

21 Downleaze Road to Stoke Park Road, Bristol.

An Archaeological Watching Brief.



CONTEXT ONE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES LTD

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21 Downleaze Road to Stoke Park Road, Bristol.

An Archaeological Watching Brief

for

Wessex Water plc.

by



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Contents

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY.....	i
1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
2. DEFINITION AND OBJECTIVES OF A WATCHING BRIEF.....	1
3. SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY.....	2
4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	4
5. METHODOLOGY.....	4
6. RESULTS.....	5
7. THE FINDS.....	5
8. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS.....	6
9. ARCHIVE.....	6
10. COAS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	6
11. BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	7
APPENDIX 1. BRISTOL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD REPORT FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVENTS WITHIN THE ENVIRONS OF THE SITE.....	8

ILLUSTRATIONS

FIGURE 1. SITE SETTING SHOWING RELEVANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE.....	3
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Non-technical summary

Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks at 21 Downleaze Road to Stoke Park Road, Bristol, (centred on NGR ST 56600 75200) over 3 days between the 20th of February and 18th of March 2008. The investigation was commissioned and funded by Wessex Water plc.

The watching brief was requested by Mr Bob Jones (City Archaeologist, Bristol City Council), following a consultation request by Dr Richard Baker (Environmental Scientist, Wessex Water plc), as remains of a Roman road - Scheduled Ancient Monument No. AV88 - exists within the immediate area of the Site.

No archaeological remains/deposits were observed during the course of the watching brief.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks at 21 Downleaze Road to Stoke Park Road, Bristol, (centred on NGR ST 56600 75200) (hereafter referred to as the Site) over 3 days between the 20th of February and 18th of March 2008. The investigation was commissioned and funded by Wessex Water plc.
- 1.2. The watching brief was requested by Mr Bob Jones (City Archaeologist, Bristol City Council), following a consultation request by Dr Richard Baker (Environmental Scientist, Wessex Water plc), as remains of a Roman road - Scheduled Ancient Monument No. AV88 - exists within the immediate area of the Site.
- 1.3. Given the recorded archaeological data for the environs, it was considered that archaeological features/deposits could be present on the Site, and that these would be damaged or destroyed by the development. However, as the nature or presence of such features/deposits had not been proven on the basis of currently available information, it was determined that a reasonable archaeological response would be to carry out a Watching Brief during all ground disturbance.
- 1.4. At the request of Mr Jones, COAS issued a *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief: 21 Downleaze Road to Stoke Park Road, Bristol* (COAS February 2008), which provided a strategy for the archaeological works. This was submitted to and approved by Mr Jones prior to the commencement of the Watching Brief.
- 1.5. The request for the archaeological work follows advice given by Central Government as set out in *Planning Policy Guidance Note 1 (PPG1), General Policy and Principles, 1997*, and *Planning Policy Guidance: Note 16 (PPG16)*, issued by the DoE in 1990. The recommendation also conforms to Policy 19 of the *Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Joint Replacement Structure Plan* (adopted September 2002) and Policy B22 of the *Bristol Local Plan* (adopted December 1997).
- 1.6. This report summarises the topographical, geological, archaeological setting of the site, and presents the results of the excavation.

2. Definition and objectives of a Watching Brief

- 2.1. An Archaeological Watching Brief is defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) as:

“...a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.” (IFA rev.1999).

- 2.2. The purpose of a Watching Brief is also defined by the IFA as:

“To allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological

deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.

