

Forum Car Park Cirencester Gloucestershire

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
Cotswold District Council

CA Project: 5227
CA Report: 15135

April 2015



Forum Car Park
Cirencester
Gloucestershire

Archaeological Watching Brief

CA Project: 5227
CA Report: 15135

Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	18 March 2015	Peter Busby	Simon Cox	Internal review		
B	14 April 2015	Peter Busby		Internal review	SC comments	

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.

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	4
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	5
4. METHODOLOGY	6
5. RESULTS (FIGS 2 & 3).....	6
6. THE FINDS	7
7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE	9
8. DISCUSSION (FIGS 2 AND 3).....	9
9. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	10
10. REFERENCES.....	10
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	12
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS.....	14
APPENDIX C: LEVELS OF PRINCIPAL DEPOSITS AND STRUCTURES	15
APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM	16

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:10,000)
- Fig. 2 The site showing location of groundworks (1:500).
- Fig. 3 The site showing depth of deposits (1:500).

SUMMARY

Project Name:	Forum Car Park
Location:	Southway, Cirencester, Gloucestershire
NGR:	SP 0248 0188
Type:	Watching Brief
Date:	1 February-27 March 2015
SMC:	S00102647
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Corinium Museum
Site Code:	FCPC 15

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with alterations to the existing layout of the public car park, including widening of the western entrance, construction of a new boundary wall and height restriction barrier, installation of new surface drainage, lighting columns and payment meters, and resurfacing at the Forum Car Park, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

A possible Roman demolition deposit was seen in Trench 11, below a 'dark earth' deposit. The remains of a 17th to 18th-century north-east/south-west orientated wall foundation were seen in Trench 6.

The watching brief revealed that there is an average depth of 0.7m of modern deposits consisting of footpath and car park make-up and surfacing deposits, and 19th to 20th-century garden deposits, below present ground level within the site.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between February and March 2015 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at the request of Cotswold District Council (CDC) at The Forum Car Park in central Cirencester, Gloucestershire (centred on NGR: SP 0248 0188; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil conditions attached to Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) for alterations to the layout of the existing public car park, including widening of the carriageway, construction of a new boundary wall and height restriction barrier, installation of new surface drainage, lighting columns and payment meters, and resurfacing of the car park throughout (SMC ref: S00102647).
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out following the production of an *Archaeological Impact Statement*, written by CA in June 2014, and subsequently updated in January 2015 (CA 2015), that was commissioned by CDC to assess the potential impact of the development on Roman remains known to lie beneath the car park, and which form part of the Scheduled Monument (SAM) the *Roman Town of Corinium Dubonorum* (HA 10003426; Gloucestershire County Monument Number 361) and with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2014a). English Heritage reviewed the *Archaeological Impact Statement* and WSI; and granted SMC, conditional on a programme of archaeological works to include a watching brief during groundworks. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014), the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Field Work 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 site is a car park of c. 0.5 hectares in area, which lies slightly to the south-east of the centre of Cirencester, within the northern angle of the junction of South Way to the west, and Lewis Lane to the south. The site is flanked to the north-west by the Police Station and to the southeast by the Telephone Exchange. It lies on broadly level ground at approximately 110-111m AOD, sloping downwards only very gently from the east side of Southway.

- 1.4 The underlying geology of the area is mapped as Kellaway Formation of Sandstone, Siltstone and Mudstone of the Jurassic period. This is covered by superficial deposits of Quaternary Period River Terrace Gravels (BGS 2015). Natural deposits were not seen during the watching brief.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological background to the site has already been detailed in a preceding desk-based assessment (CAT 1999) and it is not intended to reproduce that information extensively within this document. In summary, however, the assessment revealed that high quality remains of the Roman *vicus*, of the later Roman town within *Insula XVIII*, and of a small area of the Forum buildings in *Insula I*, are likely to survive within and near to the site, whilst Ermine Street bordered the site to the west, roughly on the line of modern day Southway.
- 2.2 The Roman street layout, and a plan of the remains of Roman buildings identified during excavations by Webster at Dyer Court in 1957 (after Webster 1960), is shown on Figure 2. Webster's excavations produced a section through the metalled Roman Road, Ermine Street, which lay just outside the development site to the west (Street A), and demonstrated the presence of a colonnade and buildings ranged along the east side of Ermine Street extending eastwards into the development site. Webster reported that these lay between five and eight feet (1.5-2.4m) below the existing ground level at that time, with natural gravels encountered at 12 to 15 feet depth (3.7-4.6m). This is supported by his section through Ermine Street (Street A on Figure 2) at the eastern side of which Roman deposits lay some 1.35m below the existing ground level at the time. Unfortunately, no heights relative to Ordnance Datum are given in Webster's report, so it is not possible to tell how much ground level was altered when the car park was constructed, and therefore the precise depths of the Roman remains he recorded in relation to modern day levels. It is possible, however, from the evidence presented in Webster's report, that a build-up of up to two metres of Roman deposits survives beneath the site, although these are likely to be deeply buried beneath at least c. 1.35m of later deposits. However, it must be noted that Roman street surfaces and buildings fronting on to the main streets tend to survive much closer to the modern surface (as little as 0.6m below the surface) as a result of continuous re-metalling of the streets, and an associated

rise in the level of the adjacent buildings, so it is conceivable that Roman remains could be encountered at less than 1.35m below present ground level (bpgl) along the western (Ermine Street) and southern (Street B) edges of the site. The Roman remains are likely to be cut and sealed by deposits of medieval date. Post-medieval soil accumulations and features are also expected to survive.

