Annual Report for September 2009 to July 2010

Centre for Applied Archaeology
School of the Build Environment
University of Salford
1. Introduction

The Centre for Applied Archaeology (CfAA) was established within the School of the Built Environment in September 2009. The overall aim of the Centre is to explore the interlinkages between archaeology and construction, planning regimes and local communities through:

- contributing to undergraduate and postgraduate programmes within the School and beyond.
- undertaking archaeology research projects in historic/industrial archaeology and 3D visualisation.
- delivering community archaeology projects
- developing new third-stream activities through commercial consultancy archaeology activities in the construction industry and planning process

CfAA currently has a core staff of three experienced archaeologists:

- Dr Michael Nevell PhD, MIFA, FSA (Head of Archaeology and CfAA)
- Adam Thompson BA, MA, MIFA (Principle Archaeologist)
- Brian Grimsditch BA, MA (Senior Archaeologist).

Since Applied Archaeology is about transferring knowledge of the past from academia to industry and local communities, CfAA’s location within the Built Environment provides some unique opportunities for cross-over co-operation between the Heritage and Construction sectors.

The Centre’s first year has been spent establishing the CfAA, acquiring the appropriate hardware and software, establishing links with businesses, communities groups, professionals and liaising with academics within and outside the University and providing experience and support to all sectors affected by the recent change in heritage legislation. A core client base has been established and a range of community and consultancy projects undertaken across the Manchester City region and beyond.

Highlights from the year include the excavation of the medieval Buckton Castle in Stalybridge, Tameside, the involvement of community groups in a major research excavation on a commercial gravel extraction quarry (Prehistoric and Roman settlement and landscape), the securing of a Heritage Industry workplace bursary through the Institute for Archaeologists, and the publication of the Centre’s first archaeological monograph.
2. Teaching and Research

During its first year CfAA has contributed to undergraduate teaching on the Historic Buildings course within SOBE and is expecting to expand this contribution. The Centre is currently holding discussions with the School of Arts, Media and Social Science regarding contributing to the Heritage MA/PgDp through teaching, student placements and joint research projects from 2010/11.

As part of the establishment of CfAA as a nationally recognised Centre for Industrial and Community Archaeology Research and current archaeological practice three MA proposals are currently in development with at least one starting in September 2011: -

- Applied Archaeology and the Planning and Construction Processes
- the Archaeology of Industrialisation and the Built Environment
- Community and Public Archaeology

Centre staff are also liaising with Prof Sue Kilcoyne in the School of Computing, Science and Engineering about the design of a materials science-based archaeology MA.

The Centre has been building upon the School’s existing reputation in 3D Visualisation by developing the heritage aspect to this work. Two projects were undertaken in this area. Firstly, a 3D Visualisation survey of the above and below ground remains of Ordsall Hall, Salford, funded through Salford City Council as part of the VC’s ICONIC Salford initiative. Secondly, a 3D survey of the earthworks at Buckton Castle as part of the wider landscape work of that project. 3D visualisation and laser scanning is at the forefront of archaeological research at the present, CfAA and CCI are currently working on joint laser scanning bids and projects.

The Centre were commissioned (see Appendix 1) to undertake archaeological survey work on behalf of Tameside MBC as part of the continuing Tameside Archaeological Survey, an award winning community and research project. This has included the research, writing and publication of a book on the vernacular architecture of the region as seen through Newton Hall. The results of this project form the inaugural volume of the Centre’s Archaeology Monograph series.
3. Community Engagement

Centre staff have been developing Community Archaeology Partnerships with groups in Salford and across Greater Manchester. Within Salford itself CfAA sits on the Salford City Council Heritage Working Group and on the Salford History Forum. The Centre is working with Salford Museum and Libraries on the Ordsall Hall project with a view to displaying the results of the Ordsall Hall ICONIC project in the newly renovated museum. Centre staff have also been discussing with the Salford Rangers involvement in developing Clifton Park and the Wet Earth Colliery site.

