

**The former Orchard Public House
Quedgeley
Gloucester**

Archaeological Evaluation

for
Chibroco Limited


CA Project: 4040
CA Report: 12357

November 2012

The former Orchard Public House Quedgeley Gloucester

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CA Project: 4040
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SUMMARY

Project Name: The former Orchard Public House
Location: Quedgeley, Gloucester
NGR: ST 8117 1507
Type: Evaluation
Date: 19 November 2012
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Gloucester City Art Gallery and Museum
Accession Number: GLRCM : 2012.22
Site Code: OPQ 12

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2012 at the former Orchard Public House, Quedgeley, Gloucester. Two trenches were excavated.

A ditch and a posthole/pit, both undated, were identified, along with foundations and services relating to the former Orchard Public House.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In November 2012 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Chibroco Limited at land at the former Orchard Public House, Quedgeley, Gloucester (centred on NGR: ST 8117 1507; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to accompany a planning application for the development of a new public house in the location of the former Orchard Public House.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a *brief* for an archaeological evaluation (GCC 2012) prepared by Andrew Armstrong, City Archaeologist, Gloucester City Council (GCC), and with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2012) and approved by Andrew Armstrong. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2008), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006). It was monitored by Andrew Armstrong, including a site visit on 19 November 2012.

The site

- 1.3 The proposed development area encloses an area of approximately 0.25ha, and comprises former car parking and garden areas to the rear of the now demolished Orchard public house, as well as the footprint of the former building, now laid to grass. It is bordered by Bristol Road to the west and by the Olympus Business Park on all other sides (Fig. 2). The site is fairly level and lies at approximately 15m AOD.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Blue Lias and Charmouth Mudstone (Undifferentiated) of the Jurassic and Triassic Periods. The superficial deposits are mapped as Cheltenham Sand and Gravel of the Quaternary Period (BGS 2012). A mixed natural of a yellow clayey sand and bluey green clayey sand was observed within the trenches.

Archaeological background

- 1.5 Archaeological interest in the site arises from its proximity to a possible Roman villa identified c. 200m to the south at Olympus Business Park (Sermon 1996 & 1997)

and its situation close to, or on, the line of the Roman road from Sea Mills (*Abonae*) to Gloucester (*Glevum*) (Margary 1973, 141). Finds at the business park site were of 1st to 4th-century date and included walls, a hypocaust, ditches, pits, a possible kiln or hearth and a stone coffin containing a female burial with six jet pins between her feet. An archaeological evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology prior to the development of a hotel immediately to the south-east of the former public house revealed a single 19th-century ditch (CA 2004).

Archaeological objectives

- 1.6 The objectives of the evaluation are to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality. In accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2008), the evaluation was designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable Gloucester City Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

Methodology

- 1.7 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of three Trenches. Trench 1 was 25m in length; Trench 3, 5m and Trench 2, 30m in length. All trenches were 1.6m in width. Their locations are shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). These locations were altered from those originally proposed to avoid damage to buried services. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual* (2012).
- 1.8 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).

- 1.9 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* (2003), no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation* (1995).
- 1.10 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. The archive will be deposited with Gloucester City Art Gallery and Museum under accession number GLRCM : 2012.22. The artefacts will not be retained. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts appear in Appendix A. Details of the relative heights of the principal deposits and features expressed as metres Above Ordnance Datum (m AOD) appear in Appendix B.
- 2.2 A ditch and a posthole/pit, both undated, were identified in Trenches 1 and 3 respectively. Trench 2 was devoid of any archaeological deposits or features. However, foundations and services relating to the former Orchard Public House were identified. These foundations and services cut the natural substrate 202 which was observed at approximately 0.47m below present ground level (bpgl), overlain by demolition deposit 201, and topsoil 200.

Trench 1 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 2.3 A steep-sided, flat-bottomed east-west aligned ditch, 105, cut the natural substrate 106, and contained a single fill, 104, from which fragments of animal bone were recovered. This was overlain by 0.32m of make-up, 102, which was in turn sealed by a gravel hardcore, 101, for Tarmac 100.

Trench 3 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 2.4 A shallow circular posthole/pit, 304, cut the natural substrate 305, and contained a single fill, 303, from which no finds were recovered. This was overlain by 0.23m of gravel hardcore, 301, for Tarmac 300.

The finds

- 2.5 The body portion of a right cattle (*Bos taurus*) mandible (181g), from a juvenile animal, was recovered from context 104. The bone was fragmented but well-preserved. No cut marks or pathologies were observed.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 A ditch and a posthole/pit, both undated, were identified during the evaluation. These lie at a depth of 0.47m to 0.53m below the modern hardcore make-up for the former car park, and thus are likely to have been truncated during the creation of the car park associated with the former public house. The construction of the former public house itself will have caused more severe truncation to any potential archaeological remains in that area, and the impact of the foundations is clear on Figure 2. Given the undated nature of the ditch and pit/posthole their importance cannot be fully assessed at this juncture, although an association with Roman activity noted in the vicinity cannot be ruled out.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Sian Reynish, assisted by Hazel O'Neil. The report was written by Sian Reynish. The illustrations were prepared by Peter Moore. The archive has been compiled by Sian Reynish, and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Simon Cox.



5. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2012 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 22 November 2012
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2012 *The former Orchard Public House, Quedgeley, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*
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- Margary, I. 1973 *Roman roads in Britain*. London, John Baker
- Sermon, R. 1996 *Gloucester Archaeology Unit Annual Report 1995 Glevensis* **29**, 12-23
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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Tarmac		>25	>1.6	0.11
1	101	Layer		hardcore	mid yellow sandy gravel	>25	>1.6	0.12
1	102	Layer		make-up layer	dark bluey grey sandy silt with modern brick, concrete and gravel inclusions only visible in the southern end	>6	>1.6	0.32
1	103	Layer		natural substrate	mid bluey green clayey sand visible towards the northern end	>20	>1.6	0.5
1	104	Fill	105	fill of ditch	dark bluey grey clayey sand	>1.6	0.66	0.45
1	105	Cut		ditch	steep sided ditch on an E-W orientation	>1.6	0.66	0.45
1	106	Layer		natural substrate	mid yellow clayey sand with patches or bluey grey sandy clay	>25	>1.6	>0.2

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)
2	200	Layer		topsoil	mid brown sandy silt	>30	>1.6	0.15
2	201	Layer		demolition deposit	dark greyish/black sandy silt with modern brick, concrete, metal and plastic inclusions	>30	>1.6	0.32
2	202	Layer		natural substrate	mid yellow clayey sand	>30	>1.6	>0.09

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)
3	300	Layer		Tarmac		>5	>1.6	0.14
3	301	Layer		hardcore	mid yellow sandy gravel	>5	>1.6	0.23
3	302	Layer		natural substrate	mid bluey green clayey sand visible in the western end	>1.25	>1.6	0.45
3	303	Fill	304	fill of posthole/pit	dark bluey grey clayey sand		0.39	0.1
3	304	Cut		posthole/pit	small and circular with fairly flat base		0.39	0.1
3	305	Layer		natural substrate	mid yellow clayey sand with patches or bluey grey sandy clay	>5	>1.6	>0.07

APPENDIX B: LEVELS OF PRINCIPAL DEPOSITS AND STRUCTURES

Levels are expressed as metres below current ground level and as metres Above Ordnance Datum (AOD), calculated using a Leica GPS.

	Trench 1	Trench 2	Trench 3
Current ground level	0.00m (17.58m)	0.00m (17.41m)	0.00m (17.49m)
Top of archaeology	0.53m (17.05m)		0.47m (17.02m)
Limit of excavation	0.73m (16.85m)	0.55m (16.41m)	0.47m (17.02m)

Upper figures are depth below modern ground level; lower figures in parentheses are metres AOD.

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	The former Orchard Public House, Quedgeley, Gloucester	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2012 at the former Orchard Public House, Quedgeley, Gloucester. Two trenches were excavated.</p> <p>A ditch and a posthole/pit, both undated, were identified, along with foundations and services relating to the former Orchard Public House.</p>	
Project dates	19 November 2012	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Field evaluation (CA 2004)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	The former Orchard Public House, Quedgeley, Gloucester	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.25ha	
Site co-ordinates	ST 8117 1507	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Gloucester City Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Simon Cox	
Project Supervisor	Sian Reynish	
MONUMENT TYPE		
None		
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
None		
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content
Physical	N/A	None
Paper	Gloucester City Art Gallery and Museum GLRCM : 2012.22	Trench sheets, context sheets, drawn sections, photographic registers, black and white contact prints and negatives
Digital	Gloucester City Art Gallery and Museum GLRCM : 2012.22	Digital plan, digital photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2012 <i>The former Orchard Public House, Quedgeley, Gloucester: Archaeological Evaluation</i>. CA typescript report 12357</p>		



