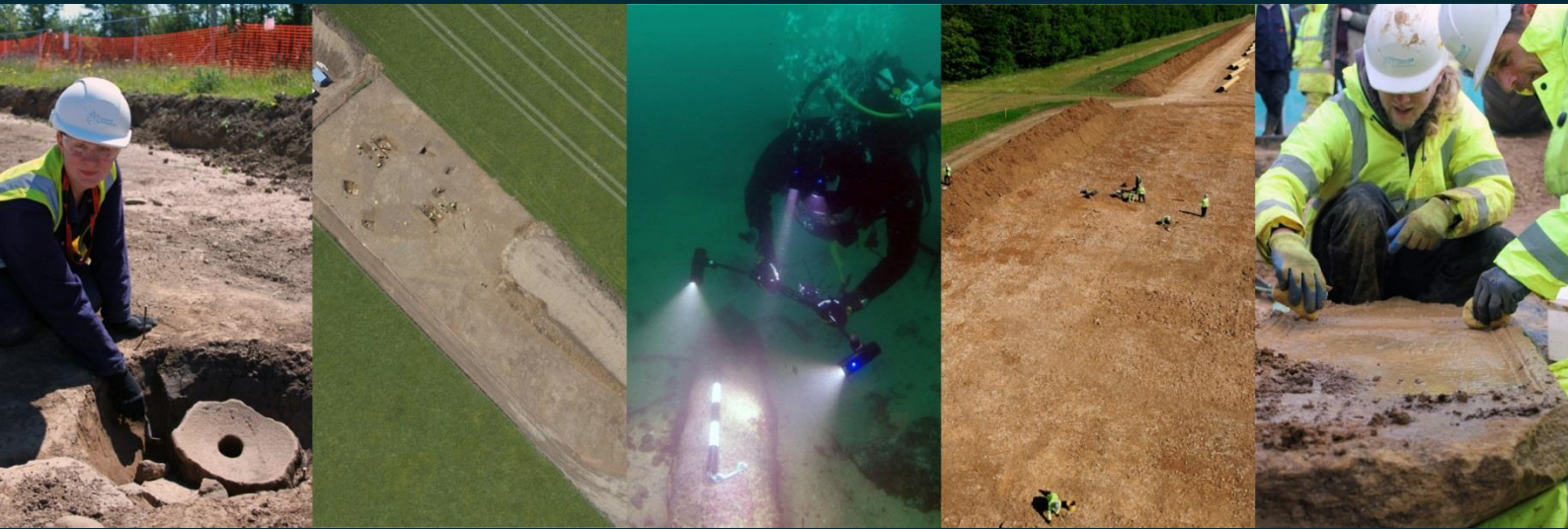


Scholar's Chase
Coldharbour Lane
Stoke Gifford
South Gloucestershire



for
EDP

on behalf of
Galliford Try

CA Project: 5652
CA Report: 16295

June 2016



Scholar's Chase
Coldharbour Lane
Stoke Gifford
South Gloucestershire

Archaeological Watching Brief

CA Project: 5652
CA Report: 16295



Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	1 June 2016	Peter Busby	Simon Cox	Internal review		SC
B	23 June 2016	Peter Busby	Simon Cox	For LPA approval	Approved by EDP	JV

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

Fig. 2 The site showing location of groundworks and photographs (1:1000).



SUMMARY

Project Name:	Scholar's Chase
Location:	Coldharbour Lane, Stoke Gifford, South Gloucestershire
NGR:	ST 6255 7775
Type:	Watching Brief
Date:	26-31 May 2016
Planning Reference:	South Gloucestershire Council ref: PT14/1260/O
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Bristol's Museums, Galleries and Archives
Site Code:	SCSG 16

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the development of retail/community meeting space at Scholar's Chase, Coldharbour Lane, Stoke Gifford, South Gloucestershire.

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



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2016 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for EDP on behalf of Galliford Try at a site known as Scholar's Chase, Coldharbour Lane, Stoke Gifford, South Gloucestershire (centred on NGR: ST 6255 7775; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to a planning consent for a retail/community meeting space development (South Gloucestershire Council ref: PT14/1260/O).
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2015) and approved by Paul Driscoll, Archaeology & HER Officer for South Gloucestershire Council (SGC). The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014) and was monitored by Paul Driscoll.

The site

- 1.3 The retail/community meeting space area, subject of the watching brief, is an area of land to the north of a new residential development presently being constructed on former agricultural land, is bounded by Brunel Business Park to the north, Filton Cemetery and Coldharbour Lane to the west and by woodland and farmland to the south and east. The site lies at approximately 73m AOD and encloses an area of approximately 7.4ha. The area was previously utilised as the site of two surface car parks.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Mercia Mudstone and Halite-stone of the Triassic Period, with overlying loam and clay soils with impeded drainage (BGS 2016, Wardell Armstrong 2013). The natural substrate encountered during the watching brief comprised orange brown clay silt, consistent with the mapped deposits.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological and historical background to the site is described in an earlier Desk-Based Assessment, to which reference should be made for further detail (Wardell Armstrong 2013). In summary, the site lies within a wider landscape within which evidence for Bronze Age pottery and worked flints have been found to the



north, and which in the medieval period was likely characterised by nucleated settlements with associated common (or shared) field systems (ibid.). Coldharbour Farm, to the north of the site, is recorded by 1540, and may have been a focus of an as yet undefined area of medieval settlement.

