



# Former VAT House (external): retaining wall Gunns Mill Flaxley Gloucestershire

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief



for Forest of Dean Buildings Preservation Trust and Historic England

> CA Project: 5769 CA Report: 16103

> > June 2016



Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes

## Former VAT House (external): retaining wall Gunns Mill Flaxley Gloucestershire

# Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief

## CA Project: 5769 CA Report: 16103



Document Control Grid							
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by	
A	23 June 2016	Tim Havard, Alex Thomson and Jay Wood	Richard Young	Internal review		lan Barnes	
В	23 June 2016	Tim Havard, Alex Thomson and Jay Wood	Richard Young	Final	Client and Historic England comment	lan Barnes	

This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

© Cotswold Archaeology

## CONTENTS

APPEN	IDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM	.16
APPEN	IDIX C: LEVELS OF PRINCIPAL DEPOSITS AND STRUCTURES	.15
	IDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS IDIX B: THE FINDS	
10.	REFERENCES	
9.	CA PROJECT TEAM	.11
7.	DISCUSSION	.9
6.	THE FINDS	.9
5.	RESULTS (FIGS 2-7)	.6
4.	METHODOLOGY	.5
3.	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	.5
2.	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	.4
1.	INTRODUCTION	.3
SUMMA	ARY	.2

#### LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 Trench location (1:250)
- Fig. 3 Plan of trenches 1 and 4, showing archaeological features (1:40)
- Fig. 4 Trench 1 general view, looking north-west
- Fig. 5 Trench 1 general view with archaeological features, looking north-west (scales 1m)
- Fig. 6 Elevation and photograph of section to south-west of Trench 1 (scale 1m)
- Fig. 7 Elevation and photograph of section to the north-west of Trench 4 (scale 1m)
- Fig. 8 Photographs (scale 1m)

#### SUMMARY

Project Name:	Former VAT House (external): retaining wall, Gunns Mill
Location:	Flaxley
NGR:	SO 6751 1594
Туре:	Evaluation and Watching Brief
Date:	3 and 4 February; 6, 16 and 17 June 2016
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Dean Heritage Centre
Accession Number:	SOYDH: 2016.12
Site Code:	GUN 16

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in February 2016 at Gunns Mill, Flaxley, Gloucestershire. One trench was excavated. A subsequent watching brief was undertaken on nearby groundworks in June 2016.

The evaluation and watching brief revealed two walls on a different alignment compared to the adjacent surviving walls of the mill and these likely formed part of a retaining wall and its perpendicular return at the bottom of an earthen dam.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In February and June 2016 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation and subsequent watching brief for Forest of Dean Buildings Preservation Trust (FoDBPT) and Historic England (HE) at Gunns Mill, Flaxley, Gloucestershire (centred on NGR: SO 6751 1594; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of stabilisation works on a section of wall forming part of the historic mill building and the watching brief was undertaken to observe groundworks associated with these stabilisation works.
- 1.2 The evaluation and watching brief were carried out in accordance with *Brief for Archaeological Excavation in Advance of Wall Footings* (HE 2015) prepared by HE and with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2016) and approved by Mel Barge, Inspector of Ancient Monuments, HE. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014). It was monitored by Mel Barge, including a site visit on 4 February 2016.

#### The site

- 1.3 The site of Gunns Mill is located within the Forest of Dean, between Mitcheldean and Littledean, west of the village of Flaxley. The site had been used for agriculture in the earlier 20th century, but the former mill buildings now stand derelict. The site is enclosed to the east and south by woodland forming part of the Forest of Dean and to the west and north by farmland. The mill building was constructed against a steep slope, which forms part of the site. A tributary of the Westbury Brook runs through the site.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Brownstones Formation -Sandstone and Argillaceous Rocks of the Devonian Period, overlain by Alluvium of the Quaternary Period (BGS 2016). Sandy clay and plated sandstone bedrock substrate was observed in the base of the evaluation trench and during the watching brief.