2.3 In 2014 an evaluation in the car park of Southway House by Cotswold Archaeology (CA 2014b; test pit locations shown on Fig. 2) Roman street metaling associated with Ermine Street, and the probable fill of its western flanking ditch, were identified at 0.77m and 0.91m below present ground level respectively. The Roman deposits were cut by probable post-medieval pits and were sealed by 'dark earth' deposits containing 18th and 19th-century artefacts. Evidence for buildings depicted on late 19th and early 20th-century cartographic sources was also revealed.

2.4 A test-pit evaluation of the Forum Car Park was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in 2002 prior to an earlier reconfiguration of the car park, in order to provide additional information about the archaeological resource within the site (CA 2002; test pit locations shown on Fig. 2). However, the works were limited to just eight small hand-dug test pits, excavated to a maximum depth of 1m, and in most cases less than 1m. These identified modern make-up layers for the car park to a depth of around 0.65m bpgl, in all but Test Pits 1 and 2. In Test Pit 1 a modern garden soil was revealed at 0.45m bpgl, and in Test Pit 2 an undated cultivation soil was identified at 0.85m bpgl. Although a few residual sherds of Roman pottery were recovered during the evaluation, no *in situ* Roman or medieval remains were recorded. The evaluation therefore broadly confirmed the conclusions of the desk-based assessment, whilst providing no new information on the likely depth at which the upper levels of Roman remains might be encountered.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:

- to ensure the agreed foundation scheme was adhered to;
- 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, to be made available on the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) website.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2014a). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks, comprising drain, kerb, lighting column, road and wall foundation construction, where it was thought that they might penetrate pre-car park construction deposits (Fig. 2). During the life of the watching brief it was possible to omit intrusive groundworks from the watching brief, where new information on deposit depths demonstrated that groundworks would not affect pre-car park construction deposits, with the agreement of Melanie Barge of English Heritage. Items omitted from the watching brief were: barriers in the western entrance, kerbs outside the western entrance, wall foundations in the north of the car park, new drains in the south portion of the car park.

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 and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Corinium museum, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix D, 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 during the ground works. Pre 1960s deposits were sealed by carpark and footpath make-up and surface deposits of clean sandy gravel, tarmac, and paving slabs between 0.49m to 1.02m thick (Appendix C).

- 5.2 The earliest deposit seen was possible demolition dump 1105 in the very base of Trench 11, at 1.25m below present ground level (bpgl). It consisted of brown sandy mortar with clay tile and limestone fragments, and is very similar to demolition deposits seen throughout Roman Cirencester. Sealing this deposit was a 0.42m thick, dark brown sandy clay 'dark earth' layer, 1104. This layer contained three sherds of pottery of broadly dating to 2nd to 4th centuries AD. It is very similar to layers 506, 604, and 1204 (Trenches 5, 6, and 12), which may also be 'dark earth' deposits. As layer 1204 was very soft and over 0.9m thick, it is also possible that this 'dark earth' filled a pit.
- 5.3 In Trench 6, a 0.5m length of north-east/south-west orientated wall foundation, 605 was exposed. It was over 0.34m wide and consisted of flat angular (undressed) limestone cobbles/boulders laid in crude horizontal courses, bonded with dark brown sandy silt, filling construction trench 606, which cut the 'dark earth' 604. Down the side of the foundation, within the construction cut 607 (fill 606) three sherds of glazed earthenware were retrieved, as well as post-medieval pottery from layer 604 suggesting a 17th to 18th-century date for the wall.
- 5.4 Overlying the wall there was a 0.41m thick layer 603 of very dark brown/black sandy clay. This layer, in common with other similar layers (505, 703, 803, 903, 1006, 1103, and 1203) also immediately below 1960s footpath and car park deposits, contained plastic, wire and clay pipe stems which were not retrieved. It is probable that these soils are modern garden soils.
- 5.5 In the base of Trench 13 a >0.56m thick dump of demolition rubble, 1303, is at approximately the same height (0.74m bpgl, 110.36m AOD), as the surface of the 19th to 20th-century garden or modern levelling deposits seen in adjacent Test Pits (3 and 4) of the 2002 evaluation. This implies that it might be of similar or later date.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Artefactual material was recovered from five deposits. The material dates to the Roman and post-medieval periods. Quantities of the artefact types recovered are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Roman fabric codes are equated to the Cirencester pottery type series as defined by Rigby (1982); where applicable National Roman Fabric

Reference Collection codes are also given in Appendix B (Tomber and Dore 1998). Post-medieval fabrics correspond to the Cirencester pottery type series codes as defined by Ireland (1998).