CfAA undertook seven community archaeology projects during the year (see Appendix 1). Community excavations were run with the Holcombe Heritage Group at Holcombe Moor in Bury and with the Royton Local History Group at Royton Hall, Oldham. A major new initiative in community involvement in the region, the recoding of grave stones and monuments, was piloted for Tameside MBC at St Lawrence’s Church in Denton.

Finally, CfAA organised and ran four one-day training seminars on Industrial Buildings (see Appendix 2). This project was undertaken on behalf of the Council for British Archaeology and the Association for Industrial Archaeology and was designed to provide training for the CBA’s Listed Buildings Correspondents in the recognition and understanding of Industrial buildings in England. More than 100 heritage volunteers received training from CfAA staff members. The project continues into 2010-11 and will ultimately lead to the publication of a handbook on Industrial Archaeology.

The Buckton Castle research excavations also involved the community with more than 200 volunteer digging places available over the four weeks of the project. Centre staff also undertook a variety of outreach talks for local societies and the WEA (Workers’ Education Association) across the region during the evenings and at weekends, as well as attending archaeology and heritage conferences and seminars (See Appendices 2 & 3).
4. Commercial Consultancy

CfAA has already developed archaeological consultancy in buildings archaeology, industrial archaeology, and landscape archaeology (see Appendix 1). These projects range from small-scale Building Recording around the region as part of the planning process (Broughton Lane and Gothic Farm Cottage), through excavation evaluation work in order to mitigate risk and delay to the archaeological resource and the client (Bramhall Hall and St Lawrence’s), to large scale excavation as part of the mitigation of the archaeological heritage (Besthorpe).

In future years we will be using these projects to assess client needs within the Archaeology/Heritage Sector and to promote research into best practice within these areas.

As part of CfAA’s aim to become a focus for better practice in the Heritage Industry we will be hosting a 12 month archaeology bursary in ‘Non-intrusive Archaeological Techniques’, sponsored by the Institute for Archaeology during 2010-11.

In March 2010 the government issued new legislation (Planning Policy Statement 5) governing archaeology and heritage within the built environment. CfAA has been assisting commercial and community organisations in the management of this change.

CfAA has also been working with CCINW to promote Best Practice through CPD courses in Heritage. Two ‘twilight seminars’ have been held in 2009-10; ‘Archaeology and Construction: Mitigating Risk and Delay (Feb 2010) and ‘Community Archaeology’ (May 2010) with more planned for 2010-11 on current and developing Archaeology/Heritage sector issues.
5. Future Strategy and Projects

5.1 Future Strategy

CfAA’s strategic aims over the mid-term (years 2 to 5) are to:

**Years 1 & 2**
- establish the Centre within the School and the University by contributing to teaching & research, developing its own community programmes and working with CCINW.
- Establish itself regionally through consultancy and community projects.

The CfAA is on course to achieve these aims well before the end of Year 2.

**Years 3 to 4**
- Develop the Centre as a regional focus for research and teaching in applied and community archaeology.
- Develop the Centre as a regional focus for heritage training and best practice in heritage consultancy.

Centre staff have already established the infrastructure to achieve these aims and are developing a number of significant projects to realise these by the end of year 3.

**Year 5**
- The mid-term aim is to make CfAA a nationally recognised Centre for Applied Archaeology with dedicated teaching programmes, the country’s only professor of Industrial Archaeology, 3D heritage visualisation programs, regional and national community projects, and best-practice & research in informed consultancy projects.
5.2 Future Projects

In order to deliver this strategy Centre Staff are already building on a successful first year within the School with several new projects awaiting confirmation and a number of mid-term strategic projects in development for 2010-11. These include:

Consultancy, Community & Research Projects Awaiting Confirmation

- **Dig Greater Manchester Community Archaeology project.**
  
  **Client:** Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA)
  
  **Value:** £476,000 2010-2015
  
  **Status:** Awarded and confirmed, awaiting contract.

  Project would deliver community archaeology throughout Greater Manchester for the next 4 ½ years creating one evaluation, training workshops and seminars in each local authority plus 3 large scale flagship excavations. Would create 1 full time community archaeologist and ½ time educational archaeologist post for the next 4 years. Generating lots of publicity for the university and excellent links with AGMA and the local authorities alongside spin off applications and further contracts.

