

**84 FRAMPTON ROAD,  
GLOUCESTER,**

**NGR: SO 8278 1706**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

November 2012  
Report No. 850

**Quality Assurance**

This Document has been compiled and authorised in accordance with AMS's Quality Procedures (BS EN ISO 9001: 2008)

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**SUMMARY**

On the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2012 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological evaluation on land at 84 Frampton Road, Gloucester. (NGR SO 8278 1706). The project was commissioned by BM3 Architecture Ltd.

The project comprised the excavation and recording of two trenches across a proposed development area where a pre-existing vicarage had previously been demolished.

The evaluation identified the presence of intact subsoils but no archaeological finds or features were encountered, suggesting that the site is of low archaeological potential.

## GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

### Archaeology

For the purpose of this project, archaeology is taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains from prehistoric times to the modern era. No rigid upper date limit has been set, but AD 1900 is used as a general cut-off point.

### CBM

Ceramic Building Material.

### Medieval

The period between AD 1066 and AD 1500.

### Natural

In archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site.

### NGR

National Grid Reference from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

### OD

Ordnance datum; used to express a given height above sea-level. (AOD Above Ordnance Datum).

### OS

Ordnance Survey.

### Post-medieval

The period between AD 1500 and AD 1900.

### Prehistoric

The period prior to the Roman invasion of AD 43, traditionally sub divided into; *Palaeolithic* – c. 500,000 BC to c. 12,000 BC; *Mesolithic* – c. 12,000 BC to c. 4,500 BC; *Neolithic* – c. 4,500 BC to c. 2,000 BC; *Bronze Age* – c. 2,000 BC to c. 800 BC; *Iron Age* – c. 800 BC to AD 43.

### Roman

The period traditionally dated AD 43 until AD 410.

### Saxon

The period between AD 410 and AD 1066.

### Tegula

Roman roof tile.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report presents the findings of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Foundations Archaeology in November 2012 on land at 84 Frampton Road, Gloucester (NGR: SO 8278 1706). The project was commissioned by BM3 Architecture Ltd.
- 1.2 The project was conducted in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2012). The fieldwork was undertaken in compliance with IfA *Standards and Guidance on Archaeological Evaluation* (2008) and MoRPHE, issued by English Heritage (2006).
- 1.3 The report constitutes an assessment of the results of the archaeological works. The code of conduct of the Institute for Archaeologists was adhered to throughout.

## 2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission is being sought for the erection of 15 residential dwellings and one 4 bedroom vicarage, plus associated access and parking facilities at 84 Frampton Road, Gloucester.
- 2.2 In accordance with the NPPF (2012), the Gloucester City Archaeologist advised that a programme of archaeological evaluation was to be undertaken in order to inform a proposed development application.
- 2.3 At the time of the evaluation the site was vacant land, the vicarage having been previously demolished. The underlying geology comprises Blue Lias Formation and Charmouth Mudstone Formation (Undifferentiated) – Mudstone (Geology of Britain Viewer, BGS - <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).
- 2.4 The proposed development site is located to the south of the Roman town and cemetery activity is known to the west and east. The main archaeological potential of the site was, therefore, for the presence of evidence relating to the Roman period. This did not prejudice the evaluation against features and finds associated with other periods.

## 3 AIMS

- 3.1 The aims of the archaeological evaluation were to gather high quality data from the direct observation of archaeological deposits in order to provide sufficient information to establish the nature, extent, preservation and potential of any surviving archaeological remains. This would allow reasonable planning decisions to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the areas affected by the proposed development.

3.2 These aims were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:

i) To define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;

ii) To attempt to characterise the nature of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning of features present on the site;

iii) To recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence and recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples;

iv) To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present.

## 4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Two 15m by 1.8m trenches were excavated across the proposed development area, as shown in Figure 2.

4.2 Non-significant overburden was removed, under constant archaeological supervision, to the top of the archaeological deposits or the underlying natural deposits, whichever was encountered first. This was achieved through the use of a 360° tracked mechanical excavator, equipped with a toothless grading bucket. Spoil tips were visually scanned for finds.

4.3 All excavation and recording work was undertaken in accordance with the WSI and the Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 3: Excavation Manual.

## 5 RESULTS

5.1 **Trench 1** measured 15m long by 1.80m wide. Natural deposits were encountered at an average depth of 0.42m (13.454m OD) below the current ground level and comprised a light orange/ buff firm clay with occasional lenses of decayed stone. The natural deposits were overlain by a dark greyish brown compact silt clay subsoil (102) up to 0.25m thick. The subsoil was overlain by a dark brown friable clay silt topsoil (101) which averaged 0.17m thick. No archaeological finds or features were present within this trench.

