



**Chris Butler MfA
Archaeological Services Ltd**



**An Archaeological Watching Brief
at the
Wish Tower Café,
Eastbourne,
East Sussex.**

(EB/2012/0020)

CBAS0274

By

Andy Bradshaw

January 2013

Summary

An archaeological watching brief during demolition works and other groundworks at the Wish Tower Café, Eastbourne, did not reveal any surviving evidence for the Emergency Coastal Battery that was located at the site during the Second World War.

The watching brief demonstrated that the concrete slab floor of the demolished café is a suspended floor with cavities below. It is suggested that remains of the Emergency Coastal Battery and earlier archaeological remains may well be preserved below this suspended floor.

Work adjacent to the Counter Scarp Wall revealed a complex stratigraphy of made ground, all probably of 19th century material, and the foundations of the Counter Scarp Wall, together with a wall and floor of unknown date and purpose.

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd was commissioned by Eastbourne Borough Council (The Client) to carry out an Archaeological Watching Brief and Standing Building recording during the demolition and other works at the Wish Tower Café, Eastbourne, East Sussex (Fig. 6). As a result of the site's location, and the archaeological potential of the area, the local planning authority has required an appropriate programme of archaeological work to be undertaken in connection with the planning application EB/2012/0020.
- 1.2 The site is situated on an area of elevated ground on Eastbourne seafront (TV 6133 9822). A Martello Tower (the Wish Tower) is situated immediately to the north-east of the site, and to the south is a steep drop onto the esplanade and beach. The site was occupied by an Emergency Coastal Battery during the Second World War, and there is some uncertainty as to whether any of the café structure preserves part of the battery.
- 1.3 The Wish Tower Cafe was opened in 1961 as a sun lounge and cafe, having been built as a memorial to the town's residents killed during the Second World War. The existing café structure is to be demolished due to its poor state of preservation.
- 1.4 The underlying geology of the site according to the British Geological Survey (sheet 319/334) is an outcrop of Upper Greensand, with Head Deposit immediately to the north and a small outcrop of Gault clay to the south-west.
- 1.5 The appropriate programme of archaeological work comprises an Archaeological Watching Brief and Standing Building Recording, as specified in a brief prepared by the Archaeology Team at ESCC. A Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared covering the watching brief¹.
- 1.6 The watching brief was required to monitor any intrusive groundwork's at the site during the demolition process, including the opening up of exploratory areas prior to the demolition commencing. The standing building recording requires a record of any Second World War structural remains at English Heritage Level 2 standard prior to the demolition, and monitoring during the demolition process.
- 1.7 A preliminary site visit was made by Chris Butler, on 2nd February 2012 to monitor the opening up of sections of walling at the café prior to demolition. This is the subject of a separate report².

¹ Butler, C. 2012 *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief and Building Recording at the Wish Tower Café, Eastbourne, East Sussex*, CBAS.

² Butler, C. 2012 *Interim Report on the Archaeological Watching Brief and Building Recording at the Wish Tower Café, Eastbourne, East Sussex*. CBAS

2. Archaeological & Historical Background

- 2.1 The site gets its name from the Martello Tower located immediately to its north. The Martello Tower was built during the Napoleonic Wars³, and on its completion in 1808 it was manned by the East Sussex Volunteer Corps until 1812. Later in the 19th century it was used by the Coastguard, and then between 1886 and the 1930's it was a Museum of Geology⁴. The name 'Wish Tower' comes from the marshy ground that originally surrounded the site.
- 2.2 The Martello Tower was No. 73, in a line of 74 towers along the South Coast between Folkstone in Kent and Seaford. It was built from yellow bricks, and was originally surrounded by a moat. The tower is currently unused, and has been given a rendered outer surface, scored to give the impression that it is constructed from masonry blocks. The surrounding moat has been partly in-filled, although it can be traced today as a landscaped feature.
- 2.3 During the Second World War the Wish Tower was requisitioned, and a two-storey concrete structure was added to the roof, and used as an observation post and magazine for an Emergency Coastal battery (Fig. 7). The two gun positions, containing First World War 6" guns, were mounted immediately in front of the Tower. The guns were initially manned by 342 Coast Battery, then later by 343 Coast battery, and finally by the Home Guard⁵.
- 2.4 After the Second World War the concrete structure was removed from the Martello Tower, and the Emergency Coastal Battery was apparently demolished. However part of the café stands on the location of the No 1 Gun position, and it has been suggested that the concrete base of the gun position, and perhaps some of the wall structure, may have been utilised within and preserved by the construction of the later café.
- 2.5 Two sketch plans of the battery exist (Figs. 8 & 9), both of which show the location of the No 1 gun position to be exactly where the café is situated, however both differ slightly in detail. An aerial photograph of 1947 appears to show both gun positions still in existence, but an OS map of 1960 (Fig. 10) shows the area to the south of the Martello Tower to be empty of structures and apparently landscaped, suggesting that both gun positions had gone prior to the café having been built. However, as has been shown elsewhere, these positions were substantial structures, and it is very likely that they were simply covered over, and may have then been incorporated into the new café when it was built.

³ Telling, R.M. 1997 *English Martello Towers*, CST Books

⁴ Butler, C. 2007 *East Sussex under Attack*, Tempus Publishing Ltd

⁵ Ibid.

3.0 Archaeological Methodology

- 3.1** The watching brief consisted of six consecutive visits to the site to monitor the demolition of the former Wish Tower Café and the clearance of the site in preparation for future development (Fig.11). Several test pits/bore holes were also excavated to determine the depth of the remaining foundations, and further holes were excavated whilst replacing services to the site; these operations were monitored and recorded during these visits.
- 3.2** The site visits were carried out between 21st June 2012 and 4th October 2012, by Andy Bradshaw, Keith Butler, Dave Atkin and Caroline Russell. In order to present a clear picture of the activities on the site each visit will be dealt with in chronological order in Section 4.
- 3.3** The spoil from the excavations was inspected on a regular basis to recover any artefacts or ecofacts of archaeological interest. A Garrett Ace 150 metal detector was initially used to scan the location of the trenches however very few signals were encountered and those that were that turned out to be modern iron artefacts.
- 3.4** All archaeologically deposits were excavated and recorded according to accepted professional standards and to the ESCC Recommended Conditions. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart.
- 3.5** A full photographic record of the work was kept as appropriate and will form part of the site archive. The archive is presently held by Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd, and a site reference of WTC12 has been allocated. After any further analysis, the archive will be deposited at Eastbourne Museum, and an accession number 2012.12 has been allocated.

4 The Results

21st June 2012 – Demolition of the Wish Tower Café.

- 4.1** This visit was timed to coincide with the demolition of former café and the removal of debris from the site, it was hoped that at this stage the south side of the Napoleonic Counter Scarp Wall to the south of Martello 73 (The Wish Tower) would be exposed along with any further remains from that period. Additionally any surviving remains of the Second World War 6in Gun Battery may be revealed. A second brief visit was made on the 25th July 2012 with similar purpose, but nothing was revealed.
- 4.2** The Counter Scarp Wall surrounding Tower 73 was largely exposed during this visit so a photographic record was taken in sections from West to East (e.g. Plate 1). The demolition rubble was examined for any significant archaeological features/artefacts but all was contemporary with the former Café. The remaining building was surveyed for any exposed features, particularly to the west of the building where the floor slab was lower and where the No.2 Gun of the Second World War Battery would have been sited, although nothing was noted.



