Cotswold Archaeology

Former Car & Tyre Garage
The Waterloo
Cirencester
Gloucestershire

Archaeological Evaluation

for:
Apex Architecture Ltd

on behalf of:
Mr Morten Peachey

CA Project: CR0814
CA Report: CR0814_1

February 2022

Former Car & Tyre Garage
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SUMMARY

Project name:	Former Car & Tyre Garage
Location:	The Waterloo, Cirencester, Gloucestershire
NGR:	402507 202106
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	24–27 January 2022
SMC:	S00241966
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Corinium Museum and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
Site Code:	CATYR22

In January 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation at the former Car & Tyre Garage, The Waterloo, Cirencester, Gloucestershire. Three test-pits were excavated.

A probable buried soil horizon of Roman date was identified in all of the excavated test-pits at a depth of between 1.05m and 1.16m below present ground level (bpgl; 107.14m AOD and 107.65m AOD).

In Test-pit 1 Roman structural remains, comprising a wall and a possible drainage feature constructed from Roman *tegulae* (roof tile), were identified below a layer of Roman demolition material, revealed at a depth of 0.57m bpgl (107.73m AOD). In Test-pits 2 and 3 similar demolition deposits were identified sealing the postulated buried soil horizon at a depth of 0.67m bpgl (107.93m AOD) and 0.62m bpgl (108.08m AOD) respectively.

In all of the excavated test-pits the identified Roman demolition material was sealed by a dark mixed silt sand deposit which appears to represent a heavily reworked ‘dark-earth’, cultivation or make-up deposit that contained post-medieval and modern material.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. In January 2022, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation at the former Car & Tyre Garage, The Waterloo, Cirencester, Gloucestershire (centred at NGR: 402507 202106, Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken for Apex Architecture Ltd, who were acting on behalf of Mr Morten Peachey. The evaluation was undertaken to inform a forthcoming planning application for the demolition of the existing garage and the subsequent residential development of the site.

1.2. The evaluation was carried out following the provisions of Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC ref: S00241966) and in accordance with a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2021) and approved by Rachel Foster, Archaeologist, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service (GCCAS), the archaeological advisor to Cotswold District Council (CDC) and Mel Barge, Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Historic England (HE).

1.3. The evaluation was also in line with *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

The site

1.4. The proposed development site is approximately 300m² in extent and is occupied by a modern building, currently used as a garage workshop, as well as areas of compacted gravel and scrub. The site is bounded to the north by the Abbey Grounds, to the south by The Waterloo and to the east and west by modern residential development. The site lies at approximately 108m AOD and is broadly level.

1.5. The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Mudstone of the Forest Marble Formation of the Jurassic Period, overlain by superficial River Terrace gravel deposits of the Quaternary Period (BGS 2022). The natural geological substrate was not identified during the current works.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. The site has previously been subject to archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (GCC 2006) and geophysical survey (Stratascan 2007). The following is a brief summary of results taken from these assessments, along with any further publically available information pertinent to the site.

2.2. The line of the White Way or Salt Way, a road utilised in the Roman period but thought to have its origins as a prehistoric route for the transport of salt from Droitwich to the south-west, runs *c*. 500m to the north-west of the site. However, very little archaeological evidence for the presence of Iron Age settlement in Cirencester has been identified (GCC 2006).

2.3. The site is situated within insula XXIV of Cirencester Roman Town (National Monument 1003426), *c*. 300m to the north of the Roman Forum and *c*. 300m to the west of the town's eastern defences and Verulamium Gate and Bridge. Archaeological works undertaken immediately to the west of the current site have revealed walls and surfaces of Roman date, interpreted as being representative of private domestic structures, at depths of between 1.2m and 1.5m below present ground level (bpgl). An archaeological evaluation, undertaken *c*. 45m to the north of the current site, revealed evidence of a metalled Roman Road at a depth of 0.47m bpgl (ibid.).

2.4. The site is located close to Cirencester's medieval town, abbey and church suggesting that some activity of this period may be expected within its bounds. However, historic mapping evidence indicates that the site was occupied by agricultural plots associated with properties fronting Dyer Street from the 18th-century onwards and it is possible that post-medieval activity may have adversely affected earlier archaeological deposits, should they be present (ibid.).

2.5. The geophysical (GPR) survey (Stratascan 2007) identified some, albeit limited, evidence of archaeological activity within the site. This included anomalies suggestive of structural remains of potential archaeological origin in the north-eastern parts of the site. The geophysical survey report notes that a number of these anomalies were present at depths comparable with previously identified Roman structures identified immediately adjacent to the site during previous archaeological investigations (see *Paragraph 2.3* above).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. The general objective of the evaluation was to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date and state of preservation. This information will enable HE and the archaeological advisor to CDC to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposals, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2021). A further objective of the project was to compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive

3.2. The project specific objectives of the evaluation, as outlined in the WSI (CA 2021) included:

- Ascertaining the survival depth, extent, quality and character of any Roman deposits/activity encountered and, if possible, their relation to domestic or civic activities
- Determining evidence of medieval activity present within the site and, if so, the site's role during this period
- Ascertaining the depth of any post-medieval disturbance on the site
- Determining the potential for the survival of any post-medieval land surfaces and the depth, extent, character and date of any made-ground associated with the development of Cirencester during the post-medieval/modern period

3.3. Research aims identified from the South West Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF; Webster 2008) and noted within the WSI (CA 2021) included:

- **Research Aim 35**: Improve understanding of early Roman urban settlement;
- **Research Aim 34**: Develop understanding of Early Medieval urban settlement;

- **Research Aim 36**: Improve understanding of Medieval and later urbanism;

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of three test-pits, each measuring 1.5m in length and 1.5m in width, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2).

4.2. The test-pits were located to test geophysical anomalies and to provide a representative sample of the remainder of the site. Test-pits 1 and 3 were moved slightly from their original positions, as set out in the WSI, due to the presence of trees and/or modern services, with the approval of both Mel Barge and Rachel Foster.

4.3. The test-pits were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. The test-pits were excavated by hand and, where archaeological deposits were encountered, they were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual.

4.4. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* and a single deposit was considered to have potential for characterising phases of activity.

4.5. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

4.6. The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. CA will make arrangements with Corinium Museum for the deposition of the project archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020).

