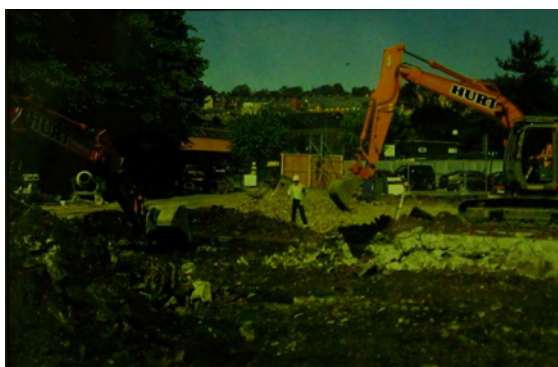


BLACKBURN COLLEGE, BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE



Archaeological Watching Brief Report



Oxford Archaeology North

January 2011

**Blackburn College and DLA
Architecture**

Issue No: 2010-11/1150

OA North Job No: L9718

NGR: SD 6789 2819

Planning Ref: 10/06/0036

Document Title: BLACKBURN COLLEGE, BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE

Document Type: Archaeological Watching Brief Report

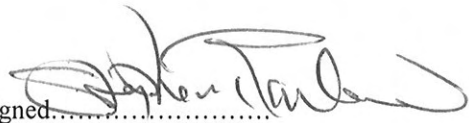
Client Name: Blackburn College and DLA Architecture

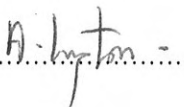
Issue Number: 2010-11/1150
OA North Job Number: L9718
Site Code: BC06
Planning reference: 10/06/0036
National Grid Reference: SD 6789 2819

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SUMMARY

A planning application (10/06/0036) was submitted by DLA Architecture, on behalf of Blackburn College, for the construction of a Sixth Form and Computing Centre on land to the rear of Victoria Building, between Blakey Moor/St Paul's Street and St Paul's Avenue, Blackburn (NGR SD 6789 2819). The site lies within an area formerly occupied by late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century weaver's housing and a nineteenth-century foundry, and it was considered that extant remains of these could potentially be exposed during the groundworks. Accordingly, Lancaster County Archaeology Service (LCAS) recommended that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken on any intrusive groundworks across the site. Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned to undertake the programme of works in accordance with the written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced by LCAS.

The work comprised four phases of watching brief between June and October 2006. During the course of the watching briefs no significant archaeological features or deposits, and few finds, were identified. A series of thick made-ground layers were identified, cumulatively up to 2m thick. One such made ground layer contained a number of glass and stoneware bottles dating to the late nineteenth or twentieth century, and it is likely that these deposits derive from the demolition of earlier structures on the site. The present scheme of groundworks rarely exposed the natural drift geology, and it is possible that sub-surface remains of the foundry and of the weaver's cottages may be preserved beneath the blanket of demolition debris. Survival of all but the most robust of upstanding elements is, however, unlikely.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OA North would like to thank Blackburn College for commissioning the work, and Jamie Davenport of DLA Architecture and John Pearson of Pearson Fraser Ltd for facilitating the work. OA North is also grateful to Steve Rawlingson of Eric Wright Construction, the principal on-site contractor.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Jeremy Bradley, Kelly Clapperton, Jason Clarke, Steve Clarke, and Neil Wearing. The report was compiled by Kelly Clapperton, and the drawings were produced by Marie Rowland. The finds report was compiled by Chris Howard-Davis, and the report was edited by Dr Richard Gregory and Stephen Rowland, the latter of whom managed the project.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

1.1.1 A planning application (10/06/0036) was submitted by DLA Architecture on behalf of Blackburn College, for the construction of a four-storey Sixth Form and Computing Centre on land to the rear of Victoria Building, between Blakey Moor/St Paul's Street and St Paul's Avenue, Blackburn (NGR SD 6789 2819; Fig 1). The site lies within an area formerly occupied by late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century housing and a nineteenth-century foundry, and it was considered that extant remains of these could potentially be exposed during the groundworks. Accordingly, Lancaster County Archaeology Service (LCAS) recommended that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken on any intrusive groundworks across the site. Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned to undertake the programme of works in accordance with the written scheme of investigation produced by LCAS (*Appendix 1*). The work took place intermittently between June and October 2006.

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

1.2.1 The development site is located in a triangle of land between Blakey Moor to the north, St Paul's Street to the west, St Paul's Avenue to the south-west, and Nab Lane to the south-east (Fig 1). The ground is generally flat (approximately 107m OD), though slopes away gently to the south-west, and has been subject to recent landscaping.