Plate 1: Revealed Counter Scarp wall

4th July 2012 – Boring of exploratory holes in the existing floor slab.

- 4.3 Two exploratory holes were bored into the existing floor slab (Fig. 3), which was considered at this point to be a concrete foundation slab, upon which future development could take place; this being the case any surviving archaeology maybe revealed. Both of these holes revealed a void beneath, which confirmed that the existing floor slab was in fact a suspended concrete floor slab (Fig. 1). At the base of this void, 1.39m beneath the original floor surface there appeared to be a concrete foundation slab with concrete, possibly reinforced, beams supporting the floor slab.

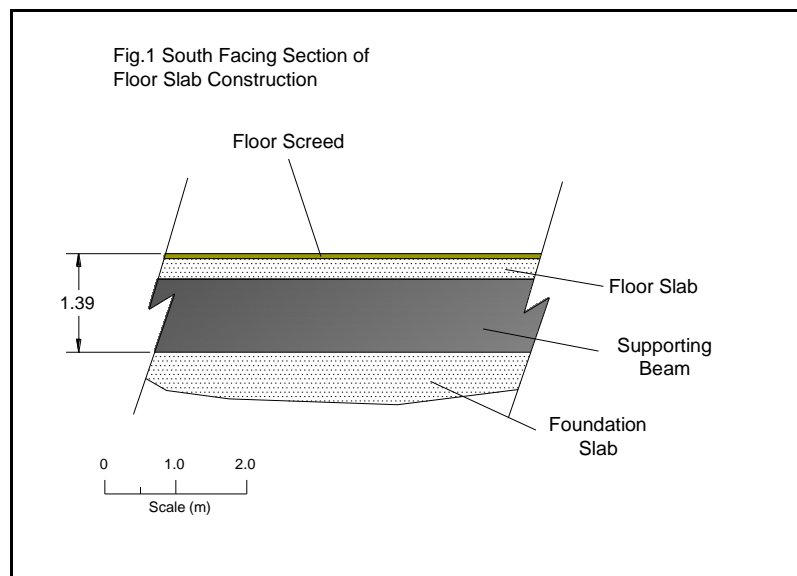


Fig. 1: Representative south facing section of floor slab construction

- 4.4 The suspended floor is 360mm in depth, the lower 290mm consisting of a grey concrete with 50 – 60% inclusions of flint pebbles up to 20mm in size; no reinforcing was visible. The upper part of the floor slab is of a light-brown/buff coloured cement floor scree with no inclusions (See Plate 2).



Plate 2: Core sample
taken from the
Suspended Concrete
Floor. 4th July 2012

- 4.5** On the north section of the bored holes is a plain concrete supporting beam stretching from the underside of the suspended floor to the lower concrete foundation slab, this supporting beam runs east to west and has services running along its visible face. Possibly modern Fire Alarm Cabling and Electrical Services Conduit. Along the south edge of the void is a run of black felt insulated trunking, 500mm x 500mm, which appears to be part of the Café's warm air heating system; vents for this system are visible where the floor slab steps down on the western side of the site, also four further cables. See Fig.2

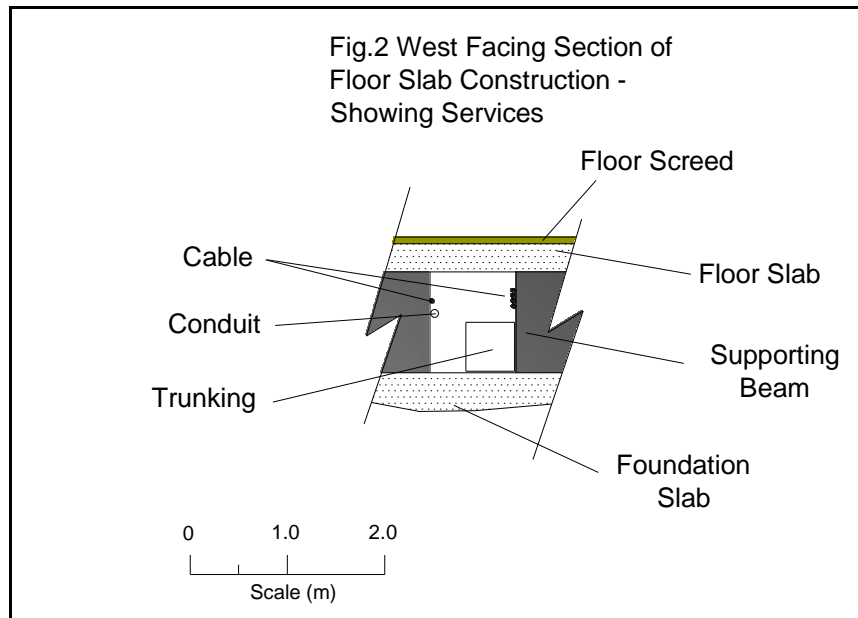


Fig. 2: Schematic west facing section of floor slab showing services

- 4.6** The visible southern extent of the void has a similar supporting beam between the floor slab and the foundation slab so inspection of the area underneath the suspended floor slab was restricted. Eastwards along the void, the trunking turns south against a further concrete beam (Plate 3). An attempt to lift the adjacent manhole cover, to further investigate this was unsuccessful as it was welded closed.



Plate 3: View east along the exposed services void showing trunking cornering to the south.

