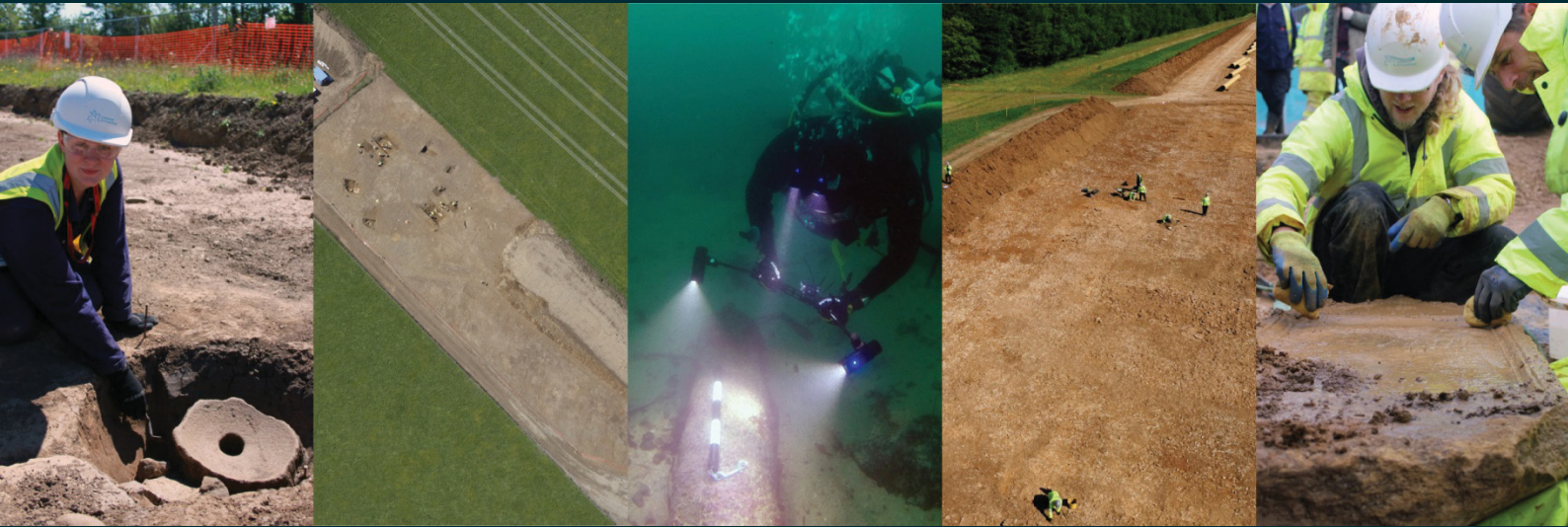


The Chamwell Centre
Milestone School
Longford Lane
Gloucester

Archaeological Evaluation



for
The Chamwell Centre Charity

CA Project: 6246
CA Report: 17310



The Chamwell Centre
 Milestone School
 Longford Lane
 Gloucester

Archaeological Evaluation

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Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	1 June 2017	Alex Thomson	Cliff Bateman	Draft	Internal Review	Cliff Bateman

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Fig. 3 Trench 1: photograph

SUMMARY

Project Name:	The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School
Location:	Longford Lane, Gloucester
NGR:	384708 220190
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	30-31 May 2017
Planning Reference:	GCC ref: 16/00322/FUL, Condition 3
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with the Museum of Gloucester
Site Code:	MSG 17

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in May 2017 at The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester. Two trenches were excavated.

Evidence for medieval and/or post-medieval agricultural practice, comprising the ploughed out remains of ridge and furrow cultivation, was identified within the site. Modern truncation and levelling was also identified.

