

**30 BRUNSWICK ROAD,
GLOUCESTER
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.**

NGR: SO 8314 1821

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

April 2020
Report No. 1358



ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY, MANAGEMENT & FIELD SERVICES

**30 BRUNSWICK ROAD,
GLOUCESTER,
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.**

NGR: SO 8314 1821

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



April 2020
Report No. 1358

Quality Assurance

This Document has been compiled and authorised in accordance with AMS's Quality Procedures (ISO 9001: 2015)

Author: I. Salisbury BA PCIfA, T. Michaels BSc MCIfA

Date: 16th April 2020

Approved: R. King BA MCIfA

QA Checked: T. Michaels BSc MCIfA

This report has been compiled with all reasonable skill care and attention to detail within the terms of the project as specified by the client and within the general terms and conditions of Archaeological Management Services Ltd trading as Foundations Archaeology but no explicit warranty is provided for information and opinions stated. AMS Ltd accepts no responsibility whatsoever to third parties to whom this report or any part thereof is made known. Any such party relies on this report at their own risk. Copyright of this document is retained by AMS Ltd, but unlimited licence to reproduce it in whole or part is granted to the client and/or their agents and/or assignees on payment of invoice.

CONTENTS

Summary

Glossary of Archaeological Terms and Abbreviations

- 1 INTRODUCTION
- 2 PROJECT BACKGROUND
- 3 AIMS
- 4 METHODOLOGY
- 5 RESULTS
- 6 DISCUSSION
- 7 CONCLUSION
- 8 BIBLIOGRAPHY
- 9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

APPENDIX 1: Stratigraphic Data

FIGURE LIST

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Site Plan

SUMMARY

Between the 30th January to 7th February 2020 Foundations Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief at 30 Brunswick Road, Gloucester, Gloucestershire (NGR: SO 8314 1821). The project was commissioned by Alan Day.

The watching brief comprised the monitoring of groundworks associated with the excavation of a house basement and associated services.

The watching brief within the cellar revealed two distinct deposits which contained material dating to the 18th – 19th century, therefore it is likely that these Post-medieval deposits relate to the initial construction of the existing house. No further archaeological finds, features or deposits were present within the watched areas. However, given the location of the works and the lack of natural deposits there is potential for archaeology to survive at a lower depth.

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.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report presents the findings of an archaeological watching brief, undertaken by Foundations Archaeology between the 30th January to 7th February 2020 at 30 Brunswick Road, Gloucester, Gloucestershire (NGR: SO 8314 1821). The project was commissioned by Alan Day.
- 1.2 The watching brief was conducted in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2019) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014).
- 1.3 The code of conduct of the CIfA was adhered to throughout.

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning Permission (Ref: 18/00212/FUL) was granted on the 20th February 2019 for the change of use of a basement office to a two-bedroom flat at 30 Brunswick Road, Gloucester, GL1 1JJ. Condition 3 of the planning permission required that a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) is secured in advance of the commencement of site works.
- 2.2 The site is located in the centre of Gloucester in an area of relatively high archaeological potential. It is situated within a Roman cemetery which extends around Brunswick Road and Parliament Street and also within a 17th century defensive earthwork constructed during the Civil War. Historic mapping available on the Know Your Place website indicated that the site was given over to orchard in 1780, but that the current buildings which occupy the site were built by the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (1844-88).
- 2.3 The geology within the site comprises *Blue Lias Formation and Charmouth Mudstone Formation (undifferentiated) - Mudstone* with superficial deposits of *Cheltenham Sand and Gravel - Sand and Gravel* (BGS Online Viewer).
- 2.4 The site therefore contained the potential for significant archaeological features and deposits, predominately dating to the Roman and Post-medieval periods, particularly the Roman cemetery and the Civil War defence ditch. This did not prejudice the works against recording evidence relating to other periods.

3 AIMS

- 3.1 The aims of the archaeological monitoring and recording are to gather high-quality data from the direct observation of archaeological deposits, as well as to ensure that significant archaeological remains are identified and appropriately mitigated.

- 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) where possible, to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence and recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples.
 - iv) to recover palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence.

4 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 Intrusive groundworks were monitored and recorded, in order to identify any archaeological finds and deposits. The groundworks were carried out under the constant supervision of the archaeologist. Plant was suitable for the task.
- 4.2 Groundworks for the development included the reduction of the existing basement floor in three of the rooms by up to 350mm and the excavation of a 300mm wide service trench across the northern side of the property.
- 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 The groundworks were carried out across three basement rooms (recorded for ease as Rooms 1 to 3) along with excavations for a service trench located on the northern side of the house. The concrete floors (1000) were removed across the three rooms, prior to the reduction of the underlying substrates. The room floors were then reduced by a further 300-350mm in depth. A 300mm wide service trench was also excavated to a depth of 300mm below the existing ground level, it extended for a length of approximately 12m and was located between the north wall of the house, adjacent to Room 1 and the footpath on Brunswick Road.

