

Land at Mill Farm, Mill Lane, Gloucester - Phase 2 Archaeological Evaluation Report

LNT Care Development



Date: 04/09/2025
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Ref: 23694

Report to: LNT Care Development

Report Title: Land at Mill Farm, Mill Lane, Gloucester – Phase 2 Archaeological Evaluation Report

Version: V1.2

Issue Date: September 2025

Report Ref: 23694

Originated By:

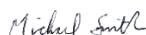


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Version	Author	Description	Date
V0.1	FW	First draft	16/05/2025
V0.2	MS	QA1	04/06/2025
V1.0	OG	QA2	27/06/2025
V1.1	OG	Orion Edits	02/07/2025
V1.2	MS	LPA edits	04/09/2025

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Executive Summary

Cura Terrae was commissioned by LNT Care Development (the Client) to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation at Mill Farm, Mill Lane, Brockworth, Gloucestershire. The Site is centred on National Grid Co-ordinate 389599 , 216764.

An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and Written Scheme of Investigation were prepared by Orion Heritage (2023 and 2024a) prior to the evaluation undertaken by Ecus Ltd (now Cura Terrae) in June 2024 (Ecus Ltd 2024). The ADBA and WSI outlined the archaeological potential for the Site, with the main purpose for the programme of archaeological works were to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains, in particular in relation to Brockworth Mill, a mill with potential medieval origins. The results of the Phase 1 evaluation demonstrated significant made ground deposits and the remains of a wall in trench 6.

Following the demolition of the existing buildings on the Site and consultation undertaken with the Gloucestershire County Council Temporary Archaeological Advisor, it was confirmed that the second phase of evaluation trenching would be required. The second phase would focus on assessing the potential for surviving mill remains beneath the existing buildings, for which Orion Heritage prepared the Phase 2 WSI (Orion Heritage 2024b). The scope of works consisted of an archaeological watching brief on the removal of the floor slab and foundations of the existing building on the site and further evaluation trenches.

The results of the Phase 2 watching brief and evaluation somewhat conformed with the archaeological potential of the Site as stated by the desk-based assessment (Orion Heritage 2023). The results demonstrated evidence for post-medieval and modern remains. However, the evaluation did not observe any archaeological remains or deposits of medieval origin.

The majority of the excavated layers and deposits were of modern origin, and comprised of made ground and built up deposits as well as demolition rubble from the former buildings that were demolished on site following the Phase 1 evaluation. Some deposits can be dated to the post-medieval period, such as the buried topsoil (1204), with other deposits that are dating to the same period have been affected by the modern disturbance and demolition of the Site. A complete mill stone was found and recorded on Site.

These results demonstrate significant post-medieval and modern activity for the Site, with no indication of any remains dating to the medieval period. Therefore it is likely that the medieval remains of the former mill has likely been disturbed, truncated, or filled in (such as the former water course) and built up by the several phases of activity that subsequently followed in the post-medieval and modern periods. Significant structural remains, probably datable to the 18th and 19th centuries were found in trench 11 and to its south.

The archive is currently stored at Cura Terrae's Basingstoke office under project 23694.

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Cura Terrae was commissioned by LNT Care Development (hereafter ‘the Client’), to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation at Mill Farm, Mill Lane, Brockworth, Gloucestershire (hereafter ‘the Site’). The Site is centred on National Grid Co-ordinate 389599 , 216764 (Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 An application for the demolition of existing buildings and the construction of a residential care home and ancillary works has been submitted to Tewkesbury Borough Council (application reference (24/00098/FUL). Comments on the outlined application by Gloucestershire County Council Heritage Team Leader to Tewkesbury Borough Council recommended that a programme of archaeological investigation should be undertaken in advance of the determination of the planning application. Further comment on the scope of evaluation was provided by the Archaeological Advisor and advised that the focus of the archaeological evaluation should be understanding the potential survival of earlier remains associated with the medieval mill.
- 1.1.3 The first phase of evaluation trenching was undertaken in June 2024 by Ecus Ltd (now Cura Terrae Ltd). Further comments on the planning application were made by the Gloucestershire County Council Temporary Archaeological Advisor (August 2024) which recommended that a further programme of work be undertaken to identify and record any archaeological remains. This consisted of a watching brief on the removal of the floor slab and foundations of the existing building on the Site, followed by further trial trenching. It also allowed the option of mitigation excavation, if appropriate. Further consultation undertaken with the Gloucestershire County Council Temporary Archaeological Advisor (November 2024) confirmed that the second phase of evaluation trenching should be focussed on assessing the potential for surviving mill remains beneath the existing buildings, following their demolition.
- 1.1.4 Orion Heritage Ltd prepared a Phase 2 Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) that presented the proposed methodology and standards for the archaeological evaluation due to be undertaken at the Site (Orion Heritage 2024b).
- 1.1.5 The Phase 2 archaeological trial trench evaluation comprised six trenches; measuring 10 m long and 1.8 m wide, with extensions of 5 m to three of the trenches. The work was undertaken in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) approved by the Local Planning Authority Archaeologist (LPAA). The trial trenching and the compilation of this report were carried out in accordance with relevant standards and guidance published by Historic England (Historic England 2015a-b) and the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists (CIfA 2022; 2023a-b).
- 1.1.6 The watching brief fieldwork was undertaken between 28th and 29th April 2025, and the evaluation between 30th April and 1st May 2025.

- 1.1.7 This report presents a digest of information on the character and significance of the deposits under review and will form the basis of any proposals for appropriate further action, including mitigation if required by the LPA. This report will also aim to define any research priorities that may be relevant should further field investigation be required. This interim report does not include the results from the Finds and Environmental Assessments.

1.2 Site Location and Description.

- 1.2.1 Brockworth lies c. 6.5 km south east of the centre of Gloucester. The Site lies on the western end of Mill Lane to the north of Brockworth and comprises of a residential house with associated outbuildings including extensions and stables within an area of grassland currently used as paddocks. It is bounded by Mill Lane to the north, Henley Bank School to the south and east and Horsebere Brook to the west.
- 1.2.2 The Site is located on a north-west facing slope from a height of 55.4 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in trench 7 at the south end the site to 52.29 m aOD in trench 10 to its north.
- 1.2.3 The underlying geology of the Site is mapped as Charmouth Mudstone Formation - Mudstone. A sedimentary bedrock formed between 199 and 182 million years ago during the Jurassic period. No superficial deposits are recorded for the Site (British Geological Viewer – BGS – 2025).

2. Archaeological and Historical Background

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The following is summarised from an archaeological desk based assessment utilising a 1 km search area, completed prior to the WSI for the Phase 1 evaluation (Orion Heritage 2024a). Numbers in brackets in the text below relate to Historic Environment Record (HER) monument reference numbers.

2.2 Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 2.2.1 A five trench and one test pit archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Ecus Ltd (now Cura Terrae) in June 2024, now referred to as Phase 1 (Ecus Ltd 2024). The results of the evaluation demonstrated a good correlation between a boundary marker on historical mapping (specifically 1844 -1888 Ordnance Survey 25" 1st Edition) associated with the Brockworth Mill and a north to south aligned wall found in one of the trenches. The remainder of the trenches were characterised by vastly differing depths and significant made ground deposits, and showed that even though the Site had been subject to landscaping in the modern era the historical ground surface survives beneath these deposits.