#### 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site has been the subject of much previous work, including a historical account (Demidowicz and Demidowicz 2001), Historical Building Surveys (Shoesmith 1988, CA 2015), Dendrochronological analysis of timbers from the standing mill buildings (Howard et al. 2001) and an archaeological watching brief on installation of scaffolding (GCCAS 2000). In addition a section of exposed masonry was recorded following collapse of a bank adjacent to the blowing house. The following section is a summary of the results of those works.
- 2.2 The industrial history of the site can be traced back as far as 1435, when a mill was first built on the tributary of the Westbury Brook. The site was occupied by a succession of corn and fulling mills, including that of the clothier William Gunn in 1596, from whom the modern name derives (Demidowicz and Demidowicz 2001, 6). In 1625 the ironworker John Winter established a blast furnace close to the mill and the name was transferred to the iron works. The iron works suffered a period of decline during the middle of the 17th century, however in the early 1680s, the furnace was renovated by new owners, Scudamore and Hall (*Ibid*.). The cast iron lintels carry the dates 1682 and 1683 and dendrochronology has revealed that the oak trees used for the beams of the superstructure adjoining (but not above) the furnace were felled in 1681-82 and thus formed part of the rebuild (Howard et al. 2001).
- 2.3 The blast furnace continued to be operational until about 1741, when it was turned into a paper mill by Joseph Lloyd. By the late 19th century the mill had become defunct and the buildings were used for agriculture.
- 2.4 The 17th century blast furnace (National Heritage List No. 1002080) and the Grade II\* listed Gunns Mill building (National Heritage List No. 1186479) still occupy the site.
- 2.5 Work by the FoDBPT in August 2015 to clear an area of land slip next to the mill building revealed two walls that may have belonged to an earlier phase of construction than the surviving mill buildings. It was this area that was the target of the evaluation trench and watching brief that this report describes.

## 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to:
  - Create a full record of the buildings on site in advance of stabilisation works
  - Understand the phasing of the structures
  - Understand the significance of the different elements of the buildings
  - Provide information to inform the conservation, repair and reuse of the site
- 3.2 The objectives of the watching brief 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 evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of one trench, in the location shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). The trench measured 3.7m in length by 2.7m in width (the slight difference from that proposed in the brief and WSI being due to the location of the existing shoring). Due to the poor GPS coverage on site, the trench was set out with hand tapes and levels were tied into a benchmark with a known height Above Ordnance Datum.
- 4.2 The trench was excavated completely by hand to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 The subsequent watching brief observed the excavation of two trenches. The first, Trench 4, measuring 3.5m in length by 1.1m in width, lay directly to the north-west of Trench 1. The second area, Trench 5, measuring 4.7m in length by 1.3m in width, lay directly to the south-west of Trench 1.

- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* and no deposits were identified that required sampling. A small quantity of 20th century or later artefacts were recovered but not retained.
- 4.4 The archive from the evaluation 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 Dean Heritage Centre under accession number SOYDH: 2016.12. 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.

## 5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-7)

5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; a detailed summary of the recorded contexts can be found in Appendix A. Details of the relative heights of the principal deposits and features expressed as metres Above Ordnance Datum (m AOD) appear in Appendix B.

## Trench 1 (Figs 3-6)

5.3 The natural substrate 111 comprised mid red pink/brown sandy clay and plated sandstone bedrock and was encountered at the north-western extent of the trench. It was cut by the construction cut 109 for wall 102. This wall was aligned approximately north-west/south-east and measured at least 2.7m in length, 0.85m in width and at least 0.2m in depth. It was constructed from roughly dressed sandstone blocks bonded with a lime mortar, although the heavy mortaring obscured the coursing and size of stone. It appeared to have been terraced into the natural substrate at its northern extent and was deeper at its southern extent. Due to the location of the shoring erected to protect the archaeological team, no relationship could be established during the evaluation with a wall (Wall F on Fig. 2, CA 2015) which lay immediately to the south of the trench. Once the scaffolding was removed wall 105 was observed in the standing section to the west of the evaluation trench. It had a width of 0.85m (see Fig.6). It was not possible to recover a clear relationship between walls 105 and 102 during the evaluation, but the subsequent watching brief clearly established that walls 102 and 105 were bonded together and built using the same construction techniques.

- 5.4 Stone rubble 107, comprising irregular sandstone pieces up to 0.15m by 0.15m by 0.1m, lay at the southern extent of the trench. It was likely contained within cut 108 which cut the natural substrate 111; it was aligned approximately north-east/south-west and measured at least 0.1m in depth. Stone rubble 107 appeared to butt wall 102 although this was not definitively proved. It was cut by Wall F which lay immediately to the south of the trench.
- 5.5 Both wall 102 and stone rubble 107 were covered by a levelling layer 104 which consisted of mixed and compacted sandstone and pink clay. Deposits 103 and 106 were small localised dumps of material within layer 104 which was in turn sealed by a modern trample deposit 101 which derived from the clearing of the area of collapse in August 2015 as outlined above.

