

FORMER PICTURE PLAYHOUSE AND SWIMMING  
POOL COMPLEX, SATURDAY MARKET,  
BEVERLEY, EAST YORKSHIRE

ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

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**ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING, FORMER PICTURE PLAYHOUSE AND SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX, SATURDAY MARKET, BEVERLEY, EAST YORKSHIRE**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In January 2007, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr D Fletcher to undertake a programme of architectural and archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) during exploratory groundworks associated with the conversion of the former Picture Playhouse and Swimming Pool complex in Saturday Market, Beverley, East Yorkshire (NGR TA03273966). The watching brief formed part of a programme of archaeological work which was made a condition of full planning permission and Listed Building Consent. An EDAS methods statement outlined the scope of the watching brief, and this was approved after the initial phase of ground works in the former cinema building had been completed.

The precise date of Saturday Market is not known, but it is likely to have been established by at least the 12th century. There were phases of expansion and contraction, and there appears to have been some occupational differentiation of the area from the mid 13th century. The northern end of the market was occupied by butchers and their shambles, the central part contained the Dings which housed a butter, fish and cloth market, and the southern part was given over to the sale of corn. The Dings was formerly the site of the Archbishop's Hall, later used a guild hall. In 1753 the southern part of the market place was redesigned, and new structures housing the butchers' shambles and a butter market, and a separate Corn Exchange, were erected. In 1777 a new arcaded fish market was also built just to the north. All these structures were then swept away in 1886 when the surviving Corn Exchange and Public Baths were built. The exchange became the Picture Playhouse cinema in 1911. The cinema stopped showing films in 1963, but it was reopened again in 1972. Final closure came in 2001 and the seating and projection equipment were removed in 2005. The Public Baths had closed earlier, in 1973, and were subsequently occupied by a business selling second-hand goods.

A total of eleven test pits were dug between January and October 2007, most being c.1m square and up to 1.5m deep. However, Test Pit 2, dug across the former cinema auditorium, measured 6.4m long by 2.2m wide, and reached a depth of c.1.75m. Most of the test pits revealed little in the way of archaeological deposits although Test Pit 2, with its greater depth, did expose a complex stratigraphy which extended to the top of the natural sand at 1.80m below ground level (8.97m AOD). A number of north-south aligned parallel chalk block wall footings (019, 021, 022 and 023) had been laid onto this sand (024); some of these were associated with a probable clay floor surface (020). No dating evidence was acquired from these footings, but it is thought that they are medieval in date, perhaps the remains of structures fronting onto this side of the market place. These structures were subsequently demolished and the ground level was raised using silt (018) and sand (017), over which lay a significant deposit of chalk fragments (016), possibly representing demolition material. Over this was a further sequence of possibly structural deposits which included a clean sand (015) and lime mortar (014). Above this was a later sandy silt with chalk and brick rubble (006) which is likely to be associated with the construction of the Corn Exchange in 1886. This deposit was probably contemporary with two large brick and chalk rubble plinths (003 and 004) which seem to have previously supported two substantial pillars, perhaps forming part of a screen or partition which divided the former cinema/Corn Exchange into two halves; these pillars were demolished in 1912.

Although the test pits in the former swimming pool were deeper than Test Pit 2, no natural deposits were seen. This suggests that either the level of the natural sand (024) slopes down from south to north, or that it had been lowered and/or dug away when the Public Baths were built in 1886. The lower deposits exposed in the swimming pool test pits were broadly similar, and it possible that they were laid down as the result of the demolition of earlier structures and/or levelling activity undertaken in the early post-medieval period. The lack of any obviously 19th century material in these deposits suggests that they are 18th century or earlier in date, and so there may be medieval deposits surviving at depth.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 In January 2007, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Mr D Fletcher to undertake a programme of architectural and archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief) during exploratory groundworks associated with the conversion of the former Picture Playhouse and Swimming Pool complex in Saturday Market, Beverley, East Yorkshire, to retail use. The exploratory groundworks were primarily required for geotechnical purposes, to determine the nature of the underlying ground conditions, which would in turn assist with the formation of the detailed development proposals.
- 1.2 The watching brief formed part of a programme of archaeological work which was made a condition of full planning permission and Listed Building Consent (condition 7 in both cases), approved by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 16th June 2005 (applications DC/05/02282/PLF/EASTSE and DC/05/02284/PLB/EASTSE respectively). A methods statement was prepared by EDAS to outline the scope of the watching brief work (see Appendix 3), and this document was approved by East Riding of Yorkshire Council and their archaeological advisors, the Humber Archaeology Partnership, after the initial phase of ground works in the former cinema building had been completed.

## **2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION**

- 2.1 The former cinema and swimming pool complex lies on the east side of Saturday Market in Beverley, and fronts on to the north side of the large market square (NGR TA03273966) (see figures 1 and 2). The building is bounded to the south by the market square, to the west by an alley, The Push public house and various shops, and to the east by Ladygate. The former cinema is a Grade II Listed Building of Special Architectural or Historic Interest (see Appendix 2).
- 2.2 The former cinema and swimming pool complex is aligned north-west/south-east (see figure 2) but, for ease of description, it is considered to lie north-south in the following text.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 In accordance with the EDAS methods statement (see Appendix 3), the aim of the watching brief was to record and recover information relating to the nature, date, depth, and significance of any architectural or archaeological features and deposits which may be present on the site and which would be affected by the works. In addition to the methods statement, the work was undertaken in accordance with the general procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, in respect of archaeological watching briefs (IFA 1999).
- 3.2 A total of eleven test pits were excavated within the former cinema and swimming pool complex (see figure 5). Test Pit 1 was located in the former lobby entrance to the swimming pool and, prior to the start of work, the concrete floor here was set at 10.80m AOD. Test Pit 2 was dug across the body of the former cinema, where the wooden floor was set at 10.77m AOD. The maximum reduction in ground level across the site at the end of the works was 3.42m below ground level (BGL) within Test Pit 2, a reduced height of 7.35m AOD. Test Pits 5 to 8 were also located within the former cinema area, and were excavated from the same wooden floor level as Test Pit 2, although they were much shallower, averaging c.1.0m in depth (an average reduced height of 9.77m AOD).

- 3.3 Test Pits 3 and 4 were both excavated in the base of the former swimming pool; around Test Pit 3, the floor of the pool was set at 9.85m AOD whilst around Test Pit 4 the value was 9.45m AOD. Both of these pits were excavated to a maximum depth of between 1.40m-1.50m BGL, giving a lowest reduced height of 7.95m AOD in the base of Test Pit 4. Test Pits 9 and 10 were both dug in sunken ancillary areas associated with the cinema and swimming pool; the base of Test Pit 9 was set at 8.82m AOD whilst that of Test Pit 10 reached 9.27m AOD. Finally, the former south-east corner of the swimming pool was removed to dig Test Pit 11, which reached a maximum depth of 9.42m AOD.
- 3.4 The majority of the test pits were small, typically c.1 m square, although the largest, Test Pit 2 across the former auditorium of the cinema, measured 6.40m long (east-west) by 2.20m wide (north-south). Test Pit 1 was dug by hand on 30th January 2007, whilst Test Pit 2 was excavated on the 2nd April 2007 using a tracked mini-digger with a 0.60m wide scraper bucket. Test Pits 3 and 4 were excavated by hand on the 16th July 2007, although both had to be abandoned before reaching their required depth due to water ingress, the local water table having risen substantially as a result of sustained heavy rainfall and severe flooding in the town; they were not completed until 10th October 2007. Test Pits 5 to 10 were dug by hand between 9th-10th October 2007, whilst Test Pit 11 was excavated by hand on the 11th October 2007.
- 3.5 Following standard archaeological procedures, each discrete stratigraphic entity (e.g. a cut, fill or layer) was assigned an individual context number and detailed information was recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. All structural footings forming part of the existing building were described as for a building record, rather than being ascribed a context number; similarly, obviously modern service pipes have not been allocated context numbers. A total of 50 archaeological contexts were recorded, and these are all described in the following text as three digit numbers (e.g. 005). In-house recording and quality control procedures ensured that all recorded information was cross-referenced as appropriate. The positions of all monitored works were marked on a general site plan, and more detailed drawings (plans and elevations) were made of each area as necessary. A photographic record was also maintained using 35mm and digital prints.
- 3.6 It is assumed that further archaeological investigations will be carried out on the site prior to and during the proposed development works. Accordingly, the watching brief archive, comprising written and photographic elements (site code PCB 07), will be retained by EDAS and incorporated into a single archive at the end of the whole project.

## 4 OUTLINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The history of Saturday Market has been outlined in the Beverley volume of the *Victoria County History* for the East Riding (Horrox 1989, 37-38; Allison 1989), and additional material is provided in the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments' study of Beverley (Miller *et al* 1982, 19-20). These sources have been used to provide the following outline background information, to place the site into context. The history of the Picture Playhouse has also been researched in depth by one of the former managers (Robinson 1985).

### *The Market Place*

- 4.2 A market was established in this part of Beverley by the 12th century, and possibly very shortly after the Norman Conquest. Tolls from the markets and fairs were

granted to the townspeople of Beverley by the Archbishop of York, the lord of the manor, possibly in 1122 when the town gained borough status. In 1293 an inquest records that the Archbishop claimed to hold markets in the town on a Wednesday and Saturday. In the 12th and 13th century Saturday Market was simply called "the market" or, slightly later, "the high market", while in the 14th century it was the "Corn Market" - it was only in the 16th century that the name "Saturday Market" was coined. It has been suggested that the southern market, held in the large triangular area defined by the Minster, Highgate and Eastgate, was the earlier of the two markets in the town, primarily due to its proximity to the Minster. If this is correct, the northern market may have been laid out later by the Archbishops of York, in a deliberate attempt to create their own market, rather than have the town use one under control of the Minster chapter. This market came to dominate the town's trade in the medieval period, for example fishmongers who had been trading nearer the Minster had moved to the market by the late 14th century.

- 4.3 It is probable that the original area of the northern market place extended as far north as Hengate, although it is not known whether the whole of this area was used at one time, or whether there were several smaller markets, each with its own trade function. The market place may also have expanded to the east in the 13th/14th century, when the southern market was substantially built over, leaving only the present small area. Conversely, the northern market place was later reduced in size by the encroachment of houses and shops; this appears to have taken place in two phases – the island blocks at the north end and in the Dings are medieval in date, whereas those at the southern end of Ladygate are later (Miller *et al* 1982, 19). The name "Dings" comes from a word for "dunghill" and this was previously the site of the Archbishops' Hall, which is mentioned in 1164-70. This building was used as a guild hall from 1282 and it may have been rebuilt with a bell tower in 1436; "front" and "back" shops are mentioned in the mid 15th century, suggesting that the ground floor was at least partly used by traders at this time.
- 4.4 By the mid 13th century, there was some occupational differentiation within the market place. One of the first areas to be distinguished was the corn market and in the mid 13th century Alan Beche gave Meaux Abbey land "at the market where grain is accustomed to be sold". The corn market occupied the area still known as Corn Hill, at the southern end of the market place, but the name was also sometimes used for the market place in general, to differentiate it from the southern market place, sometimes called Fish Market, and later Wednesday Market.
- 4.5 The northern end of the northern market place was occupied by the butchers, amongst others, in the area around the northern end of Lairgate opposite the bull ring where bulls were baited before slaughter. The meat market was already a distinct area of the market by the early 13th century, and was mentioned as the shambles and the butchers street in the middle of the century; the butchers' street was probably the forerunner of the Butcher Row mentioned in 1336 and regularly thereafter. The butchers' shambles were mentioned again in the 16th century, and there were more than 40 stalls in the early 18th century. These probably occupied the area between the Dings and Ladygate, where they were eventually housed in a permanent building erected in 1753 (see below). Nearby was Noutdrit, or cattle dung, Lane, which was mentioned from the early 14th century, and the 15th century Podyng Lane was also in the same area. Noutdrit Lane was located to the north of the Shoemarket (now Dog and Duck Lane), and could have extended off Hengate (Sherwood 2002, 78).

