

**Clevedon Hall Hotel
Elton Road, Clevedon
North Somerset**

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
Clevedon Hall Hotel Ltd


CA Project: 4791
CA Report: 14430

October 2014

Clevedon Hall Hotel Elton Road, Clevedon North Somerset

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CA Project: 4791
CA Report: 14430

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date	10 October 2014
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date	10 October 2014
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signed	
date	10 October 2014
issue	01

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CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
<i>The site</i>	3
<i>Archaeological background</i>	3
<i>Methodology</i>	5
2. RESULTS (FIG. 2)	5
3. DISCUSSION.....	6
4. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	6
5. REFERENCES.....	6
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	7
APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	8

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

Fig. 2 The site, showing the location of observed groundworks (1:2000)



SUMMARY

Project Name:	Clevedon Hall Hotel
Location:	Elton Road, Clevedon, North Somerset
NGR:	ST 4003 7098
Type:	Watching Brief
Date:	2-4 September 2014
Planning Reference:	North Somerset Council 13/P/2095/F
Location of Archive:	Somerset Heritage Centre
Accession Number:	WESTM: 2014.7
Site Code:	CVH 14

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of a Bio Mass Boiler and adjacent service trench at Clevedon Hall Hotel, Elton Road, Clevedon, North Somerset.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material was recovered.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In September 2014 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Clevedon Hall Ltd at Clevedon Hall Hotel, Elton Road, Clevedon, North Somerset (centred on NGR: ST 4003 7098; Fig. 1). Planning permission for change of use from Business Centre to Hotel use was granted by North Somerset Council (NSC) (NSC ref: 13/P/2095/F) conditional (no 11) on a programme of archaeological work (watching brief with provision for excavation of significant archaeological deposits/features) being undertaken during the construction of the Bio Mass Boiler and associated pipework

1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2014) and approved by Vince Russet, County Archaeologist, North Somerset Council. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA 2009), the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991), and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006).

The site

1.3 The proposed development area comprises the grounds and gardens of Clevedon Hall as well as the hall and a number of associated buildings. The site lies at approximately 9m AOD and slopes downward to the south and west. A high stone wall is a prominent boundary feature to Clevedon Hall Estate and a number of mature trees screen the site from neighbouring residential development beyond the northern, eastern and southern site boundaries. The site measures approximately 7.5ha.

1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Black Rock Limestone of the Carboniferous Period and Mercia Mudstone of the Triassic Period (BGS 2014).

Archaeological background

1.5 An Archaeological desk-based assessment of the site has been compiled by Exeter Archaeology (EA 2011) and the results are summarised below.



- 1.6 A number of prehistoric find spots are located near to the site, these include a number of Palaeolithic findspots, notably from Hangstone Quarry (EA 2011, 4). A Mesolithic flint core was found c. 100m south of the site and a polished stone axe and flint flakes c. 100m to the west. Flint implements of Neolithic date have been recovered from The Warren, Abraham's Heights, Court Hill and Blackstone Rocks. A stone cist, containing a single contracted inhumation burial of probable Early Bronze Age date, was identified at Sunnylands (later Jasmin House), The Avenue in 1898 (EA 2011, 4).
- 1.7 Several Iron Age and Roman sites are known from the vicinity of Clevedon and these include settlement and funerary sites including a possible Roman villa at Clevedon Court.
- 1.8 Five early medieval burials were found in the 1970s approximately 150m to the east of the site. Clevedon is recorded within the Domesday Book as a holding of Mathew of Mortaigne and a number of medieval remains are recorded within the town, such as the site of a medieval jetty and the 12th-century St Andrew's Church. Clevedon Hall itself is a Grade II* listed property and was built in 1852 along with a range of formal and informal gardens and outbuildings (Childs & Sulzmann 2013). Listed buildings (Grade II) within the estate include the fountain in the grounds of Clevedon Hall; the outbuilding in the range to the north of St Brandon's School, Victoria Road; and the boundary wall at St Brandon's School, Elton Road. The proposals map of the Local Plan identified the grounds of Clevedon Hall as an Unregistered Park or Garden (EA 2011, 2-3).

Archaeological objectives

- 1.9 The objectives of the archaeological works were:
- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;
 - at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

Methodology

- 1.10 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2014). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks associated with the foundations of the Bio Mass Boiler. Following consultation with Vince Russet, County Archaeologist, North Somerset Council, the groundworks associated with the construction of the service trench were not monitored as the area had been heavily disturbed by tree roots.
- 1.11 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2013).
- 1.12 The archive from the watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. The site archive will be deposited with Somerset Heritage Centre under accession number WESTM: 2014.7. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIG. 2)

- 2.1 The natural geological substrate, 102, consisting of fragmented limestone within a light grey brown sand matrix was revealed within Trench 1 at an average depth of 0.4m below present ground level (bpgl). This was overlain by made ground deposit 101 which consisted of a mid grey-brown sandy silt containing modern demolition debris, abundant stone, which averaged 0.17m in thickness and was in turn sealed by an average of topsoil 100.
- 2.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material was recovered.



3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the application area (see archaeological background above), the watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks. The absence of archaeological deposits may indicate that any potential archaeological remains either do not extend as far as, or were not exposed by the development, or that they may have been removed during the landscaping (the natural substrate was directly overlain by modern made ground deposit 101).