5.2 ROOM 1

- 5.2.1 Room 1 was located in the northwest side of the property (Figure 2) and was split by a modern concrete pillar. Following the removal of the concrete floor, the area was reduced by a depth 300-350mm into a yellow light-brown sand

deposit (1003) which contained fragments of animal bone. Once the area had been mechanically reduced, hand excavated slots were cut under the existing walls by a further 300mm in order to underpin these walls. Layer (1003) continued under the walls and ceramics dating from 18th – 19th century were present within the hand excavated slots.

5.3 ROOM 2

5.3.1 Room 2 was located in the northeast side of the property and fronted onto Brunswick Road. Following the removal of the concrete floor, the area was reduced by 300mm into the same yellow light-brown sand layer, (1003), present in Room 1. No finds were present within the excavated deposit.

5.4 ROOM 3

5.4.1 Room 3 was located in the southeast side of the property. Following the removal of the concrete floor, the area was reduced by 350mm into a black clay layer (1004). During this work late Post-medieval CBM was visible within the existing wall foundations. As in Room 1, hand dug slots were also excavated in order to underpin the existing walls and 18th – 19th century ceramics and animal bone were recovered from under these walls.

5.5 An east-west aligned service trench was excavated to the north of the house, between the outside of Room 1 and the footpath of Brunswick Road. The trench was 300mm wide, 300mm deep and extended for a length of approximately 12m. It was excavated through a dark brown sand silt clay topsoil (1001) layer, which contained late Post-medieval brick and tile.

5.6 No natural deposits were encountered during these works and no archaeological finds, features or deposits pre-dating the late Post-medieval period were present within any of the watched areas.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 The watching brief within the cellar revealed two distinct deposits which contained material dating to the 18th – 19th century, therefore it is likely that the Post-medieval deposits relate to the initial construction of the existing house. No further archaeological finds, features or deposits were present within the watched areas. However, given the location of the works and the lack of natural deposits there is potential for archaeology to survive at a lower depth.

7 CONCLUSION

7.1 The watching brief identified late Post-medieval deposits directly underneath the foundations for the house at 30 Brunswick Road. No natural deposits were encountered during these works and no archaeological finds, features or

deposits pre-dating the late Post-medieval period were present within any of the watched areas.

- 7.2 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology but will be deposited in due course with Gloucester City 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.

8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief*. Reading.

Foundations Archaeology. 2019. *30 Brunswick Road, Gloucester, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording*. Unpublished.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Foundations Archaeology would like to thank Andrew Armstrong of Gloucester City Council, Alan Day and Neil Thomas of Neil Thomas Construction for their help during the course of the project.

APPENDIX 1: Stratigraphic Data

CXT	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	DESCRIPTION	CUTS/LATER THAN	CUT BY/EARLIER THAN
1000	11.5+	13+	0.2	Concrete floor: present across all rooms.	1003, 1004	n/a
1001	12+	4.5+	0.30+	Topsoil: dark brown friable sand silt clay, which contained occasional Modern detritus, along with Post-medieval or later CBM.	n/a	n/a
1002				VOID		
1003	6+	13+	0.35+	Layer: yellow/light brown sand, which contained late Post-medieval material. Present in Rooms 1 and 2 only.	n/a	1000
1004	5+	4.4+	0.35+	Layer: black clay, which contained late Post-medieval material. Present in Room 3 only.	n/a	1000
				Natural deposits were not encountered during these works.		