- 4.6 South of Noutdrit Lane was Soutermarket (now part of Wheatsheaf Lane; Sherwood 2002, 99), or the cobblers' market, which was in existence by the late 13th century. The cobblers were still obliged to pitch their stalls there in 1462, unless they had a house and shop elsewhere. The stalls were to stand on the south side of Shoemarket Lane, arranged in order of the owners' seniority. South of the cobblers' was the bakers' row, known in the 15th century as Bread Row. All three lanes, or more probably rows of stalls, ran east-west across the market. Forming one side of Ladygate but fronting onto the market was Smith Row (later Smith Hill), and the 14th century Glover Row was also probably located in the market place. In the 15th century there were references to Mercer or Merchants' Row, which apparently stood between the market and Lairgate.
- 4.7 The centre of the market was occupied by the Dings. The cloth market was held here, and in 1345 the keepers ordered that cloth was to be sold only in the Dings. This building also housed the market bell. In 1386-87 there is a reference to a fish market behind the Dings, and in 1446 it was claimed that the fish market had been held in Corn Market from the feast of St Mark to Corpus Christi Day (i.e. 25th April to the Thursday after Trinity Sunday). Poultry was also sold at the market cross (see below) in the 15th century, and the customary place for the sale of butter was evidently in that part of the market known as Butter Dings, located between the cross and the Dings.
- 4.8 A market cross in Saturday Market was mentioned in the 15th century and was described as "large" in 1697. It was damaged in or soon before 1707 and a new one, designed by Theophilus Shelton of Wakefield, was built on the site between 1711-14, with much of the expense being borne by Sir Charles Hotham and Sir Michael Wharton whose arms, along with those of the crown and the borough, are displayed on cartouches; the eight vases were placed on the roof in 1797 (Pevsner & Neave 1995, 305).
- 4.9 Burrow's map of 1747 depicts three rows of stalls along the west side of the south end of Ladygate, with the Dings to the west and a block of houses to the north. In 1753 however, the southern part of the market area was redesigned, and new Corn Exchange and a separate butchers' shambles were erected, designed by Samuel Smith; these new buildings are depicted on Hick's 1811 map of the town. The butter house was described as being in front of the new shambles in 1755, and may have been in the Dings, and in 1834 the west side of the butchers' shambles was converted to a butter market. There were also fish shambles in Saturday Market in the 17th century, and in 1777 a new arcaded fish shambles was built to the north of the butchers' shambles, to the designs of William Middleton. It was ordered to be repaired in 1875 but it was not replaced when the site was used for the new corn exchange, butter market and public baths which were erected in 1886 (see below). In 1825 the front of the butchers' shambles was converted to a corn exchange, to which a butter market was added in 1853, although some of the butchers' shambles remained to the rear.
- 4.10 The 1853 Ordnance Survey map depicts the market place in some detail (see figure 3). Smith's Corn Exchange faced onto Corn Hill while behind, to its north-west, lay the Butchers' Shambles and the Butter Market and, further north again, Middleton's octagonal-shaped Fish Shambles. These buildings were separated by a narrow lane from the row of shops and houses (the Dings) to the west, which still largely survive today. There are two c.1880 photographs of the Corn Exchange and Fish Shambles (Brown 1983, 26-27; see plates 1 and 2). The Corn Exchange is shown as having a symmetrical five-bay single storey frontage to the Market Place. It was of brick construction with rusticated quoins and triple keystones to



the flat-headed windows. The central three bays broke forward and were surmounted by a low pediment, bearing a cartouche, while the slated hipped roof was equipped with a central bell cupola. The Fish Shambles was also of brick with tall semi-circular headed openings to all sides, two on the two longer sides and one in each of the shorter sides. The interior had a flagstone floor and the openings were equipped with stone benches which served as serving counters. A lithograph produced by E H Buckler in c.1860 depicts this part of the market place, the Corn Exchange sitting rather incongruously adjacent to the larger two storey buildings (see plate 3).

#### *The present Corn Exchange and Playhouse Cinema*

- 4.11 The Corn Exchange, Butchers' Shambles, Butter Market and Fish Shambles were all demolished in 1886, to be replaced by the present large red brick complex. It was built at a cost "not to exceed £2,000" and was designed by Samuel Musgrave of Hull, and is known for its elaborate Flemish Renaissance façade of red brick and terracotta decoration (see plate 4). The complex comprised a new Corn Exchange fronting onto Saturday Market, with a butter market and public baths behind, as well as an engine house and porters' accommodation (Robinson 1985, 13). There was no accommodation for butchers, who were said in 1889 to have abandoned Saturday Market in favour of shops. The Corn Exchange and butter market had to be arranged so as to form one large public room when required, and the principal entrance into the swimming baths was from Ladygate. In 1889 the new building was said to be little used, with the butter and poultry sellers having returned to the market cross, and part of it was temporarily used as an infant school between 1904 and 1906. However, corn continued to be traded in this area until 1947. The new buildings are depicted in detail on the Ordnance Survey 1890 map of the area (see figure 4). It is interesting to note that the northern extension of the alley which runs along the west side of the new buildings was called "Fish Shambles" at this date.
- 4.12 The Corn Exchange became the Picture Playhouse in 1911, when it was first leased to Messrs Debenham and Company of York for cinematograph use, and it opened on 20th February 1911. Alterations were made to the interior between 1911-12, including the removal of two substantial pillars from the centre of the hall. At this time, the town did not have an electricity supply, and so power was initially produced using a petrol and paraffin eight cylinder water-cooled engine; in 1918 this was replaced with a more reliable and efficient gas engine (Robinson 1985, 14). The success of the cinema was such that a rival house was built in 1916, the Marble Arch Picture Playhouse in Butcher Row. Nevertheless, the Saturday Market playhouse continued to operate, but it was not until 1927 that the corn merchants finally moved out to the Cattle Market, from which time the building was given over solely to cinematic use. Sound arrived at the cinema in February 1930, although silent films also continued to be shown (Robinson 1985, 29-30).
- 4.13 In 1935, facing further competition from a conversion of the Assembly Rooms into the Regal Cinema, further improvements were made to the Playhouse, such as the installation of a new flexible glass screen, new seating and lighting, and improved internal decoration which included new carpets. A particular attraction of the playhouse was that it showed locally-made films, including some which charted the history of the town and its industry (Robinson 1985, 33-37). During the 2nd World War, the building also served as a church and showed locally produced public information films and newsreels. In the post-war years, audience numbers were maintained by running competitions and showing films of local events, such as the launching of the "George Irwin" at the Beverley shipyard, as well as the well-known national productions such as "Hamlet" and "Great Expectations". Further

improvements included the introduction of “Cinemascope” in November 1954 and “VistaVision” in 1955.

- 4.14 However, the Playhouse suffered a major set back in 1957 when Ernest Symmons, the founder of the cinema and its manager and film-maker, died (Robinson 1985, 50). Although his widow, Thelma, continued to maintain and operate the cinema, audiences were by now falling, primarily due to the competition from television. The Playhouse Bingo Club was therefore formed in December 1962, but the increasing number of meetings meant that film showings were reduced. The last film to be shown was the classic “Summer Holiday” starring Cliff Richard and the Shadows, in September 1963. The bingo club continued, but this also suffered competition when the Marble Arch Cinema in Butcher Row was also converted to a bingo hall. The Regal Cinema also closed to films in July 1968, with the effect that there were now no cinemas in the town, although it did re-open for bingo. The Marble Arch was demolished in 1968 and, although some films were subsequently shown in the Memorial Hall, this facility also soon closed.
- 4.15 The Playhouse started to show films again in 1972 (Robinson 1985, 66-70), but the lease was not renewed and there were now plans to convert it into shops and the swimming baths into a multi-functional hall. Local support was galvanised, and the lease was renewed until March 1975, and then several times again until 1981. The building was renovated and a new roof was constructed over the old glass structure in 1978. Although films continued to be shown, the numbers attending the bingo declined, and the Playhouse finally closed in December 1981. The projection and allied equipment was sold and the bingo paraphernalia was cleared out. Despite this, a new lease was signed by new owners and the Playhouse re-opened in April 1982. New seating was brought from Pocklington cinema, and a 35mm projector and new screen were installed. However, this renaissance proved to be relatively short-lived, and the cinema finally closed for good in 2001. The seating and projection equipment were removed in 2005, the seats and screen to Fort Paull museum and the projectors to a cinema enthusiast in West Yorkshire (David Fletcher, *pers. comm.*). The Public Baths closed in 1973, to be replaced by new facilities built in Mill Lane, and the building was occupied by “Sellit and Soon”, a second-hand furniture and bric-a-back business.

#### *Previous Archaeological Investigations and Discoveries*

- 4.16 There have not been any previous archaeological investigations on the site, although there have been some watching briefs undertaken in the 1980s and 1990s during small-scale redevelopments in Ladygate. The excavation for a new drain across the south side of the market place in 1858 uncovered several large chisel-dressed stones at a depth of c.1m, which were thought to be the foundation of a former pillory which had been located here before 1688, as well as a brick pavement, wooden post, two copper coins and some animal bone. These excavations also uncovered a rich black soil which was thought to represent the remains of an earlier east-west drain which had been dug to counter flooding (Beverley Guardian 21st August 1858; Miller *et al* 1982, 55).
- 4.17 In 1863 the construction of new shops in the market place also uncovered some coins, possibly Roman in date, some pottery and a bronze arrowhead (Beverley Guardian 12th September 1863), while in April 1826 a hoard of six 14th century coins were found under the floor of another shop in the southern part of the market place (HSMR 679).

## 5 RESULTS OF THE WATCHING BRIEF

### *Test Pit 1 (see figure 6)*

- 5.1 Test Pit 1 was located inside the building, in a small lobby or hallway adjacent to the doorway which gave access to the Public Baths from Ladygate; prior to the excavation, the concrete floor of the lobby was set at 10.80m AOD. The test pit measured 1.10m long (north-south) by 0.90m wide (east-west), and was hand excavated to a maximum depth of 0.86m (9.94m AOD) (see plate 5).
- 5.2 Following the removal of the concrete and its associated hardcore bed (025), which was 0.34m thick in total, a level deposit of compacted brown/grey sandy silt (026), 0.30m thick with frequent inclusions of red handmade brick and pantile fragments, was revealed. This overlay another level layer of dark brown/black sandy silt (027), at least 0.27m thick, again with frequent inclusions of red handmade brick fragments and also chalk. This dark brown/black sandy silt (027) continued below the bottom of the test pit.
- 5.3 The east and south sides of the test pit were formed by the footings of the adjacent walls; both walls were built of machine-made red bricks (average dimensions 240mm by 120mm by 80mm) set with a cream lime mortar and laid in English Garden Wall bond. On the south side of the test pit, the footings continued to 0.65m BGL, overlying context (003) stepping out by a total of 0.15m. On the east side, the footings continued beyond the bottom of the test pit, also stepping out by a total of 0.15m to the point where they disappeared from view.

