

# **The Lodge, Conisbrough Castle, Conisbrough, South Yorkshire: An Archaeological Evaluation**



**On behalf of English Heritage**

CS Archaeology  
September 2011

**On behalf of:** English Heritage  
37 Tanner Row  
York  
YO1 6WP

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**Fieldwork and report by:** Chris Scurfield BA AlFA,

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**Enquiries to:** [CS Archaeology](#)  
Manor Farm House  
Manor Occupation Road  
Royston  
Barnsley  
South Yorkshire  
S71 4SG

M: 07963 586767  
E: [chrisscurfield@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisscurfield@yahoo.com)

*Frontispiece: view of the Lodge from the southeast*

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## 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken to support a forthcoming planning application to provide a new extension to the Lodge, Conisbrough Castle, Conisbrough, South Yorkshire.
- 1.2 The evaluation consisted of three test pits which were positioned to sample undisturbed ground within the footprint of the proposed extension.
- 1.3 All three evaluation pits consisted of 19<sup>th</sup> century and modern deposits which overlay later medieval deposits. In Evaluation pit 1, a later medieval wall was revealed.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Conisbrough Castle is situated on the northern side of the town of Conisbrough, South Yorkshire, approx. 8km to the south-west of Doncaster (**Figures 1-2**). The castle is strategically positioned on a natural rise overlooking the river Don to the north.
- 2.2 Conisbrough Castle is a scheduled monument held in the Guardianship of the state. The site is owned by Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council and managed on their behalf by English Heritage.
- 2.3 The Victorian Lodge building lies immediately to the southwest of Conisbrough Castle (**Figure 3**).

## 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The information below was provided by Mr Mark Douglas (English Heritage) in his recent report '*Conisbrough Castle, Conisbrough, South Yorkshire: Brief for Archaeological Recording*' (2011) which has provided the basis for this report.
- 3.2 The monument consists of the site of an 11<sup>th</sup> century motte and bailey castle on the site of which a later masonry castle was erected in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century. The initial castle was earth and timber construction built by William de Warren, son-in-law of William I. This passed through various hands until it came into the possession of Hamelin Plantagenet, the half-brother of Henry II. It was Hamelin who was responsible for the majority of the stone structures present on the site today; including the great keep. The surviving masonry elements of the castle are actually the remains of a much larger work and represent only the inner ward; a further outer ward probably existed towards the west. The inner ward is surrounded by a curtain wall with solid towers, with earlier stonework being defined by roughly dressed stone blocks. There are the remains of the gatehouse situated on the south-west side of the ward which appears to have consisted of a pair of towers flanking a gate passage the entrance to which was protected by a ditch and drawbridge. The entrance to the gate was further protected by a barbican; a pair of parallel wall with a further ditch and drawbridge. Conisbrough castle is a significant example of a 12<sup>th</sup> century castle, particularly as the site contains a keep of unusual and innovative design in an excellent state of preservation. This form of keep is a rare survival in England, with only four other comparable examples, Odiham, Orford, Chilham and Tickhill. The castle remains other than the keep are significant in that they demonstrate the development of castle architecture at a critical period. The use of solid towers in the curtain wall for example, is a particular innovation of the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Similarly the 14<sup>th</sup> century barbican is a further example of the adoption of new means of providing defence. The hall and service buildings located within the inner ward are of some significance in that they show the development of the domestic nature of castle design and use from the 12<sup>th</sup> century to the end of the medieval period.
- 1.3.2 The lodge building is a later 19<sup>th</sup> century stone built structure originally used as a custodian's house for the public park which was established around the castle. The main part of the building, although not formally listed, is of some architectural merit. Whilst a later 1950's single storey extension to the rear is less significant.

1.3.3 Conisbrough has been the subject of a small number of archaeological investigations and historical publications;

Field Archaeology Services (Jonathan Clark and Nicola Toop), *Conisbrough Castle, South Yorkshire: Conservation and Development Strategy*, commissioned by English Heritage, 2009.

Johnson, J. S. 1980. Excavations at Conisbrough castle 1973-77 (in) *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal* 52: 59-88

Johnson, J. S. 1989. *Conisbrough Castle Guidebook*, (second edition).

Northern Archaeological Associates Ltd., 2009. *Conisbrough Castle, South Yorkshire – Analytical Earthwork Survey Report*, commissioned by English Heritage.

WYAS. 1997. Report on excavation on land behind lodge building, Conisbrough Castle.

## 4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 There is the potential for archaeological deposits in the area affected by the proposals. The objectives of this programme of evaluation are as follows:
- to identify any archaeological features or deposits in the given area, including environmental aspects;
  - to determine the nature, depth, stratigraphic complexity, level of preservation and date of any archaeological features or deposits in the given area;
  - provide an assessment of the potential and significance of any identified archaeological features or deposits exposed, including environmental aspects;
  - to provide an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological features or deposits exposed in the given area;
  - to assess the likely scope and duration of any further works that may be necessary to mitigate the effects of the proposed development scheme.

## 5. METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 This has been carried out in accordance with the Project Design issued by CS Archaeology in August 2011 (Appendix 1). Trench locations were adjusted to reflect the position of the PDA overlying the southern extensions of the Lodge.
- 5.2 Plans and sections of the trenches are recorded in **Figures 4-7**. Written records of the contexts were made on *pro-forma* recording cards and have been summarised in Appendix 2. A photographic record was made of all deposits in Black and White silver based film using a 35mm single lens reflex camera. Colour digital images were taken in order to illustrate the report and to provide a record of all artefacts for each context. All the photographs have been included in the site archive (Appendix 2).
- 5.3 Three evaluation pits (1.5m<sup>2</sup>) were excavated by hand, two through the footpath surrounding the Lodge and the third (1.5 x 1.38m) between the hard standing of the drive in front of the garage.
- 5.4 Pottery from archaeologically significant layers in all three evaluation pits as assessed by a pottery specialist, Dr C G Cumberpatch (Appendix 3). The results of the assessment have been integrated into the report
- 5.5 No environmental sampling is recommended.
- 5.6 The archive will be subject to a discard policy retaining all pre 19<sup>th</sup> century artefacts from each evaluation pit.
- 5.7 Mr M Douglas of English Heritage was kept informed of progress and the interim results.

## 6. RESULTS

6.1 For full context descriptions and a break down of artefacts see (Appendix 2).

### 6.2 Evaluation Pit 1 (1.5m<sup>2</sup>)

6.2.1 Evaluation pit 2 was excavated to establish the nature and extent of the archaeological resource at the north-western end of the PDA (Figure 3). After the overburden was removed (Plate 1) a linear feature was revealed marked by a course of faced limestone (Figure 4, Dwg. 1: Plate 2).

6.2.2 Two post holes were also noted, which were aligned NNW-SSE parallel with the NE elevation of the Lodge. After excavation and examination of the SE facing section (Figure 5: Dwg Nos. 1 & 4), both features were found to have been cut from the upper deposits and therefore date to very late in the modern period.

6.2.3 Layers [109 & 107] were removed to expose the wall (linear feature [108]). Context 109 produced later medieval pottery (Appendix 3) with an array of animal bones with a high percentage of butchered cattle and sheep and a single piece of iron slag, suggesting a build up of rubbish (domestic waste) deposits. The presence of slag and coal may evidence iron working in the vicinity or residual artefacts. The pottery was relatively un-abraded and lay just 0.3m beneath the present ground level indicating that the context was not subject to post-depositional wear.

6.2.4 The wall [108] (Plates 3 & 4) was fully exposed and its structure consisted of a foundation course of rounded boulders with up to 3 courses of tabular faced limestone. It appeared to be of a dry stone construction, but subsequent dismantling of a section through the structure (Figure 5, Dwg. No. 5: Plate 5) revealed residual lenses of silty sand packed between the stones. This sand appears to have been eroded out of the wall [108] and re-deposited as context [112], southeast of the wall.

6.2.5 As noted above a section was excavated through the wall [108] with the aim of resolving its nature, extent and date. A section was excavated along the southwest section of the evaluation pit (Figure 5, Dwg. No. 5: Plate 6). This revealed that the wall [108] was built directly upon on a foundation deposit [113] within a linear cut [116]. The foundation deposit [113] contained a high proportion of stone together with later medieval pottery which 'may be slightly earlier' (Cumberpatch, Appendix 3) than the later deposits [109 & 112: Appendix 3). The cut [116] formed a shallow foundation trench cutting the red clay natural [117], and was offset 0.4m to the wall [108]. There was a corresponding and parallel cut south of the wall [108]. The function of this wall [108] is hinted at by the direction of its face and the presence of a rudimentary metallised surface [119]. This surface appears to have levelled a former ground surface and evidences a possible courtyard or hardstanding, northwest of the wall [108] (Figure 5, Dwg. No. 4).

6.2.6 Evidence for iron working was attested by the discovery of slag in contexts [109] & [113]. The slag from [113] was quite large (75 x 60mm) and displayed some runs and bubbling and was associated with coal (unburnt) suggesting the vicinity of metalworking.

6.2.7 Pit 1, significant archaeology was revealed 0.2m (45.65m AOD) below the present ground surface.



- 6.2.7 *Conclusion*, evaluation pit 1, has confirmed the presence of significant later medieval deposits and a wall.

### **6.3 Evaluation Pit 2 (1.5m x 1.38m)**

- 6.3.1 *Evaluation Pit 2* (1.5m) was situated at the corner of the present lodge building. The excavation of the upper contexts [202 & 203] revealed a diverse range of artefacts including oyster shells, transfer decorated pottery and a coin dated 1916. Context [203] consisted of re-deposited red clay. Once [202 and 203] were removed a large sewer pipe [112] was revealed lying within its clay filled trench [206]. The pipe was left in situ and the corner of the pit excavated. Context [204] was associated with the excavation of the pipe [112] and was characterised by deep lenses of re-deposited clay. Once this layer [204] was removed, less disturbed contexts were encountered ([Plates 7 & 8](#)). Context [207] a brown silty clay did not produce any finds but below and overlying the clay 'natural' [209] later medieval pottery was recovered from [208] ([Appendix 3](#)).
- 6.3.2 Examination of the underlying 'natural' [209] was carried out down to 1.16m below the surface, and a small fragment of animal bone was recovered, suggesting that [209] was redeposited.
- 6.3.3 Pit 2, significant archaeology was revealed 0.62m (45.03m AOD) below the present ground surface.
- 6.3.4 *Conclusion*: evaluation pit 2 has confirmed the presence of later medieval deposits which are relatively undisturbed and appear to underlie later 19<sup>th</sup> century building activity.

### **6.4 Evaluation Pit 3 (1.5m<sup>2</sup>)**

- 6.4.1 Evaluation pit 3 was situated 3.1m from pit 2, and similar upper deposits were recorded [300-304] and dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A modern concrete foundation [303] was recorded ([Plate 9](#)). This was on a northwest to southeast alignment, and probably marked the location of a dwarf wall part of the modern garden design. Context [304] featured some residual medieval pottery.
- 6.4.2 Below [304] a sharp break of slope was revealed [310], aligned northwest – southeast. This feature [310] contained two deposits: the lower was [305], and contained a high proportion of limestone together with a range of butchered animal bone and pottery ([Plate 10](#)). Overlying [305] was re-deposited clay with modern C20<sup>th</sup> pottery. This largely stone filled feature resembled a drainage ditch, however only the western bank was revealed; alternatively it may have been a cut into the natural hillside for an unknown purpose.
- 6.4.3 Below feature [310] ([Figure 7](#), Dwgs. No. 10 & 11: [Plate 11](#)) was a mid brown silty clay [307] overlying a grey loamy silt [308]. Context [307] produced local coal measures pottery from the later medieval period. This revealed the slope of the natural [309].
- 6.4.4 Pit 3: significant archaeology was revealed 0.56m (45.52m AOD) below the present ground surface.

- 6.4.5 *Conclusion:* this pit has recovered later medieval contexts and a linear feature which is probably a stone filled drainage channel or a possible foundation deposit since it is similar to the base deposit [113] in evaluation pit 1. Further work is required to realise the exact nature and extent.

## **6.5 Pottery Assessment**

- 6.5.1 The upper contexts have been dated, by the author, to the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The contexts (deposits) were characterised by transfer decorated pottery, and coins. No further assessment of these contexts was undertaken. Beneath these 19<sup>th</sup> century contexts in all three evaluation pits specialist assessment of the pottery was undertaken, which is fully noted in Appendix 3.
- 6.5.2 The assemblages were found to date to the later medieval period (15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries) and were *'comparable in date and the range of wares to the larger assemblages from excavations carried out inside the castle'* and showed *'little post-depositional disturbance'* (Cumberpatch 2010).
- 6.5.3 The assessment has been able to confirm the presence of later medieval contexts in all three evaluation pits and specifically to confirm the wall [108] in pit 1 was of this same period.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 All the evaluation pits share similar stratigraphic relationships: modern overburden above 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century contexts associated with the construction and extension of the Lodge building during the later 19<sup>th</sup> century (post 1854). Below these contexts were more significant later medieval deposits. There is a notable absence of early post medieval deposits suggesting that extensive removal of these deposits took place, probably during the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century during site reduction in advance of the Lodge building.
- 7.2 The later medieval deposits are characterised by discarded waste material including quantities of butchered animal bone (cattle and sheep), coal and occasional iron slag. The iron slag was located in pit 1<sup>1</sup> to the northwest of the PDA and may evidence iron working in the vicinity. These contexts can all be dated to the later medieval period via the presence of coal measures ware (Appendix 3).
- 7.3 Environmental potential of the evaluation was affected by the limited organic survival and by the very thin potential deposits e.g. context [308], pit 3, which were not sufficient to obtain a bulk sample. There is however a potential for future sampling as features may be more fully revealed.
- 7.4 The northern end of the PDA contained structural remains of a coursed wall, which represents a significant survival from the castle's outer bailey, and further work is required to establish its extent and precise function.
- 7.5 There is a high potential for further archaeology within the proposed development area (Figure 3).

