

**ST ANN WAY BRIDGE LINK  
GLOUCESTER**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

*For*

**ENGLISH PARTNERSHIPS**

CA PROJECT: 2344  
CA REPORT: 08050

MARCH 2008




**COTSWOLD  
ARCHAEOLOGY**

# ST ANN WAY BRIDGE LINK GLOUCESTER

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CA PROJECT: 2344  
CA REPORT: 08050

prepared by	Stuart Joyce, Project Supervisor
date	7 March 2008
checked by	Laurent Coleman, Project Manager
date	20 March 2008
approved by	Simon Cox, Head of Fieldwork
signed	
date	20 March 2008
issue	01

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- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 The site, showing location of observed groundworks (1:1000)

## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** St Ann Way Bridge Link  
**Location:** Gloucester  
**NGR:** SO 8231 1785  
**Type:** Watching Brief  
**Date:** 23 April 2007 and 18, 25 to 27 February 2008  
**Planning Reference:** 06/00358/FUL  
**Location of Archive:** Gloucester City Museum  
**Site Code:** SAG 07

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the development of a new canal bridge, relief road and associated services at St Ann Way Bridge Link, Gloucester. The watching brief was undertaken at the request of English Partnerships.

An undated alluvial clay deposit may represent a former pond or marshy area. No other archaeological features were identified and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In February 2008 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for English Partnerships at St Ann Way Bridge Link, Gloucester (centred on NGR: SO 8231 1785; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to a planning consent for development of a new canal bridge, relief road and associated services at Gloucester Docks (Planning ref: 06/00358/FUL). The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the development.

1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Scott Wilson Ltd (2007) and with a detailed Project Design produced by CA (2007) both approved by Mr Jonathan Smith, Gloucester City Council Planning Services, archaeological advisor to Gloucester City Council. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (2001), the *Statement for Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Gloucestershire* (GCC 1996), and the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991).

### **The site**

1.3 The St Ann Way Bridge site forms part of the overall Gloucester Quays development area, approximately 25ha in size and located c. 0.8km to the south-west of the modern city centre. The current site comprises an area straddling the Gloucester and Sharpness Canal within the central part of the Gloucester Quays development area. The south-eastern part of the site comprises the extension of the existing St Ann Way road. The north-western part is bordered to the north-west by Hempstead Lane, to the north-east by Llanthony Priory Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM), to the south-east by the Gloucester and Sharpness Canal and to the south-west by the southern part of the Monk Meadow site (also part of the Gloucester Quays development area (Fig. 2)). The site lies at approximately 10.5m AOD.

1.4 The site is approximately 3.9ha in area and includes the demolished remains of industrial buildings.

- 1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Lower Lias Clays of the Lower Jurassic overlain by Estuarine Alluvium (BGS 1975).

### ***Archaeological background***

- 1.6 The archaeological potential of the site is detailed within the WSI (Scott Wilson 2007) and is summarised below.
- 1.7 Monks Meadow was used for pasture and arable farming by Gloucester Abbey during the medieval period and continued in agricultural use until the late 19th or early 20th centuries when docks, railways and timber yards were constructed along the western bank of the canal. Monk Meadow Dock, opened in 1892, was built to serve the adjacent timber yards. Between the 1920s and 1960s Monk Meadow Dock was Gloucester's main petroleum dock (Scott Wilson 2007).
- 1.8 The northern boundary of the western part of the site abuts Llanthony Priory SAM. The SAM comprises the site of Llanthony Secunda Priory, an Augustinian priory founded in 1136 and subject to at least two phases of reconstruction. The surviving extant remains, which include several Listed Buildings, relate largely to the later 15th-century phase. Archaeological evaluation has been undertaken both within and around the SAM, however no trenching was undertaken in the immediate vicinity of the area of the proposed watching brief (CA 2003).