1.2.2 Blackburn lies within the Lancashire Valleys Character Area, which run south-west from the Pennines (Countryside Commission 1998). The original landscape would have been very similar to the Ribble Valley, but is now heavily industrialised. The underlying geology comprises sandstone and mudstone, with substantial Coal Measures that create troughs across the landscape; Blackburn occupies one such trough. The drift geology consists of glacial till and Cambic Stagnogley Soils (*ibid*; Ordnance Survey (OS) 1983)

1.3 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

1.3.1 The following section represents a brief overview of the archaeological context and potential of the site. It does not seek to be an exhaustive account, examples of which are readily available elsewhere.

1.3.2 ***Prehistoric to Romano-British Periods:*** there has been very little activity dating to the early Prehistoric period identified in Blackburn, with the earliest recorded remains being a number of Bronze Age burials recovered from the area (LCC 2005, 16). The site of Hallows Spring, 500m to the south-east of the college, is considered to have been a focus of religious and secular interest

since the Iron Age (OA North 2005). No sites or finds dating to the Prehistoric period have been discovered within the development site.

- 1.3.3 Blackburn is situated on the line of the north/south-orientated Roman road between Manchester and Ribchester (Margary 1957, 103), following a route that passed to some 400m to the east of the college (OA North 2005). A stone inscribed with a dedication naming Legion VI *Victrix* was reputedly discovered at Hallows Spring in the seventeenth century, although as the Legion was based in York, no meaningful context can be extracted (*ibid*). No sites or finds dating to the Romano-British period are known in the development area.
- 1.3.4 **Medieval Period:** the earliest documented reference to Blackburn is in the Domesday Book of 1086, named after the stream running through the settlement, still known as the Blackwater (LCC 2005, 17; OA North 2008, 16). The town appears to have been of some importance during the early medieval period, and it is named in the fourteenth century as the site of one of the three early churches in east Lancashire, thought to have been founded in AD 598 (OA North 2008, 16). Although there is no direct evidence of this, an earlier structure was exposed during rebuilding of the cathedral in 1820, and may indicate a Norman church on the site (OA North 2005). Blackburn also formed the centre of a major territorial division, later becoming the Hundred of Blackburn, and an Episcopal see (LCC 2005).
- 1.3.5 It was likely that Blackburn, from an early date, formed an important market centre for the surrounding area. Although the earliest reference to a market is in 1498, the presence of a corn mill dating to 1271 would suggest that a market was probably established by the thirteenth century (LCC 2005). The true size of Blackburn during the medieval period is unclear, although it was unlikely that it was subject to much expansion prior to the sixteenth century, with the medieval town centred around Church Street, Darwen Street and the market, somewhat to the south and east of the college (OA North 2008).
- 1.3.6 There is scarce evidence for medieval activity across the development area, with Lang's Plan of 1739 illustrating only enclosed fields. The Blakey Moor Cattle Market, illustrated on the OS first edition map (1848), reputedly dates to the medieval period, and is mentioned in a document of 1548 as having been established for some time (OA North 2008, 88; LHER **6524**). It is suggested that it may have been more likely the traditional site of the cattle fair (OA North 2008, 88).
- 1.3.7 **Post-medieval Period:** the sixteenth century marks the start of the expansion of Blackburn, both in size and importance. A grammar school was already established by 1564, and a purpose-built prison by 1611, reflecting the growth of the town (LCC 2005, 23). By the mid-eighteenth century, however, the town had not expanded much beyond its medieval boundaries, and it has been noted that many of the houses built represented eighteenth century 'in-filling' around Church Street, Northgate and Darwen Street (OA North 2008, 79).
- 1.3.8 Lang's Plan of 1739 illustrates that little or no development had taken place across the study area, with much of the site laid as enclosed fields. By the later

eighteenth century however, extensive development had taken place (Yates 1786), with the establishment of roads and the construction of buildings along the western edge of Blakey Moor.

1.3.9 ***Industrial and Modern Periods:*** from the latter half of the eighteenth century the growth of domestic-based handloom weaving industry stimulated a dramatic increase in the town's size, with the extensive development of streets and alleys, especially to the west of the cathedral (OA North 2008, 17). Both middle-class and working-class areas were constructed, the majority of which centred around the booming textile industry. Housing for wealthy cloth merchants were constructed along King Street, found to the south of the development area, whilst weavers' cottages were established on the fringes of the town. These latter cottages were built along routes such as Nab Lane, which is located to the south-east of the development site (LCC 2005), and by 1800 there was thought to be 20,000 handloom operators in the Blackburn area. Areas such as Blakey Moor, found immediately north of the development site, which was a remnant of the commons that had been enclosed during the seventeenth century, were also subjected to increasing pressure from the population and industrial growth of Blackburn. By the late eighteenth century, this resulted in the construction of settlement on all sides of the common, though the majority of the area remained undeveloped and continued to be used for local cattle fairs.