Pottery

Roman

- 6.2 A total of four sherds (127g) was recovered from two deposits. Pottery context groups are very small (one to three sherds) and the sherd from garden soil 703 was residual – occurring with post-medieval material. The assemblage is in moderately good condition, with only one sherd from ‘dark earth’ 1104 displaying slight abrasion. The average sherd weight of 32g is high for a Roman group; however, this figure is skewed by the presence of a sizeable sherd of Baetican amphora (Fabric 40).
- 6.3 The single continental import is the bodysherd of Baetican amphora (Fabric 40) from dark earth 1104. This fabric is most often associated with Dressel 20 amphoras, which were imported from Spain from the mid-first to mid-third centuries (Tyers 1996, 87).
- 6.4 Regional imports are represented by a bodysherd of Dorset Black-burnished ware (Fabric 74), which was produced near Poole in Dorset. When found outside the county it typically dates to the 2nd to 4th centuries (Davies *et al.* 1994, 107). North Wiltshire oxidised wares (Fabric 98), of broad Roman date, comprise the remainder of the coarsewares.

Post-medieval/modern

- 6.5 A total of eight sherds (96g) were recorded in four deposits. Overall condition is good, although a sherd of glazed earthenware from garden soil 703 had lost most of its glaze. The average sherd weight is 12g, which is suggestive of a highly fragmented assemblage: this is unsurprising given that much of the material has been recovered from garden soil.
- 6.6 Possible dark earth layer 604 produced a base sherd from a vessel in Tin-glazed earthenware (TF209), dateable to the 16th to 18th centuries. A total of six sherds of glazed earthenware, retrieved from three deposits, are of mid-16th to 18th-century date. A bodysherd of refined whiteware, which was manufactured from the late 18th to 19th centuries, was recovered from garden soil 1203.

Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

- 6.7 Dark earth layer 1104 contained six fragments of ceramic building material of Roman date: three were identified as *tegula* and the remainder as other tile. Condition is good, with minimal edge abrasion noted.

Other finds

- 6.8 Single fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recorded in possible 'dark earth' layer 604 and garden soil 703. The former is a fragment of stem, broadly dateable to the late 16th to late 19th centuries. The fragment from layer 703 is a heeled bowl, identified as an Oswald Type 6 (1975, 37–9), which was produced from c. 1660–80.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1 No biological evidence was recovered.

8. DISCUSSION (FIGS 2 and 3)

- 8.1 The watching brief confirmed the conclusions of the *Archaeological Impact Assessment* (CA 2002), that excavations shallower than 0.45m bpgl would not impact upon significant archaeological remains. Data from this watching brief and the 2002 archaeological evaluation shows that there is on average around 0.7m of car park construction and 19th to 20th-century garden deposits below present ground level within the development area. Figure 3 has been included to illustrate the broad stratigraphic sequence across the site.

Roman

- 8.1 The earliest deposit seen was demolition deposit, 1105, in Trench 11, which was seen at 1.25m bpgl (109.9m AOD), at a level broadly consistent with the top of archaeological deposits reported by Webster during his Dyer Court excavations in 1957 (after Webster 1960). As with other Roman demolition deposits seen in Cirencester there was an overlying 'dark earth' deposit (1104), also seen in Trenches 5, 6, and 12, so this deposit is probably of that period.

Post-medieval/modern

- 8.2 The north-east/south-west orientated wall foundation 605 in Trench 6 demonstrates that remains of 17th to 18th-century structure(s) survive at 1.13m bpgl (109.82m AOD) in this area of site, immediately below 19th to 20th-century garden deposits. In the south of the site, the top of demolition rubble 1303 (Trench 12) is at approximately the same height (0.74m bpgl, 110.36m AOD), as the surface of the 19th to 20th-century garden deposits seen in Test Pits 3 and 4 of the 2002 evaluation, implying that this deposit is probably more related to the demolition of the structures along Lewis Lane prior to the construction of the car park, rather than the robbing of or demolition of earlier Roman buildings.

Conclusion

- 8.3 The watching brief achieved the objective of ensuring the foundation scheme was adhered to, enabling the preservation of Roman remains associated with the Scheduled Monument *in situ*, and providing useful additional information on the nature of the overlying strata. This additional information, summarised on Figure 3, should assist in informing the design of any future developments in the area to enable these significant remains to be preserved.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Busby. The report was written by Peter Busby. The finds report was written by Peter Busby. The finds report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Aleksandra Osinska. The archive has been compiled by Peter Busby, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Simon Cox.

10. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2015 *Geology of Britain Viewer* <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 17 March 2015
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 *Forum Car Park, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Impact Statement*

- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014a *Forum Car Park, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014b *Southway House, South Way, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation*. CA Report No. **14431**
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2002 *Forum Car Park, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation*. CAT Report No. **02079**
- CAT (Cotswold Archaeological Trust) 1999 *Forum Car Park, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Assessment*. CAT Report No. **991048**
- Davies, B., Richardson, B. and Tomber, R. 1994 *The archaeology of Roman London Volume 5: A dated corpus of early Roman pottery from the City of London*. CBA Research Report **98**. London. Museum of London and Council for British Archaeology.
- Ireland, C. A. 1998 'The Pottery', in Wilkinson and McWhirr 1988, 98–140.
- Oswald, A. 1975 *Clay Pipes for the Archaeologist*. Oxford. British Archaeological Reports, British Series, **14**.
- Rigby, V. 1982 'The Coarse Pottery', in Wachter and McWhirr 1982, 153–200.
- Tomber, R. and Dore, J. 1998 *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection: A Handbook*. MOLaS Monograph **2**. London.
- Tyers, P. 1996 *Roman Pottery in Britain*. London. Routledge.
- Wacher, J. and McWhirr, A. 1982 *Early Roman Occupation at Cirencester*. Cirencester Excavations I. Cirencester. Cirencester Excavation Committee.
- Webster, G. 1960 *Cirencester: Dyer Court Excavation, 1957*. Trans. Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society Vol. **78**, 44-85.
- Wilkinson, D. and McWhirr, A. 1998 *Cirencester Anglo-Saxon Church and Medieval Abbey*. Cirencester. Cotswold Archaeological Trust Ltd.

