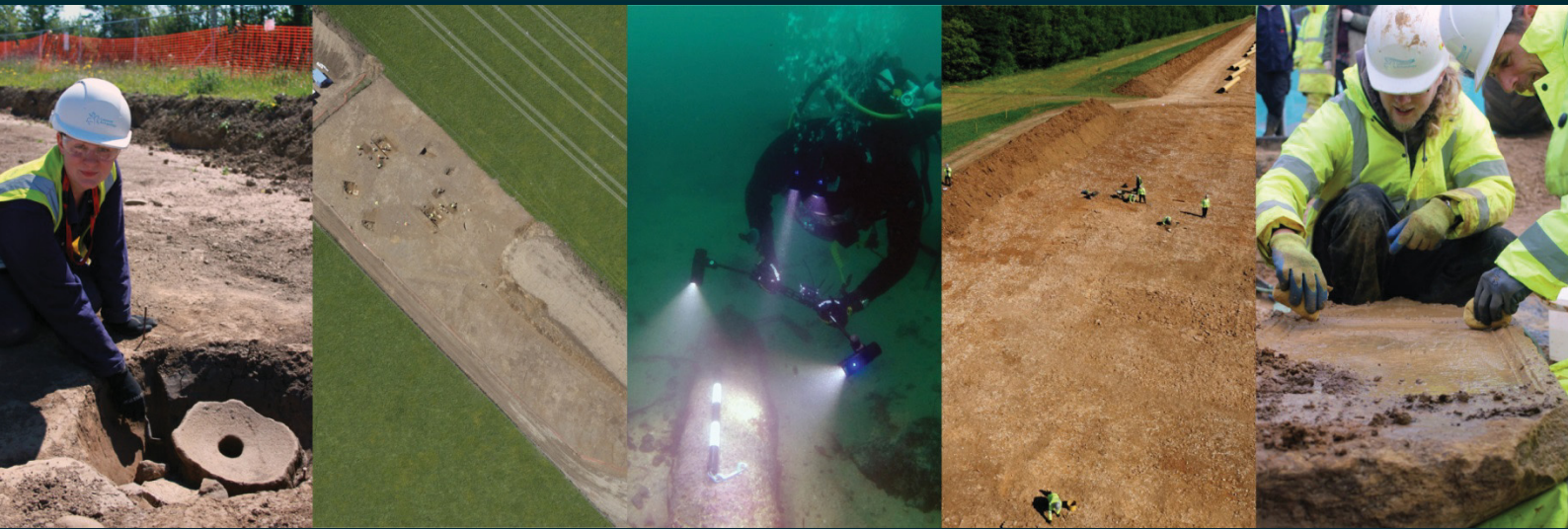


The Chamwell Centre
Milestone School
Longford Lane
Gloucester



for
The Chamwell Centre
Charity

CA Project: 6392
CA Report: 17611

October 2017



The Chamwell Centre
 Milestone School
 Longford Lane
 Gloucester

Archaeological Watching Brief

CA Project: 6392
 CA Report: 17611



Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	19/10/2017	D Sausins	C Bateman	Internal review		

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School
Location:	Longford Lane, Gloucester
NGR:	384708 220190
Type:	Watching Brief
Date:	5 September to 10 October 2017
Planning Reference:	Gloucester City Council ref: 16/00322/FUL, Condition 3
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with the Museum of Gloucester
Site Code:	CCMS 17

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the reconfiguration of the existing playground and parking areas at The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School, Longford Road, Gloucester.

Evidence for medieval and/or post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation was identified within the site. Modern truncation and levelling was also identified.

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 September and October 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for The Chamwell Centre Charity at Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester (centred at NGR: 384708 220190; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to planning consent granted by Gloucester City Council (GCC) for the reconfiguration of the existing playground and parking areas (GCC ref: 16/00322/FUL; Condition 3) although no further archaeological works were required within the footprint of the proposed new extension and swimming pool area. The work was recommended by Mr Andrew Armstrong, City Archaeologist, GCC.
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017a) and 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 proposed development area comprises part of the existing school grounds, including parts of the playground, a sports pitch and an internal access road. The site is relatively flat and lies at approximately 16m AOD.
- 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). Yellow gravels were identified during the current works.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 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 (CA 2013).

