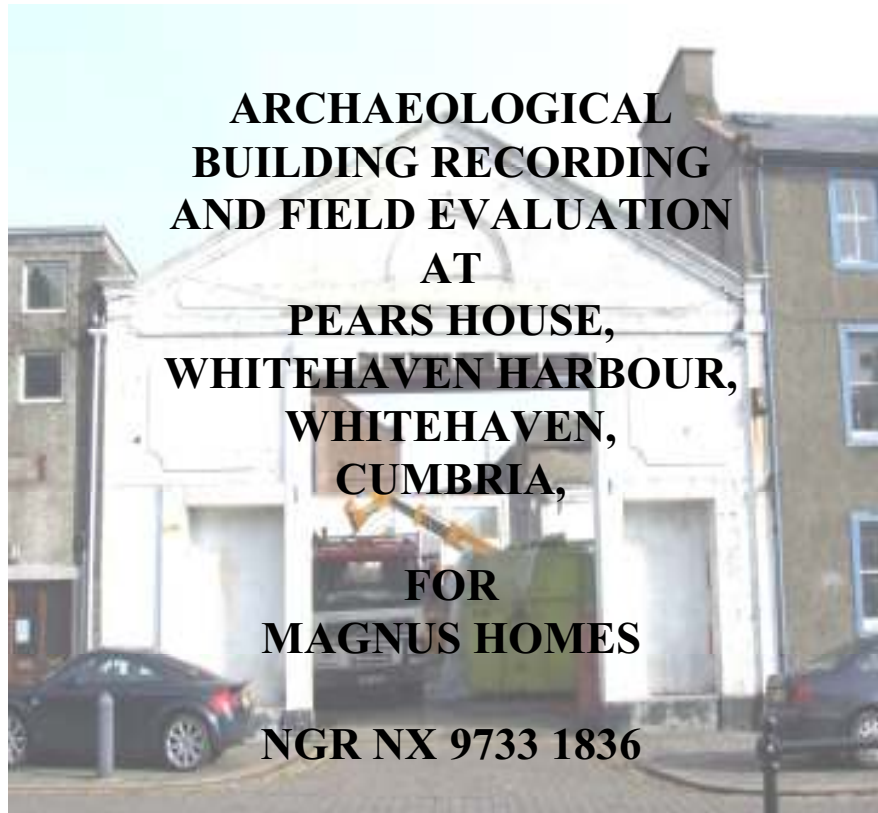


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# **NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**

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**Client Report No. CP/563/08**



**OASIS REFERENCE: NORTHPEN3-39408**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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In March 2008, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Magnus Homes to undertake an archaeological building recording in advance of a proposed redevelopment of Pears House, Whitehaven Harbour, Whitehaven, Cumbria, (NGR NX 9733 1836). A previous desk-based assessment had revealed that the existing building had 1925-1938 origins, and its elaborate frontage made it worthy of further study prior to demolition.

The ornate entrance façade to Duke Street, was unusual, and perhaps the result of an attempt to tie it in with buildings in the vicinity in the 1920s and 1930s. It betrayed an empty and somewhat featureless interior. The building survey found that of most interest, internally was the northwest facing internal wall. This wall had evidence for the incorporation of pre-existing adjacent boundary walls into the fabric, shown by differing fabrics of different style and period, particularly in the southern half of the elevation. In addition, it showed that the building extended southeastwards into the back plot of the Public House, increasing its known boundary.

It has already been seen that sub-surface foundations relating to post-medieval and modern structures may survive at the site, and Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES) advised that a further phase of mitigation to involve a field evaluation of the site post-demolition, would be required.

Fieldwork in the form of an archaeological evaluation was undertaken from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> April 2008, involving the excavation of three linear trial trenches. The trenches revealed significant post-medieval occupation debris, rubble spreads, wall foundations and floor surfaces showing significant human activity in the area during this period. This however, is expected given the proximity of the site to the town and dock area. Trench 1 was located on the northeastern extent of the site; Trench 2 was aligned with Duke Street and Trench 3 was located in the middle of the study area. The discovery of a substantial stone cellar running at a right angle with Duke Street necessitated Trenches 2 and 3 being moved approximately 3m eastwards.

