

**Land at Kings Mill House  
Kings Mill Lane  
Painswick  
Gloucestershire**

*Archaeological Watching Brief*



for  
Cowper Griffith Architects LLP

on behalf of  
Mr A. Bell & Mrs H. Podd

CA Project: 6742  
CA Report: 6742\_1

February 2020



# Land at Kings Mill House Kings Mill Lane Painswick Gloucestershire

## Archaeological Watching Brief

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A	27 February 2020	Liam Wilson	Laurent Coleman	Internal review		Clifford Bateman

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- Fig. 3 Photographs



## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Land at Kings Mill House
<b>Location:</b>	Kings Mill Lane, Painswick, Gloucestershire
<b>NGR:</b>	385977 208939
<b>Type:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>Date:</b>	July – November 2019
<b>Planning Reference:</b>	Stroud District Council Ref. S.16/2342/HHOLD
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	Museum in the Park, Stroud
<b>Site Code:</b>	KMH20

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the alteration and extension of the existing Grade II Listed Mill House and garage at Kings Mill Lane, Painswick, Gloucestershire.

The base of a limestone wall foundation of a possible earlier structure or demolished annex to the upstanding Kings Mill House was identified. No artefactual material was recovered.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between July and November 2019 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Cowper Griffith Architects LLP, on behalf of Mr A. Bell & Mrs H. Podd, at Kings Mill House, Kings Mill Lane, Painswick, Gloucestershire (centred at NGR: 385977 208939; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition (no 5) attached to planning permission for the alteration and extension of the existing Grade II Listed Mill House and garage, as well as the erection of new detached studio and summerhouse buildings (Planning ref: S.16/2342/HHOLD). It should be noted that this report concerns the results of the watching brief undertaken during the initial phase of groundworks. Further watching brief (and additional reporting) will be required during later phases of groundworks (comprising connections to existing drainage and/or the construction of the Studio, Summer House and garage conversion).
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a recommendation for a watching brief by Charles Parry, Archaeologist, Gloucester County Council, the archaeological advisor to Stroud District Council (SDC), and with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2019) and approved by SDC acting on the advice of Charles Parry. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014).

### ***The site***

- 1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 0.4ha and comprises the Grade II Listed Mill House, associated outbuildings and areas of hardstanding or garden. It is bounded to the north-west by Kings Mill Lane, to the west by pasture fields and to the east by the Painswick Stream. The site lies at approximately 75m AOD.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Lias Group and Inferior Oolite Group (undifferentiated) – Limestone, Argillaceous Rocks and Subordinate Sandstone, Interbedded of the Jurassic and Triassic periods. No superficial deposits were noted (BGS 2020). Blue grey clay was observed during groundworks.



## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site has not been subject to archaeological assessment, though Kings Mill House itself has been the subject of two heritage statements (WA 2014; JRS 2016). The following is a summary of those assessments and other available archaeological evidence.
- 2.2 An Iron Age/Roman penannular brooch and a Roman enamelled bronze fibula were recovered from the general vicinity of the site (ibid.).
- 2.3 Linear earthworks noted in the vicinity of the site suggest the presence of medieval and/or post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation (ibid.).
- 2.4 Kings Mill House (known by various names historically including Kynges Mill, Packer's Mill, Lower Mill and Culvert Mill) was established by at least the late 15th century. It operated through to the 19th century, though it is possible that the existing building is a remnant of the 16th-century building (ibid.).
- 2.5 The listing (ref 1090977; HE 2020) notes that the building is complex and of several stages; it now comprises three sides of an open courtyard with the mill building to the east. The section to the west (the house) formerly extended to the north (the west flanking range)/

## 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 2019). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising the removal of existing floor surfaces within Kings Mill House (recorded as Trench 1) and service trenches (recorded as Trench 2) (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. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the site archive will be deposited with Museum in the Park, Stroud. 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, consisting of blue-grey clay, was solely revealed within Trench 2 at an average depth of 0.4m below present ground level. Here it was overlain by modern demolition and gravel levelling layer, 206, averaging 0.2m in thickness, which was in turn sealed by 0.2m of concrete, 200.
- 5.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during excavation of Trench 1, where only modern floor surfaces were removed.

##### ***Trench 2 (Figs 2 and 3)***

- 5.3 Natural substrate 202 was overlain by wall foundation 201 in the western part of the trench. The wall foundation was on a south-west/north-east alignment and measured at least 1.5m in length, 0.6m in width and 0.2m in height and survived to two courses consisting of roughly dressed limestone blocks that were clay bonded (Fig.3). It was abutted and covered by a modern levelling deposit, 206, consisting of gravel and demolition material which was in turn sealed by concrete surface 200. Levelling deposit 206 was truncated 0.15m to the west of wall 201 by a large modern intrusion, 203, which measured at least 6m in length, 1m in width and 0.2m

in depth with moderate sides and a flat base. It contained two undated silty clay fills 204 and 205.

