

**10 HENRIETTA VILLAS
HENRIETTA ROAD
BATH
BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

For

NICHOLAS MAGNIAC ASSOCIATES

on behalf of

DR JOANNA SEDDON

CA PROJECT: 2461
CA REPORT: 08091

AUGUST 2008


COTSWOLD
ARCHAEOLOGY



10 HENRIETTA VILLAS
HENRIETTA ROAD
BATH

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CA PROJECT: 2461
CA REPORT: 08091

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signed	
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CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. INTRODUCTION	3
<i>The site</i>	3
<i>Archaeological background</i>	4
<i>Methodology</i>	4
2. RESULTS	4
3. DISCUSSION.....	5
4. CA PROJECT TEAM	5
5. REFERENCES	5
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	6
APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM	7

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

Fig. 2 The site, showing location of groundworks (1:1000)

SUMMARY

Project Name: 10 Henrietta Villas
Location: Henrietta Road, Bath
NGR: ST 75367 65382
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 5 December 2007
Planning Reference: 07/02149/LBA
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Roman Baths and Pump Room Museum
Accession Number: BATRM 2007.216
Site Code: HVB 07

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with internal and external alterations at 10 Henrietta Villas, Henrietta Road, Bath. These alterations included the erection of a new rear extension following the demolition of an existing structure. The watching brief was undertaken at the request of Nicholas Magniac Associates on behalf of Dr Joanna Seddon.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefacts were recovered.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In December 2007 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Nicholas Magniac Associates on behalf of Dr Joanna Seddon at 10 Henrietta Villas, Henrietta Road, Bath (centred on NGR: ST 75367 65382; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to an application for Listed Building consent (ref: 07/02149/LBA) and consent for a planning application (ref: 07/02153/FUL) for internal and external alterations, including the erection of a new rear extension following the demolition of an existing structure, at the site. 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 detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2007) and approved by Mr Richard Sermon, Archaeological Officer, Bath and North East Somerset Council (BANES). The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (2001), *Archaeology in the City of Bath: Supplementary Planning Guidance adopted by Bath and North East Somerset Council* in 2004 and the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991).

The site

- 1.3 The site is located within a row of semi-detached houses within the northern part of Bath. The property fronts onto Henrietta Road on its south-eastern side and is bounded on all remaining sides by domestic properties and their associated gardens (Fig. 2). The site is flat and lies at approximately 21m AOD.
- 1.4 The proposed development encloses an area of approximately 400m² and comprises an existing extension and garden to the rear of the property.
- 1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Second Terrace Gravel of the Pleistocene and recent era (BGS 1965).

Archaeological background

- 1.6 The archaeology of Bath has been ascribed to 36 character zones, based on the existing information. The site lies within Zone 14 - Bathwick. Significant Roman features, artefacts and burials having been found in the vicinity (Richard Sermon *pers. comm.*; BANES Sites and Monuments Record (SMR): EBN2970). The discovery of a substantial ditch and a large quantity of associated artefacts suggests that Bathwick was a significant Roman settlement. The burials may indicate the presence of a road in the area, possibly associated with a major crossing of the river Avon around the present Cleveland Bridge. The possible presence of a road and major river crossing, allied to other circumstantial evidence, points to the siting of a military fort in this location (BANES 2004, Appendix 4).

Methodology

- 1.7 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2007). An archaeologist was present during all intrusive groundworks comprising ground reduction within the building, and mechanical excavation for the extension at the rear of the property (Fig. 2).
- 1.8 Written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.9 The archive from the evaluation is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble and will be deposited with Roman Baths and Pump Room museum under accession number BATRM 2007.216. 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

- 2.1 A layer of clean orange brown clay 203 was revealed across the site which has been interpreted as the natural geological substrate; this was sealed by a layer of redeposited natural 102 and 201. This was subsequently truncated by partition wall

206 which was overlain by garden partition wall 205 and also truncated by modern service 207. Service trench 207 was in turn sealed by, and garden partition wall 205 was butted by, topsoil 200.

- 2.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefacts were recovered.

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 absence of archaeological deposits may indicate that archaeological remains associated with possible Roman settlement either do not extend as far as or were not exposed by the development, or that they may have been removed during previous development.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Katharine Aston. The report was written by Stuart Joyce and Katharine Aston. The illustrations were prepared by Jemma Elliot. The archive has been compiled by Katherine Aston, and prepared for deposition by Kathryn Price. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

5. REFERENCES

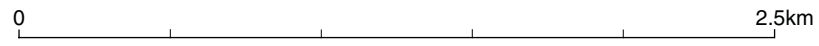
- BGS (British Geological Survey) 1965 *Geological Survey of Great Britain (England and Wales), Solid and Drift, Sheet 265, Bath, 1:50,000*
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2007 *10 Henrietta Villas, Henrietta Road, Bath: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*


APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
101	Masonry	Plastered sandstone walls				
102	Layer	Mid orange brown silty clay – redeposited natural			>0.30	
200	Layer	Topsoil – Dark grey brown sandy silty clay			0.30	
201	Layer	Light yellow orange silty clay with lens of crushed sandstone – redeposited natural			0.35	
203	Layer	Orange brown silty clay			0.50	
204	Masonry	Remains of extension				
205	Masonry	Garden partitioning wall				
206	Masonry	Partition wall	1.5		0.74	
207	Cut	Modern service				
208	Deposit	Fill of 207				

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	10 Henrietta Villas	
Short description	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with internal and external alterations at 10 Henrietta Villas, Henrietta Road, Bath. These alterations included the erection of a new rear extension following the demolition of an existing structure.</p> <p>No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material was recovered.</p>	
Project dates	5 December 2007	
Project type	Archaeological watching brief	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	Not known	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	10 Henrietta Villas, Henrietta Road, Bath	
Study area (M ² /ha)	Approximately 400m ²	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	ST 75367 65382	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	BANES	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Katharine Aston	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	N/A	N/A
Paper	Roman Baths and Pump Room Museum BATRM 2007.216	Trench recording sheets, plans
Digital	Roman Baths and Pump Room Museum BATRM 2007.216	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2007 <i>10 Henrietta Villas, Henrietta Road, Bath: Archaeological Watching Brief</i>, CA typescript report 08091</p>		



 COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY			
PROJECT TITLE Henrietta Villas, Henrietta Road Bath			
FIGURE TITLE Site location plan			
DRAWN BY JE	SCALE 1:25,000@A4	PROJECT NO. 2461	FIGURE NO. 1



- site
- area of observed groundworks
- former extension



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PROJECT TITLE

**Henrietta Villas, Henrietta Road
Bath**

FIGURE TITLE

**The site, showing location of
groundworks**

DRAWN BY

JE

SCALE

1:500@A4

PROJECT NO.

2461

FIGURE NO.

2