- **Mellor Community Archaeological Project**
  
  **Client:** Mellor Archaeological Trust
  
  **Value:** £3,000
  
  **Status:** Confirmed

  CfAA will assist and supervise community excavations this year’s work at a multi-award winning community archaeological project in Stockport. August and early September 2010.

- **Salford City Reds Stadium; further consultancy/excavation work.**

  In Development for 2010-11

- **Hive in the Cliff Project**

  Preparing outlines for seven small projects within the main project based on a heavy community and schools involvement. Archaeological building survey of St John’s Church; Full day heritage/archaeological based activities for local schools; Skill sessions for local residents; An archaeological survey of the graveyard; Preparatory work towards the formation of a foundation degree in Heritage; Setting up of a family history centre/archive with the involvement of a post-graduate Heritage student; Investigations into conducting a seminar.

- **Glossop Vale Landscape survey**
In its early stages CfAA in negotiations with several Glossop heritage/history/archaeological groups to conduct a possible large HLF funded project based over 3-4 years to identify record and investigate the heritage assets of the Glossop vale (including Melandra Roman Fort, Mouselow Castle and a possible deserted medieval village). To involve members of the community, local groups, schools and colleges, local council, English Heritage, County Archaeologist etc. Teaching and training would be given in archaeological techniques and how to conduct surveys. Partnership with Glossop Archaeological Society (GLAS) with CfAA as lead partner.

- **Worsley New Hall Community Archaeology Project**

A development proposal by Peel Holdings Ltd for the landscaping and restoration of the Worlsey New Hall site, Salford. The work would involve pre-planning-stage community archaeological work and would begin during 2010-11.

- **Charlestown development:**

Community based archaeological work ahead of housing development and regeneration.

- **Laser Scanning:**

Continued investigation into providing 3D scanning surveys of historic buildings, artefacts and landscapes in conjunction with CCI.

- **Research Funding Applications:**

Two applications are being working upon for submission during 2010-11. These are a grant to the Leverhulme Trust in partnership with the York Archaeological Trust around the theme of ‘Living in the Industrial City’ (grant application for £100K plus) and an AHRC application on the theme of ‘Steam, water and industrial pollution in the 18th and 19th centuries’ (grant application for £50K to £100K).

- **IFA Workplace Bursary**

Negotiations have begun to host a second IfA heritage workplace bursary for 2011-12.

- **CBA Workplace Bursary**

Negotiations have begun to host a CBA community archaeology workplace bursary for 2011-12.
Appendix 1: Projects undertaken 2009-10

A1.1 Research

**Tameside Archaeological Survey:** Tameside, Greater Manchester.  
**Client:** Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council  
**Value:** £30,000  
Series of seven evening lectures based around the history and archaeology of Tameside including ‘Twenty Years of Archaeology in Tameside’ and ‘Buckton: Three Years of Investigations’. One of the commitments of the TAS is to produce academic and popular publications. ‘Newton Hall and the Archaeology of Cruck Buildings’ has been completed and ‘Buckton Castle and the Castles of the North West’ is currently in writing.

**Ordsall Hall ICONIC Project:** Salford, Greater Manchester.  
**Client:** Salford University/Salford Metropolitan Borough Council  
**Value:** £10,000  
The aims of the project are to, firstly, trial visualisation techniques for increasing access to parts of the cultural Heritage not normally seen by members of the public either due to health and safety constraints, or due to disability issues; secondly, to increase public awareness and understanding of the Ordsall Hall site. This is being done through the creation of a virtual model of Ordsall Hall built using the existing data and combining above ground standing building evidence with below ground archaeological data to create a 3D model with time depth.

