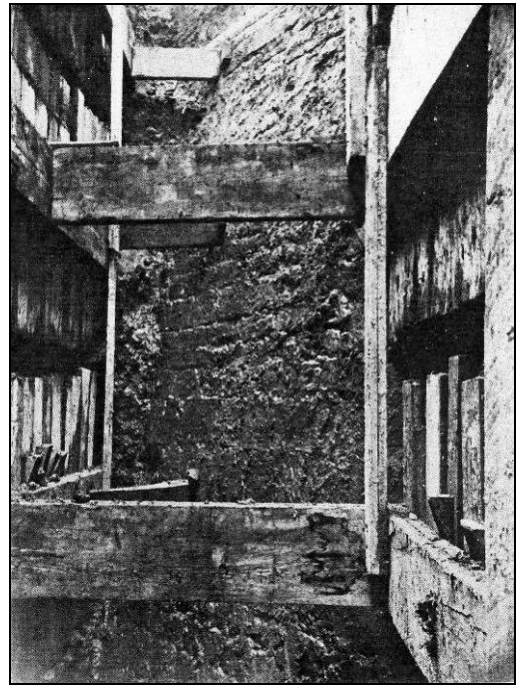


Discovering Sheffield Castle

A Prospectus for Excavating and Presenting Sheffield's Lost Castle



The 30ft standing section of Sheffield Castle's south gatehouse wall
(reproduced from Armstrong's 1930 report).

ARS Ltd Report 2009/1
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This prospectus comprises a preliminary Vision Statement for Sheffield Castle and an Outline Strategy for achieving the vision. It has been prepared at the request of Councillor Arthur Dunworth at the 2nd meeting of the ‘Remains of the Sheffield Castle Working Group’ and builds on discussion with and comment from senior staff at Creative Sheffield.

The relocation of the Castle Markets provides an opportunity to transform the Castlegate Markets site and wider area into a revitalised and unique part of the City that celebrates the rediscovered heritage of Sheffield Castle. In line with the City Centre Masterplan (CCMP), which identifies this area as a major opportunity for redevelopment, the development of the site will ultimately be driven by the mix of uses that can be viably accommodated, given the planning framework for the site. Although the archaeology is of intrinsic value in itself, the excavation and display of the archaeological heritage must add value to the overall scheme. The City Centre Masterplan has earmarked ‘Castlegate’ as “an exciting new destination and gateway reconnecting the City Centre to the waterside and providing a dramatic setting for its lost heritage”.

Sheffield Castle could form a further jewel in the crown of Sheffield’s City Centre public realm. It could provide a catalyst for attracting significant public investment that will help in the regeneration of what is currently a run-down area of the City Centre. It also provides a new and powerful image for the City and one that will attract visitors as well as provide a place of immense interest and enjoyment for residents of the City and surrounding area. With a carefully directed programme of excavation, conservation and selected reconstruction the remains of Sheffield Castle could bring significant economic, social and educational benefits to the City. It provides the chance to take the City on a journey of discovery that it is hoped will excite, enthuse and engage an entire generation of Sheffielders and visitors to the City.

The importance of Sheffield Castle has remained a secret for too long and few people outside a small academic circle are in a position to appreciate the national significance of this place and the people and events associated with it. Leslie Armstrong, a highly respected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, who undertook small-scale excavations on parts of the Castle site during the late 1920’s put it lucidly.....

“Throughout the six centuries which preceded the Parliamentary Civil War, few of the baronial castles of England could boast a more intimate connection with outstanding men and national events than could the castle of Sheffield, and it is doubtful if since that time any has become more entirely forgotten than has the noble pile of buildings which once occupied the high ground at the junction of the River Sheaf with the River Don and towered above the little town of Sheffield.”

(Armstrong 1930, 7).

The objective of this prospectus is to provide a general vision that can be endorsed. The remainder of the document sets out a basic roadmap for achieving the vision. This document should not be seen either as definitive or final, but rather as a starting point for pushing the

project forward. The prospectus has been written in a non-specialist style so as to be clear, concise and comprehensible to a diverse constituency. It has been prepared pro bono by Archaeological Research Services Ltd in an attempt to assist and nurture this crucial aspect of the City Centre's redevelopment.

It is suggested that a Steering Group should be established to oversee the project. Either the Council could directly manage the contract or it could use Creative Sheffield as agents to do this. A paid consultant could then be appointed to drive the project forward. An Advisory Group consisting of wider stakeholders could also be established to feed in to the Steering Group, the latter of which needs to be kept to a small and manageable size. The nucleus for these groups can be drawn from the existing members of the 'Working Group' that has been assembled by Councillor Sylvia Dunkley, together with other key organisations and individuals.

The majority of the funding for researching and investigating the remains can realistically only come from public funding and preliminary sources identified at this stage include, the City Council, Yorkshire Forward, Central Government, Housing and Communities Agency and the Heritage Lottery Fund. With respect to the works to interpret, preserve and enhance the Castle remains, further funding may also be acquired through section 106 agreements from the commercial development of the Castlegate site.

With the Castlegate Markets expected to be vacated by mid 2011 there is a lead-in time of approximately two years for this part of the Castle Precinct before full-scale archaeological works can commence. Excavation of the Castlegate Markets area will probably take at least a year. There is a possibility that remains of the Castle extend westwards across and beyond Waingate so the potential exists for some works in and around this area prior to 2011 depending on the timetable of new development in this area.

2. VISION STATEMENT

Background

The City Centre Masterplan has earmarked Castlegate as “an exciting new destination and gateway reconnecting the City Centre to the waterside and providing a dramatic setting for its lost heritage” (Executive Summary 2008, 17). However, it goes further by recognising that “The comprehensive re-development of Castlegate presents a unique opportunity to transform this part of the City Centre and to celebrate Sheffield’s heritage”. The Masterplan proposes a mix of residential, office and leisure uses and high quality public realm with a new pedestrian spine route linking Castle Square and Victoria Quays but the focus of the development will be the creation of a new green space for the Castle remains. The site provides a transformational opportunity with the potential to create a unique part of the City Centre.