### ***Methodology***

- 1.9 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the Project Design and WSI (CA 2007 and Scott Wilson 2007). An archaeologist was present during specific intrusive groundworks located at the western end of the site. This comprised the excavation of a service trench for a new gas main located in the northern footway of the tie in road with Hempstead Lane (Fig. 2). Only groundworks in excess of 1m below current ground level were monitored.
- 1.10 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.11 The archive from the watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. The archive will be deposited with Gloucester City Museum. 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.

## **2. RESULTS (FIG. 2)**

- 2.1 Excavation of a service trench within the western part of the site was undertaken to a maximum depth of c. 2.1m below present ground level (bpgl). The natural geological substrate was not encountered during these works. The earliest deposit encountered was 107 a mid green alluvial clay thought to represent the fill of a pond or marshy area. This was overlain by black clay silt representing a former ground surface, which was overlain in turn by make-up layers 105 and 104 beneath the modern tarmac.
- 2.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

## **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the application area (see archaeological background above), the watching brief identified no significant archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks. The fill of a possible pond or marshy area 107 represented by green alluvial clay was identified. The south-western edge of this deposit coincides with the former course of the Sudbrook (CA 2003, Fig. 2) and the identification of a pond and/or marshy area is therefore not unexpected.

## **4. CA PROJECT TEAM**

Fieldwork was undertaken by Mark Brett and Sian Reynish. The report was written by Stuart Joyce. The illustrations were prepared by Jemma Elliot. The archive has been compiled, and prepared for deposition by Kathryn Price. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

## 5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 1975 *Geological Survey of England and Wales*, Sheet 234, Gloucester, Scale 1:50,000

CA 2003 *Gloucester Quays, Gloucester: Archaeological Evaluation* CA Typescript Report **03130**

CA 2007 *St Ann Way Bridge Link, Gloucester: Project Design for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Scott Wilson 2007 *St Ann Way Bridge Link, Gloucester: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Watching Brief*



**APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS****Trench 1**

No.	Type	Description	Depth (m)
100	Layer	Demolition layer. Mottled grey yellow and blue grey, silty clay.	0.75
101	Layer	Buried topsoil. Dark brown grey, clay.	0.05
102	Layer	Dark brown black, silty sand.	1.00
103	Layer	Modern tarmac.	0.07
104	Layer	Brick rubble make-up layer.	0.35
105	Layer	Make-up layer. Mixed brick rubble, re-deposited green clay and black silt.	0.75
106	Layer	Black clay silt.	0.30
107	Layer	Mid green alluvial clay.	0.50


**APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	St Ann Way Bridge Link	
Short description (250 words maximum)	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the development of a new canal bridge, relief road and associated services at St Ann Way Bridge Link, Gloucester.  An undated alluvial clay deposit may represent a former pond or marshy area. No other archaeological features were identified and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.	
Project dates	23 April 2007 and 18, 25 to 27 February 2008	
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Archaeological Watching Brief	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2003 <i>Gloucester Quays, Gloucester: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . CA typescript report <b>03130</b>	
Future work	Not Known	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	St Ann Way Bridge, Gloucester	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	3.9ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SO 8231 1785	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	N/A	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology, Scott Wilson Ltd	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Mark Brett	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	N/A	N/A
Paper	Gloucester City Museum	WSI, pro forma registers and recording forms
Digital	Gloucester City Museum	Digital photographs
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2008 <i>St Ann Way Bridge Link, Gloucester: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> . CA typescript report <b>08050</b>		

