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Written Scheme of Investigation

Archaeological Evaluation

**Bolton Hall, Carr Head Lane, Rotherham,
South Yorkshire**

January 2017

Written Scheme of Investigation

Archaeological Evaluation

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1. Introduction

This Written Scheme of Investigation has been prepared by CFA Archaeology Ltd on behalf of The House Crowd and details the methodology for an archaeological trial-trenching evaluation on land at Bolton Hall, Rotherham, South Yorkshire ahead of the proposed development of 28 dwellings with associated external works (Planning Application no. 2016/0926).

Planning conditions for the proposed development state ‘No development, including any demolition and groundworks, shall take place until the applicant, or their agent or successor in title, has submitted a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) that sets out a strategy for archaeological investigation and this has been approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority’.

2. Background

Development at the site has the potential to disturb buried archaeological remains. Bolton-upon-Dearne has been an important village since the Anglo-Saxon period, emphasised by its name at the time, Bodelton (as noted in the Domesday Book), meaning mound or mansion town. As well as its name, during this period the village had its own church (St. Andrew the Apostle), mill and the land had undergone much more clearance and cultivation than other villages in the area in part because it was overseen by not one, but four Saxon Lords: Osulf, Ligulf, Turchill and Eruni. After the Norman Conquest the land was redistributed to De Busli and William de Perci (Sparks 1951).

During the reign of King John (1199-1216) some of the land in Bolton-Upon-Dearne was given to Reginald ‘Raine’ Malet by his father, and owner at the time, Robert Malet. He in turn gave the monks of Monk Bretton Priory a significant amount of land and half the shares in the mill (*ibid.*). By 1281, 13 monks of Monk Bretton Priory held all the tithes to Bolton-upon-Dearne, Royston, Darton, Hickleton and Mexborough (Dearne Local History Group 1992). In the early fourteenth century Henry Eynsham was bequeathed the land in Bolton-Upon-Dearne and documents relating to the tithes show that the monks of Monk Bretton Priory owed Eynsham rent (Sparks 1951; Dearne Local History Group 1992). The exact location of the lands held by the monks is uncertain. A description given by historian Joseph Hunter in his *Deanery of Doncaster* is relative and of its time, and therefore difficult to locate in the modern landscape. However, local history claims that Bolton Hall (see below) was built on the site of a monastic building, and the human remains discovered there, as listed in the South Yorkshire Sites & Monuments Record, were those of monks (Sparks 1951; Dearne Local History Group 1988). There is no physical evidence for this making it difficult to assess the character or extent of any further remains, though the presence

of a monastic site and cemetery may explain why there was a purported burial site away from the main church, St Andrew the Apostle. Ground disturbance associated with the development may, therefore, destroy finds and features of archaeological importance.

Under the Reformation of Henry VIII (1536), letters show that the monks were deprived of their properties in Bolton-Upon-Dearne and they were transferred to Morgan Wolf Esq. (Sparks 1951).

There is very little information on Bolton-Upon-Dearne during the post-medieval period that concerns this site. Most documents refer to land ownership, or mentions the town in passing, for example one woman from Bolton-Upon-Dearne was charged with witchcraft in 1598 (Dearne Local History Group 1992).

William White's Trade Directory of 1838 describes the construction of Bolton Hall in the early 19th century as a 'handsome residence of Dr. Dymont, erected a few years ago, in the Elizabethan style, on the site of an ancient burial ground, many bones being dug up in excavating the foundation'. The Tithe Maps and Apportionment of 1839 show that this is a mansion with pleasure gardens, owned and occupied by Dr. Robert Dymont. It sat north-west of the main hub of Bolton-Upon-Dearne, where Dr. Dymont owned more land and property.

During the turn of the twentieth century Bolton Hall underwent several changes of ownership until bought by Wath Main Colliery and converted into a Social Club (Dearne Local History Group 1988). During the First World War it was used temporarily to house officers, and Nissen huts were constructed for army ranks within its grounds, which may be the buildings to the east marked on the 1960s and 70s Ordnance Survey (OS) Maps.