4.7. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix E, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS

5.1. This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are given in Section 7 and Appendix C. Details of the relative heights of the principal deposits and features expressed as metres Above Ordnance Datum (m AOD) are given in Appendix D.

Test-Pit 1 (Fig. 3)

5.2. The earliest deposit encountered was mid brown orange silt sand 115, which was revealed in a sondage excavated within the south-western corner of the test-pit at a depth of 1.16m below present ground level (bpgl; 107.14m AOD). Three sherds of mid 2nd to mid 3rd-Century AD pottery were recovered from this deposit. The function of this deposit remains unclear due to its limited exposure within the test-pit; however it is similar in composition to deposit 303, identified in Test-pit 3, and may therefore represent a buried soil horizon.

5.3. Deposit 115 was overlain along the south-eastern edge of the test-pit by structure 113, which was constructed from a single course of *Tegulae* (flanged roof tile). The full extent of this structure was not exposed within the test-pit and its function therefore remains unclear; however its form suggests that it may represent a drainage channel constructed from, presumably, repurposed material.

5.4. Structure 113 was sealed by light yellow brown silt sand deposit 112, which measured up to 0.2m in thickness and may represent an episode of ground consolidation or levelling. Two sherds of pottery of 2nd to 4th century AD date and a fragment of abraded ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from this deposit. Deposit 112 was cut by north-east/south-west aligned construction cut 116 for wall 109, which was of rough limestone construction bonded by yellow sandy mortar. It measured at least 0.2m in width and survived to a depth of at least 0.64m.

5.5. Wall 109 was overlain by probable demolition deposit 108, which comprised mixed silt sand with frequent limestone and mortar fragments and measured up to 0.45m in thickness. A total of 25 sherds of Roman pottery, 35 fragments of CBM of broad Roman date and two copper alloy coins of early 4th-century AD date were recovered from this deposit, along with three fragments of animal bone.

5.6. Deposit 108 was sealed by undated dark mixed silt sand deposit 107, which contained frequent limestone fragments and charcoal flecks. The function of this deposit remains unclear; however it may represent a medieval or post-medieval 'dark earth' deposit or a cultivation soil.

5.7. Deposit 107 was sealed by sand and gravel bedding deposit, 106, for concrete pad and block structure 103 which was, in turn, sealed by modern sand and gravel bedding deposit, 101, for the existing gravel driveway.

Test-Pit 2 (Fig. 4)

5.8. The earliest deposit encountered was mid brown orange silt sand deposit, 205, which was revealed in a sondage excavated in the north-western part of the test-pit at a depth of 1.15m bpgl (107.45m AOD). It measured more than 0.19m in thickness and was similar in composition to deposit 303, identified in Test-pit 3, and may therefore represent a buried soil horizon. A single sherd of pottery of late 2nd to 4th-century AD date, six fragments of Roman CBM and an iron nail were recovered from this deposit. An environmental sample <1> was also recovered from this deposit, which produced small quantities of cereal grain, charcoal, hazelnut shell and snail shell.

5.9. Deposit 205 was sealed by deposit, 204, which comprised highly compacted irregular limestone fragments and most probably represents a surface or compact demolition deposit. A single sherd of pottery of 2nd to 4th-century AD date was recovered from this deposit.

5.10. Surface/demolition deposit 204 was overlain by a further probable demolition deposit 203, which comprised mixed silt sand with frequent limestone and mortar fragments and measured up to 0.4m in thickness. Three sherds of pottery of mid 3rd to 4th-century date, four fragments of Roman CBM, an Iron nail, a *tessera* made of chalk and eight fragments of animal bone were recovered from this deposit.

5.11. Deposit 203 was sealed by dark mixed silt sand deposit 201, which measured up to 0.6m in thickness and contained frequent limestone fragments and charcoal flecks. A single sherd of pottery of 16th to 18th-century date was recovered from this deposit. The function of this deposit remains unclear; however it may represent a re-worked 'dark earth' deposit, cultivation soil or a gradual episode of make-up. Deposit 201 was directly sealed by modern gravel driveway, 200.

Test-Pit 3 (Fig. 5)

5.12. The earliest deposit encountered within the test-pit was mid brown orange silt sand deposit, 303, which was revealed at a depth of 1.05m bpgl (107.65m AOD) and was interpreted as a buried soil horizon. It measured more than 0.12m in thickness and was similar in composition to deposits 115 and 205, identified in Test-pits 1 and 2 respectively. A single fragment of CBM of broad Roman date was recovered from this deposit.

5.13. Deposit 303 was overlain by probable demolition deposit 302, which comprised mixed silt sand with frequent limestone and mortar fragments and measured up to 0.47m in thickness. Four sherds of Roman pottery, a single sherd of medieval pottery, six fragments of Roman CBM, an Iron nail and two coins of 4th-century AD date were recovered from this deposit.

5.14. Deposit 302 was sealed by dark mixed silt sand deposit 301, which measured up to 0.5m in thickness and contained frequent limestone fragments and charcoal flecks. A single metal object of modern (post-1950) date was recovered from this deposit. The function of this deposit remains unclear; however it may represent a reworked cultivation soil or a gradual episode of make-up. Deposit 301 was, in turn, directly sealed by modern gravel surface 300.

6. THE FINDS

6.1. Artefactual material was hand-recovered from 10 deposits and as unstratified finds. The recovered material dates to the Roman, medieval and post-medieval/modern periods. Quantities of the artefact types are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded in accordance with current standards for archaeological material (Barclay *et al*. 2016). Pottery fabric codes, in parenthesis in the text, are equated to the Cirencester pottery type series (Rigby 1982, Keely 1986, Ireland 1998) where possible. Where applicable, National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes are also given in Appendix B (Tomber and Dore 1998).