### *Test Pit 2 (see figures 6 and 7)*

- 5.4 Test Pit 2 was located within the auditorium of the former cinema, slightly to the north of centre, adjacent to the opposed doorways in the east and west walls. Although an area of wooden flooring 8.80m long (east-west) by 2.20m wide (north-south) was taken up, the finished test pit measured 6.40m long (east-west) by 2.20m wide (north-south). The majority of the test pit was machine excavated to c.1.75m BGL (9.02m AOD) but a small section towards the west end was increased to 3.42m BGL (7.35m AOD) (see plate 7).
- 5.5 When the softwood tongue and groove floorboards (001) of the auditorium were taken up, they were found to be laid on joists set over timber battens spaced at 1.40m centres; the battens rested on three courses of unmortared bricks. The lowest bricks were set into the surface of a thin layer (0.04m thick) of asphalt or bitumen (002). The surface of this material was covered with debris and rubbish which had fallen through the floorboards from above, including bingo cards and confectionery wrappers, but no material was noted which pre-dated the 1960s.
- 5.6 The asphalt/bitumen overlay a mixed but compacted 0.34m thick layer of mid brown sandy silt (006), which contained frequent inclusions of chalk rubble and red handmade brick fragments, some animal bone and some 19th century pottery. This layer appeared to be divided into two distinct deposits towards its western end, and it may have been contemporary with two very substantial brick and chalk rubble plinths, situated at either end of the test pit. The western plinth (003) was c.1.45m square and c.1.0m deep; its surface was formed from handmade red tiles and was set at 0.57m BGL. This plinth supported a large composite sandstone base which was made from two triangular pieces of stone which fitted together to make a base 1.16m square and 0.22m thick (see plate 6). The upper surface of this base contained a recessed area in the centre, 0.92m long by 0.65m wide, with

a threaded bolt projecting from each corner. The main body of the plinth appeared to have been made by cutting a pit and filling it with a mixture of brick rubble, chalk blocks and lime mortar. The eastern plinth (004), which was c.1.50m square and 0.50m deep, had a very similar form to that to the west, and was evidently constructed in the same manner. However, it did not have the tiled surface and the sandstone base above was slightly smaller, 0.95m square and 0.22m thick, although it had the same recessed area with corner bolts. It was not possible to remove the western plinth (003), as it extended beyond the west end of the test pit, and so this was left *in situ*, but the eastern plinth was taken out of the test pit, thus exposing the section behind.

- 5.7 Immediately beneath the mid brown sandy silt (006), a north-south aligned wall footing (005), 0.35m wide, was exposed. These footings were relatively shallow, comprising a single course of buff handmade bricks (average dimensions 230mm by 120mm by 60mm) set with a creamy-brown lime mortar and laid on two courses of roughly squared chalk blocks. To the east, a further possible chalk block footing (007), 0.45m wide, was visible but only in the south-facing section of the test pit; it may have been a wall footing but was likely to have been a support for one the floor battens of the auditorium and so could be relatively recent in date. These possible chalk footings rested on a layer of compacted dark brown sandy silt (008), only visible in the western half of the south-facing section, and perhaps forming the fill of a possible cut (009). This cut appears to begin just to the east of chalk footings (007), and sloped downwards to the west with a gently concave profile before rising again in a similar manner. It may, in turn, be cut through the mid brown sandy silt fill (011) of another possible cut (010).
- 5.8 This last cut (010) appears to slope steeply down from east to west, and to have disturbed a series of deposits visible at the eastern end of the test pit. The uppermost of these deposits was a dry compacted mid brown sandy silt (012), up to 0.58m thick, containing frequent chalk inclusions. This overlay a thinner layer (0.15m thick) of mixed mid brown sandy silt and gritty orange-brown sand (013), beneath which was a thin and slightly uneven compacted horizon of creamy white lime mortar (014) only 0.05m thick. Below this mortar was a thin layer of clean rich brown sand (015), up to 0.15m thick, which sloped slightly down from west to east.
- 5.9 The clean rich brown sand (015) overlay the east end of a substantial deposit of hard packed greyish-white angular chalk rubble fragments, each up to 0.30m in length (016). The chalk fragments were visible along the whole length of the recorded south-facing section of the test pit. The thickness of this deposit (016) varied along the length of the section; at the west end it was c.0.40m thick, but it became shallower further to the east, then thickened again towards the centre, and then fell away again towards the east end. Beneath the chalk fragments was a compacted deposit of orange-brown sand with frequent chalk inclusions (017), up to 0.35m thick, and beneath this was a mid brown clayey silt (018) up to 0.22m thick; the two became mixed/merged towards the west end of the test pit and could not be separated.
- 5.10 The mid brown clayey silt (018) overlay a number of north-south aligned chalk block footings. Two of these (022 and 023) were noted in plan during the excavation of the test pit but these could not be investigated in detail for health and safety reasons. They were also difficult to see in the south-facing section of the test pit, but appeared to be c.0.40m-0.45m wide. By contrast, further to the east, another possible line of footings (021) could be seen in the section but not in plan. These formed the west side of a layer of mid to dark brown clayey silt (020), 0.12m thick which contained frequent chalk inclusions. The clayey silt ran up to another

line of north-south aligned chalk wall footings (019) situated at the east end of the test pit. These footings (019) were far more substantial than those to the west, being at least 0.55m wide and built of larger, more neatly squared, unmortared chalk blocks up to 0.40m long.

- 5.11 The surface of the natural gritty orange-brown sand (024) was encountered at between 1.70m to 1.80m BGL (8.87m to 8.97m AOD) in the base of test pit. A mechanically-excavated sondage showed that the sand continued to a depth of at least 3.40m BGL; the lower 0.50m was wet and fluid, collapsing quickly to undermine the sides of the test pit above.

#### *Test Pit 3*

- 5.12 Test Pit 3 was located in the bottom of the south (shallow) end of the former swimming pool, and was c.1.10m square; prior to the excavation, the glazed brick base of the swimming pool was set at 9.85m AOD. The test pit was hand excavated in two phases due to ground water ingress; the initial work took place on 16th July 2007 and the pit was completed on 10th October 2007. The final depth of the test pit was 1.40m BGL (8.45m AOD).
- 5.13 The glazed bricks forming the base of the pool (028) were laid as stretchers on edge, and were frogged to at least one side. They had a yellowish-white fabric (average dimensions 220mm by 110mm by 80mm) and were set with a hard grey lime mortar. Beneath the bricks, extending to 0.37m BGL (9.48m AOD), was a bedding layer of concreted hard grey lime mortar mixed with fragments of both red and gault bricks (029), 0.25m thick. This bedding material overlay a deposit of gritty mid brown clayey silt (030) with frequent inclusions of lime mortar, fragments of red tile and occasional handmade brick fragments (average dimensions ? by 140mm by 45mm). The silt continued below the base of the test pit (8.85m AOD). When this level was reached, ground water quickly rose to a depth of 0.20m above the base of the pit, and so excavation was abandoned.
- 5.14 Later continuation of the excavation, when the ground water had receded, showed that the mid brown clayey silt (030) was a total of 0.82m thick, and extended to 1.15m BGL (8.70m AOD). It overlay a loose and friable mid brown silty deposit (035), but one which contained a much higher frequency of chalk inclusions, as well as occasional fragments of clay roof tile with a pinkish-brown fabric but no obviously modern material. This deposit was at least 0.25m thick and it extended below the bottom of the 1.40m deep test pit, which was some 0.60m lower than the surface of the natural sand (024) encountered in Test Pit 2.

#### *Test Pit 4*

- 5.15 Test Pit 4 was located at the base of the north (deep) end of the former swimming pool, and was c.1.10m square; prior to the excavation, the glazed brick base of the swimming pool was set at 9.45m AOD. The test pit was hand excavated in two phases due to ground water ingress; the initial work took place on 16th July 2007 and the pit was completed on 10th October 2007. The final depth of the test pit was 1.50m BGL (7.95m AOD).
- 5.16 The glazed bricks forming the base of the pool (028) were the same as those described for Test Pit 3, and they also overlay a 0.25m thick deposit of concreted hard grey lime mortar containing mixed fragments of both red and gault bricks (031), 0.25m thick and extending to 0.35m BGL. Beneath this was a much looser deposit of hardcore material (032), 0.20m thick and containing numerous

fragments of red and gault handmade brick within a hard dark grey mortar. This deposit broke into pieces up to 0.15m across and contained many voids, and it continued beneath the base of the test pit (0.50m BGL or 8.95m AOD); when this level was reached, ground water quickly rose above the base of the pit, and so the excavation was abandoned.

- 5.17 Later continuation of the excavation, when the ground water had receded, showed that the hardcore material (032) extended to 0.55m BGL (8.90m AOD), making a total thickness of 0.20m. It overlay a deposit of compacted dark brown clayey silt (033), with frequent inclusions of lime mortar, and infrequent fragments of red tile and brick. The deposit extended to 1.18m BGL (8.27m AOD), a total thickness of 0.63m; in the upper 0.20m of the deposit, there was some obviously modern material, probably worked into it when context 032 above was laid down, but in the central and lower parts there was no such material.
- 5.18 Below this was a mixed layer (034) of mid-grey sandy silt with frequent charcoal flecks/gritty ashy black silt and charcoal in almost equal proportions. The sandy/ashy silt contained relatively few pieces of brick and tile, but some blackened animal bone, including several jaw bones. It extended beyond the base of the test pit (i.e. was at least 0.32m thick), which was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.50m BGL (7.95m AOD), some 1.02m lower than the surface of the natural sand (024) encountered in Test Pit 2. It is possible that deposit 034 began to run out in the base of the pit, as it appeared to lighten in colour, but unfortunately there was further water ingress at this depth, and so once again the excavation was abandoned.

#### *Test Pit 5*

- 5.19 Test Pit 5 was located adjacent to a brick pier in the east wall of the former cinema, a short distance to the north of the off-centre doorway. The test pit measured 1.40m long (north-south) by 1.20m wide (east-west) and was hand excavated to a maximum depth of 0.98m (9.79m AOD); as with Test Pits 6, 7 and 8 (see below), the wooden floor of the cinema (001) and the asphalt beneath (002) were removed prior to excavation. As a result, the surface of the uppermost deposits in the pits were set on average some 0.30m below the level of the wooden floor.
- 5.20 The uppermost deposit exposed in the test pit was a dark brown sandy silt (036), which contained frequent inclusions of red handmade brick rubble, angular chalk pieces and a small amount of 19th century pottery. The sandy silt enclosed a crude unmortared brick wall footing (037) aligned slightly skew from east-west (see plate 8). The footing was only a single course deep and 0.21m wide, its east end butting the pillar of the cinema's east wall but the west end extending beneath the brick supports of the wooden floor (001); the footing appeared to be contemporary with these supports.
- 5.21 The sandy silt (036) continued through the depth of the test pit, to 0.98m BGL (9.79m AOD), where it overlay a hard-packed chalk rubble and mortar (038), just visible in the base of the pit. The rubble/mortar was seen to extend beneath the east wall of the cinema, forming its footings. A total of eight courses of brickwork, stepped slightly outwards, were exposed at the base of the pier in the east wall of the cinema, but to the north, beneath the tall window here, the brickwork was much more roughly laid, and set on a low chalk/mortar plinth which formed part of the more extensive similar deposit (038).

