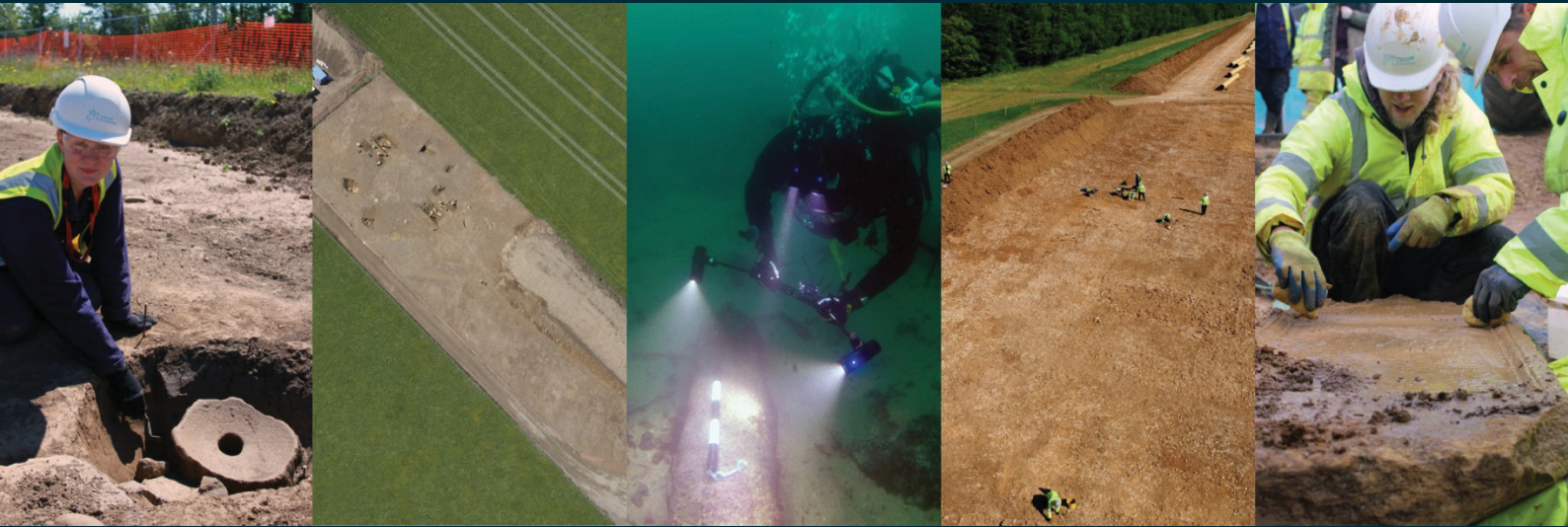


**Kingsholm Primary School
Guinea Street, Gloucester
Gloucestershire**

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
ISG Construction Ltd

CA Project: 5160
CA Report: 15188

April 2015



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Guinea Street, Gloucester
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Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	13 April 2015	Jonathan Orellana	Cliff Bateman	Internal review		Simon Cox

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Kingsholm Primary School
Location:	Guinea Street, Gloucester, Gloucestershire
NGR:	SO 8361 1917
Type:	Watching Brief
Date:	1 December 2014-7 April 2015
Planning Reference:	Gloucestershire County Council 14/0063/GLR3MJ: condition 6
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery
Site Code:	KPS 14

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with refurbishment and extensions at Kingsholm Primary School, Guinea Street, Gloucester.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during the groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between December 2014 and April 2015 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for ISG Construction Ltd at Kingsholm Primary School, Guinea Street, Gloucester (centred on NGR: SO 8361 1917; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to planning consent for refurbishment and extensions to the existing primary school (Gloucestershire County Council Planning ref: 14/0063/GLR3MJ; Condition 6).
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2014a) and approved by Charles Parry, Archaeologist, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC). The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014), the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Gloucestershire* (GCC 1996), 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 proposed development area comprises the grounds of Kingsholm Primary School. It is bound to the north by a recreation ground and to south, east and west by residential properties. The site lies at approximately 12m AOD and is broadly level.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Blue Lias and Charmouth Mudstone Formations of the Jurassic and Triassic Periods. No superficial deposits are recorded (BGS 2014). The natural substrate was not exposed in any of the observed groundworks.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site is located in the vicinity of Kingsholm Roman Fortress. Following the abandonment of the Fortress in the late 1st century AD, the Kingsholm area was utilised as part of the cemetery associated with the newly founded Roman civilian settlement at Gloucester. The current site is located within, or close to, the

conjectural boundaries of this cemetery, and there have been a number of burials recorded in the immediate vicinity, including antiquarian sources during historic gravel extraction, two inhumations associated with early Roman pottery during construction of Bijou Court in 1969 (Gloucester City Historic Environment Record (HER) 109), 86 Kingsholm Road (an inhumation and possible metal surface; HER No. 1457), 82 Kingsholm Road (9 inhumations and 1st-century pits; HER No. 787), and 46-50 Denmark Road (an inhumation and other bones; HER No. 1634). Previous archaeological works immediately north of the current site identified a series of possible Roman barrack foundation trenches (HER 145).