No further features or deposits of archaeological interest were identified during the course of the evaluation.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for The Chamwell Centre Charity at Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester (centred at NGR: 384708 220190; Fig. 1). Planning permission for a new two storey extension and reconfiguration of the existing playground and parking areas has been granted by Gloucester City Council (GCC) conditional on a programme of archaeological work (GCC ref: no: 16/00322/FUL Condition 3). In accordance with this condition, Mr Andrew Armstrong, City Archaeologist, Gloucester City Council has requested an archaeological evaluation with the provision for further archaeological mitigation depending on the results of the evaluation.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017) and approved by Andrew Armstrong. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), and was monitored by Andrew Armstrong.

The site

- 1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 0.85ha in extent, and comprises part of the existing school grounds, including the playground, a sports pitch and an internal access road. The site is bounded to the south by Longford Lane and to the north, east and west by further school and sports buildings. The site lies at approximately 15.4m AOD and is broadly flat.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Mudstone associated with the Charmouth Mudstone Formation, of the Jurassic Period (BGS 2017). The natural geological substrate was recorded in both of the excavated trenches and consisted of yellow-brown sands and gravels.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

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

- 2.2 Evidence of archaeological activity within the vicinity of the site comprises a small number of findspots, including three within the existing school grounds. In 1975 a quantity of unstratified pottery was recovered (Glos HER 1208) and in 1994 a possible prehistoric hearth was recorded during works associated with the construction of a new school building (Glos HER 1299; Glevensis 1995). A series of undated palaeochannels were identified during an archaeological watching brief in 2013, 75m to the west of the current site (CA 2013).
- 2.3 In the wider vicinity, an As of Marcus Aurelius dated to 153-154 AD was found at a property on Longford Lane, immediately to the south of the site (Glos HER 133) and a quantity of prehistoric and Roman pottery was discovered to the east of the school, at Little Normans, Simon Road in 1974 (Glos HER 134). Previous archaeological work nearby includes two watching briefs, both with negative results, conducted at sites located approximately 130m to the south and 440m to the north-east of the current development area.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation are to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality, in accordance *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). This information will enable GCC to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of two trenches, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). During the course of the evaluation, the layout of both trenches required alteration, due to buried services and other constraints; Trench 1 measured 13m in length and Trench 2 measured 15m in length. The trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*.
- 4.2 Both trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a breaker and toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* but no deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.4 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 the Museum of Gloucester, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds Appendices A and B respectively.
- 5.2 The natural geological substrate, consisting of mixed sands and gravels, was identified in both of the excavated trenches at a typical depth of 0.55m below present ground level (bpgl). It was overlain by a sandy-clay-silt buried subsoil, typically measuring 0.19m in thickness.

- 5.3 A number of east/west aligned linear furrows were recorded cutting the subsoil within both trenches; five furrows were identified within Trench 1, with two furrows being observed within Trench 2. Spaced approximately 2m apart and extending beyond the limits of excavation, these furrows measured an average of 1.26m in width, 0.24m in depth (where excavated) and had gradually sloping sides and concave bases (see Fig. 3). Post-medieval artefacts, including pottery, ceramic building material (CBM) and metal objects were recovered from the fill of furrow 205 within Trench 2.
- 5.4 Modern made ground and bedding layers overlay the buried subsoil horizons in both trenches, with these deposits also being observed directly overlaying the natural substrate within the eastern end of Trench 2. These deposits measured up to 0.48m in thickness and were sealed by the existing tarmac playground surface. Two postholes, 111 and 113, were noted cutting through the modern made ground within Trench 1.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 Small quantities of artefactual material comprising pottery, ceramic building material, metallurgical residues and metal objects, were recorded (see Appendix B).

Pottery

- 6.2 Two sherds of pottery (12g) were recovered, both from furrow 205 (fill 206). A small and abraded body sherd in a hard oxidised fabric with a thin speckled glaze is tentatively identified as Malvern Chase ware (Glos. TF 52), production of which spanned the 13th to early 17th centuries. The second (body) sherd from this deposit occurs in an internally-glazed sandy earthenware, probably an Ashton Keynes product (Glos. TF 80) and dateable across the mid 16th to 18th centuries.

Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

- 6.3 Two fragments were recorded, both from furrow fill 206. The larger fragment (383g) is a portion of a 'stock' (wood-moulded) brick measuring 3" in width and in a hard, sandy red-fired fabric. Only broad dating, in the 17th to 19th centuries range, is possible. The second fragment is small (23g) and unfeatured, and cannot be closely dated.

Other finds

- 6.4 A fragment of ironworking slag (22g) was recorded from furrow 107 (fill 108). In isolation it cannot be dated. Finds from furrow fill 206 included two metal items; a strip-like iron object and a part of a copper alloy buckle of 'spectacle' type – a form common in the earlier post-medieval period (16th and 17th centuries).

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bone

- 7.1 A single fragment of animal bone (38g) was recovered from fill 2016 within post-medieval plough furrow 205. The bone was poorly preserved and lacked the osteological landmarks that aid species identification. As a result the bone was only identifiable as a fragment of femur from a cattle-size mammal. No useful interpretative information was obtained.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 Evidence for medieval and/or post-medieval agricultural practice, most probably comprising the ploughed out remains of a ridge and furrow field system, was identified in both trenches. Such evidence suggests that the proposed development area was used for agricultural practices from at least the medieval period onwards.
- 8.2 The lack of *in-situ* topsoil within either trench, the truncation of the subsoil within the eastern end of Trench 2 and the presence of demonstrably modern made-ground and bedding deposits in both trenches suggests that the area has previously been stripped and levelled. Such work is most probably associated with the construction of the current playground in the later 20th century.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Alex Thomson, assisted by Jess Stevens. The report was written by Alex Thomson. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Ed McSloy and Andy Clarke respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Charlotte Patman. The archive has been compiled by Alex Thomson, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

10. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2015 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 1 June 2017
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 *Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester: Archaeological Watching Brief*. CA typescript report **13389**
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- 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