2.2 An archaeological evaluation of the Phase 1 area of the site (the residential development being built to the south of the present site) was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in 2014 (CA 2014). The evaluation identified a post-medieval ditch which may represent a former field boundary pre-dating those depicted on Naston's 1725 map of Stoke Gifford. No other archaeological features were revealed.

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 2015). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks consisting of ground reduction in the south of the site (Fig. 2). As groundworks progressed it became clear that any archaeological deposits, along with subsoil and top soil had been removed by the previous development of the site as a car park, and the watching brief was abandoned, with the agreement of Paul Driscoll, on the 31 May 2016.

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 and will be deposited with Bristol's Museums, Galleries and Archives. 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 (FIG. 2)

- 5.1 The natural geological substrate, 103, consisting of orange brown clay silt, was revealed across the southern extent, and eastern arm, of the monitored area at between 0.22m and 0.55m below present ground level. This was overlain by make-up layer, 102, in the south of the site (see Fig. 2 for extent). It was 0.35m thick and consisted of mixed red brown silt clay, from the base of which cans of spray paint and plastic bags were observed. Overlying make up 102 was a 0.22m thick car park sub-base, 101, consisting of crushed stone. To the north and west of make-up 102 ground level was generally raised, rather than reduced, with material being dumped above the level of make-up 102 (see Fig. 2 for extent of ground raising). Limited excavations were undertaken here which confirmed that the truncation of archaeological and subsoil deposits continued across the area. It was therefore concluded that no archaeological remains were likely to be observed and the watching brief was concluded with the agreement of Paul Driscoll.

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 area of observed groundworks. The absence of archaeological deposits and subsoil indicate that the previous development of the site as a car park had removed of all deposits overlying the natural substrate. The clay make-up layer, 102, in the south of the site was then deposited to re-profile the site, prior to the deposition of the crushed rock sub-base, 101, for the tarmac car park surface.

7. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Busby. The report was written by Peter Busby. The illustrations were prepared by Leo Heatley. 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.

8. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2016 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 1 June 2016

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 *Land at Coldharbour Lane, Stoke Gifford, South Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation*. CA Typescript report **14428**

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 *Scholar's Chase, Coldharbour Lane, Stoke Gifford, South Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Wardell Armstrong 2013 31-36 *Land on Coldharbour Lane, Stoke Gifford, South Gloucestershire: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, Wardell Armstrong Report No. **10683**

