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Checked by Project Officer	Passed for submission to client
Date	Date
Kenneth Aitchison <i>Project Archaeologist</i>	James Symonds <i>Executive Director</i>

INTRODUCTION

Little Matlock Hamlet, a partnership between the companies of Hawk Estates and Trading Ltd and Major Lease Ltd, have been granted planning permission for alterations to a grade II listed mill building (Sheffield LBC 9A/0237); extensions to a grade II listed row of existing cottages (Sheffield LBC 9A/0234 and Full 99/0233); alterations and extensions to two existing ancillary buildings – for residential use, and up to three areas of new build – for residential use (LBC 9A/0236 and Full 99/0235), subject to a Section 106 agreement. The scheme will include landscaping, works to services and works to the access roads.

This document outlines the proposed aims and methodology for an archaeological field evaluation of land within the boundaries of Scheduled Ancient Monument 28999. It was produced by ARCUS with reference to discussions undertaken with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service and English Heritage.

This project design has been prepared in support of an application for Scheduled Monument Consent. This is an application to receive Class Consent 7 for works of archaeological evaluation under the Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1994.

There is reason to believe that archaeological remains exist on the site but their extent and state of preservation is unclear. English Heritage has advised that the archaeological implications of the proposal cannot be adequately assessed on the basis of the available information. It has been recommended therefore that an archaeological evaluation should be carried out.

Site Location and Land Use

Low Matlock Wheel (also known as Little Matlock Rolling Mill, Low Matlock Mill, Lower Cliff Wheel or Boggey Wheel) lies on the north side of the River Loxley, south and east of Olive Terrace, within the City of Sheffield (SK 3082 8941), 6km west of the centre of Sheffield (**Figure 1**).

The site consists of mill buildings, a range of cottages and two other free-standing buildings, all of which are on the north bank of the river; the site extends onto the wooded south bank of the river.

Part of the site is within the area of Scheduled Ancient Monument 29989 (**Figure 2**).

Standards

ARCUS work to the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

A previous desk-based assessment of the archaeology of the site (Aitchison 2001) identified a complex history of buildings, focusing around a series of water-powered mills on the River Loxley. The earliest documented mill on the site dates from the first half of the eighteenth century. The site was badly damaged and then largely rebuilt following the Great Sheffield Flood of 1864.

The mill buildings on site incorporated the last water-powered steel rolling mill in Sheffield. The mill buildings are grade II* listed, while a row of cottages above the mill which partly date from the start of the nineteenth century and survived the flood are grade II listed. The mill buildings and associated water management features are within the area of the Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Archaeological evaluation has been undertaken outside the area of the Scheduled Ancient Monument (Aitchison & Bell 2001).

PROJECT AIM

These aim of the evaluation is:

- to gather sufficient information to establish presence/absence and character of any unknown archaeological features/deposits within the areas of proposed development;

METHODOLOGY

A series of trenches will be excavated to evaluate the site, focusing on three particular areas of the site - adjacent to the gas governor house and garage; the area of the former reservoir to the west of these buildings; the area that will accommodate a walkway and viewing platform, immediately to the north of the mill tail goit. These trenches are designed to do the minimum necessary to establish the presence and

nature of any archaeological remains on site.

In all areas of trial-trenching, topsoil will be kept separately from subsoil deposits, to facilitate re-instatement of the land. Excavation will cease at the natural subsoil, if no archaeological remains are discovered. If archaeological deposits are encountered, these will be cleaned and recorded.

No deposit will be entirely removed, unless unavoidable, and then not without the approval of the English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments.

Human burials or cremations will be left *in situ* unless removal is absolutely necessary, when Home Office regulations will be adhered to.

All finds that are 'treasure' in terms of the Treasure Act 1997 will be reported to the Coroner and appropriate procedures then followed.

The locations of all trenches are identified in **Figure 3**. These locations are schematic - some variation may have to be accommodated on the ground in order to avoid obstacles etc., but the new locations will still test the same aspects.

Area A - adjacent to the gas governor house and garage

Two trenches will be excavated to test the nature of existing foundations and adjacent areas (ahead of the possibility that new, more extensive foundations will be required). Trench 1 will measure 2m by 1.5m, trench 2 2m by 2m, allowing testing for remains at the eastern end of the former reservoir.

The trenches in Area A will be hand excavated. Topsoil or recent overburden will be removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon to allow recording to take place.

Area B - area of the former reservoir to the west of the gas governor house

Two trenches will be dug in this area. Trench 3 will measure 6m by 2m and will be excavated to test and identify the reservoir's south side. Trench 4 will be L-shaped, measuring 6m in length along each of its long axes, 2m in width. This will be located to test the north and west sides of the reservoir.

The trenches will be machine-assisted, using a toothless ditching-bucket. Topsoil or recent overburden will be removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon

in successive level spits. Under no circumstances will the machine be used to cut arbitrarily down to the natural subsoil. All machining will be carried out under the direct supervision of an archaeologist and will be halted if archaeological deposits are encountered. Subsequently, detailed excavation to allow recording of archaeological deposits will be carried out by hand.

Area C - walkway to the north of the mill tail goit

Three trenches will be excavated in this area to test the area of the proposed walkway and viewing platform.