### *Test Pit 6*

- 5.22 Test Pit 6 was located on the opposite side of the former cinema, adjacent to a brick pier in the west wall and a short distance to the north of the off-centre doorway. The test pit was c.1m square and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.03m (9.74m AOD).
- 5.23 The uppermost deposit exposed in the test pit was a dark brown sandy silt (039), 0.60m thick and containing frequent inclusions of red handmade brick rubble, angular chalk pieces and a small amount of 19th century pottery; it was directly comparable to deposit 036 seen in Test Pit 5. The sandy silt (039) had been cut by crude modern concrete underpinning (040) of the adjacent pillar, the base of which had been rebuilt in modern machine-made brick (see plate 9). At c.0.90m BGL (9.87m AOD), the sandy silt was replaced by a deposit of very hard-packed but unmortared angular chalk rubble (041), which extended below the base of the test pit.

### *Test Pit 7*

- 5.24 Test Pit 7 was located in the north-east corner of the former cinema, at the junction of the east and north walls of the auditorium. The test pit measured 1.20m long (north-south) by 1.00m wide (east-west) and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.98m (9.79m AOD).
- 5.25 The uppermost deposit exposed in the test pit was a dark brown sandy silt (042), containing frequent inclusions of red handmade brick rubble and angular chalk pieces; it was directly comparable to deposit 036 seen in Test Pit 5. The sandy silt enclosed a north-east/south-west aligned 0.20m diameter ceramic pipe; the surface of the pipe was set at 0.60m BGL and was apparently serving a toilet to the immediate north. The sandy silt (042) appeared to continue below the base of the test pit. The east wall of the cinema was observed to be supported by stepped brick footings, which ran to 0.78m BGL, at which point they were replaced by a crude mass of chalk rubble and brick, similar to deposit 041 in Test Pit 6. The stepped footings of the north wall appeared to continue below the base of the test pit.

### *Test Pit 8*

- 5.26 Test Pit 8 was located in the north-west corner of the former cinema, at the junction of the west and north walls of the auditorium. The test pit was 1.22m long (north-south) by 0.80m wide (east-west) and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.66m (10.11m AOD) (see plate 10).
- 5.27 The uppermost deposit exposed in the test pit was a dark brown sandy silt (043), containing frequent inclusions of red handmade brick rubble, angular chalk and a small amount of 19th century pottery; this was directly comparable to similar deposits (036, 039 and 042) seen in the other test pits inside the former auditorium. The sandy silt was only 0.20m thick, and was cut by a crude mass of concrete and brick rubble (045) which formed the northern half of the test pit. Beneath the sandy silt (043), a surface of hard-packed chalk rubble and mortar (044) was encountered in the base of the test pit, which was comparable to deposit 038 seen in Test Pit 5 and deposit 041 in Test Pit 6.

### *Test Pit 9*

- 5.28 Test Pit 9 was located in the small sunken/half-cellar room to the immediate north of the north-west corner of the former cinema. The pit measured 0.88m long (north-south) by 0.72m wide (east-west) and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.48m BGL (8.82m AOD). The only deposit exposed in the test pit was a compacted dark grey clayey silt (046) containing charcoal inclusions and more infrequent brick and roof tile fragments. It appeared that the brickwork of the west wall of the room stopped at the base of the test pit, and was replaced by crude chalk and mortar footings, although this was not certain.

### *Test Pit 10*

- 5.29 Test Pit 10 was positioned at the base of the west wall of the presumed sunken former boiler/engine room on the west side of the swimming pool, immediately adjacent to a wall pier. The test pit was 0.80m long (east-west) by 0.70m wide (north-south) and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.31m BGL (9.27m AOD). The uppermost deposit exposed in the test pit was a dark brown sandy silt (047), 0.31m thick containing frequent inclusions of red handmade brick rubble, angular chalk and a small amount of 19th century pottery, directly comparable to similar deposits seen elsewhere (036, 039, 042 and 043). This overlay a brick and concrete surface (048) forming the base of the test pit.

### *Test Pit 11*

- 5.30 Test Pit 11 was located at the bottom of the south-east corner of the former swimming pool; a section of the swimming pool wall 0.84m long (north-south) by 0.45m wide (east-west) was removed to allow the pit to be excavated. The test pit itself measured 0.90m long (north-south) by 0.80m wide (east-west) and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.43m BGL (9.52m AOD).
- 5.31 The glazed bricks forming the base and sides of the pool (028) were laid as stretchers on edge, and were frogged to at least one side. They had a yellowish-white fabric (average dimensions 220mm by 110mm by 80mm) and were set with a hard grey lime mortar on a bed of concrete extending to 0.16m BGL. This concrete comprised two distinct layers, with a thin layer of paint or slate, perhaps the remnant of a waterproof lining, beneath.
- 5.32 The concrete overlay a layer of brick and chalk rubble hardcore (049), 0.24m thick, itself set on a deposit of gritty mid brown clayey silt (050), with frequent inclusions of lime mortar, chalk, fragments of red tile and occasional brick fragments (average dimensions ? by 140mm by 45mm). This deposit extended below the 0.43m deep base of the test pit (9.52m AOD), and was comparable to deposit 030 seen in Test Pit 3. The adjacent east wall of the swimming pool was seen to extend to a depth of only 0.32m BGL (9.53m AOD), whilst the south wall stepped out slightly at approximately the same level, apparently continuing downwards.

## **6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 6.1 As might be expected, the walls of the Playhouse Cinema have been repaired or altered over the last century, and this is reflected in the archaeological deposits uncovered in the test pits. In many places in the former cinema auditorium, the bottom of the wall piers had been repaired using very modern machine-made bricks; when the base of one such pier was investigated in Test Pit 6, it was found to be crudely underpinned by concrete (040), and it is likely that many other piers will have been treated in a similar manner. By contrast in Test Pit 5, the original late 19th



century wall footings (038) were revealed, comprising a spread raft of hard-packed chalk rubble/mortar set at 0.98m BGL (9.79m AOD); a similar deposit (044) was seen in the bottom of Test Pit 8, at 10.11m AOD, and in Test Pit 6 (041) at 9.87m AOD. Above this, there was a varying depth of a dark brown sandy silt containing brick and chalk rubble with some animal bone and 19th century pottery (036, 039, 042 and 043); this was the same as deposit 006 seen in Test Pit 2. Other than this, the test pits within the former cinema auditorium revealed little further detail.

- 6.2 In the former swimming pool building to the north of the former cinema, similar variations in the depths of the wall footings were noted. On the east side of the building, within Test Pit 1, stepped brick footings continued beyond the base of the pit (9.94m AOD), whereas within Test Pit 9 on the west side, they appeared to give out at 8.82m AOD, although in some areas (such as Test Pit 10), solid floor surfaces or bases precluded any examination of adjacent wall footings. Within Test Pit 11, the adjacent east wall of the swimming pool was seen to extend to a depth of only 0.32m BGL (9.53m AOD), whilst the south wall stepped out slightly at approximately the same level, apparently continuing downwards.
- 6.3 Away from the external walls, late 19th century disturbance associated with the construction of the Playhouse (Corn Exchange) and swimming pool building appears to have been fairly limited in depth, averaging 0.40m to 0.60m BGL, although obviously within the swimming pool itself the disturbance commences from a lower level. The only excavation to reveal a complex and significant series of deposits was Test Pit 2, which was larger and deeper than any of the other test pits. Within this test pit, the surface of the natural orange sand (024) was encountered at 1.80m BGL (8.97m AOD), the only time this natural material was observed in any of the pits. A number of north-south aligned parallel chalk block wall footings (019, 021, 022 and 023) were laid on this sand. Of these, footing 019 was by far the most substantial and best constructed, and it was actually founded on a clay slit deposit (020); the footings may have formed the sill beam for a timber-framed structure above while the clay silt might represent a possible floor surface associated with adjacent footings (021). Although no dating evidence was acquired from these footings (and indeed from elsewhere within the test pit), it is considered highly likely that they are medieval in date, and perhaps represent the remains of structures fronting onto this side of the market place.
- 6.4 At some point, these structures were demolished and the ground level was raised using first a clayey silt (018) and then a compacted orange-brown sand (017); the former may have been a floor surface defined by a north-south wall footing (019) but the last was almost certainly re-deposited natural material. The orange-brown sand was then overlain by a significant deposit of chalk fragments (016), possibly representing demolition material from surrounding chalk buildings or alternatively the remains of a building with chalk walls on this site which was subsequently demolished. At its east end, the chalk is overlain by a sequence of deposits including a clean sand (015) and a lime mortar (014), which are disturbed by a possible cut (010). The fill (008) of an adjacent cut (009) may be associated with another north-south aligned wall footing (005) of 18th or 19th century date.
- 6.5 The two large brick and chalk rubble plinths (003 and 004) exposed in Test Pit 2 appear to have previously supported two substantial pillars, apparently forming part of a screen or partition dividing the former cinema/Corn Exchange into two halves. It is not clear what form the partition took, and there is no scarring on the inside of either the east or west walls that might provide information as to its height and/or width. However, it is known that two pillars were demolished during the summer of 1912 in order to improve the sightlines within the cinema (Robinson 1985, 15-16).

The plinths are probably contemporary with layer 006, which may be associated with the construction of the Corn Exchange in 1886; they might, for example, have divided the exchange from the butter market which was also in the same building. The asphalt layer (002) underlying the timber floor is probably post-1886 in date, whilst the apparent lack of any material pre-dating the 1960s beneath the wooden floor (001) may suggest that it was taken up and the space below cleaned at around this date; prominent amongst the material beneath the floorboards are bingo cards, and the Playhouse did open a regular bingo club in 1962 (Robinson 1985, 55).

- 6.6 As stated above, natural deposits were observed only in Test Pit 2. Within the swimming pool, no natural deposits were seen, even within the base of Test Pit 4 which was set some 1.02m (7.95m AOD) lower than the surface of the natural sand encountered in Test Pit 2. This suggests that either the level of the natural sand slopes down from south to north (see figure 8), or that it had been lowered/dug away under the swimming pool building when this structure was first constructed. The lower deposits exposed within Test Pits 3 and 4 in the swimming pool were broadly similar, and it possible that they were laid down as the result of the demolition of earlier structures and/or levelling activity undertaken in the early post-medieval period; the lack of any obviously 19th century material in these deposits suggests that they are 18th century or earlier, and there may be medieval deposits surviving at depth.

