



making sense of heritage

# Mythe Medium WAZ, Westgate Street Gloucester

Archaeological Watching Brief



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December 2015



**Mythe Medium WAZ, Westgate Street  
Gloucester**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

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## Archaeological Watching Brief

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# Mythe Medium WAZ, Westgate Street Gloucester

## Archaeological Watching Brief

### Summary

Wessex Archaeology has been commissioned by Amey plc (hereafter 'the Client') to carry out an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of trial holes in advance of the renewal of water mains within the western area of the historic core of Gloucester (centred on NGR 382860, 218783).

The watching brief occurred across multiple locations within the city centre, within the area lying between the cathedral and the River Severn, and bordered to the north and south by St Oswald's Road and Barrack Square/ Barbican Way. A total of twenty-two trial holes were monitored.

There was no evidence that any of the trial holes impacted on medieval or earlier horizons. Of the twenty-two trial holes that were monitored, datable artefacts were recovered from six, with all of the material of post-medieval or early modern date, and a general emphasis on the 18th century. In each of the trial holes that contained artefactual material, the finds were derived from the basal deposit, providing a *terminus post quem* for that deposit and for the overlying layers. With no material from the medieval or earlier periods recovered, it can be surmised that trial holes were not dug to a depth sufficient to impact on any horizons of that date.

It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the watching brief be deposited with Gloucester City Museum. The Museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project, under the accession code GLRCM:2015.15. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

A copy of this report will be supplied to the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record (HER) and uploaded to OASIS. An OASIS form, (ID number wessexar1-wessexar1-218119) has been provisionally prepared and will be completed at the time of deposition.



## **Mythe Medium WAZ, Westgate Street Gloucester**

### **Archaeological Watching Brief**

#### **Acknowledgements**

The archaeological works were commissioned by Amey plc. The assistance of Melanie Knight and Debbie Taylor is gratefully acknowledged in this regard.

Thanks are extended to Andrew Armstrong, Gloucester City Council Archaeologist, who provided curatorial support and guidance.

The archaeological work was carried out by Simon Evans, Sam Fairhead and Jeanette Plummer Sires. The report was written by Patrick Daniel and Hannah Holbrook, with illustrations by Nancy Dixon. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Richard O'Neill.



# **Mythe Medium WAZ, Westgate Street Gloucester**

## **Archaeological Watching Brief**

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Project background**

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology has been commissioned by Amey plc (hereafter 'the Client') to carry out an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of trial holes in advance of the renewal of water mains within the western area of the historic core of Gloucester, hereafter 'the Scheme'; centred on NGR 382860, 218783 (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The centre of Gloucester is an area of considerable archaeological sensitivity. Consultation on the scheme was undertaken with the City Council Archaeologist, Andrew Armstrong, in April 2015. He advised that a Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) be undertaken to identify the key areas of archaeological sensitivity and to ensure adequate archaeological mitigation be put in place to protect and/or record the below ground archaeological resource which may be impacted by the scheme.
- 1.1.3 The resultant DBA (Amey plc 2015b) made recommendations that the proposed excavation of a number of trial holes, dug to inspect the existing water distribution network, be the subject of an archaeological watching brief.
- 1.1.4 Following discussions between Amey plc and Andrew Armstrong a scope of works was agreed. Amey plc produced a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) outlining how the requirements of the work would be met (Amey plc 2015a). The WSI was approved by Andrew Armstrong prior to the watching brief commencing.

#### **1.2 Site location and topography**

- 1.2.1 The watching brief occurred at multiple locations across the western area of the historic core of Gloucester, that is the portion lying between the cathedral and the River Severn, and bordered to the north and south by St Oswald's Road and Barrack Square/Barbican Way.
- 1.2.2 Within this area, the ground surface lies at around 20 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) around the Cathedral, descending westwards, to approximately 10 m aOD close to the River Severn.
- 1.2.3 The underlying solid geology is recorded as Mudstone of the Blue Lias or Charmouth formations. Superficial deposits Tidal Flat clays, silts and sands are recorded in those portions of the Scheme lying closest to the Severn (BGS 2015).





## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 A summary of the archaeological background of the Scheme is presented below, with the text drawn from the DBA (Amey plc 2015b).

### 2.2 Summary

2.2.1 A Roman fort was established at Gloucester in the mid-1st century AD and a town, specifically a 'Colonia', was established in the late-1st century AD. There is evidence for continuity of activity within the city in the post-Roman period. St Peter's monastery (now Gloucester Cathedral) was first established in the early medieval period and the adjacent St Oswald's Priory is associated with Aethelflaed (c.870s-918) lady of the Mercians. The Normans established a castle to the south-west of the town in the mid-11th century, which was rebuilt to the north west in the 12th century. Gloucester Castle remained a feature of the townscape until the 18th century when it was replaced by the county gaol. Gloucester's location on the River Severn ensured that it retained its importance as an economic centre through the centuries and this is emphasised in the surviving historic character of the town.

2.2.2 There are high numbers of designated heritage assets lying within and adjacent to the Scheme including Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Scheduled Monuments.

## 3 METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Aims and objectives

3.1.1 The objectives of the archaeological watching brief as set out in the WSI were:

- *to ensure that archaeological monitoring was undertaken on all aspects of the ground works associated with the Scheme as identified in the WSI;*
- *to secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains associated with the medieval enclosure which may be revealed by the Scheme within the scope of works;*
- *to secure the analysis, conservation and long-term storage of any artefactual/ecofactual material recovered from the site;*
- *to integrate the results of the works into the wider historic and archaeological context of the landscape; and*
- *to ensure that an accurate and comprehensive record and report of any archaeological deposits found during works is produced and disseminated to the appropriate organisations including the Gloucestershire County Council Historic Environment Record.*

### 3.2 Fieldwork methodology

3.2.1 The work was carried out in accordance with the approved WSI (Amey plc 2015a), Wessex Archaeology's procedures, and industry standards and guidelines (CIfA 2014a and b).

