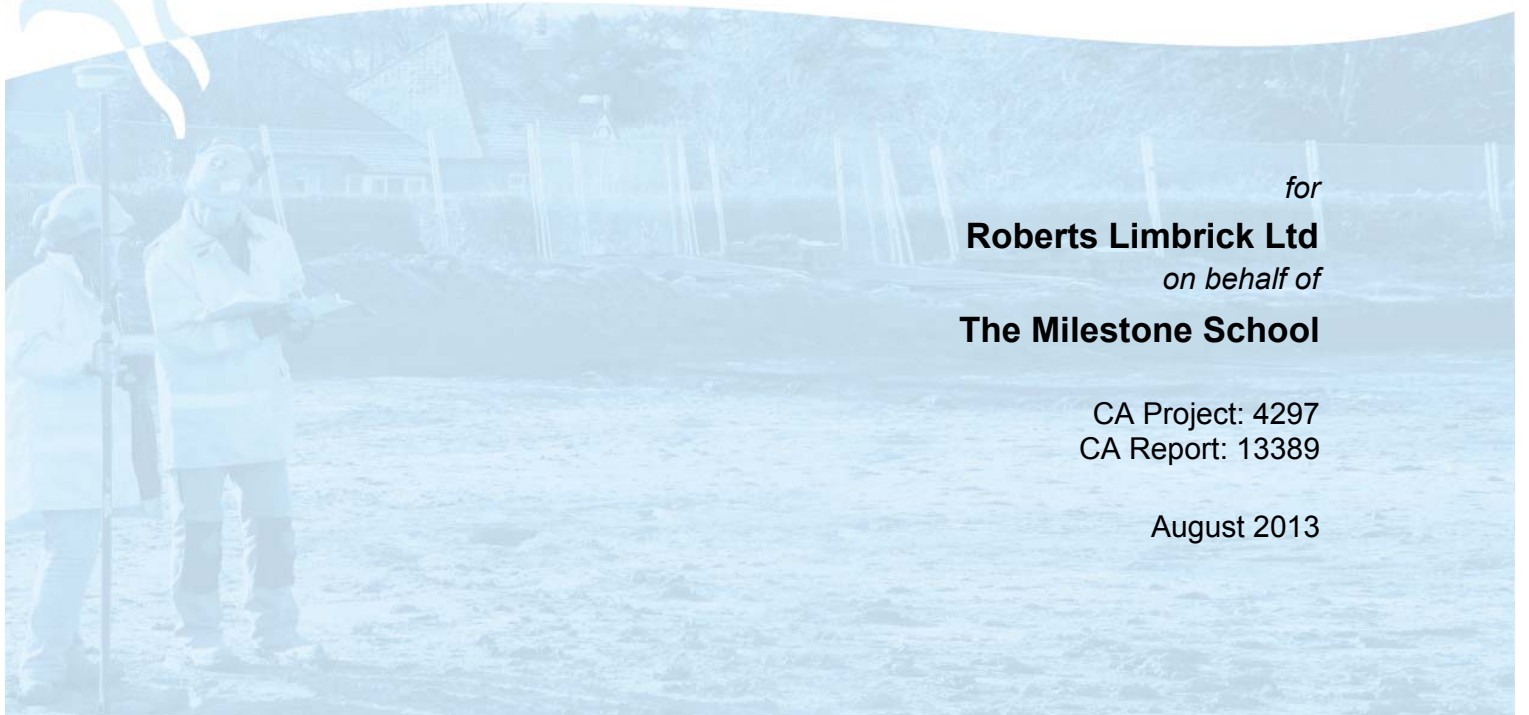




**Milestone School
Longford Lane
Gloucester**

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
Roberts Limbrick Ltd
on behalf of
The Milestone School