Pottery: Roman

6.2. The Roman pottery totals 53 sherds (747g), recovered from 10 deposits. Few locally-made ware types appear to be represented – possibly only the reduced and oxidised coarsewares (5, BUF, GMB, OXS, WHS). Most common is Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware (74), which dates to the 2nd to 4th centuries when found outside the manufacturing zone (Davies et al. 1994, 107). Closer dating is

possible for the two forms identifiable from rimsherds. The Seager Smith and Davies Type 20 plain rim dishes, from ?buried soil deposit 205 and demolition layer 302, are late 2nd to 4th-century in date and the Type 25 conical flanged dishe/bowl, from demolition layer 203 date to the mid 3rd to 4th centuries (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, 232–5). A rimsherd from a mortarium in Oxford Whiteware (90), which dates to the 2nd to 4th centuries (the flange is missing, which precludes narrower dating) (Young 1977, 61–8) was retrieved from deposit 110. A rimsherd from a Young type C49 bowl in Oxford Red-slipped ware (83), recorded from demolition deposit 302, is of mid 3rd to 4th-century date. Several continental imports are represented, including central Gaulish samian from demolition deposits 108 and 203, which would have been imported during the 2nd century (Webster 1996, 2–3). Two other continental finewares are present, including Moselkeramik Black slipped-ware (80b) dating to the 2nd to mid 3rd century, from Trier in Germany (Tyers 1996, 138–40). This is represented by two rimsherds from the same vessel, one from demolition deposit 108 and the other from ?buried soil deposit 115. Two base sherds from a beaker, from demolition deposit 108, present in Central Gaulish Black-slipped ware (80) and would have been produced during the mid 2nd to early 3rd centuries (Tyers 1996, 103). An unfeatured bodysherd of Baetican (Spanish) amphora (40), from demolition deposit 108 is of mid 1st to mid 3rd-century date.

Medieval

6.3. Demolition deposit 108 also produced a rimsherd from a jar in Cotswold oolitic limestone-tempered ware (F202), which is of 11th to 13th-century date.

Post-medieval

6.4. A sherd (16g) of Ashton Keynes glazed earthenware (F201), datable to the 16th to 18th centuries, was recorded from dark earth/ cultivation deposit 201.

Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

6.5. A total of 75 fragments of CBM (3611g), all of Roman date, was recorded from nine deposits. Included are ten fragments of tegula (flanged roof tile) and six of imbrex (curved roof tile). The remainder are too fragmentary for further classification.

Other finds

6.6. A fragment of *opus signinum* (73g) was retrieved from demolition deposit 108. This is a type of waterproof Roman mortar mostly used in flooring.

6.7. Demolition layer 203 produced a tessera made of chalk (8g).

Metal finds

6.8. A total of 24 items of metal were recorded from eight deposits (appendix B). The four coins, from demolition deposits 108 and 302, are listed individually in appendix B. All are 4th century bronze *nummi*, the latest an URBS ROMA issue of AD 330–335.

6.9. One further copper alloy object was recorded from demolition deposit 302. It consists of a fragment 40mm in length, the main part of which is circular in section (5mm in max. diam.) and tapering towards a presumed point. The terminal is flattened to form a wedge and there is a small round perforation at the upper end of the shaft. The function of this object or its precise dating are uncertain, although only Roman cultural material was found in association. Tentatively it is identified as part of a stylus, for use with wax tablets and in use across the Roman and Early Medieval periods. Although better known of as iron objects, a number of examples in copper alloy are recorded, some of similar form to this example (Booth 2017). The perforation is unusual, although at least one other example is recorded on the Portable Antiquities database (Ref. DYFED-362F13 2015), its suggested function being for attachment to a belt or similar.

6.10. Objects of iron (15) consist of nails or nail fragments, most of which are from Roman-dated deposits (appendix B). All are heavily corroded, but appear to be hand made forms with square-sectioned shafts and, where surviving, flat heads.

6.11. Two of the three items (unstratified Tr. 1) of lead consist of irregular dribbles or poolings of lead probably resulting from lead casting. The third item from demolition deposit 302 may be a fragment from an object or possibly caulking (masonry joint seal).

6.12. An object from ?cultivation soil/make-up 301 is clearly of modern (after *c.* 1950) dating. It appears to be a (?)chrome-plated hollow charm or pendant of zoomorphic form, set with red glass ‘eyes’ and nose, its rear of openwork with multiple heart-shaped perforations. Narrow, rectangular sockets each side of the head are likely to be for separately-made ears and there is a stub from a suspension loop to the crown.

Discussion

6.13. The finds assemblage is indicative of considerable activity during the Romano-British period, which appears to be domestic in nature. That this is high status is indicated by the relatively high proportion of continental wares amongst the pottery (16% by sherd count), which is to be expected for Cirencester. The ware types represented suggest activity during the Middle to Late Roman period – the 2nd to 4th centuries. The CBM assemblage is likely to represent reworked/redeposited structural material. The single sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery suggest minimal activity during those periods.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

7.1. A single environmental sample (10 litres of soil) was assessed from probable buried soil 205, identified in test-pit 2. It was hoped that the evaluation would aid in addressing some of the research aims identified from the South West Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF, Webster 2008) including that of research aim 35: improve understanding of Early Roman urban settlement. The sample was processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

7.2. Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 1, following nomenclature of Stace (1997). The presence of mollusc shells has also been recorded, following nomenclature according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).

7.3. The charred material comprised varying levels of preservation with much of the charcoal being comminuted.

7.4. Probable buried soil 205 contained a single indeterminate cereal grain fragment alongside a few fragments of hazelnut (Corylus avellana) shells. A small amount of charcoal was noted. Terrestrial snail shells were observed in a very small number and included such species as the open country species Vallonia sp., the intermediate species Trochulus hispidus, and the shade-loving species Discus rotundatus. The charred material is likely to be indicative of wind-blown/dispersed settlement waste material.

7.5. The environmental assemblage recovered probable buried soil 205 suggests that it is unlikely that any domestic settlement activities, such as crop processing or food

preparation, or any industrial processes were taking place on a significant scale in the immediate vicinity when this deposit formed. The molluscan assemblage is suggestive of an open landscape with areas of longer grass. Due to the limited environmental assemblage recovered from this deposit it does not aid in addressing research aim 35 from SWARF (Webster 2008).

Animal bone

7.6. Animal bone amounting to 39 fragments (459g) was recovered from eight deposits. Artefactual material dating to the Romano-British period was also recovered from these contexts (See Table 1, Appendix C). The material was fairly well preserved but highly fragmented. However, it was possible to identify a limited amount of cattle (Bos taurus), sheep/goat (Ovis aries/Capra hircus) and pig (Sus scrofa sp.) bone, none of which displayed any damaged indicative of an origin in butchery waste. A single fragment of bird bone was also recovered, but it was too damaged for a species identification.

