

**BOURTON ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB,
RISSINGTON ROAD,
BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER.**

NGR: SP 1728 2035

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

July 2010

Report No. 701

Quality Assurance

This Document has been compiled and authorised in accordance with
AMS's Quality Procedures (BS EN ISO 9001: 2000)

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SUMMARY

In July 2010 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological monitoring on land at Bourton Rovers Football Club, Bourton on the Water, Gloucestershire (NGR: SP 1728 2035). The work was commissioned by Christopher Stone of Architectural Design, Technology and Interior Design.

Planning permission (ref: 07/02150/FUL) has been granted for the re-building of changing rooms and a store room, along with the provision of a canopy at Bourton Rovers Football Club. In accordance with the principles of PPS5 (*Planning Policy Statement 5*) and the archaeological policies of Cotswold District Council, a condition was applied to the planning consent requiring a programme of archaeological works.

The monitored groundworks comprised the excavation of foundation trenches for the construction of new changing rooms on the site of the previous changing area.

No archaeological deposits, features or finds were encountered during the monitoring work. It was noted that the construction of the previous changing rooms had truncated a significant proportion of the observed natural deposits. Only small islands of undisturbed stratigraphy were observed between the former load bearing walls. The absence of archaeological deposits or finds does not preclude the presence of unseen archaeology within the wider area.

GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Archaeology

For the purposes 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 the Norman Conquest (AD 1066) and *c.* AD 1500.

Natural

In archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site, in this case Triassic and Permian aged Lower Sandstone with Breccia and Conglomerate overlaid by terrace gravels and sands (Geological Survey of Great Britain 1974, Sheet 310).

NGR

National Grid Reference from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

OD

Ordnance Datum; used to express a given height above sea-level.

OS

Ordnance Survey.

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.* 600 BC; *Iron Age* – *c.* 600 BC to AD 43.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In July 2010 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological monitoring on land at Bourton Rovers Football Club, Bourton on the Water, Gloucestershire (NGR: SP 1728 2035).
- 1.2 Foundations Archaeology is certified to BS EN ISO 9001: 2000 for quality assurance in the provision of archaeological services. The company is a Registered Organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists and subscribes to that organisation's Code of Conduct. All relevant IfA Codes of Practice were adhered to throughout the course of the project.
- 1.3 The project was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) issued by Foundations Archaeology (2010). The WSI conformed to the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (revised 2008), *Archaeological Guidance Paper 4: Archaeological Watching Briefs: (guidelines)* issued by English Heritage (London Region).
- 1.4 This report constitutes the results of the archaeological works.

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission (ref: 07/02150/FUL) has been granted for the re-building of changing rooms and a store room, along with the provision of a canopy at Bourton Rovers Football Club. In accordance with the principles of PPS5 (*Planning Policy Statement 5*) and the archaeological policies of Cotswold District Council, a condition was applied to the planning consent requiring a programme of archaeological works.
- 2.2 The proposed development is located in an area of archaeological potential. The site is situated approximately 90m south of *Salmonsbury Camp* Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM 32392), which is known to have been occupied in the Neolithic, Iron Age and Roman periods.
- 2.3 Numerous crop-marks have indicated the presence of potential Prehistoric features in the vicinity of the site. An archaeological evaluation undertaken in 1998 revealed the presence of archaeological features, of possible Prehistoric date, near the existing changing rooms.
- 2.4 The site therefore contained the potential for the preservation of archaeological deposits predominately relating to the Prehistoric and Roman periods. This did not prejudice the monitoring works against the recovery of finds and features relating to other periods.

3 AIMS

- 3.1 The aims of the archaeological watching brief 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, as well as to make recommendations for management of the resource, including further archaeological works if necessary; this was intended to allow reasonable planning decisions to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the areas affected by the proposed works.
- 3.2 These aims were to be 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.
 - iii) To attempt to characterise the nature and preservation of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning and extent of features present on the site.
 - iv) To recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence which will attempt to determine the complexity of the horizontal and vertical stratigraphy present, and to recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples.
 - v) 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 The monitored groundworks comprised the excavation of foundation trenches, which were excavated by use of a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket.
- 4.2 All intrusive groundworks were subject to constant archaeological monitoring by a qualified and suitably experienced archaeologist. Potential archaeological deposits were manually investigated, and where appropriate, hand excavated and recorded. Spoil heaps were visually scanned for finds.
- 4.3 All on site and post excavation works fulfilled the requirements of the brief.