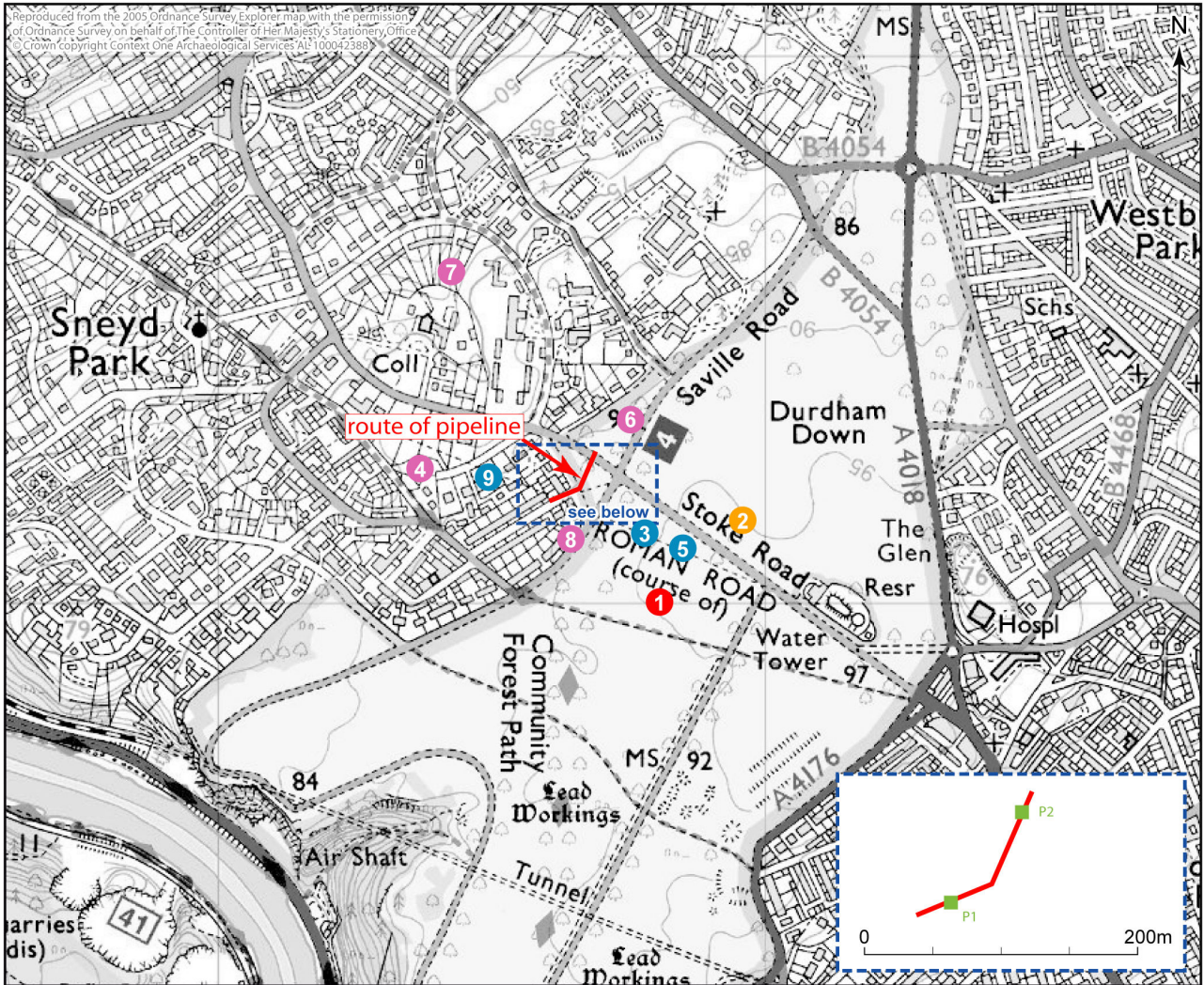
To provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the Watching Brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.” (IFA rev. 1999)

2.3. The results of a watching brief are used to:

- produce a record of the location, nature and date of any archaeological remains encountered on the Site;
- add to the knowledge about the previous history of activity on the current site and its surroundings; and
- provide information to influence planning decisions in the area.

3. Site location, topography and geology

3.1. The Site (centred on NGR ST 56600 75200) is situated on the north-western edge of Bristol, c. 3km from the city centre. The Site (**Figure 1**) occupies an area of relatively level ground c. 89m above Ordnance Datum (AOD). The underlying geology is of Tournaisian and Viséan (Carboniferous Limestone Series) and has given rise to soils that are characterised by freely draining slightly acid loamy soils (Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC), 2008).