Following the Second World War, various application documents and plans were passed through Dearne Urban District Council for the conversion of Bolton Hall into a dwelling flat and clothing factory, and the construction of a new building (garage) by Messrs L & F Boardman. The site plan from 1947 by Naylor Sale and Widdows Chartered Architects shows the layout of Bolton Hall as it appears on the early OS maps, but with the additional reference to an 'old well' near to where a pump is marked. The factory was closed in 1950 (Dearne Local History Group 1988).

The 1960s OS maps show extensions to the outbuildings associated with Bolton Hall, some of which were then used as poultry houses. The whole site was demolished in 1970s on Health & Safety grounds prior to the construction of Bolton-Upon-Dearne Nursing and Care Home. The site has undergone development and landscaping with the construction of Bolton Hall Nursing and Care Home.

Since then there has been a watching brief on an extension to the rear of the Nursing Home (Scurfield 2010) and a watching brief by CFA Archaeology Ltd on geotechnical pits (Hunt 2017). A Phase 1 Preliminary Risk Assessment (LK Consult Ltd 2016) containing basic background historical information on the site has also been produced.

3. Aims and Objectives

The aim of the evaluation will be to gather sufficient information to establish presence/absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological deposits within the areas of proposed development and to report the results.

4. Archaeological Methods

4.1 Trial Trenching

CFA Archaeology is a registered organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). Work will be conducted with regard to the Institute's Standards documents (CIfA 2014a-c), Historic England guidance documents (EH 1998, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011 and 2012), Yorkshire, the Humber and the North-East guidance (SYAS 2011) and this WSI. Recording of all elements will be done following established CFA procedures.

A visual inspection and archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the excavation of geotechnical pits on 10 January 2017 (Appendix 1). No obvious surface features of potential archaeological interest were identified; however, two test pits (4 and 5) revealed below ground remains, whilst a further two, Test Pits 3 and 6, revealed possible man-made variances within the stratigraphic profile. A live sewer was noted along the western boundary from the road which may affect the locations of Trenches 1, 4, 5, 6 and 8. No further hazards or non-archaeological constraints were identified through visual inspection; all trenches will be CAT scanned prior to their excavation. Should non-archaeological constraints be revealed on site a decision will be made by the supervising archaeologist in discussion with South Yorkshire Archaeology Services.

Trench	Length (m)	Width (m)	Orientation	Target
1	15	3.2	NE-SW	Below ground remains within Test Pit 5 associated with mid-twentieth century extension of Bolton Hall's outbuildings.
2	10	3.2	E-W	Possible blank area, possible deep stratigraphic profile.
3	25	1.6	c. N-S	Bolton Hall outbuildings
4	15	1.6	NW-SE	Bolton Hall, a 1947 garage extension and an 'old well'.
5	15	1.6	N-S	Blank Area
6	20	1.6	N-S	Blank Area
7	25	1.6	E-W	Below ground remains within Test Pit 4.
8	25	3.2	E-W	Cross section of the main building of Bolton Hall, including surrounding grounds.
9	20	1.6	NE-SW	Blank Area
10	25	1.6	N-S	Made ground within stratigraphic profile.
11	25	1.6	E-W	Blank Area

Table 1

Eleven evaluation trenches totalling 452m² will be excavated. Trench depth will be dependent on ground conditions and presence of other obstacles. Trenches 1, 2 and 8 are wider in order to accommodate stepping of the trench, as these are targeted where

deep stratigraphy was noted in the watching brief or are located where the remains of Bolton Hall might include basements/cellars. Trenches target features identified from map regression, the results of the geotechnical pit watching brief, and also target blank areas; some of the blank areas have been chosen to try to capture any surviving human remains. Trenches will be laid out according to Figure 1, and are described in Table 1 (above).

Machining will be undertaken by back-acting mechanical plant using a smooth-bladed bucket under constant archaeological supervision until an archaeological horizon or natural subsoil is encountered. Where a deposit of potential archaeological interest is only partially exposed in a trench, consideration will be given to expanding the trench sufficiently to allow it to be appropriately investigated. Machined areas will be manually cleaned before further investigation is carried out.

All 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 arbitrary trenches down to natural deposits.

Samples of all features of archaeological interest will be excavated in order to establish their likely date, nature, extent and condition. All such sample excavation will be conducted by hand. The samples will be limited to remove only such deposits as necessary to achieve the evaluation objectives as listed below.