As the area has been extensively built upon since the second half of the eighteenth century, there was the expectation of post-medieval disturbance to any underlying archaeological deposits, and this was confirmed, particularly in Trenches 2 and 3. However, in addition to the later post-medieval features and modern makeup layers, present in all three trenches, an earlier wall and cobbled surface were revealed in Trench 3. The section of walling and cobbles appear to relate to an earlier boundary structure and possible yard or pathway. Three fragments of Delft Ware pottery were recovered from within the foundations of this structure, indicating a possible early to mid eighteenth century date. Three other walls were also exposed within Trench 3, which relate to a small square building constructed between 1874 and 1925 shown on Ordnance Survey mapping for the area.

During the evaluation a wall was exposed running north south within Trench 3, which relates to the original extant building, which was recently demolished on the site. It appears that the wall forms the western wall of the cellar and it is likely that this is the surviving remnants of a long linear building, first shown on contemporary mapping in 1790 (Hutchinson 1794).

The work also confirmed that the land to the northeast of the site has been levelled, with the deposition of large amounts of overburden, which showed that the ground level had been raised by *c* 3m.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to offer thanks to Magnus Homes for commissioning the project, and for all assistance throughout the work.

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend there thanks to all demolition staff on-site, for their help during this project.

The archaeological building recording was undertaken by, and the report was written by Cat Peters. The archaeological evaluation was supervised by Martin Sowerby, ably assisted by Kevin Mounsey and Frances Wood. Martin Sowerby wrote the evaluation report. The project was managed by Martin Railton, Project Manager for NPA Ltd. The report was edited by Martin Railton, Project Manager Ltd.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 This archaeological building recording and field evaluation was undertaken under the recommendation of Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES), following the findings of a desk-based assessment undertaken on the site at Pears House, Whitehaven Harbour, Whitehaven, Cumbria (NGR NX 9733 1836) (Figure 1). The recording was undertaken during demolition procedures of the building, prior to the field evaluation programme. The desk-based assessment revealed the building to have 1925-1938 origins, and its elaborate frontage made it worthy of further study prior to demolition (Peters 2007). In accordance with standard practice, CCCHES recommended a programme of archaeological recording prior to any development, to record the structure as-is. North Pennines Archaeology Ltd. (NPAL) were commissioned by Magnus Homes to undertake the required archaeological building recording, followed by a trial trench evaluation.
- 1.1.2 The purpose of the archaeological building recording was to compile a full photographic record of the structure as existing, as well as an accompanying detailed description of the history of the building, with the structural sequence as observed during the fieldwork.
- 1.1.3 The field evaluation comprised the excavation of a series of linear trial trenches in order to provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing zones of relevant importance against known development proposals. The principal objective of this evaluation was to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of any archaeological remains and to record these where they were observed. Three were to be excavated, comprising a minimum 5% sample of the undeveloped area.
- 1.1.4 This report sets out the results of the work in the form of a short document outlining the findings, followed by a statement of the archaeological significance of the structures recorded.

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## 2. METHODOLOGY

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### 2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by the client to undertake the work. All works were undertaken in accordance with the relevant standards and procedures of English Heritage guidance (English Heritage 2006), and generally accepted best practice.

### 2.2 RESEARCH

- 2.2.1 A coherent desk-based assessment has already been made of the development site (Peters 2007), and this will be used to provide building-specific background information for this study.

### 2.3 BUILDING RECORDING SURVEY

- 2.3.1 A full photographic record has been compiled of the structures as surviving; in colour and black and white print with a graduated metric scale in order to provide a definitive record of the site prior to development. Features of archaeological interest were identified and photographed. In addition, overall photographs were taken showing the exterior elevations. The structural evidence observed and noted during this fieldwork is outlined in Section 4.

### 2.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

- 2.4.1 The archaeological evaluation consisted of the excavation of three linear trial trenches. Trench 1 was approximately 10m long by 1.60m wide, Trench 2 was 12m long by 1.60m wide and Trench 3 was 10m wide by 1.60m. The trenches were located and aligned as illustrated in Figure 5. This was in order to produce a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains, detailing zones of relevant importance against known development proposals. The evaluation took place between the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2008.
- 2.4.2 Initially, the trench locations were subjected to a digital CAT scan to look for any unidentified services not known on available services plans for the site. The trenches were then excavated by a JCB 3CX wheeled mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket to either the top of archaeological deposits, or the natural substrate, whichever was observed first. When the suspected natural substrate was revealed, the strata was tested by the excavator and then cleaned by hand where Health and Safety regulations permitted. All relevant COSHH regulations regarding the filling and running of all the machinery were followed.
- 2.4.3 Trenches were subsequently cleaned by hand and all features investigated and recorded according to the North Pennines Archaeology Ltd standard procedure as set out in the Excavation manual (Giecco 2001).