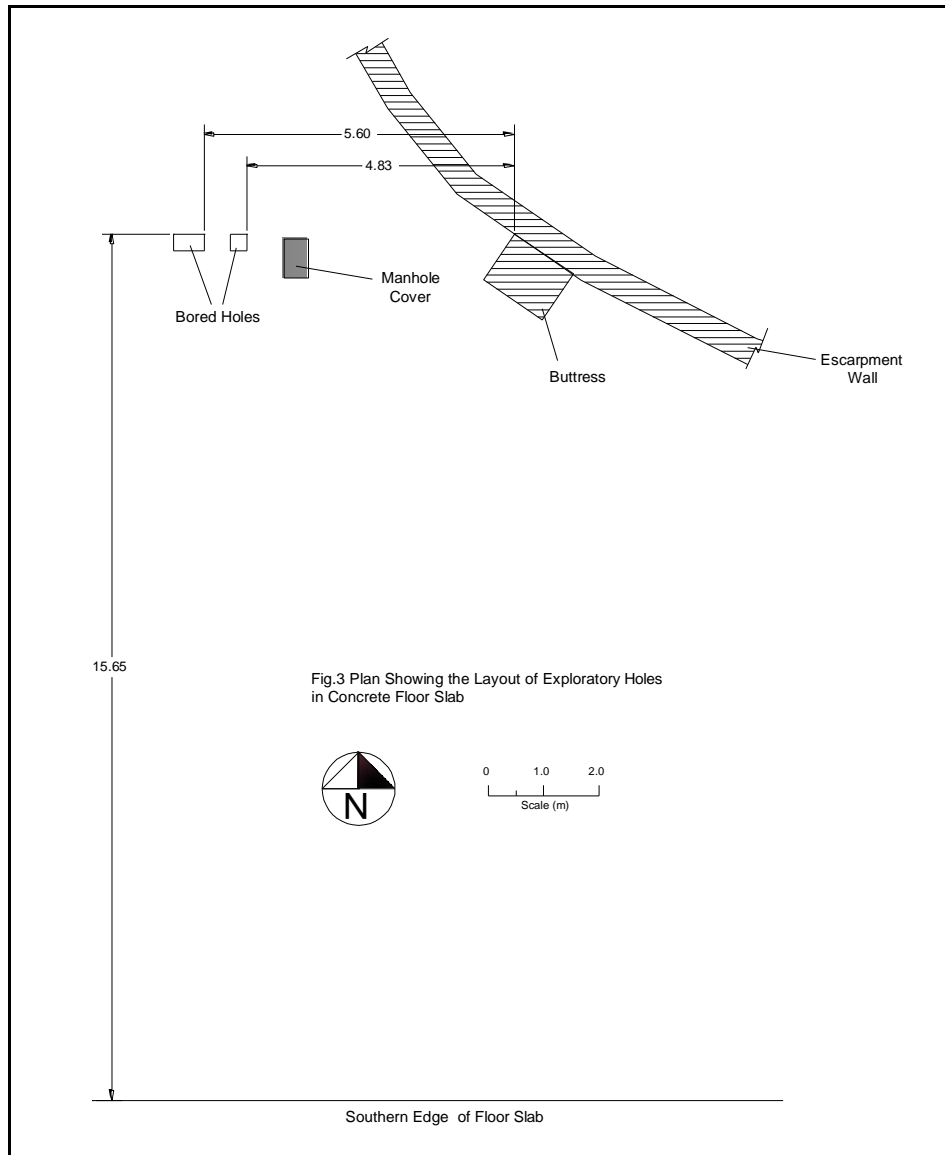


Fig. 3: Plan showing location of exploratory holes 4.7.12

31st August 2012 – Visit to Survey the removed Balcony.

4.7 The cantilever Balcony, that originally over hung the Promenade was removed exposing the southern face of the concrete slab in section and possibly any indication of any existing archaeology, the supporting RSJ's being cut flush with the Promenade Wall and left exposed (Plate 4). The Café had now been completely demolished and all debris removed from the site, inspection still showed no evidence of any surviving archaeology.



Plate 4: The Cantilever Balcony has been removed exposing the southern edge of the concrete slab and ends of its supporting RSJ's.

12th September 2012 – Monitoring of Additional Exploratory Holes.

- 4.8** It was decided that further boreholes and excavation were necessary to understand the structure of the concrete slab and the underlying ground before any future development plans could be determined by the client and developer. At the time of the visit a small trench had been dug to re-route services on the south side of the Counter Scarp Wall from an existing cut through the wall, and a further set of boreholes were to be drilled to obtain the structural data required for future development (Fig. 12).
- 4.9** The group of six holes were drilled through the concrete slab which revealed it to be 200mm thick and onto soft made-ground; excavation was stopped at this point. The concrete itself was of a light-mid grey in colour with gravel aggregate inclusions up to 30mm in size. The made ground below was a soft, mixed deposit which was left unexcavated. The new service trench had been excavated to a depth of c200mm and did not impact on the made ground below the concrete.

24th September 2012 – Monitoring of Trench Excavation.

- 4.10** A Test Pit, 700mm east to west, by 600mm north to south was excavated through the concrete at a point 400mm south of the Counter Scarp Wall (Fig.12 and Plate 5), for proposed foundations for a new buttress. Initial excavation, through the concrete was by drilling which showed that the floor slab of the restaurant was 250mm deep at this point Context **100**. This context was of a very firm, mid grey concrete with 5% inclusion of pebbles.



Plate 5: Location of Test Pit 24th September

- 4.11** Below this a Pit was then excavated, of the same dimensions as stated above, this consisted of a thick layer of CBM, Context **101**. This context was loosely compacted with many voids, generally mid grey in colour with a sandy loam. Inclusions within the context were CBM at 1%, and pieces of concrete, up to 300mm at 50%. The hard-core found consisted of red and yellow bricks a sample of this was retained.
- 4.12** The foundation layer of the Restaurant Wall was exposed and consisted of red bricks laid in a Stretcher Bond, with Stretcher of 220mm, Headers of 110mm which were 60mm thick. The bonding material was a yellowish/grey mortar (Context **102**).

4th October 2012 – Test Pit for Supporting Buttress to Counter Scarp Wall.

- 4.13** A Test Pit was dug, prior to the arrival of CBAS on site, 0.62m west of the existing triangular buttress in the Counter Scarp Wall (Fig. 12 and Plate 6); this was to determine the depth of foundations of the Counter Scarp Wall surrounding Tower 73, before a supporting buttress was built, as the earlier test pit had not been of sufficient depth. Fig. 4 shows the plan of this pit. This test pit revealed three distinct Stratigraphic formations.