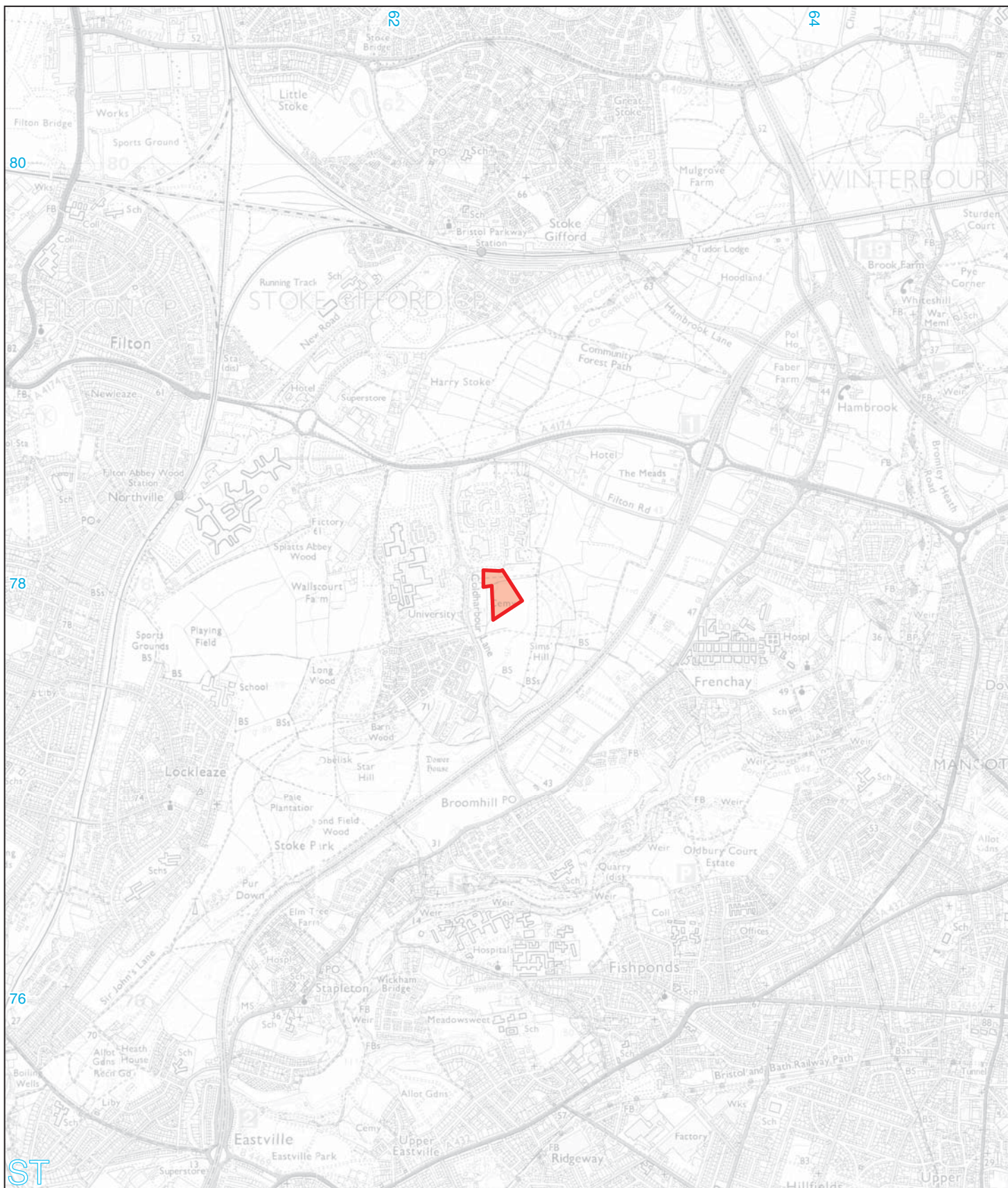


APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)
1	101	Layer	Car park sub-base	Grey crushed stone	>150	>100	0.22
1	102	Layer	Make-up	Mixed red brown silt clay with 1% mudstone cobbles/boulders	>41	>21	0.34
1	103	Layer	Natural	Light orange brown clay silt	>150	>100	>0.6

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Scholar's Chase	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the development of retail/community meeting space at Scholar's Chase, Coldharbour Lane, Stoke Gifford, South Gloucestershire. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.	
Project dates	26-31 May 2016	
Project type	Watching brief	
Previous work	Field evaluation (Cotswold Archaeology 2014)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Coldharbour Lane, Stoke Gifford, South Gloucestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	7.4ha	
Site co-ordinates	ST 6255 7775	
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		
	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Destination of archive:	Content
Physical	N/A	None
Paper	Bristol's Museums, Galleries and Archives	Trench sheets
Digital	Bristol's Museums, Galleries and Archives	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 <i>Scholar's Chase, Coldharbour Lane, Stoke Gifford, South Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report 16295		



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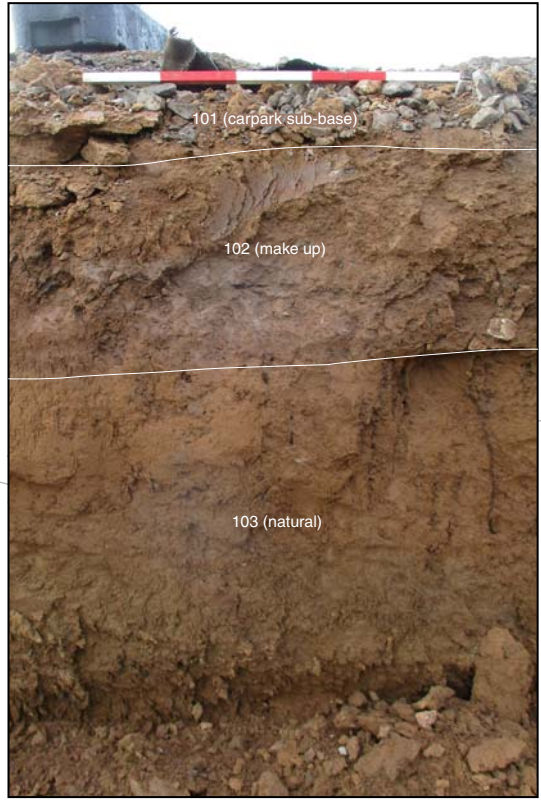
PROJECT TITLE
 Scholar's Chase, Coldharbour Lane
 Stoke Gifford, South Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan



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DRAWN BY LJH	PROJECT NO. 5652	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY LM	DATE 13-06-2016	
APPROVED BY SC	SCALE@A4 1:25,000	1



Section through deposits, looking west (0.5m scale)

- site boundary
- area of groundworks monitored during watching brief
- area where existing ground surface was raised during current development
- make up 102



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PROJECT TITLE
 Scholar's Chase, Coldharbour Lane
 Stoke Gifford, South Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 The Site showing location of
 groundworks and photograph

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	5652	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	13/06/2016	2
APPROVED BY	SC	SCALE@A3	1:1000	

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