3.2.2 As per standard practice, stratigraphic units were individually numbered and recorded, with the trial hole number forming the prefix for the context number. Hence, contexts 100-199 were reserved for use within Trial hole 1, contexts 200-299 were allocated to Trial hole 2, contexts 1000-1099 were within Trial hole 10, etc.



3.2.3 The watching brief was undertaken between June and August 2015.

## 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 A total of 22 trial holes were monitored. Details are presented below, with individual trial holes arranged by 'Zone (**Figure 1**). The DBA identified ten Heritage Zones to reflect the archaeological character and significance of the surrounding cityscape (Amey plc 2015b):

- *Zone 1: Cathedral Close*
- *Zone 2: St Mary de Lode*
- *Zone 3: St Oswald's Priory*
- *Zone 4: St Oswald's Road*
- *Zone 5: Clare & Mount Streets*
- *Zone 6: St Bartholomew's*
- *Zone 7: Royal Oak Road*
- *Zone 8: Quay Street, Westgate Street and Bearland*
- *Zone 9: Berkeley Street*
- *Zone 10: Barbican*

4.1.2 A total of thirteen holes were not monitored, due to their excavation and backfilling occurring before an archaeologist could be deployed. The unmonitored trial holes were 1-4 inclusive, 6, 8, 10, 31 and 32, 40-42 inclusive and 45.

### 4.2 Zone 1: Cathedral Close

#### *General*

4.2.1 Six trial holes were monitored in Zone 1: Cathedral Close, an area judged by the DBA as being of high significance and value.

#### *Trial hole 20*

4.2.2 Trial holes 20-24 lay on College Green on the south-western precinct of the Cathedral. Trial hole 20 measured 1.1 m long by 0.65 m and was dug to a depth of 1 m. The lowest deposit was a 0.4 m thick deposit of sandy fill within a pipe cut. This was overlain by a 0.5 m thick layer of made ground, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac surface that formed the modern ground level.

#### *Trial hole 21*

4.2.3 Trial hole 21 measured 1.1 m long by 0.7 m wide and was dug to a depth of 1.1 m. The lowest deposit was a 0.75 m thick deposit of loamy mid grey brown compact clay with occasional rubble fragments. This was overlain by a 0.25 m thick layer of made ground, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac surface that formed the modern ground level.

#### *Trial hole 22*

4.2.4 Trial hole 22 measured 1.2 m long by 0.7 m wide and was dug to a depth of 1 m. The lowest deposit was a 0.2 m thick deposit of dark brown loamy sand clay, overlain by a mid-greyish brown sandy clay containing fragments of brick. This was overlain by modern hardcore serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac surface that formed the modern ground level.



*Trial hole 23*

- 4.2.5 Trial hole 23 measured 1.1 m long by 0.6 m and was dug to a depth of 1 m. The lowest deposit was a 0.2 m thick deposit of made ground serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac surface that formed the modern ground level. This had been cut to a depth of 1 m below the modern ground surface by the water pipe (filled with compacted stony sandy clay), with no adjacent deposits visible.

*Trial hole 24*

- 4.2.6 Trial hole 24 measured 1.1 m long by 0.7 m and was dug to a depth of 1 m. The lowest deposit was a 0.2 m thick deposit of loamy mid grey brown silty sand. This was overlain by made ground and the modern tarmac ground surface.

*Trial hole 33*

- 4.2.7 Trial hole 33 was located on Pitt Street by Gloucester Cathedral. It was dug to a depth of 1 m. The lowest deposit, **3301**, was a 0.6 m thick deposit of dark brown sandy silt. This was overlain by a 0.1 m thick layer of sandy aggregate, serving as a preparation layer for the topsoil surface that formed the modern ground level.

### **4.3 Zone 2: St Mary de Lode**

*General*

- 4.3.1 Three trial holes were monitored in Zone 2: St Mary de Lode, an area judged by the DBA as being of high significance and value.

*Trial hole 26*

- 4.3.2 Trial hole 26 was located on St Mary's Square. It measured 1.2 m long by 0.6 m and was dug to a depth of 0.5 m. The lowest deposit was a redeposited dark grey-brown sandy clay containing four modern services. Above this was a yellow sandy aggregate layer serving as a preparation layer for the current pavement.

*Trial hole 27*

- 4.3.3 Trial hole 27 was located on St Mary's Square. It measured 1 m long by 0.6 m and was dug to a depth of 0.62 m. The lowest deposit, **2704**, was a 0.31 m thick deposit of redeposited dark grey-brown sandy clay containing two modern services (**Plate 1**). This was truncated by a further modern service backfilled with red sandy aggregate. Above this was a 0.1 - 0.15 m thick layer of yellow sandy aggregate, serving as a preparation layer for the current pavement.

*Trial hole 28*

- 4.3.4 Trial hole 28 was located on St Mary's Square. It measured 1.2 m long by 0.6 m and was dug to a depth of 0.6 m. The lowest deposit was redeposited dark grey-brown sandy clay containing three modern services. The services were sealed by sandy aggregate layers beneath the current paved surface.

### **4.4 Zone 3: St Oswald's Priory**

*General*

- 4.4.1 Two trial holes were monitored in Zone 3: St Oswald's Priory, but lay outside the part of that Zone judged by the DBA as being of high significance and value: St. Mary's Street.