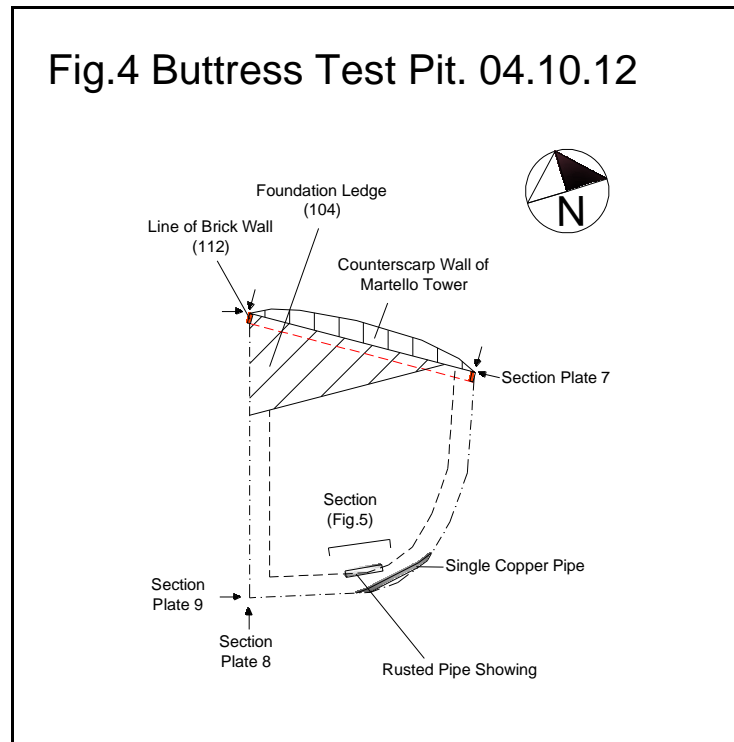


Plate 6: Location of Test Pit 4th October

- 4.14** *Stratigraphy 1* - On its north side the Test Pit revealed the stone and red brick of the Counter Scarp Wall surrounding Tower 73 (The Wish Tower). This stratigraphy, exhibited alternating courses of brick and stonework (Greensand stone.) of the Counter Scarp Wall around Tower 73. The stonework extended up to 120mm above the current ground level and up to 230mm beneath it, the last course being formed of hard concrete like material. The lower brick layer, of up to 3 courses, extended 260mm beneath the upper stonework and had no consistent face to it having at some point been excavated through. This layer formed Context **103**. A metal strap was noted in Context **103** which was located 310mm beneath the ground surface, it was not possible to remove this strap for further analysis, but it may have formed part of an earlier wall tie, or perhaps a lightning conductor.
- 4.15** Directly beneath this was a ledge of a Greensand stone and mortar wall foundation layer, Context **104**, forming the foundation of the Counter Scarp Wall. The bonding mortar was pale off-white in colour with inclusions of flint, under 0.51cm³ in size, with chalk and charcoal flecks. This foundation was exposed 0.56m below the ground surface, the original depth of the pit may have exposed the limit of these foundations at one end, but this local sondage had been backfilled before CBAS arrived on site. The foundation continued down beyond the limit of excavation so it was not possible to determine its true extent (Plate 7).
- 4.16** The excavation had removed a red brick wall which appeared to have run up to and over the foundation ledge from east to west, evidence of this walling was seen at the opposite end, particularly where the wall had been sliced through, the date of this wall is uncertain.



Plate 7: South facing section showing Counter Scarp Wall foundation

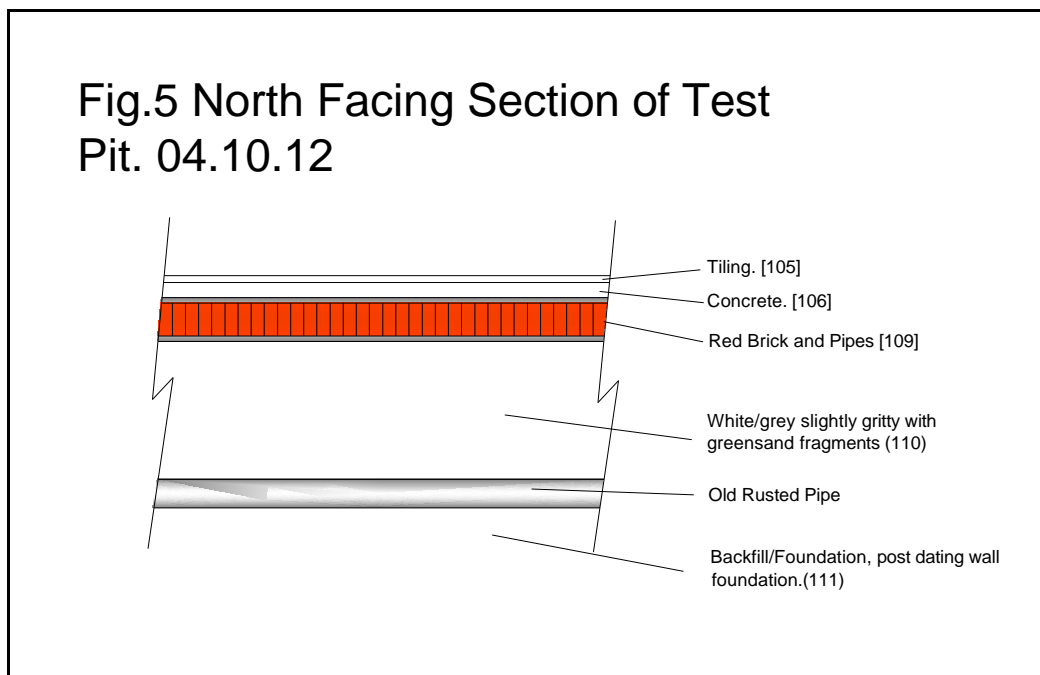


4.17 Stratigraphy 2 – This Stratigraphy formed the East Facing Section of the Test Pit and consisted of an upper Context **105** of two courses of tile, 7cm in depth over a layer of concrete (Context **106**) of 190 – 200mm thick. This concrete sat on Context **107** of Grey Clay with inclusions of Greensand Stone fragments and grey, gritty gravel 0.76m in depth; the context appeared similar to Context **110**, found in Stratigraphy 3, See below, but contained noticeably more Greensand Stone fragments (Plate 8).



Plate 8. East facing section of the Test Pit recorded on the 4th October 2012

4.18 Stratigraphy 3 - The North Facing Section of the Test Pit revealed a stratigraphy that is illustrated in the representative section shown in Fig. 5. The upper Context **105** consisted of a layer of Tiling which was laid over a deposit of concrete, Context **106**, the Tiling being 30mm in depth with 70mm of underlying concrete. Beneath this concrete was a services layer, probably modern, of red brick which separated two copper pipes in gritty sand approximately 20cm in depth. Context **109** (Fig. 5 and Plate 9).



4.19 Underlying this there was revealed whitish/grey clay (Context **110**) which contained greensand and brick fragments and extended for an overall depth of 0.63m below Context **109**. At the base of this deposit a rusted pipe ran east to west across the Test Pit, its purpose was not clear. The brick and sandstone fragments along with rusted pipe and also that this context lies on top of the Counter Scarp Wall foundation indicates that it is made ground. The base of this exposed stratigraphic sequence was formed by Context **111**. This consisted of a whitish/brown mortar with occasional charcoal and small orangey sandy flecks with flints of less than 1cm³ in size. This context was at least 70mm in depth to the limit of excavation. A sondage had been excavated through this layer at one end of the trench, which could have determined its absolute depth but had been backfilled, with Context **108**, prior to CBAS being on site. This layer appeared to be a foundation of some sort, but to what was unclear.



Plate 9. North Facing Section of Test Pit recorded on the 4th October 2012 showing Stratigraphy 3.

- 4.20** Several features were exposed in this test pit which are worthy of special attention. At the base of the Test Pit a foundation layer, Context **111**, which initially appeared to be a floor surface, was exposed. See Plate 9. This had already been dug into at the eastern end and backfilled (Forming the Sondage mentioned above.) From the remaining sondage it could be seen that this layer was at least 70mm in depth to the limit of the excavation and consisted of a whitish/brown mortar with occasional charcoal flecks, small orangey sandy flecks and flints of under 1.0cm³ in size. This layer continued into the surrounding sections and up to a ledge against the South Facing Section.
- 4.21** A ledge of the foundation to the Counter Scarp Wall was exposed, Context **104** (See Plates 7- 9); this foundation went to beneath the limit of excavation, but more may have been exposed when the sondage was open. The remains of a brick wall (Context **112**), originally running from east to west across the Test Pit, was evidenced in the sections. See Plate 7. This wall had been removed when the Test Pit was dug and consisted of 13 courses (0.99m) of red bricks with 65mm deep headers their length running back into the eastern and western sections and it had a width of 150mm. The bonding material was pale yellow/orange mortar with inclusions of fine sand. The wall terminated immediately below the concrete layer (Context **106**) showing that it pre-dated this, it also appeared to run up to and over the foundation ledge (Context **104**) showing that it post-dated this feature. The wall appeared to extend back 370mm before turning away from the Counter Scarp Wall, any further evidence of this wall was outside the limits of this Test Pit.