1.3.10 During the late eighteenth century the first powerloom factories were established, the earliest being constructed before 1778 at Wensley Ford, which is found to the south-west of the development site. In the 1830s, several powerloom mills were then established throughout the town, leading to further growth, the town receiving a charter of incorporation in 1851 (*ibid*). By the late nineteenth century, Blackburn was viewed as a powerloom centre, with 130 mills recorded in 1900 (*ibid*). However, one unfortunate outcome associated with the growth of the nineteenth-century textile industry was the development of urban slums, within which textile factory workers had little choice but to inhabit unsanitary and poverty-stricken dwellings. These insalubrious living conditions were particularly prevalent prior to the introduction of certain local Acts introduced in the 1850s, which attempted to provide adequate living conditions for the inhabitants of these urban slums (*ibid*).

1.3.11 The Industrial Period saw the greatest development of the college site. In 1791 the St Paul's Foundry was established (OA North 2008, 89; LHER **14110**), and is illustrated as a series of long, narrow buildings, running along the south-west edge of Blakey Moor on both the OS first edition map (1848) and Gillies' Map of 1822. The foundry was initially operated under several partnerships until it was taken over by Robert Railton & Sons in the 1820s. By the mid-nineteenth century it was producing small steam engines for the textile industry, and domestic appliances (*ibid*). In 1875 the works were sold, and traded as a tinplate factory by Clayton, Goodfellow & Company, although by the time it is depicted on the OS second edition map (1894), the factory is described as 'disused'. It was finally demolished in 1928 (OA North 2008, 89; LHER **14110**). To the east of the foundry, and still within the development

area, construction began on Blackburn Technical College in 1888 by Smith, Woodhouse and Willoughby (LHER **17056**). It was one of the many civic buildings built in Blackburn during the nineteenth century (OA North 2008). St Paul's Avenue was created after the demolition of St Paul's Foundry in 1928 (OS 1939; OS 1990), which also allowed the college space to expand to the west. It was possible that some of the foundry buildings were retained and developed by the Technical College, as a building in the north-east corner of the site has a near identical footprint to elements of the original foundry (OS 1939). It is thought, however, that the nature of the nineteenth-century development would have substantially removed the majority of the former foundry. Between 1939 and 1990 (OS 1939; OS 1990), the site remained relatively unchanged, although much of the surrounding terraced housing was cleared and replaced with modern developments, including the current college campus (OA North 2008, 87).

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 FIELDWORK

2.1.1 The archaeological watching brief at Blackburn College monitored four separate phases of work (Fig 2). Phase 1 comprised the excavation of foundations for a substation and the planing-off of up to 1.4m of slope material to the east of Victoria House. In Phase 2 1.2m-deep foundations were excavated in St Paul's Avenue carpark for an extension to the college. In Phase 3 the excavation of two lift shafts was overseen, which extended to a depth of 2m below the present ground level. Phase 4, the final stage of the watching brief, observed the excavation of an east/west-aligned service trench to a depth of *c* 2m below present ground levels on the southern side of the site. The trench measured 50m in length, 1.5m in width and 2m in depth at the western end, rising to 1m at the eastern

2.1.2 The excavation of the foundations for the substation and extension was undertaken by a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m toothless ditching bucket. The excavation of the lift shafts and service trench was carried out using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.5m toothed bucket. All mechanical excavation was enacted under the constant supervision of an archaeologist and spoil removed during the excavation was checked for finds.

2.1.3 Throughout the watching brief, the LCAS WSI (*Appendix 1*) was adhered to in full. All deposits observed were photographed and recorded on standard OA North *pro-forma* sheets. Due to the instability of the ground it was not possible to enter the trenches to observe closely the exposed deposits. The indexed photographic archive was created using 35mm cameras, with both colour-slide and monochrome print film; digital photographs were taken for presentation purposes.

2.2 FINDS

2.2.1 All finds recovered were lifted, cleaned and bagged in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid For Finds*, 1998 (new edition). All identified finds and artefacts were retained from all material classes; these were hand collected from stratified deposits for processing and assessment.

2.3 ARCHIVE

2.3.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the WSI (*Appendices 1 and 4*), and in accordance with current Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and English Heritage guidelines (1991). The archive will be deposited in the County Record Office in Preston, and a copy of the report will be sent to the Lancashire HER on completion of the project.

