

**THE NORMAN KNIGHT
WHICHFORD
WARWICKSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

For

MATTHEW FINDLAY

on behalf of

THE NORMAN KNIGHT LTD


CA PROJECT: 2924
CA REPORT: 09143

OCTOBER 2009

THE NORMAN KNIGHT WHICHFORD WARWICKSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CA PROJECT: 2924
CA REPORT: 09143

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date	25 September 2009
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date	8 October 2009
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signed	
date	8 October 2009
issue	01

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Fig. 2 Location of observed groundworks (1:200)

SUMMARY

Project Name: The Norman Knight
Location: Whichford, Warwickshire
NGR: SP 3153 3470
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 17 August 2009
Planning Reference: 09/00642/FUL
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Warwickshire Museum
Site Code: TNK 09

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of an extension at the front of The Norman Knight Public House.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In August 2009 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Matthew Findlay on behalf of The Norman Knight Ltd at The Norman Knight (centred on NGR: SP 3153 3470; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to a planning consent for an extension at the front of the Public House (Planning ref: 09/00642/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 the Brief for Archaeological Work: The Norman Knight, Whichford (WMFS 2009) prepared by Anna Stocks, Planning Archaeologist, Warwickshire Museum Field Services (WMFS), the archaeological advisors to Stratford on Avon District Council (SADC), and with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2009) and approved by SADC acting on the advice of Anna Stocks. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (2008), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE)* (EH 2006).

The site

1.3 The site comprises The Norman Knight and associated garden, located in the centre of the village of Whichford. The site is flat and lies at approximately 134m AOD.

1.4 The development comprises an area of 60m² and comprised a paved area and lawn at the front of the property.

1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Lower Lias Clay of the Jurassic era (BGS 1968).

Archaeological background

1.6 The site is located within the probable extent of the medieval settlement of Whichford (Warwickshire Sites and Monuments Record MWA 8994) and therefore within an area of significant archaeological potential (WCC 2009).

Methodology

- 1.7 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2009). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising ground reduction and the excavation of a foundation trench (Fig. 2).
- 1.8 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.9 The archive from the watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble and will be deposited with Warwickshire Museum. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIG. 2)

- 2.1 The natural geological substrate 110 comprising yellow sandy clay was revealed at an average depth of 0.34m below present ground level (bpgl). This was generally overlain by yellow-brown silty clay subsoil 104 c. 0.24m in thickness, which was in turn overlain by dark brown silty clay topsoil 103 c. 0.1m thick. Wall foundations for the existing Public House and modern garden features were also identified.
- 2.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the application area (see archaeological background above), the watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks. The absence of archaeological deposits may indicate that structural remains associated with the medieval settlement of Whichford either do not extend as far as or were not exposed by the development.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Rebecca Riley. The report was written by Rebecca Riley. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Rebecca Riley, and prepared for deposition by, Victoria Taylor. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 1968 *Geological Survey of Great Britain (England & Wales)*, Sheet 218: Chipping Norton; solid and drift edition, 1:63,360

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 *The Norman Knight, Whichford, Warwickshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

WMFS (Warwickshire Museum Field Services) 2009 *Brief for Archaeological Work: The Norman Knight, Whichford*

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
100	Masonry	Red brick and mortar coursed wall of Public House and extension			-	
101	Layer	Concrete hard standing below kitchen extension			-	
102	Masonry	Rubble foundation for Public House; roughly shaped limestone blocks on a grey-yellow sandy clay matrix				
103	Layer	Topsoil			0-0.1m	
104	Layer	Subsoil			0.1-0.34m	
105	Deposit	Yellow Builders' Sand			0.1-0.13m	
106	Masonry	Concrete hard standing for garden shed				
107	Deposit	Mid greyish brown silty clay make-up layer below 106. Abundant subangular stone inclusions, soft compaction, charcoal flecks and frequent modern finds				
108	Masonry	Concrete hard standing for paving in east part of site				
109	Masonry	Hardcore foundation for hard standing 108				
110	Natural Substrate	Mid yellow sandy clay with stone inclusions			0.34m+	

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	The Norman Knight, Whichford, Warwickshire	
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of an extension at the front of The Norman Knight Public House.</p> <p>No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.</p>	
Project dates	17 August 2009	
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Watching Brief	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	Not Known	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	The Norman Knight, Whichford, Warwickshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	60m ²	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SP 3153 3470	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Rebecca Riley	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical		
Paper	Warwick Museum	Recording sheets, b/w photographs
Digital	Warwick Museum	Digital Photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 <i>The Norman Knight, Whichford, Warwickshire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> CA typescript report 09143</p>		



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

**The Norman Knight, Whichford
Warwickshire**

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY

LG

SCALE

1:25,000@A4

PROJECT NO.

2924

FIGURE NO.

1



- site
- area of observed groundworks



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE

The Norman Knight, Whichford
Warwickshire

FIGURE TITLE

Location of observed groundworks

DRAWN BY

LG

SCALE

1:200@A4

PROJECT NO.

2924

FIGURE NO.

2