5.0 Finds by Luke Barber

- 5.1** A small assemblage of finds was recovered from made ground (Context **101**) all of which suggest a deposition date in the very late 19th, or more likely, early 20th century. Three fragments (404g) from the same crudely made and low/medium fired red brick were recovered. The brick has a poorly mixed fabric containing sparse fine sand and moderate iron oxide and marl pellets to 5mm. It even contains very rare inclusions of flint and slate to 9mm and the brick is unlikely to be earlier than the late 19th century. The other brick fragment (174g) is from a well formed and medium fired yellow brick tempered with fine sand and some marl. A general 19th century date is probable.
- 5.2** The single peg tile fragment (18g) is well formed and fired. Its temper, odd sparse fine sand with rare iron oxides to 0.5mm could be of any date between the mid 18th and early 20th centuries. The only other find consists of part of a salt-glazed drain (436g) of very late 19th or early 20th century date.
- 5.3** The assemblage has been discarded.

6.0 Conclusions

Watching Brief of 21st June 2012

- 6.1** The intention of this visit was to examine the demolition of the former Wish Tower Café and to investigate if any significant remains of either the Napoleonic or World War Two periods that had been revealed; additionally to take a photographic record of the southern side of the Counter Scarp Wall surrounding Tower 74. The Wish Tower Café had been built on, what was then thought to be, a simple concrete foundation slab. The demolition operation did not intrude into this slab so no evidence was revealed beneath this level, also an examination of the rubble showed nothing that would not be contemporary with the Café.

Watching Brief of 4th July 2012

- 6.2** In order for the Structural Engineers to understand the construction of the foundation slab a series of holes were to be drilled through it and it was the intention to examine whatever was revealed beneath. These boreholes cut through the foundation slab in a localised area adjacent the west end of the Counter Scarp Wall underneath was revealed a services area, with several pipes, cables and trunking running east to west along it. The trunking appeared to be part of the hot air heating to the former café and, as far as could be seen, terminated at the step in the floor slab at the western side of the café; possibly in vents. A core of the concrete was recovered; Everything seen during this visit appeared to be contemporary with café.

Visit 31st August 2012

- 6.3** The continued demolition of the café involved the removal of the cantilever balcony, overhanging the promenade. The removal of this feature could possibly reveal, in its south facing section, evidence of earlier features on the site, or possibly part of the hardened emplacement of the 6in Gun Battery. The removed balcony, had been supported on RSJ's extending from underneath the floor slab of the former café, these remained but were cut off at the face of the southern section. Above these the floor slab of the café was revealed, the rest of the section was clad in concrete tiles up to this floor level, so any earlier features still remained to be exposed.

Watching Brief of 12th September 2012

- 6.4** This Watching Brief was intended to monitor the drilling of several more exploratory holes in the floor slab and an excavation designed to understand the structure of the concrete slab and the underlying ground on which further development plans could be based. The group of six holes drilled revealed the concrete slab to be 200mm thick and directly onto soft made-ground. The concrete itself was of a light-mid grey in colour with gravel aggregate inclusions up to 30mm in size. Similar to the cores revealed in the watching brief of 4th July, see above. The made ground below was a soft, mixed deposit which was left unexcavated at this time.

Watching Brief of 24th September 2012

- 6.5** This was intended to monitor the excavation of a foundation trench for a new supporting Buttress to the Counter Scarp Wall and consisted of a trench 700mm east to west, by 600mm north to south, 400mm south of the Counter Scarp Wall. The concrete of the floor slab was revealed to be 250mm deep at this point. The trench was then excavated beneath this to similar dimensions revealing a layer of CBM (Context **101**). The hard-core here consisted of red and yellow bricks. The foundation of the Restaurant Wall was exposed and consisted of red bricks laid in a Stretcher Bond pattern with a yellowish/grey mortar (Context **102**). Most of what was revealed during this excavation appeared to be contemporary with the Café or its construction, and made ground probably resulting from the construction of the counterscarp wall.

Watching Brief of 4th October 2012

- 6.6** This Watching Brief monitored an excavated Test Pit which cut further down than those before and revealed significantly more about the underlying archaeology of the site. Three differing stratigraphic sequences were revealed showing the construction contemporary with the Café and older archaeology beneath it. The foundation, in the form of a ledge, of the Counter Scarp Wall was revealed running east to west across the trench. A brick wall that post-dated the Counter Scarp Wall, but most probably pre-dated the floor slab of the cafe wall was exposed; the purpose of this wall was unclear within the confines of the excavation. At the base of the Test Pit a deposit which could possibly be an earlier floor or foundation was partly exposed, again, it was not possible to clearly determine the extent or purpose of the this deposit within the confines of the excavation.

7.0 Discussion

- 7.1** The area around Tower 73, the Wish Tower, has two distinct periods from which significant archaeology could still remain, the Napoleonic period of the early 19th Century and the Second World War. The demolition of the Wish Tower Café, and its future redevelopment, has provided the first opportunity in 50 years to attempt to investigate this.
- 7.2** The initial demolition of the Café did not reveal anything that was not contemporary with the Café building itself, but the later investigative works did give us a glimpse into what possibly remains on this site. Firstly the concept that the café was built on a single solid foundation slab was shown to be incorrect, at least in certain areas, but was in fact built on a floor slab with voids beneath it. This opens up the possibility of older features (perhaps from the Emergency Coastal Battery) being incorporated into the lower structure, while also preserving features remaining beneath it. It is therefore recommended that any future intrusive work on the foundations that extends below this slab should be monitored.
- 7.3** The possibility of features remaining sealed beneath the concrete of the former Café was born out by the exposure of the foundation ledge to the Counter Scarp wall, a brick wall and a possible floor/foundation level in the last of the Test Pits excavated; giving us a vague timeline, perhaps representing made ground (Contexts **107/110**) associated with the construction of the counterscarp wall, and then later disturbance and features associated with the Café, and possibly the ECB. These were revealed in the limited area of a single Test Pit so their total extent could not be fully ascertained; hopefully this may be possible in the future.
- 7.4** If future work is undertaken on the retaining wall of the promenade, particularly if its facing is removed, there is a possibility that features could be revealed in the exposed section and so it is recommended that such works are monitored and recorded.
- 7.5** Any archaeology which remains beneath the concrete floor/foundation structure will remain sealed as long as no intrusive work is undertaken, however if such work is necessary it would be highly desirable that the opportunity be taken to record any features that are revealed and recover any significant artefacts from the site. By doing this we could add to our knowledge of one of Eastbourne's most famous landmarks.

8.0 Acknowledgements

- 8.1** We would like to thank Joanne Martin of Eastbourne Borough Council for appointing CBAS Ltd to undertake the watching brief. Andy Christmas and Paul Comber of Hamsons co-ordinated the project for Eastbourne Borough Council.
- 8.2** The project was managed by Chris Butler for CBAS Ltd, and monitored for ESCC by Greg Chuter, Assistant County Archaeologist, and by Paul Roberts for English Heritage.

