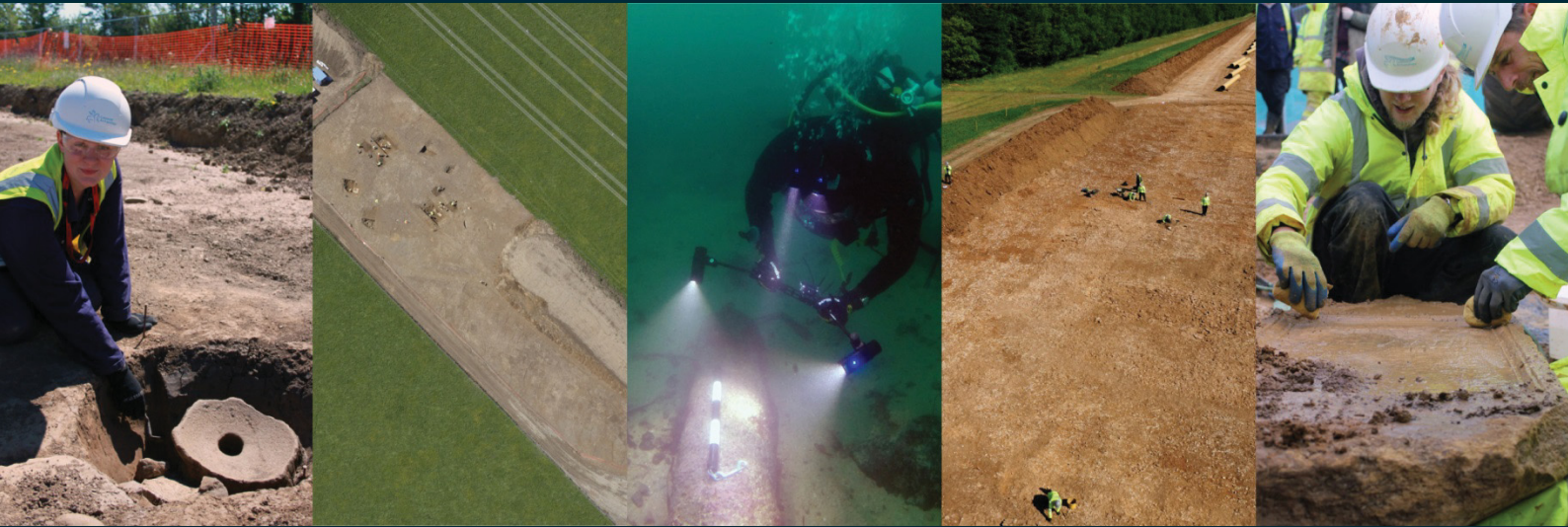


Garages Adjacent to Cathedral House Three Cocks Lane Gloucester

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
Quattro Design Architects

on behalf of
Cathedral House (Gloucester) Ltd

CA Project: 5824
CA Report: 16437

August 2016



Garages Adjacent to Cathedral House, Three Cocks Lane, Gloucester, Gloucestershire

Archaeological Watching Brief

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Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	12/08/16	Pete Searle		Internal review		Cliff Bateman

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Garages Adjacent to Cathedral House
Location:	Three Cocks Lane, Gloucester, Gloucestershire
NGR:	SO 8290 1880
Type:	Watching Brief
Date:	21 July-1 August 2016
Planning Reference:	16/00081/FUL; condition 3
Location of Archive:	Museum of Gloucester
Accession Number:	GLRCM: 2016.31
Site Code:	CATH 16

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the creation of 15 hardstanding parking spaces on the site of former garages adjacent to Cathedral House, Three Cocks Lane, Gloucester.

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 July and August 2016 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief on land adjacent to Cathedral House, Three Cocks Lane, Gloucester (centred on NGR: SO 8290 1880) at the request of Quattro Design Architects on behalf of Cathedral House (Gloucester) Ltd. The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to planning consent granted by Gloucester City Council for the creation of 15 hardstanding parking spaces on the site of former garages (Planning ref: 16/00081/FUL; Condition 3).
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a brief prepared by Andrew Armstrong, Gloucester City Archaeologist, the archaeological advisor to GCC and with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2016) that was approved by GCC acting on the advice of Andrew Armstrong. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014). It was monitored by Andrew Armstrong.

The site

- 1.3 The development area comprises two garage blocks immediately north of Cathedral House. It is bound to the north and west by residential properties, to the south and south-west by the Dick Whittington public house and St Nicholas's Church respectively and to the east by Three Cocks Lane. The site lies at approximately 15.80m AOD and slopes gently from east to west.
- 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 2016). The natural substrate was not observed during the current works.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site is located to the west, and outwith, the Roman city defences, however previous archaeological works within the immediate vicinity have identified evidence for Roman buildings (Gloucester City Historic Environment Record (HER No. 566). In addition, a Roman column base (HER No. 790), possibly re-laid as a foundation

support for a later building, was recovered immediately to the south of the current site during renovations at St Nicholas House.