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<sup>1</sup> Iron slag also recovered from pit 2 but was probably residual and associated with 20<sup>th</sup> century artefacts

## 8. MITIGATION

- 8.1 Further archaeological work is recommended.
- 8.2 Significant archaeology in pit 1, the wall [108], was located just 0.3m below the surface. Therefore during any site reduction works an archaeological watching brief is recommended.
- 8.3 Following the site reduction archaeological mitigation would then depend on the foundation design of the proposed lodge extension.
- 8.4 If a strip foundation is to be employed a trench excavation is recommended.
- 8.5 If a raft foundation is to be employed it would represent a lower potential for encountering significant archaeological deposits and therefore a watching brief during this additional site reduction is recommended.

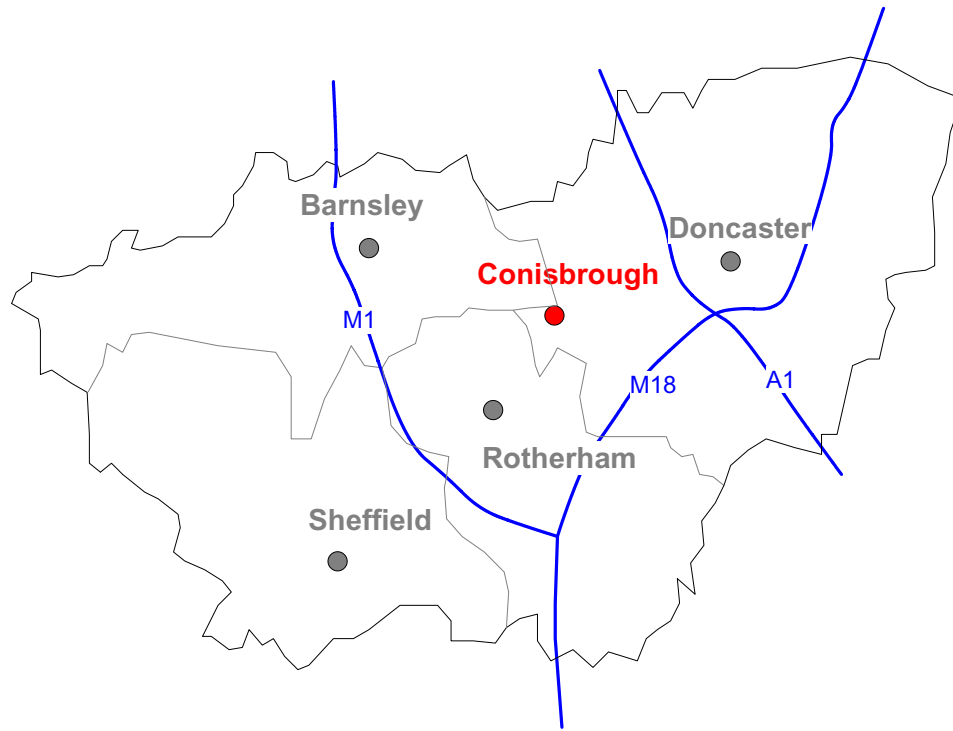
9. BIBLIOGRAPHY (see appendix 3)

Ordnance Survey 6" Map of 1854

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks go to English Heritage for commissioning this work and for providing access to the site and to Dr Cumberpatch for his typological dating of the evaluation.

# FIGURES



for inset see Figure 2

The Lodge, Conisbrough Castle,  
Conisbrough, South Yorkshire:  
An Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 1: Location Map

scale: 1:25000

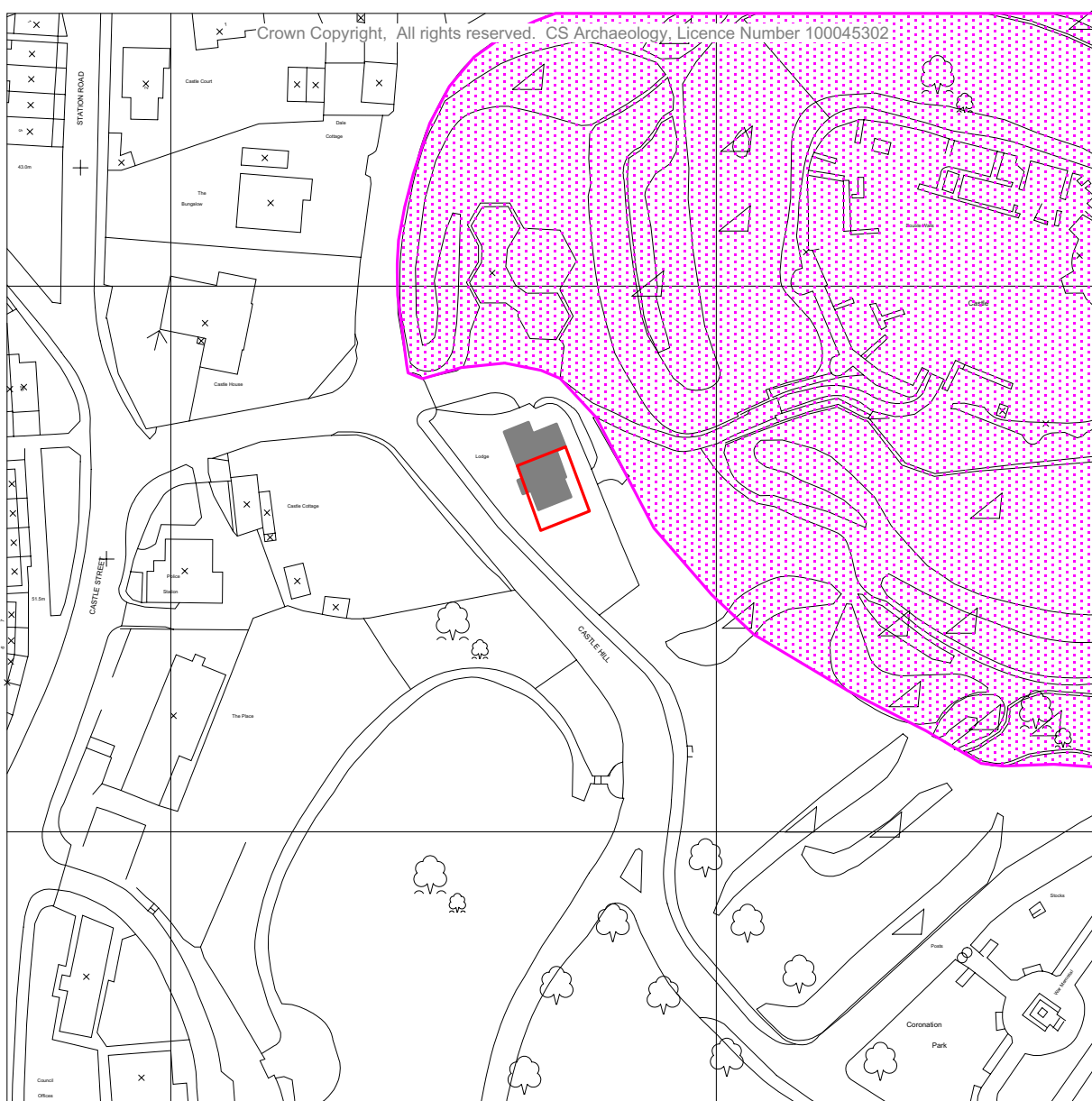
CS Archaeology  
September 2011

4 513 70m




513

514

4 514 70m



Key

-  scheduled monument area
-  the PDA (0.008 Ha)
-  the lodge



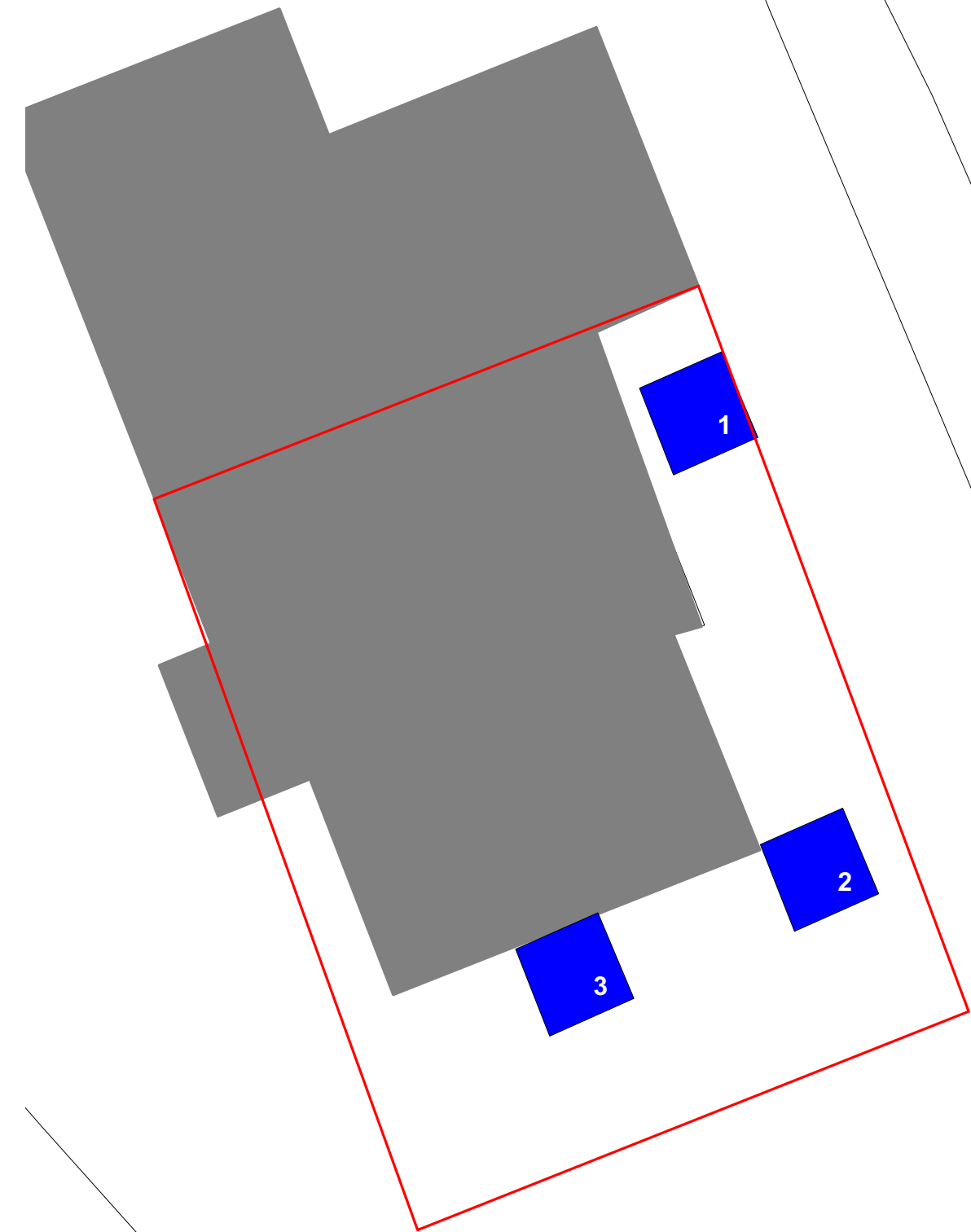
The Lodge, Conisbrough Castle,  
Conisbrough, South Yorkshire:  
An Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 2: Location Map of the Lodge  
With The Proposed Development Area





scale: 1:1250

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Key

-  scheduled monument area
-  the PDA (approximate area)
-  existing buildings
-  evaluation pits 1-3 (1.5m sq.)