- 2.4.4 All written records utilised the NPA pro-forma record sheets. Plans and sections were drawn on water resistant permatrace and to a given scale. A full photographic record in monochrome, colour slide, and digital formats was maintained. The site was levelled with respect to the Ordnance Datum, and the trenches tied into the National Grid.
- 2.4.5 In summary, the main objectives of the evaluation were:
- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record these where they were observed;
  - to establish the character of those features in terms of cuts, soil matrices and interfaces;
  - to recover artefactual material, especially that useful for dating purposes;
  - to recover palaeoenvironmental material where it survived in order to understand site and landscape formation processes.
- 2.4.6 Photography was undertaken using two Canon EOS 500 Single Lens Reflex (SLR) cameras, and Nikon D40 Digital Camera. A photographic record was made using digital photography, 3200 ISO Black and White Print and 1600 ISO Colour Print film.
- 2.4.7 All work was undertaken in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (IFA 1994).

## **2.5 ARCHIVE**

- 2.5.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design, and in accordance with current UKIC (1990) and English Heritage guidelines (1991). The paper and digital archive will be deposited in a suitable repository.
- 2.5.2 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd and CCCHES support the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. This project aims to provide an online index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature created as a result of developer-funded archaeological fieldwork. As a result, details of the results of this survey will be made available by North Pennines Archaeology, as a part of this national project.

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## 3. BACKGROUND

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### 3.1 LOCATION

- 3.1.1 The site lies within an urban context at the western edge of the settlement of Whitehaven, within the area of Whitehaven Harbour (Figure 1).
- 3.1.2 The existing building was nestled between adjoining buildings, including Listed three-storey townhouses fronting Duke Street, a Public House to the southeast, some small-scale industrial buildings to the north and northwest, and the Government Offices to the west.
- 3.1.3 It was an L-Shaped building, fronting Duke Street and extending northeastwards from the frontage, and then southeast behind the Duke Street buildings.

### 3.2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.2.1 This historical background is compiled from the earlier desk-based assessment (Peters 2007), and is intended as a brief summary of historical developments relevant to the building itself.
- 3.2.2 The area of Whitehaven Harbour remained undeveloped until the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, when townhouses first appeared fronting Duke Street, The areas behind were small strip gardens associated with the houses. By the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and early 19<sup>th</sup> century, these back plots gradually became developed, with buildings first appearing on the site of the present building. By the Third Edition Ordnance Survey Mapping of 1925, the area was dotted with a series of small narrow buildings, presumably forming an industrial quarter associated with the Harbour, or poor dwellings for the growing population of workers. These were replaced by 1938 with the extant L-Shaped building, the focus of this archaeological recording. The building had remained unchanged until modern Ordnance Survey Mapping.

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## 4. BUILDING RECORDING RESULTS

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### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The site was visited on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2008 by Cat Peters. Demolition had already begun, and as a result, much of the roof and the tops of some of the elevations were removed. In addition, movement of large waggons within the building, and ongoing demolition procedures, made recording difficult. Below are the results of the archaeological building recording. The plans and elevations are based on modern Ordnance Survey mapping, on-site sketches and scaled photography.

### 4.2 RESULTS

- 4.2.1 The building recorded by this project, was an L-Shaped building referred to as Pears House on modern Ordnance Survey Mapping (Figure 2). The fact that the building was nestled between a number of adjacent buildings and boundary walls, made many of the external elevations inaccessible. Only the Duke Street façade entrance, the southwest facing elevation, was accessible. All internal elevations were assessed, although the stairs had already been removed from the 2-storey temporary hardboard structure in the far northern corner of the building, making the second storey inaccessible (Figure 3). This structure, modern and temporary, was of little archaeological interest.
- 4.2.2 A entrance hut, made of modern stretcher brick was located in the southern corner of the building, to the right of the main entrance, suggesting a reception area of some sort. It had a hatch on the northeast facing elevation, a door on the northwest facing elevation and was 2.3m tall. The only other surviving internal feature was a rectilinear pit, located within the western part of the building, consistent with the use of the building as a vehicle repair unit at some point in its history.
- 4.2.3 The fact that the building occupied what was essentially, a gap between adjoining properties, meant that some of its walls appeared to be made of board, stood against adjoining boundary walls, plastered white. This was the case for the longest wall, the southwest facing one, the part of the northeast facing wall not obscured by the modern two-storey structure, and both walls forming the internal L-Shape, adjacent to Numbers 3 and 4 Duke Street (Plates 1, 2 and 3 below).