2.3 Historical Context

Prehistoric and Romano-British

- 2.3.1 Evidence of prehistoric activity comprises the find spot of Palaeolithic implements (6533 & 6534), a pit containing pieces of Bronze Age pottery (42891), the find spot of a Bronze Age rapier tip (6399), evidence of an Iron Age settlement (25440) and a ring ditch (42894), a small number of possible prehistoric features (48208) and an area of flint finds (6536) which have not been dated to a specific prehistoric period.
- 2.3.2 An area of Roman occupation is indicated by the finding of pottery and tegulae (6532) and the identification of box flue tile, tegulae and imbrices fragments indicate the location of a roofed building (25441). Three burials and a group of pits (25442) were recorded in close proximity. The route of Ermine Street (7542) runs through the southern half the search area and a possible trackway or drove road (42901) has been recorded in the north-western extent of the search area. Ditches (37141), gullies (43995) and the find spots of coins (6537, 6538 & 32972) and pottery (6542) have also been recorded within the search area.

Medieval

- 2.3.3 With the exception of a ditch containing a single sherd of Saxon pottery (47482), there is no further evidence of Saxon or early medieval activity within the search area.
- 2.3.4 Brockworth Mill (6540) , located within the site, is thought to have Norman origins. The remains of a chimney at the mill indicated the use of auxiliary steam power, probably after Witcombe Reservoir was built in 1860. The mill and associated house were built on a platform cut into the foot of the natural terrace on the east bank of a stream, although there is now no water in the immediate vicinity of the mill's location. The mill had not been used since the turn of the 20th century and, although formally a Listed Building, was demolished in 1974 due to poor condition. A second mill with Norman origins, Badgerworth Mill (6382) has also been recorded towards the south-eastern extent of the search area. An area of ridge and furrow (50557) is recorded as extending into the site. Further evidence of medieval activity across the search area includes structures with medieval origins (8312, 6529, 6531, 11004 & 32985), a further area of ridge and furrow (50475), ditches (32842, 43119 & 43996), a livestock watering hole (32843), a pit (37142) and the find spot of pottery (6539).

Post Medieval and Twentieth Century

- 2.3.5 The route of several turnpike roads extend through the search area (4816, 41580 & 41795) and a milestone (35155) has also been identified within the search area. Evidence of continuing agricultural use of the search area includes areas of ridge and furrow (11106 & 11113) and field boundary ditches (36349). There is also evidence of industrial activity including quarries (11091 & 33084) and a clay pit and brick kiln (42897). Several buildings and the find spots of artefacts have also been recorded across the search area.
- 2.3.6 Cartographic evidence suggests there was little development of the study site during the post-medieval and modern periods, indicating a potential agricultural use after Brockworth Mill fell out of use.

3. Methodology for Archaeological Evaluation

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The following section sets out the methodology for the archaeological evaluation, as outlined in the WSI (Orion Heritage 2025).

3.2 Standards and Guidelines

- 3.2.1 The project conforms to the current national and regional guidance as set out by Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and Historic England:

- *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2020a);
- *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2020b);
- *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2022);
- *Standard for Archaeological Evaluation* (CIfA 2023a) and *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation* (CIfA 2023b);
- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Historic England 2015b); and
- Historic England's *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (2011).

- 3.2.2 Any changes to the methodology would have been agreed with the LPA Archaeologist in advance of the work being undertaken.

- 3.2.3 All work was undertaken by experienced staff who are corporate members of CIfA, or who demonstrably work to an equivalent standard for fieldwork.

3.3 Purpose of Evaluation Standards

- 3.3.1 The purpose of the archaeological evaluation standards is to provide information on the character and significance of remains present. The results of the archaeological evaluation will be used to determine the need for and scope of any further archaeological works. The requirement for any further work would be decided by the LPA Archaeologist.

3.4 Aims and Objectives

3.4.1 The aim of the evaluation was to gather sufficient information to:

- Determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains, in particular in relation to Brockworth Mill, which may have medieval origins;
- Determine the character, extent, date, complexity, integrity, state of preservation and quality of any archaeological remains present, therefore ensuring their preservation by record;
- Accurately record the location and stratigraphy of areas and establish the sequence of archaeological remains and natural deposits present on the Site;
- To retrieve any environmental archaeological evidence relating to past environments and economy of the Site;
- Prepare a comprehensive record; and
- Interpret the archaeological features and finds within the context of the known archaeology of the Site and the surrounding area;

3.4.2 The objectives of the project are:

- The protection and recording of archaeological assets discovered during the archaeological works;
- Archaeological monitoring of the removal of floor slabs and existing foundations; and
- To produce a record of the archaeological works sufficient to help inform the need for, and scope of, any further archaeological works that the LPA Archaeologist might recommend.

3.4.3 Whilst the specific aims and objectives outlined above were utilised, they were also subject to change and addition as the work progressed. Any changes would have been conveyed to the Client and the LPAA.

3.4.4 This evaluation report will present a digest of information on the character and significance of the deposits under review and this report will form the basis of any proposals for appropriate further action. The evaluation will also aim to define any research priorities that may be relevant should further field investigation be required.

3.4.5 The results are considered in relation to the South West England Archaeological Research Framework (2024).

3.5 Methodology

General

- 3.5.1 The evaluation was undertaken by Cura Terrae, a ClfA Registered Organisation. All work was undertaken by experienced staff who are corporate members of ClfA, or who demonstrably work to an equivalent standard for fieldwork.

Trench Location

- 3.5.2 A trenching plan was devised to test the archaeological preservation across the site, specifically in the location of the mill building, in order to maximise the retrieval of archaeological information and to ensure that the significance of the archaeological resource is understood to a level of detail proportionate to its importance. The trench plan was agreed with the LPA Archaeologist.
- 3.5.3 The centre point of each end of the trench was located on the ground using differential Global Positioning System (dGPS) technology.
- 3.5.4 Each trench was scanned with a cable avoidance tool (CAT) prior to excavation and if necessary rescanned at subsequent intervals during excavation.

3.6 Trench Excavation Methodology

- 3.6.1 The evaluation as undertaken comprised six trenches; measuring 10 m by 1.8 m as defined in the WSI. The existing buildings across the site were demolished down to slab level. The removal of the floor slabs, existing foundations and services was carried out under archaeological supervision. The ground was reduced in spits to the level of archaeological interest, construction formation levels or natural deposits, whichever came first.
- 3.6.2 The evaluation trenches were excavated using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All machine work was carried out under the direct supervision of an archaeologist.
- 3.6.3 All topsoil and recent overburden were removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon or natural geology, whichever is encountered first, in successive level spits.
- 3.6.4 Excavated topsoil, subsoil, and other deposits were stored separately, set back at least 1 m from the edges of the excavated trenches.
- 3.6.5 Both ends of the trenches were ramped to allow safe ingress and egress. Plant was not allowed to track within excavated trenches prior to reinstatement.