- 2.2 The site is located adjacent to the Grade I listed Church of St Nicholas. Although much of the current church is 12th-13th-century in origin (Verrey and Brooks 2002, 455), its southern doorway, the western half of the six-bay north arcade and much of the body of the church hint at an earlier, Norman foundation (ibid., 455). The current, surviving churchyard is first recorded in 1403 and lies to the north of St Nicholas's, although its original extent remains undetermined. Certainly inhumation burials have previously been identified beyond the current churchyard limits in the grounds of St Nicholas House (now the Dick Whittington public house), as well as in Fountains Court to the northwest (HER No. 1499). During archaeological recording on Westgate Street, outside St Nicholas's Church, a street surface of metalled stone and re-used Roman building materials was revealed (Garrod and Heighway 1984, 56). Although no strong dating evidence was recovered during the excavation, the sequence, complete with metalling with organic layers above, is similar to work in Northgate Street that was dated to the 10th or 11th century (ibid., 57).
- 2.3 Previous archaeological works at 2, Three Cocks Lane, identified a 12th-century clay floor bounded by postholes, with subsequent building levels and associated stone footings also being recorded (HER No. 767). Additionally, to the southwest of the proposed site, medieval rubbish dumping and post-medieval structures were recorded at Upper Quay Street (HER No. 1522)
- 2.4 St Nicholas House (now the Dick Whittington public house) is a Grade I listed building. The rear of the property is timber framed and dates to the 15th–16th century, whilst the street frontage is of red brick construction and dated to 1730–1740 (Verrey and Brooks 2002, 477).

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 2016). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising the removal of the concrete floor slabs of the former garages, and subsequent ground reduction to a depth of 0.5m to accommodate the construction of the new hardstanding parking spaces.
- 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 prior to deposition with the Museum of Gloucester under accession number GLRCM: 2016.31. 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 Ground reduction to a formation level 0.5m below present ground level (bpgl) was undertaken throughout the footprint of the new parking spaces (see Fig. 2 for location and extent). The earliest deposit encountered, at a depth of 0.3m bpgl, was redeposited clay 102 that contained frequent inclusions of modern building rubble. It was overlain by gravel and rubble sub-base 101 for concrete floor slab 100.
- 5.2 Excavation measuring 1m by 0.6m in plan for a drainage gully in the north-eastern corner of the site revealed a continuation of deposit 102 to a depth of 1m bpgl.
- 5.3 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 area of observed groundworks. The absence of identified archaeological deposits, although in part due to disturbance during the construction of the former garage blocks, reflects the shallow nature of the observed groundworks.

7. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Michael Joyce and Peter Searle. The report was written by Peter Searle. The illustrations were prepared by Rosanna Price. The archive has been compiled by Peter Searle, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

8. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2016 Geology of Britain Viewer http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 29 February 2016

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 *Garages Adjacent to Cathedral House, Three Cocks Lane, Gloucester, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Garrod, A.P. and Heighway C.M, 1984 *Garrod's Gloucester: Archaeological Observations 1974-1981*, Gloucester, Alan Sutton.

Verey, D. and Brooks, A, 2002 *The Buildings of England Gloucestershire 2: The Vale and the Forest of Dean*, London, Yale University Press.