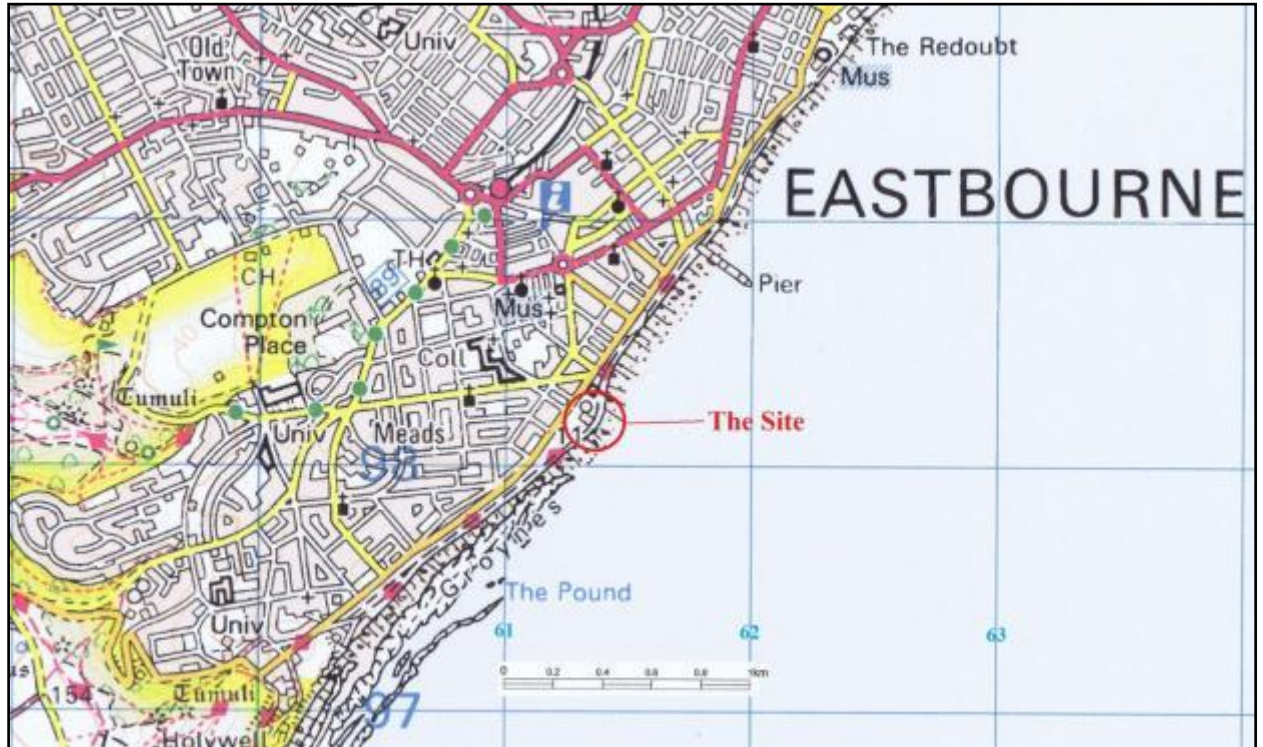


Fig. 6: Wish Tower Café, Eastbourne: Location map
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Fig. 7: Wish Tower Café, Eastbourne: Photograph of one of the guns in the ECB manned by Home Guard