The area around the Castle forms the original town centre with the Wicker and the route into the Castle over Lady’s Bridge forming the main approach to the Castle from the north. By capitalising on the opportunity to expose the remains of Sheffield Castle and presenting this important site to the public the wider Sheffield community can be engaged in the process of uncovering the City’s past. Moreover, the Castle remains could broaden the City’s appeal to visitors and enhance the image of the City nationally and internationally. There is considerable public support for the archaeological excavation, exposure and presentation of Sheffield Castle as well as cross-party support within Sheffield City Council and the support of Creative Sheffield. The relocation of Castlegate Markets and the regeneration of this part of the City centre provide an unparalleled opportunity for Sheffield to re-expose its castle and celebrate its medieval heritage.

Currently there are no archaeological remains within the Castlegate Markets site that are designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments. A small section of a tower base and walling exposed by Armstrong during his excavations in the 1920s are currently preserved below Castle Markets and these remains are designated as Grade II Listed (NMR ref: SK38NE1). According to English Heritage: “Listing is not a preservation order, preventing any change. Listing is an identification stage where buildings are marked and celebrated as having exceptional architectural or historic special interest, before any planning stage which may decide a building’s future. Listing does not freeze a building in time, it simply means that listed building consent must be applied for in order to make any changes to that building which might affect its special interest. Listed buildings can be altered, extended and even demolished within government planning guidance. The local authority uses listed building consent to make decisions that balance the site’s historic significance against other issues such as its function, condition or viability.” A Grade II listing is the minimum grade with Grade I being the maximum. English Heritage’s definition states that “Grade II buildings are nationally important and of special interest.”

The other remains of the Castle have no statutory protection other than that provided by the planning system under Planning Policy Guidance Notes 15 and 16. However, some of the remains that presumably survive elsewhere across the site may yet be considered to be of national importance and this could lead to designation of remains once they are recorded and exposed. As it stands there are no legal constraints prohibiting the excavation, and ultimately building over or removal of, the remains of the Castle. However, the Council has control of

what happens on the site, firstly as land owner and secondly it also controls ‘development’ through the planning system and the granting or refusal of planning permissions and the attachment of archaeological conditions to planning consents as appropriate. English Heritage have a statutory obligation to provide advice and permissions in respect of Listed Buildings.

The excavation, conservation and display of Sheffield Castle presents an outstanding opportunity for the regeneration and enhancement of Sheffield City Centre, and is one that has taken 350 years to come around. Rather than providing an impediment to development the Castle remains give Sheffield an enviable historic asset around which high grade new development could be designed and constructed. Heritage-led regeneration has proved successful in analogous cities, such as the exposed remains of a Roman fort and the reconstructed Roman Bath House within an industrial area at Wallsend and the Roman fort and reconstructed gatehouse and barrack blocks in a residential area of South Shields (both Tyne and Wear). Few of the major UK hub cities can boast a medieval castle and with the eventful history associated with Sheffield Castle there is also a thrilling and colourful story to tell. Sheffield Castle was an important medieval fortress that played a significant part in England’s history from Simon de Montfort’s attempt to unseat Henry III, through the imprisonment of Mary Queen of Scots, to the English Civil War (see below for further details). It was one of the largest castles in northern England and was home to important medieval nobles such as John ‘The Butcher’ Talbot, the English hero of the Hundred Years War and an individual who appears in Shakespeare’s Henry VI Part I.

Remains of the castle survive below an extensive area of Sheffield City Centre extending roughly north-south from Castlegate to Exchange Street and east-west from somewhere around Waingate to the River Sheaf, although its precise extent and footprint are not yet known and the Castle could extend further westwards across Waingate (Armstrong 1930). Excavations by Armstrong revealed varied preservation of the stonework ranging from just a few courses in height to 30ft of standing masonry in the case of the south gatehouse wall where it projects into the moat (see front cover). The moat, or ‘ditch’, contains an in-tact fill and contained abundant small finds in the small areas examined by Armstrong. Discoveries of pottery (including possible Roman material), leather shoes, gold pins, coins, knives, an iron spear head, canon balls, keys, miniature horseshoe, strap buckles, scissors, bolster, a wooden playing card, jewellery, buttons and so forth which were thought to date from the 13th to 17th centuries provide a flavour of the type of finds that can be expected. If the buried remains are in a similar state of preservation across the rest of the castle then they provide the potential for spectacular discoveries and detailed insights into Sheffield’s medieval past.



Figure 1. The basal courses of the bastion tower (reproduced from Armstrong’s 1930 report).

The Vision

The Castlegate area will become a vibrant and truly mixed use area with offices, residential and night time uses including bars, restaurants and hotels. Retailing will be part of the mix but will be of lesser importance following the relocation of the Markets. The Masterplan for the area seeks to exploit the archaeological remains of the Castle and create a new open space as part of the redevelopment of the Castlegate Market site.

