

Preparation of selected pre-PPG 16 archives from excavations in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire for museum deposition. Project No 6480ARCV

Between March and October 2013 Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service worked on a number of pre PPG16 archives from excavations undertaken by the late Alan Hannan of the Tewkesbury Archaeological and Architectural Committee (TAAC) in the early to mid 1970s. The majority of this material was from excavations at the Sabrina Cinema site in Tewkesbury, undertaken in 1972 and 1973, with additional material from a number of smaller excavations and watching briefs in the Tewkesbury area from the period 1971 and 1974. TAAC operated under the *aegis* of Tewkesbury Borough Council and the archives have been stored at the council offices since the excavations were completed.

The project has processed, quantified and repackaged 122 boxes of finds, and re ordered the documentary archives for these excavations in line with current museum standards. The Archaeology Service were able to develop this into an outreach opportunity drawing on an existing group who had been involved in a Community Archaeology Project run by the Archaeology Service (the History on your Doorstep project funded by HLF) who were able to continue with finds processing activities after that project had finished.

Over 500 iron objects have been X-rayed and important local assemblages of small finds (principally Roman brooches and worked bone pins) have been appropriately packaged. In addition further conservation of two Roman shale bracelets was undertaken.

Some finds already held by Tewkesbury Museum have now been reunited with the rest of their archives, and the assemblages also contained a few items (such as an iron arrowhead from the site of the Battle of Tewkesbury and a polished stone axe head) which were originally in the museum collection but had been 'missing' for some years

The archives were deposited with Tewkesbury Museum for long-term curation in early December 2013.

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