## Watching Brief, Trench 4 (Figs 3 and 7)

- 5.6 The groundworks observed during the first phase of the watching brief were located directly to the north-west of evaluation Trench 1. The natural substrate 403 was observed as continuing at the level at which it was recorded during the evaluation (at 0.2m below present ground level). This was sealed by levelling deposit 402, which consisted of mixed and compacted sandstone and pink clay; this was in turn covered by modern trample deposit 401.
- 5.7 In the section to the north-west of Trench 4 (Fig. 7), the natural substrate extended to a height of 1.25m above the level of the modern ground surface and was sealed by mixed bank material. This was being retained in part by Wall G and was topped by Wall H.

#### *Watching Brief, Trench 5* (Figs 3 and 8)

- 5.8 The groundworks observed during the second phase of the watching brief consisted of the removal of material from the bank to the south-west of Trench 1 and a slight reduction of the ground level immediately to the south-west of Trench 1.
- 5.9 The natural substrate 502 was observed as continuing at the level at which it was recorded during the evaluation (at 0.1m below present ground level) and was cut by construction cut 508 for wall 105. This wall was aligned approximately north-

east/south-west and was constructed from roughly dressed and unevenly coursed sandstone blocks bonded with a lime mortar. It measured at least 1.3m in length, 0.85m in width, at least 0.62m in height and was terraced into natural substrate 502 at its northern extent. Deposit 503, a pink-red sandy clay containing sandstone and fragments of lime mortar deposited in intermittent tip lines, butted up to the south-east face of wall 105 and south-west face of wall 102. It appeared to serve as a crude buttress for both walls as it extended up to the extant height of wall 105 and to the southern end of wall 102 (see Fig. 3). The height of deposit 503, which was identical to that of wall 105, could suggest that the extant remains of wall 105 may be fairly representative of its original height, although it is entirely possible that both have been truncated. Both wall 505 (see below) and sealed by later earthen and brash bank material.

- 5.10 The south-western extent of wall 102 was exposed in plan but not excavated. It appeared that it may have been robbed out along its southern edge. No relationship could be established with a wall which lay immediately to the south-east of the trench (Wall F on Fig. 2, CA 2015). Walls 102 and 105 were clearly bonded together using the same lime mortar but the form that this bonding took was obscured by the heavy mortaring present on both walls.
- 5.11 Wall 505 lay at the southern extent of the trench on a south-west/north-east orientation and was partially keyed into Wall F. It was constructed from roughly dressed and unevenly coursed sandstone and orange-red brick, bonded with a grey cinder-rich lime mortar. It measured 1.3m in length, 0.32m in width and 0.4m in height.
- 5.12 Stone rubble 507, comprising irregular sandstone pieces up to 0.2m by 0.15m by 0.1m, lay at the southern extent of the trench and appeared to be a continuation of layer 107 identified during the evaluation. It appeared to butt wall 102 although this was not definitively proved and was cut by Wall F and wall 505.
- 5.13 Both wall 102 and stone rubble 507 were covered by a levelling layer 501 which consisted of mixed and compacted sandstone and pink clay. Deposit 506 was a small localised dump of material within layer 501. It was, in turn, sealed by modern trample deposit 500 which derived from the clearing of the area of collapse as outlined above (paragraph 5.5). In the north-west section of Trench 5 (Fig. 8), the

natural substrate extended to a height of 1.2m above the level of the modern ground surface and was sealed by mixed bank material.

### 6. THE FINDS

- 6.1 A small amount of modern rubbish of 20th-century or later date was recovered during the evaluation trenching and was contained within modern trample layer 101; this was not retained.
- 6.2 Artefactual material was hand-recovered during the watching brief from one levelling layer. The recovered material dates to the post-medieval/modern period. Quantities of the artefact types recorded are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. The pottery fabric code is equated to the Gloucester pottery type series as defined by Vince (unpublished).

## Pottery: Post-medieval/modern

6.3 Two sherds (12g) of Bristol/Staffordshire Black-glazed ware, in very good condition, were recorded in levelling layer 402. This ware type is dateable to the 18th to 19th centuries.

#### Other finds

6.4 Levelling layer 402 also produced a full-profile fragment from a modern dish in pale green coloured glass.

#### 7. DISCUSSION

7.1 Walls 102 and 105 appeared to be the earliest archaeological features identified in trenches 1 and 5, relating to Phase 1A specified in the Historic Building Recording carried out by CA (2015). These two walls lay on distinct north-west/south-east and north-east/south-west alignments compared to that of adjacent elements of the surviving mill buildings. If these walls represented an earlier building it would be reasonable to expect it to lie either perpendicular or parallel to the course of the tributary of the Westbury Brook used to feed the mill race immediately to the north of the trench. However, Wall 102, for example, lay at approximately a 45 degree angle to the water course.

