

The Old Kennels Cirencester Park Gloucestershire

Programme of Archaeological Works



for:
The Bathurst Estate

CA Project: CR0498
CA Report: CR0498_1
OASIS ID: cotswold2-403041

November 2021



The Old Kennels Cirencester Park Gloucestershire

Programme of Archaeological Works

CA Project: CR0498
CA Report: CR0498_1
OASIS ID: cotswold2-403041

Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	11 November 2021	Jessica Cook and Monica Fombellida	Laurent Coleman	Internal review	–	Richard Yound

This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

Cirencester Building 11 Kemble Enterprise Park Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6BQ t. 01285 771 022	Milton Keynes Unit 8, The IO Centre Fingle Drive Stonebridge Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire MK13 0AT t. 01908 564 660	Andover Stanley House Walworth Road Andover Hampshire SP10 5LH t. 01264 347 630	Exeter Unit 1, Clyst Units Cofton Road Marsh Barton Exeter EX2 8QW t. 01392 573 970	Suffolk Unit 5, Plot 11 Maitland Road Lion Barn Industrial Estate Needham Market Suffolk IP6 8NZ t. 01449 900 120
e. enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk				

CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.....	2
SUMMARY	3
1. INTRODUCTION.....	4
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	5
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	6
4. METHODOLOGY.....	6
5. RESULTS (FIGS 2 - 4).....	7
6. THE FINDS	7
7. DISCUSSION.....	8
8. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	8
9. REFERENCES.....	8
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS.....	9
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS.....	9
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM	10

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

Fig. 2 Site plan showing observed groundworks and previous archaeological works (1:750)

Fig. 3 Photograph

Fig. 4 Photograph

SUMMARY

Project name:	The Old Kennels
Location:	Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire
NGR:	401380 201440
Type:	Programme of Archaeological Works
Date:	8-15 September 2020
Planning reference:	Cotswold District Council Planning Ref: 19/00853/FUL
OASIS ID:	cotswold2-403041
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with The Corinium Museum and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
Site Code:	CAOKE20

In September 2020, Cotswold Archaeology carried out a programme of archaeological works during groundworks associated with the change of use of land at The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park from horse paddocks, arena, and stables to form a new car park.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed. A halfpenny of late 17th or 18th-century date was recovered from the subsoil.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In September 2020, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out a programme of archaeological works at The Old Kennels, Cirencester, Gloucestershire (centred at NGR: 401380 201440; Fig. 1). This programme of works was undertaken for The Bathurst Estate.
- 1.2. Cotswold District Council (CDC) has granted planning permission for the change of use of land at Cirencester Park from horse paddocks, arena, and stables to a new car park of 250 spaces (CDC planning ref: 19/00853/FUL). Condition 3 of this planning permission requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with an approved WSI.
- 1.3. The scope of this watching brief was defined by Charles Parry, Archaeologist, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC), the former archaeological advisor to CDC. The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CA (2020a) and approved by Charles Parry.
- 1.4. The watching brief was also in line with *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

