

**THE OLD BREWHOUSE
5-7 LONDON ROAD
CIRENCESTER
GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

For

MRS R. SCRIVENS

CA PROJECT: 2792
CA REPORT: 09020


FEBRUARY 2009



THE OLD BREWHOUSE
5-7 LONDON ROAD
CIRENCESTER
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CA PROJECT: 2792
CA REPORT: 09020

prepared by	Sian Reynish, Project Supervisor
date	28 January 2009
checked by	Laurent Coleman, Project Manager
date	2 February 2009
approved by	Mark Collard, Head of Contracts
signed	
date	2 February 2009
issue	01

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.

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. RESULTS	5
3. DISCUSSION.....	5
4. CA PROJECT TEAM	6
5. REFERENCES	6
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	7
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS	7
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	8

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

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

Fig. 2 The site, showing location of groundworks (1:500)

SUMMARY

Project Name: The Old Brewhouse
Location: 5-7 London Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire
NGR: SP 0270 0197
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 21 January 2009
Planning Reference: 07/02819/FUL
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Corinium Museum, Cirencester
Site Code: TOB 09

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the development of a detached unit of bed and breakfast accommodation at The Old Brewhouse, 5-7 London Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

A re-worked post-Roman 'dark earth' deposit was identified along with the remains of a wall comprising the garden boundary between properties 5 and 7. No artefactual material pre-dating the post-medieval period was recovered.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In January 2009 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Mrs R. Scrivens at The Old Brewhouse, 5-7 London Road, Cirencester (centred on NGR: SP 0270 0197; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to a planning consent for a detached unit of bed and breakfast accommodation to the rear of the property (Planning ref: 07/02819/FUL). The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the development.

1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2009) and approved by Cotswold District Council (CDC) acting on the advice of Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC), the archaeological advisor to CDC. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (2001), the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Gloucestershire* (GCC 1996) and the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991).

The site

1.3 The site is located within the back garden of 5-7 London Road within the northern part of Cirencester. The property fronts onto London Road to the south and is bounded by Waterloo Road to the west, the Waterloo Car Park to the north and domestic properties and their associated gardens to the east (Fig. 2). The site is flat and lies at approximately 110m AOD.

1.4 The development area comprises an area of approximately 550m² and comprised a lawned area to the rear of the property.

1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Forest Marble of the Middle Jurassic Era overlain by limestone gravel First Terrace Deposits of the River Windrush (BGS 1998). However these deposits were not encountered during the watching brief.

Archaeological background

- 1.6 The site falls immediately to the south of a notification area of Scheduled Ancient Monument Glos. 361 (Corinium Roman Town). However the proposed development is sited in an area of high archaeological potential. In particular, it lies within the Roman town of Corinium (insula XVI), on or adjacent to the postulated alignment of the Fosse Way and the street bounding the south-western side of the insula (Streets B and K Holbrook and Pamment Salvatore 1998, Fig. 7) (Fig. 2).
- 1.7 To the south-east (at the site of the former Gaumont Cinema) remains of a further street (Street E Holbrook and Pamment Salvatore 1998, Fig. 7) were identified together with the remains of timber buildings. These features were overlain by extensive areas of metalling (Wacher 1965, 101-2). Structural remains dating to the Romano-British period were identified during archaeological evaluations undertaken at the Woolmarket and Waterloo Car Parks, located c. 150m to the north-west of the site (OA 2006 and CAT 1998).
- 1.8 Archaeological evaluation within the proposed development area identified *in situ* Roman deposits (probable surfaces and wall footings) 1.25m below the present ground level (bpgl) (108.47m to 108.77m AOD). These were in turn sealed by reworked Roman demolition deposits and reworked post-Roman 'dark-earth' deposits (CA 2008).

Methodology

- 1.9 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2009). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks, which comprised excavation for the foundations (a reinforced concrete raft) of the proposed unit (Fig. 2).
- 1.10 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.11 The archive from the watching brief are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. None of the finds recovered during the watching brief will be retained and the documentary archive will be deposited with Corinium Museum. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIG 2)

- 2.1 The earliest deposit encountered was a post-Roman 'dark earth' deposit 302. This deposit was at least 0.13m thick and was sealed by topsoil 0.32m thick.
- 2.2 A wall footing 303 was also encountered within the northern part of the site, covered/butted by the topsoil. This wall footing represented the remains of the former garden boundary between properties 5 and 7.
- 2.3 No other features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the post-medieval period was recovered.