The Lodge, Conisbrough Castle,  
Conisbrough, South Yorkshire:  
An Archaeological Evaluation

Figure 3: Location Map of the  
Evaluation Pits

scale: 1:100

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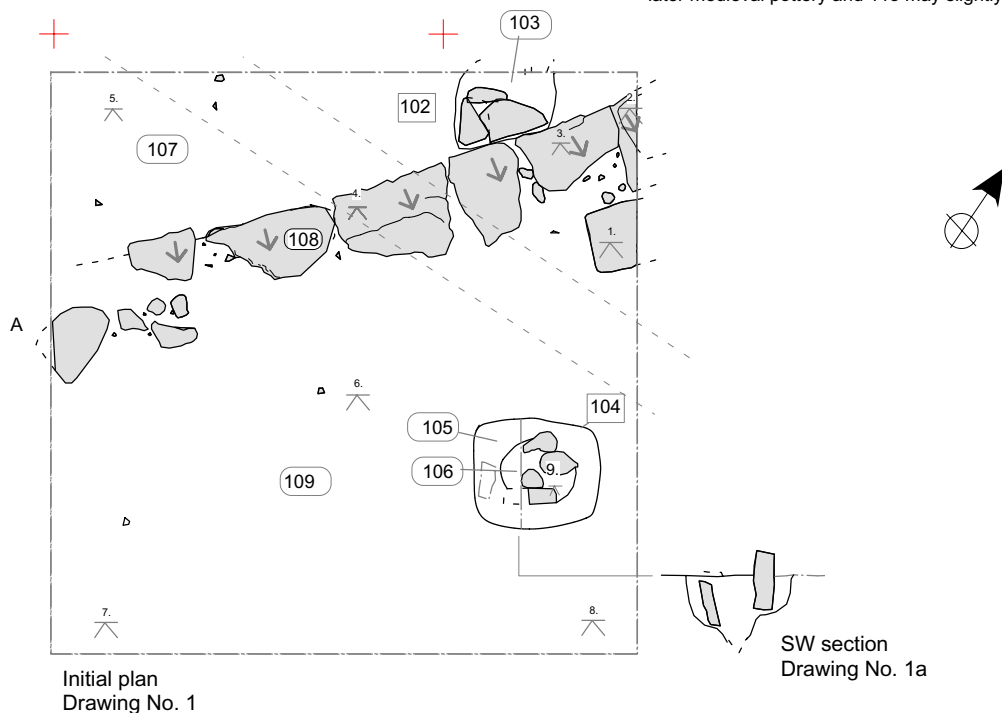
LEVELS AOD (metres)

1. 45.92
2. 46.05
3. 45.99
4. 45.93
5. 45.92
6. 48.85
7. 45.83
8. 45.83
9. 45.81
10. 45.4
11. 45.3
12. 45.54
13. 45.56

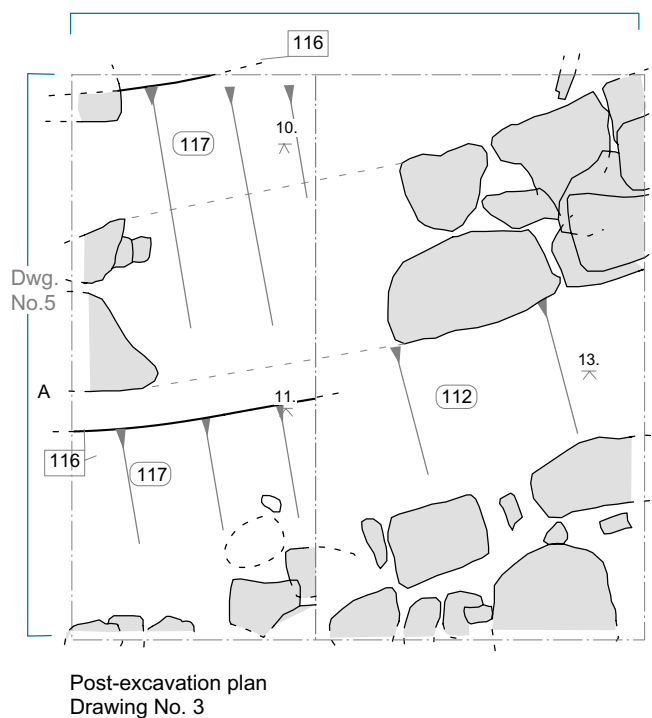
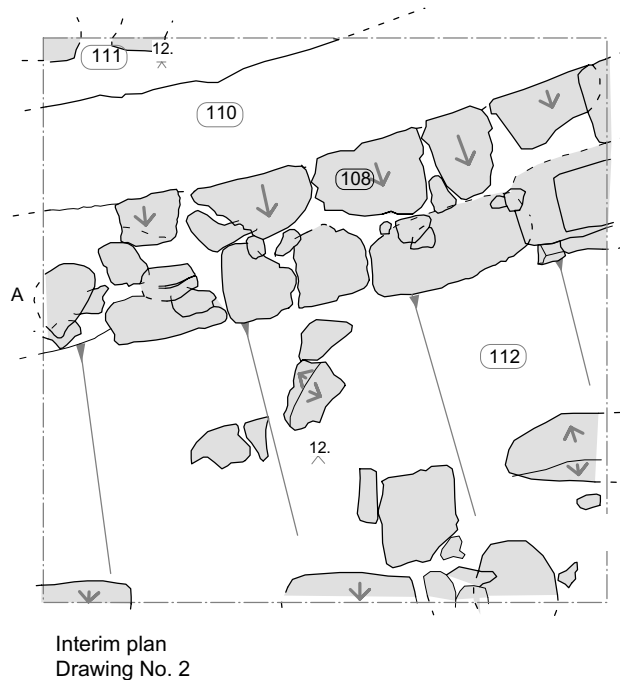
key

- context boundary
- - - projected boundary
- ... limit of excavation
- stone
- A exposed C20th foundation

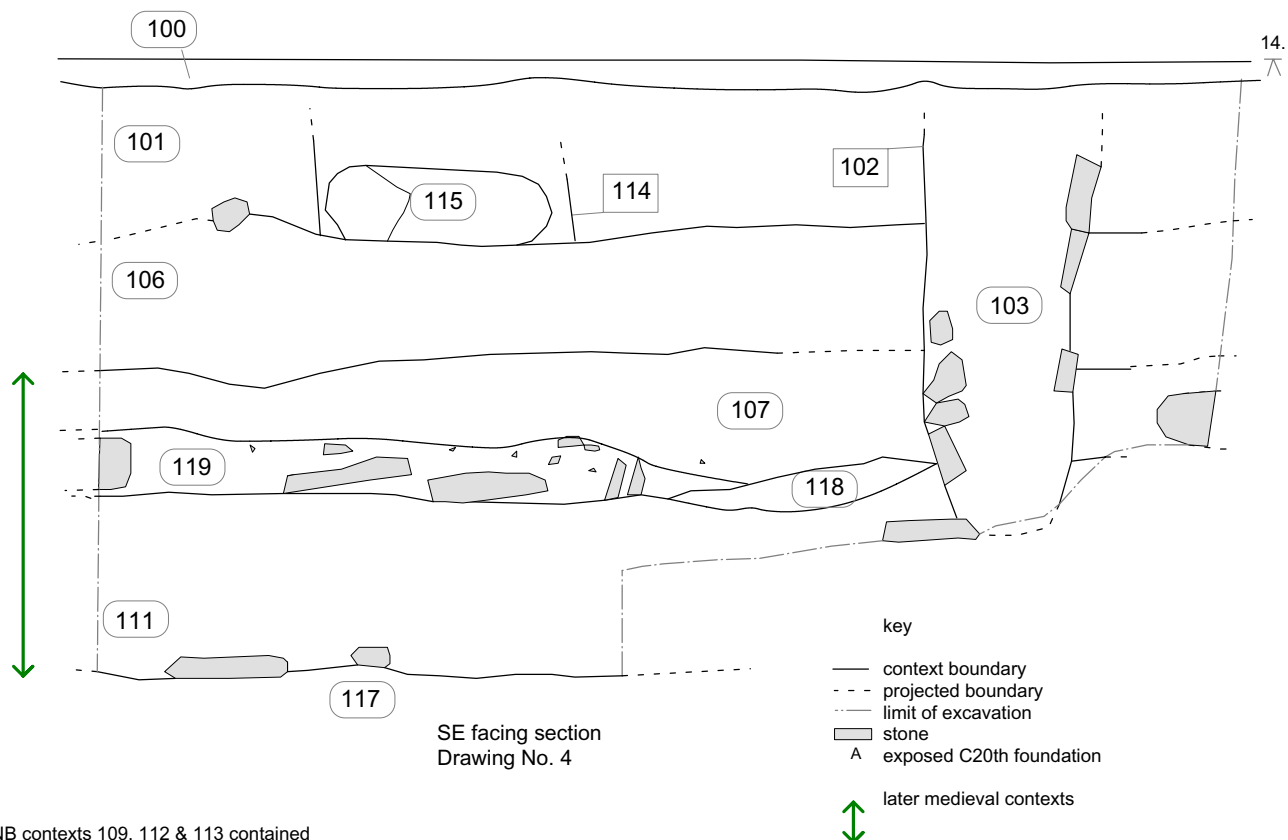
NB contexts 109, 112 & 113 contained later medieval pottery and 113 may slightly earlier



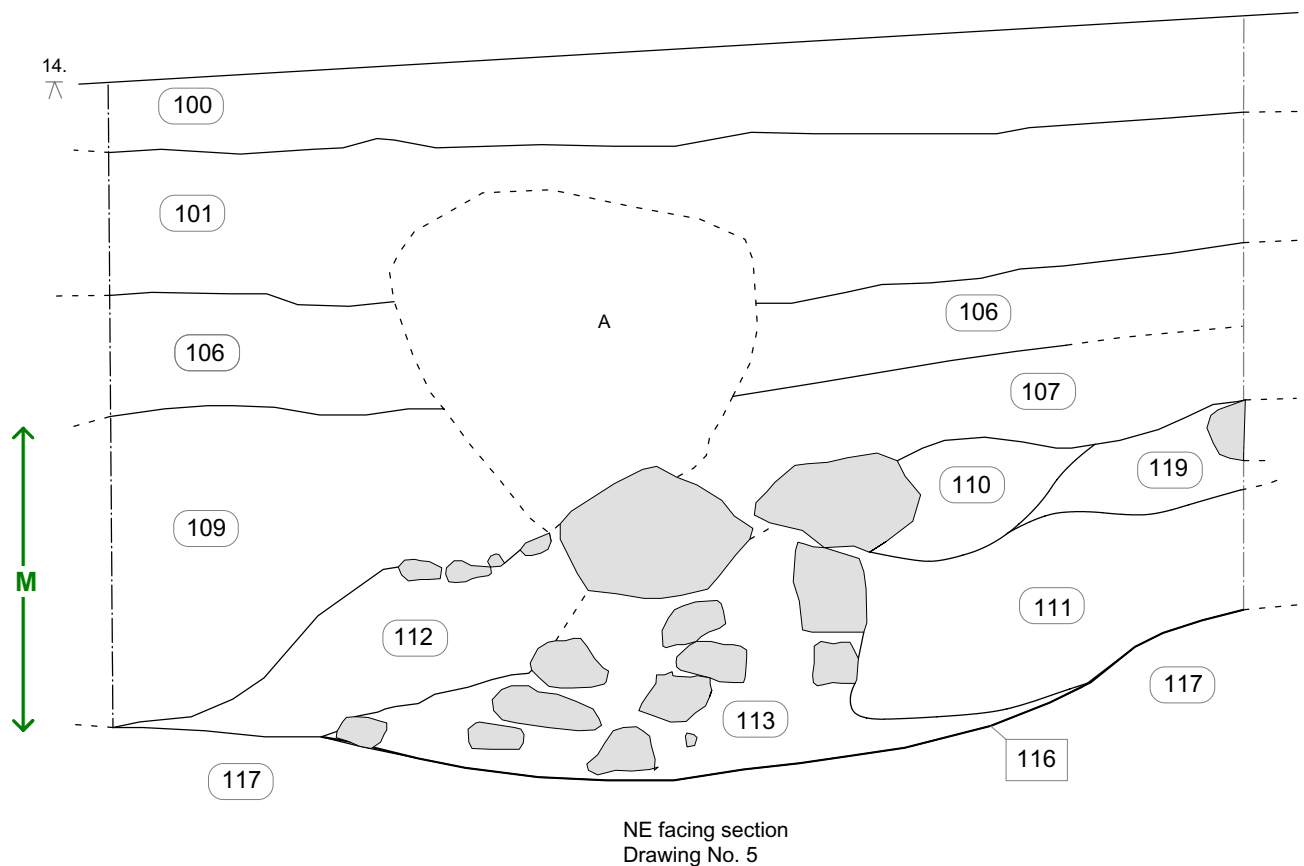
Dwg.No. 4



LEVELS AOD (metres)  
14.45.85

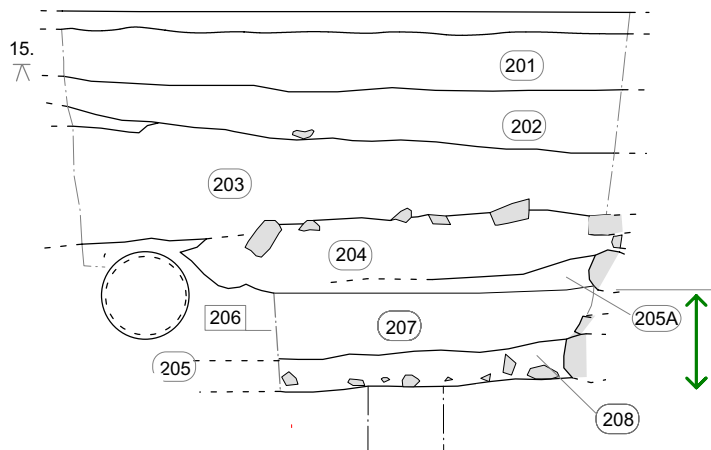
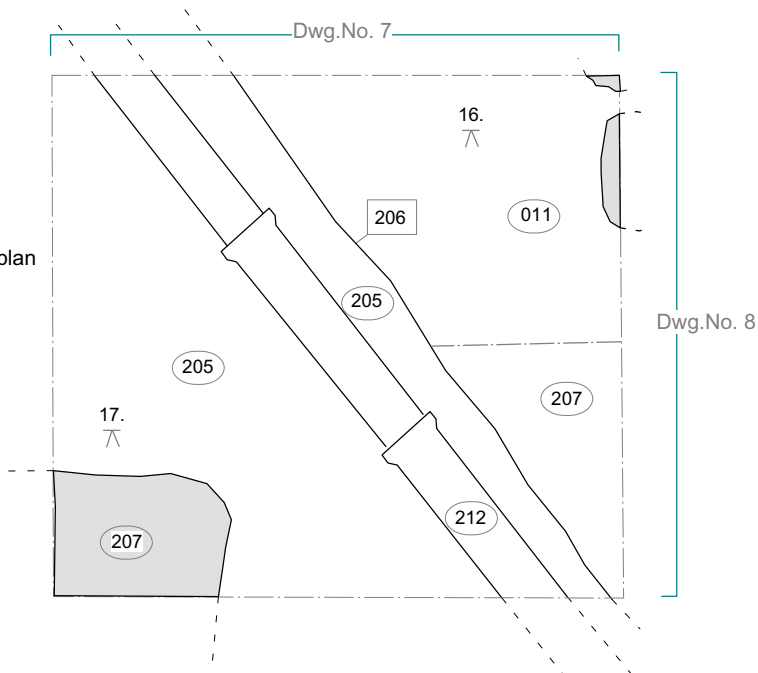