- 3.6.6 The stratigraphy of all trenches was recorded. Spoil heaps were monitored to allow analysis of the spatial distribution of artefacts.
- 3.6.7 Any revealed archaeological features or deposits were cleaned by hand prior to excavation. The aim of this was to record all significant archaeological features within each trench, and to undertake sufficient intrusive excavation to enable the date, character, form, and stratigraphic relationship to be understood.
- 3.6.8 All work was undertaken with the view to avoid damage to any surviving archaeological remains which appear to be worthy of preservation *in situ*. If such remains were identified this would have been discussed with both the Client and LPA Archaeologist.
- 3.6.9 Trench backfilling only took place under appropriate conditions and with archaeological supervision, following approval by the LPA Archaeologist. Arisings were returned to each trench in the correct order.

3.7 Recording Methodology

- 3.7.1 All archaeological deposits were recorded using a continuous numbered context system on proforma recording system in accordance with industry standards. The written record is hierarchically based and centred on the context record. Each context record fully describes the location, extent, composition and relationship of the subject and cross-referenced to all other assigned records. Written recording was undertaken in a digital format using the DiggIt application (<https://www.diggitar archaeology.com>).
- 3.7.2 The trenches as excavated and all archaeological features were surveyed by means of a differential Global Positioning System (dGPS). Drawings were made in pencil on permanent drafting film.
- 3.7.3 A photographic record of the Site was taken using digital photography at a minimum resolution of 10 megapixels. Digital images were subject to managed quality control and curation processes which will embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set. Output was in TIFF/JPEG format. All digital photography was undertaken in accordance with national guidance (Historic England 2015a).

3.8 Finds

- 3.9 Finds were treated and cleaned in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the ClfA's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (ClfA 2020a).
- 3.10 All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained and recorded by context, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. In such circumstances, sufficient artefacts were retained in order to elucidate the date and/or function of the feature or deposit.

3.11 Environmental Sampling

- 3.11.1 An appropriate sampling strategy dependent upon the survival and condition of the deposits identified was agreed between Cura Terrae and the LPA Archaeologist once fieldwork was underway.
- 3.11.2 It was agreed that one bulk environmental soil sample for plant macro-fossils, small animal and fish bones and other small artefacts should be collected from an apparently organic rich deposit in trench 12. The collection and processing of the environmental sample was undertaken in accordance with Historic England guidelines (Campbell et al. 2011).
- 3.11.3 The residues and sieved fractions of the bulk environmental soil samples were recorded and retained with the project archive. The sample was floated on a 250-300 mm mesh and the heavy residues washed over a 0.5-1 mm mesh. The flots was fully scanned under a stereomicroscope with magnification of 10-45x.

4. Results

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The following section presents the results of the archaeological evaluation. The context descriptions are reproduced in Appendix A.
- 4.1.2 The evaluation consisted of 6 mechanically excavated trenches. The trench results are shown in Figure 2, and are compared with historical mapping in Figure 3.

4.2 Trench Level Results

- 4.2.1 A summary description of each trench follows in Appendix A and a summary of trench levels in m above Ordnance Datum (m aOD) in Table 2.

Table 1: Trench levels summary

Trench	Base		Top	
Trench 7	Min 54.73 SW	Max 55.15 NE	Min 55.06 SW	Max 55.4 NE
Trench 8	Min 53.63 SW	Max 54.7 NE	Min 54.38 SW	Max 55.34 NE
Trench 9	Min 53.04 SW	Max 53.4 NE	Min 54.29 SW	Max 54.8 NE
Trench 10	Min 51.62 NE	Max 51.89 SW	Min 52.29 SW	Max 53.14 NE
Trench 11	Min 50.28 NE	Max 51.67 SW	Min 52.22 NE	Max 52.47 SW
Trench 12	Min 53.57 NW	Max 53.84 SE	Min 55.19 NW	Max 55.37 SE

4.3 Stratigraphic Sequence and Archaeological Results

Summary

- 4.3.1 Trenches varied in depth, with the deeper trenches located in and around the location of the former post-medieval mill building.
- 4.3.2 Surrounded by demolition rubble, two small walls (1106) of the former post-medieval mill building were observed in the extension for trench 11. A large millstone was also recovered at this end of the trench. An organic deposit (1204) from trench 12 was sampled for environmental purposes which also recovered a number of post-medieval finds such as ceramic material and clay pipe.
- 4.3.3 Summary descriptions of the deposits in these trenches are provided in Appendix A.

Watching Brief Results

- 4.3.4 The area stripped during the watching brief measured approximately 8 m by 14 m to an average depth of 0.55 m. Removal of the existing concrete slab exposed building rubble in a dark redeposited soil over disturbed natural soil. The brick foundations of the demolished building were dug into the natural. No features, deposits or finds of archaeological significance were found.

Trench Results

Trench 7

- 4.3.5 Trench 7 was located in the south eastern part of the Site and was orientated from north east to south west. The trench was also extended by 5 m to the south west. The trench did not contain any archaeological remains or deposits and also demonstrated evidence of modern disturbance that contained brick and asphalt at the south western end of the trench.
- 4.3.6 The undisturbed natural geology (702) was found at a maximum depth of 0.32 m below the modern ground surface. This was found below a modern deposit of topsoil (701) which contained frequent modern brick and rubble evenly distributed throughout. Additionally, the modern deposit of topsoil (701) has impacted patches in the natural geology through colour leaching.

Trench 8

- 4.3.7 Trench 8 was located in the southern part of the Site and was orientated from north east to south west. The trench was extended by 5 m to the north east. The trench did not contain any archaeological remains or deposits.
- 4.3.8 The undisturbed natural geology (802) was found at a maximum depth of 0.49 m below the modern ground surface. This was found directly below the modern road/track surface (801).

Trench 9

- 4.3.9 Trench 9 was located in the southern part of the Site and was orientated from north east to south west. The trench did not contain any archaeological remains or deposits.
- 4.3.10 The undisturbed natural geology (903) was found at a maximum depth of 0.59 m below the modern ground surface at the north east end. This was found below a modern topsoil (901) which contained significant rooting throughout.

Trench 10

- 4.3.11 Trench 10 was located in the western part of the Site and was orientated from north east to south west. The trench did not contain any archaeological remains or deposits.

4.3.12 The undisturbed natural geology (1005) was found at a maximum depth of 1.44 m below the modern ground surface for the south west half, but at a depth of 0.79 m for the north east half of the trench. This was found below a redeposited natural/made ground deposit (1004) and topsoil (1003) that form a bank for the south west half of the trench. The natural geology (1005) was found below a layer of made ground (1002) which contained frequent modern brick and rubble that was evenly distributed throughout followed by a layer of tarmac (1001) for the north east half of the trench (Plate 4). Layer (1002) was located on the approximate location of the mill leat as shown on the 1883 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 3), and may represent a backfill of it.

Trench 11

4.3.13 Trench 11 was located in the centre of the Site, in the location of the former mill building, and was orientated from north west to south east. A 5 m trench extension was excavated at the south west corner of the trench, and extended in a perpendicular direction to the south west. The trench contained demolition rubble and two small walls (1106) of the former mill building, as well as a large millstone.

4.3.14 The natural geology (1105) was found at a maximum depth of 1.85 m below the modern ground surface. This was found below a subsoil (1104), a redeposited natural/made ground layer (1103) where the millstone was recovered, a tarmac layer (1102), and a modern rubble layer (1101) (Plate 5).