- 2.2 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.
- 2.3 Buildings associated with Longford Secondary School are first shown on the 1958 Ordnance Survey map in the south and south-east of the application area, but were demolished by the late 20th-century.
- 2.4 The preceding archaeological evaluation, also undertaken in compliance with the current planning consent, identified evidence for the ploughed out remains of medieval and/or post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation within the site. Modern truncation and levelling was also revealed (CA 2017b).

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 2017). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising ground reduction within the playground and car park areas (Fig. 2).



- 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. 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, comprising gravels in a light brown yellow sand matrix, was identified between 0.2m and 0.5m below present ground level (BPGL) in the central and southern extent of the site. In the north of site, the groundworks typically did not penetrate the subsoil with the exception of the excavations associated with a large attenuation tank.
- 5.2 Furrows were identified in the central part of the site. All were aligned broadly east/ west. The furrows that did not correlate with those identified during the preceding evaluation were hand excavated during the current works. Furrow 203 measured approximately 0.75m in width and 0.07m in depth and furrow 205 measured approximately 1.7m in width and 0.25m in depth. Both had gentle sides and concave base. All observed furrows cut the natural substrate and were sealed by subsoil and/or modern disturbance.
- 5.3 Modern disturbance, comprising concrete foundations, brick footings and subsequent demolition material, all associated with the former Longford Secondary School, was identified in the south and south-east of site cutting the natural substrate.
- 5.4 With the exception of the furrows, no features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during the current groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1 Medieval and/or post-medieval furrows were identified during the watching brief. The furrows were on the same alignment as those identified during the preceding evaluation and likely represent the continuation of this field system.
- 6.2 Modern truncation, previously identified during the evaluation, was also identified throughout much of site and was most probably associated with the construction of the current playground in the later 20th-century. However, the presence of furrows indicates that the natural substrate has not been truncated significantly by modern development and the lack of archaeological features is likely due to the location of the site being part of Gloucester's agricultural hinterland during the Roman and medieval periods.
- 6.3 Modern disturbance identified in the south and south-east of site is associated with the construction and subsequent demolition of Longford Secondary School in the second half of the 20th century.

7. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Greg Crees, Peter Searle and Liam Wilson. The report was written by Daniel Sausins. The illustrations were prepared by Charlotte Patman. The archive has been compiled by Daniel Sausins, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

8. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2011 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed 21 March 2017
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 *Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester. Archaeological Watching Brief*. CA typescript report **13389**
- CA 2017a *The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

CA 2017b *The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester. Archaeological Evaluation.* CA typescript report **17310**

Glevensis 1995 *The Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group Review, Number 28*