**Plate 1:** Southwest-Facing Elevation



**Plate 2:** Southeast-Facing Elevation



**Plate 3:** Northeast-Facing Elevation

- 4.2.4 All of these elevations were further supplied with square pillars, at regular intervals across their length, to provide support for the roof trusses above. The roof structure is shown in Figure 4a and Plate 4. The roof presumably consisted of corrugated iron segments, with plastic skylights, allowing light into the windowless, and otherwise natural-light-free building.



**Plate 4:** Roof Detail

- 4.2.5 The main entrance to the building, the southwest facing façade was the basis for the building recording, highlighted by the desk-based assessment (Peters 2007). It consisted of a whitewashed sandstone façade, with columns and decorative features

(Figure 4b; Plate 5), perhaps as a way of tying the industrial building in with its more ornate neighbours.



**Plate 5:** Entrance Façade

- 4.2.6 Of most interest, internally, was the northwest facing internal wall (Figure 4c; Plate 6). This included an inaccessible Fire Exit, which was located approximately halfway along the elevation. From modern Ordnance Survey Mapping (Figure 2), this appears to correlate directly with a northwest to southeast aligned alleyway between Number 17 Tangier Street, and the Public House. Furthermore, the appearance of two lavatories, with a recess above, extending southeastwards from the elevation, showed that the building actually encroached into the back plot of the Public House. The occurrence of a steel girder above the recess shows the need for further support for the red brick elevation above. The bricks on this elevation were English Garden Wall Bond one and five, painted white below the level of the steel girder, and left red above. Unlike the other elevations, this wall had evidence for the incorporation of pre-existing adjacent boundary walls into the fabric, shown by differing fabrics of different style and period, particularly in the southern half of the elevation. Three clear brick boundary walls of 0.5m widths could be seen at regular intervals, matching back plot walls seen behind Number 17 Tangier Street, shown on modern Ordnance Survey Mapping (Figure 2). In between these walls, was a mixture of sandstone and brick, in the far southern corner, barely more than a rubble dump, to make up the wall. All was whitewashed, consistent with the rest of the building.



**Plate 6:** Northwest-Facing Elevation



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## 5 EVALUATION RESULTS

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### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 Summary results of the evaluation are discussed below. The context list is reproduced in Appendix 2, with Figure showing the location of the evaluation trenches.

### 5.2 TRENCH 1

5.2.1 Trench 1 was located at the northeastern extent of the development site, aligned with the partly demolished west-facing wall of a nightclub on Williamson Lane (see Figures 5 and 6; Plates 7 and 8). The trench measured 10m long by 3.40m wide. Due to the depth of the trench, all four sides were stepped by 1.20m to create access and to adhere to the recommended health and safety constraints for deep excavations. The initial machining involved the removal of remnant sections of concrete flooring and an east west aligned wall from a previous structure; these deposits are described as modern overburden **100**, **103**, **106** and **115** and due to their disturbed nature, are not described in detail within the assessment.



**Plate 7:** Trench 1, facing north

5.2.2 The earliest horizon observed was the naturally occurring glacial till **101**. It consisted of compacted pale greyish green silty sand with numerous inclusions of marine shell and small flat stones. It is likely that this layer represents the original beach or inlet before the medieval settlement and dock were fully established. Partly overlying the natural was a dark brown to black silty loam deposit, occasionally with a reddish brown burnt component, up to 0.19m deep **116**. Approximately 5% of this deposit comprised post-medieval pottery, showing little wear. This layer extended 3.80m into the northern extent of the trench. Overlying both layers was



context **114**, consisting of 0.80m of moderately compacted brownish grey silty sand, containing 25% red handmade brick and Lakeland roof slate fragments, which may represent the demolition/remodelling of a structure within the immediate area of Trench 1.

5.2.3 Approximately 3m from the western extent of the trench, a brownish grey, moderately compacted sandy gravel, containing post-medieval pottery sherds was observed **113**, overlying **114**. Overlying all layers so far discussed was *c* 0.20m of dark brown to black silty loams **112**, which was interpreted as a tip or dump deposit, mixed with ashy, charcoal rich demolition and industrial debris and redeposited topsoil. It is possible that this layer is the remnant of a buried garden soil horizon (see Plate 8).

5.2.4 A number of layers were observed sealing context **112**, all of which have been interpreted as levelling or dumped deposits. Context **111**, was 0.22m deep and consisted of moderately compacted brownish grey sandy silt with numerous inclusions of brick, tile and contained a large amount of lime mortar fragments. This was overlaid by three distinct layers of building rubble **108**, **109** and **110**, approximately 0.27m thick.