*Trial hole 38*

- 4.4.2 Trial hole 38 was located on Priory Road. It measured 1 m long by 0.5 m and was dug to a depth of 0.82 m. The lowest deposit, **3804**, was a 0.43 m thick deposit of redeposited

dark brown clay. This was overlain by a 0.08 m thick layer of bitumen, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac road surface that formed the modern ground level.

*Trial hole 39*

- 4.4.3 Trial hole 39 was located on Priory Road. It measured 1 m long by 0.5 m and was dug to a depth of 0.65 m. The lowest deposit, **3903**, was a 0.51 m thick deposit of redeposited dark black-brown clay. This was overlain by a 0.05 m thick layer of bitumen serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac road surface that formed the modern ground level (**Plate 2**).

#### 4.5 Zone 5: Clare and Mount Streets

*General*

- 4.5.1 Four trial holes were monitored in Zone 5: Clare & Mount Streets, an area judged by the DBA as being of medium significance and value.

*Trial hole 46*

- 4.5.2 Trial hole 46 was located on Clare Street. It measured 1 m long by 0.6 m and was dug to a depth of 1.2 m. The lowest deposit, **4607**, was a 0.29 m thick deposit of dark brown clay. Deposit **4607** contained a number of finds, notably 16 sherds of pottery, weighing 74 g, predominantly 18th to 19th century in date. In addition to the pottery recovered quantities of animal bone, clay pipe, glass, shell and iron were found in **4607**. Above this lay a 0.31 m thick layer of made ground. This was overlain by a 0.43 m thick layer of sandy aggregate, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac road surface that formed the modern ground level.

*Trial hole 47*

- 4.5.3 Trial hole 47 was located on Clare Street. It measured 1 m long by 0.5 m and was dug to a depth of 0.85 m. The lowest deposit, **4703**, was a 0.32 m thick deposit of dark grey-black clay. Deposit **4703** was the only context from this trial hole to contain finds, notably 4 sherds of pottery, weighing 6 g, predominantly 18th to 19th century in date. This was overlain by a 0.47 m thick layer of sandy aggregate, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac road surface that formed the modern ground level.

*Trial hole 48*

- 4.5.4 Trial hole 48 was located on Clare Street. It measured 1 m long by 0.5 m and was dug to a depth of 0.81 m. The lowest deposit, **4804**, was a 0.36 m thick deposit of dark grey-black clay. Deposit **4804** contained a number of finds, notably 10 sherds of pottery, weighing 255 g, predominantly 18th to 19th century in date. In addition to the pottery recovered quantities of animal bone, clay pipe, glass, were found in **4804**. Above this lay a 0.24 m thick layer of made ground: **4803**. Deposit **4803** also contained finds, including animal bone, clay pipe, glass, pottery, shell, ceramic building material and iron. The pottery from **4803** numbered 202 sherds and weighed 1961 g, and dated predominantly from the 18th to 19th centuries. This was overlain by a 0.15 m thick layer of sandy aggregate, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac road surface that formed the modern ground level.

*Trial hole 49*

- 4.5.5 Trial hole 49 was located on Clare Street. It measured 1.2 m long by 0.5 m and was dug to a depth of 1.52 m. The lowest deposit, **4906**, was a 0.55 m thick deposit of redeposited dark grey clay. **4906** contained a number of finds, notably 3 sherds of pottery, weighing 64 g, predominantly 18th century onwards in date. In addition to the pottery recovered quantities of animal bone, clay pipe and ceramic building material were found in **4906**.



This was overlain by a 0.89 m-thickness of alternating layers of redeposited dark sandy clay and yellow hardcore (**Plate 3**).

#### 4.6 Zone 8: Quay Street, Westgate Street and Bearland

##### *General*

- 4.6.1 Three trial holes were monitored in Zone 8: Quay and Westgate Streets and Bearland, an area judged by the DBA as being of high-medium significance and value.

##### *Trial hole 5*

- 4.6.2 Trial hole 5 was located on Westgate Street. It measured 0.82 m long by 0.65 m and was dug to a depth of 0.9 m. The excavation exposed little except for the fill of the water pipe trench that the trial hole was positioned to intercept (**Plate 4**).

##### *Trial hole 9*

- 4.6.3 Trial hole 9 was located on Quay Street. It measured 1.05 m long by 0.5 m and was dug to a depth of 0.72 m. The lowest deposit, **903**, was a 0.46 m thick deposit of light pink-red clay. This was overlain by a 0.21 m thick layer of sandy aggregate, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac road surface that formed the modern ground level.

##### *Trial hole 11*

- 4.6.4 Trial hole 11 was located on Bearland. It measured c. 1 m long by 0.7 m and was dug to a depth of 0.8 m. The lowest deposit was a 0.4 m thick deposit of grey clay. No finds were recovered from the deposit. Above this lay a 0.3 m thick layer of compacted sandy aggregate, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac road surface that formed the modern ground level.

#### 4.7 Zone 10: Barbican

##### *General*

- 4.7.1 Four trial holes were monitored in Zone 10: Barbican, an area judged by the DBA as being of medium significance and value.

##### *Trial hole 12*

- 4.7.2 Trial hole 12 was located on Barbican Way. It measured 1 m long by 0.6 m and was dug to a depth of 1.21 m. The lowest deposit, **1206**, was a 0.8 m thick deposit of dark brown-black clay. Deposit **1206** contained a number of finds, notably 23 sherds of pottery, weighing 235 g, predominantly 18th to 19th century in date. In addition to the pottery recovered quantities of animal bone, clay pipe, glass, shell, slate, slag and iron were found in **1206**. This was overlain by a 0.04 m thick concrete surface, which was in turn sealed beneath by a 0.43 m thick layer of sandy aggregate, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac road surface that formed the modern ground level (**Plate 5**).