7.7. The low recovery of animal remains combined with the absence of any butchery marks, severely limits what can be said in terms of site economy and animal husbandry. However, each species was a commonly exploited domestic animal so their inclusion in an assemblage of this period is to be expected.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1. The stratigraphic sequence revealed by the excavated test-pits indicates that in-situ Roman deposits survive at between 0.57m bpgl and 0.67m bpgl (107.73m AOD and 108.08m AOD). No clear correlation between the results of the preceding geophysical (GPR) survey was noted and no evidence of medieval or post-medieval activity, beyond probable heavily reworked dark-earth or cultivation soils, was identified.

8.2. The function of the earliest deposits identified in the Test-pits 1, 2 and 3, deposits 115/205/303 respectively, remains unclear although they may comprise a single buried soil horizon, possibly representing the original ground surface prior to later Roman development of Insula XXIV (see *Archaeological Background* above).

8.3. The form of structure 113, identified in Test-pit 1 and constructed from Roman *tegulae* (roof tile), suggests that it may represent a drain, although an alternative interpretation cannot be ruled out at present due to its limited exposure within the

excavated test-pit. Evidence of seemingly similar drains, albeit constructed from carved stone, has been recorded at other sites in Cirencester (see McWhirr 1986, 47) and it is tempting to suggest that this feature represents a more economical alternative utilising materials that have, presumably, been repurposed from a nearby, potentially defunct, structure.

8.4. Adjacent Wall 109, also identified in Test-pit 1, remained artefactually undated although it is stratigraphically later than structure 113. The function of this wall remains unclear due to its limited exposure within the test-pit; however the possibility that it represents an eastward continuation of the private Roman domestic structures identified immediately to the west (see *Archaeological Background* above), albeit at a higher level, remains a possibility. A similar interpretation may be suggested for possible floor surface 204, identified in Test-pit 2; although the rough nature of this deposit may suggest that it represents part of a yard or outside space, rather than an internal floor relating to one of these dwellings.

8.5. The composition of deposits 108, 203 and 302, identified in Test-pits 1, 2 and 3 respectively, are comparable to Roman demolition material identified more widely throughout Cirencester. The recovery of a fragment of *opus signinum* (Roman mortar) from demolition deposit 108, identified in Test-pit 1, and a *tessera* made of chalk from demolition deposit 203, identified in Test-pit 2 are of note and indicate that any structures surviving in the vicinity of the excavated test-pits may be of some status, as may be expected from the site's location within the Roman town (see *Archaeological Background* above).

8.6. In all of the excavated test-pits the identified Roman demolition material was sealed by a dark mixed silt sand deposit. In Test-pit 1 this deposit, 107, contained no artefactual material and it may therefore represent a deposit of post-Roman 'dark-earth'. Such deposits are typical of Roman towns in Britain, and are often interpreted as an amalgam of cultivation soils, decayed wooden structures and animal and vegetable remains. In Test-pit 2, this deposit, 201, contained a single sherd of pottery of 16th to 18th-century date and in Test-pit 3, this deposit, 301, contained a modern (post-1950) object. The presence of this material suggests that these deposits have been extensively cultivated and/or reworked over a long period of time in the location of these test-pits.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Mark Holding and Christopher Leonard. This report was written by Christopher Leonard. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville, Emma Aitken and Andy Clarke, respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The project archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Steven Sheldon.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Test-Pit	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Surface	Modern gravel drive	>1.5	>1.5	0.1	
1	101	Layer		Bedding deposit for 100	Compact dark grey brown sandy silt with frequent stone and CBM fragments	>1.5	>1.5	0.18	
1	Void			Void	Void	-	-	-	
1	103	Structure		Modern post pad/landscape feature	Modern concrete post pad/structure	0.6	0.6	0.5	
1	104	Void		Void	Void	-	-	-	
1	105	Void		Void	Void	-	-	-	
1	106	Layer		Bedding deposit for 103	Light greyish yellow sandy silt with frequent stone rubble and CBM fragments	1.5	0.6	0.14	
1	107	Layer		?Dark earth/cultivation soil	Dark brown grey silt sand with frequent limestone fragments and charcoal flecks throughout	>1.5	>1.5	0.17	
1	108	Layer		?Demolition material	Mid yellow brown silt sand with frequent limestone fragments and mortar flecks throughout	>1.5	>1.5	0.45	EC4
1	109	Wall	116	Wall facing	Roughly squared sandstone blocks	1.5	0.2	0.64	
1	110	Void		Void	Void	-	-	-	
1	111	Void		Void	Void	-	-	-	
1	112	Layer		?Consolidation / levelling	Light yellow brown silt sand			0.2	C2-C4
1	113	Structure		?Drain	NE/SW aligned structure, constructed from a single course of Tegulae	1.5	0.2	0.07	
1	114	Void		Void	Void	-	-	-	
1	115	Layer		Layer	Mid brown orange silt gravel		0.3	0.1	MC2-MC3
1	116	Cut		Construction cut for wall 109	North-east/south-west aligned construction cut	1.5	0.01	0.2	
1	117	Fill	116	Fill of construction cut 116	Dark brown grey sand silt	1.5	0.01	0.2	
2	200	Layer		Surface	Modern gravel drive	>1.5	>1.5		
2	201	Layer		?Dark earth/cultivation soil	Dark brown grey silt sand with frequent limestone fragments and charcoal flecks throughout	>1.5	>1.5	0.6	C16-C18
2	202	Void		Void	Void	-	-	-	
2	203	Layer		?Demolition material	Mid yellow brown silt sand with frequent limestone fragments and mortar flecks throughout	>1.5	>1.5	0.4	MC3-C4
2	204	Surface		?Surface/demolition deposit	Highly compacted irregular limestone	>1.5	>1.5	0.06	C2-C4

					fragments				
2	205	Layer		Layer	Light yellow brown silt sand	>0.25	>0.25	0.19	LC2-C4
3	300	Layer		Surface	Modern gravel drive	>1.5	>1.5	0.11	
3	301	Layer		?Dark earth/cultivation soil	Dark brown grey silt sand with frequent limestone fragments and charcoal flecks throughout	>1.5	>1.5	0.5	Modern
3	302	Layer		?Demolition material	Mid yellow brown silt sand with frequent limestone fragments and mortar flecks throughout	>1.5	>1.5	0.47	EC4
3	303	Layer		Layer	Light yellow brown silt sand	>1.5	>1.5	>0.12	RB