Discovering Sheffield Castle: Overarching Aims

1. Generate economic benefits for the City by enhancing the City's image, attracting inward investment, enhancing the shopping and visitor experience, adding to Sheffield's critical mass in attracting visitors, increasing overnight stays and repeat visits.
2. Provide social benefits through engagement of the City community, including young people and volunteers, in the rediscovery of the City's history. Add to residents' quality of life, self belief and sense of pride in their City.
3. Display and conserve a key asset of Sheffield's historic environment for present and future generations.
4. Gain a full and in-depth understanding of the history and archaeology of Sheffield Castle and its significance in the history of England
5. Maximise the media potential of the project including high quality documentaries for international television viewing (e.g. BBC, Channel 4, Discovery Channel *etc.*)
6. Identify links between Sheffield Castle and other places in Britain and Europe
7. Present the remains of Sheffield Castle to the highest possible standard
8. Provide first class interpretation of the remains, the nature of interpretation being appropriate to the nature and scale of the Castle 'on display'

Potential Benefits

- Provide a first class public attraction in Sheffield City Centre that celebrates the City's heritage and of which the City can be proud
- Develop this important historic asset as a new icon for showcasing the city nationally and internationally
- Generate a wide range of economic, educational and social benefits
- Win over, motivate and inspire the Sheffield business community and inward investors to create new opportunities and initiatives around the Castlegate development

- Provide synergies and linkages with other key historic assets in and around the City (e.g. Manor Lodge, Bishops House, Weston Park Museum, Kelham Island Museum, Beauchief Abbey, Conisbrough Castle, Peveril Castle, Haddon Hall *etc.*) and develop the Castle site as an ‘attract and disperse’ hub in a City Centre gateway location which will help achieve the critical mass of heritage attractions required in the City to support the emerging tourist economy and promote increased visitor footfall at the other sites which do not have the advantage of being located within the City Centre
- Provide synergies with other Sheffield groups who have a potential interest in using/assisting with the Castle remains and use of the resultant public space (e.g. Sheffield International Venues, Sheffield Theatres Trust, Sheffield Galleries & Museums Trust, the Universities, Sheffield Cathedral *etc.*)
- Involve Sheffield’s schools and the wider community/volunteers in the project (whether through guided tours and/or fieldwork participation, classroom projects and so forth) and the discovery and celebration of the City’s heritage
- Produce new information that will tell the as yet untold story of medieval Sheffield to school, public, popular and academic audiences
- Provide the opportunity to leave selected areas of the Castle for long-term or future excavations/research
- Maximise local, national and international media coverage during the re-discovery of the Castle including high quality documentary/ies and high profile news stories
- Use the archaeological remains and information to guide the planning and architecture of the redevelopment (see Figs. 3 – 18 at the end of this document for ideas) so as to provide a unique, period-orientated and attractive City Centre gateway that sets Sheffield apart from other major hub cities in England
- Reconstruct (sensitively and accurately) a section of walls/towers to provide a backdrop for open-air theatre, re-enactment shows and other public events and provide a visually stimulating and iconic image of the Castle (see for example the reconstructed gatehouse over the original remains of the tower at Nottingham Castle – Fig. 3)
- Present the exposed remains with information points, lighting, paths, raised walkways, paving, that could include heraldic mosaics, to at least the same standard as the other Heart of the City public realm. This could include landscaping and open space/s in and around the remains for public events, a new open-air market space for specialist market events in the style of a medieval market/fair and re-planting of an area of orchard (as was known to exist close to the Castle) as well as access on to the reconstructed section.
- Provide interpretation of the highest possible standard that could potentially include a Visitor Centre at an appropriate location amongst the remains, perhaps utilising part of the original Castle, to tell the story of Sheffield’s past and provide a gateway for directing visitors to other attractions in and around the City

3. A BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

By Lloyd Powell

In this brief summary it is intended to lay out the basic history of Sheffield Castle and attempt to give some idea of the nature of the structure. This account is compiled from information currently available in published form and that gained through preliminary archive research by this author of which significantly more can yet be undertaken. Given adequate resourcing a much more detailed picture could be compiled by using a wider range of archival sources. It is hoped that this short account will help to dispel the myth that “there was nothing in Sheffield before the steel industry” and that nothing can be gained from further archival/desk-based research.

The Domesday Book points out that Waltheof, Earl of Huntingdon, had his headquarters somewhere in the Sheffield area. Various sites have been proposed for this; Burnt Stones, Stannington, *etc.* Some have suggested Sheffield town centre as a possible location, pointing out that Norman lords would build their castles on a site already seen as a power base. They would point to Wallingford as a prime example. Here a Norman castle was constructed in the same location as the southern base of the royal houscarls. Armstrong certainly refers to a possible “Saxon level” at the Castle but the pottery he identified as Anglo-Saxon has since been reclassified as belonging to a later period. From this, it has been suggested that the Castle site could potentially go back to Waltheof and beyond, given that some fragments of purported Roman pottery were also found during Armstrong’s excavations. This evidence for earlier activity on the Castle site requires testing by further archaeological investigation. If earlier remains do exist, then the Castle site may yet yield an even richer and more complex history of the town.

The first Norman Lord of the Manor was Roger de Buisli, one of William I’s main supporters during the invasion. He was one of a small group who contributed over fifty ships to the task force. Following the suppression of Waltheof’s rebellion, his execution, and the ‘harrowing of the North’, De Buisli received extensive lands in the Hallamshire area. This is not the point to engage in a discourse on his actions and land holdings. Suffice it to say that he controlled most of South Yorkshire holding the honour of Tickhill in addition to Sheffield.

South Yorkshire has a large number of motte and bailey castles. The majority appear to have only ever been of earth and wood. At least four though were fortified in stone: Conishorough, Peel Hill in Thorne, Tickhill and Sheffield. As South Yorkshire was Earl Waltheof’s power base the majority of these castles are assumed to have their origins during or after the harrowing of the North, their purpose being to impose Norman authority on a potentially turbulent area. If the first of Sheffield’s Castles dates from this time then that was presumably its primary purpose.

De Buisli’s estates passed to Robert de Bellesme head of the powerful Montgomery family. Whether he held Sheffield directly or at all is open to debate. The weight of evidence suggests that he did, but it is not established with certainty. It was he who built the first stone defences at Tickhill. If De Buisli did not fortify Sheffield, and the honour was held by De Bellesme, it is

likely that the latter would have. During the wars between Henry I and his elder brother Robert Curthose Duke of Normandy, De Bellesme supported Robert. As a result his estates in England were attacked by Henry's supporters. Tickhill was burnt to the ground by the Bishop of Lincoln in 1103 (LP carried out excavations within the keep which confirmed this; the results are in a report lodged with SYAS).