**Plate 8:** Trench 1, west facing section, note context **112**

5.2.5 Of particular interest was context **107**. It consisted of a dark brown to black sand, which has been exposed to heat or industrial processes as the layer was very hard and compacted. Within this layer a large amount of bitumen and wooden fragments were noted, which may indicate a working area for the shipyard (waterproofing for timber ships or vessels). This layer in-turn was overlaid by 0.20m of pure yellow sand **106**, which by the nature of this deposit shows that it likely derives from the sea, possibly as a result of dredging.

5.2.6 At the northern extent of the trench context **105**, was visible which extended into the section. It consisted of moderately compacted, black industrial waste, mixed with sand and again, could represent industrial activity within the immediate

development area. Approximately 0.50m of mixed demolition rubble **104**, made up the remaining depth of the trench.

### 5.3 TRENCH 2

5.3.1 Trench 2 was located within the southern sector of the development site and is aligned east west with Duke Street (see Figures 5 and 7; Plates 9 and 10). The original length of the trench was 12m long; however the discovery of a substantial cellar necessitated the movement of the trench approximately 3m eastwards. Due to space limitations and the detection of live services, the trench was reduced in size to 10m with agreement from Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (Parsons *Pers comm.*). The machining involved the removal of remnant sections of concrete and rubble associated with the demolished building fronting Duke Street: these layers are described as overburden **200** and **203**. The removal of the overburden uncovered two walls, which effectively sub-divided the trench into two sections. These sections, 2(a) and 2(b), will be discussed separately for ease of clarification. The section runs from east to west in sequence.



**Plate 9:** Trench 2, facing west



**Plate 10:** Trench 3, facing east

5.3.2 **Section 2(a):** The first section measured 5.58m in length from the eastern end of the trench to a north-south aligned wall **204** (see Figure 7; Plate 11). The natural soil horizon **213**, was exposed at a depth 2.54m, within a hand excavated sondage at the base of the trench. The natural consisted of pale greenish grey silty sand with numerous small rounded sandstone inclusions. Observed cutting the natural was wall **204**, measuring 0.55m wide by 1.60m long and heading north from the Duke Street frontage. The wall was constructed from irregularly dressed, randomly coursed sandstone blocks with a rubble core; the stonework also incorporated five

courses of handmade bricks on the west facing elevation. The east facing elevation has been whitewashed with lime-wash. It is likely that this structure represents the western wall of a small square building visible on the 1874 OS Map for Whitehaven.

- 5.3.3 At the eastern end of the trench, and effectively forming its back edge, was another wall **215**. This substantial structure is the eastern wall of a long linear building first annotated on Hutchinson Map of 1790. The wall is constructed from randomly coursed, roughly hewn sandstones and forms the east-facing wall to a large cellar. Its maximum height was *c* 5m from the base of the cellar floor to its current height and was approximately 0.60m wide. The west facing skin of the wall has been obscured by modern brickwork.
- 5.3.4 Overlying the natural was **214**, consisting of *c* 0.37m of dark brown to black silty sand loam which was interpreted as a dump deposit, mixed with ashy, mortar rich building rubble. Five sherds of post-medieval pottery were also recovered from this layer. It is likely that this deposit represents bedding for the cobbled sets **212** above this layer. Approximately 1.85m of overburden **200** and **201**, made up the remaining depth of the trench, and consisted entirely of demolition rubble (see Figure 7; Plate 11).



**Plate 11:** Overburden **201** and **203**, facing north

- 5.3.5 **Section 2(b):** this section measured 4.90m from the western extent of the trench to wall **204**. The natural **213**, was exposed at a maximum depth of 2.50m below modern ground level. Observed cutting this layer was a small north south-aligned brick drain **208**, which was constructed from red handmade bricks, measuring 0.25m by 0.12 by 0.10m and bonded with lime mortar. Overlaying this layer was context **207**, consisting of dark greyish brown gritty silty clay up to 0.37m deep and may represent the original ground surface. The remaining depth of the trench (*c*.1.66m) was made up of various demolition and or construction episodes. Layers **201**, **202**, **205** and **206** were loose, mid grey to brown in colour and contained a large amount of building debris and rubble as well as mortar fragments.