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code/ NRFRC*	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
Tr. 1	Iron	Nail		2	16	-
U/S	Lead	Fragment (casting waste)		1	5	
108	Roman pottery	Central Gaulish samian	154B/ **LEZ SA2**	4	20	EC4
	Roman pottery	Moselkeramik Black-slipped ware	80b/ **MOS BS**	1	1	
	Roman pottery	Baetican amphora	40/ **BAT AM**	1	12	
	Roman pottery	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	74/ **DOR BB1**	14	158	
	Roman pottery	Central Gaulish Black-slipped ware	80/ **CNG BS**	2	27	
	Roman pottery	South-west white-slipped flagon fabric	88/ **SOW WS**	1	14	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley (reduced) ware	106	1	2	
	Roman pottery	Oxidised fabric, sandy	OXS	1	12	
	Roman ceramic building material	Tegulae, imbrices, fragments		35	1595	
	Mortar	*Opus signinum*		1	73	
	Iron	Nail		1	6	
	Copper alloy	Ra. 1, coin		1	3	
	Copper alloy	Ra. 2, coin		1	2	
	Fired clay			1	17	
	Mollusc			3	16	
112	Roman pottery	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	74/ **DOR BB1**	9	129	C2-C4
	Roman ceramic building material	Imbrex		1	71	RB
	Roman pottery	Oxford whiteware	90/	1	68	
	Roman pottery	Greyware, micaceous with black specks	OXF WH	2	10	
	Roman pottery		GMB	2	15	
	Roman pottery	Oxidised fabric, sandy	OXS	1	7	
	Roman ceramic building material	Buff fabric, sandy	BUF	14	593	
	Iron	Tegula, imbrex, fragments		9	80	
		Nail				
115	Roman pottery	Moselkeramik Black-slipped ware	80b/ **MOS BS**	1	3	MC2-MC3
	Roman pottery	Black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	5	2	1	
201	Post-medieval pottery	Ashton Keynes glazed earthenware	F201	1	16	C16-C18
203	Roman pottery	Central Gaulish samian	154b/ **LEZ SA2**	1	6	MC3-C4
	Roman pottery	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	74/ **DOR BB1**	2	61	
	Roman ceramic building material	Fragment		4	212	
	Iron	Nail		1	4	
	Worked stone	Chalk tessera		1	8	
204	Roman pottery	Southeast Dorset Black-	74/	1	12	C2-C4

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code/ NRFRC*	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
		burnished ware	**DOR BB1**			
205	Roman pottery	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	74/ **DOR BB1**	1	61	LC2-C4
	Roman ceramic building material	Fragment		6	191	
	Iron	Nail		1	30	
	Mollusc			2	11	
301	Metal	Object		1	10	Modern
302	Roman pottery	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	74/ **DOR BB1**	1	8	EC4
	Roman pottery	Oxford red-slipped ware	83/ **OXF RS**	1	56	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware	106	1	12	
	Medieval pottery	Cotswold oolitic limestone-tempered ware	F202	1	24	
	Roman ceramic building material	Tegula, imbrex, fragments		6	332	
	Iron	Nail		1	4	
	Lead			1	77	
	Copper alloy	Ra. 3, coin		1	4	
	Copper alloy	Ra. 4, coin		1	1	
	Copper alloy	Ra. 5, object		1	6	
	Mollusc			1	7	
303	Roman ceramic building material	Fragment		1	41	RB

* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold

Coin list

Ra.1 Nummus (AE2). Constantine I. Rev. Sol with whip and globe. Trier mint (PTR); other details unclear. AD 307–318. Ra. 1; demolition layer 108.

Ra.2 Nummus (AE3). Constantine I. Rev. Victories with wreath and shield. MM illeg. AD 318–324. Ra. 2; demolition layer 108.

Ra.3 Nummus (AE2). Constantine I. Rev. Sol with whip and globe. London mint (PLN); other details unclear. AD 307–318. Ra. 3; demolition layer 302.

Ra.4 Nummus (AE3). URBS ROMA. Rev. wolf and twins. MM illeg. AD 330–335. Ra. 4; demolition layer 302.

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Test Pit 2												
Layer	205	1	10	12	50	*	-	indet grain	*	*Corylus avellana*	**/*	moll-t*

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 4–20 items; *** = 21–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items
moll-t = terrestrial mollusc

Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	Bird sp.	LM	MM	Total	Weight (g)
	108				1		3	4	18
116	110					1		1	19
	111	1	1				2	4	39
	112			1				1	16
113	114			1				1	20
	203	1	1				6	8	80
	204					3		3	27
	302	4	2			4	7	17	240
Total		**6**	**4**	**2**	**1**	**8**	**18**	**39**	
Weight		**208**	**38**	**36**	**3**	**99**	**75**	**459**	

BOS = cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; SUS = pig; Bird sp. = bird species; LM = large size mammal; MM = medium size mammal