What is certain is that by the early twelfth century the honour had passed to De Lovetot, and Sheffield was permanently split from Tickhill. It was De Lovetot who constructed the first recorded bridge over the Don, at Lady's Bridge, and the first church that we know of. During their hegemony there are references which imply the existence of a castle, but not definitive evidence. Further research could determine this one way or another.

From the De Lovetots Sheffield passed into the hands of the De Furnival family. There is definite documentary evidence for the existence of a castle during the early thirteenth century. De Furnival was one of King John's most ardent supporters. One of the pieces of evidence for the Castle is a letter from John alluding to it, and another is a land grant. The letter and others like it would allow us to build up a picture of life in the medieval town. It was during the De Furnival occupancy that the initial Castle and town of Sheffield were destroyed. In 1266 D'Eyville, one of Simon de Montfort's supporters, devastated Sheffield. It is this act which creates the "destruction layer" referred to by Armstrong (1930). This represents the demolition debris and plotting its location (where it survives) across the city centre could provide a useful indication of the extent of the medieval town. The De Furnivals then received a licence to crenellate, the first Castle having been unlicensed. It is the remains of this second Castle which people are most aware of.

At this point it is worth sounding a cautionary note. It is not impossible that the first Castle contained some stone structures. Therefore we should be aware that stone remains need not be from the later, thirteenth century Castle.

This second Castle was constructed in stone. It was the centre for the De Furnival family. From them it passed to the Neville's of Fauconbery who held it for one generation. We assume they had little impact in the area being preoccupied with events on the Anglo-Scottish border. Further research however may prove that this is not the case. The next holders of the honour were the Talbot Earls of Shrewsbury. It became a major centre of this powerful family, the most famous of whom was John "The Butcher" Talbot, the commander of the English forces in France during the final stages of the Hundred Years War. He met his fate in the last battle of that conflict at Castillon in 1453. His family maintained possession of the Castle for many years. Most famously they held Mary Queen of the Scots there for several years. These facts are very important. Firstly it shows that the castle was large and luxurious enough to be the home of England's most prestigious aristocrat (John Talbot); secondly that it was fit to house a queen securely, but also in royal splendour.

From the Earls of Shrewsbury the Castle and honour passed into the ownership of the Dukes of Norfolk who remain the Lords of Sheffield (Baron de Furnival). It was during the English Civil War that Colonel Beaumont held the castle for the Crown. In the absence of any chance

of relief he surrendered the Castle to parliament after a short siege. The fact it had been held by royalists led to its destruction.

From the scant archival sources that have so far been able to be consulted it is possible to say the following:

A financial document states that the castle consisted of two “wards” containing “diverse buildings”. It states that it stands at the confluence of the Don and Sheaf. Most importantly it states that the castle has an area of over four acres. This gives it an area over three times the size of Conisbrough and around a third again that of Tickhill. The castle was a very large structure. The area currently allocated, under the Castle Market, is far too small. From other documents it is possible to get some idea what the “diverse buildings” were.

- I – Porch of the Great Hall
- II – Great Hall
- III – Covered way from Hall to “Great Chamber”
- IV – Large Dining Hall
- V – Wardrobe
- VI – My Lord’s Chambers
- VII- My Lord’s other chambers
- VIII – Tower chambers
- IX – Porter’s lodge
- X – Dungeon (from the French Doujon-Keep)
- XI – Buckhouse
- XII – Brewhouse
- XIII – Wash house
- XIV - Kennel

Numbers I – X must be within a strongly fortified ward that was both secure and of a high standard.

These sources also refer to repairs made to the castle including the main fabric of the Castle and the moat. They also refer to repairs to the Castle’s grange house and stables. They further allude to repairs to the castle’s plumbing and mention:

- I – The great gate of the castle (and so presumably at least 1 lesser one)
- II – The great tower
- III – The tower by the buckhouse

The demolition account throws further light on the nature of the Castle’s fabric. We find references to:

- I – The Hall
- II – The turret
- III – The old buckhouse (so there may have been a new one)
- IV – The old kitchen

- V – The little kitchen
- VI – The round tower
- VII – The square tower
- VIII – The gate house
- IX – The new bridge
- X – The stables
- XI – The chapel
- XII – The dunjon

Another source mentions the tower which overlooks the river. Yet another source refers to the lesser gate. We are also told that before and below the castle stood the small fort which guarded the gate and the river crossing. The Civil War garrison, which must have been confined within the defensive ward, consisted of two hundred foot, a troop of horse and five guns and their crews. This cannot be less than three hundred and sixty men, excluding non combatants.

The above is a basic outline of what we know from the few sources that have been able to be consulted so far and there are many more that have yet to be looked at. The Castle was obviously very large (over four acres), it had fortified wards endowed with towers and other substantial buildings. This research is a very brief summary of a two week archival search but it is clear that a detailed and extensive documentary search would be of considerable value prior to demolition of existing buildings and intrusive archaeological investigations taking place.