- Discrete features, such as post-holes and pits, will be half sectioned, smaller features may be fully excavated.
- Linear features will have sample sections put through them at intervals so that approximately 20% of the exposed feature is excavated. All linear feature terminals will be excavated.
- All intersections between any features will be excavated.

All excavation and on-site recording will be carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, by photography and by completing standard CFA record forms. The stratification will be recorded even if no deposits of archaeological significance are discovered. Trenches will be recorded according to accepted principles of stratigraphic excavation. The trenches will be backfilled immediately on completion of all recording and excavation.

The location of the trenches will be recorded using industry standard surveying equipment and tied to the National Grid. Vertical survey control will be tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum.

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 sampled 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.

Photographs will include an appropriate scale and where necessary a north arrow. All photographs will be recorded on a photographic register detailing subject, location and direction of shot. All record photographs will be on black and white film and

35mm colour slide film. Digital photography will only be used to supplement the photographic record; it will not form any part of the primary archive.

Any human remains encountered will be reported to the appropriate authorities and left *in situ*. If removal is necessary this will comply with the relevant Government, licence, regulations and guidance.

All artefacts, including faunal remains, will be retained for analysis, except modern finds which will be recorded but not retained. Post-excavation storage requirements will be assessed. Collection and post-excavation work on artefacts will follow current Historic England guidance (2008).

CFA's Palaeoenvironmental Scientist will assess the environmental potential of the site and will provide advice to allow consideration of whether deposits have potential for conducting palaeobotanical or other soils analyses, and to allow a sieving programme to be undertaken if appropriate. He will advise on the potential for the preservation of faunal remains. Sampling will be carried out in accordance with current guidelines (EH 2011).

5. Analysis and Reporting

All finds, if appropriate, will be retained, washed and assessed in accordance to accepted professional standards (CIFA 2014c).

The report will contain:

- A concise non-technical summary of the project results
- The site location given as an 8 figure grid reference
- A front cover/frontispiece which includes the planning application number and the national grid reference of the site
- The dates on which the work was undertaken
- A description of the site location and geology
- An explanation of any agreed variations from the WSI, including justification for any work not undertaken
- A description of the methodology employed, work undertaken and the results obtained
- Contexts and feature descriptions
- Maps and other illustrations at an appropriate scale including all trench plans and trench sections and detailed plans of all excavated features
- A list of, and spot dates for, any finds recovered
- A description of any environmental or other specialist work undertaken and outline of the results obtained
- A selection of photographs of work in progress
- Recommendations regarding the need for, and scope of, any further archaeological work
- A discussion of how the work contributed to the aims and objectives set out in the WSI
- A bibliography.

The online OASIS form will be completed as part of the archaeological work within 3 months of the completion of the work. An appropriately formatted copy of the report will also be uploaded to OASIS within 3 months of the completion of the work.

If required, a summary report of an appropriate length, accompanied by illustrations (at 300dpi resolution), will be prepared and submitted in digital format, for publication in the appropriate volume of *Archaeology in South Yorkshire*.

Provision will be made for publicising the results of the work locally, e.g. by presenting a paper at South Yorkshire Archaeology Day and talking to local societies.

An archive will be prepared in accordance with the current guidelines (CFA 2014c), and arrangements made for its deposit with an appropriate repository. Deposition will be in accordance with “Archaeological Archive Deposition Policy for Museums in Yorkshire and the Humber” produced by Renaissance Yorkshire.

The archaeological contractor will contact the museum’s archaeological curator or collections manager to discuss archaeological archiving requirements at the initial stage of preparation of the project design. Following agreement with the client, details of archiving arrangements will be incorporated into the project design. This will include confirmation that a budget to cover the museum’s deposition charge has been allowed for.

The South Yorkshire museum services do not accept digital archives; digital archiving will need to be discussed with ADS (or equivalent service) and appropriate costs allowed for.

The landowner will be encouraged to transfer the ownership of finds to a local or relevant museum. In the rare event that the landowner should wish to retain the finds, then a full measured, written and graphic record of the assemblage will be made.

6. Resources and Programming

6.1 Key Personnel

Martin Lightfoot (BA MA MCIfA) is Head of Commercial Operations (England) for CFA. Martin has project managed numerous archaeological projects of all periods throughout the country including those undertaken for large infrastructure projects.