**Plate 12:** Wall *204* and drain *208*, facing east

## 5.4 TRENCH 3

- 5.4.1 Trench 3 was located within the middle sector of the development site and was aligned east west (see Figure 8; Plates 13 and 14). The trench was 10m long, however the discovery of a substantial cellar necessitated the movement of the trench approximately 3m eastwards. The machining involved the removal of remnant sections of concrete and rubble associated with the demolished building: these layers are described as overburden *300* and *309*. The removal of the overburden uncovered two cross-walls, which effectively sub-divided the trench into two sections. These sections, 2(a) and 2(b), will be discussed separately for ease of clarification.
- 5.4.2 **Section 3(a):** this section measured 4.89m from the eastern extent of the trench to wall *307*. The natural *310*, was exposed at a depth of 2.04m below the modern ground surface and consists of loose yellowish green sandy gravel (see Plate 17). In total three walls were exposed during the course of the trench excavation. Wall *307* located mid-point within the trench, which is 1.61m high by 0.59m wide, and stands seven courses high. It is highly likely that this wall is the continuation of wall located in Trench 2 (see 5.3.2). Wall *311*, located on the eastern extent of the trench is similar in construction and may represent the western wall of the building. The wall is 1.64m high by 0.55m wide and six courses high. Both walls are aligned north south, and consist of roughly hewn, randomly coursed sandstones and continue into the south facing section.
- 5.4.3 A short section of walling *314* incorporating a doorway or entrance was noted running parallel with the north facing section of the trench. The wall butts *307*, however it is not keyed into this structure and may represent a later addition. The wall is approximately 2.30m long by 0.55m wide, its depth is unknown as the section was unstable and left unexcavated (see Figure 8; Plate 15).



**Plate 13:** Trench 3, facing east**Plate 14:** Trench 3, facing west

- 5.4.4 A single deposit **309** covered all three walls, which has been interpreted modern overburden, consisting of reddish hardcore gravels. Approximately 0.30m of pink hardcore gravel **300** made up the remaining depth of this section.

**Plate 15:** Walls **307** and **314**, facing southwest

- 5.4.4 **Section 3(b):** this section measured 4.55m from the western extent of the trench to wall **307**. The natural **310**, was exposed at a maximum depth of 2.13m below the modern ground surface. The earliest archaeological horizon exposed overlying the natural was context **308**, which consisted of crushed lime mortar and red brick fragments. Three Delft Ware pottery sherds were recovered from this layer. Running parallel with wall **307** was a well-dressed kerbstone **313** and associated

cobbled surface **312**, which had been truncated when wall **307** was built (see Figure 3; Plates 16). It is probable that both features relate to the large linear building noted on Hutchinsons Map in 1790 and may represent a boundary wall and yard/garden area. Abutting the kerbstone was a **306**, consisting of compacted greyish brown silty sand up to 0.24m deep, which has been identified as a levelling deposit. Layers **305**, **304**, **303** and **302** consist of loose demolition rubble. Concrete layer **301**, abutting wall **307** possibly represents the floor level of the building.



**Plate 16:** Walls **307**, **313** and cobbled surface **312**, facing southeast

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## 6 FINDS

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### 6.1 INTRODUCTION

- 6.1.1 The pottery and other artefactual material has been cleaned marked and packaged according to standard guidelines, and recorded under the supervision of Frank Giecco, NPAL Technical Director.

### 6.2 MEDIEVAL AND POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY

- 6.2.1 The evaluation at Pears House in Whitehaven produced a small assemblage of medieval/post-medieval pottery, which broadly dates from the fourteenth to nineteenth centuries. The pottery is in variable condition, although in broad terms the earlier material comprised small sherds increasing later to larger fragments, forming parts of individual vessels. See *Appendix 3* for a complete analysis of the pottery assemblage recovered during the evaluation .

### 6.3 CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIALS (CBM)

- 6.3.1 In total, ten fragments (weighing 0.098kg) of ceramic building materials were recovered during the evaluation, the majority of which derived from Trench 1. Most of the fragments were extremely small and degraded and thus could not be assigned a form or function. Eight fragments were recovered from context *116* and the remaining two were retrieved from *104* and *112*.

### 6.3 CLAY PIPES

- 6.3.1 In total, five fragments of clay tobacco pipe stems (weighing 0.017kg) were recovered from the evaluation. The stems were examined by eye for evidence of decoration or manufactures` marks. All of the fragments showed no sign of decoration and no pipe bowls were recovered. Three of the stems were retrieved from unstratified contexts and two were from *104* and *116*, all stems derived from Trench 1.