NB contexts 109, 112 & 113 contained later medieval pottery and 113 may be slightly earlier in date

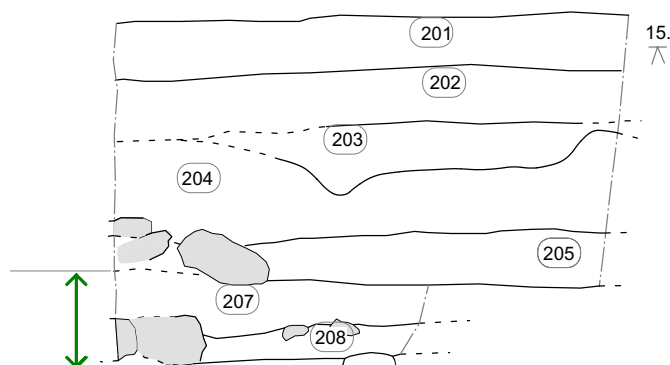


LEVELS AOD (metres)  
 15. 45.7  
 16. 44.85  
 17. 44.24

Post-excavation plan  
 Drawing No. 6



SE facing section  
 Drawing No. 7



NE facing section  
 Drawing No. 8

key  
 — context boundary  
 - - - projected boundary  
 . . . limit of excavation  
 ■ stone  
 A  
 ↑ later medieval contexts

The Lodge, Conisbrough Castle,  
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Figure 6: Plan and Sections  
 of Test Pit 2

scale: 1:20

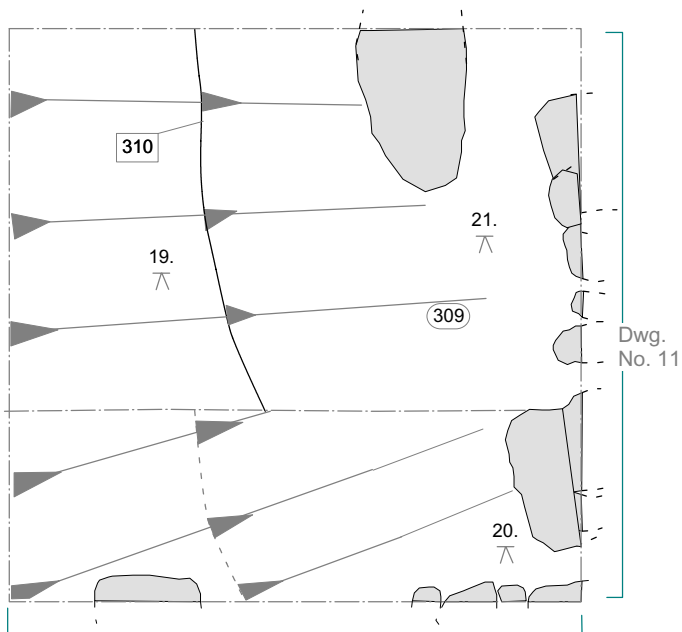
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 September 2011

LEVELS AOD (metres)  
 18. 45.85  
 19. 45.52  
 20. 44.70  
 21. 44.98

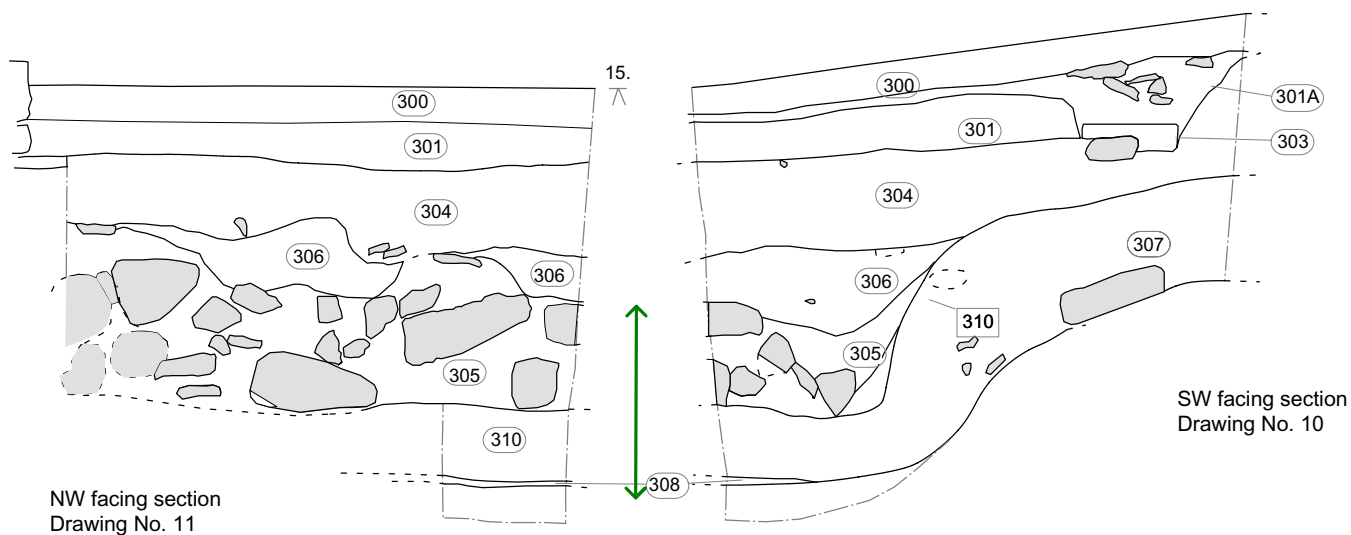


Post-excavation plan  
 Drawing No. 9

- key
- context boundary
  - - - projected boundary
  - ... limit of excavation
  - stone
- ↕ Later Medieval contexts



Dwg.No. 10



# PLATES



**Plate 1:** evaluation pit 1, pre-excitation view (after removal of overburden), from the southeast (2m scale)



**Plate 2, 14:** evaluation pit 1, excavation view of the exposed wall [108], from the southeast (2m and 0.2m scales)





**Plate 3, 21:** evaluation pit 1, with wall [108] exposed, from the southeast(x2 1m scales)



**Plate 4, 22:** evaluation pit 1, with wall [108] exposed, from the northwest





**Plate 5, 24:** evaluation pit 1, with wall [108] exposed, from the southeast



**Plate 6, 25:** evaluation pit 1, northeast facing section, from the northeast



**Plate 7, 9:** evaluation pit 2, post –excavation view with the bisecting sewer pipe and the southeast facing section, from the southeast



**Plate 8, 11:** evaluation pit 2, post –excavation view with the southwest facing section, and half sectioned later medieval deposits, from the southwest





**Plate 9, 29:** evaluation pit 3, pre-excitation view (after removal of overburden), from the northeast



**Plate 10, 31:** evaluation pit 3, post-excitation view of the northwest facing section, from the northwest



**Plate 11**, 33: evaluation pit 3, post-excavation view of the northwest facing section, from the northwest

# APPENDICES

**A WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
RECORDING AT CONISBROUGH CASTLE, CONISBROUGH, SOUTH  
YORKSHIRE**

**CS Archaeology**

**August 2011**

## 0 SUMMARY

- 0.1 This document provides a Written Scheme of Investigation for a scheme of archaeological field evaluation at the site of Conisbrough Castle, Conisbrough, South Yorkshire. The evaluation is to take place in advance of a planning application being submitted to allow for the extension of the Conisbrough Castle Lodge building. The building works will be carried out in order to create a new Activity Centre/Exhibition space at the site. Although the area earmarked for development falls outside of the designated Scheduled Area (see attached plan Figure 1) it is essential that a limited programme of archaeological field evaluation is carried in order to formulate an appropriate response to proposals that may adversely impact upon possible archaeological remains on the site.
- 0.2 The aim of the archaeological evaluation is to determine the presence, absence, nature and extent, date, integrity, level of preservation and relative quality of the archaeological resource within a given area. This is in order to make an assessment of their worth in a regional, national or international context. The results of this evaluation will provide further information about the archaeological resource of the monument, and lead to the formulation of an appropriate response or mitigation strategy with regards to the development proposals.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Details

- 1.1.1 *Site Name:* Conisbrough Castle Lodge
- 1.1.2 *Location:* Conisbrough, South Yorkshire
- 1.1.3 *Status:* Within the setting of a Scheduled Monument Conisbrough Castle (Mon. No. 13245)
- 1.1.4 *NGR* SK 5137 9885 (centre)
- 1.1.5 *Area* c. hectares (approx.)
- 1.1.6 Conisbrough Lodge lies immediately to the southwest of Conisbrough Castle (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.7 Conisbrough Castle is situated on the northern side of the town of Conisbrough South Yorkshire, approx. 8km to the south-west of Doncaster. The castle is strategically positioned on a natural rise overlooking the river Don to the north.
- 1.1.8 Conisbrough Castle is a monument held in the Guardianship of the state. The site is owned by Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council and managed on their behalf by English Heritage.

## 1.2 Planning Background

- 1.2.1 This proposed archaeological work is to inform the decision making process in order to support a future planning application.

## 1.3 Archaeological Background

- 1.3.1 The information below was provided by EH, Mr Mark Douglas in his recent report '*Conisbrough Castle, Conisbrough, South Yorkshire: Brief for Archaeological Recording*' which has provided the basis for this WSI.
- 1.3.2 The monument consists of the site of an 11<sup>th</sup> century motte and bailey castle on the site of which a later masonry castle was erected in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century. The initial castle was earth and timber construction built by William de Warren, son-in-law of William I. This passed through various hands until it came into the possession of Hamelin Plantagenet, the half-brother of Henry II. It was Hamelin who was responsible for the majority of the stone structures present on the site today; including the great keep. The surviving masonry



elements of the castle are actually the remains of a much larger work and represent only the inner ward; a further outer ward probably existed towards the west. The inner ward is surrounded by a curtain wall with solid towers, with earlier stonework being defined by roughly dressed stone blocks. There are the remains of the gatehouse situated on the south-west side of the ward which appears to have consisted of a pair of towers flanking a gate passage the entrance to which was protected by a ditch and drawbridge. The entrance to the gate was further protected by a barbican; a pair of parallel wall with a further ditch and drawbridge. Conisbrough castle is a significant example of a 12<sup>th</sup> century castle, particularly as the site contains a keep of unusual and innovative design in an excellent state of preservation. This form of keep is a rare survival in England, with only four other comparable examples, Odiham, Orford, Chilham and Tickhill. The castle remains other than the keep are significant in that they demonstrate the development of castle architecture at a critical period. The use of solid towers in the curtain wall for example, is a particular innovation of the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Similarly the 14<sup>th</sup> century barbican is a further example of the adoption of new means of providing defence. The hall and service buildings located within the inner ward are of some significance in that they show the development of the domestic nature of castle design and use from the 12<sup>th</sup> century to the end of the medieval period.

1.3.3 The lodge building is a 19<sup>th</sup> century stone built structure originally used as a custodians house for the public park which was established around the castle. The main part of the building, although not formally listed, is of some architectural merit. Whilst a later 1950's single storey extension to the rear is less significant.

1.3.4 Conisbrough has been the subject of a small number of archaeological investigations and historical publications;

Field Archaeology Services (Jonathan Clark and Nicola Toop), *Conisbrough Castle, South Yorkshire: Conservation and Development Strategy*, commissioned by English Heritage, 2009.

Johnson, J. S. 1980. Excavations at Conisbrough castle 1973-77 (in) *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal* 52: 59-88

Johnson, J. S. 1989. *Conisbrough Castle Guidebook*, (second edition).

Northern Archaeological Associates Ltd., 2009. *Conisbrough Castle, South Yorkshire – Analytical Earthwork Survey Report*, commissioned by English Heritage.

WYAS. 1997. Report on excavation on land behind lodge building, Conisbrough Castle

## 2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 There is the potential for archaeological deposits in the area affected by the proposals. The objectives of this programme of evaluation are as follows:

- to identify any archaeological features or deposits in the given area, including environmental aspects;
- to determine the nature, depth, stratigraphic complexity, level of preservation and date of any archaeological features or deposits in the given area;
- provide an assessment of the potential and significance of any identified archaeological features or deposits exposed, including environmental aspects;
- to provide an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological features or deposits exposed in the given area;
- to assess the likely scope and duration of any further works that may be necessary to mitigate the effects of the proposed development scheme.

