

**HUNTLEY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
ROSS ROAD
HUNTLEY
GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

For

TOWN AND CITY BUILDERS LTD

CA PROJECT: 2544
CA REPORT: 08051

APRIL 2008




**COTSWOLD
ARCHAEOLOGY**

HUNTLEY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
ROSS ROAD
HUNTLEY
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CA PROJECT: 2544
CA REPORT: 08051

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date	7 March 2008
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date	31 March 2008
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signed	
date	1 April 2008
issue	01

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SUMMARY

Project Name: Huntley C of E Primary School
Location: Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire
NGR: SO 7130 1962
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 18 to 19 and 21 February 2008
Planning Reference: P1483/07/FUL
Location of Archive: Gloucester City Museum
Site Code: HCE 08

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with alterations and extension to an existing classroom at Huntley C of E (Church of England) Primary School, Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire. The watching brief was undertaken at the request of Town and City Builders Ltd.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks. A small assemblage of pottery dating to the medieval period was recovered from the subsoil.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In February 2008 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Town and City Builders Ltd at Huntley C of E Primary School, Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire (centred on NGR: SO 7130 1962; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to a planning consent for alterations and extension to existing classroom (Planning ref: P1483/07/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 communication from Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC), the archaeological advisor to Forest of Dean District Council, and with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2008) and approved by Forest of Dean District Council acting on the advice of Charles Parry. 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 site is bounded to the north by a commercial nursery, to the east by the parish church of St John the Baptist and to the south and west by residential properties (Fig. 2). The site lies at approximately 76m AOD with the ground sloping steeply upward to the north.

1.4 The site is 0.3ha in area, and currently contains a primary school with associated buildings and areas of hard standing and lawns.

1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Keuper Sandstone of the Triassic era (BGS 1975) which was encountered during the groundworks.

Archaeological background

1.6 Archaeological interest in the site arises from its close proximity to the parish church of St John the Baptist.

Methodology

- 1.7 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2008). An archaeologist was present during machine excavation of the topsoil and subsoil to expose the upper surface of the natural substrate within the area of the extension to the existing classroom and associated landscaping (Fig. 2).
- 1.8 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.9 The archive and artefacts from the watching brief are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Gloucester City Museum, 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.

2. RESULTS

- 2.1 The natural substrate comprised a pink brown deposit of rock fragments in a clay matrix and was identified at 1.65m below present ground level (bpgl) this was overlain by a deposit of weathered natural substrate 102 comprising mid orange brown silty clay and which was c. 0.5m thick. Layer 102 was overlain by pinkish brown subsoil 101 averaging 0.70m in thickness, which was in turn sealed by dark pink brown topsoil 100 which was c. 0.45m thick.
- 2.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks.

The Finds

- 2.3 Seven sherds of medieval pottery, one fragment of ceramic roof tile and an iron nail were recovered from subsoil 101.
- 2.4 The medieval pottery consisted primarily of rim and bodysherds in a coarse sandy cooking pot type fabric of a type commonly encountered in the Forest of Dean area, and one sherd in a probable Malvernian fabric. All date to the 11th to 14th centuries.

- 2.5 The ceramic building material consisted of a fragment of roofing tile, probably ridge tile of later medieval type. The iron nail was hand forged and may also be of medieval date.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the application area, the watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks. The presence of a small assemblage of finds dating to the medieval period from the subsoil, was recorded.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Sian Reynish. The report was written by Stuart Joyce. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Stuart Joyce, 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 (Cotswold Archaeology) 2008 *Huntley C of E Primary School, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Type	Description	Depth (m)
100	Layer	Topsoil. Mid dark pinkish brown silty sand.	0-0.45
101	Layer	Subsoil. Mid brownish pink, clay sand.	0.45-1.15
102	Layer	Natural substrate. Mid orange brown slightly silty sand.	1.15-1.65
103	Layer	Natural substrate. Mid pink brown sandstone.	1.65-Limit of excavation

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Finds Concordance

Context	Artefact type	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
101	Medieval pottery; coarse sandy, Malvernian	7	75	C11-C14
	Ceramic building material: tile	1	25	
	Iron nail	1	11	

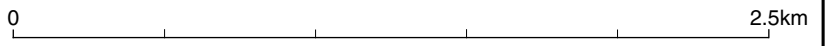
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM


PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Huntley C of E School, Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire	
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with alterations and extension to an existing classroom at Huntley C of E (Church of England) Primary School, Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire.</p> <p>No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks. A small assemblage of pottery dating to the medieval period was recovered from the subsoil.</p>	
Project dates	18 to 19 and 21 February 2008	
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Watching brief	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	Unknown	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Huntley C of E Primary School, Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.3ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SO 7130 1962	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	N/A	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Sian Reynish	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Gloucester City Museum	Pottery
Paper	Gloucester City Museum	WSI, pro forma registers and recording forms
Digital	Gloucester City Museum	Digital photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2007 <i>Huntley C of E Primary School, Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i>. CA typescript report 08051</p>		

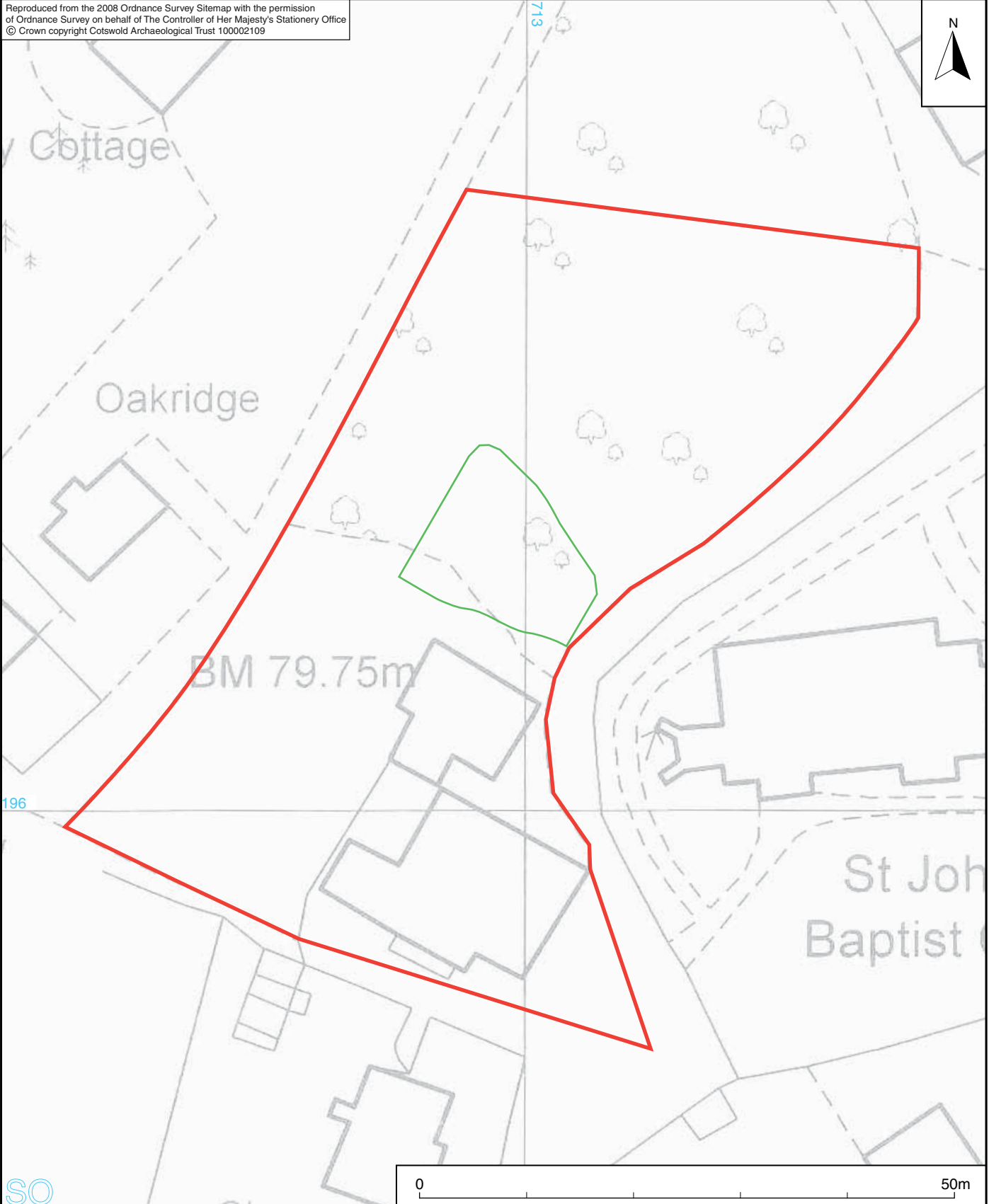
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Site



 COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY			
PROJECT TITLE Huntley C of E Primary School Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire			
FIGURE TITLE Site location plan			
DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
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-  site
-  area of observed groundworks



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

Huntley C of E Primary School
Ross Road, Huntley, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

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

DRAWN BY

JE

SCALE

1:500@A4

PROJECT NO.

2544

FIGURE NO.

2