STOREY INSTITUTE, MEETING HOUSE LANE, LANCASTER

Archaeological Building Investigation and Test Pit Evaluation

Oxford Archaeology North
June 2008

Lancaster City Council

Issue No: 2007-08/792
OAN Job No: L9702
NGR: SD 4742 6174
Document Title: STOREY INSTITUTE, MEETING HOUSE LANE, LANCASTER

Document Type: Archaeological Building Investigation and Test Pit Evaluation

Client Name: Lancaster City Council

Issue Number: 2007-08/792

OA Job Number: L9702

National Grid Reference: SD 4742 6174

Prepared by: Christopher Ridings
Position: Supervisor
Date: June 2008

Checked by: Alison Plummer
Position: Senior Project Manager
Date: June 2008

Approved by: Alan Lupton
Position: Operations Manager
Date: June 2008

Oxford Archaeology North
Mill 3
Moor Lane Mill
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LAI 1GF
Tel: (01524) 848666
Fax: (01524) 848606

www.oxfordarch.co.uk
info@oxfordarch.co.uk

© Oxford Archaeological Unit Ltd (2008)
Janus House
Oxney Mead
Oxford
Oxon
OX2 0EA
Tel: (01865) 263800
Fax: (01865) 793496

Disclaimer:
This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees, and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.
CONTENTS

CONTENTS ............................................................................................................... 1

SUMMARY ................................................................................................................ 3

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ............................................................................................ 4

1. INTRODUCTION ................................................................................................ 5
   1.1 Circumstances Of The Project ....................................................................... 5

2. METHODOLOGY ............................................................................................... 6
   2.1 Project Background ....................................................................................... 6
   2.2 Building Investigation ................................................................................... 6
   2.3 Test Pits ........................................................................................................ 6
   2.4 Archive ......................................................................................................... 7

3. BACKGROUND .................................................................................................. 8
   3.1 Introduction .................................................................................................. 8
   3.2 Geology and Topography .............................................................................. 8
   3.3 Historical Background .................................................................................. 8

4. BUILDING INVESTIGATION ............................................................................. 10
   4.1 Introduction ................................................................................................ 10
   4.2 The South Elevation .................................................................................... 10
   4.3 The East Elevation ...................................................................................... 12
   4.4 The North Elevation .................................................................................... 12
   4.5 The West Elevation ..................................................................................... 12
   4.6 The Interior of the Storey Institute .............................................................. 13

5. TEST PIT EVALUATION .................................................................................. 14
   5.1 Test Pit 1 .................................................................................................... 14
   5.2 Test Pit 2 .................................................................................................... 14
   5.3 Discussion .................................................................................................. 15

6. RECOMMENDATIONS ...................................................................................... 16
   6.1 Introduction ................................................................................................ 16
   6.2 Recommendations ....................................................................................... 16

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY .............................................................................................. 17
   7.1 Secondary Sources ...................................................................................... 17
8. ILLUSTRATIONS.................................................................................................................. 18
  8.1 List of Figures.................................................................................................................. 18
  8.2 List of Plates.................................................................................................................... 18

APPENDIX 1: PROJECT DESIGN............................................................................................ 20
SUMMARY

The Arts Development Officer for Lancaster City Council requested that Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) submit proposals to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation at the Grade II listed Storey Institute (IoE numbers: 383092, 383214) (SD 4742 6174), Meeting House Lane, Lancaster (Fig 1), prior to its proposed refurbishment. This was in response to recommendations made by the Specialist Advisor (Archaeology) and the Assistant Conservation Officer during a meeting on March 16th 2005. This programme of evaluation included a building investigation and several test pits excavated in the basement and in targeted areas surrounding the building. These elements were completed in June 2006 and November 2007.

The building investigation recorded the Storey Institute to an English Heritage Level I standard, and therefore no interpretation or analysis was required. In addition, the test pits, which were excavated within the basement and the courtyard, revealed no significant remains aside from the construction horizon of the building.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank Lancashire County Council for commissioning and supporting the project.