4.3.15 Due to brick flooring at the south east end of the trench, it was decided that the trench required extending. The 5 m trench extension was excavated to the top of the made ground layer (1103) and revealed two parallel walls (1106) spaced 0.90 m apart that continued in a south west direction. The walls were 0.30 m wide, with a depth of approximately 0.50 m below the surface of the surviving walls. The walls comprises of 2 courses of light reddish orange bricks (Plate 7). The walls survived to a maximum height of 51.71 m aOD. A beer bottle for the Cheltenham Brewery was recovered from in between the two walls. It dates from between 1945 and 1958.

4.3.16 A millstone was recovered from (1103) that measured approximately 4 m in diameter and 0.30 m in height. It was not retained, but a drawn and photographic record was made of it. A 0.25 m hole in the centre of the millstone contained fragments of brick rubble, which were retained. The millstone also had linear striations on the surface of the stone (Figure 4, Plate 8). The millstone and the two brick walls (1106) likely relate to the former post-medieval mill building that was previously situated in the location of trench 11, as seen on historical mapping (Figure 3).

4.3.17 A length of surviving stone wall was exposed to the south of trench 11 built into the hillside.

Trench 12

4.3.18 Trench 12 was located in the eastern part of the Site and was orientated from north west to south east. A sondage was excavated in the centre of the trench to a depth of 3.50 m.

- 4.3.19 The natural geology (1205) was found at a maximum depth of 2.21 m below the modern ground surface (Plate 6). A small quantity of post-medieval finds were recovered from its surface, including a fragment of clay tobacco pipe datable to no earlier than the 17th century.
- 4.3.20 A 0.57 m thick dark greyish black deposit with organic content (1204) overlay the natural. It produced finds of post-medieval ceramic building material, clay tobacco pipe, a sherd of transfer printed ware pottery of 19th or 20th century date, and a fragment of a battery of 20th century date. The organic layer (1204) was also sampled for environmental purposes. This produced a quantity of largely unidentifiable charcoal and desiccated seeds including those of violet. However, the quantity of rootlets, molluscs and worm cocoons raises the possibility that some of the assemblage may have been intrusive.
- 4.3.21 Above the organic layer (1204) was a redeposited natural/made ground layer (1203), a subsoil (1202), and a topsoil (1201). Both the topsoil and subsoil contained fragments of modern demolition material. These were not retained.

4.4 Finds

- 4.4.1 A small assemblage of finds datable to the post-medieval to modern periods was recovered from contexts 1103, 1204, and 1205. They are reported on in Appendix B.

4.5 Environmental Sampling

- 4.5.1 A bulk sample was taken from fill 1204 to assess the survival of environmental remains. No artefacts or zooarchaeological remains were recovered from it apart from terrestrial molluscs. An assessment of the archaeobotanical remains is provided in Appendix C.

5. Conclusions

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The archaeological works fulfilled the aims and objectives set out in the Phase 2 WSI produced by Orion Heritage in 2024.
- 5.1.2 The results of the evaluation somewhat conformed with the archaeological potential of the Site as stated by the desk-based assessment (Orion Heritage 2023). The results of the trench evaluation demonstrated evidence for post-medieval and modern remains. However, the evaluation did not observe any archaeological remains or deposits of medieval origin, for which the desk-based concluded a high potential for.

5.2 Brockworth Mill

- 5.2.1 The main objective of the evaluation was to determine the level of survival of Brockworth Mill, which may have Medieval origins beneath the pre-existing buildings. Brockworth Mill is thought to have been owned in Norman times by Hugo l'Asne according to Domesday Book records (Palmer & Powell-Smith 2016). Brockworth mill was surveyed and recorded in 1978 and it is noted that the location of the mill is likely the same location as the medieval mill mentioned above (Dodd et al. 1978, p.41). Brockworth Mill was a substantial complex of buildings of hybrid construction for which it's history can be summarised as so (Borne 1981, p.14):
 - Late 15th century: A cruck-framed structure of uncertain length, lying on an approximately east-west axis.
 - Late 16th century: Further accommodation was provided in a two storeyed and separately framed wing projecting to the north from the eastern cruck-bay. This wing, one bay long, was of post-and-lintel construction.
 - Early 18th century: The north wall of the second cruck-bay from the east was rebuilt in stone and, at the same time, the rest of the building to the west of this was totally rebuilt, with stone walls and a roof divided into three narrow (c.9 ft) bays by plain trusses with tiebeams and high collars. Of the original cruck-frames, only the two eastern ones now remained. The new part of the building was 2h storeys high, and its length (because its bays were so much narrower) only slightly exceeded that of the two earlier bays to the east, from which it was partitioned. Its use was partly - perhaps wholly - industrial, for there was evidence (the earliest found on the site of milling activity) for a former water wheel situated in its west bay.
 - 19th century: The wheel was resited a little to the north-west where, outside the corner of the main building, a new pit and wheel house of brick were constructed. At the other end of the main building, the original east bay was eventually completely hemmed in by later additions. To its south there was a single celled unit of two storeys, set far back into the bank behind the house; to its east, a single storeyed outshot; and to the north of this a very large bread oven projected from the east wall of the 16th century extension.

- 5.2.2 The mill was located along the water course of Horsebere Brook, however the Brook diminished following the opening of Witcombe Reservoirs in 1860 which no doubt ceased the function of the watermill (Dodd et al. 1978, p.41). Davies also notes a truncated chimney-stack which indicates the use of steam power that was likely used to supplement the loss of water from the Brook (Davies 1967, p.13)

5.3 Discussion

- 5.3.1 From the Phase 2 evaluation, the majority of the excavated layers and deposits were of modern origin, and comprised of made ground and built up deposits as well as demolition rubble from the former buildings that were demolished on site following the Phase 1 evaluation. Some deposits can be dated to the modern period, such as the buried topsoil (1204), with other deposits that are dating to the same period have been affected by the modern disturbance and demolition of the Site.
- 5.3.2 These results demonstrate significant post-medieval and modern activity for the Site, with no indication of any remains dating to the medieval period. Therefore it is likely that the medieval remains of the former mill has likely been disturbed, truncated, or filled in (such as the former water course) and built up by the several phases of activity that subsequently followed in the post-medieval and modern periods.
- 5.3.3 Structural remains relating to the post-medieval mill structure were found in trench 11, and up-standing remains of its outer wall survived to the south of trench 11. This indicates that significant remains of the mill might survive in this area. The brick structures would probably relate to the 19th century alterations recorded by Borne, whilst the stone wall would relate to the 18th century phase.
- 5.3.4 The evaluation was also successful in gaining a better understanding of the natural geology of the Site which conformed with the British Geological Survey (BGS 2025). The natural geology was consistent, except for trenches 11 and 12 which comprised a more greenish/bluish grey clay compared to the brownish orange for the rest of the Site. This may relate to water saturation of the natural geology caused by the former water course for the mill, which can be observed on the 1840 Tithe Map (Figure 3) and was subsequently filled in along with the mill pond to the south.