4. ACHIEVING THE VISION

Managing the Project

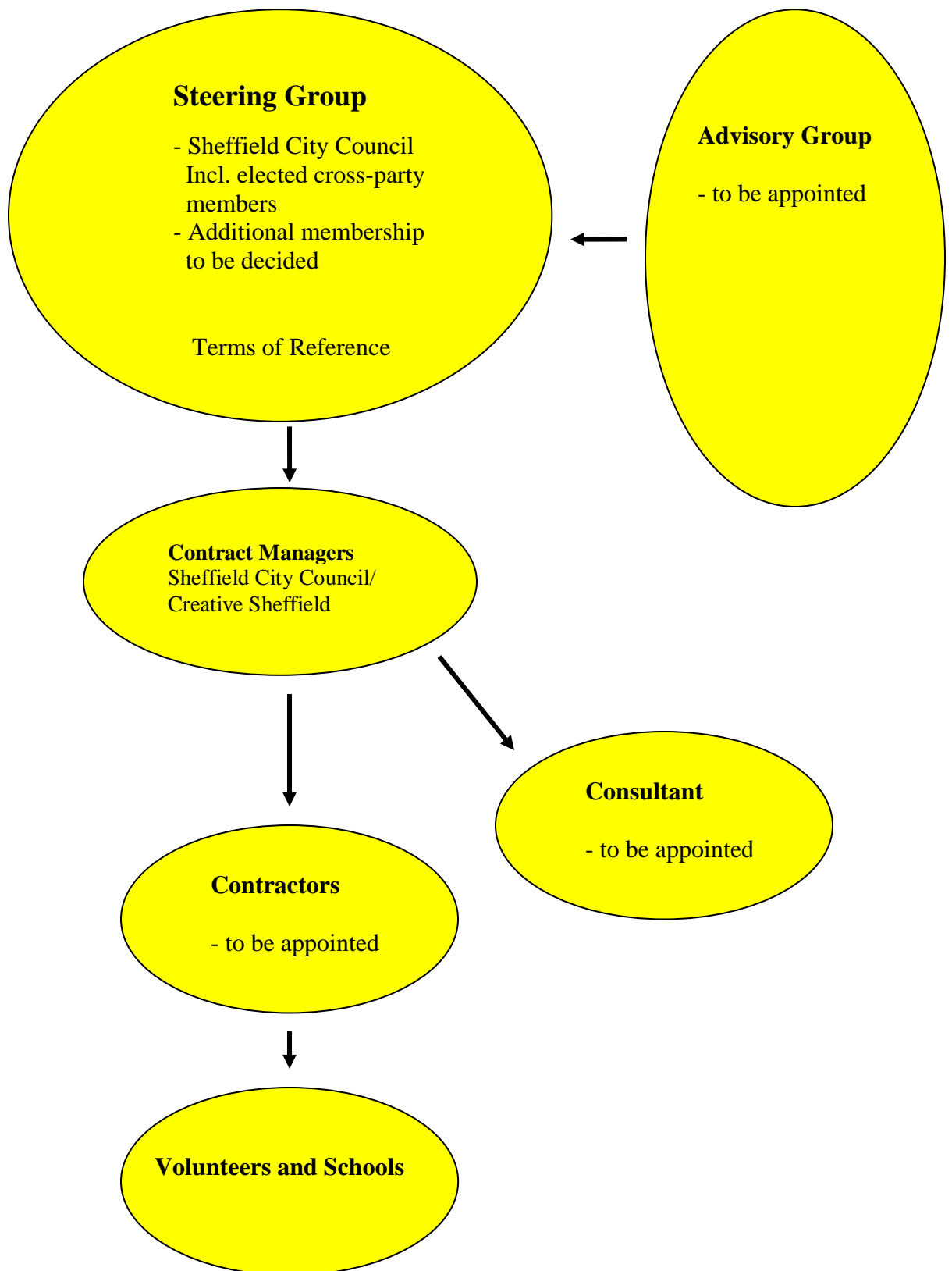
The excavation and display of Sheffield Castle requires clear, transparent and disciplined management. This can be best achieved by appointing a Steering Group to oversee the project (see also Fig. 2 below). The Steering Group should be kept to a small and manageable team and include a representative membership that would be governed by Terms of Reference endorsed by the City Council. The membership of the group can be agreed through further discussion although it is hoped that cross-party elected council members would be included so as to ensure continuity regardless of which party runs the town hall. A council member could be appointed as 'Archaeological Champion' to act as an informed lead for the council, as has been done in Manchester. Creative Sheffield could be utilised to manage contracts on behalf of the Council.

Further input to the Steering Group could be provided by a wider Advisory Group. This could include as examples representatives from English Heritage, Yorkshire Forward, the Hunter Archaeological Society, South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS), Sheffield City Museum, Sheffield Chamber of Commerce, Yorkshire South Tourism, Hallamshire Historic Buildings Society, Friends of Manor Lodge (Green Estate), advocates for the interested public and other representatives of the business community and individuals/organisations who can demonstrate an interest in the project. The suggested members of the group listed here is neither exhaustive nor exclusive as this grouping provides an opportunity for a wide range of stakeholder's to be involved.

A paid Consultant could be appointed to drive the project forward. The consultant could be paid in the first instance through Council funding but once grant-funding becomes available the Consultant would be paid via this new income stream. The Consultant could produce a detailed project design and as part of this identify potential funding streams and assist the Steering Group with putting together funding applications on behalf of the lead organisation (nominally Sheffield City Council or Creative Sheffield). The Consultant would also develop the strategy, produce archaeological briefs and input to tendering documents. A contractor would then be appointed to deliver an in-depth assessment as part of Stage 1 (see below) and this should include in the first instance:

- The examination of archive material held around the country which has not yet been studied, together with the Armstrong and Butcher Archives held by Sheffield City Museum
- A programme of further boreholes across selected areas of the site to provide information on the survival, depth and condition of deposits
- Construction of a digital terrain model that shows the present ground surface the archaeological surface/s and the 'natural' ground surface that can be continually developed as the project progresses. This model will be constructed in the first instance from data arising out of the borehole survey, data from the previous excavations, old maps and so forth.
- Production of a map based on all the available data resulting from the in-depth assessment that shows the best estimate for areas high, medium and low archaeological potential and areas that might need to be considered for protection.