Field Director for CFA will be selected from CFA’s pool of Field Officers, depending on availability, all of whom have appropriate experience. The CV for the selected Field Officer can be forwarded prior to the start of the project.

Dr Shelley Werner (BSc MPhil PhD) is CFA’s Graphics Manager, responsible for the organisation and management of all GIS, CAD and Illustrative material. She is an experienced illustrator with specialist knowledge in GIS consultancy and standing building survey and has worked on a variety of projects in Scotland and England.

Post-excavation will be managed by CFA's post-excavation manager **Dr Melanie Johnson**; CV's for CFA's in-house specialists or external consultants can be supplied on request.

CFA's Environmental Co-ordinator will be **Dr Mike Cressey** BA MSc PhD FSA Scot. Dr Cressey has been working as a field archaeologist since 1982. He completed the MSc in Environmental Archaeology and Palaeoeconomy at Sheffield University in 1991. During the course of his postgraduate studies he has developed his soil science skills, and he is also skilled in palynology, palaeolimnology and fossil wood identification. Dr Cressey will provide advice, as appropriate.

6.2 Health and Safety

All CFA staff have been inducted into CFA's Health and Safety Policy. All work for the project will be subject to Risk Assessment procedures.

6.3 Monitoring

Close contact will be maintained with the client, The House Crowd, and with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS) for the purposes of managing the project. Important or unexpected discoveries will be communicated to them and a monitoring visit will be arranged if appropriate.

SYAS will be given a minimum of one weeks' notice in writing of the commencement of groundworks. During such works representatives of SYAS will be allowed access to the site and excavations at all reasonable times.

An interim note will be submitted to SYAS within a fortnight of fieldwork finishing. This will include:

- A brief summary of fieldwork results
- A basic description of material recovered
- An initial assessment of character and significance
- A sketch plan of archaeological features on the site
- An updated post-excavation timetable

A progress update will be supplied to SYAS, in writing, on a monthly basis following this until submission of the full report on the evaluation.