Chris Ridings and Karl Taylor undertook the building investigation, whilst Jeremy Bradley and Pascal Eloy undertook the test pit excavations. Chris Ridings and Jeremy Bradley wrote the report. Mark Tidmarsh produced the drawings. Alison Plummer managed the project and also edited the report.
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

1.1.1 The Arts Development Officer for Lancaster City Council requested that Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) submit proposals to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation at the Grade II listed Storey Institute (IoE numbers: 383092, 383214) (SD 4742 6174), Meeting House Lane, Lancaster (Fig 1), prior to its proposed refurbishment. This was in response to recommendations made by the Specialist Advisor (Archaeology) and the Assistant Conservation Officer during a meeting on March 16th 2005. The building is known to either directly overlie or be significantly close to the south area of the former Roman fort, as well as lying in close proximity to the medieval monastery and castle. Subsequently, this programme of evaluation included a building investigation conforming to English Heritage (2006) Level I standard, whilst test pits were also excavated in the basement and in targeted areas surrounding the building. These elements were completed in June 2006 and November 2007.
2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

2.1.1 Following discussions with Lancaster City Council, the Specialist Advisor and the Assistant Conservation Officer, a project design (Appendix 1) was produced by OA North. This was accepted and OA North was commissioned to undertake both the building investigation and the test pit evaluations, which were carried out in June 2006 and November 2007.

2.1.2 The project consisted of a Level I-type survey (English Heritage 2006) of the Storey Institute, which comprises a descriptive external record combined with a representative black and white print, colour slide and digital photographic record. The level does not require any documentary research to be undertaken or drawings to be produced.

2.2 BUILDING INVESTIGATION

2.2.1 Descriptive Record: written records using OA North pro forma record sheets were made of all principal external building elements, as well as any features of historical or architectural significance. Particular attention was also paid to the relationship between parts of the buildings, especially those that would show their development and any alterations. These records are essentially descriptive with only limited interpretation.

2.2.2 Photographs: photographs were taken with a 35mm camera to produce black and white prints and colour slides. Additionally, a high-resolution digital camera was also used, in order to provide supplementary shots. This photographic archive consists of general shots, as well as the principal features and elevations of the building.

2.3 TEST PITS

2.3.1 The programme of archaeological works required at least two test pits to be excavated to establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits pertaining to the Roman forts of the first to third centuries, and/or any extramural settlement associated with them. The test pits were to measure 2m by 2m and would not exceed 1.2m in depth. The test pits were located in the boiler room and in the courtyard of the Storey Institute prior to its redevelopment.

2.3.2 The excavation of the test pit in the boiler room was dependant on the outcome of the information to be provided by the LCC architect regarding the structural stability of the wall and column in its immediate proximity.

2.3.3 The ground-breaking activities and reinstatement of the test pits were undertaken by LCC’s appointed contractor. This included the locating of any services that could have posed a health and safety hazard.
2.3.4 Once the modern overburden had been removed, the test pits were manually excavated by OA North field staff to the surface of the first significant archaeological deposit, which was cleaned and inspected for features. The trenches were not excavated deeper than 1.2m to accommodate health and safety constraints, and were excavated in a stratigraphical manner by hand to avoid damage to any archaeological features that may have been worthy of preservation in situ.

2.3.5 All information identified in the course of the site works was recorded stratigraphically, using a system, adapted from that used by Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and both monochrome contacts and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features.

2.3.7 Results of all field investigations were recorded on pro forma context sheets. The site archive included both a photographic record and accurate large-scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20 and 1:10). All artefacts and ecofacts were to be recorded using the same system, and were to be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration.

2.4 ARCHIVE

2.4.1 The results of all archaeological work carried out will form the basis for a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition, 1991). The original record archive of project will be deposited with Preston Record Office.

2.4.2 The Arts and Humanities Data Service (AHDS) online database Online Access to index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) will be completed as part of the archiving phase of the project.
3. BACKGROUND

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 The Storey Institute is situated upon Castle Hill in Lancaster, and lies to the immediate south of Lancaster Castle, which currently serves as a county courts, prison and museum. As in the present, the area was particularly significant during the Roman period, being the location of several defensive fortifications between the first and fourth centuries. In light of this, the following briefly outlines both the geology and topography of Castle Hill, as well as focusing on its significance during the Roman occupation and during the medieval period.