Figure 2. Flow Chart of Proposed Project Management Structure



The contractor would be managed directly by Sheffield City Council/Creative Sheffield (see Figure 2). Once archaeological works are underway the works will be monitored by Sheffield City Council/Creative Sheffield. It is important that there is continuity in the archaeological works wherever possible as otherwise this leads to fragmentation and this has been a major problem in the past on large-scale archaeological projects. Therefore, in the ideal world the same consultant will be employed for the duration of the project and the same contractors used for the duration of the project, assuming that each delivers a quality service. Although the Consultant will draw up tendering documents *etc.* it will be Sheffield City Council/Creative Sheffield who will decide who to award contracts to. With a project as complex as this a range of additional specialists will ultimately become involved including for example planners, engineers, architects and interpretation designers. Such specialists can be brought in as required to form a project management team convened by the project Consultant. The Consultant could also form the point of contact between the archaeological component and the Consultants employed by the principal developer.

Sustainability

The Castle remains date back around 800 or so years and possibly earlier and will contain many phases of rebuild and repair up to the 17th century. It is envisaged that the Castle remains will survive another 800 years. This will be achieved in the short term by careful exposure, conservation works as appropriate and any reconstruction as appropriate. Some parts of the Castle will remain buried for future generations to explore and investigate using the advanced techniques that have yet to be developed.

There are different options available for managing the Castle remains into the future. It is important to find out what remains under the site, what could potentially be available as an attraction together with the level of interest from other existing organisations before moving towards a preferred option.

The key to maintaining buildings is to continue using them and so the more life that can be brought to the Castlegate area the better. The public space that is envisaged for the Castlegate area could include a variety of uses ranging from open air theatre, an area of orchard, specialist medieval market area, light shows, firework displays and so on. A lively and entertaining offer of events with wide appeal could be devised/plugged into existing events and provide the dynamism, interest and funding stream to maintain the historic assets and public realm in Castlegate.

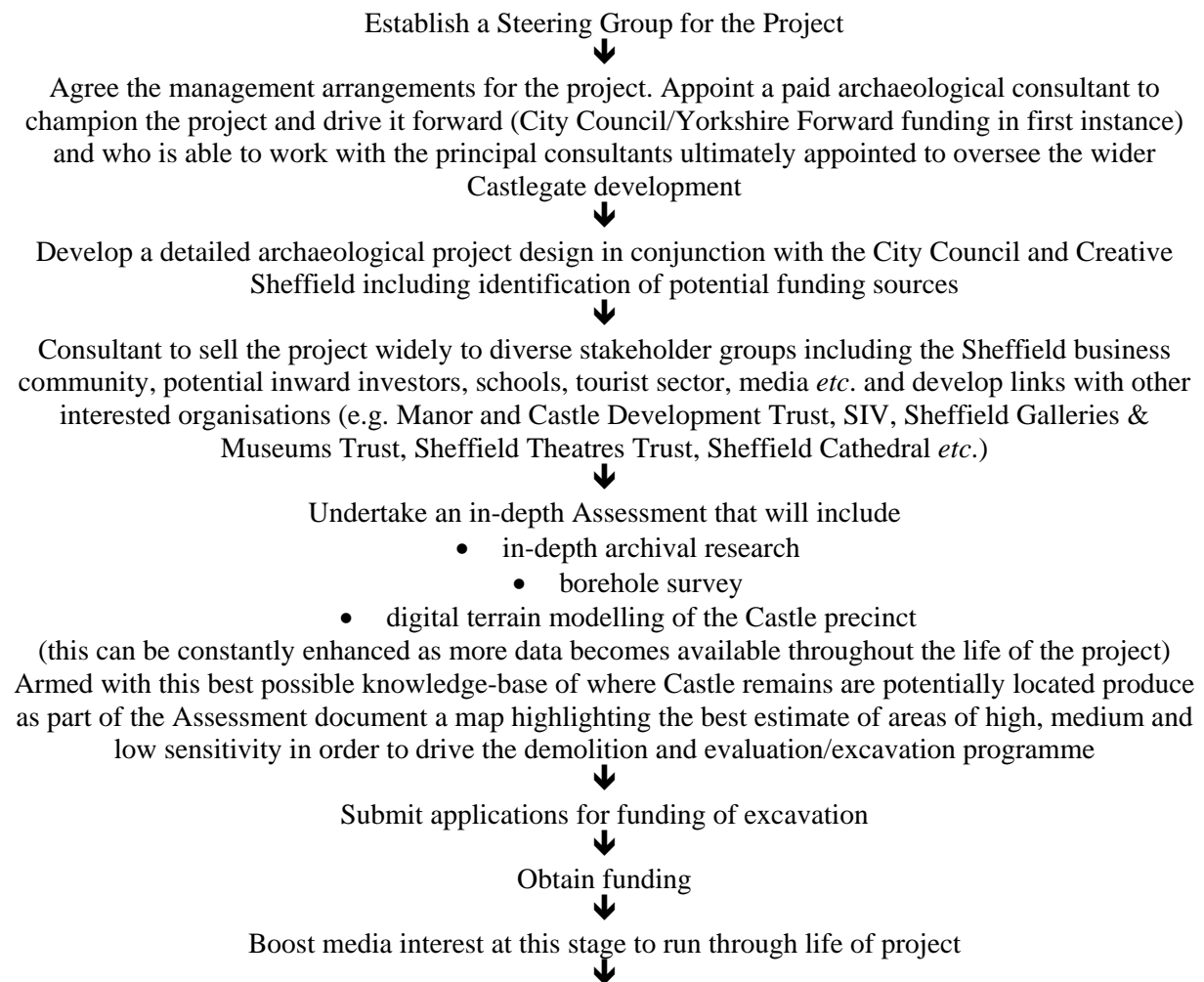
Where possible environmentally sustainable buildings could be incorporated into the new build using low-energy materials and renewable energy sources.

Roadmap

Below is a simplified road map for achieving the Sheffield Castle project with the consecutive steps highlighted. Some parts of the process will be iterative and so will keep on informing other stages in the process and therefore the consecutive model shown below serves as a conceptual outline rather than a definitive route. The Sheffield Castle project will be a part of a larger development project for the whole Castlegate site and the Castle project will need to dovetail into the broader plans for the whole site.