1.	SMR No. 2985	Fissure	5.	SMR No. 20441	Previous archaeological intervention
2.	SMR No. 4232	Common land - Durdham Down	6.	SMR No. 20664	Cartographic depiction of a quarry
3.	SMR No. 5969	Roman road (SAM No. AV88)	7.	SMR No. 20668	Cartographic depiction of an icehouse
	SMR No. 20425	Air photograph of Roman Road earthworks	8.	SMR No. 20674	Cartographic depiction of dewpond
4.	SMR No. 20415	Previous archaeological intervention	9.	SMR No. 20939	Previous archaeological intervention

0 1km

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ P1 profile location ● prehistoric ● Roman ● post-medieval ● modern 	PROJECT TITLE 21 Downleaze Road to Stoke Park Road, Bristol		
		FIGURE TITLE Site setting showing relevant archaeological landscape		
		SCALE as shown	PROJECT CODE COAS/WBF/08/SPB	FIGURE NO. 1

4. Archaeological background

- 4.1. The archaeological background for the Site has been drawn from secondary sources. This comprises records held by Bristol City Council as part of the Bristol Historic Environment Record (HER; referred to below with the prefix 'SMR' followed by a unique numeric identifier). The principal items and areas of interest are located on **Figure 1** and summarised in **Table 1** below.

SMR No.	Description	NGR
Prehistoric (500,000BC - AD43)		
SMR No. 2985	Fissure. A fissure exposed in the late 19 th century comprised of Pleistocene faunal remains.	ST 56800 75000
SMR No. 20939	Watching Brief. Archaeological investigation revealed a ditch containing later Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery.	ST 56490 75233
Roman (AD43 - AD450)		
SMR No. 5969	Road. Extant section of Roman road - Scheduled Ancient Monument No. AV88 - between Bath and Sea Mills. Now survives as an earthwork c. 140m long and 25m wide.	ST 56770 75130
SMR No. 20425	Air photograph. Vertical AP taken in 1982 shows a section of the Roman road on Durdham Down the south side of Stoke Road.	ST 56790 75120
SMR No. 20441	Antiquarian excavation. In 1899 a 20m long section of the Roman road was excavated. Stones of the agger and associated ditches were recorded.	ST 56850 75100
Post-medieval (AD1547 - 1800)		
SMR No. 4232	Common land. Traditional area of open-air recreation from the 18 th century to present.	ST 59100 75210
Modern (1801 - present)		
SMR No. 20415	Watching Brief. Archaeological investigation recorded a late 19 th century rubbish pit and soakaway drains.	ST 56370 75250
SMR No. 20664	Quarry. 'Old Quarry' recorded on the 1880 OS first edition.	ST 56753 75330
SMR No. 20668	Icehouse. A 'disused' icehouse at Stoke House is recorded on the 1880 OS first edition.	ST 56428 75605
SMR No. 20674	Dewpond. A dewpond recorded on the 1880 OS first edition.	ST 56645 75115
SMR No. 20939	Watching Brief. Archaeological investigation revealed deposits of Victorian material associated with the construction of houses on Stoke Park Road South.	ST 56490 75233

Table 1. Summary of archaeological events within the environs of the Site

5. Methodology

Wessex Water methodology

- 5.1. The total length of the pipeline under archaeological observation was c. 45m. A machine equipped with a 0.50m wide bucket was used to excavate the trench for the new foul sewer pipeline to a maximum depth of c. 2.5m and a maximum width of 0.50m. Approximately 20m length of pipeline was laid along Downleaze Road and the remainder was laid across an area of The Downs common land. As both surfaces provided a suitable working area, no easement was stripped.

Archaeological methodology

- 5.2. The programme of archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the *Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* published by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) in 1995 (revised 1999). COAS adhered to the *Code of Conduct* issued by the IFA in 1985 (revised 2000), and *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (1990, revised September 2000), at all times during the course of the investigation. Current Health and Safety legislation and guidelines were followed on site.

Trenching

- 5.3. At appropriate intervals along the pipe trench, profile sections were recorded (see **Figure 1**) using COAS *pro-forma* profile log sheets to illustrate the principal stratigraphic and physical characteristics of the deposits encountered.
- 5.4. A photographic record of the Watching Brief was prepared involving the use of digital images. This included working shots to illustrate the general nature of the archaeological operation mounted.
- 5.5. Bulk finds such as post-medieval and modern brick and tile were not collected although location, type and frequency were recorded.