5 RESULTS

- 5.1 Foundations were excavated for the construction of a new changing room and storage facilities with associated canopy. The footings were excavated to a depth of up to 1.35m below present ground level, with a width of 0.70m. The stratigraphy comprised (102) a light brownish orange, small to medium gravel (the natural) which was at least 0.35m thick. The natural was overlain by a compact mid orange brown clay sand subsoil (101), up to 1.0m thick.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 No archaeological deposits, features or finds were encountered during the monitoring work. The majority of the monitored wall foundation trenches were positioned within the footings of the previous changing rooms, which had truncated the natural gravels. Where cross walls were to be constructed, a full stratigraphic sequence was intermittently observed, however, the foundation trenches did not always penetrate subsoil (101).
- 6.2 The absence of archaeological deposits or finds does not preclude the presence of unseen archaeology beyond the area of truncation outside of the previous construction footprint.

7 ARCHIVE

- 7.1 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology. It comprises:
- Digital photographs
 - Record sheets
 - Correspondence
 - Written scheme of Investigation
 - Risk Assessment and Health and Safety Method statement
- 7.2 The archive has been prepared in accordance with *MoRPHE* (English Heritage 2006) and *Guidelines for the preparation of archaeological archives for long-term storage* (UKIC 1990). It will be deposited with Cranium Museum within 12 months under an accession code provided on deposition.
- 7.3 The results of the work will be published in an appropriate journal and an OASIS report will be completed and submitted.

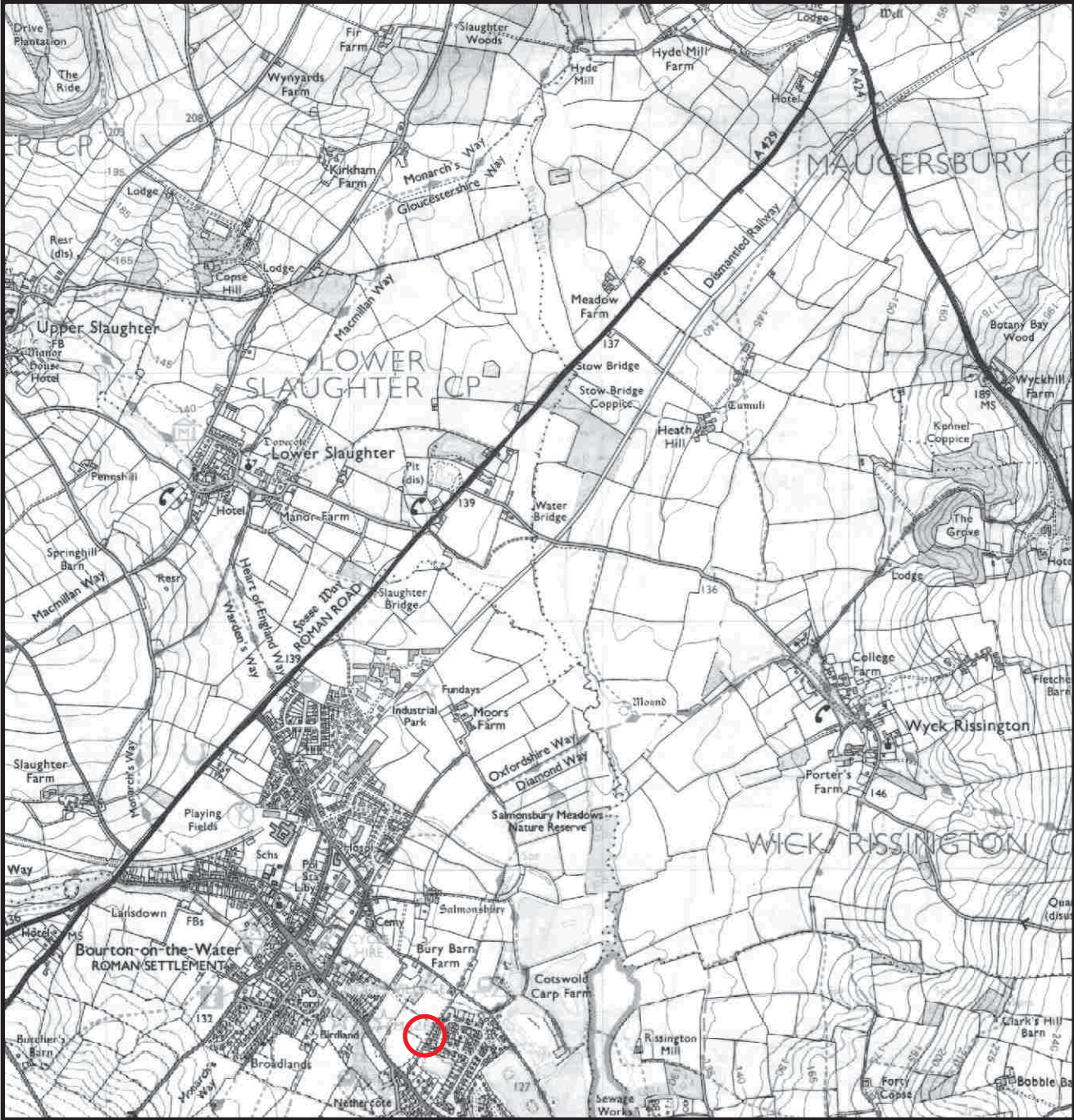
8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Foundations Archaeology, 2010, *Bourton Rovers Football Club, Rissington Road, Bourton-on-the-water, Gloucestershire: Project Design for a Programme of Archaeological Watching brief and recording.*

