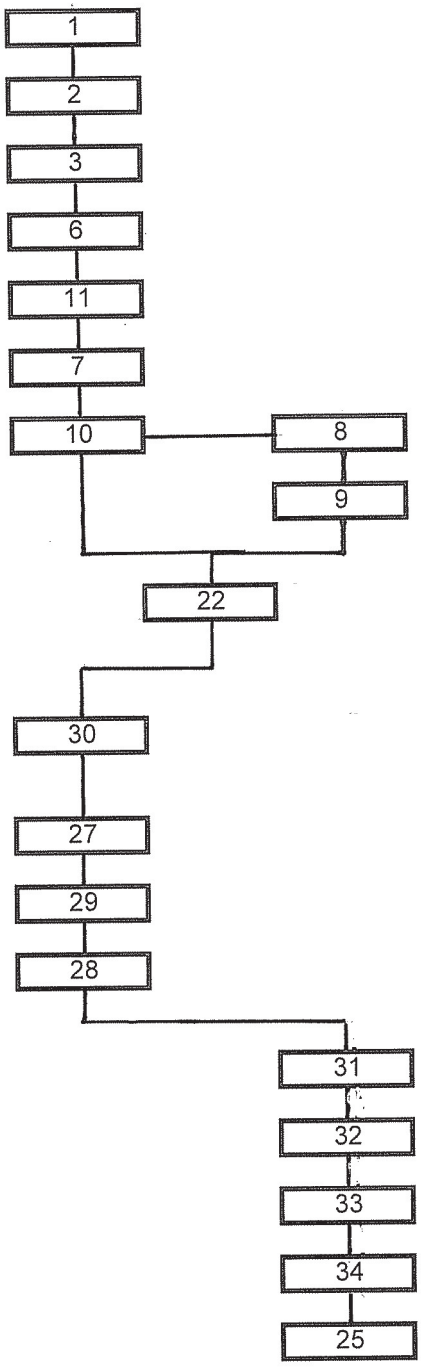
Plate 3.3b: Detail of North West facing section of trench (Scale 2m)

APPENDIX 4

HARRIS MATRIX

IAN FARMER ASSOCIATES
Geotechnical & Environmental Specialists

Carliol Square
Newcastle upon Tyne
Contract No. 11004
Evaluation Trench Matrix



APPENDIX 5

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Palaeoecology Research Services

Evaluation of biological remains from excavations at Carliol Square, Newcastle upon Tyne (contract no: 11004)

***PRS* 2006/59**

Palaeoecology Research Services **PRS 2006/59**

Evaluation of biological remains from excavations at Carliol Square, Newcastle upon Tyne (contract no: 11004)

by

John Carrott, Alexandra Schmidl, Deborah Jaques and Stewart Gardner

Summary

Three sediment samples recovered from deposits encountered during archaeological excavations at Carliol Square, Newcastle upon Tyne, were collected for an evaluation of their bioarchaeological potential. The sampled deposits were a late medieval dumping layer, the fill of a medieval drain and an underlying ? organic layer immediately above the 'natural' boulder clay.

Rather few ancient biological remains were recovered from the sediment samples, most probably deriving from human food waste but of little further interpretative value. Charred cereal grains from Context 022 would certainly provide suitable material for radiocarbon dating, if required, and sufficient plant remains from the other two deposits may also be obtained for this purpose.

No further study of the biological remains recovered from these deposits is warranted, but this evaluation has demonstrated the survival of organic material (preserved by both charring and waterlogging) at the site. Any future excavations in this area should certainly allow for the possibility of encountering deposits with more interpretatively valuable concentrations and for the systematic recovery of both sediment samples and hand-collected biological remains.