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	101	Layer		Car park surface	Tarmac	>36	>0.9	0.1	
1	102	Structure		Drain	Concrete slot drain	36	0.3	0.26	
1	103	Layer		Car park sub-base	Light yellow brown sandy gravel	>36	>0.95	>0.3	
2	201	Layer		Car park surface	Same as 101	>53	>0.95	0.1	
2	202	Structure		Drain	As 102	53	0.3	0.28	
2	203	Layer		Car park sub-base	Same as 103	>53	>0.95	>0.3	
3	301	Layer		Car park surface	Same as 101	>50	>0.95	0.08	
3	302	Structure		Drain	As 102	50	0.3	0.3	
3	303	Layer		Car park sub-base	Same as 103	>50	>0.95	>0.32	
4	401	Layer		Car park surface	Same as 101	>56	>0.95	0.15	
4	402	Structure		Drain	As 102	56	0.3	0.32	
4	403	Layer		Car park sub-base	Same as 103	>56	>0.95	>0.25	
5	501	Layer		Car park entrance	Same as 101	12	>0.7	0.12	
5	502	Layer		Pavement	Concrete paving slabs	12	>3.4	0.08	
5	503	Layer		Entrance and pavement sub-base	Sand and sandy gravel with old tarmac road and pavement surfaces, and concrete kerb foundations	>12	>4	0.49	
5	504	Layer		Dump	Dark brown sand silt with 75% limestone gravel/pebbles	>0.6	>0.6	0.23	
5	505	Layer		Garden soil	Black silt clay with 10% limestone gravel. 19th century pot and clay pipe not retrieved	>0.6	>0.6	0.25	
5	506	Layer		? Dark earth	Black silt clay with 10% limestone gravel and 5% limestone cobbles/boulders	>0.6	>0.6	>0.23	
6	601	Layer		Car park surface	Same as 101	>1.1	>1	0.08	
6	602	Layer		Car park sub-base	Same as 103	>1.1	>1	0.64	
6	603	Layer		Garden soil	Very dark brown/black sandy clay with 25% limestone stones/cobbles. Plastic, wire and clay pipe stems not retrieved	>1.1	>1	0.41	
6	604	Layer		Dark earth	Dark brown sandy clay with 15% limestone gravel	>1.1	>0.56	>0.15	LC17-C18
6	605	Structure	607	Wall	NE/SW linear consisting of flat angular (undressed) limestone cobbles/boulders laid in crude horizontal courses, boned with dark brown sandy silt.	>0.5	>0.34	>0.15	
6	606	Fill	607	Construction trench fill	Dark brown sandy clay	>0.5	>0.08	>0.15	MC16-C18
6	607	Cut		Construction trench	NE/SW linear with vertical sides. Base not seen	>0.5	>0.44	>0.15	
7	701	Layer		Car park surface	Same as 101	>1.1	>1	0.07	
7	702	Layer		Car park sub-base	Same as 103	>1.1	>1	0.55	
7	703	Layer		Garden soil	Dark brown sandy clay with 15% limestone gravel	>1.1	>1	>0.65	MC16-LC19

8	801	Layer		Car park surface	Same as 101	>1.1	>1	0.07	
8	802	Layer		Car park sub-base	Same as 103	>1.1	>1	0.95	
8	803	Layer		Garden soil	Same as 703	>1.1	>1	>0.2	
9	901	Layer		Car park surface	Same as 101	>1.1	>1	0.07	
9	902	Layer		Car park sub-base	Same as 103	>1.1	>1	0.72	
9	903	Layer		Garden soil	Same as 703	>1.1	>1	>0.38	
10	1001	Layer		Car park entrance	Same as 101	>8	>6	0.1	
10	1002	Layer		Pavement	As 602	>5	5	0.08	
10	1003	Layer		Entrance and pavement sub-base	As 603	>8	>6	0.6	
10	1004	Fill		Service trench fill	Lose mix concrete	>1.3	1.5	>1.1	
10	1005	Cut		Service trench	NW/SE linear with vertical sides. Base not seen	>1.3	1.5	>1.1	
10	1006	Layer		? Garden soil	Dark brown/black silt clay with 10% limestone gravel and 5% coal and charcoal flecks. Different to 603 and 604			>0.6	
11	1101	Layer		Car park surface	Same as 101	>1	>0.8	0.07	
11	1102	Layer		Car park sub-base	Same as 103	>1	>0.8	0.46	
11	1103	Layer		Garden soil	Dark brown/black silt clay with 25% limestone gravel and <1% small lumps of coal	>1	>0.8	0.3	
11	1104	Layer		Dark earth	Dark brown/black silt clay with 15% limestone gravel.	>1	>0.8	0.42	C2-C4
11	1105	Layer		? demolition dump	Brown sandy mortar with 5% tile and limestone fragments	>1	>0.8		
12	1201	Layer		Car park surface	Same as 101	>1.3	>1	0.08	
12	1202	Layer		Car park sub-base	Same as 103	>1.3	>1	0.41	
12	1203	Layer		Garden soil	Dark brown/black silt clay with 5% limestone gravel	>1.3	>1	0.28	LC18-C19
12	1204	Layer		? Dark earth	Dark brown silt clay with 15% limestone gravel and <1% grey welsh roof slate fragments	>1.3	>1	>0.9	
13	1301	Layer		Car park surface	Same as 101	>1.4	>1.1	0.08	
13	1302	Layer		Car park sub-base	Same as 103	>1.4	>1.1	0.66	
13	1303	Layer		Demolition rubble	Grey brown sandy mortar with 25% limestone gravel/boulders	>1.4	>1.1	>0.56	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Finds concordance