3 RESULTS

3.1 FIELDWORK

- 3.1.1 The following section provides a description of the results of all four phases of the watching brief (Fig 2; Plates 1 to 3). Overall, no features or deposits of archaeological interest, and very few finds, were observed during the watching brief. A description of the contexts observed can be found in *Appendix 2*, towards the rear of the report.
- 3.1.2 **Phase 1:** the excavation of the foundations of the substation revealed an upper tarmac surface (**1000**), which sealed a hardcore layer composed of limestone and brick chippings (**1001**). Beneath this layer, a deposit composed of concrete, brick and clinker (**1002**) and redeposited yellow/grey compacted clay (**1003**) were observed to a depth of 1.4m below ground level, along with a modern brick wall (**1004**; Plate 2). This wall was two courses wide, measuring 0.23m across, was aligned east/west, and measured 6.2m in length.
- 3.1.3 **Phase 2:** the excavation of the foundation trenches for the college extension indicated that below-ground remains in this area of the site were dominated by a thick made ground layer (**1005**). This was observed beneath the modern concrete pavement (**1012**), extended to the base of the trench at a depth of 1.2m below ground level, and was composed of mixed grey/black crushed brick, concrete and stone. A number of glass bottles were also retrieved from this deposit (*Section 3.2*).
- 3.1.4 **Phase 3:** the first lift shaft was excavated through modern deposits of concrete, brick and clinker (**1002**), and crushed brick and concrete (**1006**), which lay above terram matting. Below the terram mat a redeposited dark grey/black silty clay layer (**1007**) was identified. Similar stratigraphy was exposed in the second lift shaft but beneath deposit **1007** at depths of 1.8-2m below ground level was a layer of brownish-yellow silty sand (**1008**), which formed the natural drift geology in this portion of the site.
- 3.1.5 **Phase 4:** the service trench was initially excavated through the tarmac surface (**1000**) and an underlying hardcore layer (**1009**), composed of crushed brick and concrete. Beneath this a levelling deposit was observed, composed of building rubble (**1010**) and mixed coarse black sand and crushed coal waste (**1011**), which at depths of around 1.8-2m sealed the natural drift geology (**1008**) found in this area of the site.

3.2 FINDS

- 3.2.1 In all, four objects were recovered during the watching brief, all from made ground **1005** (*Appendix 3*). Of these, two were complete or almost complete glass bottles, and two were complete stoneware bottles. Both bottles were mould-blown, with 'blob' tops, designed for the reception of a screw stopper. Both were embossed with the names of local tradesmen, and can be dated to the last decades of the nineteenth century. The two stoneware vessels are

likely to be of a similar date, although it must be borne in mind that some products continued to be marketed in stoneware bottles into the twentieth century. Again, one bears the name of a local tradesman, this time impressed rather than embossed.

4 CONCLUSION

4.1 DISCUSSION

4.1.1 Despite the industrial-period archaeological potential of the development site, parts of which were known to have been occupied by late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century weaver's dwellings and by the nineteenth-century St Paul's Foundry, no significant archaeological remains were identified during any of the four phases of watching brief. This dearth of results might be explained in several ways. Firstly, there is the juxtaposition of the areas of archaeological potential relative to those parts of the site that were monitored during the present programme of groundworks. Blakey Moor and its immediate surroundings were developed in a fairly piecemeal fashion over the course of the later eighteenth and nineteenth century, with the original triangular area of land gradually being narrowed to form a single street. It is thus not especially easy to relate features on historical maps with the modern street configuration, but it would appear that substantial elements of the Nab Lane cottages and St Paul's Foundry fall just outside of the wider development area. Moreover, it is apparent that the Nab Lane cottages lie a little further to the south of any of the areas that were monitored, closer to the technical college built in 1888. This rationale cannot, however, explain the absence of remains relating to the foundry, elements of which should have fallen within the northern part of the site monitored in Phases 2 and 3. The thick deposits of rubble and burnt material identified during the watching brief almost certainly came from the Foundry, and one can only assume that the demolition of this structure was extremely thorough.

4.1.2 Under the circumstances, with so little of the natural drift geology exposed, it is unsurprising that no remains associated with pre-industrial activity were identified during the works. Indeed, it seems likely that any structures associated with the Blakey Moor cattle market would have been temporary or ephemeral, and would have left very little trace in the archaeological record.

4.2 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.2.1 The present scheme of groundworks would appear to have had little impact on the archaeological resource, as rarely did they reach the natural geology, which was blanketed by thick deposits of made ground. Although there is still potential for the preservation of archaeological remains within the southern part of the site, and for cellared, subterranean or cut features throughout, the remains of the foundry at the northern end of the site are likely to have been severely truncated by demolition, with perhaps only the most substantial or robust upstanding components surviving in localised areas.