6. Archive

6.1 Physical Archive

- 6.1.1 The archive will be deposited with an appropriate depository, within six months of the completion of fieldwork, subject to any additional stages of archaeological mitigation.
- 6.1.2 The archive will be prepared to an acceptable standard following national guidelines (ClfA 2020b; Historic England 2015b) and those of the Museum of Gloucester (South West Museum Development Programme 2021).
- 6.1.3 A digital, paper and artefactual archive will be prepared, consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data arising from the archaeological works in accordance with industry standards (ClfA 2020b).

6.2 Digital Archive

- 6.2.1 The digital archive is currently stored at Cura Terrae' Basingstoke office under project number 23694.
- 6.2.2 A digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) and made publicly accessible. The digital archive will be compiled in accordance with the standards and requirements of the ADS, which may be accessed through the ADS website (ADS 2011 and 2022).
- 6.2.3 An OASIS form will be created and copy of the final, approved version of the full report will be uploaded to the ADS via the OASIS form.

7. Oasis Summary

OASIS ID (UID)	curaterr1-536541
Project Name	Evaluation at Mill Farm
Sitename	Mill Farm evaluation
Sitecode	23694
Project Identifier(s)	
Activity type	Evaluation
Planning Id	24/00098/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Cura Terrae
Project Dates	24-Jun-2024 - 29-Apr-2025
Location	Mill Farm evaluation NGR: SO 89599 16764 LL: 51.849372547638545, -2.152400586469176 12 Fig: 389599,216764
Administrative Areas	Country: England County/Local Authority: Gloucestershire Local Authority District: Tewkesbury Parish: Brockworth
Project Methodology	Twelve evaluation trenches of varying lengths were excavated in two phases. Phase 1 in June 2024 consisted of trenches 1-6, and phase 2 excavated in April 2025 consisted of trenches 7-12. Separate reports were produced for each phase. This ADS entry covers both phases.
Project Results	The mill buildings were recorded by the Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group prior to their demolition in the 1980s.The

	mill was then known as Brockworth Mill. The earliest structural remains were a cruck built hall dated to the 15th century with multiple additions until the 19th century. The evaluation exposed a remnant of a stone-built wall built into the natural hill slope that was probably part of the 18th century work, and buried brick-built walls that may have been part of 19th century additions. The bed stone for a rotary quern was found in trench 11, record on site, and left for incorporation with the new development
Keywords	Watermill - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Rotary Quern - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Pot - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Pot - 20TH CENTURY - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Brick - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Bottle - 20TH CENTURY - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
Funder	Private or public corporation LNT Care Development
HER	Gloucestershire HER - noRev - LITE
Person Responsible for work	Oliver Good
HER Identifiers	
Archives	Physical Archive, Documentary Archive - to be deposited with Gloucester City Museums (Gloucester City Museum, Gloucester Folk Museum); Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive;

Report generated on: 04-09-2025:1052

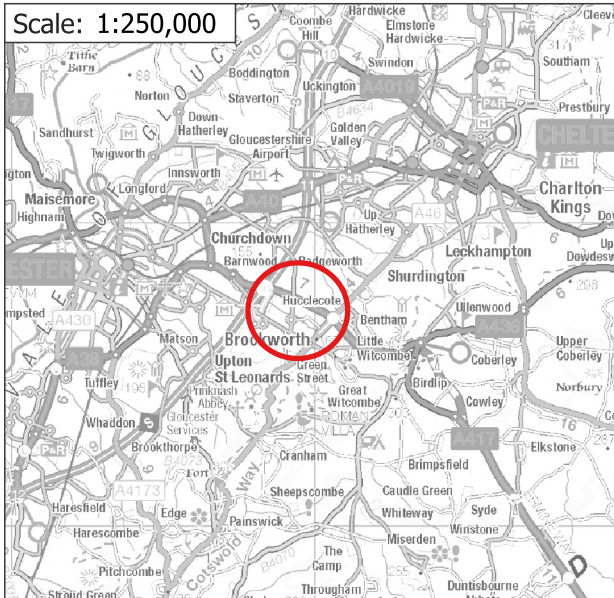
8. References

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Figure

Scale: 1:250,000



Key

Site Boundary

0 100 200 300 400 500 m

LNT Construction Ltd
Mill farm Brockworth Phase 2:
evaluation.

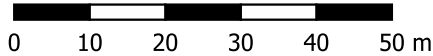
Figure 1
Site Location

A	13.05.2025	DP	PFP
Rev	Date	Drawn by	Checked by
Site centred on:		SO 89624 16743	



Key

-  Site Boundary
-  Trench 2025
-  Trench 2024
-  Structure



LNT Construction Ltd
Mill farm Brockworth Phase 2:
evaluation.

Figure 2
Trenches results overlain satellite
imagery

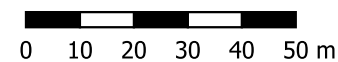
A	12.05.2025	DP	PFP
Rev	Date	Drawn by	Checked by

Site centred on:	SO 89624 16743
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Key