3.2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.2.1 Castle Hill rises to a maximum height of 25m above River Lune, and drops down to a bluff, overlooking the Lune, which was the focus for an extramural settlement in the Roman period and later the medieval town. This elevation made an ideal position for defensive fortifications and its view of the river Lune was of primary strategic importance. It is known that narrow terraces were built along the north-east slopes of Castle Hill in the eighteenth century (Potter et al. 1988, 31), although the full extent to which Roman military engineers altered the topography has yet to be established.

3.2.2 The solid geology of Lancaster consists predominantly of Silesian (Upper Carboniferous) grey-brown or reddened, medium to coarse-grained sandstones of the Pendle Grit Formation, which is part of the Millstone Grit Group (British Geological Survey 1992). These sandstones are thickly bedded with thin siltstone partings but with mixed sandstone/siltstone units near the top. The drift geology for the area has been mapped as glaciofluvial sheet deposits of clayey sands and gravels.

3.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1.1 This area of the town, known as Castle Hill, lies within the core of Roman and medieval Lancaster, a major historic centre in northern England. The available evidence indicates that the site was settled initially during the Roman period, towards the end of the first century AD, with the establishment of an auxiliary fort in a strategic position above the lowest fording point of the River Lune (Jones and Shotter 1988) (Fig 3). Modifications to the fort during the early-mid second century included a conversion to stone-revetted ramparts and an enlargement of the fortified area. The line of the southern wall of the fort is conjectural, however, deposits discovered under the Storey Institute could denote activity alongside a road leading from the southern gate of the fort. The position of the fort’s eastern gate, to the north of the study area, was established by rescue work in the 1970s (Jones and Shotter 1988); the present day Church Street leads east from this gate retracing the route of a Roman road.
3.1.2 During the mid fourth century, the fort was reoriented and rebuilt, incorporating a substantial circuit wall, known as the Wery Wall (Edwards 1988, 21-2). It is presumed that these works were part of a programme of coastal defences, and may be viewed as a northern version of the Saxon Shore Fort tradition, perhaps indicating that Lancaster acted as a supply base for an Irish Sea fleet (ibid).

3.1.3 The evidence for the immediately post-Roman period is slight, based largely upon isolated chance finds. However, it is probable that settlement persisted in the vicinity. A hoard of ninth century stycas and several fragments of carved stone crosses could indicate the site of an Anglian monastic foundation on Castle Hill, although place name evidence might suggest an ethnically mixed population, including those of Norse decent (Penny 1981, 13). The Domesday Survey of 1080-86 records two independent vills of the manor of Halton, ‘Loncastre’ and ‘Chercaloncastre’, the latter being in the area of the castle (ibid). Since the late eleventh century, the hill has been dominated by the Norman castle and the Priory, which was originally established c1094, presumably in the area of the earlier church (Jones and Shotter 1988). The Norman castle was situated within the presumed southern boundary of the earlier two phases of Roman fort, but failed to reference the reoriented ground plan of the third phase of the fort, especially as elements of this were still standing.

3.1.4 The medieval town seems to have developed rapidly after the granting of a borough charter in 1193, which encouraged the establishment of full urban functions, including a weekly market. There is some evidence to suggest that it was founded on the scheme of the Roman extramural settlement and directly influenced by it. Specifically, the medieval layout of Church Street was structured by the earlier Roman layout (Penny 1981, 12), inferring some continuity of settlement and significantly town planning. As is typical of many towns of the period, the land flanking the streets was subdivided into individual burgage plots (Jones and Shotter 1988) and some of these, in the older parts of town, may also have had Roman origins.
4. BUILDING INVESTIGATION

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The Storey Institute is a late nineteenth century Art Institute, designed by Paley and Austin, and built in their preferred Jacobean Revival style. In 1906, an extension comprising the rear (north) extent of the building was added. The building stands at three storeys high with an attic and cellar, has gardens to the west, and is located on the corner of Meeting House Lane and Castle Hill in the centre of Lancaster. Directly to the north of the institute is Lancaster Castle, which is currently used as a county courts, prison and museum, whilst the Castle Park area is known to have been the site of several Roman fortifications during the first to fourth centuries.