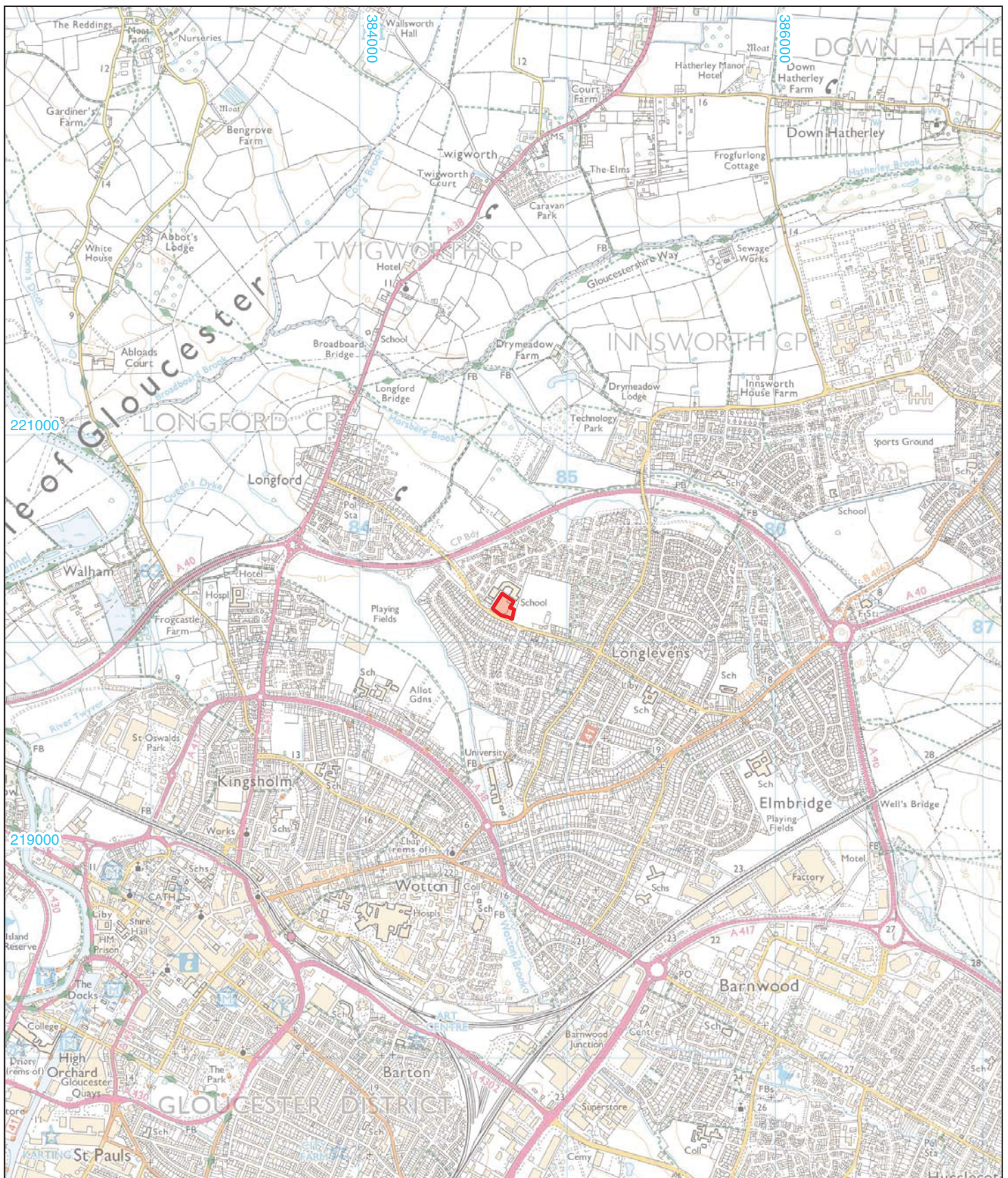


APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Surface	Tarmac			0.25
1	101	Layer		Made-ground	Gravel			0.35
1	102	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brown sand			0.3
1	103	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown sand and gravel			
1	104	Fill	105	Modern cut fill	Brown silt sand			
1	105	Cut		Modern service cuts	Vertical side. Unexcavated			
2	200	Layer		Made-ground	Mix of sand, silt brick, clay and stone crush			0.35
2	201	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow brown silt clay sand with modern disturbance			
2	202	Fill	203	Furrow fill	Mid brown silty sand clay		0.74	0.07
2	203	Cut		Furrow	E/W alignment. Moderate dies, concave base		0.74	0.07
2	204	Fill	204	Furrow fill	Mid brown silty sand clay		1.69	0.26
2	205	Cut		Furrow	E/W alignment. Moderate dies, concave base		1.69	0.26
3	300	Layer		Made-ground	Crushed stone and CBM			0.2
3	301	Layer		Natural substrate	Gravels in light yellow sand matrix			

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester	
Short description	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the reconfiguration of the existing playground and parking areas at The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School, Longford Road, Gloucester.</p> <p>Evidence for medieval and/or post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation was identified within the site. Modern truncation and levelling was also identified.</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	5 September to 10 October 2017	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	Field Evaluation (CA 2017) Watching Brief (CA 2013 and Glevensis 1995)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Milestone School, 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	n/a	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Cliff Bateman	
Project Supervisor	Greg Crees, Peter Searle, Liam Wilson	
MONUMENT TYPE	none	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	none	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	The Museum of Gloucester	n/a
Paper	The Museum of Gloucester	Context sheets, trench sheets
Digital	The Museum of Gloucester	Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 <i>The Chamwell Centre, Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> CA typescript report 17611</p>		