## 6. DISCUSSION

6.1 No date could be ascertained for the wall foundation 201 observed within Trench 2 and given the limited scope of the watching brief it was not possible to determine its relationship with the current Kings Mill House. The north-west/south-east alignment of the wall is markedly different to that of the east/west aligned walls of the upstanding western wing of the house but may broadly correspond with the walls of the north-eastern wing of the house. Such evidence may suggest that wall foundation 201 represents the remnants of an earlier structure or an annex to the current structure which was demolished during later remodelling of the building. This may be associated with the west flanking range which was constructed between 1823 and 1829 (WA 2014, 10) and demolished after 1974 (WA 2014, 12).

## 7. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Marino Cardelli and Noel Boothroyd. The report was written by Liam Wilson. The illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The archive has been compiled by Liam Wilson, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Ian Barnes and Laurent Coleman.

## 8. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2018 *Geology of Britain Viewer* <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 09 January 2019

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2019 *Land at Kings Mill House, Kings Mill Lane, Painswick, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief.*

DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*

Historic England 2020 <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/results/?searchType=NHLE+Simple&search=1090977> accessed 26 February 2020



JRS (J Robert Sutcliffe IHBC ICOMOS Historic Buildings Consultant) 2016 Kingsmill House  
Painswick in the County of Gloucestershire

*WA 2014 Kings Mill House, Painswick, Gloucestershire: Heritage Statement*

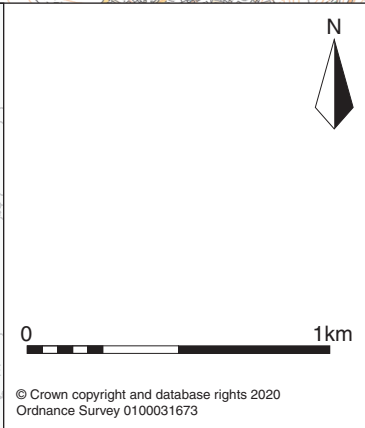
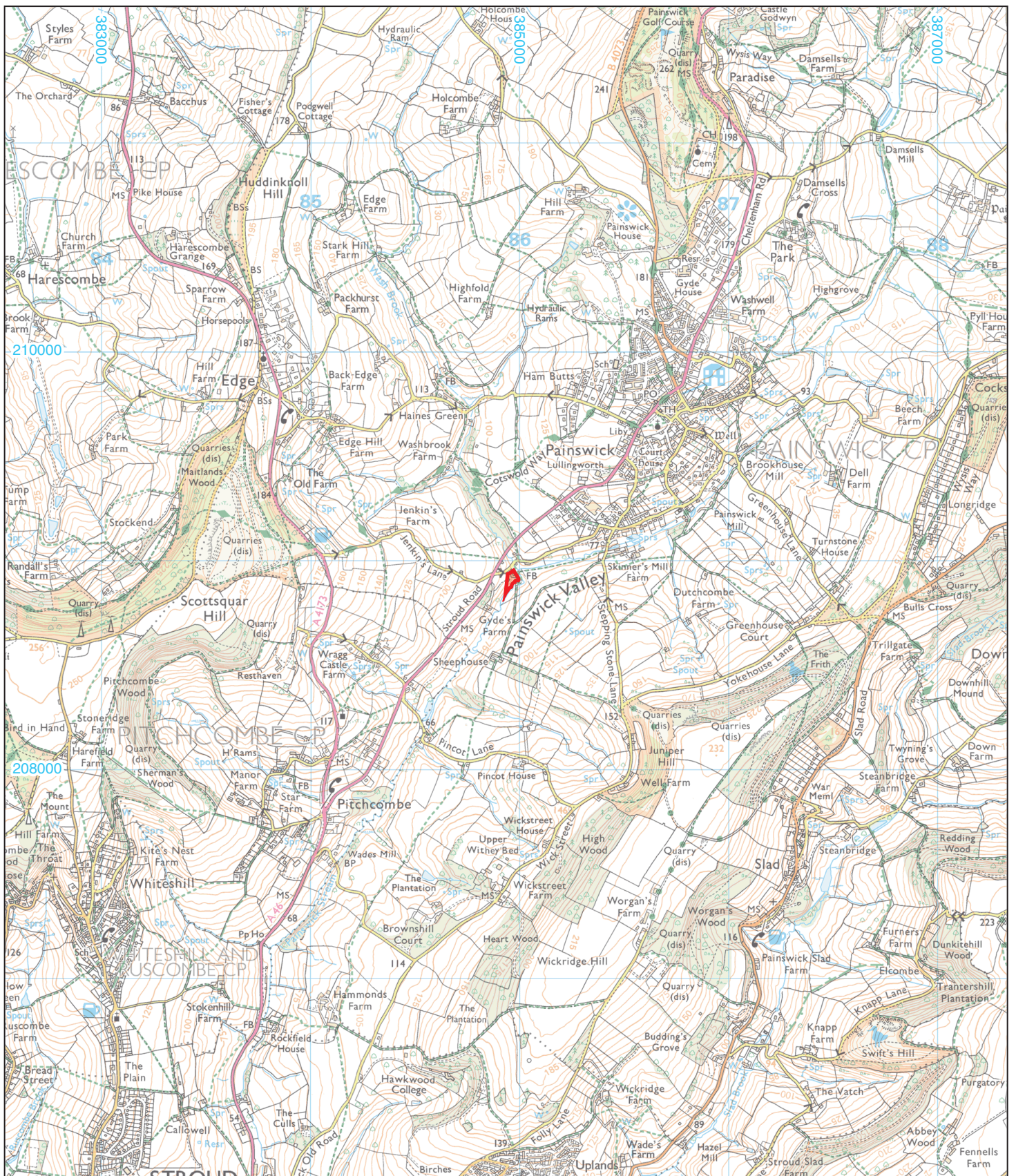


## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		floor	Mid grey concrete floor			0.3	
1	101	Layer		levelling	Light yellow brown clayey silt with sand and mortar			N.A	
2	200	Layer		surface	Mid grey concrete	>1	0.45	0.76	
2	201	Structure		wall	Mid yellow limestone roughly dressed blocks with mid greyish brown clay bonding	1	0.65	0.2	
2	202	Layer		natural	Blue grey Lias clay	>8.5	>1	>0.2	
2	203	Cut		terracing	Moderately sloped, flat based and shallow terracing for the garden	>6.5	>1	0.2	
2	204	Backfill	203	levelling	Mid brown redeposited silty clay	>6.5	>1	0.2	
2	205	Backfill	203	levelling	Light brown redeposited silty clay	>6.5	>1	0.2	
2	206	Layer		levelling	Dark grey angular gravel and demolition material	>2m	>1	0.2	

**APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Land at Kings Mill House, Kings Mill Lane, Painswick, Gloucestershire	
Short description	The base of a limestone wall of a possible earlier structure or demolished annex to the current upstanding Kings Mill House was observed. No artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.	
Project dates	26 July – 1 November 2019	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Land at Kings Mill House, Kings Mill Lane, Painswick, Gloucestershire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	0.4ha	
Site co-ordinates	385977 208939	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Ian Barnes and Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Marino Cardelli and Noel Boothroyd	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	None	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive	Content)
Physical	N.A	N.A
Paper	Museum in the Park, Stroud	Trench Sheets
Digital	Museum in the Park, Stroud	Database, digital photos
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2020 <i>Land at Kings Mill House, Kings Mill Lane, Painswick, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> CA typescript report 6742_1		