6. Results

- 6.1. The deposits encountered during fieldwork are described below. Context numbers for layers appear in standard brackets, e.g. (100).
- 6.2. Profile 1 revealed a vertical sequence of *c.* 0.10m thick tarmac (100), overlying an associated road base comprising a *c.* 0.15m thick layer (101) of brown (2.5YR 5/4) cemented sandy gravel with 60% angular stone rubble inclusions, and a *c.* 0.10m thick make-up layer (102) of dark reddish grey (5YR 4/2) compact clay. Directly underlying these modern deposits was a *c.* 0.10m thick layer (103) of brown (7.5YR 4/4) compact sandy clay subsoil with 15% small angular stones. Directly underneath layer (103), natural reddish grey (5YR 5/2) sandstone bedrock (104) was recorded.
- 6.3. Profile 2 revealed a simple vertical sequence of very dark grey (5YR 3/1) friable silty sand topsoil (1000), *c.* 0.25m thick with 15% small angular gravel and <5% small angular stones, directly overlying yellowish red (5YR 4/6) natural bedrock (1001).

7. The Finds

- 7.1. No finds were collected during the course of the watching brief although fragments of modern glass, brick, pottery, slate and tile were observed and noted.

8. Discussion and conclusions

- 8.1. Despite the recorded presence of a Roman road crossing the route of the pipeline, no evidence was revealed during the course of the watching brief. However, observations of the stratigraphic sequence of deposits in the pipe trench demonstrate the near-surface level of the bedrock in this area. This would have made an ideal ancient road surface, negating the need for any imported or manufactured road building deposits.
- 8.2. No archaeological remains/deposits were observed during the course of the watching brief.

9. Archive

- 9.1. The site archive is currently held at the offices of Context One Archaeological Services Ltd and consists of 5 digital images in .jpg format and the written paper record - including COAS *pro-forma* profile log sheets and photographic register. Arrangements will be made to deposit the archive with Bristol City Museums and Art Gallery within 12 months following the submission of this report.

- 9.2. Copies of the Watching Brief report will be deposited with:

Wessex Water plc
Claverton Down Road
Claverton Down
Bath
BA2 7WW

City Centre Projects and Urban Design Team
Department of Environment, Transport and Leisure
Planning Services
Brunel House
St George's Road
Bristol
BS1 5UY

- 9.3. As part of our commitment to public archaeology, an e-report will be available to view online or download as an Adobe Acrobat™ file from the COAS website at www.contextone.co.uk/bristol.htm following entry onto the Bristol Historic Environment Record (HER) and Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS), where it will become a publicly accessible document.

10. COAS Acknowledgements

- 10.1. Context One Archaeological Services Ltd would like to thank Dr Richard Baker (Environmental Scientist, Wessex Water plc), for his kind assistance throughout the course of the investigation, and Mr Bob Jones (City Archaeologist, Bristol City Council), for curatorial advice.

11. Bibliography

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Bristol City Council, 1997 *Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Joint Replacement Structure Plan* (adopted September 2002)
- Bristol Local Plan* (adopted December 1997)
- British Geological Survey, 2001** *Geological Map of Great Britain 1:625,000 (England & Wales south sheet) 4th Edition: Solid Geology*
- Context One Archaeological Services Ltd. 2007** *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief at 21 Downleaze Road to Stoke Park Road, Bristol.* Unpublished.
- Department of the Environment, 1990** *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning*, London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office
- Department of the Environment, 1997** *Planning Policy Guidance Note 1: General Policy and Principles*, London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office
- Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), 1985 (rev. 2000)** *Code of Conduct*, Reading: IFA
- Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), 1990 (rev. 2000)** *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*, Reading: IFA
- Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), 1994 rev. 1999** *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Excavation*
- Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC), 2006** <http://www.magic.gov.uk>

Appendix 1. Bristol Sites and Monuments Record report for archaeological events within the environs of the Site.