## 3 METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Evaluation

- 3.1.1 The area proposed for archaeological is shown on (**Figure 2**). Three trial pits will be excavated each measuring 1.5m by 1.5m, representing approx. 10% of the footprint of the proposed new build. (exact locations of the pits to be agreed on site). The three trial pits will be excavated by hand approximately 1.2m below the existing ground surface, or to a reasonable depth that will enable the identification and full understanding of the stratigraphic relationships of all significant features identified in order to achieve the objectives of the evaluation. CS Archaeology will ensure that all spoil is deposited in the designated areas and kept tidy at all times. CS Archaeology will make arrangements for the reinstatement of topsoil and subsoil immediately after excavation and recording has been completed. All trenches and spoil deposits must be surrounded at all times with suitable security fencing.
- 3.1.2 If required CS Archaeology will demonstrate that all staff, including sub-contractors, are suitably qualified and experienced and understand the work required of them.
- 3.1.3 A record of all features excavated will be produced using appropriate archaeological context recording. All features will have a full written, drawn and photographic record, even if archaeological features are not to found to be present.
- 3.1.4 All measurements will be expressed in metres. Plans and sections will be produced at appropriate scales using reliable and repeatable control measurements by establishing a metric based co-ordinate system.

- 3.1.5 All photographic recording of features will use the most appropriate method to fulfil the objectives of the project (35mm colour slide, black and white print) and agreed in advance of the fieldwork. Digital photography will only be used to supplement the recording and not be included as a part of the formal site record.
- 3.1.6 An appropriate artefact collection and discard policy will be defined and agreed in advance of any fieldwork.
- 3.1.7 Loose architectural fragments will be treated as small finds and recorded individually (with reference to the appropriate repository standards and guidelines). The find location will be recorded three dimensionally.
- 3.1.8 All drawings to be provided as ink on film or where facilities are available as digital drawings in a .dwg or .dxf format.
- 3.1.9 An appropriate sampling strategy will be prepared in consultation with the English Heritage Archaeological Science Advisor.
- 3.1.10 On completion of the fieldwork all samples will be processed and artefacts cleaned, conserved, identified, labelled and packaged in accordance with the WSI and the requirements of the appropriate repository guidelines and standards. An appropriate programme of analysis and publication of the results will be completed if no further archaeological investigations are to be carried out.
- 3.1.11 A sufficient sample of any archaeological features and deposits revealed will be excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to fulfil the aims of the evaluation (see section 2 above). The site monitors will be consulted on the treatment of significant features that may merit full preservation *in situ*. The complete excavation of features is not regarded as necessary; a sufficient sample will be investigated to understand the full stratigraphic sequence in each trench, down to naturally occurring deposits. The sampling policy is as follows:
- a) A 100% sample will be taken of all stake-holes.
  - b) A 50% sample will be taken of all post-holes, and of pits with a diameter of up to 1.5m.
  - c) A minimum 25% sample will be taken of pits with a diameter of over 1.5m; but this will include a complete section across the pit to recover its full profile.
  - d) A minimum 20% sample will be taken of all linear features, up to 5m in length; for features greater than this, a 10% sample would suffice.
- 3.1.12 full written, drawn and photographic record will be made of **all material** revealed during the course of the trial excavation. All archaeological features and deposits, and all sections, will be drawn and fully recorded for archival purposes. Plans will be completed at a scale of 1:50 or 1:20 (as appropriate), whilst section drawings will be at a scale of 1:10. A minimum 35mm format for photography is required (in monochrome and colour).
- 3.1.13 Where industrial activity is detected, material will be retained from each spatially and chronologically distinct deposit to ensure that any chronological or spatial changes in the use of the site can be investigated. A specialist will be consulted to advise on the specifics, but a rapid visual examination will be sufficient to determine how many types of material are present in a particular deposit (black slag, green slag, magnetic lumps, etc, for example), and specimens of each will be retained. The amount retained will be

sufficient for any analysis required and will include examples that show distinctive features, such as details and marks, dimensions, fabrics and forms. Frequently the most informative examples show how different categories of waste were associated in the process (a ceramic fragment with adhering black and green slag, for example). It is not generally necessary to retain all the industrial residues from a deposit, and specialist advice will be sought. Where doubt exists, and only small quantities are present, all the material will be kept; where large quantities are present (more than one tonne), a proportion will be kept and the amount discarded recorded. Refer to section 3.7 of the 'Science for Historic Industries' (English Heritage, 2006) guidelines.

- 3.1.14 Where industrial activity is detected, samples will be collected (in conjunction with hand-retrieved material, see 3.1.7 above). Separate samples (0.2 litres in volume) will be collected for micro-slugs (hammer-scale and spherical droplets). When working areas are identified multiple samples will be taken at regular 0.2-0.5m intervals (e.g. a grid pattern to look at spatial distributions). Refer to page 6 of the 'Metallurgy' (English Heritage, 2001) guidelines.
- 3.1.15 Deposits will be sampled for retrieval and assessment of the preservation conditions and potential for analysis of all biological remains. A strategy for the recovery and sampling of environmental remains from the site will be agreed with an environmental consultancy, in advance of the project (Appendix 1). The sampling strategy will include a reasoned justification for selection of deposits for sampling, and has been developed in collaboration with a recognised bio-archaeologist. This WSI and sampling strategy will be submitted to English Heritage Regional Science Advisor, Dr Andy Hammond at the York Office (email: andy.hammond@english-heritage.org.uk), prior to commencement of site works. In keeping with the EH guidelines, all securely stratified deposits considered suitable for environmental analysis (i.e. those not consisting of building debris, rubble mortar etc.) will be sampled (50-60 litres in volume, where deposits allow) in order that their potential can be fully assessed, and a suitable sampling strategy can be formulated in case of further mitigation. Refer to the 'Environmental Archaeology' (English Heritage, 2002) guidelines.
- 3.1.16 Other samples will be taken, as appropriate, in consultation with specialists and the English Heritage Regional Science Advisor, as appropriate (e.g. dendrochronology, soil micromorphology, monolith samples, C14, etc.). Samples will be taken for scientific dating where necessary for the development of subsequent mitigation strategies.
- 3.1.17 Lifting of human skeletal remains will be kept to the minimum which is compatible with an adequate evaluation. At sites known in advance to be cemeteries, provision will be made for site-inspection by a recognised specialist. Excavators will be aware of, and comply with, provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857, and pay due attention to requirements of Health and Safety.
- 3.1.18 A finds recovery and conservation strategy will be discussed with English Heritage and Rotherham or Doncaster Museum in advance of the project commencing, and a policy for finds recording will be agreed and submitted to the County Archaeologist, before commencement of site works (see *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections, Guidelines for use in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales*: Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993). Any recording, marking and storage materials will be of archive quality, and recording systems will be compatible with the recipient museum (see 9 below). Copies of all recording forms and manuals will be submitted to the County Archaeologist, prior to the commencement of site works, if these have not been supplied previously. Allowance will be made for preliminary conservation and stabilisation of all

objects and an assessment of long-term conservation and storage needs. CS Archaeology will make an allowance for a minimum of four boxes in calculating estimates for museum's storage grant.

- 3.1.19 All finds (artefacts and ecofacts) visible during excavation will be collected, processed and assessed (by a suitably qualified and experienced specialist), unless variations in this principle are agreed with English Heritage and the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service. Finds will be appropriately packaged and stored under optimum conditions, as detailed in the RESCUE/UKIC publication *First Aid for Finds*. In accordance with the procedures outlined in MAP2, all iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including all coins), and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy will be X-radiographed before assessment. On large post-medieval or other metalworking sites, or sites yielding structural metalwork, there may be a need to vary this strategy, and the need and use of X-radiography will be established by the specialist in conjunction with the project monitors.
- 3.1.20 The following categories of artefacts may be predicted: pottery, ferrous and non-ferrous metalwork, glass, ceramic building materials, worked bone, flint and/or worked stone.
- 3.1.21 Metalworking finds and metalworking residues will normally be washed, but some materials, however, are delicate and may be damaged; any cleaning procedures will be agreed with the metalworking specialist and / or conservator. Materials that will not be washed (except by, or under the supervision of, the metalworking specialist include crucibles, moulds, hearth and furnace linings. Refer to page 6 of the 'Metallurgy' (English Heritage, 2001) guidelines.
- 3.1.22 CS Archaeology has direct experience of carrying out work in south Yorkshire and has used specialist subs such as Dr Chris Cumberpatch (Sheffield) and Dr J Wheeler (Aberford, W Yorks) to clarify and augment the archaeological interpretation and archive. CS Archaeology will ensure that the pottery report, if require, will use the fabric classifications which have been published in the reports for other recently published medieval and post-medieval sites from the county, for the sake of consistency: access to the fabric series will be freely granted to pottery researchers.
- 3.1.23 This WSI will be agreed with EH (Mr Mark Douglas, The Northern Property Curator) at the outset of the project.
- 3.1.24 CS Archaeology will make provision for the use of shoring, pumps, or artificial lighting. Such strategies will also allow for sampling for radiocarbon, archaeomagnetic and/or dendrochronological determinations, as appropriate: where *in situ* timbers are found to survive in good condition, samples will be taken for dendrochronological assay.
- 3.1.25 If CS Archaeology or the client wish to vary the survey strategy, if, for example, a part or the whole of the site is not amenable to evaluation as outlined above, or trial holes conflict with development proposals; or an alternative evaluation technique may be more appropriate or likely to produce more informative results, a proposal for amended/additional work will be drafted by CS Archaeology, and discussed urgently with the English Heritage (Mr Mark Douglas).

## 4 REPORT PREPARATION, CONTENTS AND DISTRIBUTION

4.1 Upon completion of the evaluation, the artefacts, soil samples and stratigraphic information shall be assessed as to their potential and significance for further analysis.

4.2 A report will be prepared which will provide the results of the fieldwork and assessment and will place the results in a contextual and historical framework. The project report will be produced in accordance with English Heritage guidelines as outlined in MoRPHE (2006), and IFA guidance for evaluations (2008). It will synthesise all elements of the evaluation work.

The report will include the following:

- a) A non-technical summary of the results of the work, introduction and aims and objectives.
- b) An introduction which will include
  - . • the site code/project number;
  - . • planning reference number;
  - . • dates when the fieldwork took place;
  - . • grid reference;
  - . • author of report and report date.
- c) An account of the methods employed during the project, and any constraints.
- d) An account of the results of the fieldwork, describing both structural data and associated finds and/or environmental data recovered, and with a quantification of artefacts, ecofacts, contexts and other primary records and registers.
- e) Interpretation, including phasing of the site sequence and spot dating of artefactual and environmental material recovered (including type series & fabric codes for local pottery groups, as appropriate). Descriptive material will be clearly separated from interpretative statements. This shall be supported by the use of **photographs and drawings**, to include an overall plan of the site accurately identifying the location of trenches, related to fixed points shown on current OS data, geo-referenced to National Grid; individual trench plans as excavated indicating the location of archaeological features with at least one section detailing the stratigraphic sequence of deposits within each trench; illustration of significant archaeological features with appropriately scaled plans and sections, with heights relative to Ordnance Datum.
- f) A specialist assessment of the artefacts recovered with a view to their potential for further study. Allowance will be made for preliminary conservation and stabilization of all objects and an assessment of long-term conservation and storage needs. Assessment of artefacts will normally include inspection of X-radiographs of all iron objects, a selection of non-ferrous artefacts (including coins), and a sample of any industrial debris relating to metallurgy. However, on large post-medieval or other metalworking sites, or sites yielding structural metalwork this may not always be appropriate, and the need and use of X-radiography will be established by the specialist. . A rapid scan of all excavated material will be undertaken by conservators and finds researchers in collaboration. Material considered vulnerable will be selected for stabilisation after specialist recording. Where intervention is necessary, consideration will be given to possible investigative procedures (e.g. glass composition studies, residues in or on pottery, and mineral-preserved organic material). Once assessed, all material will be packed and stored in optimum conditions, as described in *First Aid for Finds*. Waterlogged organic materials will be dealt with, following the English Heritage documents, *Guidelines for the care of waterlogged archaeological leather*, and *Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood*.
- g) A specialist assessment of environmental samples taken, with a view to their potential for subsequent study. Processing of all samples collected for biological assessment, (or sub-samples of them, in the case of heavy clay for instance) will be completed. Bulk and

site-riddled samples from dry deposits will have been processed during the excavation, where possible. The preservation state, density and significance of material retrieved will be assessed, following methods presented in *Environmental Archaeology: a Guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*. Unprocessed sub-samples will be stored in conditions specified by the appropriate specialists. Assessments for any technological residues will be undertaken. Samples for dating will be submitted to laboratories promptly, so as to ensure that results are available to aid development of specifications for subsequent mitigation strategies.