**Cotswold Archaeology**

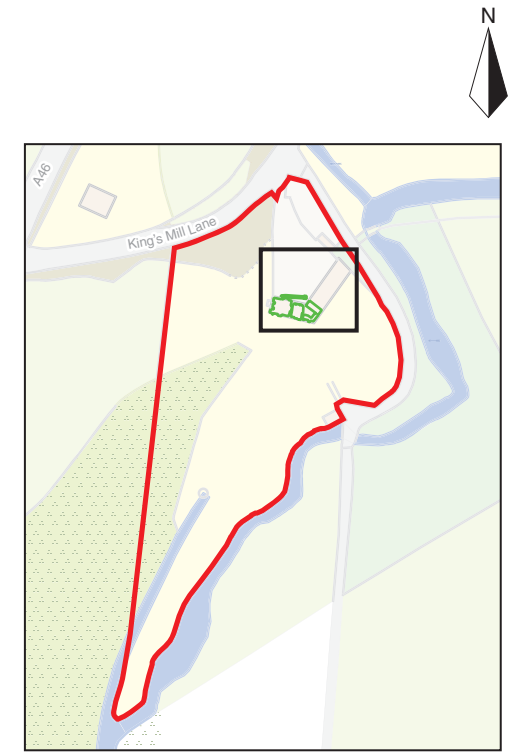
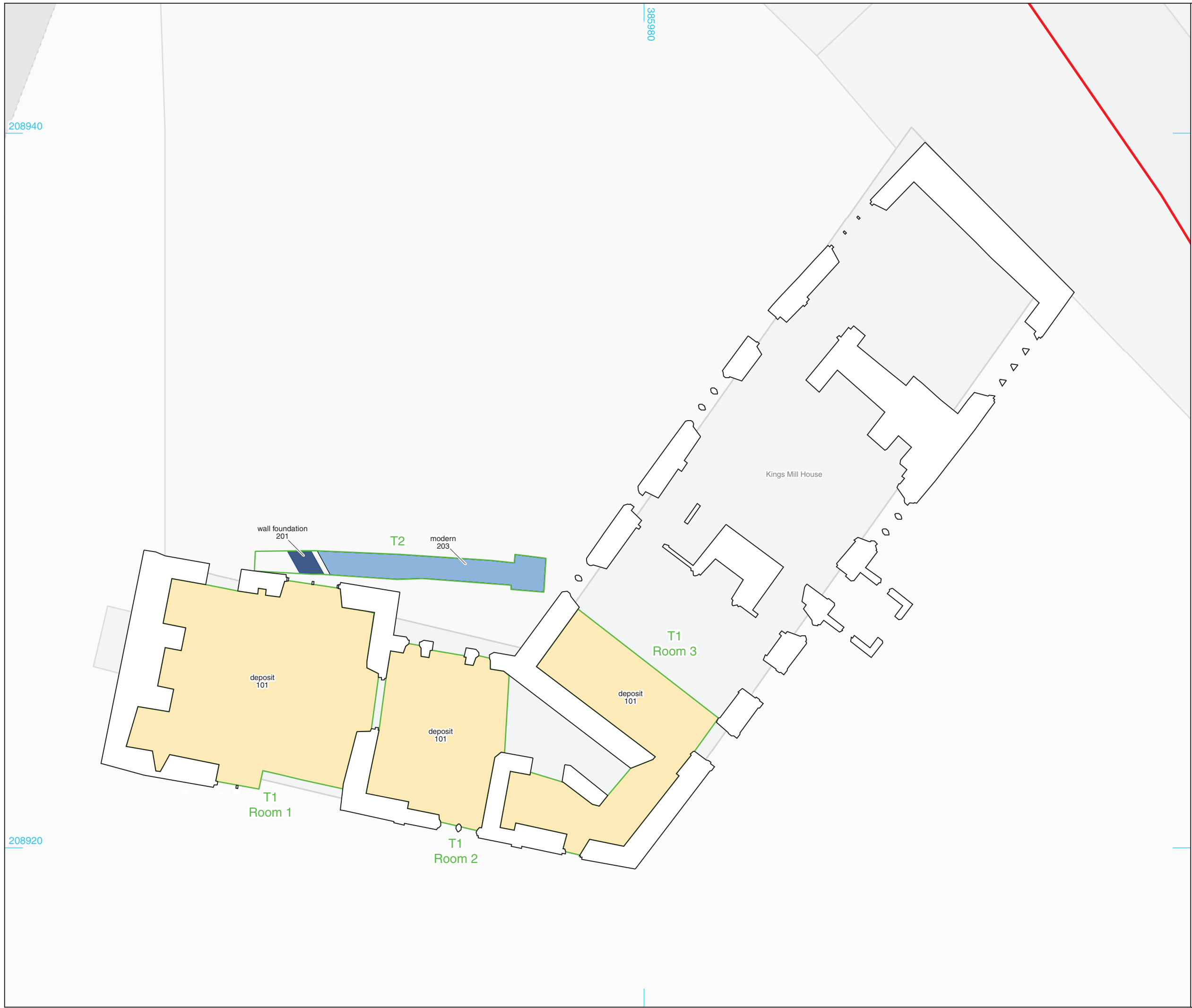
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Kings Mill House, Kings Mill Lane,  
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**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

<b>DRAWN BY</b>	<b>RW</b>	<b>PROJECT NO.</b>	<b>6742</b>	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
<b>CHECKED BY</b>	<b>DJB</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>13/01/2020</b>	
<b>APPROVED BY</b>	<b>LW</b>	<b>SCALE@A4</b>	<b>1:25,000</b>	<b>1</b>

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 Ordnance Survey 0100031673



- Site outline
- Extend of monitored groundworks
- Modern feature (excavated)
- Deposit (excavated)
- Structure (excavated)
- Wall



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**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Kings Mill House, Kings Mill Lane,  
 Painswick, Gloucestershire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan, showing  
 archaeological features and deposits

<small>DRAWN BY</small> RW	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> 6742	<small>FIGURE NO.</small>
<small>CHECKED BY</small> DJB	<small>DATE</small> 13/01/2020	<b>2</b>
<small>APPROVED BY</small> LW	<small>SCALE@A3</small> 1:100	

208940

385980

208920



Trench 2, wall foundation 201, looking south-west (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Kings Mill House, Kings Mill Lane,  
Painswick, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

**Trench 2: photograph**

DRAWN BY **RW** PROJECT NO. **6742**  
CHECKED BY **DJB** DATE **13/01/2020**  
APPROVED BY **LW** SCALE@A4 **NA**

FIGURE NO.

**3**

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