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SMR No. 2985

Grid Ref: ST 56807500

Site Name: Discovery of Pleistocene faunal remains in The Bone Cave or fissure on Durdham Down

Description:

In the early part of 1842 a fissure was exposed in a limestone quarry at Durdham Down and observed by Mr. S. Stutchbury F. G. S. and Dr. Riley. An account of the discovery and a catalogue of the material was published by Wilson (1885-88). The exact location of the fissure is unknown and Tratman (1946, 163) suggested that it was likely to have been near the reservoir on Stoke Road. However, it was apparently located in a quarry on the south side of Stoke Road. Animal bone, apparently of pleistocene date, was recovered from it. This material, deposited in the collections of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, included rhinoceros, elephant, horse, hyaena and bear. Stutchbury lectured to the Philosophical Institution on 28th December 1842, and the text of his lecture is reported in Felix Farley's Bristol Journal (31 December 1842):

"The cavity is complicated in form, but consists essentially of a perpendicular fissure concurrent with the natural joints of the rock, having a variable length, generally 8 or 10 feet, and traceable to a depth of nearly 90 feet from the surface. The upper part of the fissure has a breadth sufficient to admit animals of moderate size, but at a depth of 12 feet suddenly contracts to a, comparatively narrow cleft, rendered very irregular by perpendicular sharp projections of the rock, and thereby adapted for the passage of living animals downward to a larger cavity, into which the cleft communicates laterally at a depth of 20 feet, and which constitutes the present floor of the quarry; another perpendicular and parallel fissure opens upon the opposite end of the cavity. The bones were found embedded in a mixture of mud and broken pieces of limestone occupying the greater part of the first-named fissure, and the whole of the lateral opening. It has been determined that other cavities exist at lower depths, but their contents remain unknown. The following animals have been ascertained to have furnished the bones: Of the carnivora there are eleven or twelve hyaenas and one bear, also two wolves and several foxes, both of which bear evidence of later date. The herbivora comprise very numerous examples of bos (wild bull), about five deer, six or seven elephants, varying from extremely young to one very aged, two examples of rhinoceros, and several of hippopotamus. The bones are all attached, and fractured into small bits, and the proportion of teeth and horns to the other parts of the body greatly preponderates. In reference to the possible modes of accumulation, the first method by floods is excluded, because, as in all diluvial accumulations, there would have been a mixture of rolled stones of various kinds. If the animals had fallen into the fissures, whole skeletons, or at least all the bones of a single individual, would have been entombed. But so far from this being the case, the receptacle would not contain a number approaching to that of the animals whose remains are there found. But, on the other hand, the theory that the cave was the den of hyaenas is consistent with all the observed facts. The habits of these animals to tear up putrid carcasses, to carry off portions to their dens in rocks, to crush with violent force the bones of their prey - for which their jaws are constructed to act with wonderful effect - the gnawed and splintered condition of the bones are circumstances which render the last-named theory highly probable, and worthy to be assumed as the true one. By comparison of the teeth of the fossil hyaena and bear with those of recent animals, their enormous size was strikingly shown; those of the hyaena proved it to have been larger than the largest known species of tiger" (Wilson 1885-88, 33-34)."

References

Tratman, E. K. 1946, Prehistoric Bristol, Proceedings of the University of Bristol Spelaeological Society Vol.5, no.3 pp162-182

Wilson, E. 1885-88, The bone cave or fissure of Durdham Down, Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalists' Society

(New Series) Vol.5 pp31-45

SMR No. 4232**Grid Ref:** ST 59107521**Site Name:** Durdham Down

Description: Durdham Down. A large area of open land which has been used as common land for centuries. There are traces of eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth century landscaping and the down is of considerable historical importance as a traditional area for open-air recreation. The down is managed by Bristol City Council.