KEYWORDS: CARLIOL SQUARE; NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE; EVALUATION; MEDIEVAL (AND PERHAPS EARLIER) TO MODERN; PLANT REMAINS; CHARRED PLANT REMAINS; CHARRED CEREAL GRAINS; MICROFOSSILS; DIATOMS; INVERTEBRATE MACROFOSSILS; INSECTS; SHELL; VERTEBRATE REMAINS; MAMMAL BONE; FISH BONE

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8 August 2006

Evaluation of biological remains from excavations at Carliol Square, Newcastle upon Tyne (contract no: 11004)

Introduction

An archaeological evaluation excavation was undertaken by Ian Farmer Associates at Carliol Square, Newcastle upon Tyne (approximate centre NGR NZ 252 643) during June 2006. The works were undertaken in advance of commercial redevelopment of the site.

A single evaluation trench was excavated close to the line of the former city wall and encountered deposits of medieval, and perhaps earlier, through to modern date overlying the 'natural' boulder clay. The sampled deposits were a late medieval dumping layer, the fill of a medieval drain and an underlying ?organic layer immediately above the boulder clay.

Three bulk sediment samples ('GBA'/'BS' *sensu* Dobney *et al.* 1992), were collected by Palaeoecology Research Services Limited (PRS), County Durham, for an evaluation of their bioarchaeological potential.

Methods

The sediment samples were inspected in the laboratory and their lithologies recorded using a standard *pro forma*. Subsamples were processed, broadly following the techniques of Kenward *et al.* (1980) for the recovery of plant and invertebrate macrofossils. Prior to processing the subsamples were disaggregated in water for 24 hours or more and their volumes recorded in a waterlogged state. Nomenclature for plant taxa follows Stave (1997).

Plant and invertebrate remains in the processed subsample fractions (residues and washovers) were recorded briefly by 'scanning' using a low-power microscope, identifiable taxa and other components being listed on paper. The submitted remains were identified as closely as possible and their suitability for radiocarbon dating, by standard radiometric technique or accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS), was also considered.

Shell and vertebrate remains recovered from the samples were examined and identified as closely as possible by comparison with modern reference material and published works.

The residues were primarily inorganic and were dried, weighed and their components recorded.

The sample from the medieval drain fill (Context 030) was also examined for the eggs of intestinal parasitic nematodes using the 'squash' technique of Dainton (1992). This method routinely reveals the presence of other microfossils, such as pollen and diatoms, and these have been noted if present. The evaluation slide was scanned at 150x magnification with 600x used where necessary.

Results

The results are presented in context number order. Archaeological information, provided by the excavator, is given in square brackets. A brief summary of the processing method and an estimate of the remaining volume of unprocessed sediment follows (in round brackets) after the sample numbers.

Context 022 [late medieval dumping layer from approximately 1.5 to 1 metre below present ground level]
Sample 2/T (3 kg/~3 litres sieved to 300 microns with washover; approximately 12 litres of unprocessed sediment remain)

Moist, mid to dark grey-brown, slightly stiff and sticky to crumbly (working soft), sandy clay silt. Stones (2 to over 60 mm), mortar/plaster, coal, large mammal bone

and marine shellfish (including mussel – *Mytilus edulis* L.) were present.

The washover was tiny (~2 ml) and mostly of relatively modern intrusive rootlets and small unidentified charcoal fragments. Identifiable remains were restricted to a single poorly preserved and unidentified charred cereal grain and a seed of each of *Rubus fruticosus* agg. L. (blackberry) and *Sambucus nigra* L. (elder) – both uncharred.

There was a medium-sized residue (dry weight 0.84 kg) mostly of stones (to 55 mm) and sand, with some coal (to 26 mm; 29 g), cinder (to 30 mm; 42 g), mortar (to 52 mm; 79 g), a little charcoal (to 21 mm; 4 g), shell (to 36 mm; 5 g), bone (to 22 mm; 3 g) and four charred grains. All of the last were identified as six-rowed hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L.) and a few of the larger charcoal fragments were probably oak (*Quercus*). The shell comprised around 12 fragments of mussel (to 35 mm) and single fragments of oyster (*Ostrea edulis* L.; to 25 mm) and cockle (*Cerastoderma edule* (L.); to 9 mm). This sample produced a small assemblage of well-preserved bone amounting to 77 fragments. Sixty-six of these were fish bone, including the remains of herring (*Clupea harengus* L.), small gadid (cod family) and ?gurnard (cf. Triglidae). The others represented small fragments of unidentified mammal bone.