APPENDIX D: LEVELS OF PRINCIPAL DEPOSITS AND STRUCTURES

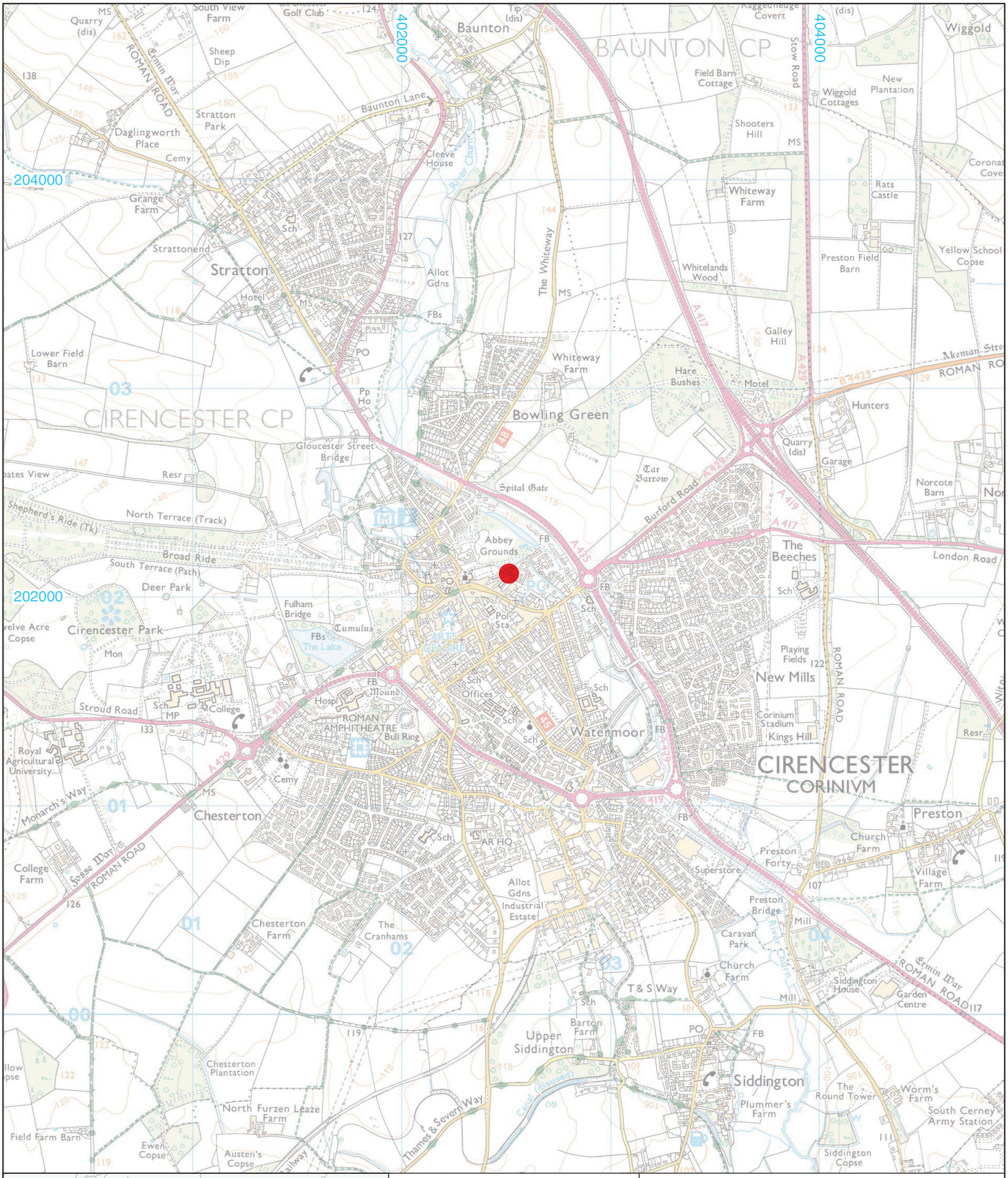
Levels are expressed as metres below current ground level and as metres Above Ordnance Datum (AOD).

	Test-Pit 1	Test-Pit 2	Test-Pit 3
Current ground level	0.00m (108.3m)	0.00m (108.6m)	0.00m (108.7m)
Top of Roman demolition	0.57m (107.73m)	0.67m (107.93m)	0.62m (108.08m)
Top of Roman wall 109	0.64m (107.66m)	-	-
Top of 'buried soil'	1.16m (107.14m)	1.15m (107.45m)	1.05m (107.65m)
Limit of excavation	1.23m (107.07m)	1.38m (107.22m)	1.4m (107.3m)

Upper figures are depth below modern ground level; lower figures in parentheses are metres AOD.

APPENDIX E: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Former Car &Tyre Garage, The Waterloo, Cirencester, Gloucestershire	
Short description	In January 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation at the former Car & Tyre Garage, The Waterloo, Cirencester, Gloucestershire. Three test-pits were excavated. A probable buried soil horizon of Roman date was identified in all of the excavated test-pits at a depth of between 1.05m and 1.16m below present ground level (bpgl; 107.14m AOD and 107.65m AOD). In Test-pit 1 Roman structural remains, comprising a wall and a possible drainage feature constructed from Roman *tegulae* (roof tile), were identified below a layer of Roman demolition material, revealed at a depth of 0.57m bpgl (107.73m AOD). In Test-pits 2 and 3 similar demolition deposits were identified sealing the postulated buried soil horizon at a depth of 0.67m bpgl (17.93m AOD) and 0.62m bpgl (18.08m AOD) respectively. In all of the excavated test-pits the identified Roman demolition material was sealed by a dark mixed silt sand deposit which appears to represent a heavily reworked 'dark-earth', cultivation or make-up deposit that contained post-medieval and modern material.	
Project dates	24–27 January 2022	
Project type	Evaluation	
Previous work	Desk Based Assessment (Gloucestershire County Council 2006) Geophysical Survey (Stratascan 2007)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site location	Former Car & Tyre Garage, The Waterloo, Cirencester, Gloucestershire	
Study area (m^2/ha)	300m²	
Site co-ordinates	402507 202106	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Steven Sheldon	
Project Supervisor	Christopher Leonard	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	**Intended final location of archive:**	**Content:**
Physical	Corinium Museum	Ceramics, animal bone, CBM, coins, metal artefacts etc
Paper	Corinium Museum	Context sheets, Site drawings etc
Digital	Corinium Museum	Database, digital photos etc
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Cotswold Archaeology 2022 *Former Car & Tyre Garage, The Waterloo, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation* CA typescript report **CR0814_1**		



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PROJECT TITLE

Former Car and Tyre Garage, The Waterloo, Cirencester, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location

