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Interpretation, Design & Display

**Former St John Boste Social Club,
Gillinggate, Kendal,
Cumbria**

Archaeological Works

Report No. Y042/12

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SUMMARY

Archaeological work consisting of trial trenching and a watching brief was carried out by CFA Archaeology on land at Gillinggate, Kendal in advance of the construction of a GP's surgery. The site was previously occupied by the St John Boste Social Club. With the exception of a stone culvert, the archaeological works did not identify any features or deposits of archaeological interest.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological work undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on behalf of Globe Management Services Ltd from January to November 2012.

The project design was written for Globe Management Services Ltd as a response to a specification prepared by Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES 2009, ref. SL/08/0951).

1.2 Site Location and Description

The site was located on land between Gillinggate and Chapel Lane close to the medieval historic core of Kendal, Cumbria (Fig. 1, NGR SD 5144 9221). The development area was previously the site of the St John Boste Social Club, which was demolished as part of the project. Most of the area was laid to tarmac and formed a car park for the club. However, the site was.

1.3 Previous Archaeological work

There has been no previous intrusive archaeological work within the development boundary of the site.

1.4 Historical and Archaeological Background

The site is located on the edge of early medieval settlement which is presumed to have surrounded the parish church in Kirkland. It would have been within the boundaries of the later medieval town. Chapel Lane to the south and Highgate to the east were medieval in origin, although Gillinggate itself was laid out in the 19th century. The closest site recorded on the Historic Environment Record was a chapel which documentary evidence suggests stood at the head of Cross Lane, although no trace survives (HER Record No. 2473). Todd's map of 1787 shows formal gardens and structures in the vicinity (CCCHES 2009).

1.5 Objectives

The objective of the evaluation was to:

- determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the

proposed development. An adequate representative sample of the area where archaeological remains are potentially threatened will be studied including beneath the existing building

2. WORKING METHODS

All work was undertaken according to the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, relevant Standards and Guidance documents (IfA 1996) the project design and the specification (CCCHES 2009). All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision. The work was carried out by a mechanical excavator. Modern overburden, demolition debris and surfaces were removed using a toothed bucket. All other deposits were removed using a smooth bladed ditching bucket.

The excavation of features was carried out by hand and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, photography and by completing standard CFA recording forms.

CFA Archaeology is a registered organisation (RO) with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). All work was conducted in accordance with relevant IfA Standards and Guidance documents (IfA 1996 and 2001), English Heritage guidance (EH 2005 and 2008), and CFA's standard methodology.

2.1 Monitoring

Close contact was maintained with the client throughout the project. The project was also monitored by the CCCHES Archaeologist who was informed in advance of the works taking place.

2.2 Archiving

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, finds, plans and reports, will be deposited with an appropriate repository according to an agreed timescale, and will be ordered according to current guidelines and to nationally recognised standards (Brown 2011). A summary of the results of the archaeological works will be submitted for inclusion in OASIS.

3. RESULTS

At the time of the evaluation, the northern half of the site was covered in rubble and debris resulting from the demolition of the social club building. The southern half was laid to tarmac. Appendix 1 comprises trench summaries, Appendix 2, context summaries and Appendix 3 the drawings register.

Seven trenches with a total area of 176.3m (Fig. 1, Appendix 1) were excavated during the evaluation, three within the footprint of the former building and four to the southern half of the site. The positions of four trenches (Tr. 2, 3, 5 and 6) were changed during the project, following consultation and agreement with the CCCHES archaeologist, Jeremy Parsons. One proposed trench (Tt. 6) was located beneath site

cabins; therefore a watching brief on drainage trench was agreed as an alternative. This was undertaken during November 2012.

The natural subsoil was variable across the site, although in most trenches it comprised largely yellow to orange-brown sandy gravel. It varied in depth but was generally exposed at 0.8–1.3m below the extant surface.

3.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was located in the northern part of the site and ran parallel to Gillinggate, approximately east to west. In this area the made ground sloped gradually to the east. The area was covered with demolition debris and the trench was excavated to a depth of 0.8m through made ground (101–107, 112–117) comprising brown and black silty clay and yellow sandy clay which sloped from west to east. All of the exposed layers were truncated by a tree bole (108/109). A salt-glazed drainpipe (110) cut through the tree bole. The natural subsoil consisted of clayey sand with limestone and was reached at a depth of 1m.

No archaeological features were identified and no finds were recovered.

3.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was orientated approximately south-west to north-east and located within the footprint of the former social club building. The area was covered in demolition rubble, below which was a rubble layer forming a surface (201), above a thin layer of brown subsoil (202) and overlying natural at a depth of 0.8m. The foundation cut for the building (203) was the only significant feature in the trench.

No archaeological features were identified and no finds were recovered.