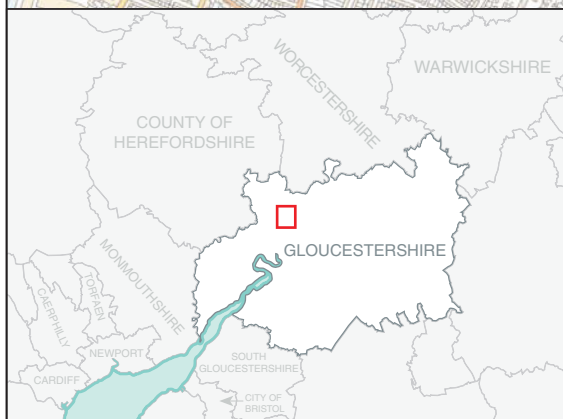
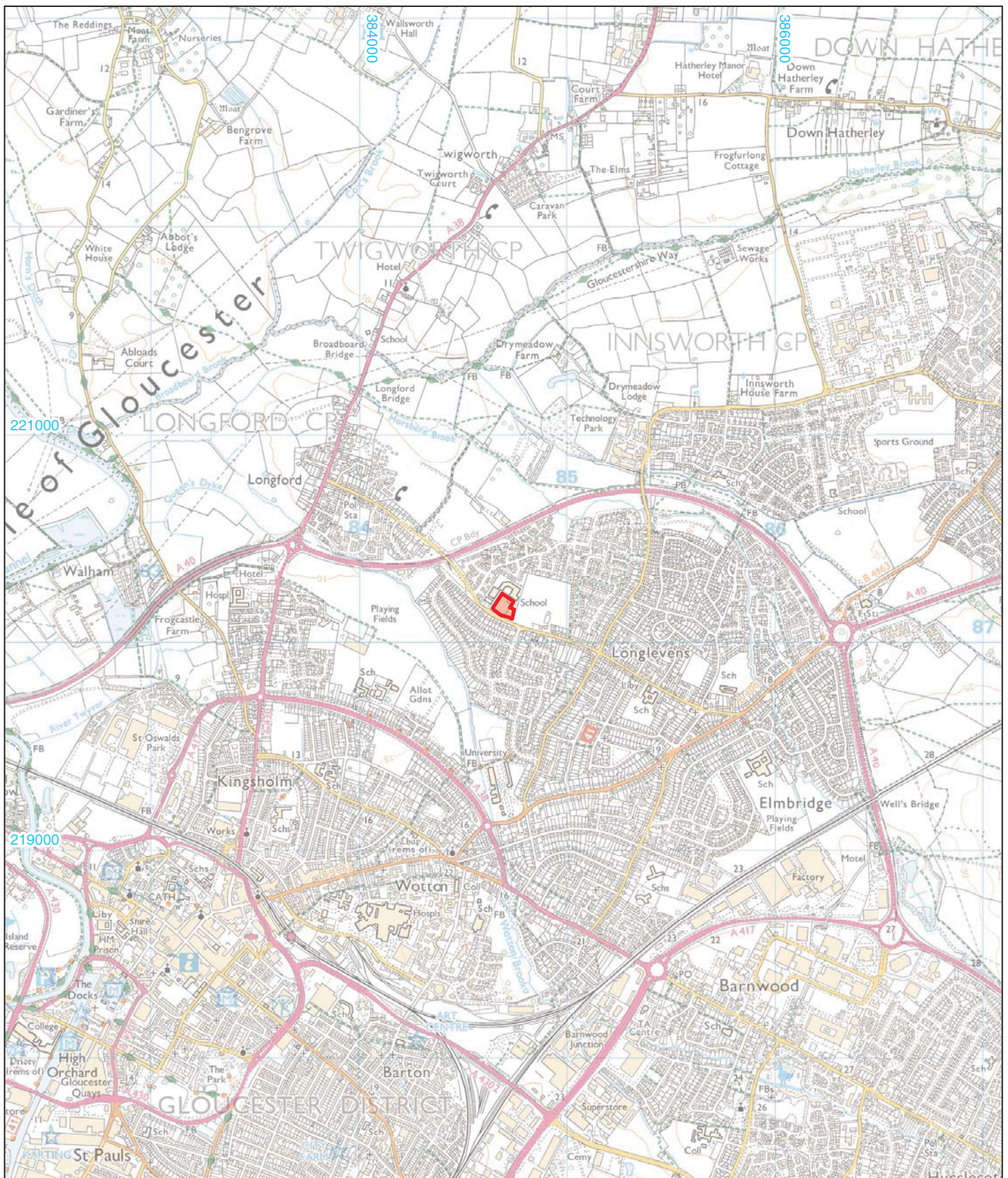
Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Playground surface	Tarmac	>13	>1.8	0.1	Modern
1	101	Layer		Bedding material	Mixed CBM and rubble	>13	>1.8	0.4	Modern
1	102	Layer		Made ground	Dark green-grey clay	>13	>1.8	0.08	Modern
1	103	Layer		Subsoil	Light yellow-brown sandy-clay-silt	>13	>1.8	0.21	
1	104	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mixed light yellow-brown sands and gravels	>13	>1.8		
1	105	Cut		Furrow	E/W aligned linear furrow	>1.8	1.78	0.26	
1	106	Fill	105	Furrow Fill	Light grey-brown sandy-clay-silt	>1.8	1.78	0.26	
1	107	Cut		Furrow	E/W aligned linear furrow	>1.8	0.36	0.06	
1	108	Fill	107	Furrow Fill	Light grey-brown sandy-clay-silt	>1.8	0.36	0.06	
1	109	Cut		Furrow	E/W aligned linear furrow	>1.8	>2	0.42	
1	110	Fill	109	Furrow Fill	Light grey-brown sandy-clay-silt	>1.8	>2	0.42	
1	111	Cut		Posthole	Unexcavated sub-circular posthole cut	0.25	0.22		Modern
1	112	Fill	111	Posthole fill	Dark grey-green clay	0.25	0.22		
1	113	Cut		Posthole	Steep side sub-circular posthole cut	0.39	0.3	0.18	Modern
2	114	Fill	113	Posthole fill	Dark grey-green clay	0.39	0.3	0.18	
2	115	Cut		Furrow	Unexcavated E/W aligned linear furrow	>1.8	0.5		
2	116	Fill	115	Furrow Fill	Light grey-brown sandy-clay-silt	>1.8	0.5		
2	117	Cut		Furrow	Unexcavated E/W aligned linear furrow	>1.8	0.5		
2	118	Fill	117	Furrow Fill	Light grey-brown sandy-clay-silt	>1.8	0.5		
2	200	Layer		Playground surface	Tarmac	>15	>1.8	0.1	Modern
2	201	Layer		Bedding material	Mixed CBM and rubble	>15	>1.8	0.3	Modern
2	202	Layer		Made ground	Dark green-grey clay	>15	>1.8	0.15	Modern
2	203	Layer		Subsoil	Light yellow-brown sandy-clay-silt	>8	>1.8	0.18	
2	204	Layer		Natural Substrate	Mixed light yellow-brown sands and gravels	>15	>1.8		
2	205	Cut		Furrow	E/W aligned linear furrow	>4.5	>1.9	0.21	
2	206	Fill	205	Furrow Fill	Light grey-brown sandy-clay-silt	>4.5	>1.9	0.21	Post-med
2	207	Cut		Furrow	Unexcavated E/W aligned linear furrow	>2.7	0.57		
2	208	Fill	207	Furrow Fill	Light grey-brown sandy-clay-silt	>2.7	0.57		