The Finds

- 2.4 Quantities of pottery, glass and clay tobacco pipe were recovered from topsoil 301 and dark earth deposit 302 (Appendix B).
- 2.5 A total of 10 sherds of post-medieval pottery (154g) was recovered from layers 301 and 302. Types present include unglazed flowerpot type earthenwares, white china, mocha ware, creamware and English stoneware. All are typical of 19th-century or later dating.
- 2.6 Post-medieval or modern bottle glass was recovered from both layers. Two pieces of clay tobacco pipe stem were recovered from the 'dark earth' deposit 302.
- 2.7 Due to the post-medieval date of the finds and the disturbed nature of the contexts they were found in, the artefactual material is not deemed to be of archaeological significance and will not be retained.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Excavation to the maximum depth of impact (0.45m bpgl) encountered a post-Roman 'dark earth' deposit. 'Dark earth' deposits were also identified during the evaluation and finds recovered from these deposits indicated that they had been reworked (CA 2009). The *in situ* Roman deposits identified during the evaluation (at an average depth of 1.20m bpgl) were not encountered during the groundworks.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Sian Reynish and Kelly Saunders. The report was written by Sian Reynish. The illustrations were prepared by Rachael Kershaw. The archive has been compiled by Sian Reynish, and prepared for deposition by Teresa Gilmore. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 1998 *Geological Survey of England and Wales*, Sheet 235: Cirencester, 1:50,000

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2008 *The Old Brewhouse, 5-7 London Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation*, CA Report No. **08074**

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 *The Old Brewhouse, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

CAT (Cotswold Archaeological Trust) 1998 *Waterloo Car Park, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation*, CAT Report No. **98925**

Holbrook, N and Pamment Salvatore, J 1998 'The Street System' in N Holbrook (ed) *Cirencester: The Roman Town Defences, Public Buildings and Shops*. Cirencester Excavations V, 19-34

OA (Oxford Archaeology) 2006 *Woolmarket Car Park, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation Report*

Wacher, J. 1965 Cirencester 1964: fifth interim report, *Antiq J*, **45**, 97-110

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
301	Layer	Topsoil			0.32	
302	Layer	'Dark earth'/Cultivation deposit			> 0.13	C19+
303	Wall	Stone garden boundary wall		0.45		

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS*Finds Concordance*

Context	Artefact type	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
301	Post-medieval pottery: flowerpot	5	138	C19+
	Post-medieval glass: bottle	1	182	
302	Post-medieval pottery: china, mocha, creamware, English Stoneware	5	16	C19+
	Modern glass: sauce bottle	9	96	
	Clay tobacco pipe: stem	2	4	

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	The Old Brewhouse, 5-7 London Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the development of a detached unit of bed and breakfast accommodation at The Old Brewhouse, 5-7 London Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.</p> <p>A re-worked post-Roman 'dark earth' deposit was identified along with the remains of a wall comprising the garden boundary between properties 5 and 7. No artefactual material pre-dating the post-medieval period was recovered.</p>	
Project dates	21 January 2009	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	Yes	
Future work	None	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	The Old Brewhouse, 5-7 London Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	550m ²	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SP 0270 0197	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Sian Reynish and Kelly Saunders	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical		None
Paper	Corinium Museum	Trench recording sheet and digital photo registers
Digital	Corinium Museum	Digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 <i>The Old Brewhouse, 5-7 London Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i>, CA Report No. 09020</p>		