4.1.2 The building was constructed in two phases, with the first phase being constructed in 1887. This original structure includes the entire south façade of Meeting House Lane, and incorporates the first four bays of the east elevation on Castle Hill. In 1906, an extension was added that includes the canted façade on Castle Hill, the single storey structure to the north, which hitherto functioned as the offices of Oxford Archaeology North, as well as the projecting white brick extensions that feature within the central quad area of the building.

4.1.3 At the time of the survey, the building was still occupied, with the northern section of the building providing office accommodation for Oxford Archaeology North and Litfest, whilst the original section of the building to the south, functioned as the Storey Gallery and as a centre for further education. In general terms, the building was still in a relatively good state of repair, although it was clear that some areas of the building required extensive repairs and refurbishment.

4.1.4 Due to the ornate nature of the exterior of the building, each elevation will be described individually, whereas the substantially plainer interiors only merit a thematic, rather than room by room or floor by floor approach. It should also be noted that because the building lies on Castle Hill, the ground floor to the front of the building is actually the basement at the rear of the building. Consequently, to avoid any confusion, the ground floor at the rear of the building will be referred to as the first floor, and the first floor as the second, and an appropriate reminder will appear in parenthesis.

4.2 THE SOUTH ELEVATION

4.2.1 The main façade of the building lies on the north side of Meeting House Lane, and stands at three bays long, with an octagonal tower to the right of the elevation (Plate 1). To the west, there is a projecting gable façade for the Art Gallery, and a single storey studio and attic, which has a curved section of wall featuring a gateway into the attached gardens. The principal fabric is ashlar sandstone with rusticated quoins on the dressings and margins, whilst plain string-courses feature above the ground and first floors. On the shaped gable of the Art Gallery, there are two pairs of Ionic pilasters, of which, the
flanking pair rise to small acroteria formed by the first floor string course, and these are topped by globe finials with tapered strapwork bases. The inner pair of pilasters continue to rise beyond this string course, whereby their shafts become fluted. At the upper cornice, these are surmounted by panelled bases and globe finials.

4.2.2 In the centre of the Art Gallery facade, there is a bolection-moulded plaque, decorated with strapwork motifs and inscribed with the following: ‘IN HONOREM VICTORIAE REGIAE NOSTRAE ANNIS L. REGNI FELICITER ACTIS THO STOREY EQVES D.D.D. A.D. MDCCCLXXXVII (Plate 2).

4.2.3 The main mansard roof and the small gablettes are laid with regular courses of Welsh slate and leaded ridges, whilst the octagonal turret at the south-east corner of the building is surmounted by a cupola and porticoed spire laid with lead (Plate 3).

4.2.4 Access to the building is provided by a formal aedicular doorway on the right of the elevation (Plate 4), which has a bolection-moulded architrave with an outer roll-moulding embellished with shaft rings. To either side of this architrave, there is a pair of pilasters flanked by engaged Tuscan pillars that feature strapwork decoration around the base of their shafts. The pilasters rise to a closed, segmental fronton, which is decorated with a peacock’s tail, and a fluted keystone/console supporting a saltire motif and globe finial. The Tuscan pillars rise to first floor height and are surmounted by globe finials with tapered, fluted bases. Additionally, a corbel course underpins the string course directly above the fronton of the door, whilst towards the west end of the facade, a smaller, more modest panel door affords access into the Art Gallery (Plate 5). Above the door, there is a plain leaded light, whilst the architrave is a simple roll-moulded affair. A gateway through the curved section of wall at the extreme left of the elevation affords access into the gardens to the west of the building. This has a segmental, bolection-moulded, round-arch and scrolled, wrought iron gate.

4.2.5 The windows on the ground floor (including the octagonal tower) are paired four-over-four, horned sashes with roll-moulded surrounds, whilst those on the first floor have roll-moulded architraves with decorated heads featuring a strapwork motif. At roof level, there are three four-over-four sash dormers, which are decorated with roll-moulded architraves, surmounted by strapwork frontons of varying styles, whilst the right dormer also has acroteria capped by strapwork bases and globe finials. In addition, within the bays dividing these dormers, lie three two-over-two horned sash dormer windows with timber, segmental frontons, and these are set back from the parapet of the mansard roof.