-  Site Boundary
-  Trench 2025
-  Trench 2024
-  Structure

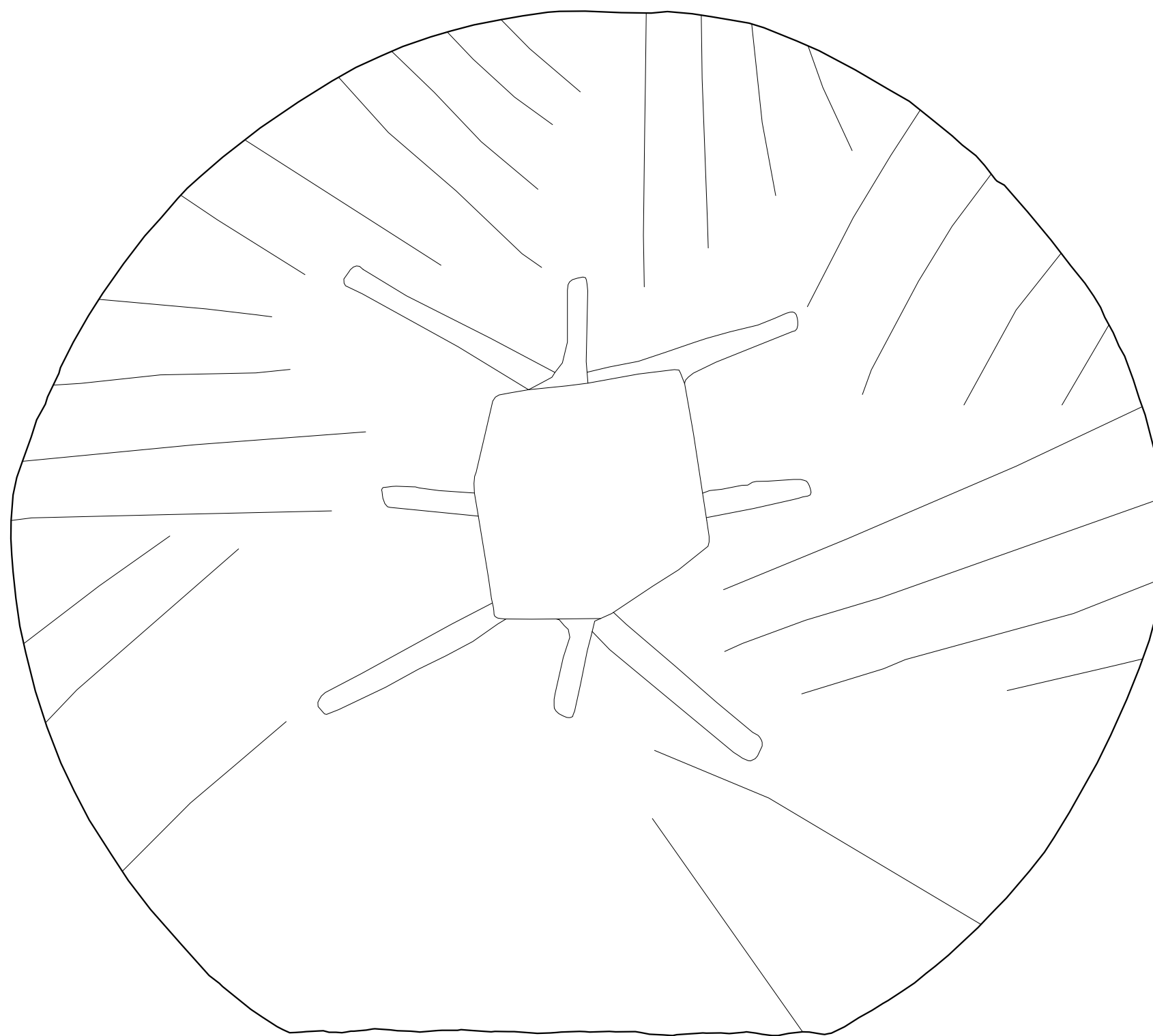


LNT Construction Ltd
Mill farm Brockworth Phase 2:
evaluation.

Figure 3
Trenches overlain on 1840 Tithe and
Ordnance Survey map (1883, 25 inch
series)

A	12.05.2025	DP	PFP
Rev	Date	Drawn by	Checked by
Site centred on:		SO 89624 16743	

Millstone from fill 1103



0 50cm
scale 1:10 @ A3

Plates



© CURA TERRAE 2025

Trench 8, looking north east

Plate 1



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Trench 10, looking south west

Plate 2



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Trench 11, looking south east

Plate 3



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Trench 10 representative section, looking north west

Plate 4



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Trench 11 representative section, looking north east

Plate 5



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Trench 12 representative section, looking west

Plate 6



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Trench 11 extension, looking south west

Plate 7



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Millstone recovered from 1103

Plate 8

Appendix A: Context Summary

Table 2: Context Descriptions

Context	Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation	Mode of formation	Discussion	Bulk finds	Samples	Vertical span (m)
701	7	Deposit	Colour: mid orangey brown. Compaction: moist, friable. Composition: coarse clayey sand. Inclusions: frequent modern brick and rubble, evenly distributed.	Modern deposit of topsoil.	Anthropogenic.	Modern topsoil layer that contained significant demolition rubble.	None		0.32 (avg.)
702	7	Deposit	Colour: light brownish orange. Compaction: moist, malleable. Composition: silty clay. Notes: some degree of colour leaching and modern disturbances from the construction of the building that used to be here.	Undisturbed natural geology.	Natural.	Some degree of colour leaching and modern disturbances from the construction of the previous building on the Site.			
801	8	Deposit	Colour: mottled black and reddish brown. Compaction: dry, loose. Composition: made road. Notes: modern made road.	Modern road/track surface.	Anthropogenic.	Modern surface of made ground that had been laid here as a road/track.	None		0.49 (avg.)
802	8	Deposit	Colour: mottle yellowish brown & blue. Compaction: moist, malleable. Composition: silty clay.	Undisturbed natural geology.	Natural.	Disturbed by modern construction activities. Some leaching of colour.			
901	9	Deposit	Colour: light yellowish brown. Compaction: moist, friable. Composition: clayey loam. Notes: heavily rooted.	Topsoil.	Natural.	Topsoil that contained significant rooting. Also contained some demolition rubble and brick hardcore.	None		0.59 (avg.)
902	9	Deposit	Colour: light brownish yellow. Compaction: moist, firm. Composition: silty clay.	Undisturbed natural geology.	Natural.	Small degree of colour leaching, and also significant rooting.			
1001	10	Deposit	Colour: black tarmac. Compaction: dry. Composition: tarmac road surface.	Tarmac road surface.	Anthropogenic.	Modern tarmac surface that is present for the NE half of the trench.	None		0.31 (avg.)
1002	10	Deposit	Colour: mid reddish orange. Compaction: dry, loose. Composition: made ground. Inclusions: frequent bricks and rubble, evenly distributed.	Made ground.	Anthropogenic.	Made ground consisting of rubble and hardcore that is below tarmac. Levelling layer. Resides upon natural geology (1005).	None		0.48 (avg.)
1003	10	Deposit	Colour: light yellowish brown. Compaction: moist, firm. Composition: silty clay.	Topsoil of made ground bank.	Anthropogenic.	Topsoil for a bank at the SW end of the trench that resides upon redeposited natural (1004). Significant rooting as well as modern rubble material throughout.	None		0.43 (avg.)
1004	10	Deposit	Colour: mid brownish yellow. Compaction: moist, firm. Composition: silty clay.	Redeposited natural for made ground bank.	Anthropogenic.	Redeposited natural that forms the majority of a made ground bank. Natural geology (1005) is below.	None		1.01 (avg.)

Context	Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation	Mode of formation	Discussion	Bulk finds	Samples	Vertical span (m)
1005	10	Deposit	Colour: light brownish orange and blueish grey. Compaction: moist, malleable. Composition: silty clay.	Undisturbed natural geology.	Natural.	Natural geology.			
1101	11	Deposit	Colour: dark brownish grey. Compaction: dry, loose. Composition: mixed rubble, gravel & dirt.	Modern rubble layer.	Anthropogenic.	Layer that comprises modern demolition and brick rubble.	None		0.43 (avg.)
1102	11	Deposit	Colour : black tarmac. Compaction : dry, cemented. Composition: tarmac surface. Notes: tarmac layer.	Modern tarmac layer.	Anthropogenic.	Buried tarmac surface.	None		0.21 (avg.)
1103	11	Deposit	Colour: mottled grey brown and orange. Compaction: moist, loose. Composition: silty clay. Inclusions: frequent brick rubble, evenly distributed.	Redeposited natural/ made ground.	Anthropogenic.	Made ground layer that is cut by [1107] that contains the two parallel brick walls (1106). This layer may have formed part of the construction of the former post-medieval mill building.	Glass Bottle		0.46 (avg.)
1104	11	Deposit	Colour: mid orangey brown. Compaction: moist, malleable. Composition: silty clay.	Subsoil.	Anthropogenic.	Subsoil that has been covered by modern made ground layers.	None		0.47 (avg.)
1105	11	Deposit	Colour: dark bluish grey. Compaction: moist, firm. Composition: clayey shale.	Natural geology.	Natural.	Natural layer of thick, compacted greyish blue clay.			
1106	11	Masonry	Orientation: NE-SW. Form: foundation, superstructure of regular, linear wall. Materials: 2 courses observed of light orangey red normal bricks (L: 229.00 mm, W: 114.00 mm, H: 76.00 mm). Bonding: dry cemented light greyish white lime. Flush pointing. Finish and coursing: bricks are on bed - stretcher and header arrangement. Stretcher and Header coursing. Preservation state: good. Notes: brick with lime mortar taken from structure and bottle Cheltenham beer bottle found between the two walls.	Two parallel brick walls.		Two parallel brick walls that butt a brick floor at the SE end of Tr 11. Found in the extension of the trench. The two brick walls continue SW beyond the trench extension. Walls are likely related to the post medieval mill building that was located here previously, seen on historical mapping.			0.50
1107	11	Cut	Orientation: NE-SW. Shape in plan: regular, linear. Shape in profile: regular, deep. Break at top: sharp. Break at base: imperceptible. Sides: vertical, straight.	Construction cut for the two walls.	Anthropogenic.	Construction cut for the two parallel walls (1106) found in the SW extension of trench 11.			0.50
1201	12	Deposit	Colour: mid greyish brown. Compaction: dry, loose. Composition: sandy loam. Inclusions: 1) frequent modern rubbish, evenly distributed 2) moderate small sub-angular spheroidal flint gravel, evenly distributed. Notes: heavily disturbed by modern construction activity.	Topsoil.	Anthropogenic.	Topsoil that may have been deposited deliberately for a lawn/grass.	None		0.14 (avg.)
1202	12	Deposit	Colour: mid orangey brown. Compaction: dry, friable. Composition: sandy loam. Inclusions: 1) moderate modern rubbish, evenly distributed 2) frequent small sub-angular spheroidal flint gravel, evenly distributed.	Subsoil.	Anthropogenic.	Subsoil that may be a made ground levelling layer.	None		0.32 (avg.)