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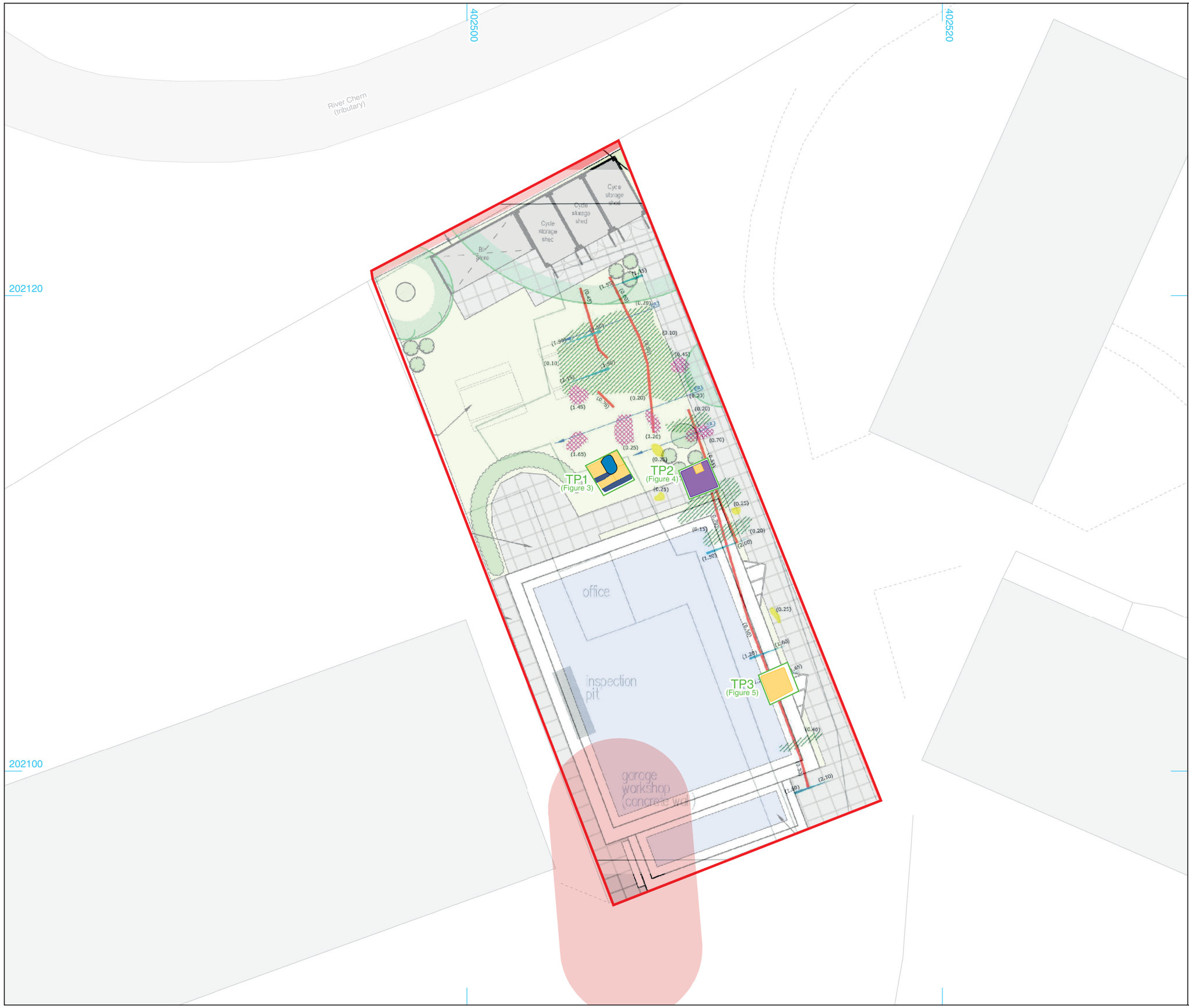

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PROJECT TITLE

Former Car and Tyre Garage, The Waterloo, Cirencester, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Test-Pit location plan, showing identified archaeological features and deposits and geophysical survey results

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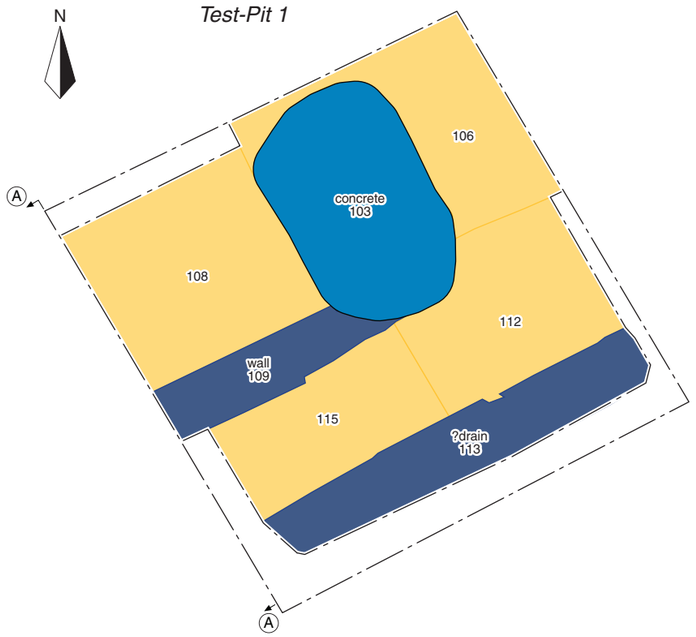
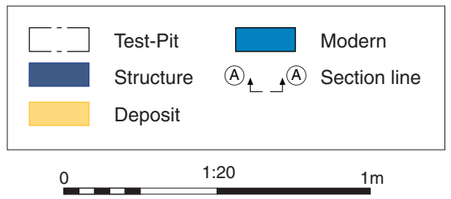
APPROVED BY	**SS**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:150**	

Test-Pit 1





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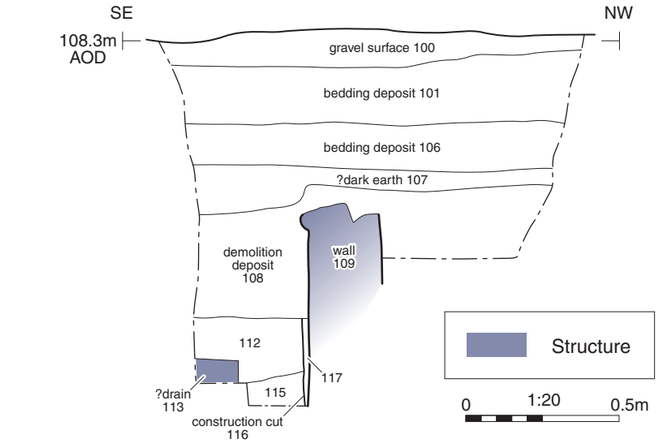