Trenches 5 and 6 will be in the area of former mill buildings and will measure 3m by 1.5m. Trench 7 will be intended to identify the route of the outflow sluice from the former reservoir. This will also measure 3m by 1.5m.

Excavation in this area can only be undertaken following the clearance of the vegetation that is presently covering this area.

The trenches in Area C will be hand excavated. Topsoil or recent overburden will be removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon to allow recording to take place.

Recording

All trenches will be planned at 1:50, with individual features being planned at 1:20 where additional detail is required. One representative long section of each trench will be produced, at an appropriate scale. Sections and profiles of each feature exposed will be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20, depending on the size of the feature. All plans, sections and profiles will be related to Ordnance Datum in metres.

Trenches which do not contain any archaeological deposits will be photographed and recorded as being archaeologically sterile. The natural stratigraphic sequence within these trenches will be recorded and a representative section drawn.

Finds Collection Policy

Artefactual material will be collected according to an explicit sampling strategy. Material which is obviously modern in date, and derived from unstratified contexts, will not be kept unless it is of exceptional intrinsic interest. Material discarded as a consequence of this policy will be described and quantified in the field. This will involve basic analyses such as counting artefacts, and assigning finds to broad

categories, e.g. plastics, glass etc. All other finds will be retained.

Finds of particular interest or fragility will be retrieved as Small Finds, and located in three dimensions. Other finds, finds within the topsoil, and dense/discrete deposits of finds will be collected as Bulk Finds, from discrete contexts, bagged by material type. Any dense/discrete deposits will have their limits defined on the appropriate plan. All retained finds will be cleaned, marked, catalogued and packed in materials suitable for long term storage.

Monitoring of Field Evaluation Work

Arrangements will be made between ARCUS and the English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments to monitor site works at appropriate intervals. ARCUS will notify the Inspector of Ancient Monuments and the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service of any discoveries of archaeological significance so that additional sites visits can be made, as necessary.

Staffing

The project will be managed by an ARCUS Project Archaeologist and will be co-ordinated by the Project Manager, Mr James Symonds (ARCUS Executive Director).

On-site, the fieldwork will be supervised by the ARCUS Project Archaeologist, with the assistance of three qualified and experienced ARCUS archaeologists.

Specialist Consultants

ARCUS will draw upon the following consultants for specialist advice and analyses if required:

Lithics/worked stone	Dr Mark Edmonds
Prehistoric pottery	Pauline Beswick
Medieval/post-medieval pottery	Dr Chris Cumberpatch

REPORTING THE RESULTS OF THE FIELDWORK

The Project Report

A final report will be available within four weeks of finishing on site. This report will

be produced in accordance with English Heritage guidelines as outlined in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (1991), IFA standards and current best archaeological practice. The final report will be of standard ARCUS format and will contain:

- National Grid reference of the site;
- date and duration of fieldwork;
- name of Project Manager and Project Officer;
- author of report, and report date;
- a non-technical summary and introductory statement;
- a detailed account of the techniques employed during the project;
- a detailed plan of the position and layout of the trial trenches, related to fixed points;
- a full record of all artefactual material recovered or recorded;
- a full record of all environmental samples taken and description of analyses undertaken;
- summary analysis of all material recovered;
- analysis of the nature and significance of material recovered or recorded;
- an indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by development to date;
- examination of the results of the work in a regional context.

The full report will be completed by project staff in consultation with appropriate specialists..

The Project Archive

The archive, including any finds, will be deposited with the Sheffield City Museum. This will be done according to the requirements for such depositions outlined by the museum, English Heritage, and following agreement with the landowner. These agreements will be made prior to commencement of the fieldwork.

The project archive will be prepared by the project staff in accordance with the requirements specified in *Management of Archaeological Projects*, Appendix 3

(1991) and in accordance with the *Guideline for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (United Kingdom Institute of Conservation 1990).

The archive will include:

- a summary of the project;
- a guide to the archive;
- the project design;
- the complete site archive, including all data, records and correspondence, produced during the programme of fieldwork;
- all artefactual and environmental material, appropriately indexed, conserved and packaged.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

ARCUS will ensure all service pipes/cables etc. are located, and measures are taken to avoid disturbing such services. ARCUS adheres to the University of Sheffield Health and Safety Policy, and observes the recommendations of the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) Health and Safety manual. A copy of the ARCUS Health & Safety Manual for Archaeological Excavation is available on request.

INSURANCE

ARCUS is fully insured as part of the University of Sheffield. The University currently maintains insurance cover as follows:

Employers Liability	£10 million
Public Liability	£25 million
Professional Indemnity	£10 million

VARIATIONS CLAUSE

Variations to the brief and agreed specifications will only be made by prior agreement between all appropriate parties.

DISPUTES

In the event of any dispute arising out of this Design (including those considered as such by only one of the parties) either party may forthwith give to the other notice in writing of such a dispute or difference and the same shall be and is hereby referred for decision in accordance with the Rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' *Arbitration scheme for the Institute of Field Archaeologists* applying at the date of this Design.

REFERENCES

Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1994.

Treasure Act. 1997.

Aitchison, K. 2001. *Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of Low Matlock Mill, Loxley Valley, Sheffield*. Unpublished ARCUS report 597.1.

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English Heritage. 1991. *Management of Archaeological Projects*.

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United Kingdom Institute of Conservation. 1990. *Guideline for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage*.

FIGURES