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PROJECT TITLE

Chamwell Centre, Milestone School,
Longford Lane, Gloucester

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

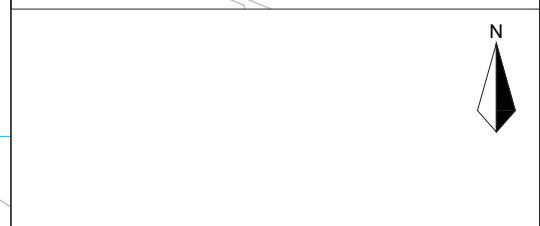
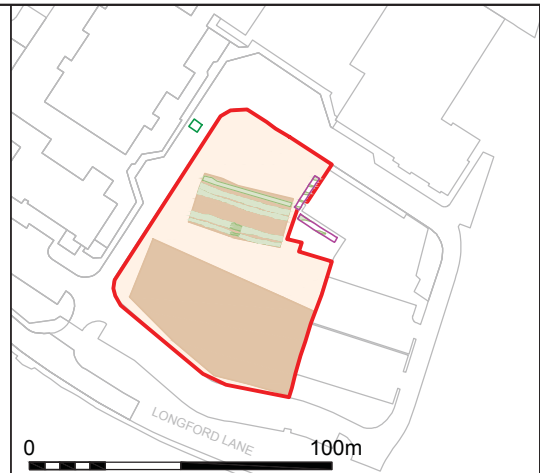
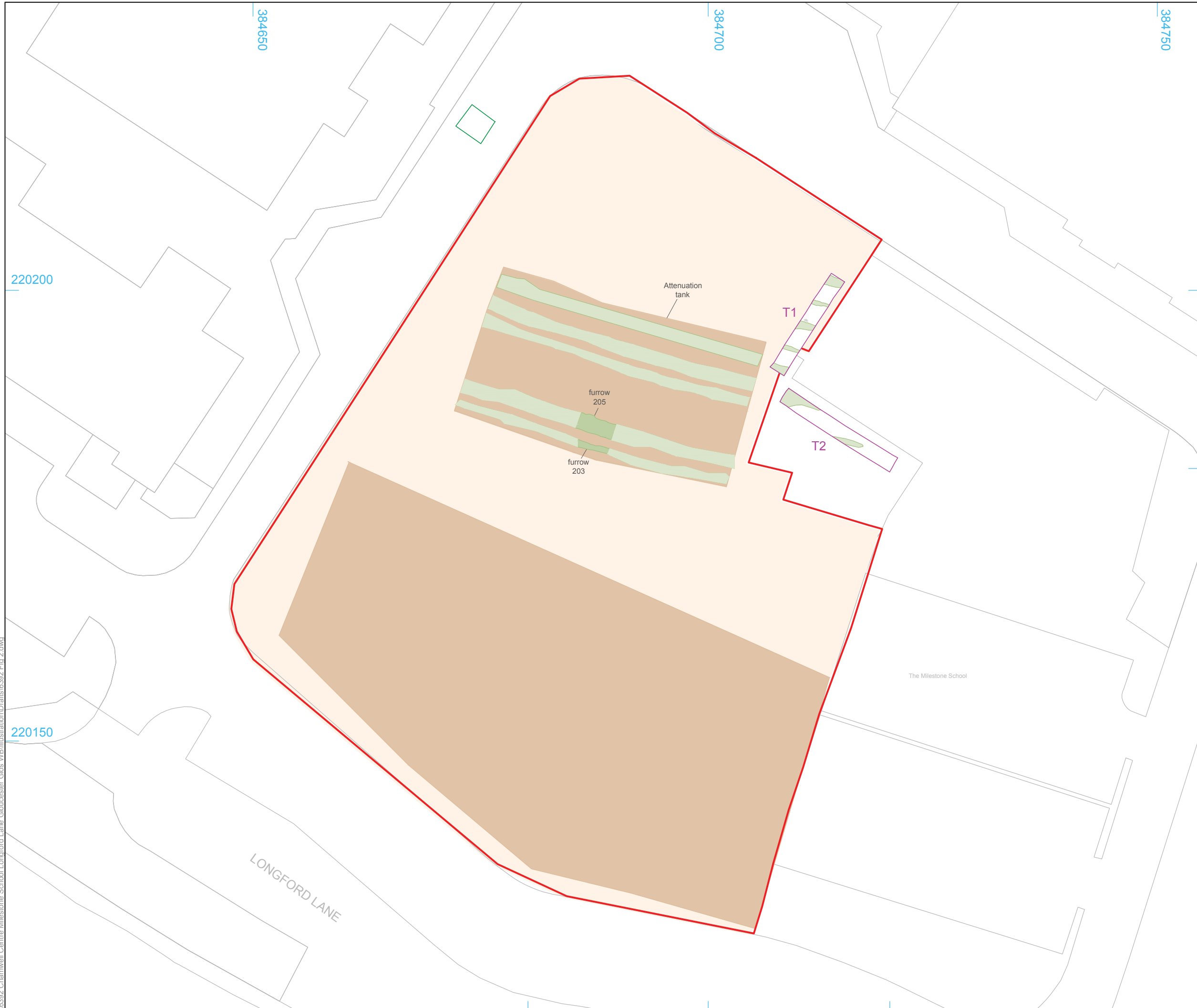