References

Nichols, Gerry 2005, 'To keep open and unenclosed': the management of Durdham Down since 1861, Bristol: Bristol Branch of the Historical Association

Trice-Martin, A. 1900-03, The Roman road on Durdham Down, Proceedings of the Clifton Antiquarian Club Vol.5 pp75-77

Bollendorf, J. M. 2001, The Downs, Bristol: a desk-based assessment of Durdham Down with recommendations for its future archaeological evaluation. Unpublished report

Wilson, E. 1885-88, The bone cave or fissure of Durdham Down. Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalists' Society (New Series) Vol.5 pp31-45

SMR No. 5969**Grid Ref:** ST 5677075130**Site Name:** Roman Road on Durdham Down**Description:**

An extant section of the Roman road between Bath (Aquae Sulis) and Sea Mills (Abona) (Margary 541) on Durdham Down, located on the south side of Stoke Road between Ladies Mile and Rockleaze. The road appears to have been first noted by the antiquary William Barrett who commented "that some rose-up ground, like an old Roman road, crosses Durdham Down, (where a coin of Constantine was lately dug up)" (Barrett 1789, 10). Seyer, writing a few decades later, described "a stony track on the open down ... having much the appearance of an old causeway, ten or twelve yards wide. It quits the turnpike road obliquely, and passes in a strait line across the Down due west, which is the direction of Sea mills" (Seyer 1821, 150). Seyer's description suggests that a significant length of the road may have been destroyed since the early nineteenth century. A section was excavated across the south-eastern end of the road in 1899 (SMR 20441) under the direction of Alfred Trice-Martin, John Pritchard and other members of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society and the Clifton Antiquarian Club (Trice-Martin 1899; 1900-03). This found a layer of sand overlying rock above which was a "reddish-looking earth." Stones forming the agger of the road were set on this layer. Investigation of the ditches on either side of the road found them to be highly eroded.

The road is generally accepted to be part of the route between Sea Mills and Bath (Margary 1957). Its course has been addressed by Margary (1957), Tratman (1959-62) and Ellis (1987) but there has been no direct archaeological confirmation of any other part of the line. The road now survives as an earthwork approximately 140 metres long and 25 metres wide and is orientated south-south-east to north-north-west. At its south-eastern end quarrying has truncated the road while at the north-eastern the line is lost beneath Rockleaze An earthwork survey was made of the road in 1998 (SMR 20292) which identified a short continuation of the ditch on the northern side of the agger by the former quarry. This was, however, extremely slight. Field evaluation on the opposite side of Stoke Road in 2001 (SMR 20894) identified the probable base of part of the agger but this had been largely removed in antiquity (Burnham et al. 2002, 345; Parry 2001; Wills 2002, 241).

This section of the road is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM Number AV88).

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SMR No. 20415

Grid Ref: ST56377525

Site Name: Archaeological watching brief at Stoke Park Road South

Description:

In May 1999 an archaeological watching brief was carried out during development of a site at the western end of Stoke Park Road South by Tim Longman for Bristol and Region Archaeological Services. Monitoring was maintained during stripping of grass, earthmoving and excavation of foundations. The only archaeological features recorded were a rubbish pit of late nineteenth-century date and two similarly dated soakaway drains (Burchill 1999).

References

Burchill, Rod 1999, Archaeological watching brief of land at Stoke Park Road South, Sneyd Park, Bristol. Unpublished report: Bristol and Region Archaeological Services 595/1999

SMR No. ST 56797512

Grid Ref: 20425

Site Name: Air photograph of a Roman Road on Durdham Down

Description: A vertical air photograph taken on 5th April 1982 for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Film 83 Frame 24), shows a section of the Roman road on Durdham Down the south side of Stoke Road (a print of the photograph is held in the SMR collection of air photographs No.87).

SMR No. 20441

Grid Ref: ST56857510

Site Name: Antiquarian excavation of the Roman Road at Durdham Down

Description: In 1899 a section, approximately 70 feet (20 metres) long, was excavated across the south-eastern end of the Roman road on Durdham Down (SMR 5969) under the direction of Alfred Trice-Martin, John Pritchard and others. This confirmed that the earthwork was a Roman road. The section recorded a layer of sand on the rockhead above which was a layer of "reddish-looking earth" (Trice-Martin 1900, 309) The stones of the agger were set on this deposit, "a fairly representative stone being 10 in[ches]. by 8 in. by 7 in[ches]." [255 by 204 by 179 millimetres] (ibid. 309). The ditches on either side of the agger were found to be highly eroded. A section was also dug in the agger further to the north-west, revealing a similar construction (ibid. 311).