© Crown Copyright and Database Right 2020.
 Ordnance Survey Licence 100015722

Site Code: BRG19

Accession Code: GLRCM:2019.9

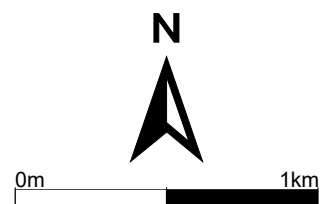
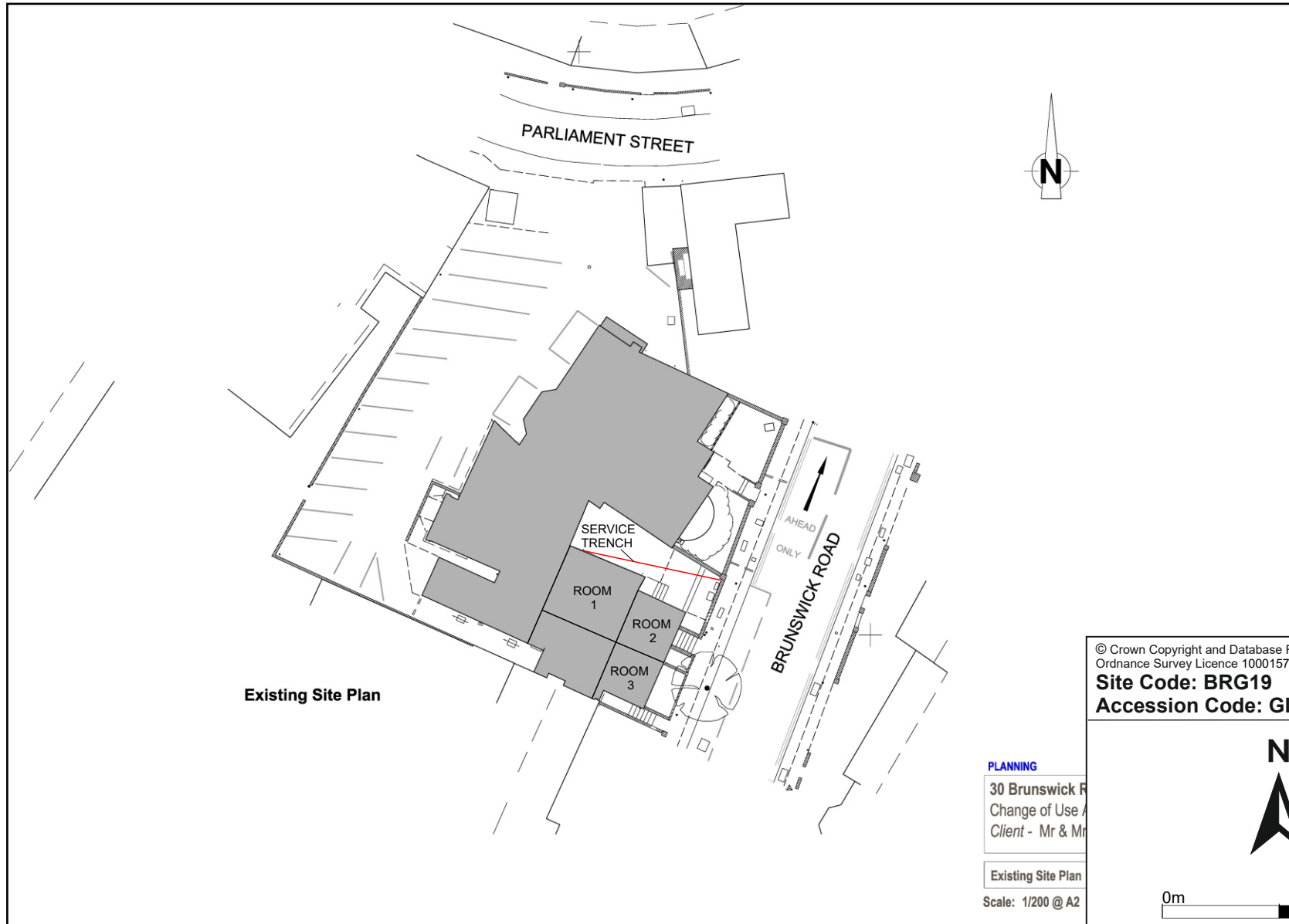


FIGURE 1: Site Location



Existing Site Plan

© Crown Copyright and Database Right 2020.
 Ordnance Survey Licence 100015722
Site Code: BRG19
Accession Code: GLRCM:2019.9

PLANNING
 30 Brunswick Road
 Change of Use Application
 Client - Mr & Mrs [Name]
 Existing Site Plan
 Scale: 1/200 @ A2

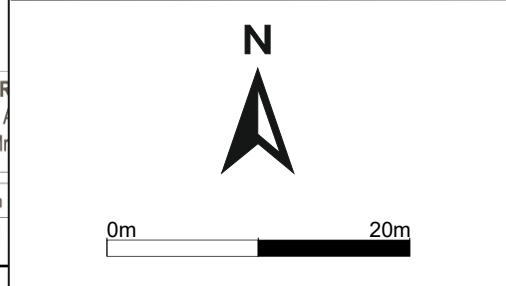


FIGURE 2: Site Plan