- 7.2 A review of the cartographic evidence, stratigraphy and topography of the site, as well as a review of comparable sites in the Forest of Dean, notably Camp Mill (Kemp 1987, Mullin 1989) suggests that rather than representing part of a building, wall 102 represents instead the northern extent of a retaining wall at the base of an earthen dam for a mill pond, with a perpendicular return, in the form of wall 105, exposed within Trench 5 during later investigations by the FoDBPT and the groundworks accompanying the watching brief (see Fig. 6). It appears almost certain that walls 105 and 102 were contemporary as they were clearly bonded together, identical in width and constructed utilising the same techniques and materials. It is also apparent from both the evaluation and watching brief that both walls had been terraced into the natural substrate. If the walls represented an earlier phase of mill building then at least some level of artefactual retrieval would be reasonably expected, even if it was simply processing waste from the mill buildings. Further support for this interpretation was provided by deposit 504 which appeared to form part of a bank which overlay both wall 105 and consolidation deposit 503, and was in turn overlain by several layers of earthen and brash bank material (see Fig.8).
- 7.3 The dating of walls 102 and 105 remains unclear. It is very likely that they pre-date wall 505, Wall E (which runs NW/SE to the south-west of Trench 1) and Wall F. However, it could not be established if they were contemporary with or pre-date the mill race immediately to the north of Trench 4. The mill race itself was subject to several phases of re-modelling (CA 2015).
- 7.4 Stone rubble 107/507 appeared to have been deliberately dumped against Wall 102 as a make-up or infill deposit during a phase of remodelling of the area. This is likely to have been broadly contemporary with the deposition of compacted levelling layer 104/501.
- 7.5 The dating of wall 505 remains unclear but it is likely that it belongs to a later phase of activity on the site as it cut bank deposit 504, stone layer 507 and appeared to be a repair to Wall F (see Fig. 8).
- 7.6 The observations made during the watching brief revealed no further structural deposits to the north and west of Trench 1 and affirmed the orientation and dimensions of walls 102 and 105. Furthermore, the 1.2m height of recorded natural bedrock in the north-west section of Trench 4 and south-west section of Trench 5 is

further demonstrable evidence (through the truncation of the natural deposits) of historic terracing within this part of site.

## 9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Evaluation fieldwork was undertaken by Tim Havard, assisted by Claudia Jorge. The watching brief was undertaken by Alex Thomson and Jay Wood. The report was written by Tim Havard, Alex Thomson and Jay Wood. The illustrations were prepared by Sam O'Leary. The archive has been compiled by Tim Havard, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

#### 10. **REFERENCES**

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2016 *Geology of Britain Viewer* <u>http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology viewer\_google/googleviewer.html</u> Accessed 7 June 2016
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 Gunns Mills, Flaxley, Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire: Historic Building Recording CA Typescript Report **15106**
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 Gunns Mill, Flaxley, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation
- Demidowicz, G and Demidowicz, T 2001 Gunns Mills, Abenhall, Gloucestershire: A History
- GCCAS (Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service) 2000 Archaeological Monitoring of Scaffolding Works at Gunns Mills, Abenhall, Gloucestershire
- HE (Historic England) 2015 Gunn's Mill, Abendale, Forest of Dean: Brief for Archaeological Excavation in Advance of wall footings
- Howard, R.E, Laxton, R.R and Litton, C.D 2001 Tree Ring Analysis of Timbers from Gunns Mills, Spout Lane, Abenhall, near Mitcheldean, Gloucestershire. Centre for Archaeology report 25/2001
- Kemp, R.L., 1987 'A seventeenth century royal forge in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire', *Post-Medieval Archaeology* **21**, 127-146
- Mullin, D. 1989 'The archaeology of Camp Mill: a reassessment', *Post-Medieval Archaeology* **23**, 15-20
- Shoesmith, R 1988 *Gunns Mills, Abenhall Gloucestershire: An interim Report.* City of Hereford Archaeological Committee
- Vince, A. G. Guide to the Pottery of Gloucester. Unpublished type fabric series.

#### APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Туре	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
1	101	Layer		modern trample layer	mid grey brown mixed re-deposited topsoil, natural substrate and stone rubble	3.7	1.7	0.15	Modern
1	102	Wall		wall footing	heavily mortared large sandstone blocks	>2.7	>0.85	>0.2	
1	103	Layer		levelling layer	dark grey black crushed clinker or coke	>0.75	0.35	0.02	
1	104	Layer		make up/levelling layer	compacted mid pink brown sandstone and red pink clay	>2.6	>2	>0.2	
1	105	Wall		wall footing	NW/SE aligned return of wall 102	>1.3	0.85	>0.62	
1	106	Layer		levelling layer	mixed red-brown clay, sandstone and mortar fragments	>0.9	0.72	<0.1m	
1	107	Layer		dumped deposit	mid grey brown 80% irregular sandstone blocks 20% red brown clay sand	>1.5	0.9	>0.1	
1	108	Cut		possible terracing cut	linear in plan, only defined in plan	>1.3	>0.8	unexc	
1	109	Cut		construction cut for wall 102	linear in plan, not fully excavated	>0.3	0.4	>0.1	
1	110	Fill	109	backfill of construction cut	mid red brown 50% clay sand, 50% irregular sandstone	>0.3	0.4	>0.1	
1	111	Layer		natural substrate	mid red pink/brown sandy clay and plated limestone	>3.7	>1.7	>0.2	
4	401	Layer		modern trample layer	mid grey brown mixed re-deposited topsoil, natural substrate and stone rubble	>3.5	>1.1	0.08	Modern
4	402	Layer		make up/levelling layer	compacted mid pink brown sandstone and red pink clay	>3.5	>1.1	0.12	
4	403	Layer		natural substrate	mid red pink/brown sandy clay and plated limestone	>3.5	>1.1	>0.25	
5	500	Layer		modern trample layer	mid grey brown mixed re-deposited topsoil, natural substrate and stone rubble	>4.7	>1.3	0.08	Modern
5	501	Layer		make up/levelling layer	compacted mid pink brown sandstone and red pink clay	>4.7	>1.3	0.1	
5	502	Layer		natural substrate	mid red pink/brown sandy clay and plated limestone	>4.7	>1.3	>0.1	
5	503	Deposit		bank material	light white pink sandy clay, lime mortar fragments and sandstone	1.6	>1.08	>0.51	
5	504	Deposit		bank material	Dark grey mixed silty clay, sandstone and slag	1.7	>0.9	>0.65	
5	505	Structure		wall footing	heavily mortared medium and large sandstone blocks, repair to wall E/F	1.3	0.32	0.4	
5	506	Layer		dumped deposit	dark grey brown sandy clay	1.96	0.22	unexc	
5	507	Layer		dumped deposit	mid grey brown 80% irregular sandstone blocks 20% red brown clay sand	>0.8	>0.58	unexc	
5	508	Cut		construction cut	linear, steep sided, seen only in section	>1.3	>0.85	>0.65	

#### **APPENDIX B: THE FINDS**

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
402	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Bristol/Staffordshire black- glazed ware	TF61	2	12	Modern
	Modern glass	Dish		1	87	
	Plaster			1	17	
	Slag			2	35	

#### APPENDIX C: LEVELS OF PRINCIPAL DEPOSITS AND STRUCTURES

Levels are expressed as metres below current ground level and as metres Above Ordnance Datum (AOD), calculated using a temporary benchmark surveyed in by GPS (82.02m AOD).

	Trench 1	Trench 4	Trench 5
Current ground level	0.00m	0.00m	0.00m
	(82.30m)	(82.50m)	(82.30m)
Top wall 102	0.03m	N/A	0.03m
	(82.27m)		(82.27m)
Top wall 105	N/A	N/A	-0.58m
			(82.88m)
Top of stone rubble 107	0.1m	N/A	0.1m
	(82.20m)		(82.20m)
Natural substrate within	0.01m	0.2m	0.02m
excavation	(82.29m)	(82.30m)	(82.28m)
Natural substrate in	N/A	-1.25m	-1.2m
section		(83.75m)	(83.5m)
Limit of excavation	0.24m	0.45m	0.1m
	(82.06m)	(82.05m)	(82.20m)