CA Project: 4297
CA Report: 13389

August 2013

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Longford Lane
Gloucester**

Archaeological Watching Brief

CA Project: 4297
CA Report: 13389

prepared by	Chris Ellis, Senior Project Officer
date	30 July 2013
checked by	Laurent Coleman, Project Manager
date	6 August 2013
approved by	Simon Cox, Head of Fieldwork
signed	
date	6 August 2013
issue	01

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

Fig. 2 Area of observed groundworks, showing observed features (1:1250 & 1:100)



SUMMARY

Project Name: Milestone School
Location: Longford Lane, Gloucester
NGR: SO 8463 2021
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 6 -7 June 2013
Planning Reference: 13/00087/FUL
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Gloucester City Museum and Archive
Accession Number: GLRCM: 2013.12
Site Code: CEM13

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with a classroom extension at Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester.

A palaeochannel was identified but no features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In June 2013 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Roberts Limbrick Limited on behalf of The Milestone School on the site (centred on NGR: SO 8463 2021; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition (no. 3) attached to a planning consent for a single storey extension to an existing classroom (Gloucester City Council Planning ref: 13/00087/FUL). The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the development.

1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2013) and approved by Andrew Armstrong, City Archaeologist, Gloucester City Council. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA 2009), the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Gloucestershire*, the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991), and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006).

The site

1.3 The groundworks area was approximately 60m²; the proposed development comprised a glazed canopy within an open space within existing school buildings. The site lies at approximately 15m AOD and is generally flat.

1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Charmouth Mudstone Formation of the Jurassic period (BGS 2013).

Archaeological background

1.5 The site lies between the Horsbere Brook and Wotton Brook in an area of archaeological potential. Archaeological sites located in the vicinity of the Horsbere Brook include: Well's Bridge (c. 2km to the east of the site) where evidence for a Roman building and associated ditches was identified during the construction of the A40 Barnwood Bypass (Rawes 1977). Hucclecote Villa (SM GCC 188; c. 4km to the south-east of the site) where later prehistoric and Roman occupation activity has been identified. Gloucester Business Park Link Road (c. 5km to the south-east of the site) where Bronze Age and Roman funerary activity, and later prehistoric and Roman settlement were identified.



- 1.6 A Roman farmstead at Brockworth and a Roman Villa at Great Witcombe (see Thomas 2003, Fig 1) have also been identified in the vicinity of the brook.

Archaeological objectives

- 1.7 The objectives of the archaeological works were:
- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;
 - at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

Methodology

- 1.8 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2013). An archaeologist was present during all intrusive groundworks (Fig. 2). These comprised an area of c. 60m² of ground reduction (to a depth of c. 0.30m) for the floor slab of the classroom extension and the foundation trenches (0.6m in width and up to 1.0m in depth) for the wall foundations of the classroom extension.
- 1.9 Written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.10 The archive from the evaluation is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the site archive will be deposited with Gloucester City Museum and Archive under accession number reference no. GLRCM: 2013.12. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIG 2)

- 2.1 The natural substrate, 108 and 103, was identified at a depth of 0.46m and comprised a sand deposit overlain by limestone gravel. These deposits were cut by palaeochannel cuts 104/109/113.



- 2.2 The palaeochannel appeared to be orientated broadly east/west and the eastern part of the palaeochannel was filled by 107 (organic gleyed clay containing degraded waterlogged plant remains), 106, 105, 102, 110 (alluvial sandy clay and sand deposits).
- 2.3 The upper palaeochannel fill, 110, was overlain by 0.46m of subsoil, 101, and topsoil, 100. Modern disturbance was identified in the north-western part of the trench.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The natural substrate was cut by a palaeochannel of unknown date. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Chris Ellis who also compiled this report. The illustrations were prepared by Peter Moore. The archive has been compiled by Chris Ellis, and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman

5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2013 <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>
accessed 12 July 2013

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 *Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*



Rawes, B. 1977 'A Roman Site at Wells' Bridge, Barnwood' *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*, **95**, 24-39

Thomas, A et al (2003) *Later Prehistoric and Romano-British Burial and Settlement at Hucclecote, Gloucestershire*. Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Reports **2**.



