

**REDLANDS  
13 CHARLOTTE MEWS  
SWINDON  
WILTSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

*For*

**URBAN ELITE PROPERTY  
DEVELOPMENTS**


CA PROJECT: 3094  
CA REPORT: 10091

JUNE 2010

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13 CHARLOTTE MEWS  
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CA PROJECT: 3094  
CA REPORT: 10091

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date	18 May 2010
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date	18 June 2010
approved by	Simon Cox
signed	
date	18 June 2010
issue	02

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## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

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

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

## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** Redlands, 13 Charlotte Mews  
**Location:** Swindon, Wiltshire  
**NGR:** SU 1572 8370  
**Type:** Watching Brief  
**Date:** 12 April 2010  
**Planning Reference:** S/09/2246/TB  
**Site Code:** RCM 10

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the change in use from residential institution to residential (8 flats) at Redlands, 13 Charlotte Mews, Swindon, Wiltshire.

A possible, undated, wall foundation was identified within the area of groundworks.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In April 2010 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Urban Elite Property Developments at Redlands, 13 Charlotte Mews, Swindon, Wiltshire (centred on NGR: SU 1572 8370; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition (no. 17) attached to a planning consent for the change in use of the property from residential institution to 8 residential flats (Planning ref: SU 1572 8369). 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 detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2010) and approved by Swindon Borough Council acting on the advice of Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, County Archaeologist, Wiltshire Council. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008), the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Wiltshire* (WCC 1995), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006).

### ***The site***

1.3 The site is approximately 0.15ha and comprises buildings, hard-standing and gardens. The site is bounded to the north-west by Charlotte Mews and on the remaining sides by residential properties.

1.4 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Ampthill Clay Formation and Kimmeridge Clay Formation of the Jurassic era (BGS 2010). The natural substrate was not encountered during the groundworks.

### ***Archaeological background***

1.5 Archaeological interest in the site arises from its location within the historic core of Old Town, Swindon (a settlement with medieval origins, SMR ref. no. SU18SE461). More specifically, archaeological investigation at The Hermitage immediately to the north-east of the site identified artefacts dating to the Mesolithic, Iron Age, Romano-British and medieval periods, together with a Saxon sunken-floored building (SMR ref. nos. SU18SE054, SU18SE204, SU18SE350, SU18SE404 and SU18SE469). A

further Saxon sunken-floored building was identified immediately to the north of the site at the Lloyds Bank Building (SMR ref. no. SU18SE403).

### ***Methodology***

- 1.6 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2010). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising the excavation of a foundation trench (Fig. 2).
- 1.7 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.8 The archive from the watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble and will be deposited with Swindon Museum and Art Gallery. 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 (FIGS 2-3)**

- 2.1 The earliest deposit encountered consisted of undated possible wall foundation 103 orientated north-east/south-west. This was revealed at the south-western end of the trench at an average depth of 0.88m below present ground level. This was overlain by garden soil 102 averaging 0.67m in thickness, which was in turn sealed by gravel bedding deposit 101 averaging 0.26m in thickness. This was overlain by modern tarmac 100.
- 2.2 Despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

## **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 An undated possible wall foundation was identified during the groundworks and may relate to structures formerly occupying the site.

#### 4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Martin Harrington. The report was written by Martin Harrington. The illustrations were prepared by Jon Bennett. The archive has been compiled by Martin Harrington, and prepared for deposition by Jon Hart. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

#### 5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2010  
[http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer\\_google/googleviewer.html](http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html) accessed 16 June 2010

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2010 *Redlands, 13 Charlotte Mews, Swindon, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

**APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS**

## Trench 1

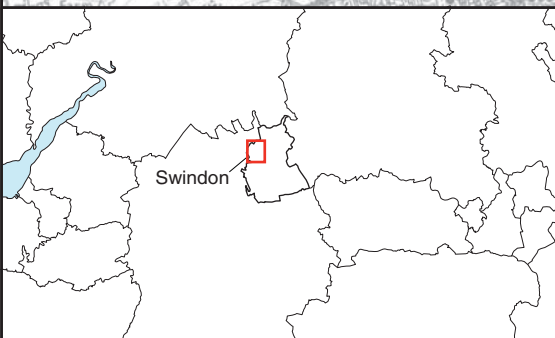
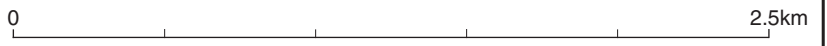
No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
100	Layer	Tarmac			0.05	Modern
101	Layer	Gravel hardcore, bedding for 100			0.26	Modern
102	Layer	Dark greyish brown garden soil			0.67	Modern
103	Structure	Possible wall foundation, sandstone blocks with mid grey white lime mortar	>0.9	0.5	0.05	Undated