4.2.6 The windows of both the Art Gallery and the studio at the left end of the facade, are comparable with those on the ground floor of the main elevation and tower, whilst the studio has a dormer similar to its counterparts on the main section of the elevation, albeit with a plainer, shaped fronton. Additionally, an oculus, decorated with pronounced keystones on its cardinal
points and a fluted console, supporting the upper string-course of the gable, lies on the attic floor of the Art Gallery.

4.3 THE EAST ELEVATION

4.3.1 This canted elevation is of comparable design to the south elevation and consists of the original four bays, with a further canted façade dating to the early twentieth century (Plate 6). This later extension has six bays, with the outer pairs of bays projecting forward, whilst the left pair rise to a shaped gable. On both the original phase and the extension, the windows are comparable to the horned sashes on the south elevation, and feature roll-moulded surrounds, with strapwork and key stone decoration. Similarly, the original phase of the elevation has five four-over-four sash dormers with strapwork frontons, which are again divided by smaller horned sashes with segmental heads. In contrast, the canted extension has a long timber attic dormer, which is set back from the corniced parapet, whilst the shaped gable has an oculus comparable with that on the gable of Art Gallery.

4.4 THE NORTH ELEVATION

4.4.1 This constitutes part of the extension constructed during the early twentieth century, and is built with roughly-coursed sandstone rubble with well-cut stonework on the dressings and margins, whilst the striking in antis Doric portico at the west end of the elevation is built with ashlar sandstone (Plate 7). Within this portico, there are scrolled wrought-iron gates, whilst above, there is a triglyph frieze and modillioned cornice, with a further cornice and finally, the dentilled pediment. The portico seems incongruous compared to the rest of the build and this is because it originally adorned the front of Cawthorne House, built in the 1770s on the corner of Market Street and Fenton Street. The building was subsequently demolished and replaced by the Post Office at the turn of the twentieth century.

4.4.2 The door to the rear (north) of the Storey Institute is a plain panel door, but features an ex situ segmental hood, which is supported by corbels decorated with acanthus leaves, and an additional well-cut flush lintel and quoins. This was part of the building that originally stood on the site, prior to its demolition and the erection of the present building in 1906. The windows are four-over-four horned sashes, with stone mullions, well-cut lintels and projecting sills.

4.5 THE WEST ELEVATION

4.5.1 The west elevation comprises the rear of the original phase and the canted 1906 extension, with the former being built mainly of dressed stone and the latter, white glazed brick (Plates 8 and 9). In addition, there is a projecting single storey extension, which has a chamfered west elevation and shallow pitched roof in diminished courses of Welsh slate, that rises to a pavilion roof. The courtyard formed by these two phases of building is located at basement level with access provided by a set of stone steps with iron railings. Within this enclosed courtyard, there is a single-storey extension in white glazed brick and diminished courses of Welsh slate, which appears to be contemporary
with the build of the main elevation. The majority of this facade, whether it is the original build or the later extension is quite unremarkable, particularly in comparison to the front elevations on Meeting House Lane and Castle Hill. However, of particular interest is a bay window on the ground floor (over the courtyard) of the original building. This was designed by Shrigley and Hunt and contains medallion figures representing the Arts, as well as some of their most distinguished proponents.

4.6  **THE INTERIOR OF THE STOREY INSTITUTE**

4.6.1 The Storey Institute is built on the steep slope of Castle Hill, which results in a discrepancy in floor levels between the front and rear of the building. Subsequently, the ground floor at the front of the building is actually the basement at the rear, whilst the basement at the front of the building containing the boiler room is essentially a sub-basement floor.

4.6.2 The majority of rooms on the ground, first, and second floors are for the most part uninspiring and utilitarian, being uniformly decorated with plain plaster and papered walls, plainly-moulded dado rails, skirting boards and timber-panelled dados (Plates 10–12). The ceilings are similarly painted plaster, whilst the floors are carpeted or laid with parquet, with the exception of the sub-basement, which is laid to concrete (Plate 13).