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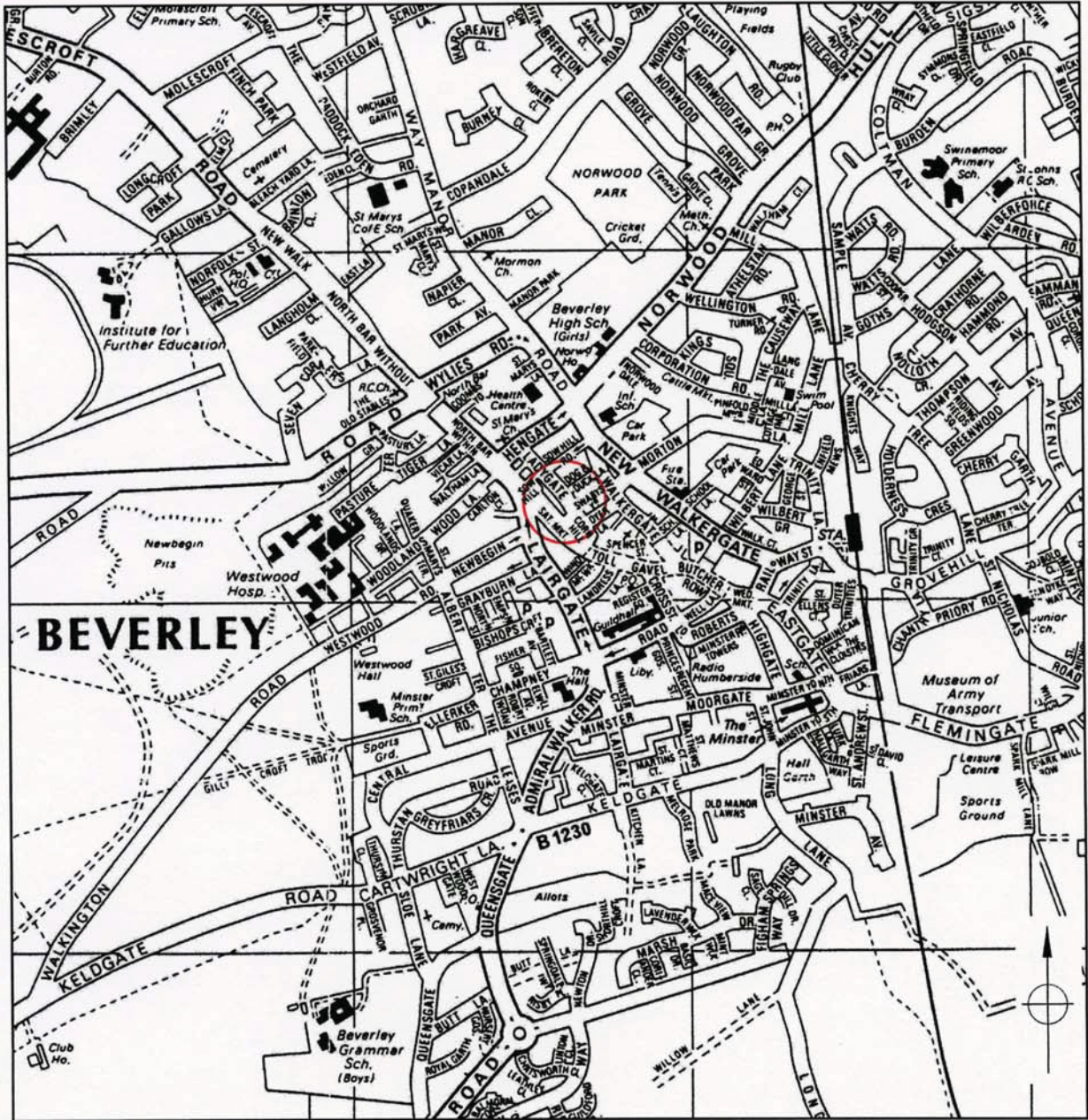
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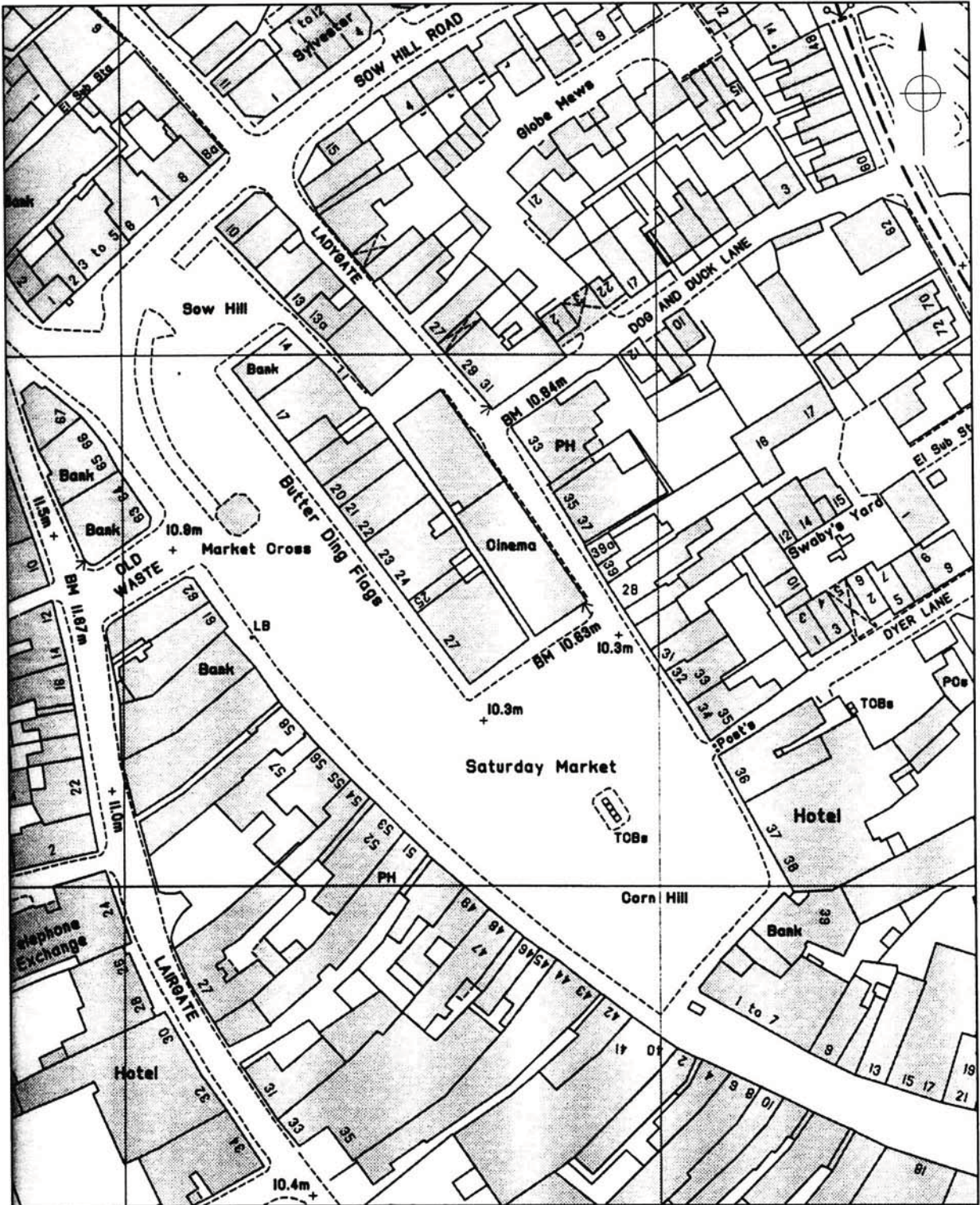
## 8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1 The archaeological watching brief within the former cinema/Corn Exchange and swimming pool complex was commissioned by the site owner, Mr D Fletcher. EDAS would like to thank all concerned, including the contractors, TJP Ground Investigations Ltd and J T Thompson Developments Ltd, for their co-operation in carrying out the archaeological work.

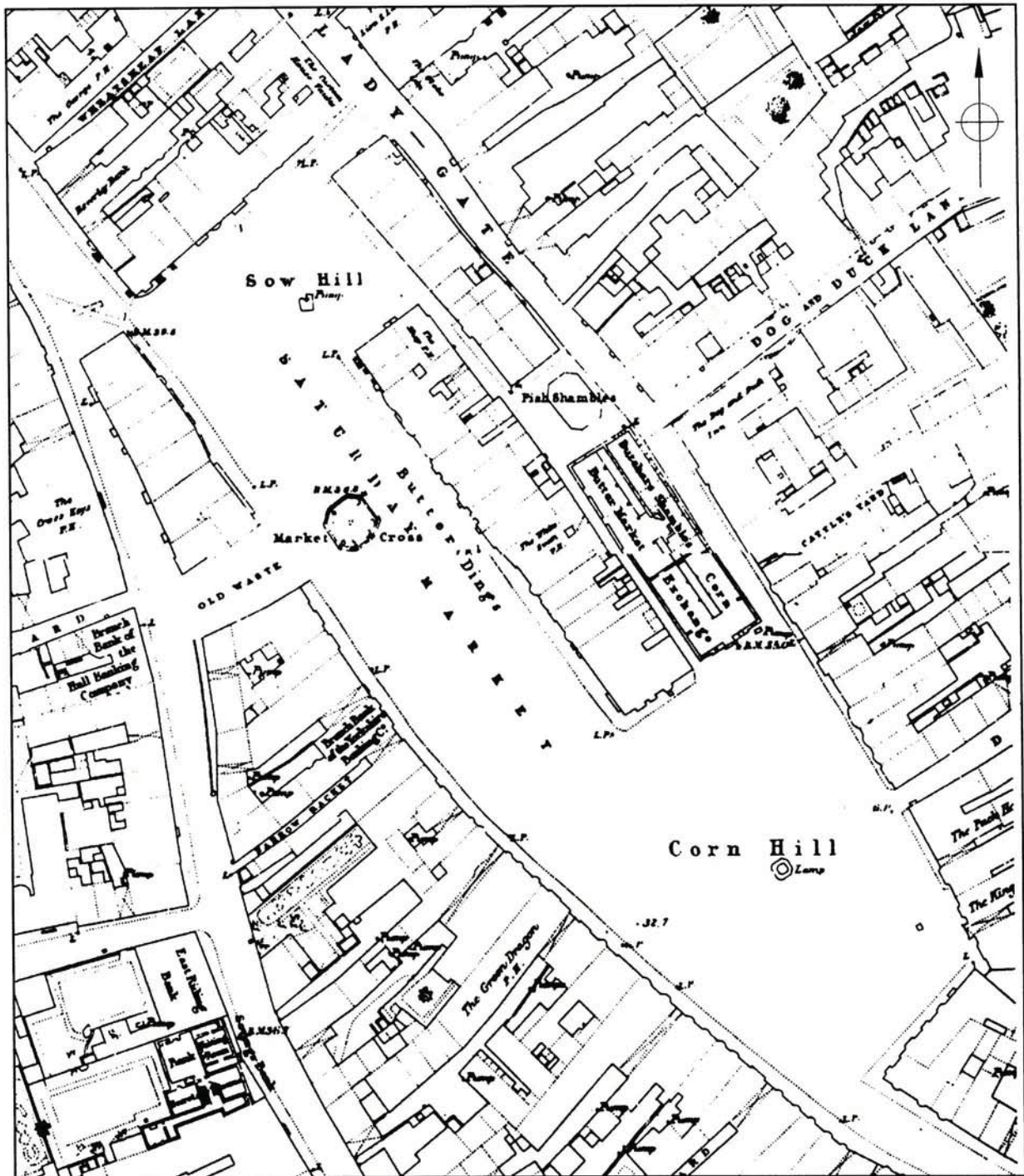
- 8.2 The on-site recording was undertaken by Shaun Richardson, with some assistance from Ed Dennison; the former produced the fieldwork records and a draft report. The final report was produced by Ed Dennison, with whom the responsibility for any errors remains.