**Buckton Castle 3D Visualisation Project:** Tameside Greater Manchester.  
**Client:** Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council and SOBE  
**Value:** £5,000 and £2,000  
Laser scanning and 3D visualisation of a historic medieval landscape. Staff trained by Leica Geosystems in the use of new G10 Laser Scanner. Joint research project between CfAA and CCI utilising recent community excavations undertaken by CfAA at the Scheduled Monument, with the consent of English Heritage.

A1.2 Community
**Industrial Building Training Days:** Nationwide.
**Client:** Council for British Archaeology/Association of Industrial archaeology
**Value:** £8000 + VAT

A series of 8 seminars and workshops in different regions across the country on aspects of industrial archaeology and heritage specific to each region (London, Bristol, Manchester, York, Newcastle, Exeter, Surrey, Nottingham) Targeted at Heritage professionals and experienced armatures, planned expansion to cover N Ireland, Wales and Scotland. Monograph on the sessions planned at the end of the project.

**Royton Hall Community Excavation:** Oldham.
**Client:** Royton Local History Society
**Value:** £750 + VAT

A small scale final community excavation of a national award winning project looking at the post industrial remains of a manorial estate. Thirty individuals from the local community undertook research and training in archaeological techniques aided and supervised by CfAA staff.

**Mons Pool, Besthorpe Community Excavation:** Nottingham
**Client:** Lafarge Aggregates and Nottingham County Council
**Value:** See Commercial projects.

Twenty local community volunteers from the local area and 20 volunteers from the Greater Manchester area participated in a community excavation alongside professional archaeologists conducting an excavation required by planning control.

**Cinder Hills Farm:** Holcombe Moor, Bury, Greater Manchester
**Client:** Holcombe Moor Heritage group and the Ministry of Defence
**Value:** £7300
Thirty local community volunteers looked at a medieval and industrial heritage of Holcombe Moor by means of Community Excavation. Previous work on the project by CfAA staff have included landscape and geophysical surveys have been undertaken along with a desk-based assessment.

**Buckton Castle Community Excavation:** Tameside Greater Manchester.
**Client:** Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
**Value:** £20,000

Over 200 local community volunteers undertook a community excavation of this Scheduled Monument, A medieval castle on the Pennine fringe. Training in archaeological methods and techniques were provided by professional CfAA staff. The excavations at Buckton Castle will form the basis of the centres 2nd book in the Archaeological Monograph Series due to be published in 2011.

**Tameside Graveyard Survey:** Tameside, Greater Manchester.
**Client:** Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
**Value:** £50,000 over two years

The archaeological survey of the non-municipal graveyards in the Tameside Area. This project includes the fieldwork survey, archival research of the burial record and inputting of data into a searchable online database. A pilot study of one graveyard, St Lawrence's, Denton, has been completed the results suggesting a viable and valuable project that would be of great use to historical and family researchers both locally and regionally and an excellent educational tool.

**Bramhall Education Day:** Stockport, Greater Manchester
**Client:** Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council.
**Value:** £150

The day was for ‘wayward’ teenagers of 15yrs old who were doing a series of activities over a number of weeks. This particular day involved a small scale excavation on a lakeside structure. Assistance was given by qualified educational officers from Stockport MBC. No structural remains found but numerous pottery sherds of c. mid to late 19th century. The pottery was later analysed by the students.

**A1.3 Consultancy**

**85 Broughton Lane: Salford, Greater Manchester**
**Client:** Goldcrest Distribution Ltd
**Value:** £2445 + VAT
A pre-development Level II/III building survey style archaeological Building Survey of the former Manchester Evening News distribution Depot from c. 1900.

**Mons Pool and Ferry Lane Farm, Besthorpe:** Nottingham  
**Client:** Lafarge Aggregates Ltd.  
**Value:** £245,000 + VAT

A Section 106 and PPG 16 Planning response to proposed sand and gravel excavation. CfAA take over the project which staff have been involved in for the previous 10 years. A Prehistoric and Roman Landscape the excavations cover over 20 hectares and use professional archaeologists alongside providing student fieldwork training (Previous Universities have included Manchester, Liverpool, Nottingham and Sheffield).