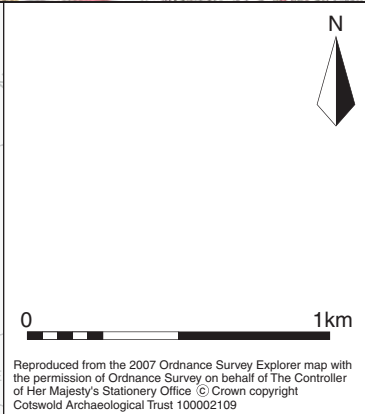
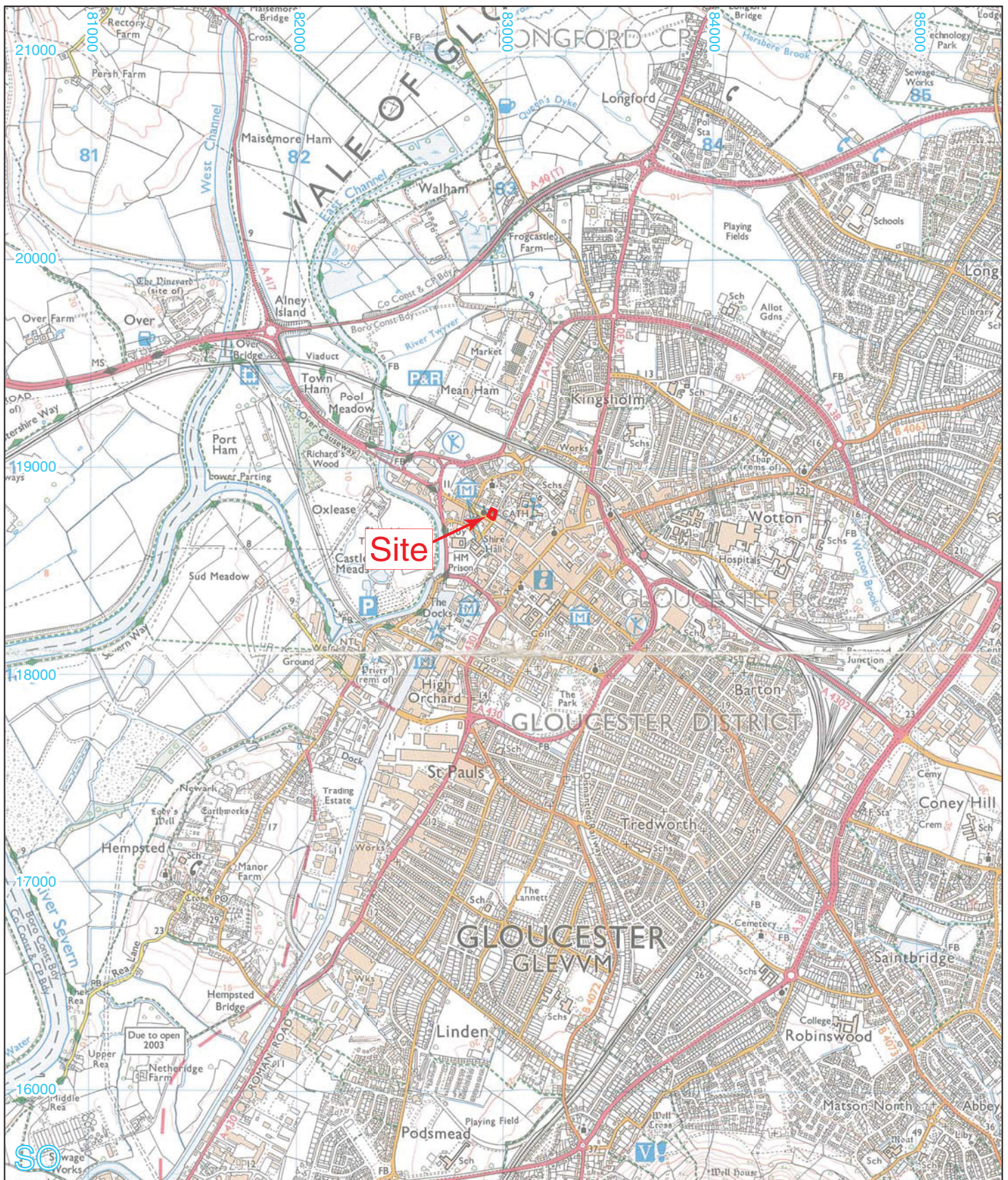
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Concrete	Garage surface	35	5	0.1
1	101	Layer		Sub-base	Sub-base for 100	35	5	0.2
1	102	Layer		Deposit	Mixed modern make-up deposit	35	5	>0.7



APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Garages Adjacent to Cathedral House, Three Cocks Lane, Gloucester, Gloucestershire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the creation of 15 hardstanding parking spaces at the Garages Adjacent to Cathedral House.</p> <p>No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.</p>	
Project dates	21 July to 1 August 2016	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	none	
Future work	unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Three Cocks Lane, Gloucester, Gloucestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	175 m ²	
Site co-ordinates	SO 8290 1880	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Gloucester City Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Cliff Bateman	
Project Supervisor	Michael Joyce/Peter Searle	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
Physical		
Paper	Museum of Gloucester GLRCM: 2016.31	Trench sheet
Digital	Museum of Gloucester GLRCM: 2016.31	Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 <i>Garages Adjacent to Cathedral House, Gloucester: Archaeological Watching Brief</i>. CA typescript report 16437</p>		



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PROJECT TITLE
 Garages adjacent to Cathedral House, Three Cocks Lane, Gloucester, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	5824	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	12.08.16	
APPROVED BY	CMB	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	1

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- site boundary
- area of observed groundworks



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PROJECT TITLE
 Garages adjacent to Cathedral House, Three Cocks Lane, Gloucester, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
 The site, showing location of observed groundworks

DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	5824	FIGURE NO.	2
CHECKED BY	LM	REVISION	00		
DATE	12.08.16	SCALE@A4	1:500		

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3



4

- 3 Concrete base being stripped
- 4 Formation level, looking east (scales 1m)



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PROJECT TITLE

Garages adjacent to Cathedral House, Three Cocks Lane, Gloucester, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	5824	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	12.08.16	3 & 4
APPROVED BY	CMB	SCALE@A4	N/A	

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