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Class	Description	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Spot-date
106	Metallurgical residue	Ironworking slag	1	22	-
206	Medieval/post-medieval pottery	Malvern Chase oxidised (TF52)	1	2	MC17-C18+
	Post-medieval pottery	Glazed earthenware (TF80?)	1	10	
	Ceramic building material	Brick fragments	2	406	
	Iron	Strip	1	4	
	Copper alloy	Buckle fragment	1	1	

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in May 2017 at The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester. Two trenches were excavated.</p> <p>Evidence for medieval and/or post-medieval agricultural practice, comprising the ploughed out remains of ridge and furrow cultivation, was identified within the site. Modern truncation and levelling was also identified.</p> <p>No further features or deposits of archaeological interest were identified during the course of the evaluation.</p>	
Project dates	30-31 May 2017	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Longford Lane, Gloucester	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.83ha	
Site co-ordinates	384708 220190	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	None	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Cliff Bateman	
Project Supervisor	Alex Thomson	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Museum of Gloucester	Ceramics, animal bone, metal objects
Paper	Museum of Gloucester	Trench and context sheets, field drawings, photographic register
Digital	Museum of Gloucester	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 <i>The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester: Archaeological Evaluation</i>. CA typescript report 17310</p>		



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PROJECT TITLE
 The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School,
 Longford Lane, Gloucester

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

0 1km

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	02/06/2017	
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-  car parking and play area
-  proposed swimming pool location
-  evaluation trench
-  modern
-  furrow



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PROJECT TITLE
The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School,
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FIGURE TITLE
Trench location plan showing
archaeological features

DRAWN BY	CP	PROJECT NO.	6246	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	05/06/2017	
APPROVED BY	CB	SCALE@A3	1:2500 & 1:125	2

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Furrows 105 and 107, looking east (scales 1m)



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PROJECT TITLE

The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School,
Longford Lane, Gloucester

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

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CHECKED BY DJB DATE 05/06/2017
APPROVED BY CB SCALE@A4 N/A

FIGURE NO.

3

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