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6 ILLUSTRATIONS

6.1 FIGURES

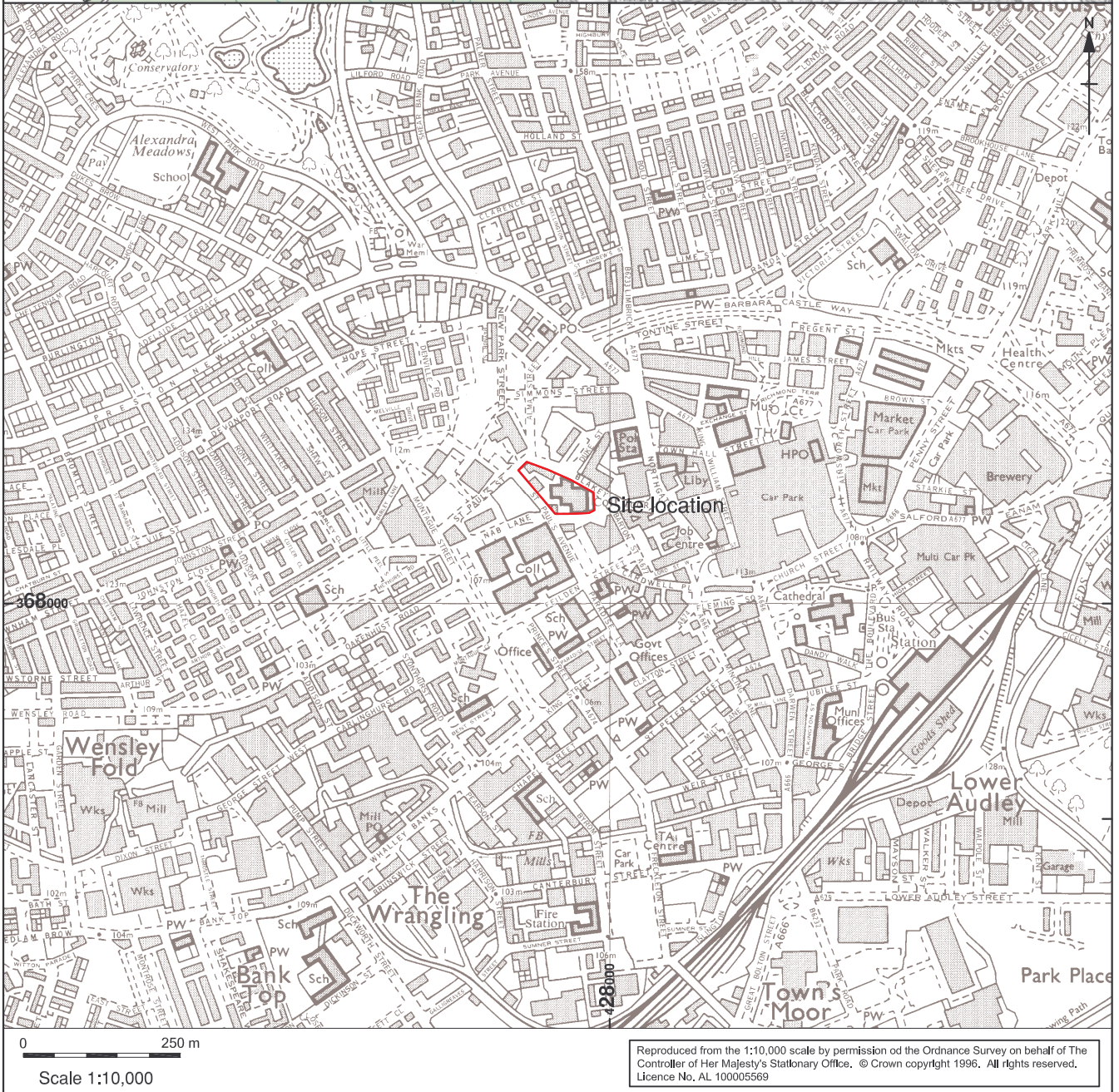
Figure 1: Location Plan

Figure 2: Location of phased works 1 – 4

6.2 PLATES

Plate 1: Working shot of the groundworks at Blackburn College

Plate 2: Putative wall **1004** looking south



X:\Steve\PROJECTS\L9718 Blackburn College*AMS*12.02.07

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Figure 1: Site Location

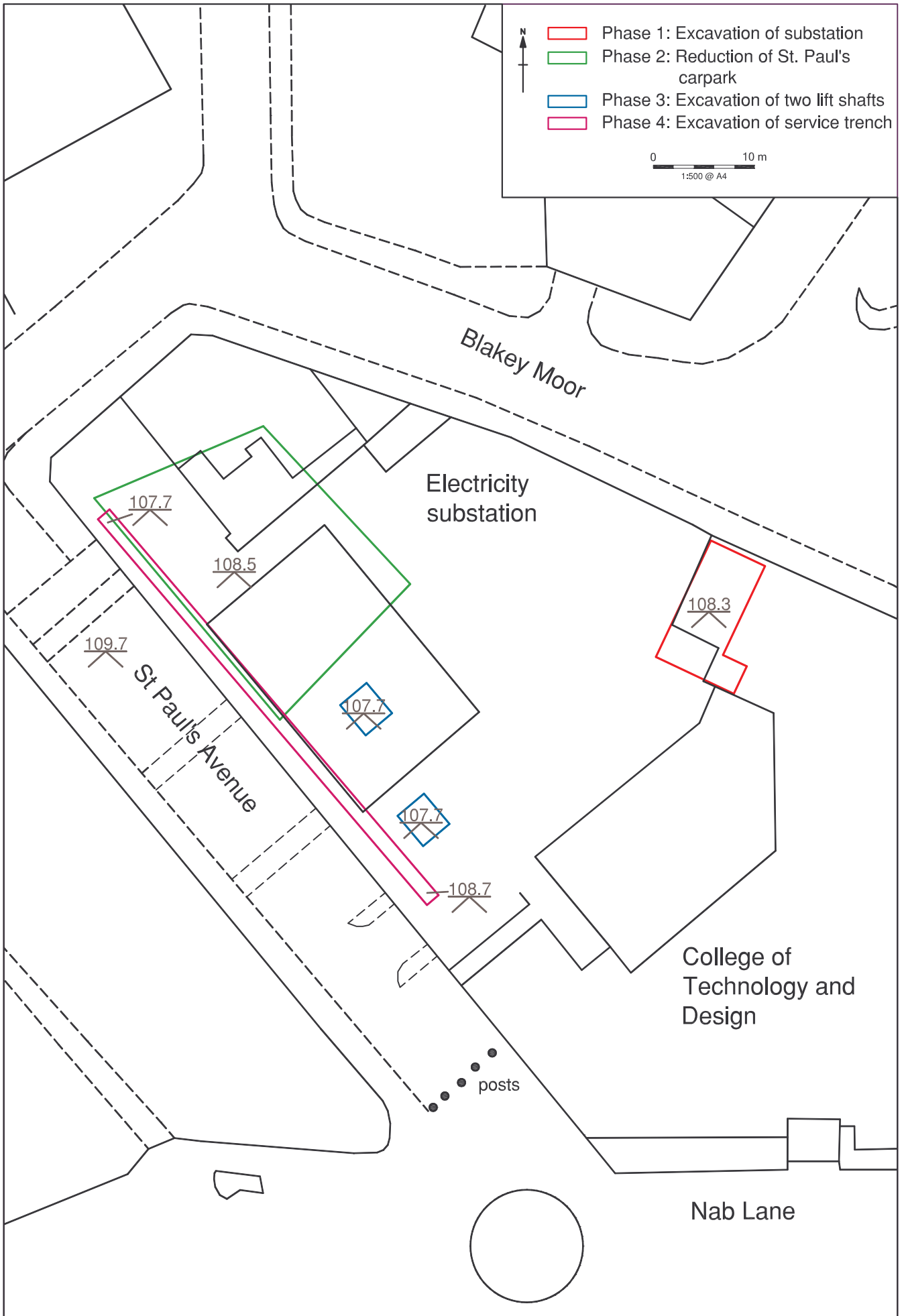


Figure 2: Location of excavation phases



Plate 1: Working shot of the groundworks at Blackburn College



Plate 2: Putative wall *1004* looking south

APPENDIX 1: LCAS WSI

**Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief at
Land to the rear of the Victoria Building between Blakey Moor St./St
Paul's St. and St Paul's Ave., Blackburn (SD 6789 2819)**

Prepared on behalf of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council for Jamie Davenport. DLA Architecture, agent

1. Introduction

1.1 A planning application has been submitted for a four storey Sixth Form and Computing Centre at land to the rear of Victoria Building between Blakey Moor/St Paul's Street and St Paul's Avenue, Blackburn (10/06/0036). Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS) has recommended that the applicants be requested to undertake a programme of archaeological work (a watching brief) in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, and that such works be made a condition of any planning permission.

1.2 This specification has been prepared by LCAS.

2. Archaeological Interest

2.1 The Lancashire Historic Town Assessment Report for Blackburn has identified Blakey Moor as one of the last areas around the town to be enclosed, in 1803, probably in response to the building of St Paul's Church (PRN 6572) some 10 years earlier. The Church was demolished in the 20th century. By 1844, the date of the 1st Edition 1:10560 Ordnance Survey (Lancashire Sheet 62) the development site was occupied by a number of buildings, and the 1st Edition OS 1:2500 map of the town, surveyed in 1892 (Lancashire Sheet CXII.15) shows the site to be occupied by the then disused St Paul's Foundry (Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record PRN 14110).

2.2 There is therefore a potential for the remains of early 19th century housing and mid-late 19th century industrial use of the site to be encountered by the development. Such remains would be considered to be of local significance.