PROJECT	
PICTURE PLAYHOUSE, BEVERLEY	
TITLE	
GENERAL LOCATION	
SCALE	DATE
NTS	NOV 2007
EDAS	FIGURE
	1

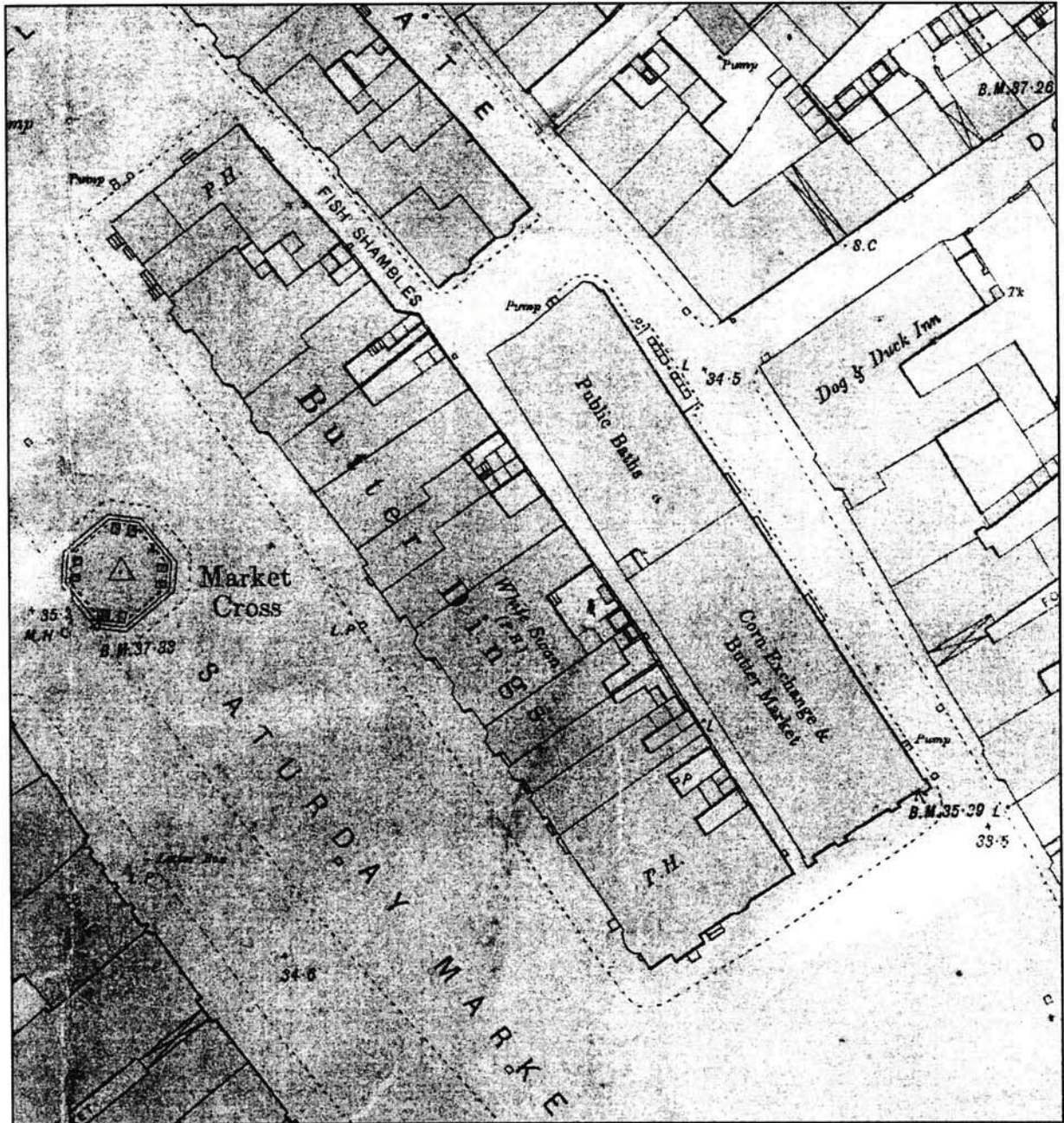


PROJECT	
PICTURE PLAYHOUSE, BEVERLEY	
TITLE	
DETAILED LOCATION	
SCALE	DATE
NTS	NOV 2007
EDAS	FIGURE
	2



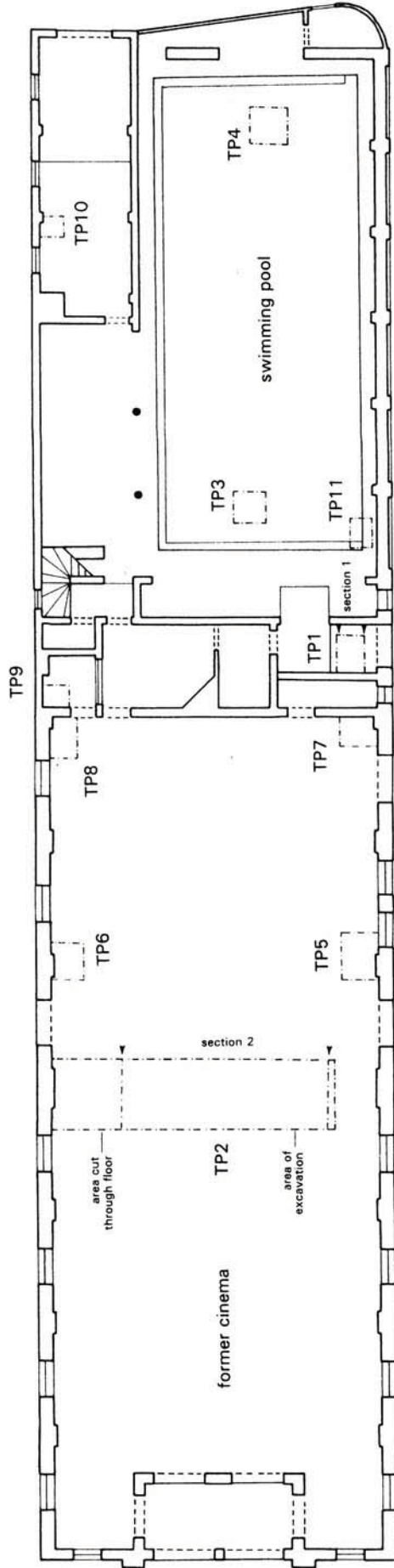
Source: Ordnance Survey 1853  
 1:1,320 map (sheets 3 & 4).

PROJECT		PICTURE PLAYHOUSE, BEVERLEY	
TITLE		ORDNANCE SURVEY 1853 MAP	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	NOV 2007
EDAS		FIGURE	3



Source: Ordnance Survey 1890 1:500 map (sheet 210/8/18).

PROJECT	
PICTURE PLAYHOUSE, BEVERLEY	
TITLE	
ORDNANCE SURVEY 1890 MAP	
SCALE	DATE
NTS	NOV 2007
EDAS	FIGURE
	4



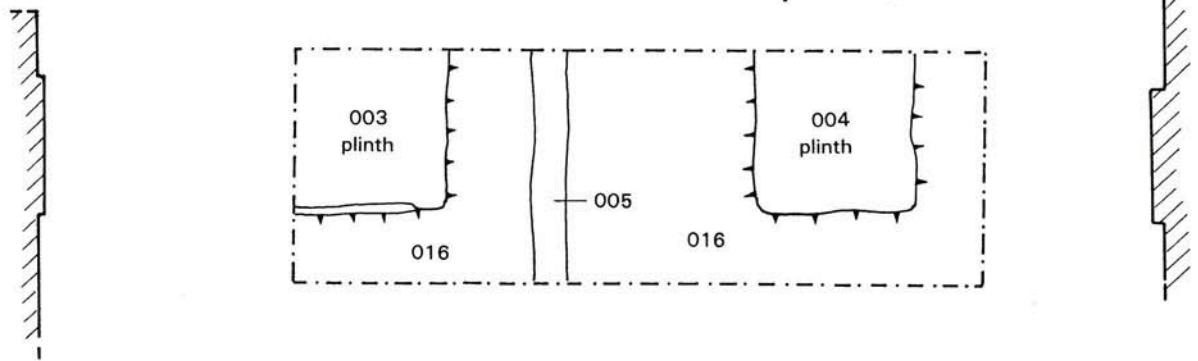
Ground floor plan, based on survey provided by Ingleby & Hobson Ltd

PROJECT	PICTURE PLAYHOUSE, BEVERLEY		
TITLE	TEST PIT LOCATIONS		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	NOV 2007
	EDAS	FIGURE	5