References

Trice-Martin, A. 1900, The Roman road on Durdham Down. Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society Vol.23 309-311

SMR No.20664

Grid Ref: ST 5675375330

Site Name: Quarry on the west side of Saville Road

Description: A quarry on Durdham Down, to the west of the line of modern Saville Road. The quarry is recorded by the Ordnance Survey first edition plan, Sheet LXXI.11.15 surveyed in 1880, which marks it as "Old Quarry".

SMR No. 20668

Grid Ref: ST 5642875605

Site Name: Icehouse at Stoke House

Description:

A circular icehouse to the north of Stoke House. The structure was located some 100 metres to the north-west of Stoke Park House and on its northern side was a rectangular projection, probably the entrance. It is recorded by the Ordnance Survey first edition plan, Sheet LXXI.11.10 surveyed in 1880, which marks the the structure as "disused". The site of the icehouse now lies within the garden of No.18 Stoke Park Road.

SMR No. 20674

Grid Ref: ST 5664575115

Site Name: Probable dewpond at Downleaze

Description: A probable dewpond at the south-east corner of a field on the east side of Durdham Lodge (now known as The Old Halt) on the western side of Downleaze. The date of the feature is unknown but it is recorded by the Ordnance Survey first edition plan, Sheet LXXI.11.15 surveyed in 1880. The pond measures 8 metres long, was aligned from north-west to south-east, and was 4 metres wide. The north-western end was revetted in stone.

SMR No. 20939

Grid Ref: ST 5649075233

Site Name: Archaeological watching brief at Avonleigh Nursing Home, Stoke Park Road South

Description: In September 2001 an archaeological watching brief was carried out by David Etheridge for Avon Archaeological Unit during groundworks associated with development of housing on the site. Initially the excavation of six geotechnical trial pits by a mechanical excavator was monitored. The sections of each pit were cleaned and drawn and several of the trenches revealed evidence of modern disturbance from drainage or other

works. One of the test pits (at ST 56485 75238) revealed a large concrete cistern several metres long and several metres deep. In the remainder of the pits the limestone bedrock was encountered beneath either a mid- to dark-green clay or a mid-brown silty clay. Groundworks for the development commenced in the south-east corner of the site, and in the south-facing section of a foundation trench (at ST 56521 75220) a ditch was observed. This was cut into the underlying bedrock and was 0.43 metres deep at its maximum. The width of the feature ranged between 0.23 and 0.80 metres and it was approximately 2 metres long with a rounded northern terminal. Its sides were concave and the base was U-shaped. The fill, a mid-red-brown silty clay with some flecks of charcoal, was removed using a mechanical excavator under the control of an archaeologist. Two sherds of pottery, dated to the later Bronze Age were recovered from the fill. During cleaning of the area surrounding the ditch other sherds of pottery were recovered, including two which were provisionally dated to the Iron Age. On the western and south-western sides of the site a depth of deposits of over 2 metres was noted. The upper contexts dated to the 1980s and were interpreted as the result of construction works. These overlay a sequence of deposits of Victorian material which were thought likely to be related to the construction of the houses along Stoke Park Road South. These deposits extended to the north for approximately 10 metres, filling a cut into the bedrock which was a maximum of 1.9 metres deep. The full extent of the feature was not determined but it was interpreted as a quarry pit which had been used to provide material for the construction of housing on the site in the 1880s (Etheridge 2002, 12-13). The finds dating to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were not retained. No evidence for the course of the Roman Road between Bath and Sea Mills was recorded during the work, although the profile of the test pit to the rear of Avonleigh indicated that there had apparently been no disturbance of this part of the site before the construction of a modern patio. No finds dating to the Romano-British period were recovered during the fieldwork. The archive for the work was deposited with Bristol Museum and Art Gallery under the accession number BRSMG CMAG 2002.0023.

References

Etheridge, David 2002, Avonleigh Nursing Home, Stoke Park Road South, Stoke Bishop, Bristol. Archaeological watching brief. Unpublished report: Avon Archaeological Unit