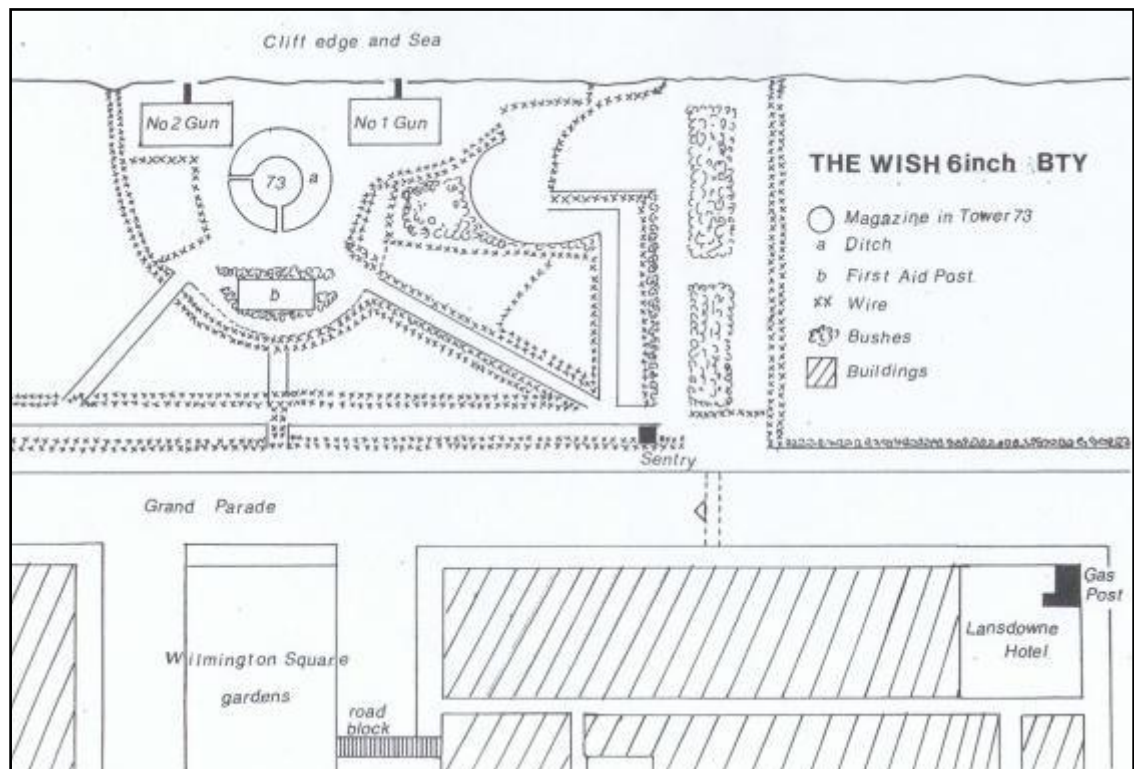


Fig. 8: Wish Tower Café, Eastbourne: Sketch map of ECB

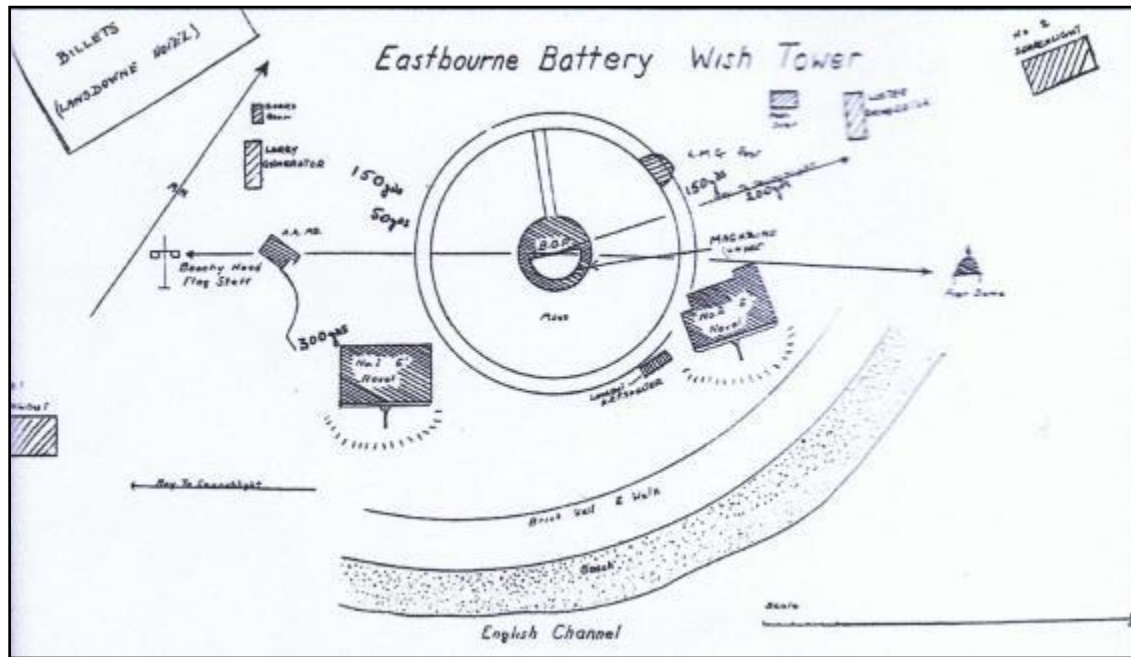


Fig.9: Wish Tower Café, Eastbourne: Sketch map from war diary of 342 Coast Battery

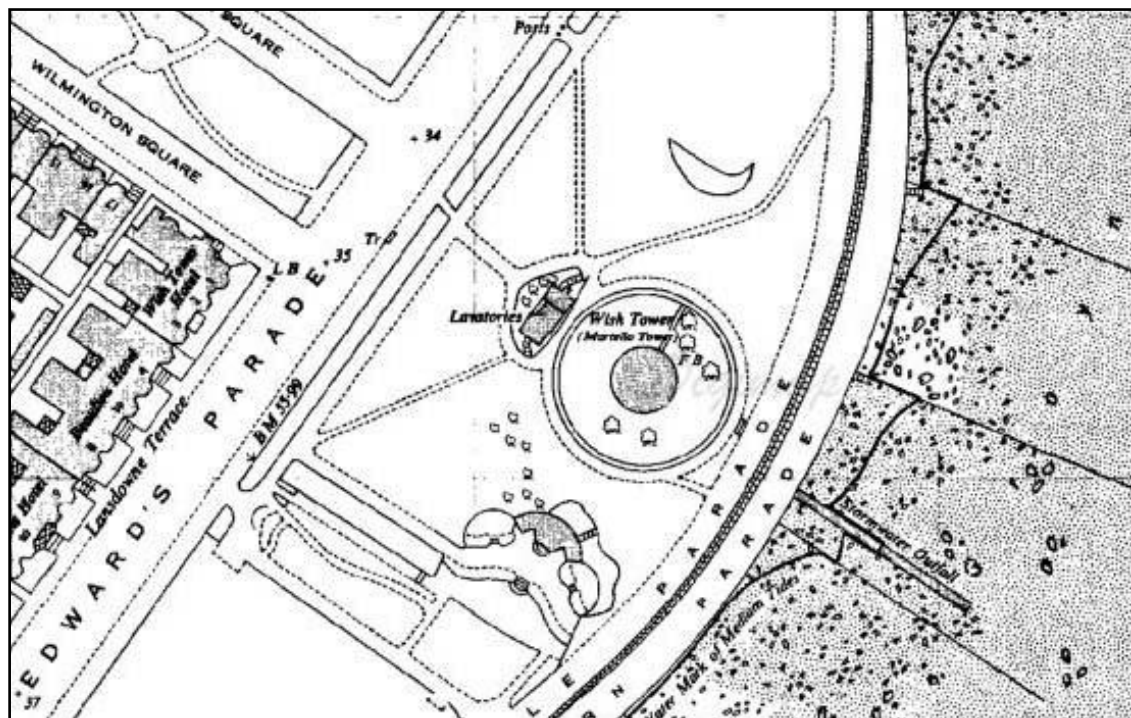


Fig. 10: Wish Tower Café, Eastbourne: 1960 OS map
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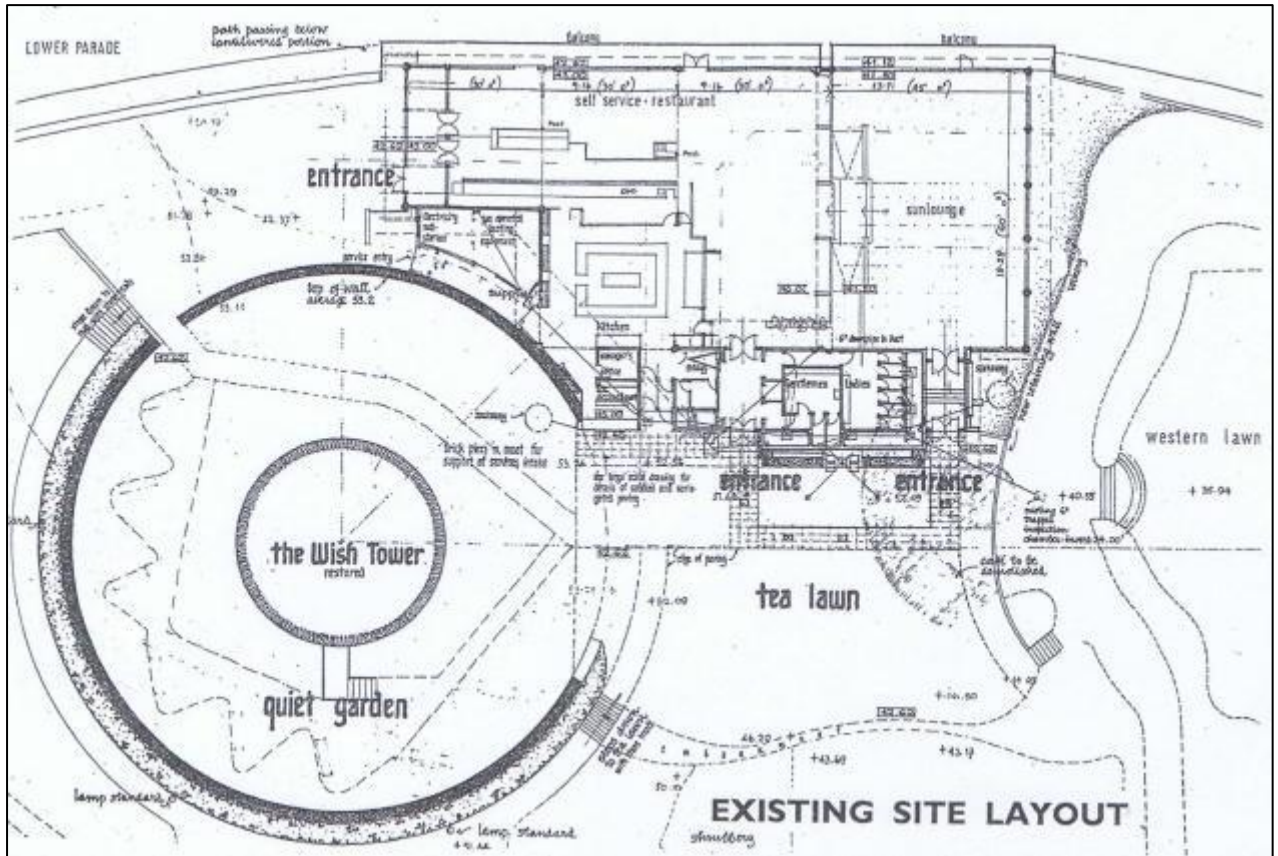