The site

- 1.5. The development site is approximately 1ha in extent and comprised a pasture field divided by temporary fencing. The site is bounded to the south-east by the A429, to the north-east by further agricultural land, and to the east and west by access trackways beyond which are the grounds to the Old Kennels and Cirencester College respectively. The site is broadly level and lies at approximately 131m AOD.
- 1.6. The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Forest Marble Formation – Mudstone of the Jurassic Period within no overlying superficial deposits (BGS 2018).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The background information was compiled by CA for the evaluation WSI (CA 2018a) and is summarised as follows: Although no designated archaeological remains were located within the site, it is located in an area of archaeological potential. In particular it lies adjacent to the projected alignment of a Roman road, the Fosse Way, on its final approach to the Roman town at Cirencester. The road margins close to the Roman town were utilised as cemeteries during the Roman period, with evidence for burials previously being identified 300m to the north-east within the current grounds of Cirencester Hospital (CA 2018).
- 2.2. Cartographic evidence indicates that the site formed part of Cirencester Park, and in particular part of the associated rifle range, until the compilation of the 1902 Ordnance Survey mapping when the current series of enclosed fields to the west of the Old Kennels was created. The site has remained unchanged since the early 20th century (CA 2018a).
- 2.3. An archaeological evaluation, following a geophysical survey, undertaken 200m south-west of the site identified evidence for Roman quarrying adjacent to the Fosse Way as well as a possible roadside ditch (CAT 2001). It also revealed evidence for a series of ditches of possible prehistoric origin (CAT 2001). Evaluation at the former football ground 125m to the south of the current site did not identify any archaeological features (CAT 1999).
- 2.4. An archaeological evaluation, comprising six trenches, was undertaken in support of the current planning application in October 2018 (CA 2018b). It identified at least two, and most probably three, probable Roman graves (Trenches 1 and 3) as well as four ditches, four pits and a wall (Trenches 3 and 5), concentrated in the central and southern areas of the site. While some features could be assigned to the Roman period, the majority of features remained undated.
- 2.5. An archaeological evaluation, undertaken 135m north-east of the current site, identified evidence of post-medieval quarrying throughout the site (CA 2020b).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. The general objectives of the programme of archaeological works were to:

- record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered
- assess the overall presence, survival and potential of structural and industrial remains
- assess the overall presence, survival, condition, and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains

3.2. The specific objectives of the programme of archaeological works were to

- record any evidence of past settlement or other land use
- recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past settlement that may be identified
- sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. The programme of archaeological works comprised the observation by a competent archaeologist of all intrusive groundworks associated with initial ground reduction, typically to a depth of 0.15m below current ground level (bcgl), forming part of a 'non-dig' mitigation strategy (CA 2020a) designed to preserve the previously identified archaeological remains *in situ* (Fig. 2). Construction for the car park (Area 1) was enabled by importing material to raise the ground levels by approx. 350mm. The perimeter levels, particularly the southern boundary where the Roman burials were previously identified, would also be raised with the generated topsoil to tie in with the raised car park levels.

4.2. A service trench (Area 2) was also identified to the north of the car park area and was subject to archaeological monitoring.

4.3. Records were maintained in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

4.4. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other*

Samples from Archaeological Sites. No deposits were identified that required sampling.

- 4.5. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.6. CA will make arrangements with the Corinium Museum for the deposition of the project archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020).
- 4.7. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2 - 4)

- 5.1. This section provides an overview of the results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B.
- 5.2. The natural geological substrate 202 was revealed at an average depth of 0.45m bpgl, in Area 2 (Fig. 4). The natural geological substrate was not exposed in Area 1 (Fig. 3). This was overlain by subsoil, 101, 201, averaging 0.25m in thickness, which was sealed by 0.2m of topsoil, 100, 200.
- 5.3. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed. A halfpenny of late 17th or 18th-century date was recovered from the subsoil.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1. Artefactual material of post-medieval date was recovered from a subsoil deposit and is quantified in Appendix B.

Copper alloy

- 6.2. A heavily worn copper alloy coin, Ra. 1 (4g), was retrieved from subsoil deposit 101. It features Britannia on the reverse and its size is consistent with identification

as a halfpenny of the late 17th or 18th centuries. The detail on the obverse is however too worn for the monarch to be identified.

7. DISCUSSION

- 7.1. The programme of archaeological works identified no archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks. The archaeological deposits identified during the archaeological evaluation were preserved *in situ* beneath subsoil deposits.

8. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 8.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Matthew Coman This report was written by Jessica Cook and Monica Fombellida. The finds report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The report illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The project archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O’Neil. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

9. REFERENCES

British Geological Survey 2018 *Geology of Britain Viewer*

<https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/geology-of-britain-viewer/> Accessed 22 August 2018

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2018a *The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an archaeological evaluation*

CA 2018b *The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation* CA typescript report **18504**

CA 2020a *The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme of Archaeological Works*

CA 2020b *The Old Kennels Visitor Centre, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation* CA typescript report **CR0385_1**

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Area	Context No.	Type	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer	topsoil	loose to friable dark grey brown silty clay with common small irregular limestone fragments and occasional inclusions of modern iron objects (not retained)			0.2	
1	101	Layer	subsoil	mixed soft mid brown grey and dark brown yellow silty clay with abundant small irregular limestone fragments			>0.05	LC17-C18
2	200	Layer	topsoil	loose to friable dark grey brown silty clay with common small irregular limestone fragments and occasional inclusions of modern iron objects (not retained)			0.25	
2	201	Layer	subsoil	mixed soft mid brown grey and dark brown yellow silty clay with abundant small irregular limestone fragments			0.2	
2	202	Layer	natural	limestone bedrock and dark brown grey silty clay				

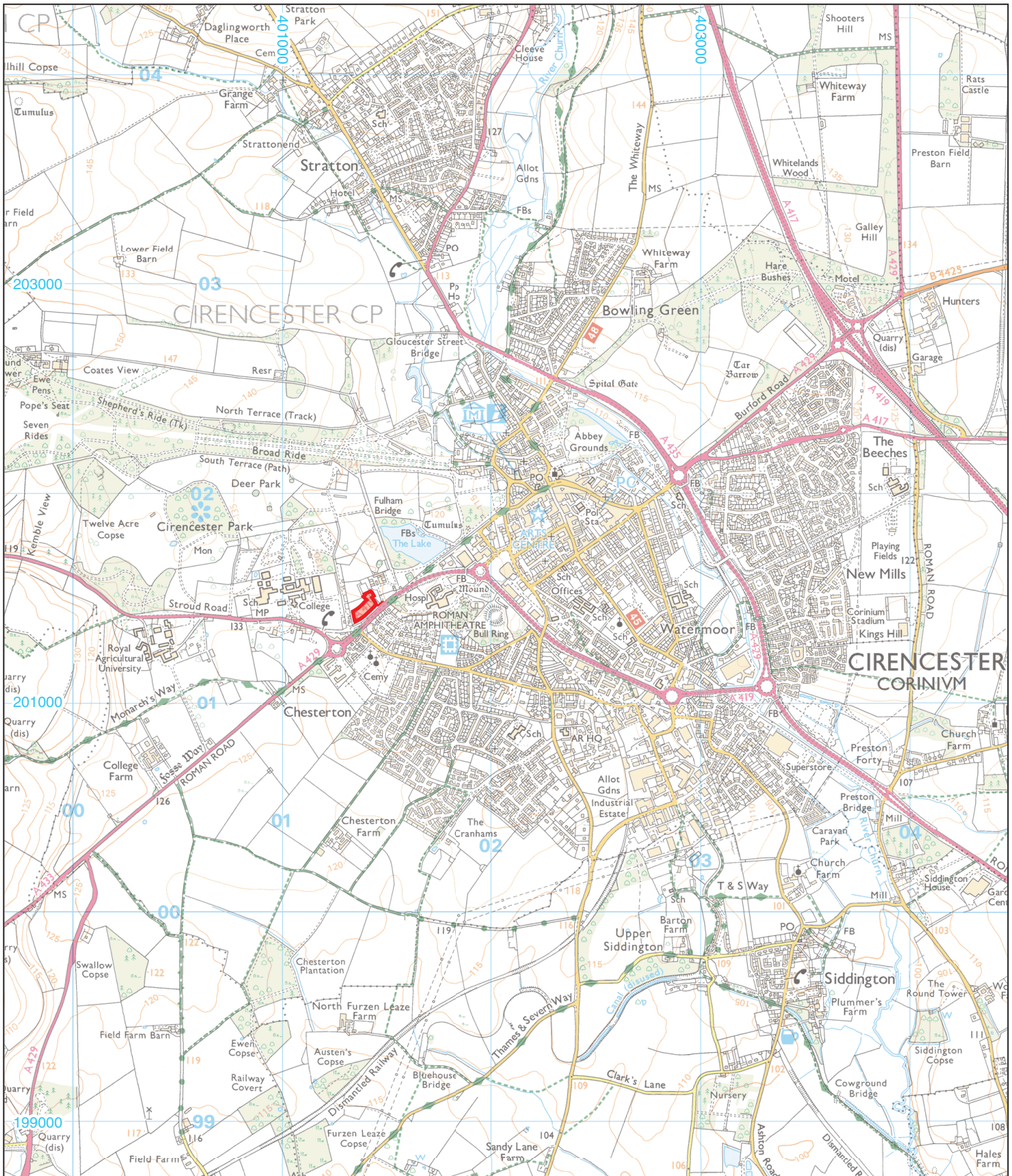
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Category	Description	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
101	Copper alloy, Ra. 1	Coin	1	4	LC17-C18