Context	Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation	Mode of formation	Discussion	Bulk finds	Samples	Vertical span (m)
1203	12	Deposit	Colour: mid yellowish brown. Compaction: moist, malleable. Composition: silty clay. Inclusions: occasional flecks to small sub-angular spheroidal chalk, evenly distributed.	Redeposited natural/ made ground	Anthropogenic.	Redeposited natural that has likely been used to level the ground surface and had buried a topsoil/organic layer (1204).	None		0.71 (avg.)
1204	12	Deposit	Colour: dark greyish black. Compaction: moist, malleable. Composition: buried organic material. Inclusions: occasional flecks of charcoal, evenly distributed.	Buried topsoil/ organic layer	Natural.	An organic layer that has been buried by a redeposited natural/made ground layer (1203). Possibly a former topsoil. Contained post-medieval finds and was sampled.	Pot, CBM, Other BM, Clay pipe	1201	0.57 (avg.)
1205	12	Deposit	Colour: mid greenish grey. Compaction: moist, firm. Composition: compact organic material. Notes: extends beyond the limit of excavation.	Natural geology	Natural.	Found at 1.74 m below the modern ground surface. A sondage was excavated through it, down to approximately 3 m below the ground surface, and the deposit continued.	None		

Appendix B: Finds assessment

Charlotte Britton

8.1 Introduction

- 8.1.1 This report presents an assessment of the finds recovered from an archaeological watching brief and evaluation at Mill Farm, Mill Lane, Brockworth, Gloucestershire. The work was carried out to support the demolition of existing buildings and the building of a residential care home and associated infrastructure at the Site (Orion Heritage Ltd 2024, 3). Excavations recovered c.6.7kg of artefactual material and 0.6g of shell. The artefacts included potential building materials (ceramic building material (hereafter CBM), slate and stone), carbon, clay tobacco pipe, glass and pottery.
- 8.1.2 Where chronologically diagnostic, the artefacts recovered dated to post-medieval and modern periods. The assessment includes a discussion of the findings in their regional and chronological context and recommendations for further work.

8.2 Methodology

- 8.2.1 The assessment was carried out on 23rd May 2025. The material was recorded and assessed in accordance with national guidelines (Archaeological Ceramic Buildings Materials Group 2002; Barclay et al. 2016; ClfA 2020; Higgins 2017; Historic England 2018) and in reference to the South West England Archaeological Research Framework (2025).
- 8.2.2 The material was examined visually and was quantified by count and weight, with artefact types, snail species, pottery wares and dates recorded.
- 8.2.3 CBM form classifications broadly follow those in McComish (2015).

8.3 Outline of the Assemblage

- 8.3.1 The finds assemblage dated to the post-medieval and modern periods, with the slate, stone and shell being chronologically undiagnostic (Table 3). An archive catalogue of the material was produced in a pro forma excel spreadsheet for inclusion in the Site archive.

Table 3. Material recovered by context, with object type, date range, count and weight.

Context	Material	Object type	Date range	Count	Weight (g)
0	CBM	Brick	post-medieval/modern	3	3507.2
1103	CBM	Brick	post-medieval/modern	1	2490.9
	Glass	Beer bottle	modern	1	626
1204	Carbon	Battery	post-medieval-modern	1	38.3

Context	Material	Object type	Date range	Count	Weight (g)
	Clay pipe	Stem	18th century+	1	2.9
			17th century+	1	3.6
	Pottery	Transfer-printed ware	19th-20th century	1	1.1
	Slate	Roof tile?	Unknown	1	15.7
	Stone	Sandstone	Unknown	2	30.9
1205	CBM	Undiagnostic	Unknown	1	19.2
	Clay Pipe	Stem	17th century+	1	8.4
	Shell	Terrestrial snails	Unknown	7	0.6
Total				21	6744.8

Shell

8.3.2 A total of seven fragments (0.6g) of shell were recovered from soil sample 1201 from buried organic material 1205, including solely terrestrial examples that were chronologically undiagnostic. Identifiable fragments derived from examples of the native Succineidae family being representative of damp habitats, with additional species also being present (Naggs et al. 2014). All likely represented modern intrusion.

Building Materials - General

8.3.3 An assemblage of eight fragments (6063.9g) of potential building materials was recovered including Ceramic Building Material (CBM), slate and stone. Some of the material was chronologically undiagnostic, although the entire assemblage likely dated to the late post-medieval to modern period.

CBM

8.3.4 A total of five fragments (6017.3g) of CBM were recovered representing three individual bricks as well as undiagnostic material. Three fragments, recovered in association with millstone 1 (context 0), were homogenous in style and size, measuring 106mm in breath, 63mm in height and representing two individual bricks. The fabric was oxidised, with a reduced core, displaying whitewashed surfaces. All fragments were slightly mis-shaped, had reduced areas on the external surfaces as well as gritty CBM fragments being adhered to multiple surfaces. The bricks dated to the post-medieval to modern period, possibly having been associated with a high temperature process and/or structure.

8.3.5 The remaining brick, recovered from redeposited natural 1103 was a larger example, measuring 118mm in breath and 72mm in height, had an oxidised fabric and was covered in mortar, indicating use. It also dated to the post-medieval to modern period.

8.3.6 The final fragment of CBM (19.2g) was recovered from soil sample 1201 from organic deposit 1205. It had an oxidised fabric however a form could not be identified due to its fragmentation. It was chronologically undiagnostic.

Slate and Stone

- 8.3.7 Two fragments (30.9g) of sandstone and one fragment (15.7g) of slate were recovered that may have represented roof tiles, although may have also been natural. The sandstone fragments measured between 6.5 and 10.5mm in thickness, each with two flat faces. The slate was dark grey, measuring 4.5mm in thickness.
- 8.3.8 Slate and sandstone have been used as roofing material throughout history and so the material was chronologically undiagnostic.