- h) The results from investigations in Archaeological Sciences **will** be included in the Site Archive and presented in the report. The report will include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis. If pertinent it will include tabulation of data in relation to site phasing and contexts, and will include non-technical summaries. The objective presentation of data will be clearly separated from interpretation. Recommendations for further investigations (both on samples already collected, and at future excavations) will be clearly separated from the results and interpretation, and will be incorporated into the Specifications/Project Design for any future intervention or mitigation strategy.
- i) An assessment of the archaeological significance of the deposits identified, in relation to other sites in the region.
- j) A conclusion with recommendations for further post-excavation work, if required.
- k) Details of archive location and destination (with accession number, where known), together with a catalogue of what is contained in that archive.
- l) Appendices and figures, as appropriate, including a copy of this Written Scheme of Investigation.
- m) References and bibliography of all sources used.
- N) copy of the WSI.

- 4.3 Copies of the report will be submitted to the, project manager, South Yorkshire Archaeology Service, the English Heritage, regional Inspector of Ancient Monuments/Historic Buildings Inspector and the county Historic Environment Record within an agreed timetable and subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality. The usual period for a written, illustrated report is within 3 months (or longer period by mutual agreement) following completion of fieldwork.
- 4.4 A brief, interim report will be prepared during or shortly after the completion of fieldwork, to assist in making decisions on development proposals.
- 4.5 As well as a printed copy of the report, an electronic copy of the report will also be supplied in PDF and word formats to Mr M Douglas (EH) and Mr A Lines (SYAS). This will allow a text summary to be incorporated by South Yorkshire's Historic Environment Record (HER) into any review or synthetic documents.
- 4.6 An on-line OASIS form will also be completed at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>, for inclusion in the ADS database.

## 5 COPYRIGHT, CONFIDENTIALITY AND PUBLICITY

- 5.1 Unless the individual/organisation commissioning the project wishes to state otherwise, the copyright of any written, graphic or photographic records and reports rests with CS Archaeology. Agreements on copyright will be agreed with the commissioning body at the outset of the project.
- 5.2 The circumstances under which the report or records can be used by other parties will be identified at the commencement of the project, as will the proposals for distribution of the report (see 4 above). All archaeologists undertaking work will respect the commissioning body's requirements over confidentiality, but the archaeologist will endeavour to emphasise their professional obligation to make the results of archaeological work available to the wider archaeological community within a reasonable time.
- 5.3 The archaeologist undertaking the evaluation has a duty of confidence to the client commissioning the work. All aspects of publicity will be agreed at the outset of the project between the commissioning body and the archaeological organisation or individual undertaking the project.

## 6 ARCHIVE PREPARATION & DEPOSITION

- 6.1 The requirements for archive preparation and deposition will be addressed and undertaken in a manner agreed with the recipient museum. The recipient museum **will** be contacted at an early stage, before submission of the project design and before commencement of fieldwork.
- 6.2 A site archive will be prepared in accordance with English Heritage MoRPHE guidelines (English Heritage 2006). See also *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive, the Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums: Guidelines for use in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales* Society of Museum Archaeologists 1995.
- 6.3 The site archive, including finds and environmental material, subject to the permission of the relevant landowners, will be labelled, conserved and stored according to the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC)'s *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (Walker 1990) and the Museums and Galleries Commission's *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections*, 1992.
- 6.4 Arrangements will be made for the full and final archive to be deposited in with Doncaster or Rotherham Museums in accordance with their deposition and archiving standards. If, after the evaluation, no further archaeological work is initiated, the archive will be deposited. An agreed allowance will be made for a contribution to the recipient museum towards the curation and storage of material.
- 6.5 If further archaeological evaluation be initiated and additional archaeological work undertaken, the evaluation archive will be prepared accordingly for incorporation into the final archive.
- 6.6 Archive deposition will be arranged in consultation with, and will take account of the museum's requirements and the relevant guidelines (see above) relating to the preparation and transfer of archives. The timetable for deposition shall be agreed on



completion of the site archive and narrative.

## 7 POST EXCAVATION ANALYSIS, PUBLICATION & DISSEMINATION

- 7.1 The information contained within the assessment report will enable decisions to be taken regarding the future treatment of the archaeology of the site and any material recovered during the recording brief.
- 7.2 If further archaeological investigations take place, any further analyses (as recommended by the specialists, and following agreement with the curator) will be incorporated into the post-excavation stage of the archaeological programme.
- 7.3 If further site works do not take place, it will be appreciated that assessment may produce results of sufficient significance to merit publication in their own right, and allowance will be made for the preparation and publication in a local and/or national journal of a short summary on the results of the evaluation and of the location and material held within the site archive.
- 7.4 Should further archaeological excavation be undertaken, a synopsis of the results of the assessment will be prepared for publication with the final results of any further fieldwork.

## 8 MONITORING, HEALTH AND SAFETY, STAFFING & INSURANCE

- 8.1 The archaeological work will be monitored by EH.
- 8.2 During the course of the fieldwork the Development Control Archaeologist may undertake monitoring visits. Two week's prior notice of the commencement of fieldwork will therefore be given, including the name and contact number of the archaeologist on site.
- 8.3 Should significant archaeological deposits be encountered CS Archaeology will immediately contact English Heritage (Mr M Douglass) and SYAS (Mr A Lines) and arrange a convenient date and time for a site visit.
- 8.4 All CSCS staff and subcontracting archaeologists are CSCS accredited details available on request.
- 8.5 CS Archaeology will ensure that arrangements are made for monitoring visits and meetings before, during and after the archaeological site work, as appropriate.
- 8.6 CS Archaeology will report any significant or unexpected discoveries immediately to the project monitors.
- 8.7 Health and safety will take priority over archaeological matters. All archaeologists undertaking fieldwork will comply with all Health and Safety Legislation.
- 8.8 Necessary precautions will be taken over underground services and overhead lines.

- 8.9 CS Archaeology will ensure that they, or any proposed sub-contractors, are appropriately qualified to undertake such projects.
- 8.10 CS Archaeology has ensured that they are adequately insured, to cover all eventualities, including risks to third parties.

## 9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- English Heritage. 2001. *Archaeometalurgy*.
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- Institute for Archaeologists. 2008. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*

Any queries relating to this WSI please address to:

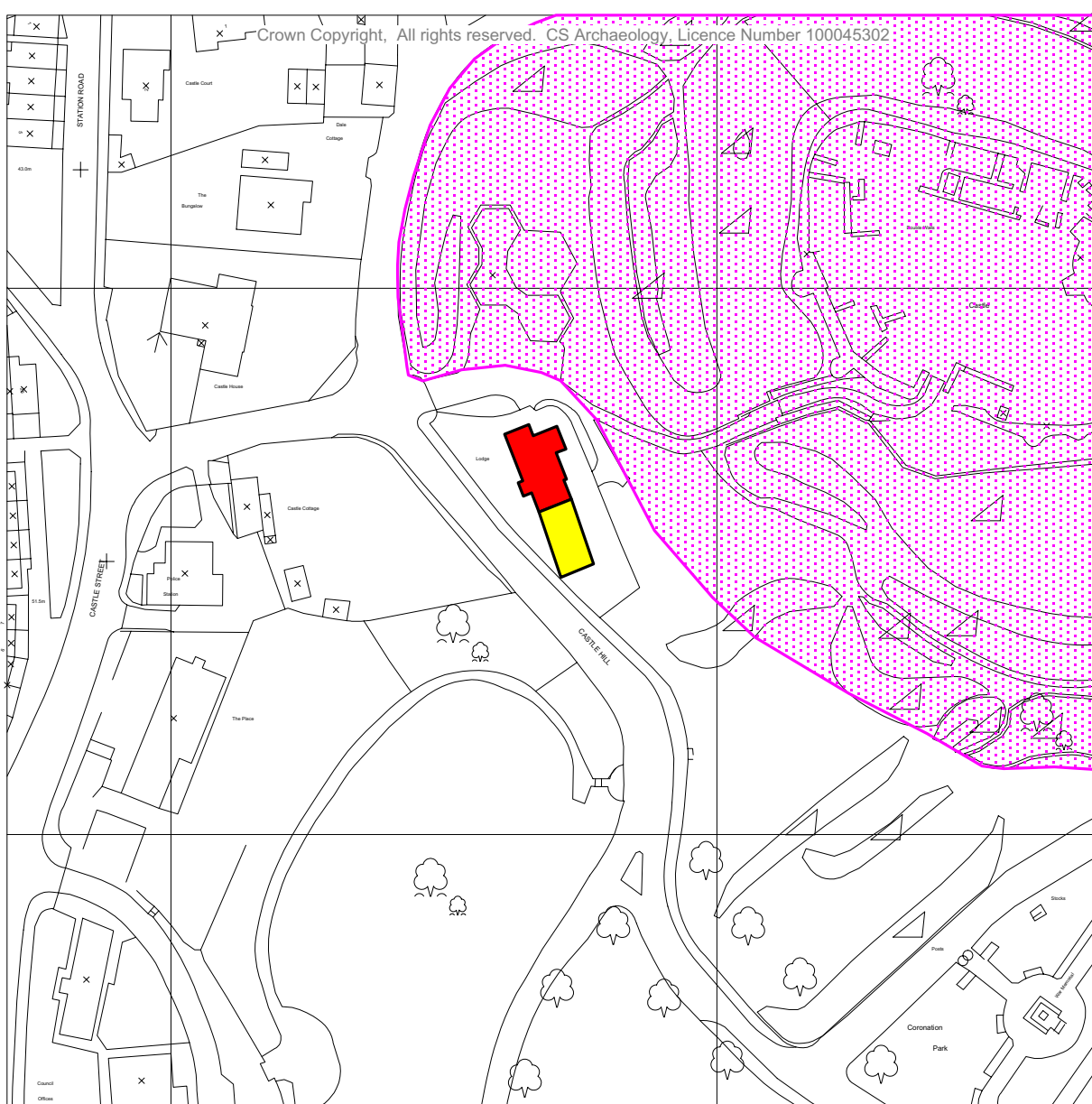
**CS Archaeology**  
Manor Farm House  
Manor Occupation Road  
Royston  
Barnsley  
South Yorkshire  
S71 4SG  
Tele 01226 722571

4 513 70m

513

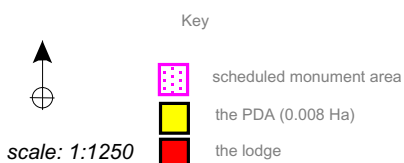
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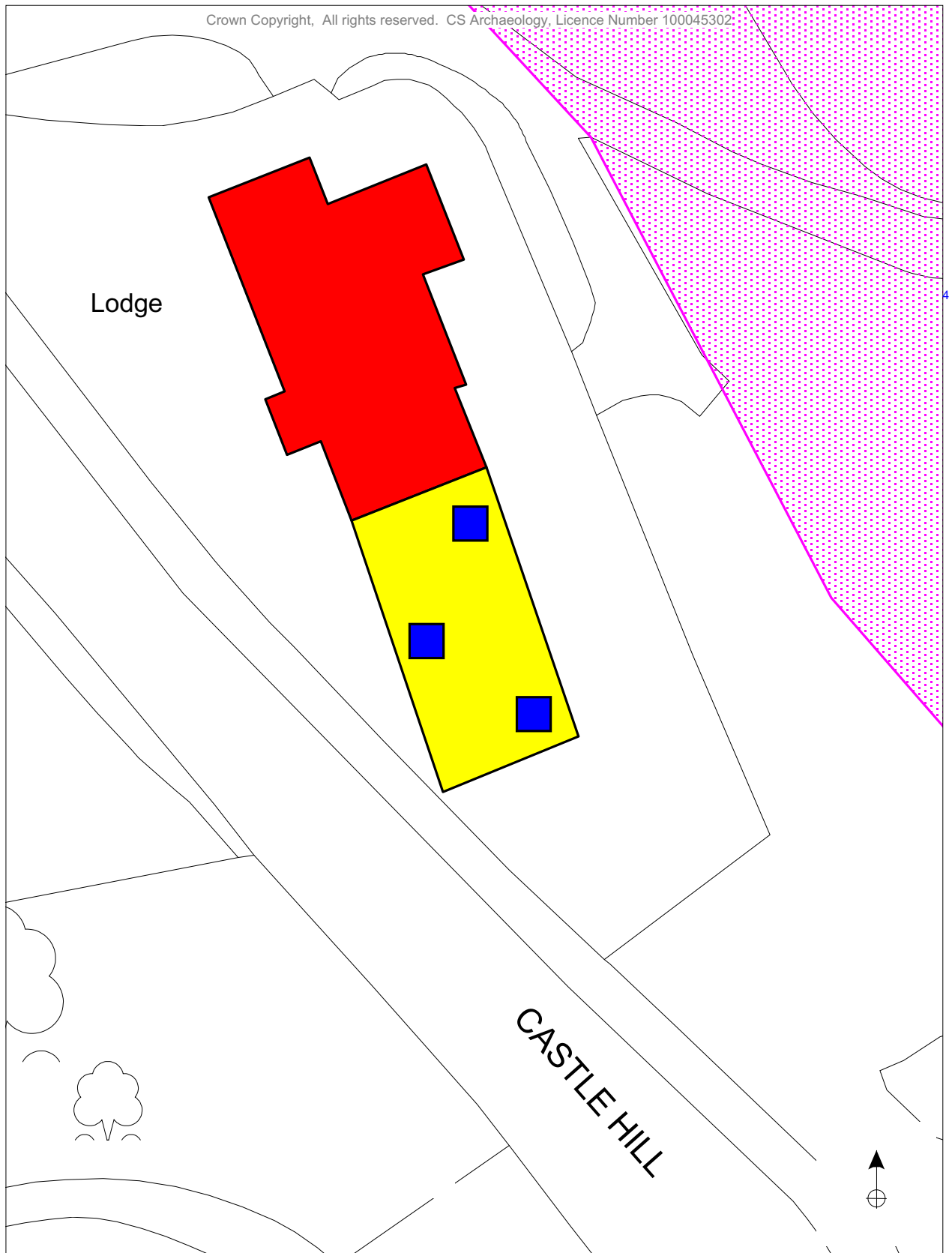
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A Written Scheme of Investigation  
for Archaeological Recording at  
Conisbrough Castle, Conisbrough,  
South Yorkshire

Figure 1: Location Map

CS Archaeology  
August 2011



Key

-  scheduled monument area
-  the PDA (0.008 Ha)
-  the lodge
-  proposed evaluation pits (3 x 1.5m sq.)