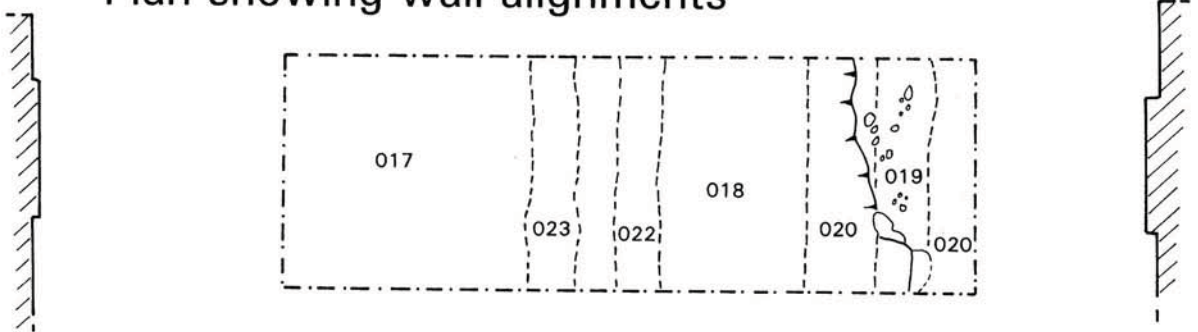


# Test Pit 2

## Plan after removal of modern deposits

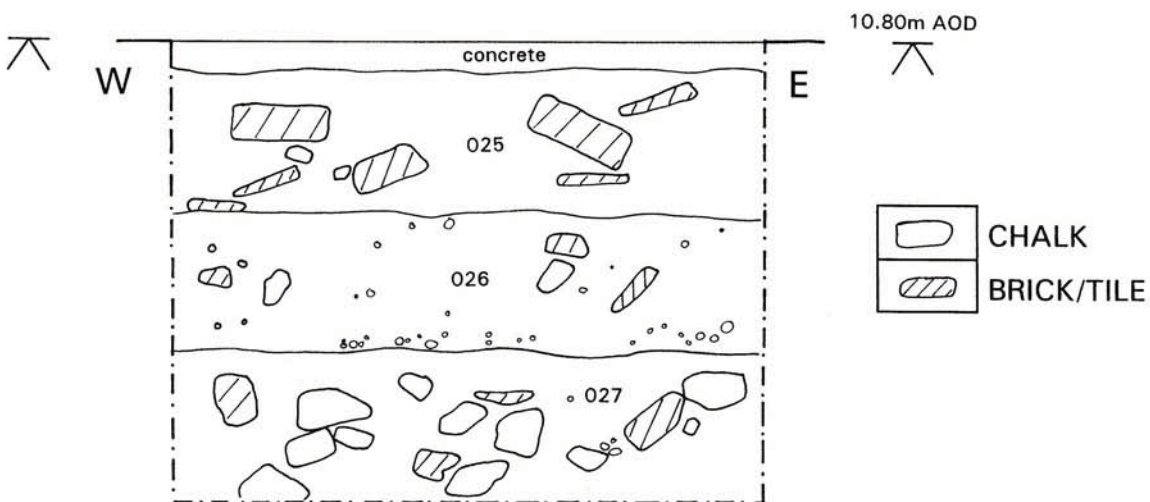


## Plan showing wall alignments



0 3m

## Section 1: North side of Test Pit 1



0 0.5m

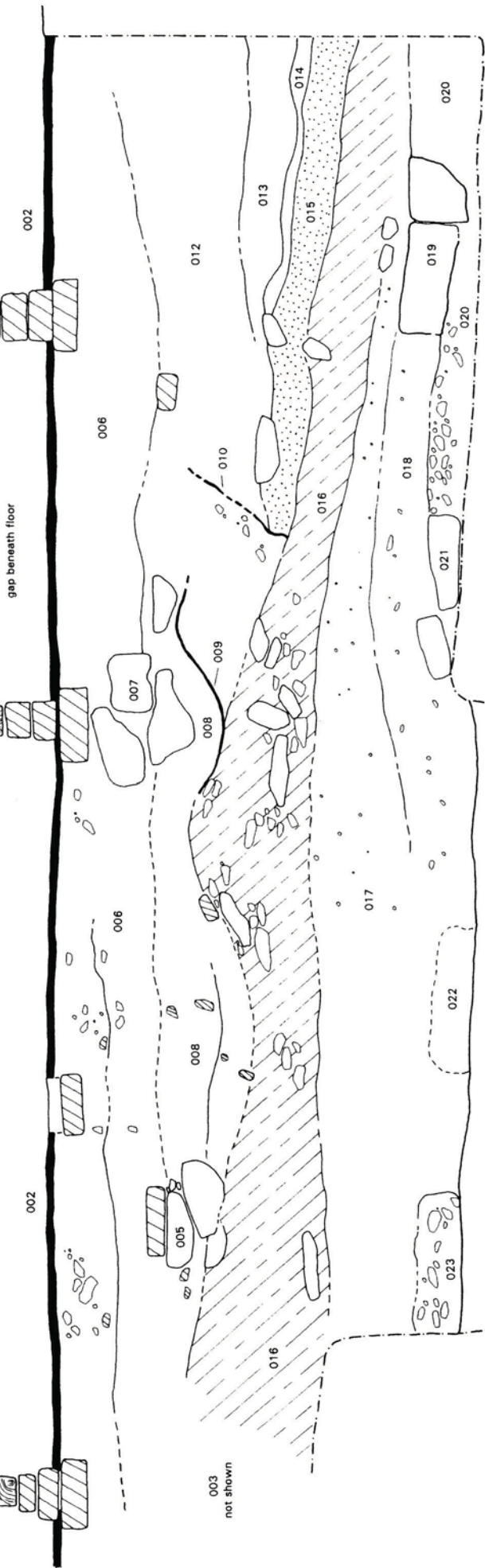
PROJECT		PICTURE PLAYHOUSE, BEVERLEY	
TITLE		TEST PITS PLANS AND SECTIONS	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	NOV 2007
EDAS		FIGURE	6

W

E

10.77m AOD

cinema floor

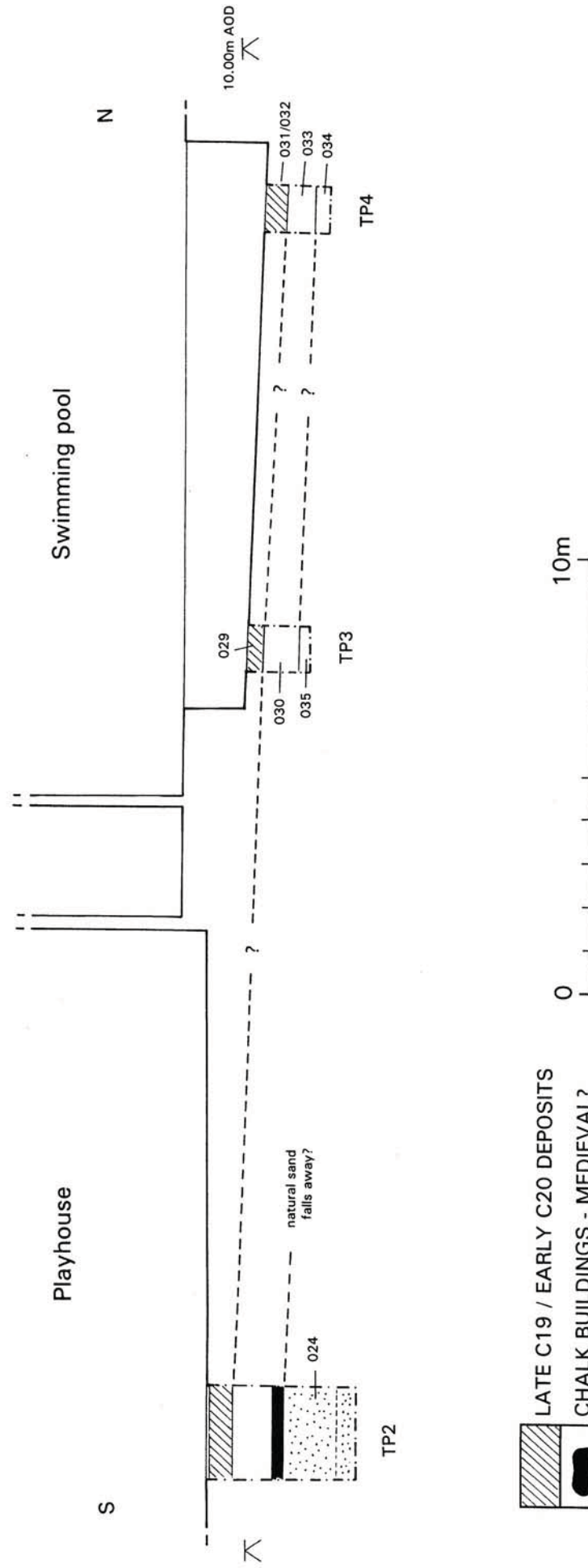


004 removed



Section 2: North side of Test Pit 2

PROJECT	PICTURE PLAYHOUSE, BEVERLEY		
TITLE	SECTION 2		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	NOV 2007
	EDAS	FIGURE	7




  
 LATE C19 / EARLY C20 DEPOSITS
   
 CHALK BUILDINGS - MEDIEVAL?
   
 NATURAL SAND

PROJECT	PICTURE PLAYHOUSE, BEVERLEY		
TITLE	SCHEMATIC SECTION THROUGH SITE		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	NOV 2007
	EDAS	FIGURE	8



Plate 1: Corn Exchange, c.1880, built 1753 (Source: Brown 1983, 26).

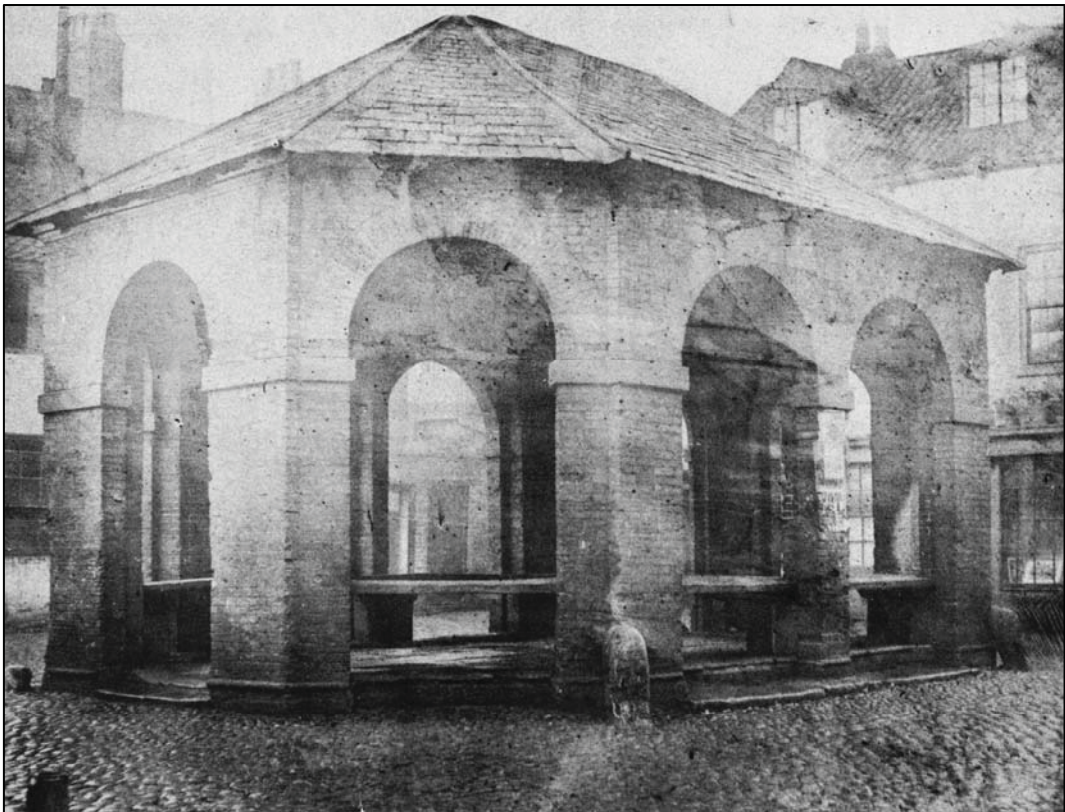


Plate 2: Fish Shambles, c.1880, built 1777 (Source: Brown 1983, 26).



Plate 3: View of Saturday Market, c.1860, showing 1753 Corn Exchange in place  
(Source: Brown 1983, 26).



Plate 4: The present Corn Exchange, built 1886.



Plate 5: View of Test Pit 1, looking east.



Plate 6: Test Pit 2 – stone base from plinth 003.



Plate 7: Test Pit 2, south facing section, looking north-east.



Plate 8: Test Pit 5 – brick wall (037) before removal, looking east.



Plate 9: Test Pit 6, looking west.



Plate 10: Test Pit 8, looking west.



## APPENDIX 1

## APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONTEXTS

001	Softwood tongue and groove board floor of auditorium.	TPs 2, 5, 6, 7 & 8
002	Asphalt / bitumen layer, 0.04m thick.	TPs 2, 5, 6, 7 & 8
003	West brick / chalk rubble plinth, 1.45m sq and c.1.0m deep.	TP2
004	East brick / chalk rubble plinth, 1.5m sq and 0.5m deep.	TP2
005	N-S brick and chalk wall footing, 0.35m wide.	TP2
006	Mid brown sandy silt with frequent inclusions of chalk rubble, animal bone, handmade brick and some 19th century pottery, 0.34m thick.	TP2
007	Possible chalk wall footing or support, 0.45m wide.	TP2
008	Compacted dark brown sandy silt, fill of 009.	TP2
009	Possible cut.	TP2
010	Possible cut.	TP2
011	Mid brown sandy silt with very frequent chalk flecks, fill of 010.	TP2
012	Mid brown sandy silt with frequent chalk inclusions, up to 0.58m thick.	TP2
013	Mixed mid brown sandy silt / gritty orange brown sand, 0.15m thick.	TP2
014	Creamy white lime mortar, 0.05m thick.	TP2
015	Clean rich brown sand, up to 0.15m thick.	TP2
016	Hard packed chalk rubble, varying thickness, up to 0.40m maximum – possible demolition material.	TP2
017	Compact orange brown sand with frequent chalk inclusions, 0.35m thick - partly re-deposited material.	TP2
018	Compact mid brown clayey silt, 0.22m thick – possible floor layer.	TP2
019	N-S chalk wall footings, 0.55m wide.	TP2
020	Mid to dark brown clayey silt with chalk inclusions, 0.12m – possible floor surface.	TP2
021	Possible N-S chalk wall footings.	TP2
022	Possible N-S chalk wall footings, 0.40m-0.45m wide.	TP2
023	Possible N-S chalk wall footings, 0.40m-0.45m wide.	TP2
024	Natural gritty orange / brown sand.	TP2
025	20th century concrete and hardcore bedding material, 0.34m thick.	TP1
026	Compacted brown grey sandy silt with handmade brick and pantile fragments, 0.30m thick.	TP1
027	Dark brown black sandy silt with handmade brick and chalk fragments, at least 0.27m thick.	TP1
028	Glazed brick base of swimming pool	TP3 / TP4
029	Concreted lime mortar and brick rubble, 0.25m thick - bedding for 028.	TP3
030	Mid brown gritty clayey silt with tile and handmade brick fragments, 0.82m thick.	TP3
031	Concreted lime mortar and brick rubble, 0.25m thick - bedding for 028.	TP4
032	Loose hardcore, 0.2m thick.	TP4
033	Compacted dark brown clayey silt, 0.63m thick.	TP4
034	Mixed mid grey sandy silt / gritty black sandy silt and charcoal	TP4
035	Loose / friable mid brown clayey silt with frequent inclusions of chalk	TP3
036	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent inclusions of brick rubble and chalk and some C19 pottery.	TP5
037	Brick wall footings, 0.21m wide.	TP5
038	Hard packed mortar / chalk rubble.	TP5
039	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent inclusions of brick rubble and chalk.	TP6
040	Concrete footing.	TP6
041	Hard packed angular chalk pieces.	TP6
042	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent inclusions of brick rubble and chalk.	TP7
043	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent inclusions of brick rubble and chalk.	TP8
044	Hard packed mortar / chalk rubble.	TP8
045	Mass of concrete, brick rubble etc, 0.3m thick.	TP8
046	Compact dark grey clayey silt with charcoal inclusions.	TP9