There are four distinct stages that can be identified in the process for delivering the Sheffield Castle project. There would be a pause between each stage prior to moving on to the next stage in order to take account of information fed back into the project.

Stage 1 Scoping



Stage 2 Demolition and Excavation of Site (triggered by approval of funding)

Demolition of existing buildings



Evaluation and excavation of archaeological remains (this may be selective depending on their extent, with a view to leaving some remains unexcavated which can be studied more slowly and carefully in the future) and time this so there is added interest and exposure during the 2012 Olympics with the various national team/s resident in Sheffield



Production of detailed report describing the remains

Stage 3 *Interpretation Plans – Options and Selection*

Consultation draft of interpretation plans that considers different options



Input of development options for the overall site and consideration of how archaeology would fit in with these aspirations/plans.



Production of a finalised and agreed Interpretation Plan



Seek and secure funding

Stage 4 *Implementation*

Conservation of stonework and reconstruction as appropriate



Landscaping, display of remains, information, lighting, walkways *etc.*



Design and construction of potential Visitor Centre?



Establish management arrangements to, care for the remains, organise events, run a visitor centre *etc.*



High profile launch

Themes that could guide interpretation and display

- The End of Northumbria, the Norman Conquest and the Northern Uprising (The Story of Earl Waltheof)
- Early Metalworking (Small finds from the site and references in Chaucer, battle of Flodden Field *etc.*)
- Castle building and links with the castles of the Normans and the Holy Land
- Robin Hood (Early gests and connection with Bradfield and the Loxley Valley)
- Baronial Wars (Magna Carta connection, Simon de Montfort and Henry III/Edward I)
- Sir John Talbot and the Hundred Years War
- Mary Queen of Scots and the VIth Earl of Shrewsbury
- English Civil War and the story of the final siege of Sheffield Castle

Public Involvement

Public engagement is critical to the success of this project and it is vital that the City's community has the opportunity to be involved in the re-discovery of the Castle. This can be achieved in a wide variety of ways and can be worked up by the project Consultant and/or Contractor in a subsequent project design document. This said, the type of opportunities that could be made available range from on-site interpretation, guided site tours, a rolling programme of volunteer places on the excavations, involving groups such as the Hunter Archaeological Society and ARTEMUS in the archaeological fieldwork and historical research, a rolling programme of school visits to sites and visits by the archaeologists into schools so that class-based and on-site activities can be undertaken, a project web site with regular updates, regular features in the media (newspapers, television *etc.*), site open days, talks to a wide variety of groups including the elderly, disabled, parish groups, community groups and so forth. This list is not exhaustive but it provides a flavour of the kind of engagement that could be included.

5. ACTION PLAN

Stage 1 **Scoping** (January 2009 – January 2011)

Sheffield City Council to achieve robust cross-party support for the Discovering Sheffield Castle project.

Sheffield City Council to appoint a Cabinet Member as ‘Archaeology Champion’ for the City (as has been done since 2005 in Manchester).

Establish a Steering Group to drive forward and oversee the scheme with cross-party members and other contributors as suggested in Figure 2.

A consultants brief to be agreed and funding bid/s for this role submitted.

Steering Group to agree/recommend arrangements for managing contracts.

Secure funding to employ consultant to advise, provide oversight and technical support

A consultant to be appointed to drive the project forward.

Development of a detailed initial Project Design including identifying and approaching potential funding sources, establishing contact with English Heritage and winning widespread support for the project as appropriate by the Consultant, Creative Sheffield and Steering Group members as appropriate. Clarify respective roles of organisations. Develop marketing strategy, consider scope for media coverage of the process.

Appoint contractor to undertake the Assessment which as stated above should include as a minimum thorough archival research, a borehole programme and digital modeling of the underlying topography and ground levels based on old maps, data from previous excavations and borehole logs *etc.* to ensure the subsequent project design and all decision-making is as fully informed as possible. Production of a plan showing the most likely location of castle remains and, on the basis of the best data available, areas considered to be of high, medium and low sensitivity to allow for a question-led approach to be developed for the demolition and excavation phase.

Production of a final Project Design and costed options for the excavation.

Secure project funding.

Stage 2 Demolition and Excavation of Site (triggered by vacation of Market site and approval of funding)
(Summer 2011- Summer 2012)

Demolition contractors appointed.

Demolition undertaken with archaeological supervision/input.

Site secured with appropriate fencing etc. to prevent nighthawking (theft of archaeological remains – often by metal detectorists), vandalism and to allow archaeologists to work unhindered and as an important health and safety measure given that deep excavations will be in progress.

Erection of signage and public viewing platform/s to allow public access and to the excavations as they progress. Information boards can be updated as discoveries are made.

Excavation of Castle remains. Samples taken for environmental analysis/reconstruction, dating, industrial activities *etc.* Exposure of stonework and investigation of the moat deposits. Investigate pre-Castle levels to understand the history of the site prior to the construction of the Castle. Activity could potentially go back through the Anglo-Saxon and Roman periods to prehistoric times and this currently remains one of the key archaeological questions of the site. As remains are exposed and the differential levels of preservation are identified across different parts of the site, decisions will be taken as to where to concentrate archaeological investigation. The excavation strategy will be driven in the first instance by the archival and desk-based research and the information from previous investigations as outlined in Stage 1.

Production of detailed record of the remains.

Stage 3 Interpretation Plans: Options and Selection (Summer 2012 - Winter 2013)

Once demolition is complete in a given area and excavations are underway various options will be available for the archaeological remains exposed. These can be dealt with in a wide variety of ways depending on what is found, the condition of preservation, the planning framework for Castlegate and development opportunities.

TV documentaries and other media coverage maximised at this point, and if possible coincide with Olympics exposure.

Production of a complete post-excavation Assessment Report that includes an Updated Project Design that includes a Business Plan and describes costed options for displaying and/or developing the archaeological remains.