##### *Trial hole 13*

- 4.7.1 Trial hole 13 was located on Barbican Way. It measured 1.2 m long by 0.6 m and was dug to a depth of 0.4 m. The excavation exposed little except for redeposited brown clay at the base containing the water pipe that the trial hole was positioned to intercept. This was overlain by a thick layer of sandy aggregate, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac road surface that formed the modern ground level.

##### *Trial hole 14*

- 4.7.2 Trial hole 14 was located on Barbican Way. It measured 0.6 m long by 0.4 m and was dug to a depth of 1.25 m. The lowest deposit, **1405**, was a 0.2 m thick deposit of dark brown

clay. Deposit **1405** contained a number of finds, notably 11 sherds of pottery, weighing 145 g, predominantly 18th to 19th century in date. In addition to the pottery recovered quantities of animal bone, clay pipe, glass and shell were found in **1405**. Above this lay a 0.43 m thick layer of redeposited dark black-brown natural clay. This was overlain by a 0.48 m thick layer of sandy aggregate, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac road surface that formed the modern ground level.

#### *Trial hole 15*

- 4.7.3 Trial hole 15 was located on Barbican Way. It measured 1 m long by 0.6 m and was dug to a depth of 0.8 m. The excavation exposed little except for redeposited brown clay at the base containing the water pipe that the trial hole was positioned to intercept. This was overlain by a thick layer of sandy aggregate, serving as a preparation layer for the tarmac road surface that formed the modern ground level.

## **5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE**

- 5.1.1 A relatively small quantity of finds was recovered during the watching brief, deriving from six of the trial holes (Nos. 12, 14, 46–49), almost entirely from made ground and other redeposited layers. Finds occurred in a restricted range of material types, dominated by pottery. All datable finds are post-medieval/modern, with a focus in the 18th/early 19th century.
- 5.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in **Table 1**.

### **5.2 Pottery**

- 5.2.1 All of the pottery is of post-medieval/modern date. The assemblage has been quantified (sherd count and weight) by ware type within each context; **Table 2** gives a breakdown of the pottery by context, with spot dates.
- 5.2.2 There are a few redwares (including black-glazed examples and slipwares) and Staffordshire-/Bristol-type feathered and marbled slipwares and manganese mottled wares. The date range of the redwares potentially spans the post-medieval period; the black-glazed wares and slipwares (trailed slip and sgraffito decoration) are of 17th/18th century date, and the Staffordshire-/Bristol-type slipwares have a start date around 1680, but the absence here of closed forms in the latter ware (only platters are represented) suggests that the emphasis here is on the 18th century, and there may be little or nothing here pre-dating this.
- 5.2.3 The rest of the assemblage comprises factory-produced wares: there are English stonewares (including white salt glaze of 18th century date as well as feldspathic or 'Bristol' glazed vessels of the 1830s or later), and refined earthenwares (bone china, creamware, pearlware and yellow wares). Yellow wares and stonewares provided kitchen wares, while tea- and tablewares were supplied by the other refined wares.
- 5.2.4 At the end of the sequence, the predominance of creamware and pearlware at the expense of the later whitewares suggests that most of the deposits date no later than the early 19th century, although the group from made ground **4803**, which includes whitewares (including a Keiller marmalade jar) and yellow wares and clearly falls later in the 19th or possibly early 20th century. This context also produced the only examples of feldspathic-glazed stonewares, in a series of preserve jars and other household containers.



### 5.3 Ceramic and stone building material (CBM)

5.3.1 This category included fragments of pantile, salt-glazed stoneware drainpipe, and modern glazed wall tile and floor tile.

### 5.4 Clay tobacco pipe

5.4.1 Most of the clay pipe fragments comprise plain stems, but there are three partial bowls, all spurred forms. One example from made ground **4803** is too small to date anything more than broadly 18th century or later. The other two examples, both from context **1206**, include one with a short stubby spur, of 17th century date, and one with a long, forward-pointing spur, of later 18th century date.

### 5.5 Glass

5.5.1 With the exception of three small fragments of post-medieval window glass (pre-modern but not closely datable), all of the glass consists of vessel glass, the majority of it from green wine bottles. Base and body fragments indicate that these are from mould-blown cylindrical bottles, current from c. 1735–1830 (Dumbrell 1983). Three-piece mould cylindrical bottles (introduced c. 1810) are absent, but there is one group of later bottle glass, including soda bottle, from made ground **4803**.

### 5.6 Animal bone

5.6.1 A small quantity (109 fragments or 1.615kg) of animal bone was recovered from post-medieval contexts. The bones are generally in a good state of preservation and gnaw marks were observed on just one fragment, a cattle astragalus.

5.6.2 All of the identified bones belong to cattle and sheep/goat. The largest group is from redeposited clay layer 4804. The cattle bones include eight cattle bones comprising three metacarpals, a metatarsal, radius and a group of articulating ankle bones. The sheep/goat bones include two distal humeri, fragments of skull, tibia, atlas vertebra and a mandible

### 5.7 Marine shell

5.7.1 This category consists entirely of oyster, and includes both right and left valves, i.e. both preparation and consumption waste. The shell is undatable, but is assumed to be post-medieval.

### 5.8 Other finds

5.8.1 Other finds comprise one piece of slag (pyrotechnical waste but not necessarily from metalworking); one small fragment of roofing slate, and three iron nails. None of these finds are closely datable, although are assumed to be post-medieval.

**Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)**

Context	Animal Bone	Clay Pipe	Glass	Pottery	Shell	Other Finds
1206	24/205	17/43	9/57	23/235	4/142	1 slate; 1 slag; 1 iron
1405	2/24	1/5	3/47	11/145	2/31	
4607	7/64	2/3	7/150	16/74	2/77	1 iron
4703				4/6		
4803	32/213	13/31	15/217	202/1961	3/51	4 CBM; 1 iron
4804	42/1075	3/6	2/150	10/255		



4906	2/34	1/6		3/64		1 CBM
unstrat			5/125	7/134	9/263	
<b>Total</b>	<b>109/1615</b>	<b>37/94</b>	<b>41/746</b>	<b>276/2874</b>	<b>20/564</b>	

CBM = ceramic building material

**Table 2: Pottery by context**

Context	Ware type	Spot Date	No.	Wt. (g)	Comments
1206	Black-glazed redware	C17/C18	1	1	
1206	Bone china	1794+	1	1	
1206	Creamware	1740–1880	1	1	
1206	N Devon gravel-tempered ware	Post-med	1	7	
1206	Pearlware	1770–1840	7	13	transfer printed and banded
1206	Redware	Post-med	5	167	1 trailed slipware dish
1206	Staffs-type mottled ware	C18	4	32	tankard base
1206	Staffs-type slipware	1680–1800	2	6	
1206	White salt glaze	1720–80	1	7	plate rim, scalloped edge, moulded dec
1405	Creamware	1740–1880	8	97	small bowl/cup rim; hemispherical bowl/chamber pot base
1405	Redware	Post-med	1	19	bowl rim
1405	Staffs-type slipware	1680–1800	2	29	feathered slipware; platters
4607	Creamware	1740–1880	5	19	
4607	English stoneware	C18+	1	7	
4607	Pearlware	1770–1840	7	13	transfer-printed
4607	Redware	Post-med	1	16	
4607	Staffs-type mottled ware	C18	1	2	
4607	Staffs-type slipware	1680–80	1	13	platter rim; feathered slipware
4703	Creamware	1740–1880	2	2	
4703	Pearlware	1770–1840	2	4	transfer printed
4803	Black-glazed redware	C17/C18	3	54	jar rim
4803	Bone china	1794+	8	19	tablewares
4803	Creamware	1740–1880	24	94	tea- and tablewares
4803	English stoneware	C18+	65	1134	containers (preserve jars, flagons); includes feldspathic glaze
4803	Notts-type stoneware	C18	3	10	
4803	Pearlware	1770–1840	20	70	tea- and tablewares, including transfer-printed, blue feathered plate rims
4803	Porcelain	C17+	1	1	





Context	Ware type	Spot Date	No.	Wt. (g)	Comments
4803	Redware	Post-med	8	99	
4803	Redware	Post-med	1	17	sgraffito slipware; dish rim
4803	Refined whiteware	1800+	28	167	tablewares & kitchen containers (Keiller jar, plain preserve jar)
4803	Staffs-type mottled ware	C18	13	118	tankard bases
4803	Staffs-type slipware	1680-1800	5	35	platters; feathered slipware
4803	Westerwald stoneware	C17/C18	2	25	
4803	White salt glaze	1720-80	6	20	
4803	Yellow ware	1800+	15	98	
4804	Black-glazed redware	C17/C18	1	51	
4804	Redware	Post-med	2	70	bowl rim
4804	Staffs-type mottled ware	C18	2	34	
4804	Staffs-type slipware	C18	5	100	marbled and feathered slipwares; platters
4906	Bone china	1794+	2	3	
4906	English stoneware	C18+	1	3	
unstrat	Bone china	1794+	1	3	cup rim

## 6 DISCUSSION

### 6.1 General

- 6.1.1 The majority of the material excavated from each of the trial holes was backfill of the trench of the water pipe that the trial hole was positioned to intercept. There was no evidence that any of the trial holes had impacted on medieval or earlier horizons. Of the twenty-two trial holes that were monitored, datable artefacts were recovered from six: numbers 12, 14 and 46 to 49 inclusive. All of the datable artefacts are of post-medieval or early modern date, with a general emphasis on the 18th century. In each of the trial holes that contained artefactual material, the finds were derived from the basal deposit, providing a *terminus post quem* for that deposit and for the overlying layers.
- 6.1.2 The trial holes that produced datable artefacts ranged in depth between 0.81 m and 1.52 m, with an average of 1.14 m. This provides an approximate guide to the depth of 18th-century and later deposits across the monitored area.
- 6.1.3 The trial holes that that were artefactually sterile ranged in depth between 0.62 m and 1 m, with an average of 0.88 m. The shallower average depth of the artefactually sterile trial holes suggests that horizons of medieval or earlier date were not reached at these locations.
- 6.1.4 With no material of medieval or earlier date recovered from the watching brief, it can be surmised that trial holes were not dug to a depth sufficient to impact on any horizons of that date.



- 6.1.5 To judge by the deposits exposed in the monitored trial holes, the development has not had any significant impact on the Scheme's archaeological component.

## **7 STORAGE AND CURATION**

### **7.1 Museum**

- 7.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with Gloucester City Museum. The Museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project, under the accession code GLRCM:2015.15. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

### **7.2 Preparation of archive**

- 7.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Gloucester City Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 7.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site/accession code (109760/GLRCM:2015.15), and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:

- *1 standard archive box of artefacts & ecofacts, ordered by material type*
- *1 file of paper records & A3/A4 graphics*

- 7.2.3 A copy of this report will be supplied to the Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record (HER) and uploaded to OASIS. An OASIS form, (ID number wessexar1-218119) has been provisionally prepared and will be completed at the time of deposition.

### **7.3 Discard policy**

- 7.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in Selection, Retention and Dispersal (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. In this instance, given the nature and date range of the material (commonly occurring types of relatively recent date, no items of intrinsic interest), and its provenance (largely from made ground and other poorly stratified contexts), it is proposed that none of the assemblage warrants retention for long-term curation. On the agreement of the Museum, the entire assemblage will be dispersed. This process will be fully documented in the project archive.