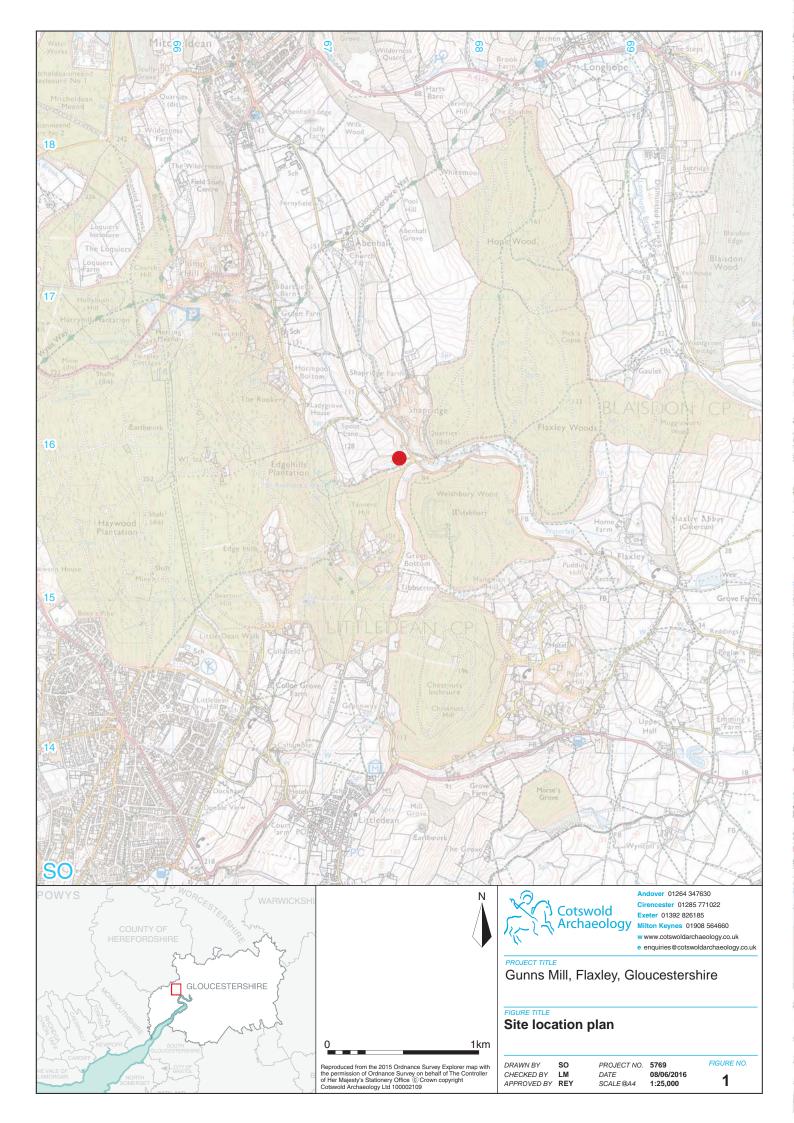
Upper figures are depth below modern ground level; lower figures in parentheses are metres AOD.

#### APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

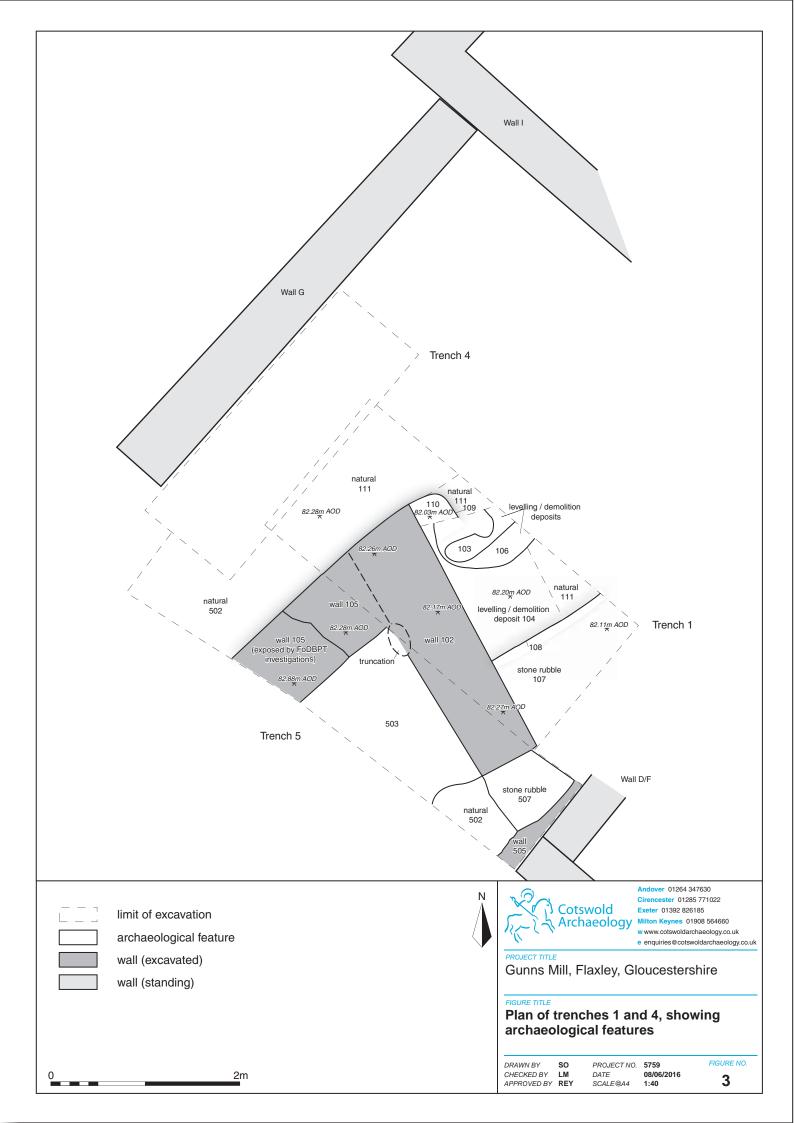
#### PROJECT DETAILS

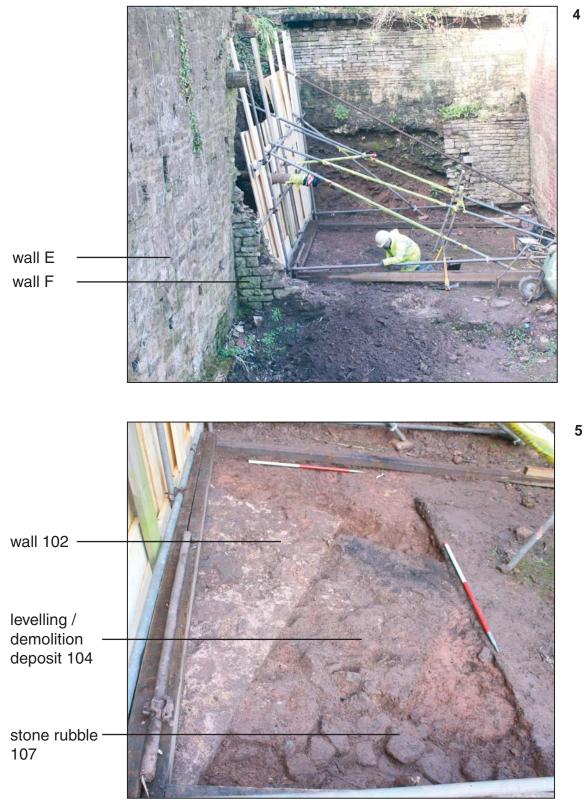
Project Name	Former VAT House (external): retaining wall, Gunns Mill, Flaxley,					
Short description	Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold					
	Archaeology in February 2016 at Gunns Mill, Flaxley,					
	Gloucestershire. One trench was excavated. A subseque					
	watching brief was undertaken on nearby groundworks in June					
	2016.					
	The evaluation and watching brief revealed two walls on a differen					
	alignment compared to the adjacent surviving walls of the mill and					
	these likely formed part of a retaining wall and its perpendicula					
	return at the bottom of an earthen dam.					
Project dates	3-4 February and 6 June 2016					
Project type	Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief					
Previous work	Historic Building Recording (CA 2015)					
Future work	Unknown					
PROJECT LOCATION						
Site Location	Gunns Mill, Flaxley, Gloucestershire					
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	10m <sup>2</sup>					
Site co-ordinates	SO 6750 1594					
PROJECT CREATORS						
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology					
Project Brief originator	Historic England					
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology					
Project Manager	Richard Young					
Project Supervisor	Tim Havard, Alex Thomson and Jay Wood					
MONUMENT TYPE	Mill Dam?					
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None					
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive Content					
Physical	Dean Heritage Centre SOYDH: Glass, pottery, slag 2016.12					
Paper	Dean Heritage Centre SOYDH: Context sheets, plans 2016.12					
Digital	Dean Heritage Centre SOYDH: digital photos, survey 2016.12 data					
BIBLIOGRAPHY						

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 Gunns Mill, Flaxley, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief. CA typescript report **16103** 









4

5

Trench 1 general view, looking north-west

looking north-west (scales 1m)

Trench 1 general view with archaeological features,

Andover 01264 347630 Cirencester 01285 771022 Cotswold Exeter 01392 826185 Archaeology Milton Keynes 01908 564660 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk PROJECT TITLE Gunns Mill, Flaxley, Gloucestershire FIGURE TITLE **Trench 1 photographs**  
 PROJECT NO.
 5769