Context	Category	Fabric Code/ NRFRC*	Description	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
604	Post-medieval pottery	TF209	Tin-glazed earthenware	1	8	LC17-C18
	Post-medieval pottery		Glazed earthenware	2	2	
	Clay tobacco pipe		Bowl, Oswald Type 6	1	8	
606	Post-medieval pottery		Glazed earthenware	3	57	MC16-C18
703	Roman pottery	98	North Wiltshire oxidised ware	1	12	MC16-LC19
	Post-medieval pottery		Glazed earthenware	1	17	
	Clay tobacco pipe		Stem	1	5	
1104	Roman pottery	74/ DOR BB1	Dorset Black-burnished ware	1	10	C2-C4
	Roman pottery	40/ BAT AM	Baetican amphora	1	100	
	Roman pottery	98	North Wiltshire oxidised ware	1	5	
	Roman CBM		Tegula, tile	6	555	
1203	Post-medieval/ modern pottery		Refined whiteware	1	12	LC18-C19

* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold

APPENDIX C: LEVELS OF PRINCIPAL DEPOSITS AND STRUCTURES

Levels are expressed as metres below current ground level and as metres Above Ordnance Datum (AOD), taken from Cotswold District Council drawing Forum/CDC/TS/001 dated 16 October

	Trench 1 West end	Trench 2 West end	Trench 3 West end	Trench 4 West end	Trench 5 Pavement next to Southway	Trench 6
February 2015 ground level	0.00m (110.86m)	0.00m (111.00m)	0.00m (110.95m)	0.00m (110.07m)	0.00m (111.57m)	0.00m (110.95m)
Top of pre-car park construction deposits (1960s)					0.69m (110.88m)	0.72m (110.23m)
Top of wall 605						1.13 (109.82)
Top of 'dark earth'					1.17m (110.4m)	1.13 (109.82)
Top of probable Roman demolition deposit						
Limit of excavation	0.40m (110.46m)	0.40m (110.60m)	0.40m (110.55m)	0.40m (110.57m)	1.4m (110.17m)	1.20m (109.67m)