7. References

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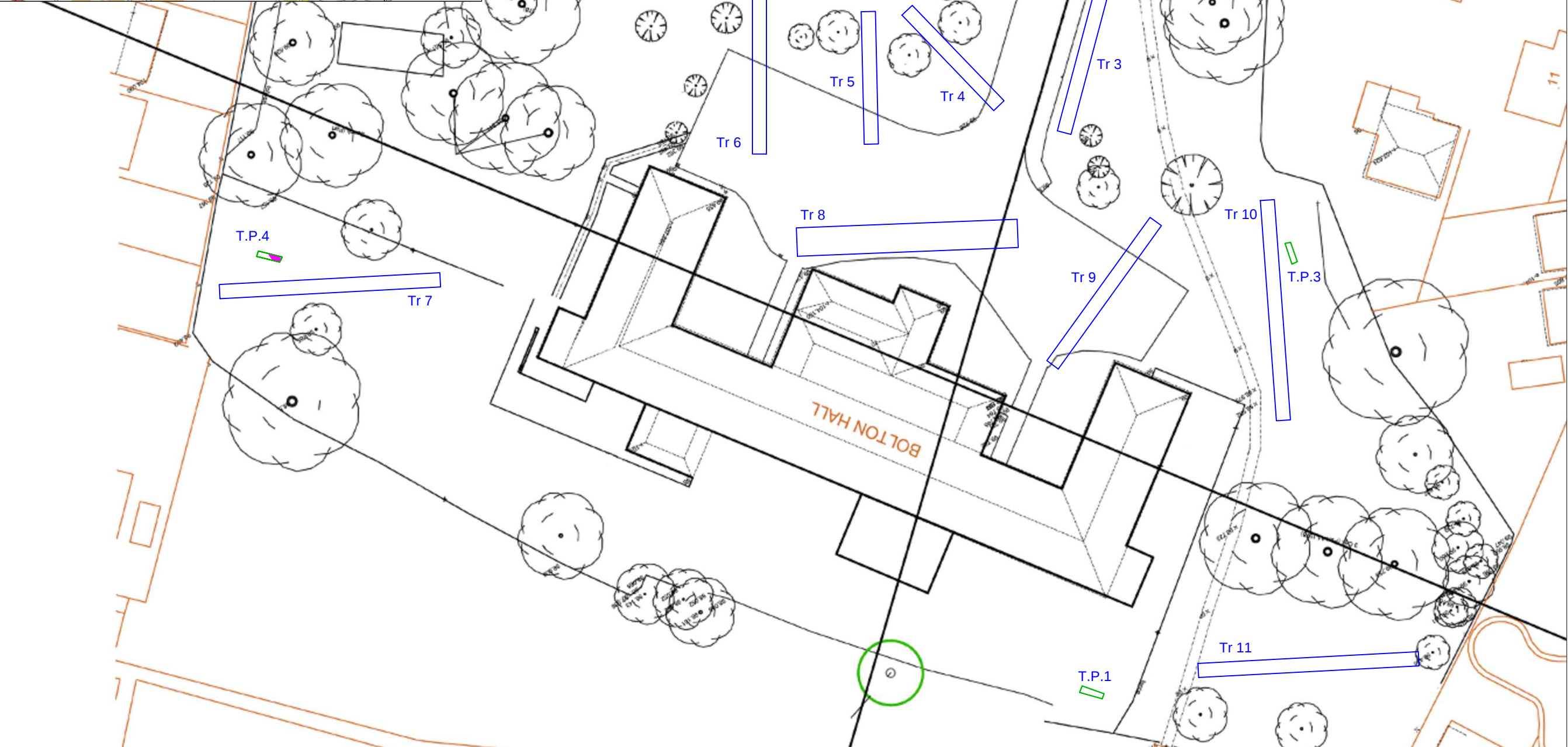
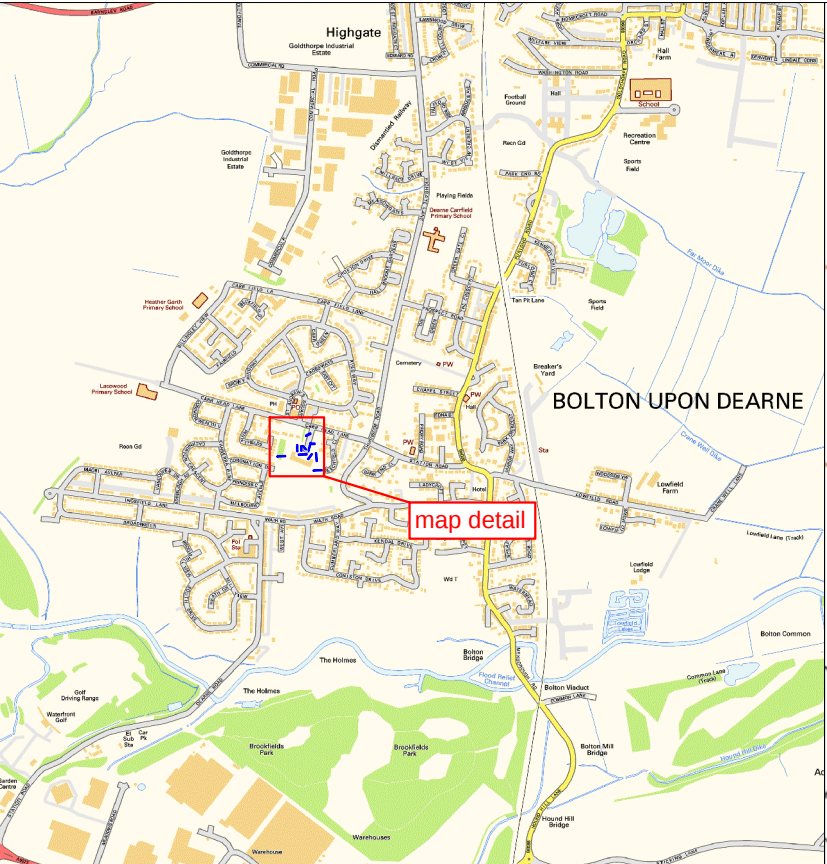
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FIGURE 1



Key:

- Proposed trench location
- Geotechnical Pit
- Possible demolition event associated with the outbuildings of Bolton Hall
- Modern Feature

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Project: Bolton Hall, Carr Head Lane, Rotherham, South Yorkshire, Watching Brief on Geotechnical Works		
Client: The House Crowd		
Scale at A3: 1:500		
Drawn by: SW	Checked: RH	Date: 17/01/2017
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APPENDIX 1