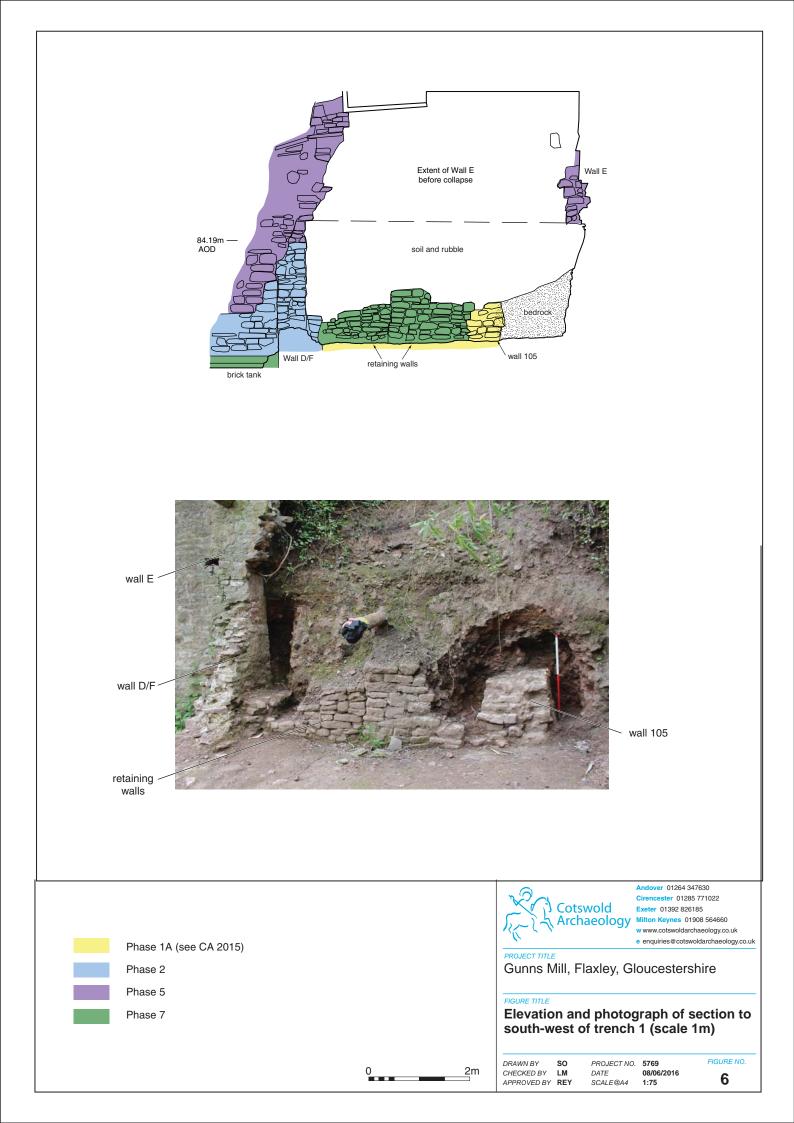
 DATE
 08/06/2016

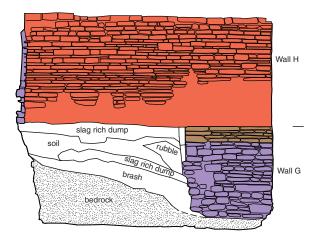
 SCALE@A4
 NA
 FIGURE NO. DRAWN BY

4 & 5

so

CHECKED BY LM APPROVED BY REY







natural bedrock 403

	Phase 4A (see CA 2015) Phase 5		Cotswold Archaeol	OGY Milton Keynes 01 w www.cotswoldare	5 771022 185 1908 564660
7	Phase 6?		FIGURE TITLE FIGURE TITLE Elevation and ph north-west of tre	otograph of s	section to
		0 2m	CHECKED BY LM DATE	ECT NO. <b>5769</b> <b>08/06/2016</b> E@A4 <b>1:75</b>	FIGURE NO. <b>7</b>



natural bedrock 502

Photograph of section to south-west of trench 5 (scales 1m)



Photograph of walls 102, 105 and 505, looking south-east (scales 1m & 0.5m)

Andover 01264 347630 Cirencester 01285 771022 Exeter 01392 826185 Milton Keynes 01908 564660 w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
Gunns Mill, Flaxley, Gloucestershire
FIGURE TITLE
Photographs
DRAWN BY SO PROJECT NO. 5769 FIGURE NO. CHECKED BY LM DATE 21/06/2016 APPROVED BY REY SCALE@A4 N/A 8



#### Andover Office

Stanley House Walworth Road Andover Hampshire SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

#### **Cirencester Office**

Building 11 Kemble Enterprise Park Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

#### **Exeter Office**

Unit 53 Basepoint Business Centre Yeoford Way Marsh Barton Trading Estate Exeter EX2 8LB

t: 01392 826185

## **Milton Keynes Office**

41 Burners Lane South Kiln Farm Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire MK11 3HA

t: 01908 564660