3.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was located in the north-east corner of the development area and was excavated in two sections (3a and 3b) oriented approximately north to south. Only two layers were identified, an upper layer of made up ground (301) containing rubble, and a subsoil layer which was interpreted as probable garden soil (302). Natural subsoil was encountered at 1.2m.

No archaeological features were identified and no finds were recovered.

3.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was located in the south-western quarter of the site and oriented north-west to south-east. The upper layers comprised tarmac and 'Type 1' aggregate (401–402) over a number of rubble-filled made ground (403–413). The natural subsoil was stony clay at a depth of 1 to 1.3m.

No archaeological features were identified and no finds were recovered.

3.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was located in the south-east corner of the site and was oriented north-west to south-east, approximately parallel with Trench 4. Below tarmac and Type 1 layers (504, 512) there were several layers of made ground (505–511). A cut for a salt-glazed drainpipe (501) was recorded through the layers of made ground.

Below layer (511) and cutting into natural (500), a stone-built culvert (513) was recorded (Fig. 2) at a depth of 1.4m. It was constructed of limestone boulders and slabs (514) either side of a channel with a silty dark grey fill (516) capped with slabs (515). The base was natural subsoil. No finds were recovered.

3.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 was located in the south-west corner of the site and was undertaken in the form of a watching brief during drainage works oriented north-east to south-west. At the south-western end a box trench was cut. The upper layers (602, 603) comprised tarmac and Type 1 over made ground layers of clay, ash and demolition material (604–605). The natural subsoil was reached at a depth 1m.

No archaeological features were identified and no finds were recovered.

3.7 Trench 7

Trench 7 was located in the south-eastern part of the site and oriented approximately north–south. Tarmac and Type 1 (701, 702) overlay a series of made ground deposits of gravels, sands and clays (703–707) above a natural layer of sandy gravel with limestone cobbles (Fig. 3).

4. CONCLUSION

Other than the remains of a stone-lined culvert and a foundation cut of post-medieval or later date, no archaeological features or deposits were recorded.

The archaeological works were unable to confirm that this part of Kendal had been part of the medieval settlement. It was clear that the site had been heavily disturbed in the modern and possibly post-medieval periods. The culvert at a depth of 1.4m may have fed the dyke which passing under the former building on the site.

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APPENDIX 1: Trench Results Summary

Trench	Length (m)	Width (m)	Area (m ²)	Description
1	25	2	52.5	E–W trench, made ground gradually sloping to east, demolition debris on surface, excavated to 48.45m AOD through c.0.8m of made ground – mixed deposits of gravel and building detritus, roots, no subsoil as such. Natural at base of trench comprises clayey sand with limestone boulders and cobbles, higher in middle of trench at 49.23 AOD. No boulders in west, more gravelly with rounded cobbles. Sondage excavated to test this natural. No archaeology.
2	18	2	36	NE–SW trench in demolished/levelled area, covered with demolition rubble and cut of demolished building. Natural as Trench 1 at 0.9m depth. No archaeology.
3a/3b	7 and 4.4m	2	22.8	Moved from original location after discussions with county archaeologist. Two short trenches in NE corner of site, approx N–S (3a) and E–W (3b). Levelled area with demolition material to a depth of c.0.65m above c.0.75m. Natural is well rounded river gravel in yellowy clay with rare limestone. No archaeology.
4	9	2	18	NW–SE trench. Tarmac over a number of modern make-up layers. Stony clay natural. No archaeology.
5	10	2	20	NW–SE trench. Tarmac over a number of modern make-up layers, upper layers cut by drain. Stone culvert cut into base of trench in natural, which comprises brown sand. Modern debris throughout. No archaeology.
6	c.7	0.7–2.4	7	NE–SE trench with broader rectangular slot (2.4 x 1.3m) at SE end. Tarmac and make-up layers over natural of brown sand. No archaeology.
7	10	2	20	N–S trench. Tarmac and make-up layers over natural of sandy gravel. No archaeology.