### 6.4 COINS

- 6.4.1 A single coin of post-medieval date was recovered from the site (SF1). The coin was retrieved from an unstratified context in Trench 1, and was quite worn, which would suggest a considerable period of circulation. The obverse shows the portrait of Queen Victoria facing left, with the inscription VICTORIA D: G: BRITT: REG: F: D: The reverse shows Britannia seated facing right holding a trident and shield, with a lighthouse behind and ship in front, with the inscription HALF PENNY, and the date below in the exergue (1880).

## **6.5 GLASS**

6.5.1 Four fragments of vessel and window glass (weighing 0.262kg) were recovered from the evaluation. The neck and body fragments of a dark green Mallet style glass bottle, which were introduced in the eighteenth century, was recovered from Trench 1 (U/S). These bottles were originally designed to store port and first appeared in the late 1700s. From layer **114**, fragments of a cylindrical bottle, which have a date range between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. A similar vessel type fragment was recovered from layer **205** in Trench 2.

## **6.6 FLINT**

6.6.1 A single flint tool fragment of unknown date was recovered from the interface between the natural soils **101** and the earliest archaeological horizon **116**. The flint is approximately 22.8mm in length with a maximum thickness of 6.99mm tapering to 2.2mm. It varies in colour from dark brown/grey to light brown around the edges. The thicker part of the flint is opaque, whilst the thinner parts becoming translucent.

6.6.1 The dorsal face shows evidence of a partly bulb of percussions with a broad striking platform at the proximal end, indicating an invasive strike to produce a thick flake. Some retouching has taken place around the edge of the dorsal face to produce a roughly oval shape to the piece or a deliberate cutting edge. The ventral face is almost devoid of any marks of interest with the exception of two large scars on the right hand side, which may be the result of accidental fracturing of the piece when it was being shaped.

6.6.2 The proximal end forms the thinnest part of the piece and is rounded in outline. The retouch of the edge is not extensive, but is evident; all the pieces appear to have been removed in the same directions working towards the edge, rather than natural rolling or collision patterns.

## **6.7 THE BONE AND MOLLUSC REMAINS**

6.7.1 Quantities of animal bone and shell were hand recovered from the site during the evaluation. These were washed, dried and quantified on return to the company offices at Nenthead. They are listed in Tables 1 and 2 respectively below.

## **6.8 MOLLUSC REMAINS**

6.8.1 The mollusc remains recovered from the site were cockle and oyster. Context **104** only produced a partial fragment of an oyster valve and it could not be said whether it was an upper or lower valve. From context **106** only one fragment of a cockleshell was recovered. A complete valve from an oyster was recovered from context **112**. Two complete cockle valves were recovered from context **117**. These could have been valves from the same mollusc as they were of comparative size and shape.



CONTEXT	COCKLE	TYPE OF FRAGMENT	NUMBER OF OYSTER VALVES	NUMBER OF VALVES AND TYPE
104	0	-	1	1 FRAGMENT, UNIDENTIFIED
106	1	PA	0	-
112	0	-	1	COMPLETE RIGHT VALVE (UPPER)
117	2	CO	0	-
US	0	-	2	COMPLETE RIGHT (UPPER), COMPLETE LEFT (LOWER)

**Key:** US = unstratified, PART = Partial, COMP = complete.

6.8.2 As there were very few mollusc remains recovered from this site it is difficult to interpret them beyond the fact that they were used as a food source during the post-medieval period. The shells were well preserved and easily identifiable. Molluscs would have been a common food source as the site was so close to the sea.

## 6.9 THE BONE REMAINS

6.9.1 Only small amounts of bone were recovered by hand during the excavation. The bone occurred in small amounts, sometimes in poor condition. The remains are recorded in Table 2 below.

CONTEXT NUMBER	NUMBER OF FRAGMENTS	SHEEP SIZED	TYPE	DOG	TYPE	FISH	TYPE	UNIDENTIFIED
104	1	1	U	0	0	0	0	0
113	1	1	L	0	0	0	0	0
114	3	0	0	1	F	1	V	1
116	2	1	F	0	0	0	0	1
117	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
205	2	1	F	0	0	0	0	1
US	2	2	L	0	0	0	0	0

**Table** Vertebrate remains recovered. **Key to bones recovered:** R = rib, T = tooth, Mi = mixed, V = vertebrae, F = foot, L = limb, J = jaw (B) = burnt, U = unidentifiable.