## **Appendix 1**

# **SAMPLING STRATEGY FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT CONISBROUGH CASTLE**

**CS ARCHAEOLOGY**

August 2011

## **1. EVALUATION**

- 1.1 For palaeoenvironmental research different sampling strategies will be employed according to established research targets and the perceived importance of the strata under investigation. CS Archaeology conventionally recovers three main categories of sample;
  - i) Standard Bulk Samples; a representative 40-60 litre sample from every excavated soil context on site, in accordance with English Heritage Guidelines (2002). This sample is used, through floatation sieving, to recover a sub-sample of charred macroplant material, faunal remains and artefacts;
  - ii) Purposive or Special Samples; a sample from a sediment which is determined, in field, to either have the potential for dating (wood charcoal for radiocarbon dating or in situ hearths for magnetic susceptibility dating) or for the recovery of enhanced palaeo-environmental information (waterlogged sediments, peat columns, etc).
- 1.2 Samples will be taken for scientific dating, principally radiocarbon (C14) and archaeomagnetic dating, where dating of artefacts is insecure and where dating is a significant issue for the development of subsequent mitigation strategies.
- 1.3 Environmental samples will be collected from primary and secondary contexts, where applicable, from a range of representative features, including pit and ditch fills, postholes, floor deposits, ring gullies and other negative features. Positive features should also be sampled. Sampling will also be considered for those features where dating by other methods (e.g. pottery and artefacts) is uncertain. Animal bones will be hand collected, and from bulk samples collected from contexts containing a high density of bones.
- 1.4 Standard Bulk Samples of 50-60 litres or more will be recovered from every archaeologically significant soil context as part of a comprehensive environmental sampling strategy.
- 1.5 Within each significant archaeological horizon a minimum number of features required to meet the aims of the project will be hand excavated. Pits and postholes normally will be sampled by half-sectioning although some features may require complete excavation. Linear features will be sectioned as appropriate. No deposits will be entirely removed unless this is unavoidable. As the objective is to define remains it will not necessarily be the intention to fully excavated all trenches to natural stratigraphy. However, the full depth of archaeological deposits across the entire site will be assessed. Even in the case where no remains have been located the stratigraphy of all evaluation trenches will be recorded.
- 1.6 Any excavation, whether by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be demonstrably worthy of preservation in situ.

## REFERENCES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
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| English Heritage 2002                       | Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the<br>theory and practice of methods, from sampling<br>and recovery to post-excavation [2002/01]       |
| IfA 2001                                    | Standard and Guidance for Archaeological<br>Field Evaluations   |
| Watkinson and D &<br>Neal V. 1998           | <i>First Aid for Finds</i> (3 <sup>rd</sup> edition), Rescue/UKIC<br>Archaeology Section of the United<br>Kingdom Institute for Conservation. |

CS Archaeology  
Manor Farm House  
Manor Occupation Road  
Barnsley  
South Yorkshire  
S71 4SG  
Tel: 01226 722571  
Mob: 07963 586767

## Appendix 2: Archive Inventory

### PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER A 35mm Black and White Film (Ilford Delta 400 Professional)

Film/Frame No.	Plate	Location	Description	From
1/36		EP 2	Pre-excavation view	SE
1/35		EP 2	Excavation view with [201] removed	SE
1/34		EP 2	Excavation view with [202] removed	SE
1/33		EP 2	Excavation view with [203] removed	SE
1/32		EP 2	Excavation view with [203] removed	SW
1/31		EP 2	Excavation view with [204] removed	SE
1/30		EP 2	Excavation view with [204] removed	NW
1/29		EP 2	Post –excavation view with [208 & 209] removed	SE
1/28		EP 2	Post –excavation (detailed) view with [208-9] removed	SE
1/27		EP 2	Post –excavation view with [208 & 209] removed	SW
1/26		EP 1	Excavation view with the modern overburden [100 & 101] removed	SE
1/25		EP 1	Excavation view with [106] removed exposing the upper course of wall [108].	SE
1/24		EP 1	Detailed excavation view with [106] removed exposing the upper course of wall [108].	SE
1/23		EP 1	View with [106] removed exposing the upper course of wall [108].	NE
1/22		EP 1	Half-section of post hole [104]	SW
1/21		EP 1	Excavated view of post hole [104]	SW
1/20 & 19		EP 1	Excavation view of wall [108]	SE
1/18		EP 1	Excavation view of wall [108]	NW
1/17		EP 1	Excavation view of the wall [108]	NE
1/16		EP 1	Post excavation view of section through wall [108]	SE
1/14 & 13		EP 1	Post excavation view of NE facing section	NE
1/12		EP 1	Post excavation view of SW facing section	SW
1/11		EP 1	Post excavation view of NW facing section	NW
1/10 & 9		EP 1	Detail of the wall [108] in SW facing section	SW
1/8		EP 3	View with the modern overburden [300-301] removed	NE
1/7		EP 3	View with the [300-301] removed	NE
1/6		EP 3	View with the [306 & 305] removed	NE
1/5		EP 3	View of the SW facing section with [ ] removed	SW
1/4		EP 3	Post-excavation view (oblique) of the NW facing section	W
1/3		EP 3	Post-excavation view of the NW facing section	NW
1/2 & 1		EP 3	Detail of the SW facing section	SW



PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER B  
Digital colour at 12 mega-pixel resolution

No.	Plate	Location	Description	From
1		EP 2	Pre-excavation view	SE
2		EP 2	Excavation view with [201] removed	SE
3		EP 2	Excavation view with [202] removed	SE
4		EP 2	Excavation view with [203] removed	SE
5		EP 2	General oblique view	NW
6		EP 2	Excavation view with [204] removed	SE
7		EP 2	Excavation view with [204] removed	NW
8		EP 2	Post-excavation view with [208 & 209] removed	SE
9	5	EP 2	Post-excavation (detailed) view with [208-9] removed	SE
10		EP 2	Post-excavation view with [208 & 209] removed	SW
11	6	EP 2	Detailed view of the SW facing section	SW
12		EP 2	View of the sondage through the 'natural' [211]	SE
13	1	EP 1	Excavation view with the modern overburden [100 & 101] removed	SE
14		EP 1	Excavation view with [106] removed exposing the upper course of wall [108].	SE
15		EP 1	Detailed excavation view with [106] removed exposing the upper course of wall [108].	SE
16		EP 1	View with [106] removed exposing the upper course of wall [108].	NE
17 – 18		EP 1	General view within context	E
19		EP 1	Half-section of post hole [104]	SW
20		EP 1	Excavated view of post hole [104]	SW
21	3	EP 1	Excavation view of wall [108]	SE
22	4	EP 1	Excavation view of wall [108]	NW
23		EP 1	Excavation view of the wall [108]	NE
24	5	EP 1	Post excavation view of section through wall [108]	SE
25	6	EP 1	Post excavation view of NE facing section	NE
26		EP 1	Post excavation view of SW facing section	SW
27		EP 1	Post excavation view of NW facing section	NW
28		EP 1	Detail of the wall [108] in SW facing section	SW
29	9	EP 3	View with the modern overburden [300-301] removed	NE
30		EP 3	View with the [304] removed	NE
31	10	EP 3	View of the SW facing section with [ ] removed	SW
32		EP 3	Post-excavation view (oblique) of the NW facing section	W
33	11	EP 3	Post-excavation view of the NW facing section	NW
34		EP 3	Detail of the SW facing section	SW
35		EP1	Artefacts from context [102]	-
36		EP1	Artefacts from context [102A]	-

37		EP1	Artefacts from context [108]	-
38		EP1	Artefacts from context [109]	-
39		EP1	Artefacts from context [109a]	-
40		EP1	Artefacts from context [112]	-
41		EP1	Artefacts from context [113]	-
42		EP2	Artefacts from context [202]	-
43		EP2	Artefacts from context [203]	-
44		EP2	Artefacts from context [203a]	-
45		EP2	Artefacts from context [204]	-
46		EP3	Artefacts from context [304]	-
47		EP3	Artefacts from context [305]	-
48		EP3	Artefacts from context [306]	-
49		EP3	Artefacts from context [307]	-

## DRAWING REGISTER

Dwg. No.	Figure	Description	Scale Drawn	Reproduced
1	4	Initial plan, test pit 1	1:10	1:20
2	4	Interim plan, test pit 1	1:10	1:20
3	4	Post-excavation plan, test pit 1	1:20	1:20
4	5	SE Section, test pit 1	1:10	1:10
5	5	NE Section, test pit 1	1:10	1:10
6	6	Post excavation plan, test pit 2	1:20	1:20
7	6	SE Section, test pit 2	1:10	1:20
8	6	SW Section, test pit 2	1:10	1:20
9	7	Post excavation plan of test pit 3	1:10	1:20
10	7	SW Section, test pit 3	1:10	1:20
11	7	NW Section, test pit 3	1:10	1:20

## CONTEXT REGISTER

Context No.	Location	Description
100	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> concrete (footpath) 0.1-0.2m deep. Overlies all.
101	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> Dark-brown clayey loam, 0.1m deep. Underlies [100], overlies [107], cut by [104 & 102].
102	EP1	<i>Cut:</i> sub-rectangular in plan for modern post hole. Underlies [100] overlies [101], cuts 101. <i>Artefacts:</i> Animal (cattle) bones (3), clay pipe stems (2), glazed earthenware (2) and a white glazed base sherd.
103	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> fill of [102] with angular limestone fragments and clay roof tile (C20th).
104	EP1	<i>Cut:</i> sub-rectangular for modern post hole. Underlies [100] overlies [101].
105	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> post pipe fill – a brown clayey loam ([101]). [105A] represents packing stone deposit within [105], and consists of rounded limestone up to 0.12m diam. and angular brick fragments. <i>Artefacts:</i> none
106	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> mid brown loamy silt with charcoal and limestone fragments,

		similar to [107]. Overlies [107] underlies [101]. <i>Artefacts: none</i>
107	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> Light brown silty clay with charcoal and limestone fragments 0.15m deep, similar to [109]. Lies below [101] above [111].
108	EP1	<i>Structure:</i> stone wall with evidence for packed sand which was probably used to consolidate the structure. Its alignment was broadly SW-NE and in plan it slightly 'bellied' out to the south. The upper courses of the wall were represented by inclined (30° to the SE) and faced tabular limestone. The faced edge faced northwest, the southeast edge was un-faced. The lower foundation course consisted of rounded limestone and quartzite boulders, up to length - 0.4 x width 0.25 and heath 0.2. These boulders were probably derived from a local river/stream channel (The River Don). Overlies [113] underlies [106], abutted by [107, 109 & 112], and contains lens of sand similar to [112]. <i>Interpretation:</i> probable revetment wall internally consolidated with sand and to the northwest by pink clay abutting the NW face below a horizontal stone horizon possibly representing a metallised surface of e.g. a hard standing (courtyard?). <i>Artefacts:</i> animal bones (3) one with butchery marks.
109	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> Light brown silty clay with charcoal and limestone fragments. Overlies [112], underlies [106, abutts [108]. <i>Artefacts:</i> pottery (10 sherds of medieval 'green glazed' various types and fabrics assessed to be Later Medieval), animal bones (16) consisting of 7 cattle bones with butchery marks and 6 teeth (3 cattle and 3 sheep), two lumps of coal and a single piece of iron slag.
110	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> mixed silty clay and re-deposited pink clay, appears to represent a levelling and consolidation deposit. Overlies [111] underlies [107]
111	EP1	<i>Natural:</i> light brown silty clay, similar to [113] but without the stone content, and formed part of the foundation/levelling deposit of the wall [108]. Overlies probable cut [116] and the natural [117], underlies [110 & [107].
112	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> orangey brown silty sand with frequent charcoal throughout the deposit and 15% angular limestone. Abutts wall [108]. Lies below [109] and above [113]. <i>Artefacts:</i> Post medieval pottery sherds (2) assessed to be later medieval.
113	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> light brown silty clay with rounded stone and large sub-angular limestone fragments forming a foundation/levelling deposit to wall [108]. <i>Artefacts:</i> animal bones (9, 4 with butchery marks), coal (2), 5 pottery sherds which have been assessed to be 'may be later than pottery from [109 and 112], slag (1 frag. : 0.14 kg) and an architectural fragment (small, with tool marks).
114	EP1	<i>Cut:</i> for 5" surface water brown glazed drain. Under [100] above [107]
115	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> Fill of [114] consisting of the %" pipe with loose back fill similar to the surrounding context [101]. Below [100], above [114].
116	EP1	Shallow concave sides and base with a corresponding offset alignment in plan to the wall [108].
117	EP1	<i>Natural:</i> compact reddish brown clay. Underlies [112, 113 & 111]
118	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> re-deposited pink clay lens contemporary with [110].
119	EP1	<i>Deposit:</i> brown silty clay with charcoal and frequent (20%) angular limestone/sandstone some deposited both horizontally and vertically. Overlies [111] underlies [107].
200	EP2	<i>Deposit:</i> concrete (footpath) to the SE facing section only, 0.1-0.2m deep. Overlies all.
201	EP2	<i>Deposit:</i> dark brown silty loam with frequent root activity and miscellaneous finds (modern/late Post Med). Overlies [202], underlies [200] & [204].
202	EP2	<i>Deposit:</i> brown silty loam with pinkish clay mottles. <i>Artefacts:</i> clay roof tile (2), coal (1), glass (1, glass slag (2) stainless steel bracket (1) transfer decorated pottery (1), Coin, 10p c. 1992, stone roof tile still retaining part of nail hole, iron nails (3) limestone frags. With