**APPENDIX E: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Redlands, 13 Charlotte Mews, Swindon, Wiltshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the change in use from residential institution to residential (8 flats) at Redlands, 13 Charlotte Mews, Swindon, Wiltshire.</p> <p>A possible, undated, wall foundation was identified within the area of groundworks.</p>	
Project dates	12 April 2010	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	N/A	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	13 Charlotte Mews, Swindon, Wiltshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	0.15ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SU 1572 8370	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Martin Harrington	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content
Paper		Context sheets, trench sheet, ground-works plan, section and plan
Digital		Digital Photographs
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2010 <i>Redlands, 13 Charlotte Mews, Swindon, Wiltshire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> CA typescript report <b>10041</b>		

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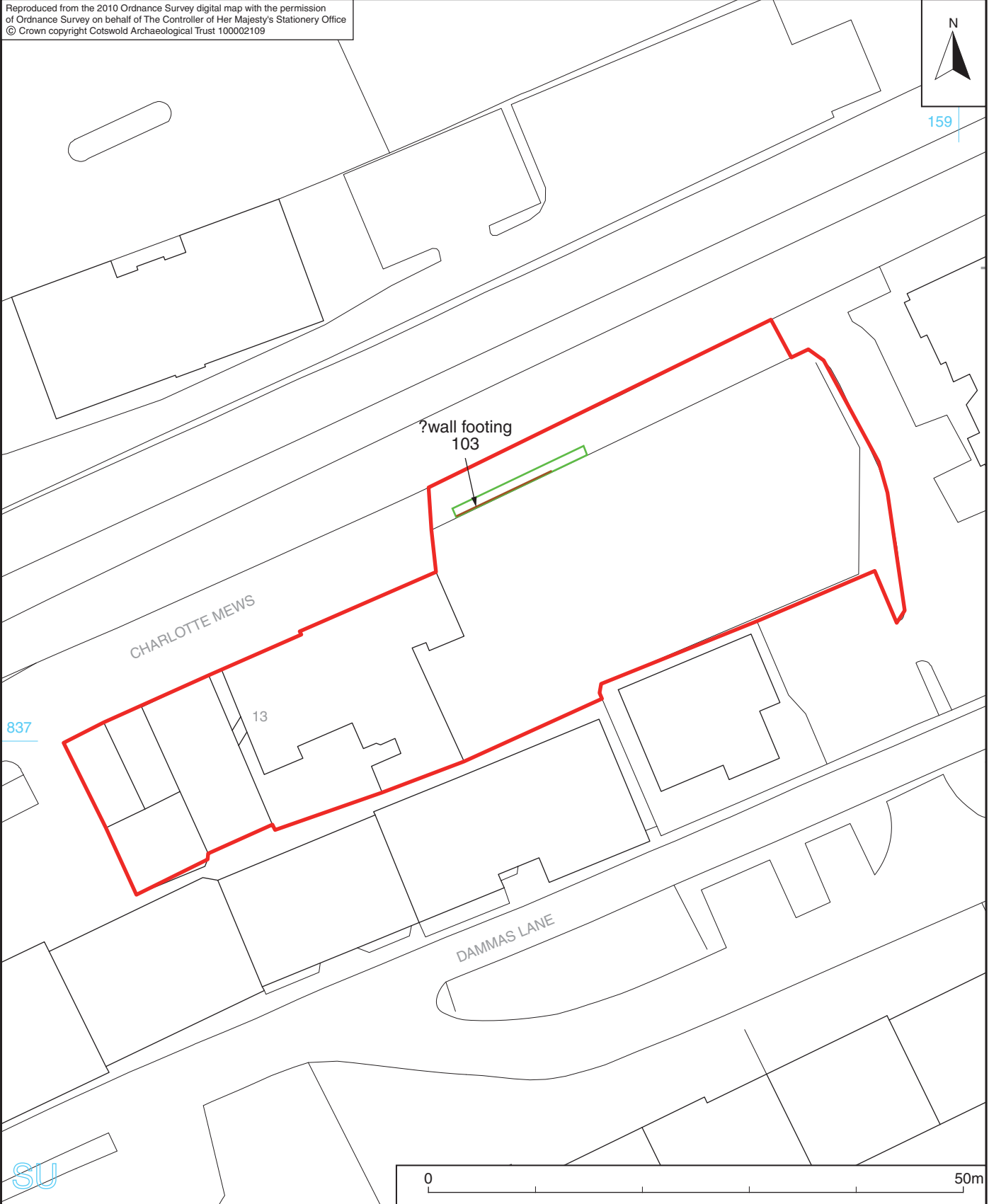
**PROJECT TITLE**  
Redlands, 13 Charlotte Mews  
Swindon, Wiltshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
**Site location plan**

<b>DRAWN BY</b>	<b>SCALE</b>	<b>PROJECT NO.</b>	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
JB	1:25,000@A4	3094	<b>1</b>



159



837

13

CHARLOTTE MEWS

DAMMAS LANE

?wall footing  
103

SU

0 50m

- site
- location of observed groundworks
- possible wall footing



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PROJECT TITLE

Redlands, 13 Charlotte Mews  
Swindon, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE

**The site, showing location of  
groundworks**

DRAWN BY

JB

SCALE

1:500@A4

PROJECT NO.

3094

FIGURE NO.

**2**