Fig. 11: Site Plan showing Wish Tower, Counter Scarp Wall and Wishtower Café

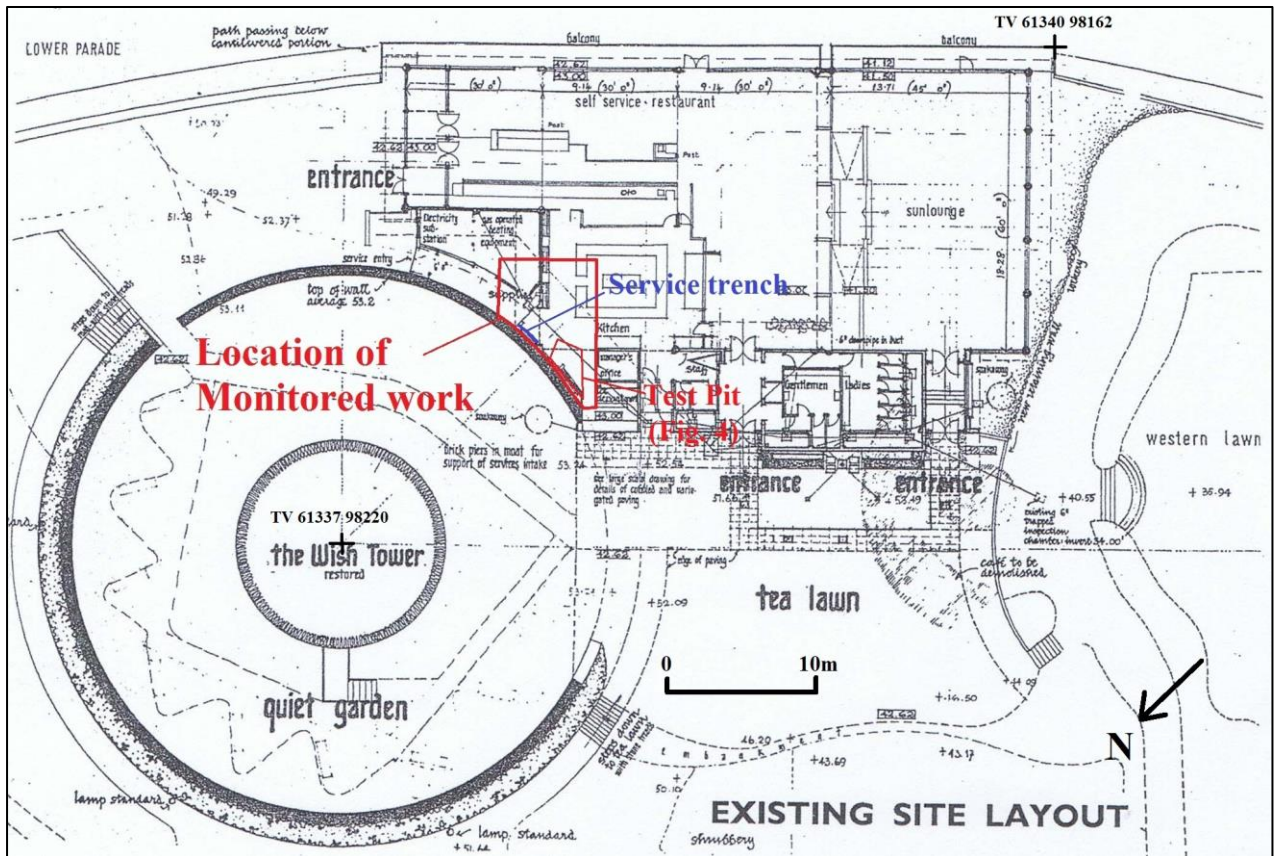


Fig. 12: Site plan showing location of monitored work

Appendix 1 HER Summary Form

Site Code	WTE.12					
Identification Name and Address	Wish Tower Café. Eastbourne.					
County, District &/or Borough	Eastbourne					
OS Grid Refs.	TV 6133 9822					
Geology	Upper Greensand with Head Deposit & Gault Clay.					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief X	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban X	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	WB. Various 2012	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Eastbourne Borough Council.					
Project Manager	Chris Butler MifA					
Project Supervisor	Andy Bradshaw					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM X	Other		
<p>100 Word Summary.</p> <p><i>An archaeological watching brief during demolition works and other groundworks at the Wish Tower Café, Eastbourne, did not reveal any surviving evidence for the Emergency Coastal Battery that was located at the site during the Second World War.</i></p> <p><i>The watching brief demonstrated that the concrete slab floor of the demolished café is a suspended floor with cavities below. It is suggested that remains of the Emergency Coastal Battery and earlier archaeological remains may well be preserved below this suspended floor.</i></p> <p><i>Work adjacent to the Counter Scarp Wall revealed a complex stratigraphy of made ground, all probably of 19th century material, and the foundations of the Counter Scarp Wall, together with a wall and floor of unknown date and purpose.</i></p>						

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd

Chris Butler has been an archaeologist since 1985, and formed the Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team in 1987, since when it has carried out numerous fieldwork projects, and was runner up in the Pitt-Rivers Award at the British Archaeological Awards in 1996. Having previously worked as a Pensions Technical Manager and Administration Director in the financial services industry, Chris formed **Chris Butler Archaeological Services** at the beginning of 2002.

Chris is a Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, a committee member of the Lithic Studies Society, and is a part time lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Sussex. He continues to run the Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team in his spare time.

Chris specialises in prehistoric flintwork analysis, but has directed excavations, landscape surveys and watching briefs, including the excavation of a Beaker Bowl Barrow, a Saxon cemetery and settlement, Roman pottery kilns, and a Mesolithic hunting camp. He has also recently undertaken an archaeological survey of Ashdown Forest and Broadwater Warren.

Chris Butler Archaeological Services Ltd is available for Flintwork Analysis, Project Management, Military Archaeology, Desktop Assessments, Field Evaluations, Excavation work, Watching Briefs, Field Surveys & Fieldwalking, Post Excavation Services and Report Writing.

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