4.6.3 Notwithstanding this, several rooms, particularly at the south end of the building are of interest, because of their elaborate design, and are worthy of note here. The most attractive room within the building is the main gallery space of the building, which lies to the west end of the ground floor and is, therefore, part of the original phase of building. It has a vaulted ceiling, with struts decorated with a foliate design that rises to a glazed raised ridge (Plate 14). The walls are decorated with both a moulded picture rail and cornice, whilst the doors are aedicular in design with pectinated pediments finished with an oak leaf motif (Plate 15). Additionally, at the north end of the room, there is a substantial niche, which has a round arch trimmed with egg-and-dart moulding, a scrolled and foliated console, and fluted pilasters (Plate 16). To the flanks of this arch, there are further fluted pilasters dressed with Ionic capitals, whilst in the centre of the niche, there is a sculpture of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, which is mounted upon a greyish-white marble plinth that itself sits upon a red marble dais.

4.6.4 The rooms along the front of the ground floor are of a similar style, albeit more restrained, whilst the space to the south-west corner of the building is interesting in that it was designed as a lecture theatre and appears to be still used in that capacity (Plate 17).

4.6.5 Of additional interest is the staircase at the front of the building, which has cast iron railings, a timber banister, and which is laid with high-quality, polished sandstone, which is possibly Haslingden (Plate 18). The ceiling on the second floor is trimmed with a bolection moulding and is vaulted with a central stair light of leaded glass, flanked by two ovoid plaster mouldings.
5. TEST PIT EVALUATION

5.1 TEST PIT 1

5.1.1 Test Pit 1 (Fig 2 and 3) was located in the courtyard to the Storey Institute. Due to issues of access to the building the test was reduced in size to 2m by 1.60m. The current ground level lay between 28.48m OD in the south and 28.48m OD in the north. The test pit was excavated down to a depth of 1.08m (27.26m OD). The natural was located some 50mm below the present surface between 28.17m and 28.12m OD. Due to the presence of live services the working width of the test pit was reduced a 1m wide strip on the west side.

5.1.2 The basal deposit within test pit comprised several large sandstone and limestone boulders (104), the largest of which measured 0.70m by 0.45m. These boulders were located on the west facing section within the middle of the test pit. It was unclear whether they were part of a natural glacial deposit, or whether they formed part of a terrace used as a foundation for the building to the immediate west.

5.1.3 Sealing the boulders was a 0.70m deep layer of orange-brown clay (103). Again it was unclear whether this was a naturally deposited clay or whether it was part of the posited foundation for the Storey Institute. This was in turn sealed by a 0.18m thick cobbled surface (102) with a clay basal layer. The south end of this deposit had been cut by a 0.65m deep service trench containing a east/west aligned 6” (153mm) cast iron pipe. The top of this service trench had been later cut by several more recent service trenches (106 and 107) running in a north/south direction and occupying the whole of east side of the test pit. The entire area was then sealed below a thin (50mm) layer of grey-brown clay (101), which had been used as a foundation layer for the stone setts, which formed the surface within this part of the Storey Institute.

5.2 TEST PIT 2

5.2.1 Test Pit 2 (Fig 2) was located within the boiler room of the Storey Institute. Due to issues of space and structural stability of the wall and column in its immediate proximity the size of the test pit was reduced to 1.5m by 1.5m. The concrete surface of the boiler room was removed under archaeological supervision. The pit was excavated to a depth of 0.87m below the current ground level.

5.2.2 The lowest deposit recorded within the test pit was a 0.53m deep layer of yellowish-brown sandy gravel (204). The gravel was composed of poorly sorted, sub-rounded stone of varying sizes (20-150mm), with occasional cobbles up to 250mm. The deposit was examined via a sondage cut into the south-east corner of the test pit, which indicated that the gravel continued below the level of the base of the test pit. The gravel was thought to be natural in origin.
5.2.3 Lying above 204, was a thin layer of clean, reddish-brown clay (205). This was sealed by in the south-west side of the test pit by a layer of brownish-yellow, clay sandy gravel (203). Overlying this and occupying the north-east half of the test pit was a layer of dark-grey clay (202) that contained small amounts of plaster and the occasional brick fragments. This was in turn sealed by dark-grey, gritty silt (201), with occasional inclusions of cobbles and machine made brick. Deposits 201-203 were thought to be consolidation layers, probably representing the construction horizon for the cellar. The floor surface (200) was composed of a thin concrete skim above compacted ash/clinker layer.