IfA, 1999 (revised 2008), *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs.* Institute for Archaeologists.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Foundations Archaeology would like to thank Charles Parry of Gloucestershire County Council, the on site ground workers and Mr Christopher Stone for their cooperation during the course of this project.



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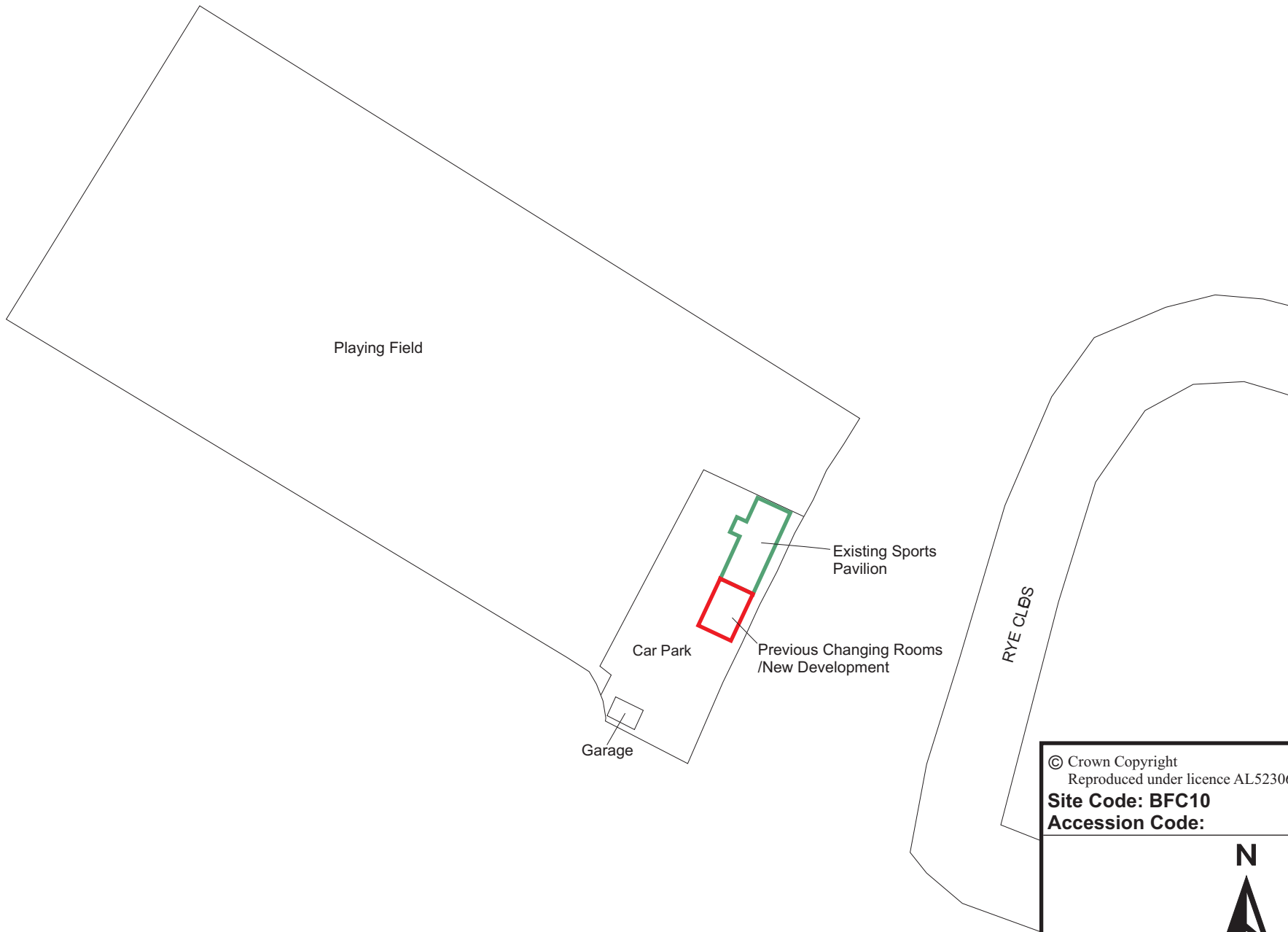


FIGURE 1: Site Location



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0m 40m

1:1000 - approx. scale

FIGURE 2: Site Plan