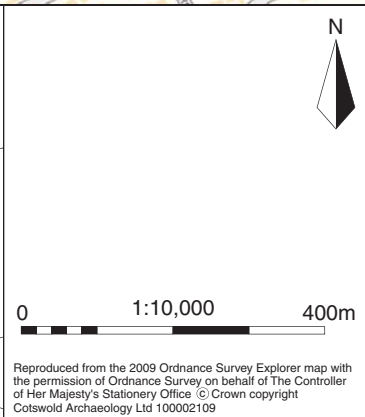
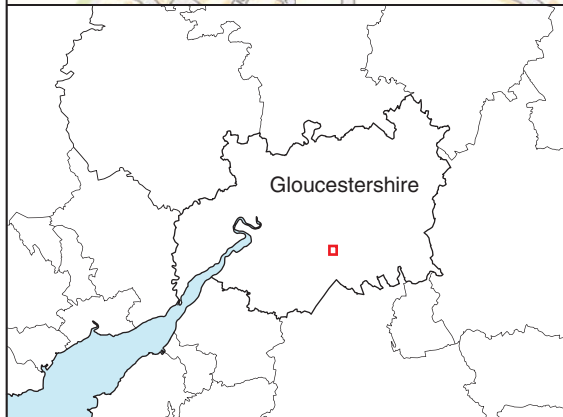
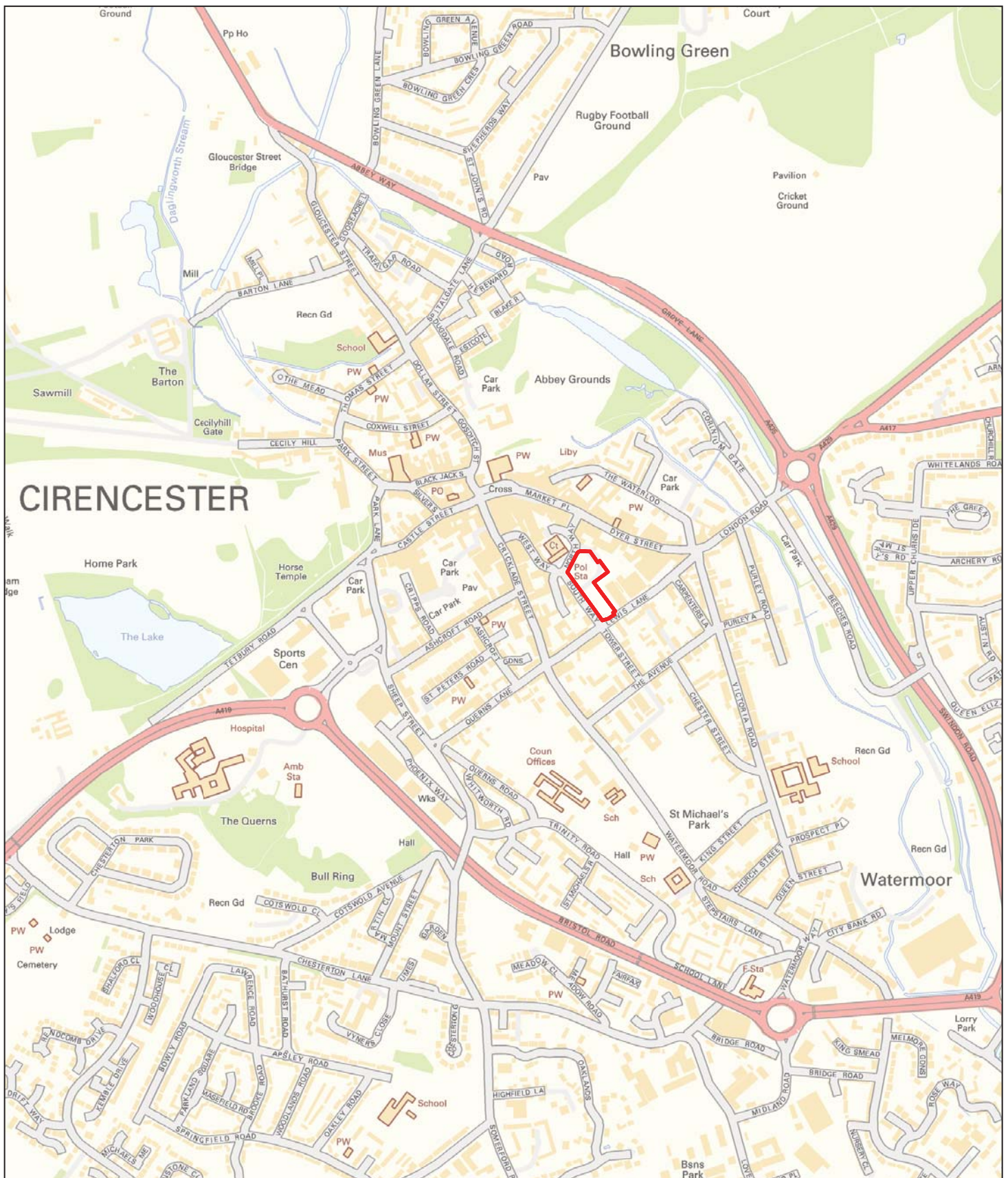
	Trench 7	Trench 8	Trench 9	Trench 10 Pavement next to Southway	Trench 11	Trench 12
Current (February 2015) ground level	0.00m (110.90m)	0.00m (110.74m)	0.00m (111.05m)	0.00m (111.41m)	0.00m (111.15m)	0.00m (111.06m)
Top of pre car park deposits (1960's)	0.62m (110.28m)	1.02m (109.72m)	0.79m (110.26m)	0.66m (110.75m)	0.53m (110.62m)	0.49m (110.57m)
Top of wall 605						
Top of 'dark earth'					0.83 (110.32m)	0.77m (110.26m)
Top of 'demolition' deposit					1.25m (109.9m)	
Limit of excavation	1.27m (109.63m)	1.22m (109.57m)	1.17m (109.88m)	1.20m (110.21m)	1.25m (109.9m)	1.67m (109.39m)

	Trench 13
February 2015 ground level	0.00m (111.13m)
Top of pre-car park construction deposits (1960s)	
Top of wall 605	
Top of 'dark earth'	
Top of probable modern demolition deposit	0.74m (110.36m)
Limit of excavation	1.3m (109.83m)

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

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Forum Car Park	
Short description	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with alterations to the existing layout of the public car park, including widening of the western entrance, construction of a new boundary wall and height restriction barrier, installation of new surface drainage, lighting columns and payment meters, and resurfacing at the Forum Car Park, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.</p> <p>A possible Roman demolition deposit was seen in Trench 11, below a 'dark earth' deposit. The remains of a 17th to 18th-century north-east/south-west orientated wall foundation were seen in Trench 6.</p> <p>The watching brief revealed that there is an average depth of 0.7m of modern deposits consisting of footpath and car park make-up and surfacing deposits, and 19th to 20th-century garden deposits, below present ground level within the site.</p> <p>The watching brief revealed that there is an average depth of 0.7m of modern deposits consisting of footpath, car park make-up and surfacing deposits, and 19th to 20th century garden deposits below present ground level within the site.</p>	
Project dates	1 February-27 March 2015	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	<p>Archaeological watching brief 2002: CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2002 <i>Forum Car Park, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation</i>. CAT Report No. 02079</p> <p>Archaeological Excavation 1957: Webster, G. 1960 <i>Cirencester: Dyer Court Excavation, 1957</i>. Trans. Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society Vol. 78, 44-85.</p>	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Southway, Cirencester, Gloucestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.5 ha	
Site co-ordinates	SP 0248 0188	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Simon Cox	
Project Supervisor	Peter Busby	
MONUMENT TYPE	Roman town and <i>vicus</i>	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Corinium Museum	Ceramics
Paper	Corinium Museum	Trench sheets, Drawings
Digital	Corinium Museum	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 <i>Forum Car Park, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i>. CA typescript report 15135</p>		