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PROJECT NO. 6392
 DATE 24/10/2017
 SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.
1



- site boundary
- evaluation trench (CA 2017)
- furrow excavated/unexcavated
- observed natural substrate
- observed subsoil



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

FIGURE TITLE
 The site showing location of observed groundworks

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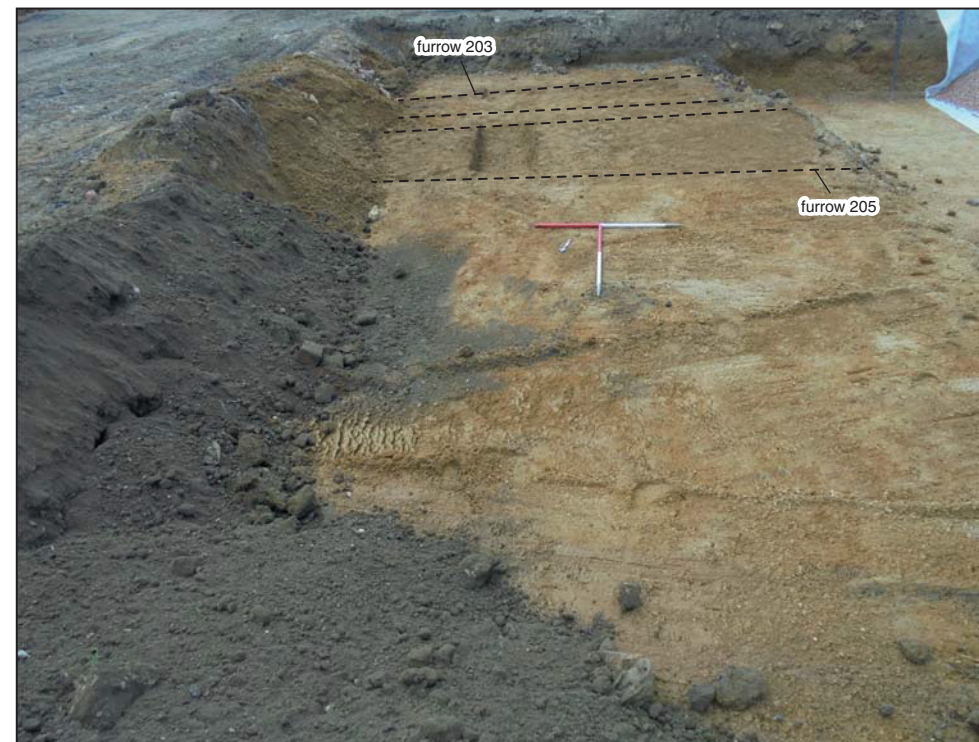
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Modern disturbance in the south-east of the site



Attenuation tank section (scales 1m)



General view showing furrows 203 and 205, looking south-east (scales 1m)

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