CFA Archaeology Ltd

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Archaeological Watching Brief: Geotechnical Pits

**Bolton Hall, Carr Head Lane, Rotherham,
South Yorkshire**

January 2017

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**Bolton Hall
Carr Head Lane
Rotherham
South Yorkshire**

**Watching Brief on
Geotechnical Works**

Report No. Y256/17

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Figure 1: Site and Geotechnical Pit Location

Figure 2: Possible remains of the extension of Bolton Hall's outbuildings as seen in
Test Pit 5

Figure 3: Feature identified in Test Pit 4

Summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd at Bolton Hall, Carr Head Lane, Rotherham, South Yorkshire during geotechnical works on 10 January 2017. Six geotechnical test pits were excavated to provide information on the underlying strata. Evidence for the mid-twentieth century extension and subsequent demolition of the outbuildings associated with Bolton Hall were revealed.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on behalf of The House Crowd in January 2017. The CFA code and number for the project is BOLH/2311.

All work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CFA (CFA 2017) and approved by Andy Lines of South Yorkshire Archaeological Services.

1.1 Site Location and Description

The proposed site is currently occupied to the south by Bolton Hall Nursing and Care Home, now disused, with road access from the north and landscaping within the immediate vicinity. The surrounding area comprises residential housing with some commercial activity to the north, including Frank Hoyland Funeral Directors, and open park and recreation ground to the south. The proposed development consists of 28 dwellings with associated external works (Planning Application no. 2016/0926; Fig 1. NGR SE 45054 02699).

The underlying geology is Mexborough Rock (BGS 2017).

The site was located between 44m and 48.5m above the Ordnance Datum. At the time of the fieldwork the Nursing Home was still upstanding and the surrounding ground cover comprised unkempt grass.

1.2 Previous Archaeological work and Historical Background

An archaeological watching brief (Scurfield 2010) on an extension to the rear of the Nursing Home was undertaken in 2010, and a Phase 1 Preliminary Risk Assessment (LK Consult Ltd 2016) containing basic background historical information on the site has been produced. This report highlighted that the First Edition Ordnance Survey maps show a collection of buildings annotated as 'Bolton Hall' on the site. This was a large elite residence dating from at least the first half of the 19th century. As such, ground disturbance associated with the development may destroy finds and features of archaeological importance.

1.3 Aims

The project aims were to:

- determine the form and function of any archaeological features encountered
- determine the spatial arrangement of any archaeological features encountered
- as far as practicable, recover dating evidence from the archaeological features
- establish the sequence of the underlying stratigraphy and any archaeological remains present on the site
- inform a programme of trial trenching.

2. WORKING METHODS

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by photography and by completing standard CFA record forms.

The excavation of the trenches was carried out using a mechanical excavator equipped with a smooth-bladed bucket under constant archaeological supervision. Any archaeological remains present were exposed in section. Spoil resulting from the trenching and the surrounding plough soil was regularly scanned for finds.

Six geotechnical test pits, measuring 0.6m wide and between 2.3m and 2.7m deep, were excavated. Trench positions were surveyed using industry standard electronic surveying equipment (Fig. 1) and tied to the National Grid. Vertical survey control was tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum.

2.1 Standards and Guidance

CFA Archaeology is a registered organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). All work was conducted in accordance with relevant CIfA Standards and Guidance documents (CIfA 2014), Historic England guidance (EH 2005, 2006, 2008, and 2011), the terms of the Written Scheme of Investigation (CFA 2017) and CFA's standard methodology.

2.2 Archiving

The project archive, comprising all CFA records will be ordered according to the Written Scheme of Investigation, to nationally recognised standards (CIfA 2014) and deposited with the appropriate repository. A summary of the results of the archaeological works will be submitted for inclusion in OASIS (cfaarcha1-273618).

2.3 Monitoring

The project was monitored by Andy Lines of South Yorkshire Archaeology Service who was informed in advance of the works taking place.

3. RESULTS

Six geotechnical test pits were excavated. Appendix 1 consists of a summary of the test pits. Figure 1 shows the locations of all test pits. Figures 2-3 comprise selected photographs of the excavated holes.

The topsoil consisted of homogenous dark black/grey sandy silt, 0.1m to 0.4m deep across the site. The natural geology comprised weathered sandstone in a yellow-grey mudstone and clay matrix.