3. General Considerations

3.1 Prior to the commencement of *any work*, the archaeological contractor should confirm in writing adherence to this specification, or state (with reasons) any proposals to vary the specification. Should the contractor wish to vary the specification, then written confirmation of the agreement of LCAS to any variations is required prior to work commencing. The archaeologist carrying out the watching brief should be appropriately qualified and experienced. Any technical queries arising from the specification detailed below should be addressed to LCAS *without delay*.

4. Fieldwork Methodology

4.1 An archaeologist should be present on site during the excavation of any area below a depth of 0.15m. (approximately six inches) in the area of development, whether this is for new or replacement foundation trenches, service trenches or landscaping, and any other groundworks within the current footprint of the building. The archaeologist should view the area as it is being dug and any trench sections after excavation has been completed. Where archaeology is judged to be present, the excavated area should be rapidly cleaned and the need for further work assessed. Where appropriate, any features and finds should then be quickly hand excavated, sampled and recorded, within the confines of the excavated trench.

4.2 Excavated soil should be searched as practicable for finds. The presence and nature of 19th and 20th century material should be noted (quantified and summarily described) but finds of this date need not be retained for processing. Finds judged to be 18th-century in date or earlier should be retained.

4.3 The actual areas of ground disturbance, and any features of possible archaeological concern noted within these areas, should be accurately located on a site plan and recorded by photographs (35mm black and white print and colour slide), scale drawings (i.e. plans at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, both including height above O.D.) and a written description sufficient to permit the preparation of a report on the site.

4.4 The intention of the archaeological watching brief is not to unduly delay the work of other contractors on site. This work should not, therefore prejudice the progress of the main or subsidiary contractor's work, except by prior agreement and on-site co-operation.

4.5 The archaeologist on site will naturally operate with due regard for Health and Safety regulations. In this case, where archaeological work is carried out at the same time as the work of other contractors, regard should also be taken of any reasonable additional constraints that these contractors may impose. This work may require the preparation of a Risk Assessment of the site, in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Regulations. **LCAS and its officers cannot be held responsible for any accidents that may occur to outside contractors engaged to undertake this survey while attempting to conform to this specification.**

5. Unexpectedly Significant or Complex Discoveries

5.1 Should there be, in the professional judgement of the archaeologist on site, unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries made that warrant more detailed recording than possible within the terms of this specification, then the archaeological contractor is to urgently contact LCAS with the relevant information to enable the matter to be resolved with the developer.

5.2 Any human remains that are discovered must initially be left in-situ, covered and protected. If removal is necessary, this must comply with the relevant legislation, any Home Office and local environmental health regulations and English Heritage's and The Church of England's *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England* (2005) where relevant.

5.3 The terms of the Treasure Act, 1996 must be followed with regard to any finds, which might fall within its purview. Any such finds must be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner as required by the procedures laid down in the "Code of Practice". Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures must be taken to protect the finds from theft.

6. Monitoring

6.1 The recording exercise will be monitored as necessary and practicable by LCAS in its role as 'curator' of the county's archaeology. LCAS should receive as much notice as possible in writing (and certainly not less than one week) of the intention to start the watching brief.

7. Post-Excavation/Post-Recording Work and Report Preparation

7.1 On completion of the fieldwork, any samples shall be processed and all finds shall be cleaned, identified, assessed, dated (if possible), marked (if appropriate) and properly packed and stored in accordance with the requirements of national guidelines. A fully indexed field archive shall be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, and fully labelled photographs. Labelling should be in indelible ink on the *back* of the print and should include film and frame number; date recorded and photographer's name; name and address of site; national grid reference. Photographic prints should be mounted in appropriate archivally-stable sleeves. A quantified index to the field archive should form an appendix to the report. The original archive is to accompany the deposition of any finds, providing the landowner agrees to the deposition of finds in a publicly accessible archive (see Section 8.1 below).

7.2 A report should be produced to provide background information, a summary of the works carried out, a description and separate interpretation of any features and finds identified. Details of the report's style and format are to be determined by the archaeological contractor, but it should include a full bibliography, a quantified index to the site archive and as an appendix, a copy of this specification. The report illustrations should include, as a minimum, a location map at 1:10000, a site plan at 1:500 or 1:1000 indicating those areas subject to the watching brief, plus any drawings (plans and sections of archaeological features) and photographs, which for the purpose of the report may be supplied as high quality jpegs.