Test-Pit 1 post-excavation, looking north-east (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Test-Pit 1: plan, section and photograph

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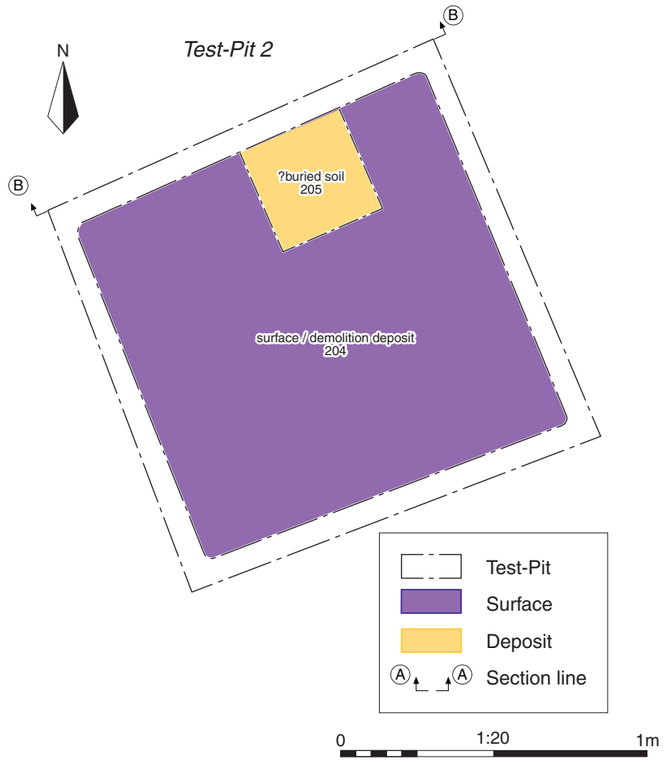

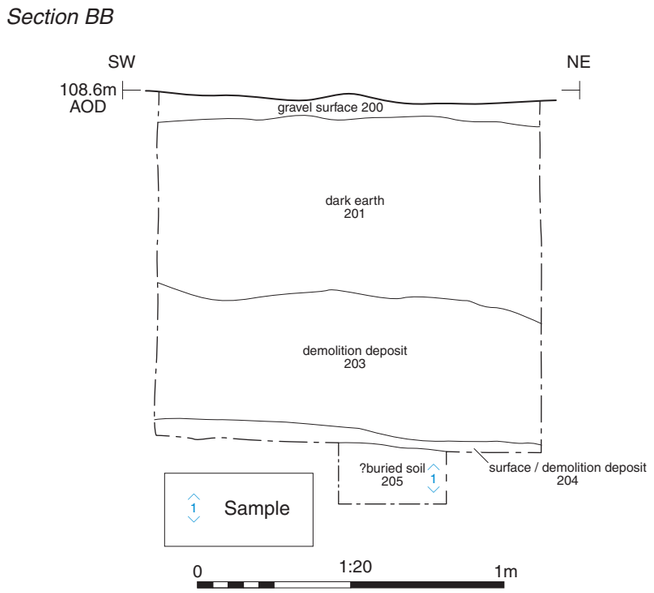

Test-Pit 2, looking north-west (0.3m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Test-Pit 2: plan, section and photograph

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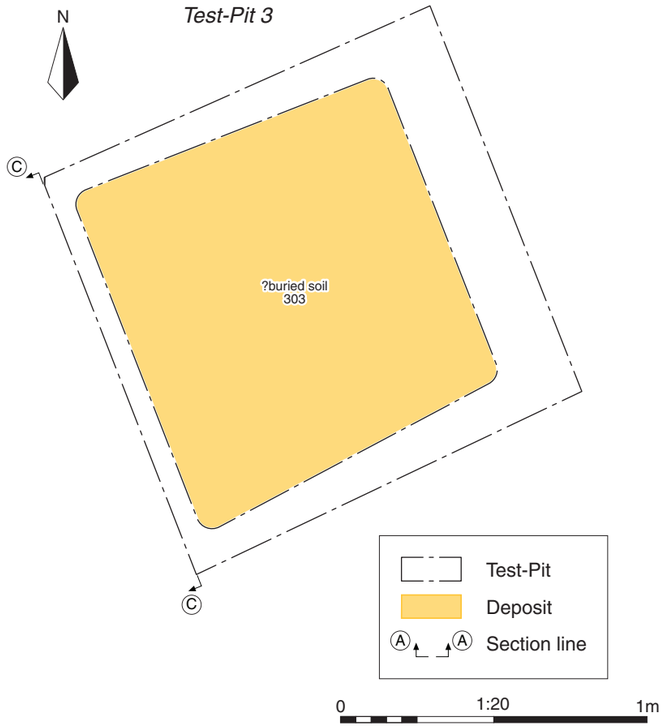
Test-Pit 3



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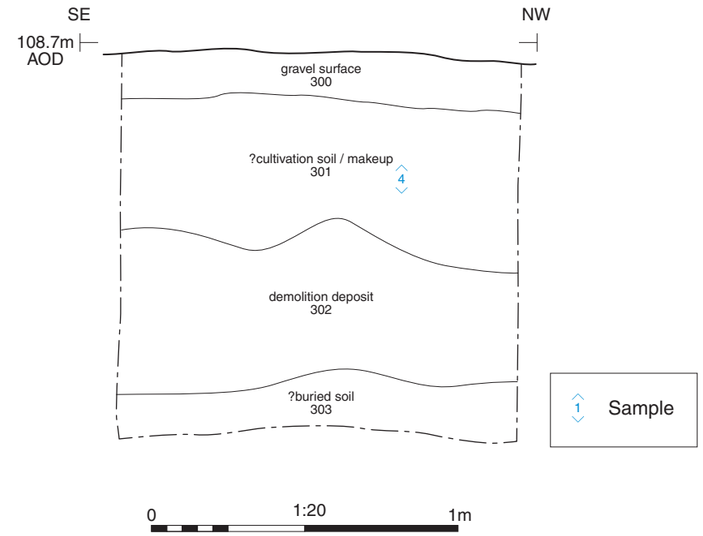

Test-Pit 3, looking south-west (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Test-Pit 3: plan, section and photograph

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