Context 025 [undated possibly organic layer from approximately 2.5 to 2 metres below present ground level, immediately overlying the 'natural' boulder clay] Sample 3/T (3 kg/~1.8 litres sieved to 300 microns with washover; approximately 3 litres of unprocessed sediment remain)

Just moist, mid to dark grey, stiff to crumbly (working soft and more or less plastic), slightly sandy silty clay (to clay silt), with some fragments of ?brick/tile.

There was a fairly large washover (~100 ml) which was mostly of fine plant detritus, with a few small pieces of waterlogged wood (to 10 mm) and a few seeds of elder, *Rubus fruticosus* agg./*R. idaeus* L. (blackberry/raspberry) and *Ranunculus acris* L./*R. repens* L. (meadow/creeping buttercup) – all also waterlogged. Some poorly preserved insect remains were present, including scraps of fly puparia and ?beetle sclerites, but none could be identified. There were also some earthworm egg capsules – probably intrusive to the deposit.

The small residue (dry weight 0.30 kg) was mostly of stones (to 22 mm), sand and cinder (to 22 mm; 30 g), with some coal (to 20 mm; 18 g) and traces of wood (to 28 mm; 1 g) and bone (to 15 mm; 1 g). The last consisted of three fragments, of rather battered appearance, one of which was burnt. Identified remains included a caprovid distal metapodial fragment and part of a medium-sized mammal phalanx (burnt), whilst one bone could not be identified.

Context 030 [fill of medieval Drain 028 at approximately 2 metres below present ground level] Sample 1/T (2 kg/1.8 litres sieved to 300 microns with washover and microfossil 'squash'; approximately 2 litres of unprocessed sediment remain)

Moist, mid grey-brown, soft and sticky (working soft), slightly sandy slightly clay silt, with some stones (6 to 20 mm) present.

The tiny washover (~3 ml) was mostly fine coal (largest fragments to 4 mm), with some small lumps of undisaggregated sediment (to 1 mm) and a little herbaceous detritus (uncharred). Small numbers of waterlogged seeds were also present including some of elder, blackberry and the goosefoot family (Chenopodiaceae), and there was a single fragment of an unidentified land snail.

The rather small residue (dry weight 0.34 kg) was mostly sand and stones (to 30 mm; including sandstone), with some coal (to 13 mm; 19 g) and cinder (to 20 mm; 9 g), and trace amounts of brick/tile (to 16 mm; 3 g), glass (one fragment to 10 mm; <1 g), shell (five unidentified fragments to 4 mm; <1 g) and bone (to 10 mm; <1 g). The nine fragments of bone included four which were of fish, with both herring and small gadid represented. There were also three fragments of burnt mammal bone.

The microfossil 'squash' subsample was mostly inorganic, with a trace of organic detritus. No eggs of intestinal parasitic nematodes were seen but there were some fairly well preserved diatoms (of at least two forms) and a few fungal spores present.

Discussion and statement of potential

Rather few ancient biological remains were recovered from, or detected in, the sediment samples and these were of limited interpretative value.

Most of the remains probably derived from human food waste (the charred grain, shellfish, fish and mammal bone) but were too few for any detailed interpretation; although there was clearly no large scale crop processing being undertaken in the immediate vicinity. The fruit pips may also have originated in berries consumed as food but equally could be from bushes growing locally (in a hedgerow, for

example). No interpretatively valuable concentrations of microfossils were detected.

Context 022 gave sufficient suitable remains (charred grains) for radiocarbon dating of the deposits to be attempted (via AMS), should this be required. Sufficient suitable material from the other two deposits would be less readily obtained, but a sample of the seeds from each would probably provide enough remains for an AMS date.