047	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent inclusions of brick rubble and chalk.	TP10
048	Brick / concrete floor surface.	TP10
049	Brick / chalk rubble hardcore, 0.24m thick.	TP11
050	Mid brown clayey silt with chalk and brick fragments.	TP11

## APPENDIX 2

## APPENDIX 2: LISTED BUILDING DESCRIPTION

Location : THE FORMER CORN EXCHANGE, SATURDAY MARKET (north side), BEVERLEY, EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE, EAST YORKSHIRE

IoE number : 167448

Date listed : 30 JUNE 1987

Date of last amendment : 30 JUNE 1987

Grade : II

TA0339

BEVERLEY

SATURDAY MARKET  
(east side)

9/327

GV

The former Corn Exchange

Dated 1886, brick and terracotta, part painted. Gabled central portion with scrolls above aisles. Iron weathervane. Centre portion gables with swags to coat of arms and date label. Welsh slate roof with glazed clerestory. A large blocked semicircular window with keystone above two round-headed entries with iron gates, flanked by channelled pilasters with grooved cornices with rosettes. The aisles have a blocked pedimented window each and outer rusticated pilasters with ball finials. Used as a cinema for a time. Built on site of Butchers Shambles (1753: Samuel Smith, with carving by Jeremiah Hargrave).

Source: Images of England website ([www.imagesofengland.org.uk](http://www.imagesofengland.org.uk))

## APPENDIX 3

## **APPENDIX 3: EDAS METHODS STATEMENT**

### **METHODS STATEMENT FOR A PROGRAMME OF ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION, INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING, FORMER PICTURE PLAYHOUSE AND SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX, SATURDAY MARKET, BEVERLEY, EAST YORKSHIRE**

#### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This methods statement details the work required to undertake a programme of archaeological observation, investigation and recording (a watching brief), to be carried out during limited groundworks associated with the development of proposals for the conversion of the former Picture Playhouse cinema complex, in Saturday Market, Beverley.
- 1.2 This methods statement has been produced by Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS), at the request of the developer, Mr D Fletcher and the project team. The archaeological recording will be undertaken by EDAS, and the results will be used to prepare a mitigation strategy that will address the archaeological implications of the conversion of the building to retail use.
- 1.3 The contents of this statement have been discussed and agreed with the Humber Archaeology Partnership, and it forms an initial phase of the "programme of archaeological work" stipulated in conditions 7 of the approved planning permission (application DC/05/02282/PLF/EASTSE) and Listed Building Consent (application DC/05/02284/PLB/EASTSE) (see below).

#### **2 SITE LOCATION**

- 2.1 The former cinema and swimming pool complex lies on the east side of Saturday Market in Beverley, and fronts onto the north side of the large market square (NGR TA03273966). It is bounded to the south by the market square, to the west by The Push public house and various shops, and to the east by Ladygate. The former cinema is a Grade II Listed Building of Special Architectural or Historic Interest.

#### **3 PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Full planning permission and Listed Building Consent for the conversion of the complex was granted by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council in 16th June 2005, with two conditions which are relevant to the archaeological investigations (applications DC/05/02282/PLF/EASTSE and DC/05/02284/PLB/EASTSE).
- 3.2 In both cases, the condition (number 7 in both cases) states that: "No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant, and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall provide for:
  - (i) the proper identification and evaluation of the extent, character and significance of archaeological remains within the application area;
  - (ii) an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological remains;
  - (iii) proposals for the preservation in situ, or for the investigation, recording and recovery of archaeological remains and the publishing of the findings, it being understood that there shall be a presumption in favour of their preservation in situ wherever feasible;
  - (iv) sufficient notification and allowance of time to archaeological contractors nominated by the developer to ensure that archaeological fieldwork as proposed in pursuance of (i) and (ii) above is completed prior to the commencement of permitted development in the area of archaeological interest; and
  - (v) notification in writing to the Curatorial Officer of the Humber Archaeology Partnership of the commencement of archaeological works and the opportunity to monitor such works."

## **4 PROPOSED WORKS**

- 4.1 It is proposed to hand-excavate two small test pits, each c.1m square and c.1m deep, within and through the floor of the former swimming pool to the north of the former cinema building. These test pits have already been started, but were halted due to the high water table.
- 4.2 In addition to these works, a total of seven other small pits (each up to a maximum of c.1m square but probably smaller, e.g. c.0.5m wide by 1m long) will be hand-dug at various locations to test the depth and condition of the foundations of the existing building; it is envisaged that these pits will only be up to 1m deep. Four of these pits will be dug inside the former cinema, two in the north-west and north-east corners and two along the side walls in the northern half of the building. Another pit will be dug through the base of the presumed generator pit off the north-west side of the former cinema, another will be dug through the base of the presumed boiler/filtration pit on the west side of the former swimming pool, and the third will be dug through the east side of the swimming pool lining.
- 4.3 Subsequent discussions with the Curatorial Officer of the Humber Archaeology Partnership established that a methods statement would be required to be agreed and submitted, in compliance with the above planning conditions, prior to the completion of these ground works.

## **5 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY**

- 5.1 The aim of the archaeological recording work is to record and recover information relating to the nature, date, depth, and significance of any archaeological features and deposits which might be present under the former swimming pool structure.
- 5.2 The continuation and completion of the two test pits, which will be dug by hand, will be undertaken under strict and direct archaeological supervision, to ensure the proper identification and recording of any archaeological and architectural material that might be uncovered. It is envisaged that the excavation of the test pits, and the associated archaeological recording, will be completed within a single day.
- 5.3 Reasonable prior notice (minimum one week) of the commencement of development will be given EDAS, who will then inform the Humber Archaeological Partnership, so that they may attend or monitor if they so wish.
- 5.4 EDAS will view the test pits as they are being excavated. Where structures, features or finds of archaeological interest are exposed or disturbed, EDAS will be allowed time to clean, assess, and quickly hand excavate, sample and record the archaeological remains as necessary and appropriate. If it becomes clear during the monitoring work that little of archaeological / architectural interest is likely to survive, the recording work may be halted.
- 5.5 The actual areas of ground disturbance, and any features of archaeological / architectural interest identified within the test pits, will be accurately located on a site plan and recorded by photographs (35mm black and white prints and colour slides), scale drawings (plans and sections at 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as appropriate), and written descriptions as judged adequate by the archaeologist on site, using appropriate proforma record sheets and standard archaeological recording systems.

## **6 UNEXPECTED SIGNIFICANT OR COMPLEX DISCOVERIES**

- 6.1 If, in the professional judgement of the archaeologist on site, unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries are made that warrant more recording than is covered by this methods statement, immediate contact will be made with the developer and the Humber Archaeology Partnership. This will allow appropriate amendments to be made to the scope of the recording work, in agreement with all parties concerned. The possibility of temporarily halting work for unexpected discoveries has already been discussed with the developer.



- 6.2 Although it is considered unlikely, it is possible that human remains may be uncovered by the test pits. In this case, any human remains will be adequately recorded and left *in situ*, and not be unnecessarily disturbed.
- 6.3 The terms of the Treasure Act (1996) will be followed with regard to any finds which might fall within its purview. Any such finds will be removed to a safe place, and reported to the local coroner as required by the procedures laid down in the Code of Practice. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft. A finds recovery and conservation strategy will also be discussed and agreed with the developer in advance of the project commencing.

## **7 REPORTING AND ARCHIVING**

- 7.1 On completion of the fieldwork, any samples taken will be processed and any finds cleaned, identified, assessed, spot dated, marked (if appropriate) and properly packaged and stored in accordance with the requirements of national guidelines. The level of post-excavation analysis would be appropriate to the quality and quantity of the finds recovered, and specialists would be consulted as necessary.
- 7.2 A fully indexed field archive would be prepared, following the guidance produced by English Heritage. The archive will comprise primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs, and an index to the archive would also be prepared. Subject to the agreement of the landowner, the site archive will be deposited with any finds in the appropriate registered museum (East Riding of Museum Service).
- 7.3 The results of the observation made during the excavation of these test pits will be combined with other work already undertaken on site, and a report will be produced by EDAS within six weeks of the completion of all fieldwork. The final report will include the following (as appropriate):
- A non-technical summary;
  - Site code/project number;
  - Planning reference number and SMR casework number;
  - Dates for fieldwork visits;
  - Grid reference;
  - A location plan, with scale;
  - A plan of the developer's plan showing the areas monitored;
  - Sections and plan drawings with ground level, Ordnance Datum and vertical and horizontal scales;
  - General site photographs, as well as photographs of any significant archaeological deposits or artefacts that are encountered;
  - A written description and analysis of the methods and results of the watching brief, in the context of the known archaeology of the area;
  - Specialist artefact and environmental reports, as necessary.
- 7.4 Three copies of the final report will be supplied, for distribution to the developer, the Local Planning Authority and the Humber Archaeology Partnership SMR. A copy of the final report will also be included within the site archive. The Humber Archaeology Partnership SMR will also receive an electronic version of the report in line with their current guidance, namely as a pdf file.
- 7.5 It is envisaged that the above report will be combined with an archaeological mitigation strategy, which will outline the main phase of archaeological investigations that will be undertaken prior to the re-development of the site, in compliance with the above planning conditions.

## **8 MONITORING**

- 8.1 The archaeological recording work may be monitored by the Humber Archaeology Partnership, and appropriate site meetings and liaison will be arranged as necessary.

## **9 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- 9.1 All archaeological work on site will be carried out with due regard for all Health and Safety considerations, and Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological matters.
- 9.2 EDAS would comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974 while undertaking the work. A full copy of their Health and Safety Policy is available on request. The site is privately owned and EDAS would indemnify the landowner in respect of their legal liability for physical injury to persons or damage to property arising on site in connection with the recording brief, to the extent of EDAS's Public Liability Insurance Cover (£5,000,000).

Ed Dennison, EDAS  
27th September 2007