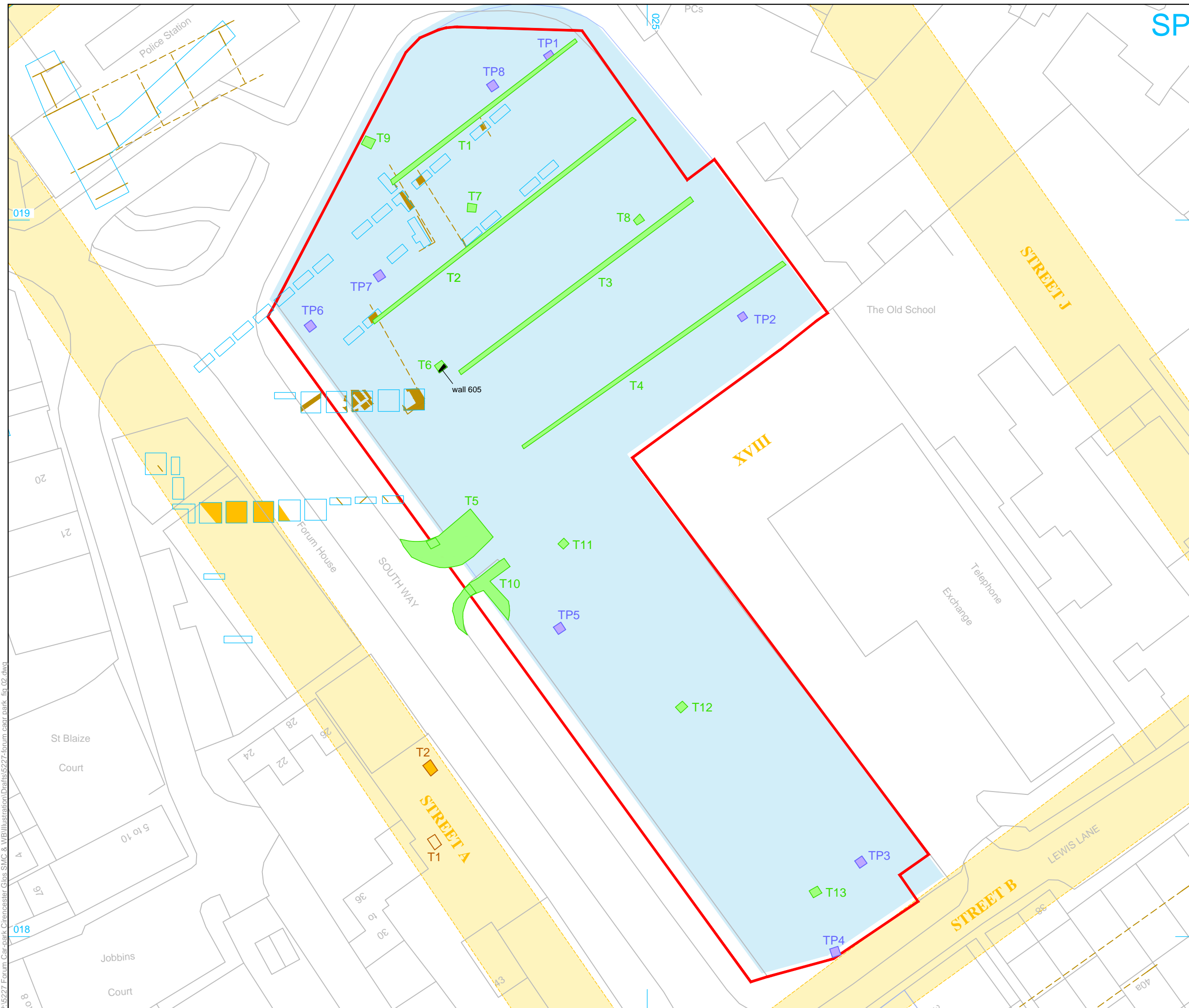


Cirencester 01285 771022
 Milton Keynes 01908 218320
 Andover 01264 347630
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Forum Car Park, Cirencester
 Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

DRAWN BY	AO	PROJECT NO.	5227	FIGURE NO.	
CHECKED BY	JB	DATE	07/04/2015		
APPROVED BY	SC	SCALE@A4	1:10,000		1



- site
- archaeological feature
- excavation trench 1957
- CA test pits 2002
- CA evaluation trench 2014
- CA watching brief 2015
- Scheduled Monument
- projected Roman street grid
- Roman buildings
- Roman street surface
- projected Roman buildings



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey digital mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109.