APPENDIX 2: Context Register

Context	Fill of	Trench	Description
101		1	Made up ground layer – yellow sandy clay with stone
102		1	Made up ground – light brown soil
103		1	Made up ground – redeposited brown soil
104		1	Slump layer – black sandy soil
105		1	Slump layer – yellow sandy clay
106		1	Made up ground – black sand
107		1	Slump layer – made up ground
108		1	Poss fill of tree bole, v rooty
109		1	Poss bottom fill of tree bole
110		1	Cut for salt-glaze pipe
111	110	1	Fill of pipe trench
112		1	Made up ground layer – stony grey
113		1	Made up ground layer – stony brown
114		1	Made up ground layer – slump - black
115		1	Made up ground – brown soil
116		1	Made up ground – cinder and ash
117		1	Made up ground – grey stony soil
118		1	Cut for modern pipe
119	118	1	Fill of modern pipe trench
201		2	Rubble layer – surface
202		2	Subsoil layer – brown soil
203		2	Linear cut of building which formerly occupied the site
204	203	2	Rubble/demolition fill
301		3	Layer of made up ground, rubble etc
302		3	Subsoil layer possibly redeposited garden soil
400		4	Natural layer – stony clay
401		4	Surface tarmac
402		4	Type 1 layer
403		4	Grey stony layer below 402
404		4	Sandy layer with lenses of black silty clay and mortar
405		4	Brown soil layer over 404 and under 403
406		4	Brown soil layer below 404
407		4	Grey soil layer below 404
408		4	Brown soil with mortar inclusions, slump
409		4	Slump layer – sandy, below 408
410		4	Slump layer – brown soil, below 409
411		4	Sand layer with black silty clay lenses below 410
412		4	Ash and cinder layer below 411 and above 400
413		4	Dark brown layer below 408
500		5	Natural – sandy clay
501		5	Cut for drain 503
502	501	5	Dark brown gravelly fill of drain cut
503	501	5	Brown salt glaze drainpipe
504		5	Type 1 below tarmac 512
505		5	Dark brown silty layer below 504
506		5	Layer of sand with lens of dark brown silty clay below 505
507		5	Black cinder deposit cut by drain, below 506
508		5	Dark brown clay cut by drain, below 507
509		5	Brown stony layer, below 507
510		5	Grey layer with lens of mortar, poss cut by drain
511		5	Brown stony layer below 510 and above 500
512		5	Tarmac surface layer over 504
513		5	Cut for culvert in natural
514	513	5	Limestone boulders/chips and slabs forming sides of culvert
515	513	5	Limestone capping of culvert

Context	Fill of	Trench	Description
516	513	5	Silty dark grey fill of culvert
601		6	Natural, brown sand
602		6	Tarmac
603		6	Type 1 under tarmac
604		6	Mid brown redeposited soil and clay
605		6	Purple ash and sand layer
700		7	Natural – sandy gravel with limestone cobbles
701		7	Tarmac surface overlying 702
702		7	Bedding layer for tarmac 701, Type 1
703		7	Made ground – gravel and cobbles in coarse sand
704		7	Made ground – sandy orange-brown gravel
705		7	Made ground – mixed sands and clays
706		7	Made ground – mortar-rich demolition rubble and gravel
707		7	Made ground – sandy gravel over natural 700

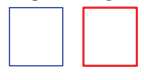
APPENDIX 3: Drawings Register

Drawing No.	Sheet	Scale	Description
1	1	1:50	Trench 7 plan
2	1	1:20	Trench 7, 2m portion of W facing section
3	1&2	1:50	Trench 5 plan
4	2	1:20	Trench 5, W facing section including culvert
5	2	1:20	Trench 4, N facing section
6	3	1:50	Trench 1 plan
7	3	1:20	Trench 1, N facing section
8	4	1:50	Trench 2 plan
9	4	1:50	Trench 3a plan
10	4	1:20	Trench 2, NW facing section
11	4	1:50	Trench 3b plan
12	4	1:10	Trench 3a E facing section
13	1	1:20	Trench 5, culvert 513 plan
14	Notes	sketch	Trench 6 E facing section
15	Notes	sketch	Trench 6 NW facing section
16	Notes	1:300	Trench 6 plan

Figures 1 – 3



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Fig. No: 1
Revision: A

Title: Site Location

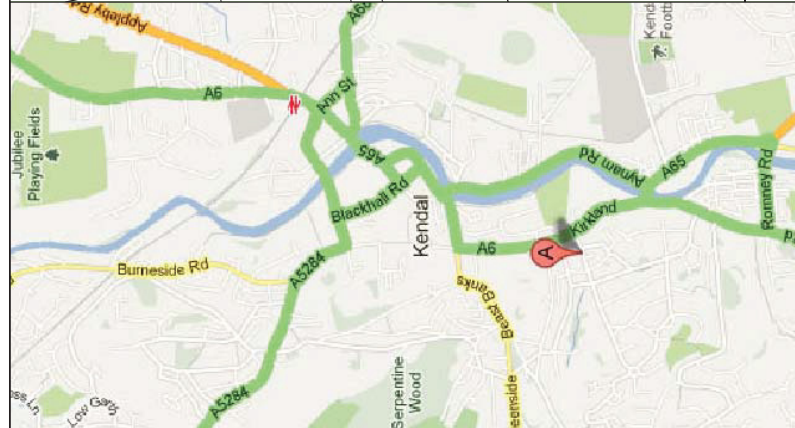
Project: Former St John Boste Social Club, Gillinggate, Kendal, Cumbria

Client: Globe Management Services Ltd

Scale at A3: 1:300

Drawn by: GC
Checked: LW

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Fig. 2 - Stone culvert (513) in Trench 5



Fig. 3 - Section in Trench 7

Fig. No: 2-3		Revision: A	Project: Former St John Boste Social Club, Gillinggate, Kendal, Cumbria		
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