### **7.4 Security copy**

- 7.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.



## 8 REFERENCES

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### 8.2 Online sources

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## 9 APPENDICES

### 9.1 Appendix 1: Context summary by trial hole

Trial hole 5	Description:	Dimensions: 0.82 x 0.65 m
Context No.		Depth: 0.9 m
501	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.07 m
502	Black bitumen – Road levelling surface.	0.07 – 0.35 m
503	Made ground – Light red builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.35 – 0.52 m
504	Made ground – Light yellow builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.52 – 0.9 m +

Trial hole 9	Description:	Dimensions: 1.05 x 0.5 m
Context No.		Depth: 0.72 m
901	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.05 m
902	Made ground - Light pink builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.05 – 0.26 m
903	Redeposited clay – Light pink red clay. Rare small stone inclusions.	0.26 – 0.72 m +

Trial hole 11	Description:	Dimensions: 1 x 0.7 m
Context No.		Depth: 0.8 m
	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.1 m
	Made ground – sandy aggregate.	0.1 – 0.4 m
	Redeposited clay – Grey clay. Rare small stone inclusions.	0.4 – 0.8 m +

Trial hole 12	Description:	Dimensions: 1 x 0.6 m
Context No.		Depth: 1.21 m
1201	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.07 m
1202	Black bitumen – Road levelling surface.	0.07 – 0.12 m
1203	Made ground – Light yellow builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.12 – 0.21 m
1204	Made ground - Light pink builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.21 – 0.55 m
1205	Concrete surface.	0.55 – 0.59 m
1206	Dark brown-black redeposited clay. Moderate small to medium stone inclusions.	0.59 – 1.21 m +

Trial hole 13	Description:	Dimensions: 1.2 x 0.6 m
Context No.		Depth: 0.4 m
	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.1 m
	Made ground – sandy aggregate.	0.1 – 0.3 m
	Redeposited grey clay with modern service.	0.3 - 0.4 m+

Trial hole 14	Description:	Dimensions: 0.6 x 0.4 m
Context No.		Depth: 1.25 m
1401	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.08 m
1402	Black bitumen – Road levelling surface.	0.08 – 0.14 m
1403	Made ground - Light pink builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.14 – 0.62 m
1404	Redeposited Natural – Dark black - brown clay. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.62 – 1.05 m
1405	Redeposited Natural – Dark brown clay. Moderate small to medium stone inclusions.	1.05 – 1.25 m +



Trial hole 15	Description:	Dimensions: 1 x 0.6 m
Context No.		Depth: 0.8 m
	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.1 m
	Made ground – sandy aggregate.	0.1 – 0.6 m
	Redeposited grey clay with modern service.	0.6 - 0.8 m+

Trial hole 20	Description:	Dimensions: 1.1 – 0.65 m
Context No.		Depth: 1 m
101	Tarmac.	0 – 0.1 m
102	Made ground – Loose demolition rubble, mixed light yellow/grey-brown sandy clay.	0.1 – 0.6 m
103	Redeposited sandy material, used as fill for pipe cut.	0.6 – 1 m +

Trial hole 21	Description:	Dimensions: 1.1 – 0.7 m
Context No.		Depth: 1.1 m
201	Tarmac.	0 – 0.1 m
202	Made ground – Orange sand with frequent small sub-rounded stones, poorly sorted.	0.1 – 0.35 m
203	Loamy mid grey brown compact clay. Some occasional demolition rubble fragments present, including bricks + mortar. Generally small to medium sized fragments. Animal bone present.	0.35 – 1.1 m +

Trial hole 22	Description:	Dimensions: 1.2 – 0.7 m
Context No.		Depth: 1.0 m
301	Tarmac.	0 – 0.1 m
302	Loose orange sandy stone, poorly sorted.	0.1 – 0.
303	Mid greyish brown sandy clay, compact. Brick fragments present.	
304	Dark brown loamy sand-clay.	0.8 – 1 m +

Trial hole 23	Description:	Dimensions: 1.1 – 0.6 m
Context No.		Depth: 1.0 m
401	Tarmac.	0 – 0.1 m
402	Made ground – mixed recycled stone + demolition rubble. Mortar also present.	0.1 – 0.3 m
403	Compact sandy-clay fill from service cut. Stone fragments, medium size, light brown material.	0.3 – 1.0 m +

Trial hole 24	Description:	Dimensions: 1.1 – 0.7 m
Context No.		Depth: 1.0 m
501	Tarmac.	0 - 0.1 m
502	Made ground.	0.1 – 0.8
503	Loamy mid grey brown silty sand.	0.8 – 1.0 m +

Trial hole 26	Description:	Dimensions: 1.2 x 0.6 m
Context No.		Depth: 0.5 m
	Paving stones	0 – 0.1 m
	Made ground – Light yellow builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions	0.1 – 0.25 m
	Redeposited clay with modern services – Dark grey – brown sandy clay. Moderate small – medium stone inclusions.	0.25 – 0.5 m +



Trial hole 27	Description:	Dimensions: 0.76 x 0.5 m
Context No.		Depth: 0.62 m
2701	Paving stones	0 – 0.1 m
2702	Made ground – Light yellow builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions	0.1 – 0.25 m
2703	Modern service backfilled with red builders sand	0.25-0.5
2704	Redeposited clay with modern services – Dark grey – brown sandy clay. Moderate small – medium stone inclusions.	0.31 – 0.62 m +

Trial hole 28	Description:	Dimensions: 1.2 x 0.6 m
Context No.		Depth: 0.6 m
	Paving stones	0 – 0.1 m
	Made ground – Light yellow builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions	0.1 – 0.25 m
	Redeposited clay with modern services – Dark grey – brown sandy clay. Moderate small – medium stone inclusions.	0.25 – 0.6 m +