5.2 **Trench 2** measured 15m long by 1.80m wide. Natural deposits were encountered at an average depth of 0.44m (13.264m OD) below the current ground level and comprised a light orange/ buff firm clay with occasional lenses of decayed stone. The natural deposits were overlain by a dark greyish brown compact silt clay subsoil (202) up to 0.25m thick. The subsoil was

overlain by a dark brown friable clay silt topsoil (201) which averaged 0.19m thick. No archaeological finds or features were present within this trench.

## **6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 The evaluation did not identify any archaeological features within the trenches. The presence of intact subsoils suggests that the site is relatively undisturbed, and that the area is of low archaeological potential.
- 6.2 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology, but will be deposited within 12 months with Gloucester Museum. A short note will be submitted for publication in the relevant local archaeological journal and an OASIS form will also be submitted to ADS.

## **7 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

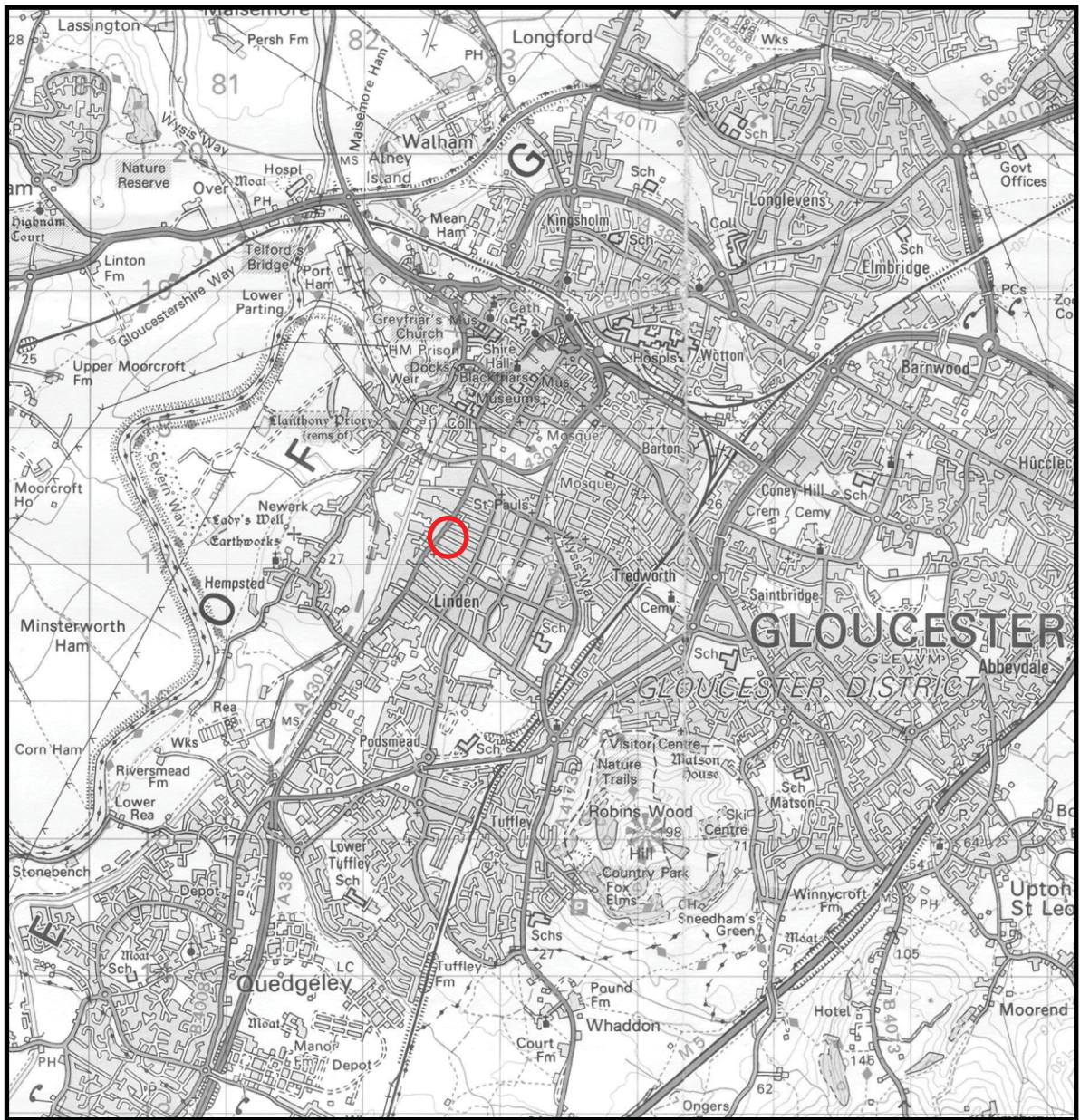
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## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Foundations Archaeology would like to thank Andrew Armstrong of Gloucestershire City Council and the staff at BM3 Architecture Ltd for their help during the course of the project.