- 2.2 Following the Roman period the cemetery fell out of the use, and the site appears to have reverted to agricultural use. A number of medieval features were identified to the south of Bijou Court in 1997 (HER No. 1051) and a watching brief along Sandhurst Road, also in 1997, identified a large curving ditch that may date to the Civil War (HER No. 991). Gravel extraction is recorded from the 18th century in the immediate vicinity. Recent geophysical survey and subsequent evaluation trenching within the nearby Civil Service Playing Field identified large post-medieval and modern gravel extraction pits extending across that site from which quantities of residual Roman pottery were recovered (CA 2014b). Only in the 19th century, with the expansion of Gloucester, was the current site subsumed by development.
- 2.3 Cartographic records indicate that the proposed development area was an Iron Foundry from at least 1884 through to the mid 20th century, after which the current school was constructed.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 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

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2014a). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising ground reduction, to a maximum depth of 0.9m below present ground level, for two school extensions (Trenches 1 and 3) and the excavation of a single service trench (Trench 2; see Fig. 2 for locations and extent).
- 4.2 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 The archive from the watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. It will be deposited with Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery. 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.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)

- 5.1 The natural geological substrate was not revealed in any of the observed groundworks. The earliest deposit encountered, extending beyond the formation levels within each of three observed areas, comprised dumps of mixed clay containing frequent modern ceramic building material and modern pottery inclusions, none of which was retained. This was typically overlain by gravel levelling layers for the existing tarmacadam surface (Fig. 3).
- 5.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during the groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the application area (see archaeological background above) the watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the areas of observed groundworks.

- 6.2 The modern make up deposits encountered strongly suggest that the existing ground level throughout the development area had either been substantially raised or truncated, most probably during construction/demolition of the former iron foundry and/or during the subsequent construction of the extant school.

7. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jonathan Orellana. The report was written by Jonathan Orellana. The illustrations were prepared by Leo Heatley. The archive has been compiled by Jonathan Orellana, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

8. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2014 Geology of Britain Viewer http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 20 November 2014

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014a *Kingsholm Primary School, Guinea Street, Gloucester, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

CA 2014b *Civil Service Playing Field, Denmark Road, Gloucester: Archaeological Evaluation*. CA typescript report **13723**



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer	tarmac surface	firm dark black	23.3	16.7	0.09	modern
1	101	Layer	tarmac bedding	light greyish yellow gravel	23.3	16.7	0.2	modern
1	102	Layer	make up ground	dark greyish black silty clay with modern pot and CBM	23.3	16.7	0.4	
1	103	Layer	make up ground	light brownish grey silty clay with frequent charcoal and modern CBM	23.3	16.7	>0.21	
2	200	Layer	tarmac surface	firm dark black		0.7	0.08	modern
2	201	Layer	tarmac bedding	light greyish yellow gravel		0.7	0.4	modern
2	202	Layer	make up ground	dark greyish black silty clay with modern pot and CBM		0.7	0.35	
2	203	Layer	make up ground	mid greyish grey silty clay with modern CBM		0.7	>0.22	
3	300	Layer	tarmac surface	firm dark black	5.2	3.5	0.25	modern
3	301	Layer	garden soil	dark greyish brown silty clay	5.2	3.5	0.12	modern
3	302	Layer	make up ground	Dark greyish black sandy clay with frequent modern CBM	5.2	3.5	>0.32	

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Kingsholm Primary School	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the refurbishment and extensions at the Kingsholm Primary School, Gloucester. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.	
Project dates	1 December 2014 – 7 April 2015	
Project type	Archaeological Watching Brief	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Kingsholm Primary School, Guinea Street, Gloucester, Gloucestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)		
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SO 8361 1917	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	None	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Cliff Bateman	
Project Supervisor	Jonathan Orellana	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	N/A	None
Paper	Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery	Trench forms
Digital	Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 <i>Kingsholm Primary School, Guinea Street, Gloucester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> . CA typescript report 15188		



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PROJECT TITLE
 Kingsholm Primary School, Gloucester
 Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

0 1km

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DRAWN BY LJH **PROJECT NO.** 5160
CHECKED BY JB **DATE** 14/04/15
APPROVED BY CB **SCALE@A4** 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.
 1



- site boundary
- observed groundworks



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PROJECT TITLE
 Kingsholm Primary School, Gloucester
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FIGURE TITLE
 Site plan showing location of observed groundworks

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	5160	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	JB	REVISION	00	2
DATE	14/04/2015	SCALE@A3	1:500	

P:\5160 Kingsholm Primary School Gloucester Glos.WB\Illustration\Drafts\5160_Kingsholm Primary School_Fig2.dwg

191 SO



3



4

3 Trench 1, looking north (1m scales)

4 Trench 2, looking east (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Kingsholm Primary School, Gloucester
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FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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CHECKED BY	JB	DATE	14/04/15	3 & 4
APPROVED BY	CB	SCALE@A4	n/a	

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