Test Pit 5 revealed the remains of a possible foundation course of grey stone, underlying a demolition layer (Fig. 2). This is possible evidence for the mid-twentieth century extension of Bolton Hall's outbuildings that used to exist on the site. Over the top of this is a layer of made ground from landscaping work for the grounds of Bolton Hall Nursing and Care Home.

Test Pit 4 revealed a possible linear feature containing a lot of brick rubble. No structural formation or function could be identified (Fig. 3).

4. CONCLUSION

The geotechnical test pits were excavated to assess the suitability of the ground for building, water drainage and to inform a programme of trial trenching. Possible remains of Bolton Hall were identified in Test Pit 5, and a modern feature in Test Pit 4.

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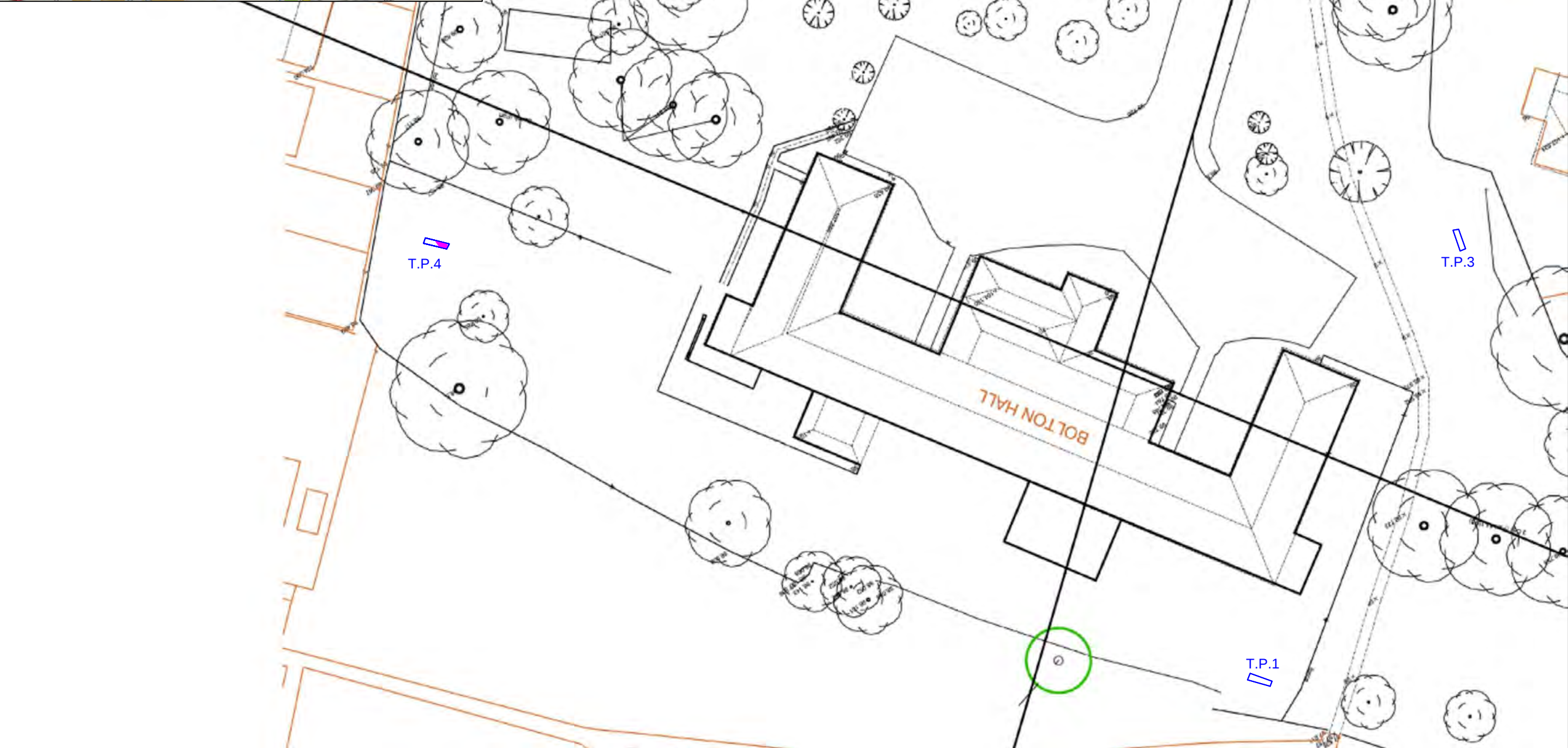
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APPENDIX 1