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

**The Old Broomhouse, 5-7 London Road
Cirencester, Gloucestershire**

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY

RK

SCALE

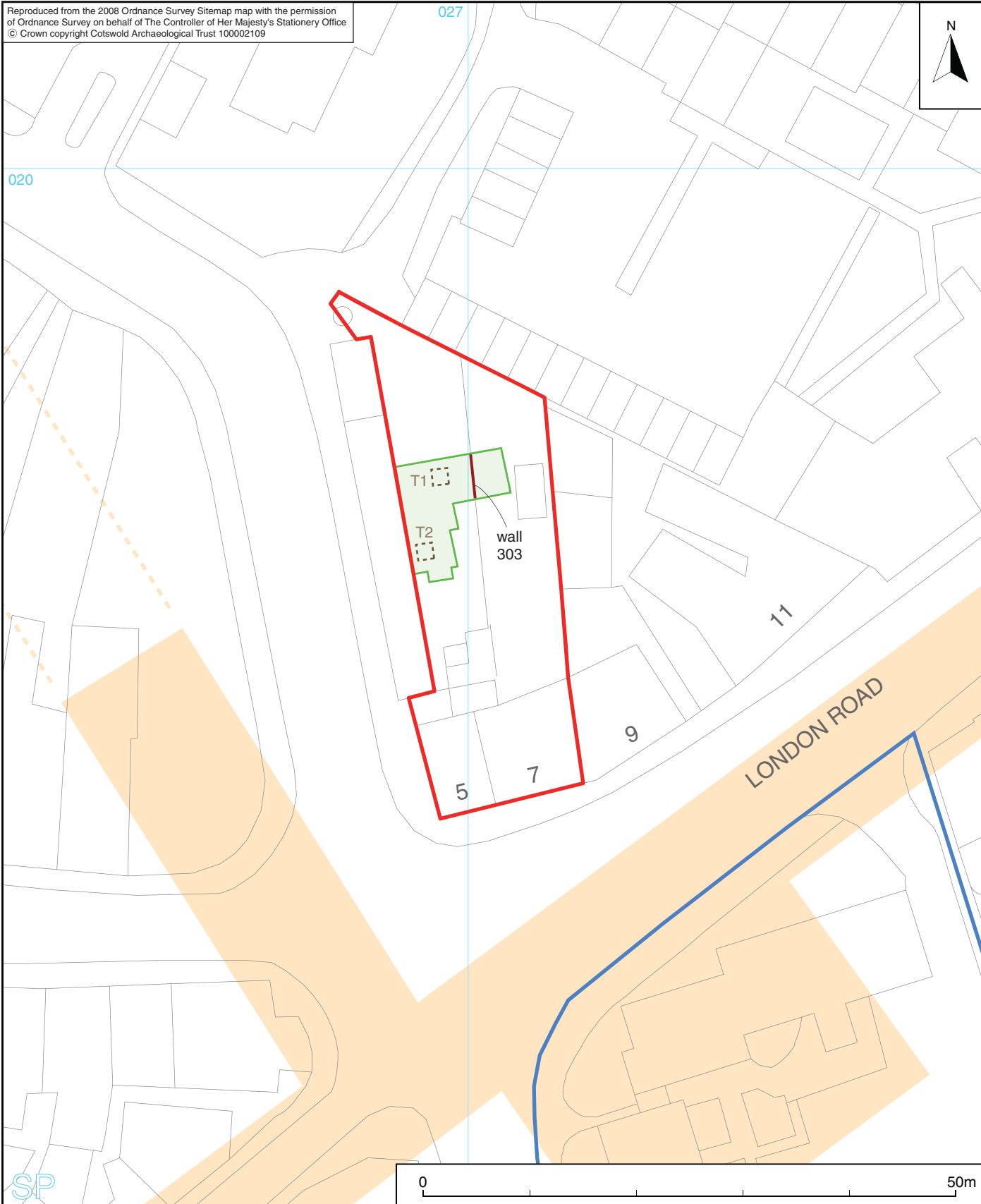
1:25,000@A4

PROJECT NO.

2792

FIGURE NO.

1



- site
- area of groundworks
- previous evaluation trenches (CA 2008)
- Gaumont Cinema site
- Roman street grid



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

**The Old Brewhouse, 5-7 London Road
Cirencester, Gloucestershire**

FIGURE TITLE

**The site, showing location of
groundworks**

DRAWN BY

RK

SCALE

1:500@A4

PROJECT NO.

2792

FIGURE NO.

2