		cement adhering and a small piece of rubber (seal?).
203	EP2	<i>Deposit:</i> mixed horizon of pink clay and brown silty clay. The clay appeared to have occurred as redeposited natural [211]. Overlies [204], underlies [202]. <i>Artefacts:</i> animal bone, one with butchery marks, <i>cardium</i> (bi-valve) shells (2) burnt bone (1) Fe slag (1) and nail (1) dark glazed pottery sherds (3), transfer decorated pottery (1), unglazed earthenware (4), a one thin white glazed sherd and a 'silver' sixpence dated 1916.
204	EP2	<i>Deposit:</i> brown silty clay with frequent charcoal and shell inclusions. Underlies [303] overlies [205]. <i>Artefacts:</i> C 19th pottery, tile fragments and stone <i>Interpretation:</i> building waste associated with the Lodge's construction. <i>Artefacts:</i> ceramic building material, glazed brick, exterior and interior floor tiles, coal, transfer decorated pottery and glass.
205	EP2	<i>Deposit:</i> pink and grey redeposited clay and the deposit extends across the test pit [205A]. Fill of trench cut [206]. Overlies [206], underlies [211] & [204].
206	EP2	<i>Cut:</i> linear cut for sewer pipe. Overlies [206], underlies [211] & [204]. <i>Artefacts:</i> none retained
207	EP2	<i>Deposit:</i> brown silty clay. Overlies [206], underlies [211] & [204].
208	EP2	<i>Deposit:</i> mid brown silty clay (compacted/dry) with 15% rounded stone and 10% angular fragmentary stone up to 0.2m diam. Overlies [211], underlies [207]. <i>Artefacts:</i> Later medieval pottery <i>Interpretation:</i> a later medieval context overlying the redeposited 'natural' clay [209].
209	EP2	<i>Deposit:</i> compacted reddish clay, thought to be natural but a sondage revealed animal bone. Underlies [208] <i>Interpretation:</i> redeposited natural possibly associated with large scale early medieval excavations.
210	EP2	<i>Deposit:</i> glazed earthenware flanged sewer pipe within trench [206] and context [205]. Overlies [205], underlies [204].
211	EP2	<i>Deposit:</i> 'natural' red clay, probably re-deposited <i>Artefact:</i> animal bone with lateral cut marks
300	EP3	<i>Deposit:</i> concrete (footpath) up to 0.1 m deep. Overlies all.
301	EP3	<i>Deposit:</i> loose topsoil – loamy silt, up to 0.12m deep. Underlies [300] overlies [304]. NB [301A] is a similar loose topsoil within trench [302].
302	EP3	<i>Cut:</i> linear trench aligned NNW-SSE filled by [303 & 301A].
303	EP3	<i>Deposit:</i> concrete strip foundation 0.3m wide and extend from the wall of the extant garage beyond the trenches SE balk.
304	EP3	<i>Deposit:</i> dark brown clayey silt with limestone inclusions. Overlies [306], underlies [301]. <i>Artefacts:</i> Animal bone (5) post medieval pottery (7), a small sharpening stone (1), stone marble (1) glass (1) and ceramic building material (1).
305	EP3	<i>Deposit:</i> mid brown silty clay with large sub-angular limestone boulders (30%) and up to 0.34m diam. <i>Artefacts:</i> animal bone, cattle (17) and sheep (10) of which butchered bone included cattle (5) and butchered sheep (1), burnt sandstone (1), pottery (7) and a single iron nail.
306	EP3	<i>Deposit:</i> reddish brown silty (re-deposited) clay. Overlies [305], underlies [304]. <i>Artefacts:</i> pottery (modern) a roof tile frags and glazed earthenware (1).
307	EP3	<i>Deposit:</i> light brown silty clay with frequent angular limestone inclusions (5%) and frequent animal bone. Overlies [308], underlies [305]. <i>Artefacts:</i> pottery (2 sherds of later medieval).
308	EP3	<i>Deposit:</i> dark brown silty loam (compacted). Overlies [309], underlies [307]. <i>Artefacts:</i> none
309	EP3	<i>Deposit/Natural:</i> pinkish red clay (no artefacts evident) possibly re-deposited. Underlies [308 & 307].
310	EP3	<i>Cut:</i> almost vertical cut into [309] convex sides rounded base. Overlies and cuts [309], underlies [304].

## Appendix 3: Pottery Assessment

Selected assessment of the pottery assemblage was undertaken and consisted of:

- Trench 1, contexts: 109, 112 and 113
- Trench 2, contexts: 208
- Trench 3, 304, 305 & 307

All artefacts from the above contexts will be incorporated in the final archive and deposited at English Heritage's Helmsley Archaeology Store (North Territory).

The final archive will include archaeologically significant artefacts associated with the later medieval contexts, the later deposits which are clearly date from the later 19<sup>th</sup> century will be discarded prior to the archives deposition.

## **Medieval pottery from excavations at Conisbrough Castle Lodge, 2011 (CC11)**

C.G. Cumberpatch BA PhD  
Freelance Archaeologist

### **Introduction**

The pottery assemblage from the excavations at Conisbrough Castle Lodge was examined by the author on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2011. It consisted of thirty-seven sherds of pottery weighing 592 grams and represented a maximum of thirty-three vessels. The data are summarised in Table 1.

### **The pottery**

The majority of the pottery was of later medieval date and consisted of locally manufactured wares. The earliest type identified was *Hallgate A*, manufactured in Doncaster during the 13<sup>th</sup> century (Buckland *et al* 1979, Cumberpatch *et al* 1998-9, 2004a). It appears likely that these sherds were residual in later contexts as they occurred exclusively alongside Coal Measures wares which, according to current evidence, do not predate the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. Both of the principal types of Coal Measures ware were represented, *Coal Measures White ware* (CMW) and *Coal Measures Purple ware* (CMP). A full account of these types, which were manufactured in the Don Valley, can be found elsewhere (Cumberpatch 2004b, Hayfield and Buckland 1989). The question of the existence and dating of a finer Coal Measures ware (provisionally named *Coal Measures Fineware*) has yet to be resolved but the present assemblage included several sherds which were not of the standard CMW or CMP types and so have been attributed to this group. There is nothing in their character to indicate an earlier date than the early 14<sup>th</sup> century.

Later pottery was present in context 304 and included *Brown Glazed Coarseware* and transfer printed *Whiteware*. The quantities were too small to determine the character of the early modern to recent activity on the site or the nature of the deposition although the latter issue has emerged in recent years as a significant factor in understanding the formation of archaeological sites in South Yorkshire (Cumberpatch 2005, 2011).

### **Discussion**

#### *Trench 1*

Three contexts in Trench 1 produced pottery; 109, 112 and 113. All appeared to be of later medieval date with Coal Measures Purple ware from contexts 109 and 112. Context 113 may be slightly earlier in date but the presence of sherds similar in character to those from Humberware drinking jugs and a sherd of Coal Measures Whiteware suggest a later date than would be indicated by the Hallgate A sherds alone.

#### *Trench 2*

Pottery was recovered from only one context in Trench 2, 208. All three sherds were of Coal Measures Whiteware type. While this suggests a date in the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> centuries, the fact that the quantities were so low (only three sherds) and the fact that elsewhere CMW occurred alongside the later CMP would suggest that some caution is required in interpreting the significance of the sherds.

#### *Trench 3*

The assemblage from Trench 3 was somewhat more diverse than those from Trenches 1 and 2 with context 304 containing recent as well as medieval material and context 305 including a sherd of Midlands Purple type ware and an unidentified Sandy ware most probably of late medieval date. Context 307 produced just two sherds, both different types of local Coal Measures ware.

## **Conclusion**

Although small in size the pottery assemblage from the Lodge at Conisbrough Castle is comparable in date and the range of wares to the larger assemblages from excavations carried out inside the castle (Cumberpatch 2010). The relatively good preservation (few of the sherds were heavily abraded and most were sharp-edged) suggests little post-depositional disturbance, although the presence of 13<sup>th</sup> century material in contexts of a somewhat later date does imply some disturbance of earlier deposits. It is to be hoped that further investigations in and around the castle will produce larger groups of material from which more substantial inferences may be drawn.

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The Lodge, Conisbrough Castle, Conisbrough, South Yorkshire: An Archaeological Evaluation

Context	Type	No	Wt	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
109	Coal Measures Purple ware	1	41	1	Base	Hollow ware	U/Dec	C15th – C16th	Black deposit int only
109	Coal Measures Purple ware type	1	1	1	BS	Hollow ware	Purple glaze int	C15th – C16th	Finer than is typical for the type
109	Coal Measures Whiteware	1	74	1	Base	Hollow ware	Yellow-brown mottled glaze int	C14th – C15th	Light sooting ext
109	Coal Measures Whiteware	2	79	2	Rim & handle stump	Jug	Mottled clear-green mottled glaze	C14th – C15th	Double thumbd upper handle attachment
109	Coal Measures Whiteware	1	18	1	Base	Hollow ware	Yellow-brown mottled glaze int	C14th – C15th	Knife trimmed ext
109	Coal Measures Whiteware	1	19	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	C14th – C15th	Finer than is typical for the type
109	Coal Measures Whiteware	1	5	1	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy thin glaze ext	C14th – C15th	Finer than is typical for the type
109	Hallgate A ware	2	10	1	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy thin glaze ext	C13th	
112	Coal Measures Purple ware type	1	16	1	BS	Hollow ware	Spots of glaze ext	C15th – C16th	
112	Coal Measures Whiteware	1	5	1	BS	Hollow ware	Mottled yellow-brown glaze int; thin pale green glaze ext	C14th – C15th	
113	?Humberware drinking jug	2	11	2	BS	Hollow ware	One sherd w/ impressed line	C14th – EC15th	
113	Coal Measures Whiteware type	1	6	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	C14th – C15th	Finer than typical for the type and with only sparse black rock frags
113	Hallgate A type ware	1	4	1	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy green glaze ext	C13th	
113	Hallgate A ware	1	2	1	BS	Hollow ware	Combed wavy lines ext	C13th	
208	Coal Measures Whiteware type	2	14	2	BS	Hollow ware	Thin, sparse green glaze ext; rilled body	C14th – C15th	Fine, even Coal Measures type fabric
208	Coal Measures Whiteware type	1	2	1	BS	Hollow ware	Yellow-green mottled glaze ext	C14th – C15th	Finer than typical for the type
304	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	99	1	Base	Pancheon	Brown glaze int only	C18th – C19th	
304	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	10	1	BS	Bowl	Brown glaze int only	C18th – C19th	
304	Coal Measures ware	1	20	1	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy dark green glaze ext w/ impressed lines	C14th – C15th	Hard, orange oxidised fabric w/ abundant quartz & black grit but not typical local CMP
304	Coal Measures Whiteware type	1	5	1	BS	Hollow ware	Mottled green glaze ext w/ rilled profile	C14th – C15th	Hard, fine sandy fabric w/ quartz & black grit but finer than typical CMW
304	Oxidised Sandy ware	2	10	1	BS	Hollow ware	Impressed lines ext	C13th – C15th	Local sandy fabric w/ quartz & sparse black grit
304	Transfer printed Whiteware	1	4	1	BS	Plate	Transfer printed cable design around circumference	MC19th – EC20th	
305	Coal Measures Purple ware	1	24	1	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy purple glaze ext	C15th – C16th	Hard, fine dense fabric
305	Hallgate A type ware	1	2	1	Fragment	U/ID	U/Dec	C13th	Shapeless fragment
305	Hallgate A ware	1	7	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	C13th	Black deposit ext
305	Hallgate A ware	3	11	1	?Baluster base	?Jug	U/Dec	C13th	Fabric is as Hallgate A but the form is not a familiar one
305	Late Medieval Sandy ware	1	19	1	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy green glaze int	C15th – C16th	Orange sandy fabric resembling Hallgate A but form is later
305	Midlands Purple type ware	1	13	1	BS	Hollow ware	Purple glaze ext w. shallow impressed lines	C15th – C16th	Very hard, dense, semi-vitrified Coal Measures fabric w/ quartz & black grit
307	Coal Measures Fineware	1	23	1	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy partial green glaze ext	C14th – C15th	Much finer than typical but w/ fine black & white rock frags & quartz; streaky body
307	Coal Measures Purple ware	1	38	1	BS	Hollow ware	Patchy purple glaze ext	C15th – C16th	
	Total	37	592	33					