Appendix 1: Summary of Results

TP	Length (m)	Width (m)	Topsoil depth (m)	Subsoil depth (m)	Description
1	2.3	0.60	0.35	0.3	Test pit orientated north-west to south-east on relatively flat grassed area to the rear (south-east) of Bolton Hall Nursing and Care Home. Mid-dark brown-grey topsoil overlaid a mid grey-brown silty clay subsoil, which overlay natural yellow-grey clay which was mixed with sandstone. Excavated to a total depth of 2.8m as a soakaway. No archaeology present.
2	2.4	0.60	0.4	Trace	Test pit orientated north-west to south-east on relatively flat grassed area to west of Bolton Hall Nursing and Care Home. Mid-dark brown-grey topsoil overlaid a dark grey-brown silty clay subsoil, which overlay natural weathered sandstone. Excavated to a total depth of 1.3m as a soakaway. No archaeology present.
3	2.5	0.60	0.1	-	Test pit orientated north to south on relatively flat grassed area to the north-east of Bolton Hall Nursing and Care Home. Topsoil consisted of a mid-dark brown-grey soil, and overlay a band of made ground (0.2m deep), which consisted of yellow-grey clay (0.07m) and redeposited topsoil (0.13m). This overlay a further man-made deposit (0.6m) consisting of mid grey-brown clay silt with a yellow hue and fragments of handmade brick present. The natural consisted of weathered sandstone. Excavated to a total depth of 2.65m as a soakaway.
4	2.7	0.60	0.23	0.27	Test pit orientated north-west to south-east on relatively flat grassed area to the west of Bolton Hall Nursing and Care Home. Mid-dark brown-grey topsoil overlaid a modern deposit of made ground to the west consisting of band of yellow sandy clay (0.23m) and silt and a possible north-west to south-east linear feature to the east consisting of hand-made brick rubble. This overlay and cut the subsoil, which was a mid yellow clay overlying weathered sandstone natural. Excavated to a depth greater than 1.6m.
5	2.3	0.60	0.2	-	Test pit orientated north-east to south-west on banked, but relatively flat, grassed area to the west of the access road to Bolton Hall Nursing and Care Home. Mid-dark grey black topsoil with modern detritus present overlaid two layers of made ground: the first (0.32m deep) consisted of light grey silty sand with brick and detritus inclusions; the second (0.6m deep) consisted of a mid grey-yellow sandy silt with sandstone and brick inclusions. This overlay a demolition layer (0.38m) with possible foundation stones for a building associated with the outbuildings of Bolton Hall. This occupied the full length and width of the test pit, making orientation identifiable. Excavated to a total depth of 2.55m.
6	2.4	0.60	0.2	0.43m	Test pit orientated west to east on banked grassed area to the east of the access road to Bolton Hall Nursing and Care Home. Mid grey-black topsoil with a brown hue overlaid a heterogeneous mid yellow-brown silty sand subsoil, which and been disturbed due to the construction on the bank and access road. Horizon with the natural was very diffuse up to 2.3m making true depth uncertain. This overlay natural yellow-grey clay with weathered sandstone Excavated to a total depth of 3.25m. No archaeology present.

FIGURES 1-3



Key:

-  Geotechnical Pit
-  Possible demolition event associated with the outbuildings of Bolton Hall
-  Modern Feature

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Title:
Site and Geotechnical Pit Location

Project:
Bolton Hall, Carr Head Lane,
Rotherham, South Yorkshire,
Watching Brief on Geotechnical
Works

Client:
The House Crowd

Scale at A3:
1:500

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
GC	SW	17/01/2017

Report.No:	Fig. No:
Y256/17	1



Fig. 2 Possible remains of the extension of Bolton Hall's outbuildings as seen in Test Pit 5



Fig. 3 Feature identified in Test Pit 4

Project:
Bolton Hall, Carr Head Lane, Rotherham, South Yorkshire, Watching Brief on Geotechnical Works



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Report No: Y256/17		Fig. No: 2 - 3