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jay Wood. The report was written by Jay Wood. The illustrations were prepared by Rosanna Price. The archive has been compiled by Jay Wood, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neil. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2014 *Geology of Britain Viewer*
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> accessed 19 September 2014

Childs & Sulzmann Architects 2013 *Clevedon Hall Heritage Statement*

EA (Exeter Archaeology) 2011 *Clevedon Hall Estate Archaeological Assessment Report No 11.41*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 *Clevedon Hall Hotel, Elton Road, Clevedon, North Somerset: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	layer	topsoil	dark grey brown silty clay	11	3.2	0.21	
1	101	layer	made ground	mid grey brown silty clay, occasional modern demolition debris	11	3.2	0.17	
1	102	layer	natural	limestone within a light grey sand matrix	11	3.2	>0.39	
1	103	deposit	concrete slab	mid grey concrete	2.5	2.0	0.15	

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Clevedon Hall Hotel	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of a Bio Mass Boiler and adjacent service trench at Clevedon Hall Hotel, Elton Road, Clevedon, North Somerset. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material was recovered.	
Project dates	2-4 September 2014	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	Archaeological Assessment-Exeter Archaeology Report 11.41 (2011)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Clevedon Hall Hotel, Elton Road, Clevedon, North Somerset	
Study area (M ² /ha)		
Site co-ordinates	ST 4003 7098	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Jay Wood	
MONUMENT TYPE	none	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	none	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	n/a	n/a
Paper	Somerset Heritage Centre/ WESTM: 2014.7	Trench sheets
Digital	Somerset Heritage Centre/ WESTM: 2014.7	Database and digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 <i>Clevedon Hall Hotel, Elton Road, Clevedon, North Somerset: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> . CA typescript report 14430		



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PROJECT TITLE

Clevedon Hall Hotel, Elton Road
 Clevedon, North Somerset

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

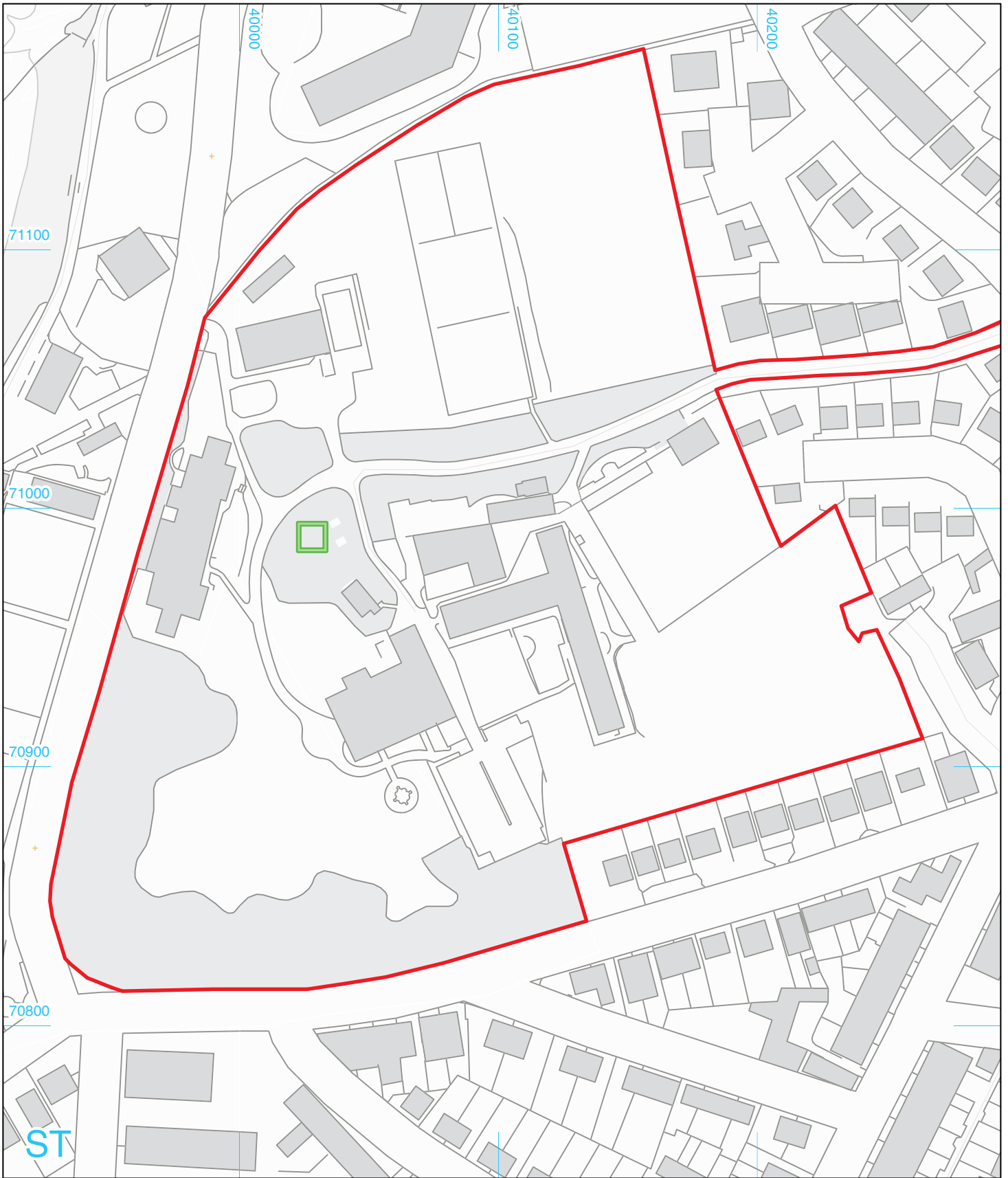


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PROJECT NO. 4791 DATE 23-09-14
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FIGURE NO.

1



- site boundary
- observed groundworks



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PROJECT TITLE

Clevedon Hall Hotel, Elton Road
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FIGURE TITLE

The site showing location of observed groundworks