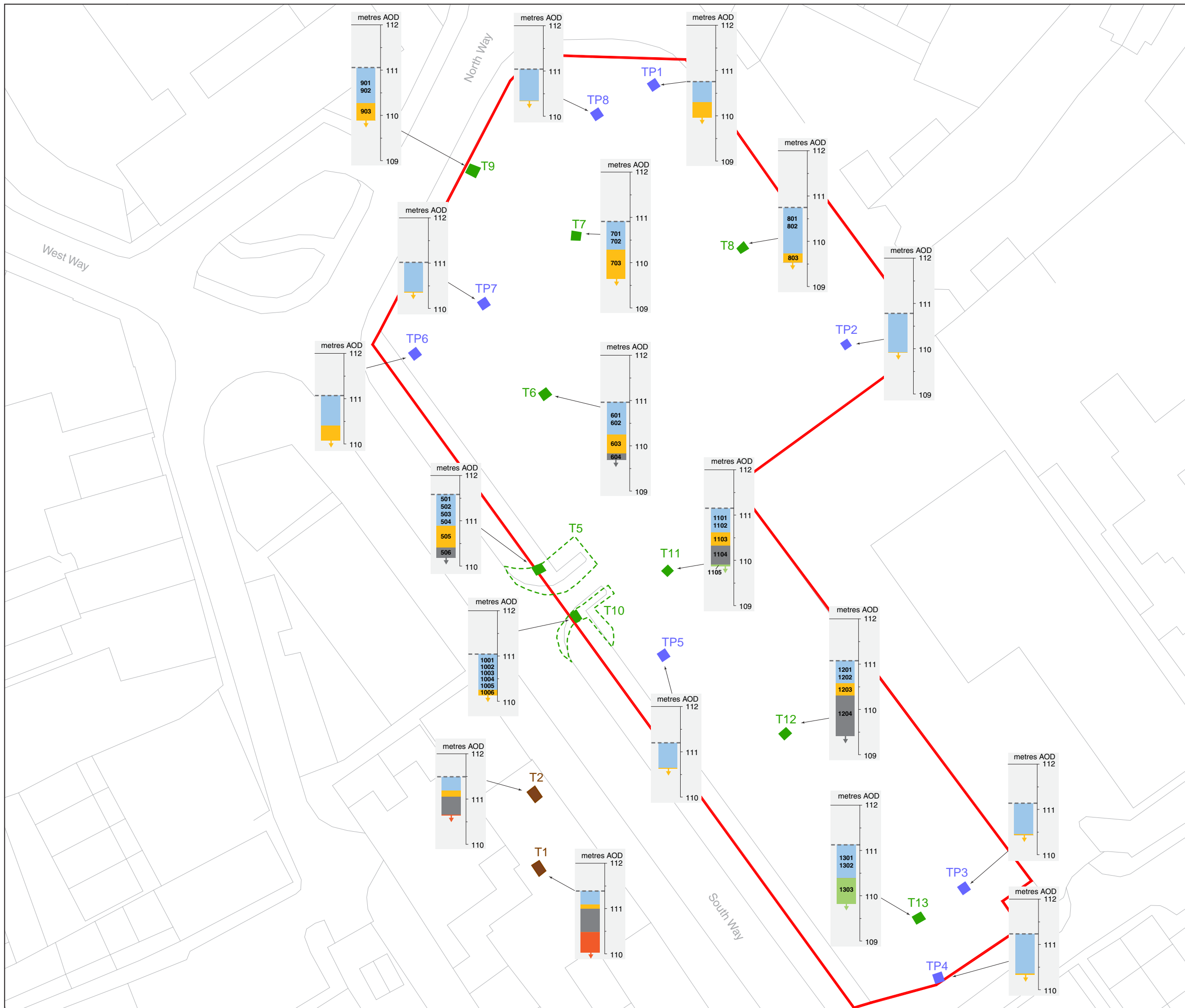
Cotswold Archaeology
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 Andover 01264 347630
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Forum Car Park, Cirencester
 Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 The site showing location of
 groundworks

<small>DRAWN BY</small> AO	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> 5227	<small>FIGURE NO.</small> 2
<small>CHECKED BY</small> JB	<small>DATE</small> 07/04/2015	
<small>APPROVED BY</small> SC	<small>SCALE@A3</small> 1:500	

P:\5227 Forum Car Park Cirencester Glos SMO & WB\Illustration\Drawings\5227-forum-car-park_fig_02.dwg



- site
- CA test pit 2002
- CA evaluation trench 2014
- CA watching brief 2015

- top of trench
- post 1960 garden soil
- pre 1960 garden soil
- dark earth
- demolition deposits
- Roman deposits
- ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ deposit continues below observed level

0 25m

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey digital map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109

Cotswold Archaeology
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 Andover 01264 347630
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Forum Car Park, Cirencester
 Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 The site showing depth of deposits

DRAWN BY	AO	PROJECT NO.	5227	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	JB	DATE	07/04/2015	3
APPROVED BY	SC	SCALE@A3	1:500	

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

Milton Keynes Office

41 Burners Lane South
Kiln Farm
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK1 3HA

t: 01908 564660

e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