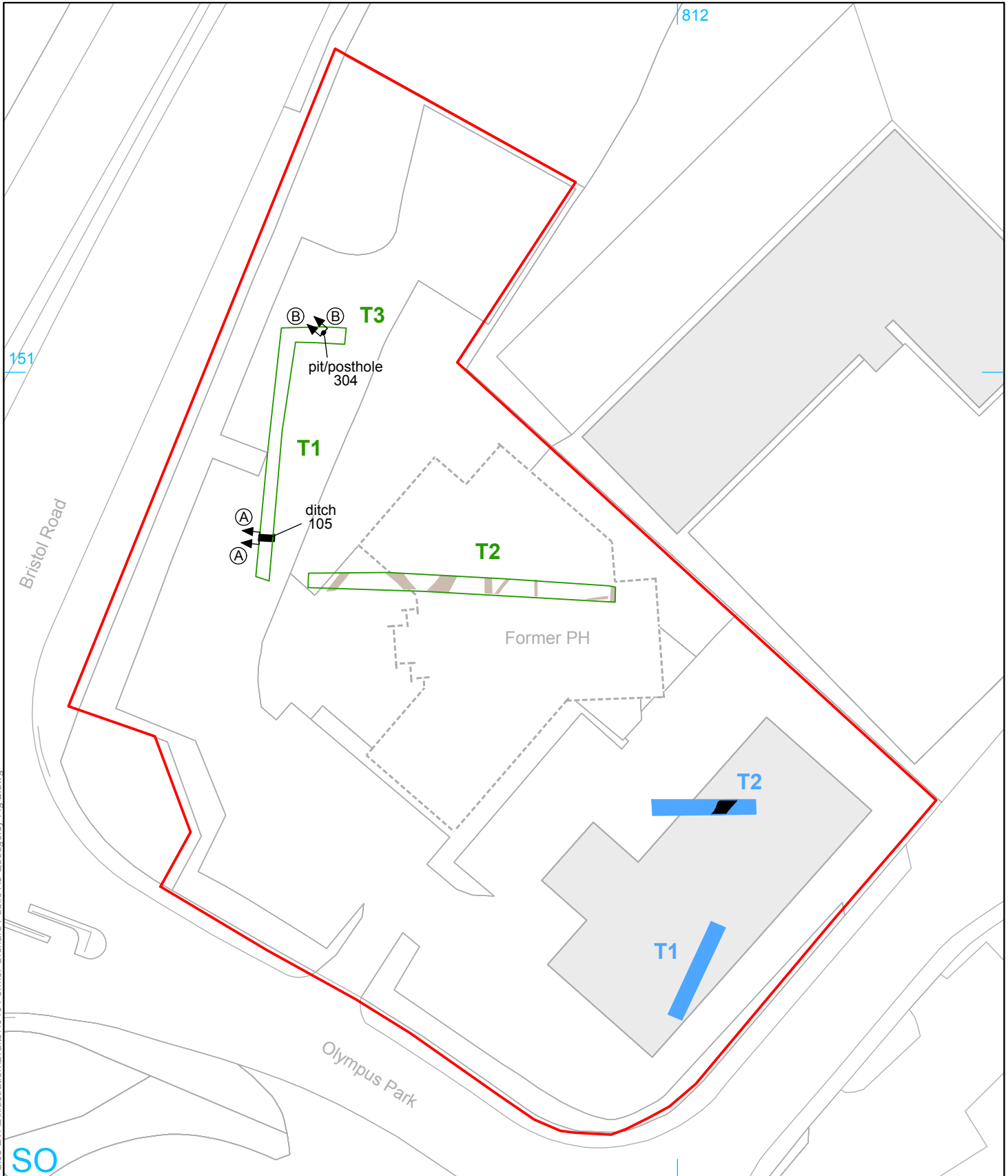
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PROJECT TITLE
 The former Orchard Public House
 Quedgeley, Gloucester

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

PROJECT NO.	4040	DATE	28-11-2012	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	LG	REVISION	00	1
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	

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-  site
-  evaluation trench
-  archaeological feature
-  modern
-  previous evaluation trench showing archaeological feature



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PROJECT TITLE
 The former Orchard Public House
 Quedgeley, Gloucester

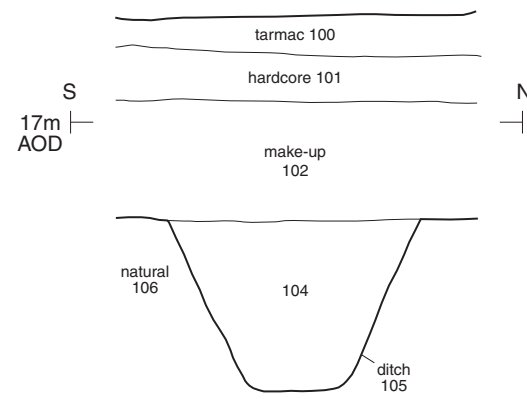
FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan, showing
 archaeological features

PROJECT NO.	4040	DATE	28-11-2012	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	LG	REVISION	00	2
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A4	1:500	



P:\4040 The Orchard Public House Olympus Park Quedgeley Glos EVAL\Illustration\Drafts\4040 Former Orchard Public Hs Quedgeley Fig 2.dwg

Trench 1; section AA



Trench 1; view of ditch 105, looing north-west. (Scale 1m)



Trench 3; view of pit/posthole 304, looking north-west. (Scale 0.3m)

Trench 3; section BB