**Bramhall Hall:** Stockport, Greater Manchester  
**Client:** Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council  
**Value:** £8,500

CfAA undertook an archaeological evaluation to assess the area known as the Walled Garden’ within the grounds of a Grade 1* Listed Timber Framed Building to identify any known archaeology in preparation for a HLF lottery bid focused upon the restoration of the hall and gardens, a community archaeology phase of excavation was planned.

**Glasgow M74 Publication:** Glasgow  
**Client:** Pre-Construct Archaeology and Headland Archaeology  
**Value:** £28,000 +VAT

This project has been commissioned by Headland Archaeology Ltd and started in October 2009 with a completion date in November 2010. The commission is to
design and write an over view of 12 urban excavations undertaken between 2006 and 2008 on the line of the M74 extension in southern Glasgow. Working with archaeologists and finds specialists from Glasgow and London as well as liaising with historians at the University of Glasgow. Completion / publication expected early 2011.

**Gothic Farm Cottage:** Romiley, Stockport, Greater Manchester  
**Client:** Ascott Design Ltd  
**Value:** £450+VAT

A Level I archaeological building survey of a cruck-framed cottage undertaken prior to development and alteration.

**St Lawrence’s Archaeological Evaluation:** Denton, Tameside, Greater Manchester.  
**Client:** Manchester Diocese  
**Value:** £5,500+VAT

An archaeological evaluation of the internal components of the church through systematic test pitting, identifying an earlier phase to the Grade II * Listed Timber Framed Church and a number of interred individuals buried closely to the surface.

**Salford City Reds Community Stadium:** Salford, Greater Manchester  
**Client:** Drivers Jonas Diolitte  
**Value:** c £4,000+VAT

CfAA acted as archaeological consultants for the project, providing archaeological and heritage advice for the submitted Environmental Impact Assessment, undertook an evaluation on the site of a prehistoric settlement site and
provided the Written Scheme of Investigation for the future large scale excavation.

Manchester Town Hall Extension Renovations: Manchester, Greater Manchester  
Client: Wates Ltd  
Value: £2250+VAT

CfAA acted as archaeological and historical consultants in relation to the PPS5 planning guidance affecting the proposed renovation to the Town Hall and Central Library. Pre-planning tender document.
Appendix 2: Seminars, Training Days and Public Lectures by CfAA

- Industrial Building Training Day - Chilworth, July 2010.
- ‘Community Archaeology’ twilight seminar at the CUBE, May 2010.
- A variety of talks for the WEA on castles, monasteries and industrial archaeology, October 2009 to March 2010.
- 2009 – Seminar on Industrial Archaeology, Archaeology Department, University of Bristol, October 2009.
- 2010 – Seminar on Urban Archaeology in the UK, University College, Cork, March 2010.
- 2010 – The Archaeology of Royton Hall, Chadderton Local History Society.
- 2010 – Recent Developments at Royton and Ordsall Hall, South Trafford Archaeological Group.
Appendix 3: Conference Papers and Attendance by CfAA Staff.

Conference Papers


Conference Attendance

CBA North West Autumn Conference, Stalybridge, GM, October 2009.

Theoretical Archaeology Conference 2009, Durham University, December 2009.

Trent Valley Geoarchaeology Conference December 2009.


Institute for Archaeologists Conference, Southport, April 2010.

Community and Public Archaeology 2010, Oxford University May 2010.
Appendix 4: Membership of organisations and bodies.

CfAA Membership

Greater Manchester Archaeology Federation (committee)
Council for British Archaeology North West (committee)
Council for British Archaeology North West (Industrial Archaeology Panel)
Association for Industrial Archaeology (committee)
Tameside Heritage Steering Group

Professional Memberships

CfAA are members of the two heritage industry bodies:

- Institute for Archaeologists (IfA)
- Federation of Archaeological Managers and executives (FAME).

Adam Thompson has recently been made a Member of the Institute for Archaeologists (MIFA)

CfAA are currently in the process of becoming a registered archaeological organisation (RAO) with the IfA.

Publications by CfAA Staff members, 2009-10