5.3 DISCUSSION

5.3.1 The two test pits excavated in the courtyard (Test Pit 1) of the Storey Institute and within the boiler room (Test Pit 2) revealed very limited archaeological remains, which appeared to be exclusively related to the construction of the Storey Institute. Test Pit 1 revealed a several large boulders, which it was not clear whether they were of natural or glacial origin, or part of a foundation layer for the building, which was overlain by a thick layer of clay, and which may have served as a levelling layer. An earlier cobbled surface was seen below the present surface of stone setts.

5.3.2 Test Pit 2 revealed a deposit of natural gravel, possibly the fill of a palaeo-channel thought to run below the building (Rachel Newman pers comm). The sealing layers were thought to represent the construction horizon for the Storey Institute.
6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 INTRODUCTION

6.1.1 The present scheme of investigation and recording, prompted by the refurbishment of Lancaster’s Storey Institute, will provide a summary record of the structure in its present condition.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.2.1 Following the conclusion of the programme of archaeological evaluation and building investigation, no further work is recommended.
7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

7.1 SECONDARY SOURCES

British Geological Survey, 1992, Nottingham

Edwards, BJN, 1988 The Wery Wall, in Roman Lancaster: Rescue Archaeology in an Historic City 1970-75 (eds GDB Jones and DCA Shotter), Brigantia Monograph No. 1, Manchester, 21-23


Jones, GDB, and Shotter, DCA, 1988 Roman Lancaster: Rescue Archaeology in an Historic City 1970-75, Brigantia Monograph, 1, Manchester

8. ILLUSTRATIONS

8.1 LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location
Figure 2: Test pit location plan
Figure 3: Plan of test pit 1

8.2 LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: The south elevation of the Storey Institute
Plate 2: Plaque commemorating the opening of the building, with a dedication to Queen Victoria
Plate 3: The Tower on the south-east corner
Plate 4: The formal entrance to the Storey Institute on Meeting House Lane (south elevation)
Plate 5: Entrance to the Art Gallery on the south elevation
Plate 6: The canted 1906 extension on Castle Hill (east elevation)
Plate 7: The *ex situ* pediment, which originally adorned Cawthorne House
Plate 8: The west elevation of the canted extension dating to 1906
Plate 9: The original phase of the building (to the right) and the later 1906 extension. Note the bay window on the ground floor
Plate 10: General shot of a corridor within the Storey Institute
Plate 11: A typical room, in this instance at the south-east corner of the building
Plate 12: Typical view of the rooms within the original phase of the Storey Institute
Plate 13: General view of one of the rooms within the sub-basement
Plate 14: Detail of the ceiling within the gallery
Plate 15: Detail of one of the aedicular doors within the gallery
Plate 16: Detail of the statue of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert at the north end of the gallery
Plate 17: The lecture theatre at the south-west corner of the building
Plate 18: Detail of the staircase in the original phase of the building
Figure 2: Test pit location plan
Figure 3: Plan of test pit 1
Plate 1: The south elevation of the Storey Institute

Plate 2: Plaque commemorating the opening of the building, with a dedication to Queen Victoria
Plate 3: The Tower on the south-east corner
Plate 4: The formal entrance to the Storey Institute on Meeting House Lane (south elevation)
Plate 5: Entrance to the Art Gallery on the south elevation
Plate 6: The canted 1906 extension on Castle Hill (east elevation)

Plate 7: The *ex situ* pediment, which originally adorned Cawthorne House
Plate 8: The west elevation of the canted extension dating to 1906
Plate 9: The original phase of the building (to the right) and the later 1906 extension. Note the bay window on the ground floor
Plate 10: General shot of a corridor within the Storey Institute

Plate 11: A typical room, in this instance at the south-east corner of the building
Plate 12: Typical view of the rooms within the original phase of the Storey Institute

Plate 13: General view of one of the rooms within the sub-basement
Plate 14: Detail of the ceiling within the gallery
Plate 15: Detail of one of the aedicular doors within the gallery
Plate 16: Detail of the statue of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert at the north end of the gallery
Plate 17: The lecture theatre at the south-west corner of the building

Plate 18: Detail of the staircase in the original phase of the building
APPENDIX 1: PROJECT DESIGN