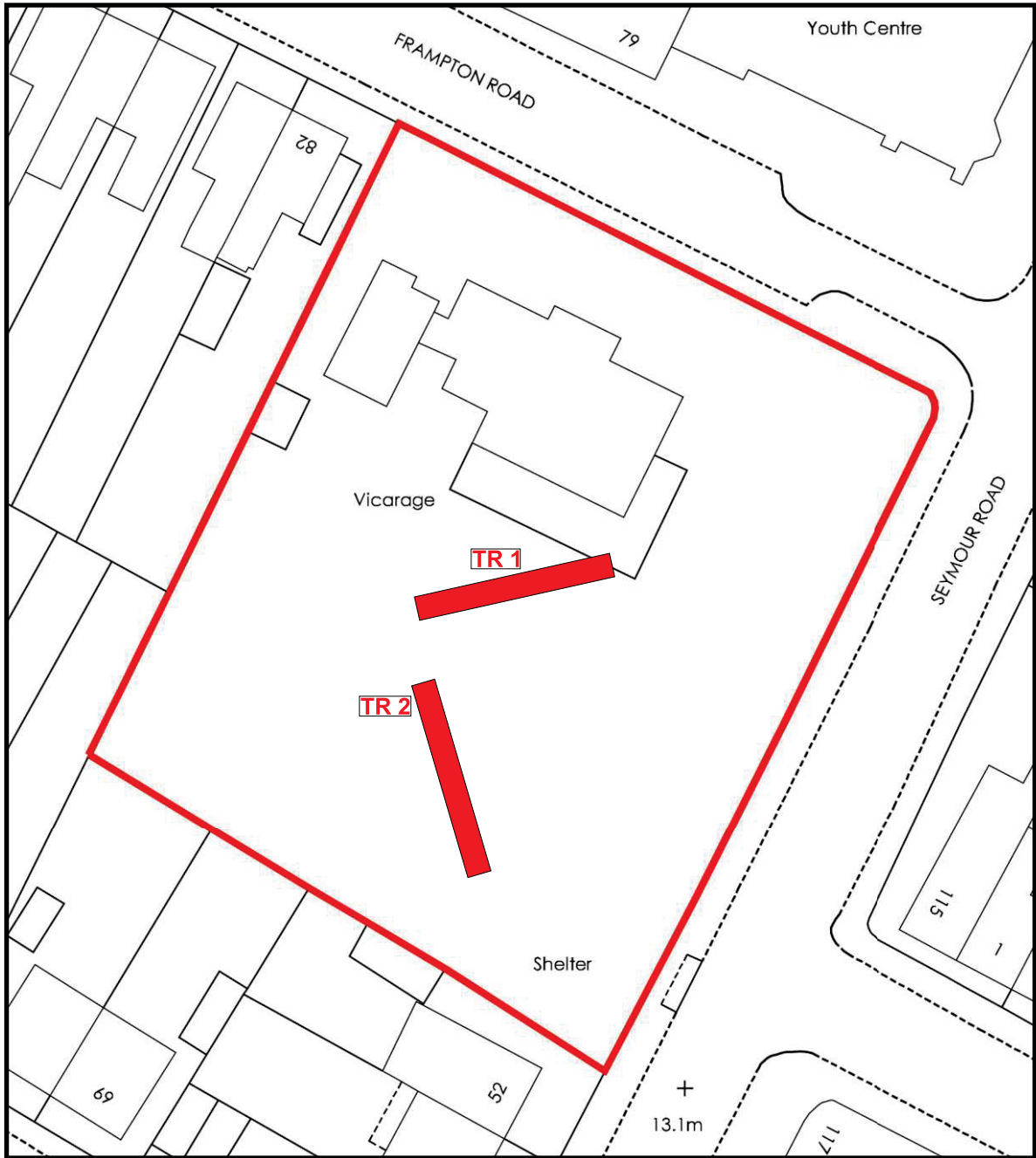


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**FIGURE 1: Site Location**

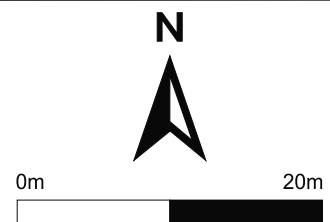




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**FIGURE 2: Trench Location**