Recommendations

No further study of the biological remains recovered from these deposits is warranted. If material is required for radiocarbon dating the charred grains from Context 022 could be submitted for AMS. It *may* also be possible to recover sufficient suitable material (i.e. seeds) from Contexts 025 and 030.

This evaluation has demonstrated the survival of organic material (preserved by both charring and waterlogging – though uncharred remains were, in general, of robust and resilient plant structures or bone which may survive even within desiccated deposits; more delicate remains were largely absent or present only as unidentifiable scraps or detritus) at this site. Any future excavations in this area should certainly allow for the possibility of encountering deposits with more interpretatively valuable concentrations and for the systematic recovery of both sediment samples and hand-collected biological remains.

Retention and disposal

Unless required for the recovery of additional remains for radiocarbon dating, or for purposes unrelated to study of the biological remains, any remaining unprocessed sediment samples may be discarded.

Archive

All material is currently stored by Palaeoecology Research Services (Unit 8, Dabble Duck Industrial Estate, Shildon, County Durham), along with paper and electronic records pertaining to the work described here.

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APPENDIX 6

CONTEXT RECORD

Carliol Square, Newcastle Upon Tyne 2006

Contract No 11004

Evaluation Trench Context Archive

Context No	Type	Comment	Plan No.	Section No.	Photographs	Finds
001	Deposit	Modern	None	1,2	B/W, Col, Dig	None
002	Deposit	Modern	None	1,2	As above	None
003	Deposit	Modern backfill	None	1,2	As above	None
004	Deposit	As above	None	NA	As above	None
005	Deposit	As above	None	NA	As above	None
006	Cut	Modern Cut	None	1,2	As above	NA
007	Deposit	Modern	None	1,2	As above	None
008	Deposit	Modern concrete	None	1,2	As above	None
009	Deposit	Modern backfill	None	1,2	As above	None
010	Masonry	19^{th}-20^{th} cent	None	1,2	A above	None
011	Deposit	Modern levelling	None	1,2	As above	None

Carliol Square, Newcastle upon Tyne 2006

Contract No 11004

Evaluation Trench Context Archive

Context No	Type	Comment	Plan No.	Section No.	Photographs	Finds
012	Deposit	Modern levelling	None	1 & 2	yes	None
013	Deposit	Post Medieval	None	1 & 2	yes	None
014	Deposit	Recent ash dep.	None	1 & 2	Yes	None
015	Deposit	Recent sand	None	1 & 2	yes	None
016	Deposit	Hearth ash	None	1 &. 2	Yes	None
017	Deposit	Hearth ash	None	1 & 2	Yes	None
018	Deposit	Hearth ash	None	1. & 2	Yes	None
019	Deposit	Mortar spread	None	1 & 2	Yes	None
020	Deposit	Mortar spread	None	1 & 2	Yes	None
021	Deposit	Post Medieval	None	1 & 2	Yes	None
022	Deposit	Post Med. Soil	None	1 & 2	Yes	None

Carliol Square, Newcastle upon Tyne

Contract No 11004

Evaluation Trench Context Archive

Context No	Type	Comment	Plan No.	Section No.	Photographs	Finds
023	Deposit	levelling	None	1 & 2	Yes	None
024	Deposit	levelling	None	1 & 2	Yes	None
025	Deposit	Soil horizon	None	1 & 2	Yes	None
026	Not used	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
027	Deposit	Backfill	NA	1 & 2	Yes	Yes
028	Cut	For drain	None	1 & 2	Yes	NA
029	Structure	Drain	None	1 & 2	Yes	NA
030	Deposit	Drain fill	NA	1 & 2	Yes	Yes
031	Deposit	Post Med.	None	1 & 2	Yes	None
032	Deposit	Post Med	None	1 & 2	Yes	None
033	Deposit	Post Med	None	1 & 2	Yes	None
034	Deposit	Post Med.	None	1 & 2	Yes	None