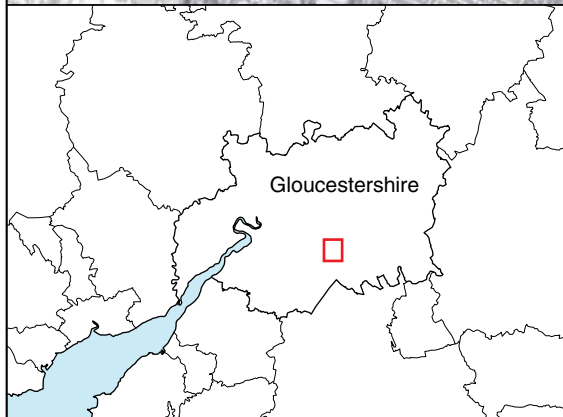
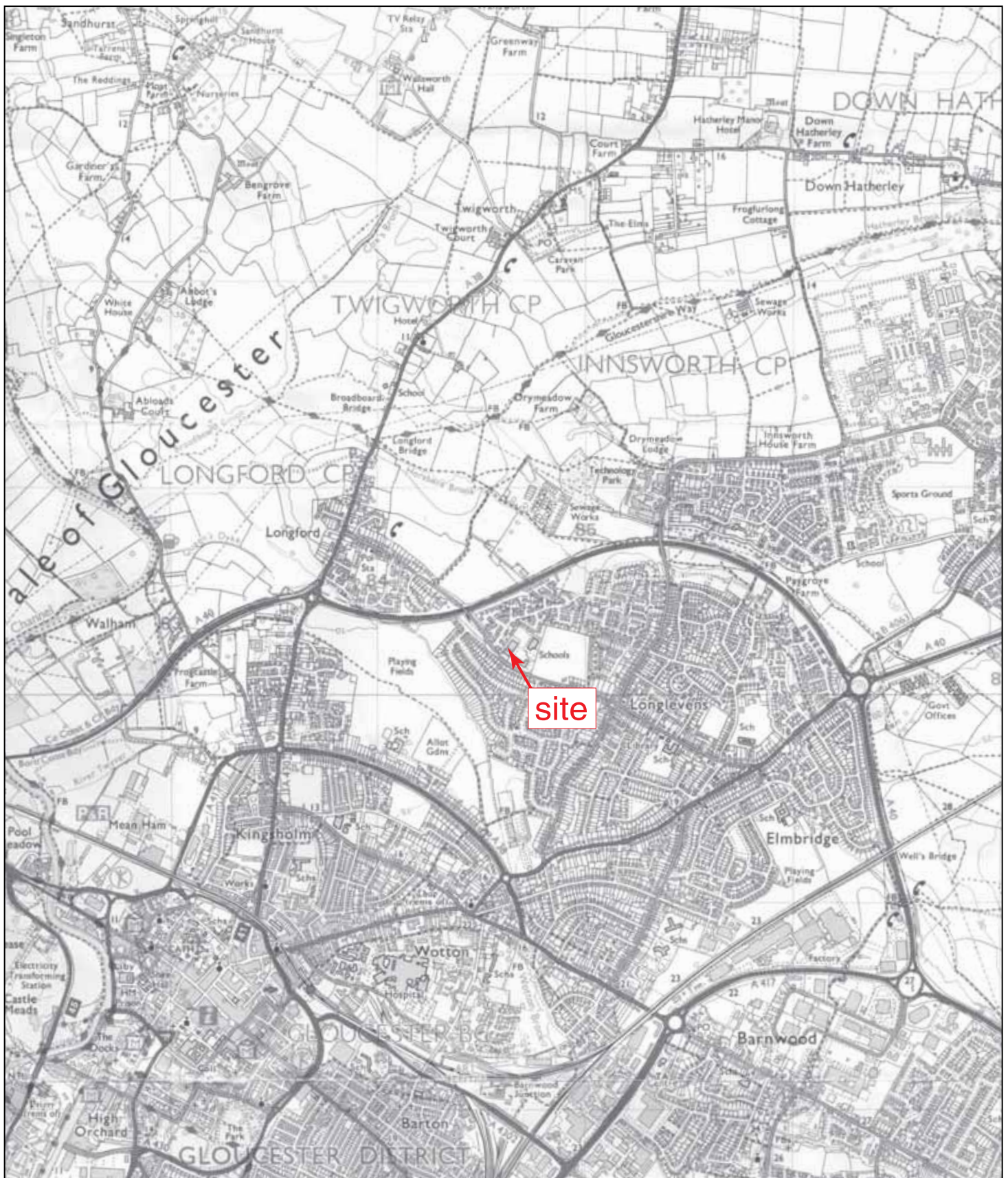
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		topsoil	Light greyish-brown sandy silt	11	3.5	0.3	
1	101	Layer		subsoil	Light greyish-brown sandy silt, lighter than 100, above 110	11	3.5	0.16	
1	102	Fill	109	channel fill	Latest fill of palaeochannel, below 101, above 106. Strongly coloured pale yellowish-brown clayey sand	>0.6	2.9	0.96	
1	103	Layer		gravel	Natural limestone gravel – above 108, cut by 104, 109 and modern disturbance. Possible fill of large palaeochannel.	11	3.5	>0.6	
1	104	Cut		channel	NE/SW aligned channel, cuts 103, possibly same as 109, filled with 102 and 105,	>0.6	>1.0	1.0	
1	105	Fill	104	channel fill	Strongly coloured pale orange/brown medium sand, below 102.	>0.6	1.0	0.34	
1	106	Fill	109	channel fill	Very pale blue gleyed medium sand, above 107, below 102.	>0.6	>1.1	0.48	
1	107	Fill	109	channel fill	Very dark bluish-grey gleyed organic clay with common degraded, waterlogged plant remains.	>0.6	>0.7	>0.05	
1	108	Layer		sand	Mid-reddish brown medium sand. Possible fill of large palaeochannel. Below 103	>0.6	>1.1	>0.2	
1	109	Cut		channel	NE/SW aligned channel, cuts 103, filled with 102, 104, 107. Possibly the same as 104.	>0.6	>1.1?	0.92	
1	110	Layer		alluvium	Light yellowish brown fine sandy silt with limestone lumps and charcoal. Compacted. Above 102, below 101.	>3.0	>0.6	0.64	
1	111	Layer		Make-up	Fine mid yellowish-brown sandy silty clay with charcoal, modern stone and limestone fragments.	>2.8	>0.6	0.24	
1	112	Fill	113	channel fill	Light yellowish-brown sandy silty clay, below 111.	>0.6	>1.1?	0.32	-
1	113	Cut		channel	NE/SW aligned palaeochannel, cuts 103.				-



APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester	
Short description	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with a classroom extension at Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester.</p> <p>A palaeochannel was identified but no features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.</p>	
Project dates	6 – 7 June 2013	
Project type	Watching brief	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Milestone School, Longford Road, Gloucester	
Study area (M ² /ha)	c. 60m ²	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SO 8463 2021	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Chris Ellis	
MONUMENT TYPE		
	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery/ Accession no. GLRCM: 2013.12	Content (documentation, site drawing)
Physical		None
Paper		Trench Record, Photo Register, Drawing Register, A3 site drawings, WSI
Digital		Survey data, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 <i>Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> . Typescript Report no. 13389		



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PROJECT TITLE

Milestone School, Longford Lane
Gloucester

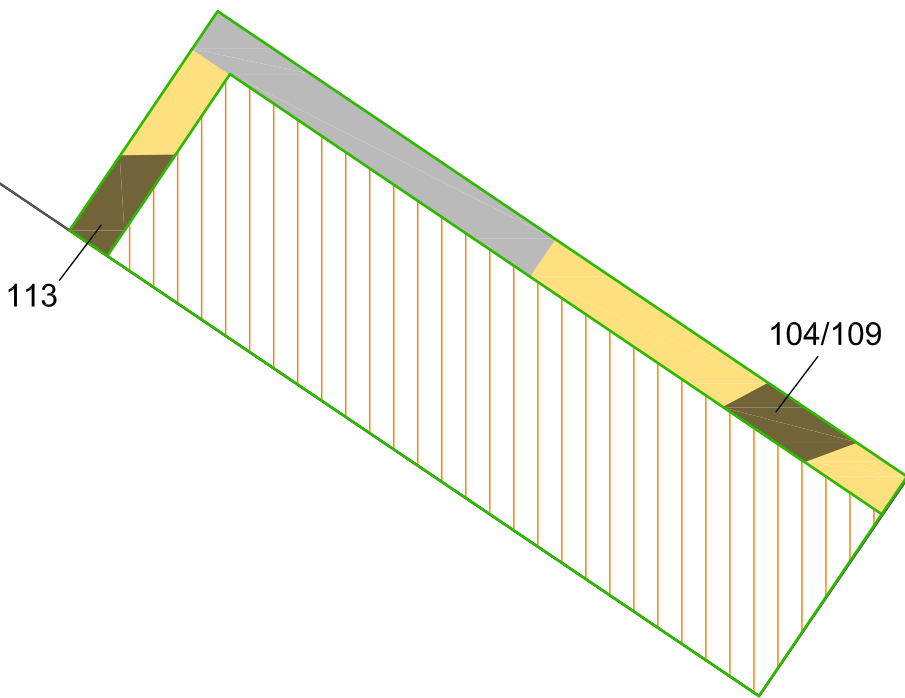
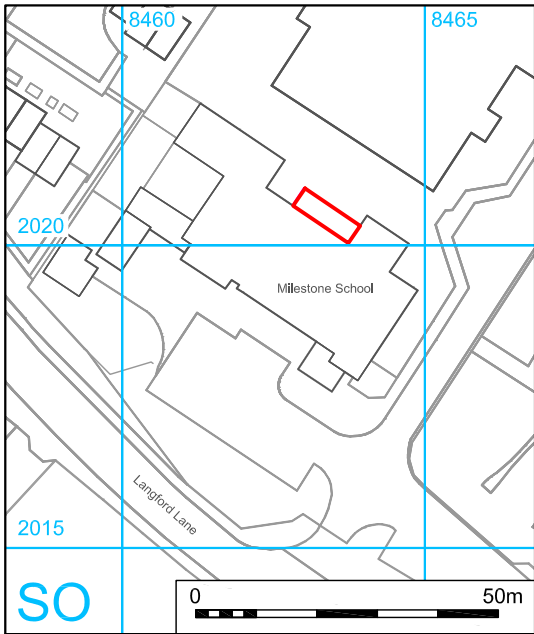
FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

PROJECT NO. 4297 DATE 13-6-2012
DRAWN BY PJM REVISION 00
APPROVED BY PJM SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1



- ▭ site
- ▭ observed groundworks
- palaeochannel
- modern disturbance
- natural substrate
- ▨▨▨▨ ground reduction to 0.3 bpgl



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PROJECT TITLE
 Milestone School, Longford Lane
 Gloucester

FIGURE TITLE
 Area of observed groundworks,
 showing observed features

PROJECT NO.	4297	DATE	05-07-2013	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	JB	REVISION	00	2
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A4	1:1250 & 1:100	

P:\4297 Classroom Extension Milestone School Gloucester Glos\WB\Illustration\Drafts\4297 Milestone School, Longford Lane, Glos Fig 2.dwg