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire	
Short description	<p>In September 2020, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the change of use of land at The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park from horse paddocks, arena, and stables to form a new car park.</p> <p>No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed. A halfpenny of late 17th or 18th-century date was recovered from the subsoil.</p>	
Project dates	8-15 September 2020	
Project type	Programme of Archaeological Works	
Previous work	Field evaluation (CA 2018)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site location	The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire	
Study area (m ² /ha)	1ha	
Site co-ordinates	401380 201440	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project brief originator	N/A	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Matthew Coman	
MONUMENT TYPE		
	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content
Paper	The Corinium Museum	Context sheets, photo registers, report
Digital	Archaeology Data Service	Digital photos, report
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Cotswold Archaeology 2020 <i>The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire: Programme of Archaeological Work</i> CA typescript report CR0498_1		



N

Site boundary

0 1km

© Crown copyright and database rights 2020
Ordnance Survey 0100031673

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 573970
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
Suffolk 01449 900120
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	CR0498	FIGURE NO.	
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	10/03/2021		
APPROVED BY	JC	SCALE	@A4 1:25,000		1



- Site boundary
- Watching brief area (observed)
- Modern feature
- Drain
- Geotechnical trench
- Previous evaluation (CA 2020) (trench / feature)
- Previous evaluation (CA 2018) (trench / feature)



© Crown copyright and database rights 2020 Ordnance Survey 0100031673

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 573970
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
Suffolk 01449 900120
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
**The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park,
 Gloucestershire**

FIGURE TITLE
**Site plan showing observed
 groundworks and previous
 archaeological works**

DRAWN BY RW CHECKED BY DJB APPROVED BY JC	PROJECT NO. CR0498 DATE 09/11/2021 SCALE@A3 1:750	FIGURE NO. 2
----------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------



Area 1, looking north-east



Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 573970
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
Suffolk 01449 900120
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park,
Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Area 1: photograph

DRAWN BY RW PROJECT NO. CR0498
CHECKED BY DJB DATE 10/03/2021
APPROVED BY JC SCALE@A4 NA

FIGURE NO.

3



Area 2, looking north-west (0.4m scale)



Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 573970
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 Suffolk 01449 900120
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

The Old Kennels, Cirencester Park,
 Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Area 2: photograph

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	CR0498	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	10/03/2021	
APPROVED BY	JC	SCALE@A4	NA	4

Andover Office

Stanley House
Walworth Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

Cirencester Office

Building 11
Kemble Enterprise Park
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

Exeter Office

Unit 1, Clyst Units
Cofton Road
Marsh Barton
Exeter
EX2 8QW

t: 01392 573970

Milton Keynes Office

Unit 8 - The IO Centre
Fingle Drive, Stonebridge
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK13 0AT

t: 01908 564660

Suffolk Office

Unit 5, Plot 11, Maitland Road
Lion Barn Industrial Estate
Needham Market
Suffolk
IP6 8NZ

t: 01449 900120

e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