- 6.9.2 Context *104*, from which post medieval pottery was recovered, contained a fragment of unidentified sheep-sized bone. From context *113* the lower half of a sheep tibia was recovered. No dateable finds were recovered from this context. From context *114* a dog phalange, a large fish vertebra, and also an unidentified bone fragment were recovered. A sheep sized astragalus and an unidentified bone was recovered from context *116*. Post medieval pottery was recovered from this context.
- 6.9.3 Two fragments of unidentified bone were recovered from context *117*. From context *205* the proximal end of a sheep metatarsus was recovered. The other fragment was unidentifiable due to the lack of definition. Of the three bone fragments recovered from the unstratified matrix in Trench 1, there was a sheep proximal end of a radius and also the mid section of a sheep ulna.
- 6.9.4 The limited size of this assemblage along with its fragmentary nature, made it unworthy of further study.

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## 7 CONCLUSIONS

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### 7.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1.1 The ornate entrance façade to Duke Street, was unusual, and perhaps the result of an attempt to tie it in with buildings in the vicinity in the 1920s and 1930s. It betrayed an empty and somewhat featureless interior. The building recording survey found that of most interest, internally, was the northwest facing internal wall. This wall had evidence for the incorporation of pre-existing adjacent boundary walls into the fabric, shown by differing fabrics of different style and period, particularly in the southern half of the elevation. In addition, it showed that the building extended southeastwards into the back plot of the Public House, extended its known boundary.
- 7.1.2 The archaeological evaluation revealed significant post-medieval occupation debris, rubble spreads, wall foundations and floor surfaces showing significant human activity in the area during this period. As the area has been extensively built upon since the second half of the eighteenth century, there was the expectation of post-medieval disturbance to any underlying archaeological deposits, and this was confirmed, particularly in Trenches 2 and 3. However, in addition to the later post-medieval features and modern makeup layers, present in all three trenches, an earlier wall and cobbled surface were revealed in Trench 3. The section of walling and cobbles appear to relate to an earlier boundary structure and possible yard or pathway. Three fragments of Delft Ware pottery were recovered from within the foundations of this structure, indicating a possible early to mid eighteenth century date. Three other walls were also exposed within Trench 3, which relate to a small square building constructed between 1874 and 1925 shown on OS mapping for the area.
- 7.1.3 A large wall was also partly exposed running north south within Trench 3. This structure forms the western wall of the cellar that was exposed during the initial demolition of the site and it is likely that this is the surviving remnants of a linear building, that was existence in 1790 shown on contemporary mapping (Hutchinson 1794).
- 7.1.4 The work also confirmed that the land to the northeast of the site has been levelled, with the deposition of large amounts of overburden, which showed that the ground level had been raised by *c* 3m.

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## **APPENDIX 1: FIGURES**

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## APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

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Context Number	Trench	Category	Interpretation
100	1	Layer	Modern overburden
101	1	Deposit	Natural
103	1	Layer	Modern overburden
104	1	Layer	Overburden
105	1	Deposit	Industrial waste
106	1	Deposit	Sand
107	1	Deposit	Industrial waste
108	1	Layer	Overburden
109	1	Layer	Overburden
110	1	Layer	Overburden
111	1	Layer	Overburden
112	1	Layer	Buried soil horizon
113	1	Layer	Demolition/overburden
114	1	Layer	Demolition/overburden
116	1	Layer	Demolition/overburden
200	2	Layer	Demolition/overburden
201	2	Layer	Demolition/overburden
202	2	Layer	Demolition/overburden
203	2	Layer	Demolition/overburden
204	2	Structure	Wall
205	2	Layer	Demolition/overburden
206	2	Layer	Demolition/overburden
207	2	Layer	Buried soil horizon
208	2	Structure	Brick drain
209	2	Structure	Drain hole
210	2	Structure	Beam slot
211	2	Structure	Pillar base
212	2	Structure	Stone sets surface
213	2	Deposit	Natural
214	2	Layer	Demolition/overburden
215	2	Structure	Wall
300	3	Layer	Demolition/overburden
301	3	Structure	Concrete floor
302	3	Layer	Demolition/overburden
303	3	Layer	Demolition/overburden
304	3	Layer	Demolition/overburden
305	3	Layer	Demolition/overburden
306	3	Layer	Demolition/overburden
307	3	Structure	Wall
308	3	Layer	Rubble spread
309	3	Layer	Demolition/overburden
310	3	Deposit	Natural
311	3	Structure	Wall
312	3	Structure	Cobble Surface
313	3	Structure	Wall/boundary line
314	3	Structure	Wall

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## **APPENDIX 3: POTTERY ASSESSMENT**

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