7.3 If nothing of archaeological interest is identified during the course of the watching brief, then a summary report will be adequate, as long as sufficient

details are supplied for SMR purposes. Illustrations would not be required, although it would be anticipated that black and white prints would form part of the archival record. A summary record should include: (1) details of the commissioning body; (2) the nature of the development and resultant ground disturbance; (3) the position of any ground disturbance viewed with relation to adjacent existing fixed points (i.e. site location plan at 1:10000, and site plan showing location of trenches/areas observed at 1:1000); (4) the date(s) of fieldwork; (5) name(s) of fieldworker(s); (6) written observations on the nature and depth of deposits observed (this may include annotated sketch sections); (7) the conditions under which they were observed (for example, details of weather conditions, ease of access and views, attitude of other organisations etc.); (8) a quantified index to the field archive; (9) details of the archives present location and intended deposition and (10) a copy of this specification.

7.4 The report should be produced within twelve weeks of completion of the fieldwork, unless otherwise agreed with LCAS. Copies of the report should be supplied to the client, and to the Lancashire SMR as an Adobe Acrobat 'pdf' on CD-ROM. The report will become publicly accessible once deposited with the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record.

7.5 Provision and agreement will be made for the appropriate academic publication of any results that are not to form part of any further work. A brief summary report of fieldwork, to appear in the Council for British Archaeology North West *Archaeology North West* should be produced, even when an excavation encountered no archaeological deposits. This should be sent to the editor of *Archaeology North West* in time for it to appear within a calendar year of the completion of fieldwork.

8. Deposition of Archive

8.1 Before commencing any fieldwork, the archaeological contractor must contact the relevant District museum archaeological curator in writing (copied to LCAS) to determine the museum's requirements for the deposition of an excavation archive.

8.2 It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to endeavour to obtain consent of the landowner, in writing, to the deposition of finds with the relevant Museum.

8.3 It is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to meet the relevant Museum's requirements with regard to the preparation of fieldwork archives for deposition.

8.4 The relevant District museum's archaeological curator should be notified in writing of the commencement of fieldwork at the same time as LCAS.

9. Further Details

9.1 Any queries about the contents of the brief should be addressed to the Lancashire County Archaeology Service, Lancashire County Council Environment Directorate, Guild House, Cross Street, Preston PPR1 8RD Tel 01772 531734, fax 01772 533423

9.2 This specification will remain valid for up to one year from the date of issue. After that time it may need to be revised to take into account new discoveries, changes in policy or the introduction of new working practices or techniques.

Bibliography

Mitchell L, Hartley S & Newman R 2005 *Lancashire Historic Town Survey Programme: Blackburn Historic Town Assessment Report*, Lancashire County Council and Egerton Lea Consultancy, unpublished report, draft.

Lancashire County Archaeology Service

March 2006

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APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT LIST

Context No	Location	Description	Depths
1000	Phase 1 -Victoria House Extension	Tarmac surface	0.15m
1001	Phase 1 - Victoria House Extension	Hardcore comprising limestone and brick chippings	0.25m
1002	Phase 1 and 3 - Victoria House Extension	Rubble backfill comprising clinker, concrete and brick	1m
1003	Phase 1 -Victoria House Extension	A yellow/grey redeposited clay	1m
1004	Phase 1 -Victoria House Extension	Modern double skin brick wall	1m
1005	Phase 2 - St Paul's Ave	Made-up ground comprising mixed grey/black crushed brick, concrete, metal, stone and glass bottles	<1.2m
1006	Phase 3 - St Paul's Ave	Rubble backfill comprising crushed brick and concrete	N/A
1007	Phase 3 - St Paul's Ave	A dark grey/black redeposited silty-clay	0.3m
1008	Phase 3 - St Paul's Ave	Natural geology: a brown/yellow silty-sand	<0.5m
1009	Phase 4 - St Paul's Ave	Crushed brick/concrete	0.15m
1010	Phase 4 - St Paul's Ave	Mixed building material	0.4m
1011	Phase 4 - St Paul's Ave	Mixed coarse black sand with crushed coal waste	0.8m
1012	Phase 2 - St Paul's Ave	Concrete pavement	N/A

APPENDIX 3: FINDS CATALOGUE

Context	OR	Material	Category	No	Description	Date
1005	1000	Glass	Vessel	2	Two mould-blown and embossed bottles with 'blob' tops, for the reception of screw stoppers. Both bear the names of local Blackburn tradesmen.	c 1880-1900
1005	1001	Ceramic	Vessel	2	Two small stoneware bottles with corked tops. One bears the name of a local Blackburn tradesman.	c 1880-1900 or slightly later

APPENDIX 4: ARCHIVE SUMMARY

Record group	Contents	Comments	Box/File Number
	Introduction Project Design		1
A	Report Final Report		1
B	Primary Fieldwork Records Daily Records Context Records & Indices		1
C	Primary Drawings Annotated Plans Drawing Indices Plans/Sections		1
D	Finds Box and Bag Lists		1
E	Environmental Records	N/A	
F	Photographic Record Photographic Indices Monochrome Colour Slides Digital		1
G	Electronic Media		1