Trial hole 33	Description:	Dimensions: 1.0 m
Context No.		Depth: 1.0 m
3301	Topsoil – Mid greyish brown sandy silt.	0 – 0.3 m
3302	Mid yellow coarse sand + gravel.	0.3 – 0.4 m
3303	Dark brown sandy silt, coarse gravel + small cobble inclusions, probable backfill of cut for main.	0.4 – 1.0 m +

Trial hole 38	Description:	Dimensions: 1 x 0.5 m
Context No.		Depth: 0.82 m
3801	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.07 m
3802	Black bitumen – Road levelling surface.	0.07 – 0.15 m
3803	Redeposited clay – Dark brown clay. Moderate small to medium stone inclusions.	0.15 – 0.39 m
3804	Redeposited clay – Dark black – brown clay. Moderate small to medium stone inclusions.	0.39 – 0.82 m +

Trial hole 39	Description:	Dimensions: 1 x 0.5 m
Context No.		Depth: 0.65 m
3901	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.09 m
3902	Black bitumen – Road levelling surface.	0.09 – 0.14 m
3903	Redeposited clay – Dark black – brown clay. Moderate small to medium stone inclusions.	0.14 – 0.65 m +

Trial hole 46	Description:	Dimensions: 1 x 0.6 m
Context No.		Depth: 1.2 m
4601	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 - 0.09 m
4602	Black bitumen – Road levelling surface.	0.09 – 0.17 m
4603	Made ground - Light pink builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.17 – 0.36 m
4604	Made ground – Mid grey builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.36 – 0.41 m
4605	Made ground – Yellow builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.41 – 0.6 m
4606	Made ground – Dark grey - black builders' sand. Abundant stone inclusions.	0.6 – 0.91
4607	Redeposited Natural – Dark brown clay. Moderate stone inclusions.	0.91 – 1.2 m +



<b>Trial hole 47</b>	<b>Description:</b>	<b>Dimensions: 1 x 0.5 m</b>
<b>Context No.</b>		<b>Depth: 0.85 m</b>
4701	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.06 m
4702	Made ground – Mid yellow builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.06 – 0.53 m
4703	Redeposited Clay – Dark grey – black clay. Moderate small to medium stone inclusions.	0.53 – 0.85 m +

<b>Trial hole 48</b>	<b>Description:</b>	<b>Dimensions: 1 x 0.5 m</b>
<b>Context No.</b>		<b>Depth: 0.81 m</b>
4801	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.06 m
4802	Made ground – Light yellow builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.06 – 0.21 m
4803	Made ground/clay – Mixture of light grey builders' sand with abundant small – medium stone inclusions and clay.	0.21 – 0.45 m
4804	Redeposited clay – Dark grey – black clay. Rare small – medium stone inclusions.	0.45 – 0.81 m +

<b>Trial hole 49</b>	<b>Description:</b>	<b>Dimensions: 1.2 x 0.5 m</b>
<b>Context No.</b>		<b>Depth: 1.52 m</b>
4901	Tarmac – Road surface.	0 – 0.08 m
4902	Made ground – Yellow builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.08 – 0.25 m
4903	Made ground – Mid grey builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.25 – 0.49 m
4904	Made ground – Yellow builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.49 – 0.62 m
4905	Made ground – Mid grey builders' sand. Abundant small to medium stone inclusions.	0.62 – 0.97 m
4906	Redeposited clay – Dark grey clay. Moderate small – medium stone inclusions.	0.97 – 1.52 m +



## 9.2 Appendix 2: OASIS form

### OASIS ID: wessexar1-218119

#### Project details

Project name	Mythe Medium WAZ - Westgate, Street, Gloucester
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Amey plc to carry out an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of trial holes in advance of the renewal of water mains within the western area of the historic core of Gloucester. The watching brief occurred at multiple locations within the city centre, that is, the area lying between the cathedral and the River Severn, and bordered to the north and south by St Oswald's Road and Barrack Square/Barbican Way respectively. A total of 22 trial holes were monitored. There was no evidence that any of the trial holes impacted on medieval or earlier horizons. Of the 22 trial holes that were monitored, datable artefacts were recovered from six, with all of the material of post-medieval or early modern date, and a general emphasis on the 18th century. In each of the trial holes that contained artefactual material, the finds were derived from the basal deposit, providing a terminus post quem for that deposit and for the overlying layers. With no material from the medieval or earlier periods recovered, it can be surmised that trial holes were not dug to a depth sufficient to impact on any horizons of that date. It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the watching brief be deposited with Gloucester City Museum. The Museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project, under the accession code GLRCM:2015.15.
Project dates	Start: 17-06-2015 End: 29-08-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	109760 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	GLRCM:2015.15 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 11 - Thoroughfare
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Test-Pit Survey", "Watching Brief"
Prompt	Water Act 1989 and subsequent code of practice

#### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GLOUCESTERSHIRE GLOUCESTER GLOUCESTER Mythe Medium WAZ – Westgate, Street, Gloucester
Postcode	GL1 2PG
Study area	20 Hectares
Site coordinates	SO 828 187 51.866172361619 -2.249824237452 51 51 58 N 002 14 59 W Point





Height OD / Depth      Min: 10m Max: 20m

#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	with advice from County Archaeologist
Project design originator	Amey plc
Project director/manager	R. O'Neill
Project supervisor	Sam Fairhead
Type of sponsor/funding body	Severn Trent Water