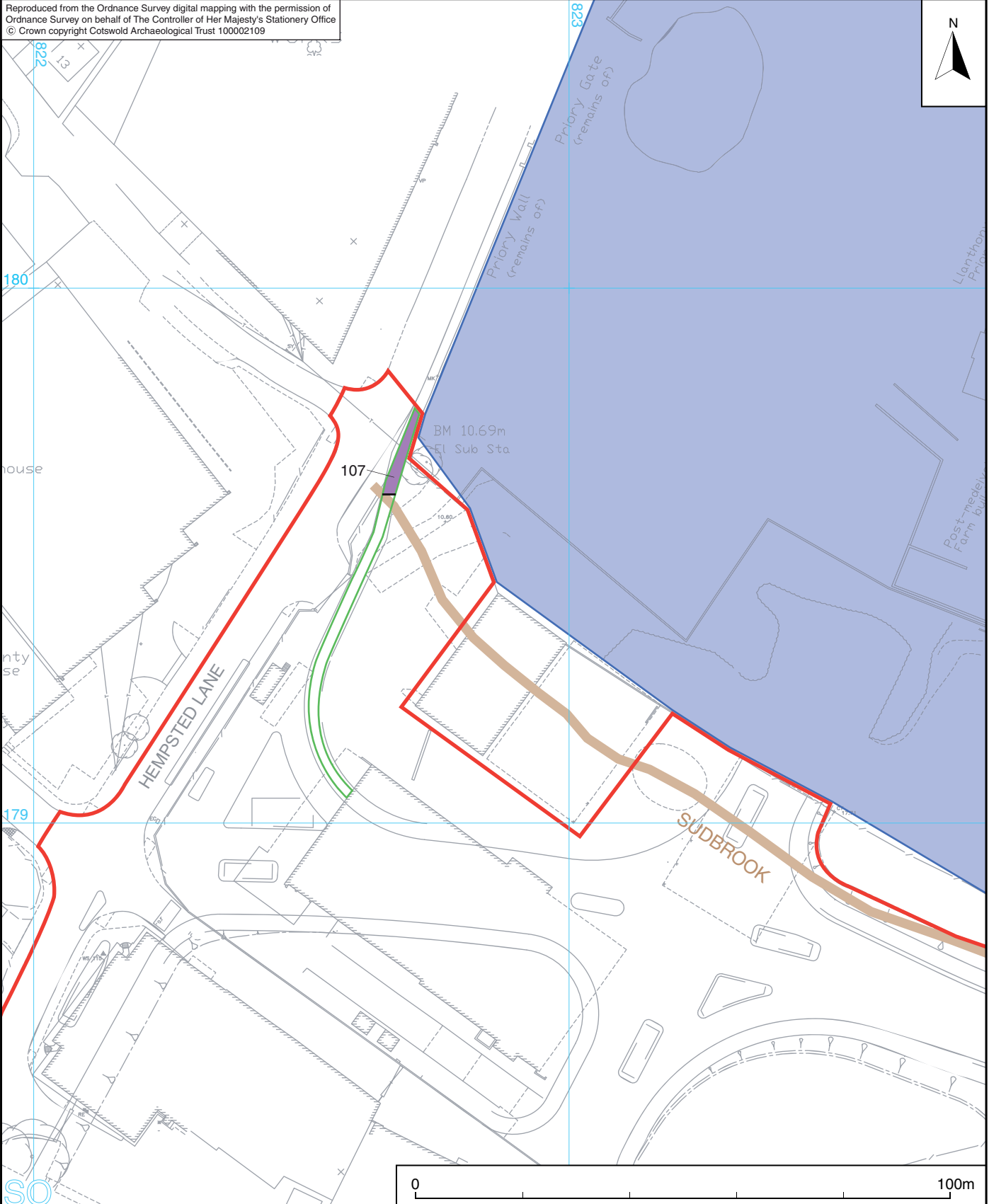


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 <b>COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY</b>			
<b>PROJECT TITLE</b> St Ann Way Bridge Link, Gloucester			
<b>FIGURE TITLE</b> Site location plan			
<b>DRAWN BY</b>	<b>SCALE</b>	<b>PROJECT NO.</b>	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
JE	1:25,000@A4	2344	<b>1</b>





SO

- site
- area of observed groundworks
- pond and/or marshy area
- extent of Scheduled Ancient Monument
- watercourse



**COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY**

PROJECT TITLE  
**St Ann Way Bridge Link, Gloucester**

FIGURE TITLE  
**The site, showing location of observed groundworks**

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
JE	1:1000@A4	2344	<b>2</b>