Clay Tobacco Pipe

- 8.3.9 Three fragments (14.9g) of clay pipe dating to the post-medieval period were recovered from black organic layer 1204 and soil sample 1201 from organic deposit 1205. All fragments had a fabric made from ball clay and when present, the burnishing was in average condition. The pipes were likely British in origin and probably produced within the local region, with at least 20 pipe makers known to have been located in Gloucestershire during the period (Oswald 1975, 170-171).
- 8.3.10 Although fragmentary, the stems were straight, with bore hole diameters measuring 4/64 inches and 8/64 inches, indicating the assemblage probably dated to between the 17th and 19th centuries (McMillan 2016, 69; Higgins 2017, 8-9). One example, recovered from organic deposit 1205, had a reduced bore, suggesting it had been used before being disposed of.

Pottery

- 8.3.11 A single fragment (1.1g) of pottery was recovered from black organic layer 1204 representing a transfer-printed vessel, although it was too fragmentary to suggest a form. A pattern could not be identified, however, the material dated to the 19th-20th century.

Glass

- 8.3.12 A single glass bottle (626g) was recovered from redeposited natural 1103 representing an almost complete beer bottle. It was brown and translucent, displaying a visible seam indicating that it had been machine-made. The remnants of a label was visible on the outside body reading 'Cheltenham & Hereford ales...The Brewery Cheltenham' around a tower. This indicated that the bottle and its contents were produced by Cheltenham Brewery between 1945-1958, c.5 miles from the Site excavated (Gloucestershire Pubs 2024).

Carbon

- 8.3.13 A single fragment (38.3g) of carbon was recovered from black organic layer 1204 representing the core of a battery. It measured 27mm in diameter suggesting that it derived from a large battery dating to the modern period.

8.4 Statement of Potential

- 8.4.1 The assemblage was associated with buildings, the storage and consumption of foodstuffs and leisure activities (smoking) during post-medieval and modern periods, with a battery also being present, and possible high temperature activities being represented (CBM). Snail shells also probably represented modern faunal intrusion.
- 8.4.2 The material was recovered from artificial and organic layers suggesting that it was entirely residual, likely being associated with the wider area, rather than the immediate Site and/or features excavated, suggesting that it had little archaeological value.

8.5 Conclusions and Recommendations

- 8.5.1 The finds recovered by the watching brief and evaluation at Mill Farm have demonstrated post-medieval and modern period activity around the Site, as well as suggesting that high temperature process may have also taken place. The material, however, was entirely residual. Further analysis of the material would therefore not helpfully contribute to our understanding of the Site, or research objectives or the agenda set out in the South West England Archaeological Framework (2024). No further work could be meaningfully undertaken on the material, and it may be discarded on completion of the project.
- 8.5.2 This report and associated data spreadsheet should be retained as part of the Site archive and integrated into any Site-wide grey literature or publication reporting.

8.6 References

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Appendix C: Archaeobotanical Assessment

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INTRODUCTION

This sample (see Table 4: Data table) was taken during an evaluation in advance of development by archaeologists from Cura Terrae.

One sample was presented for assessment. This was taken from a patch of black organic material dated as Post-Medieval.

This report will assess the potential of these archaeobotanical remains to provide useful information, their significance and make recommendations for further work if appropriate.

METHODOLOGY

Sampling and processing were carried out by Cura Terrae archaeologists. Flotation was carried out by flotation device with flot collected in a 250–300-micron mesh sieve and residue collected in a 1mm mesh sieve. The sample size was 40 litres.

The samples were assessed using the standard methodology outlined in the Historic England Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology (Campbell et al. 2011). Each flot was fully scanned under a stereomicroscope with magnification of 10-45x.

At assessment level the abundance of plant macro-remains is estimated unless the number of items less than ten). The diversity of plant taxon types is also estimated. Level of preservation of plant macro-remains is given as identifiable to family, genus or species. Faunal remains seen in the flots are noted in general terms with only abundance noted. This is not a zooarchaeological report but the presence of terrestrial, freshwater or marine mollusca has been commented on if present.

Identifications were made using uncharred reference material (author's own and the Northern European Seed Reference Collection at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) and reference manuals (such as Beijerinck 1947; Cappers et al. 2006 and 2023; Jacomet 2006). At assessment level full identifications are only made of significant plant macro-remains. Where given the nomenclature for the plant macro-remains follows Stace (Stace 2010). Scientific names are used once and English common names thereafter. English common names are used in the table for clarity.

Quantities were estimated in the following way: -

Codes for abundance, diversity and level of preservation as used in the tables.

Abundance

1 = 'Low' = <10

2='Moderate' = 10-100

3= 'Abundant' =>100

Diversity

1='Low'= <3 taxa types

2='Moderate' = 3 to 10 taxa types

3='High'= >10 taxa types

Preservation

1 = Identifiable to family

2 = Identifiable to genus

3 = Identifiable to species

At assessment level full identifications are only made of significant plant macro-remains. Where given the nomenclature for the plant macro-remains follows Stace (Stace 2010). Scientific names are given in the text and English common names used thereafter. Common names are used in the assessment results table for clarity.

OUTLINE OF THE ASSEMBLAGE

Table 4 Archaeobotanical Remains

Sam ple	Fill	Cu t	Feature	Proces sed Volum e (L)	Flot volu me (Litr es)	IDENTIFIABLE CHARCOAL	INDETERMINATE CHARCOAL FLECKS	MODERN/INTRUSIVE - Rootlets	DESICCATED - Seeds			DESICCATED -Wood	INORGANIC	FAUNA - Terrestrial mollusca	FAUNA - Earthworm cocoons	Potential for analysis - Charcoal?	Potential for analysis - General Macros?	Potential for Scientific Dating?	Comments
						abundance	abundance	abundance	abundance	diversity	preservation	abundance	abundance	abundance	abundance	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	
1201	12 04	No ne	Black organic material - Trench 12	40	0.07 5	2	3	3	1	1	2	2	2	3	2	N o	N o	N o	DES> Seed: violet (<i>Viola</i> sp.), INORGANIC> Clinker?

Evidence for bioturbation was observed during microscopic examination by the author. Modern rootlets, terrestrial mollusca and earthworm cocoons were present in this flot meaning that aeration of the soil and bioturbation is likely to have occurred. This affects preservation and stratigraphic integrity, so it is likely that the low numbers of desiccated seeds seen in the form of those of the ruderal plant violet (*Viola* sp.), are intrusive and not have any archaeological significance.

Frequent fragments of black inorganic material, likely to be clinker was present. Indeterminate charcoal flecks and identifiable fragments were also present.

No mineralised or waterlogged plant macro-remains were present.

STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

This sample contains charcoal, so charred plant remains survive at this site.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended no further work is carried out on this flot and that bulk soil samples are taken to recover charred plant remains if archaeological work moves on to excavation. The charcoal could be identified and if it is found to be of a short-lived species, sapwood or a twig it will be suitable for radiocarbon dating (Bayliss & Marshall 2022, 37) but these fragments came from a large sample so may be residual or intrusive.

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