#### Project archives

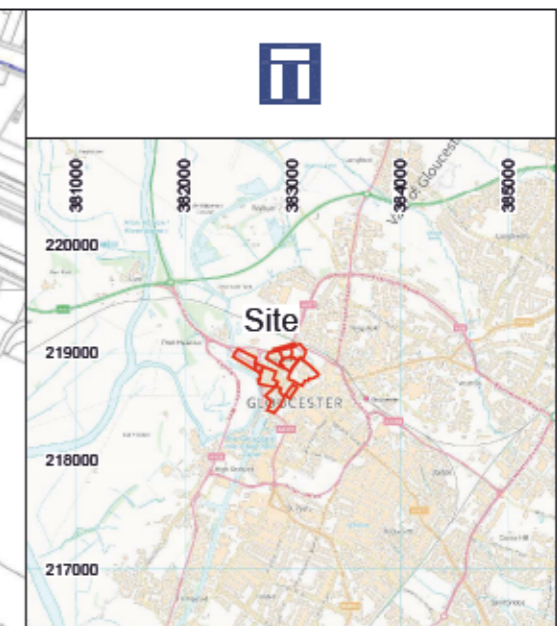
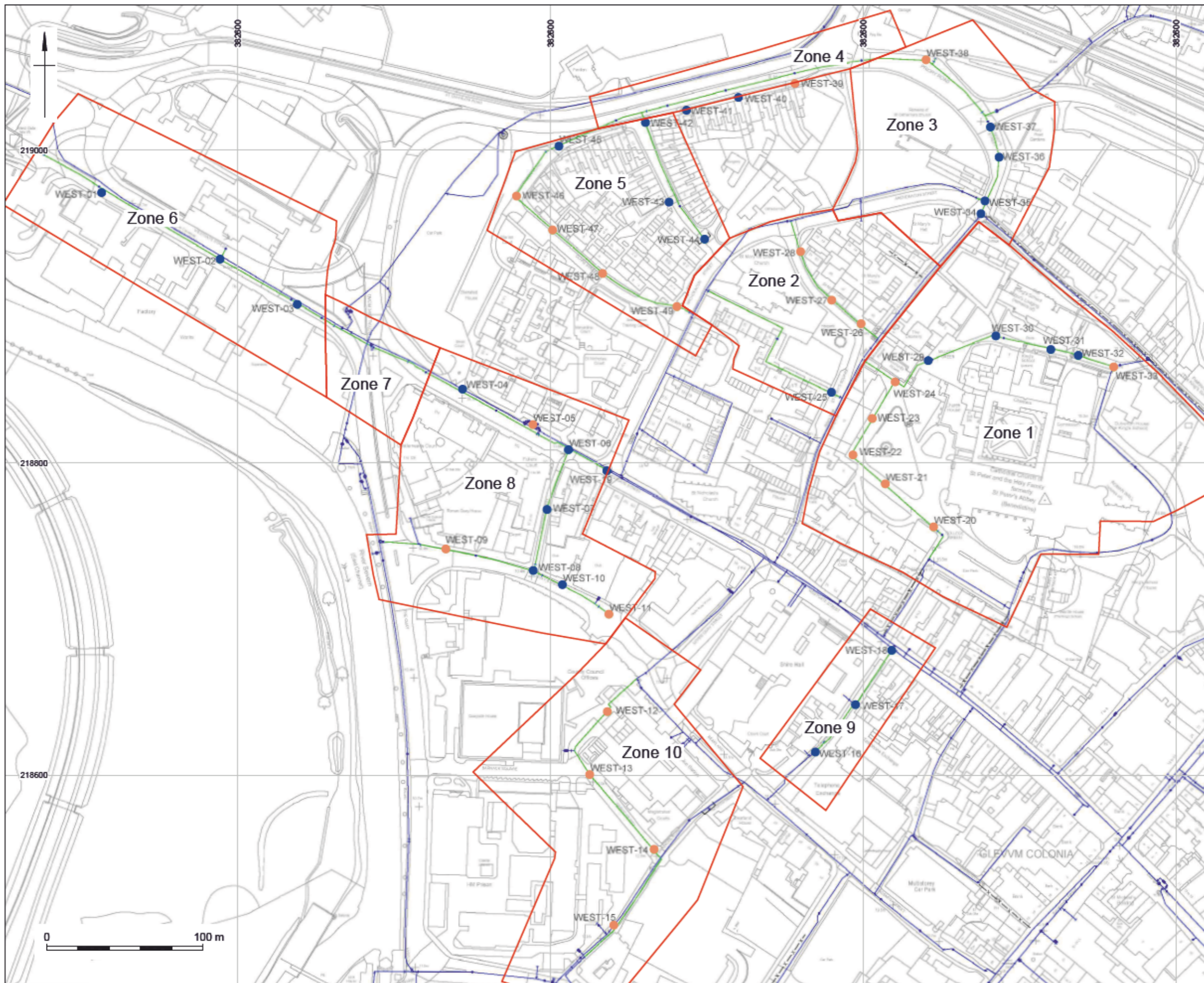
Physical Archive recipient	Gloucester City Museum
Physical Archive ID	GLRCM:2015.15
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Gloucester City Museum
Digital Archive ID	GLRCM:2015.15
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Gloucester City Museum
Paper Archive ID	GLRCM:2015.15
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Report"

#### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Mythe Medium WAZ, Westgate Street, Gloucester: Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Daniel. P.,
Other bibliographic details	109760
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology



Place of issue or publication	Sheffield
Description	c. 30 page comb-bound report with colour plates and figures.
Entered by	Patrick Daniel (p.daniel@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	25 November 2015



- Heritage zones
- Trial holes - monitored
- Trial holes

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Site location and location of trial holes

Figure 1



Plate 1: Trial hole 27, camera facing north-east



Plate 2: Trial hole 39, camera facing north


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Plate 3: Trial hole 49, camera facing north



Plate 4: Trial hole 5, camera facing east



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Plate 5: Trial hole 12, camera facing west

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