At this point significant input will be required on the implications of the different options for the development of the overall site. At this stage the exercise to select a potential developer for the overall site should be well progressed and the shortlisted (or selected) developer will input their view on the varying options.

Select preferred option for the future treatment of Sheffield Castle remains.

Draw up detailed business plan/costings for the preferred option for the future treatment of Sheffield Castle remains.

Approval of preferred scheme, planning permission obtained.

Seek and secure funding and any other necessary approvals.

Stage 4 Implementation (Post 2013)

This stage will depend on the display options selected and this will be influenced by developer input and development appraisal.

Produce an agreed Interpretation Plan for the entire site that ensures consistency of content throughout all provision.

N.b. Implementation of archaeological elements will be dependant of whether these can be undertaken independently of the main development scheme, who undertakes the work and any phasing.

Develop architecture of any new buildings and layout so as to take account of the archaeological remains.

Construction of new development.

Landscaping work to take place in phases as new areas of development are completed.

High profile launch event.

6. VISUAL IDEAS OF WHAT COULD BE ACHIEVED



Figure 3. The reconstructed gatehouse and bridge at Nottingham Castle built on the foundations of the original castle and open to the public as a successful visitor attraction in Nottingham City Centre.



Figure 4. The reconstructed gatehouse at South Shields Roman fort built directly on the foundations of the surviving Roman fort walls. It is set within a densely occupied urban setting on the fringe of the town centre in an established residential and industrial area. It is a very successful attraction that houses a visitor centre and elsewhere on the fort site there are full-scale reconstructions of a barrack block and the Commandants House. ©Tyne and Wear Museums Service.



Figure 5. Aerial view of the remains at South Shields Roman fort with the various reconstructed buildings alongside exposed foundations of the fort and its wider residential and light industrial setting. ©Tyne and Wear Museums Service.

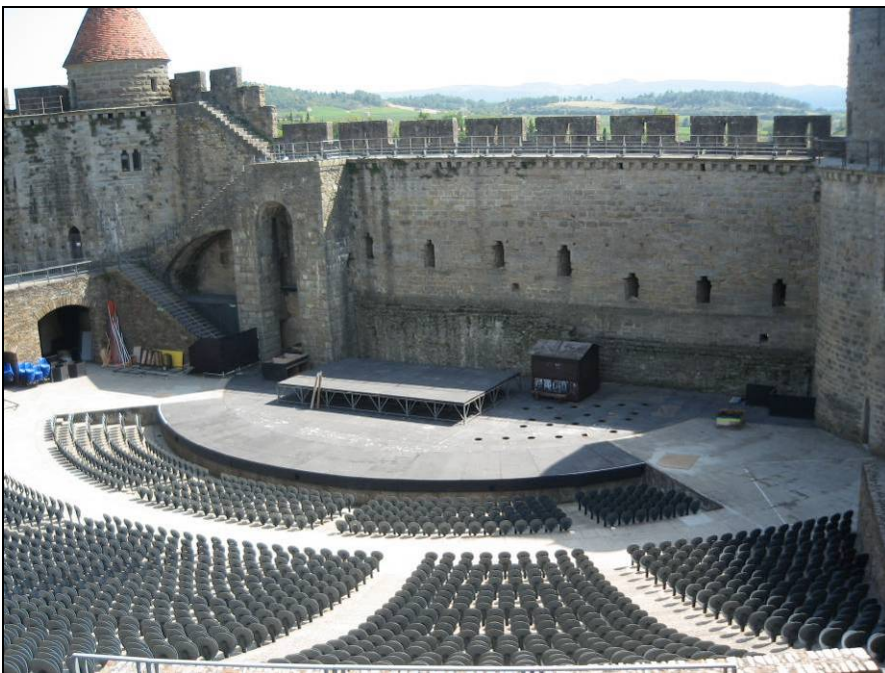


Figure 6. A landscaped area looking down to a section of reconstructed castle walls and towers (Carcassonne) with temporary staging and seating used for open air theatre, concerts *etc.*



Figure 7. A boutique hotel built to evoke a medieval style and which provides an attractive, stylish and very popular place for visitors to stay (Carcassonne, France).



Figure 8. A street café adjacent to a reconstructed section of Castle Wall (Carcassonne).



Figure 9. Aerial view of the exposed foundations at Wallsend Roman fort (Segedunum) laid out for public access. A modern visitor centre with viewing tower built with Heritage Lottery funding in what was a depressed area of North Tyneside so as to overlook the ground-level excavated foundations of the fort. The fort is set within a mixed residential and industrial area backing on to the Swan Hunter shipyard (foreground). ©Tyne and Wear Museums Service.



Figure 10. Close-up view of the multi-million pound visitor centre and viewing tower at Segedunum Roman fort.



Figure 11. A section of Hadrian's Wall fully reconstructed immediately behind the excavated foundations of the wall itself at Wallsend, North Tyneside. The upright timbers represent the remains of timber posts found during excavation which would have served to break up ground assault of the wall.



Figure 12. The publicly accessible walkway on the reconstructed section of Hadrian's Wall at Wallsend, North Tyneside.



Figure 13. The full-size reconstructed Roman bath house at Wallsend Roman fort, North Tyneside.



Figure 14. An interior view inside the reconstructed Roman bath house at Wallsend Roman fort.



Figure 15. An exposed stretch of Hadrian's Wall at Walbottle, Tyneside, presented to the public with full access and information panels within an urban setting.



Figure 16. The excavated turret on the exposed stretch of Hadrian's Wall at Walbottle, with information panel.



Figure 17. An example of a medieval-style mosaic inset within a paved floor by a Sheffield craftsman. Large-scale heraldic motifs could be incorporated into the public spaces and lit up at night together with the Castle remains.



Figure 18. The south wall of Coventry Cathedral recently exposed by archaeological excavation and displayed for the public with a raised walkway in Coventry City Centre.

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10. REFERENCES

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