

**30 KING STREET
CIRENCESTER
GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

For

MRS M. HERBERT


CA PROJECT: 3203
CA REPORT: 10150

SEPTEMBER 2010

30 KING STREET
CIRENCESTER
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CA PROJECT: 3203
CA REPORT: 10150

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date	17 August 2010
checked by	Laurent Coleman, Project Manager
date	1 September 2010
approved by	Mark Collard, Head of Contracts
signed	
date	1 September 2010
issue	01

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

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

SUMMARY

Project Name: 30 King Street
Location: Cirencester, Gloucestershire
NGR: NGR: SP 0282 0141
Type: Watching brief
Date: 17 August 2010
Planning Reference: Ref: 10/02327/FUL
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Corinium Museum
Site Code: KST 10

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of a single storey extension to form a garage at 30 King Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

No features or deposits of archaeological significance were observed during the groundworks. Two unstratified pottery sherds dating to the Roman period were recovered.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In August 2010 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Mrs M. Herbert at 30 King Street, Cirencester (centred at NGR: SP 0282 0141; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition (no. 3) attached to a planning consent by Cotswold District Council for the construction of a single storey extension to form a garage at 30 King Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire (Planning ref: 10/02327/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 detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2010) and approved by Cotswold District Council (CDC) acting on the advice of Mr Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucester County Council (GCC), the archaeological advisor to CDC. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (IfA 2008), the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Gloucestershire* (GCC 1996), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1992) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006).

The site

1.3 The site is bounded to the north-west by King Street and on the remaining sides by residential properties and gardens (Fig. 2). It lies at approximately 115m AOD.

1.4 The site measures approximately 20m x 17m in extent and was formerly used as a garage.

1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Forest Marble Formation of the Bathonian geological era (BGS 2010). The natural substrate was not encountered during the groundworks.

Archaeological background

1.6 The site lies within the southern part of the Roman town of Corinium (*Insula IX or X*), and a short distance to the north-east of Ermin Street, one of the principal thoroughfares. Previous archaeological investigation has revealed substantial building remains to the north and north-west of the site, for example in 1922 at what

is now 93 Victoria Road (McWhirr 1986) and at Bingham Hall in 1908 (ibid 191-94). At the former, mosaic pavements were found no more than four feet below the garden surface (CA 2008).

- 1.7 In 1991 an archaeological watching brief by Cotswold Archaeology of a pipe-trench for Thames Water Utilities was undertaken on King Street immediately to the north of 30 King Street. The watching brief revealed the presence of a 1.95m stretch of north-east/south-west orientated Roman wall with adjoining north-west/south-east orientated return at a depth of 1m below present ground level (bpgl). The walls were sealed by a thick deposit of dark earth (Johnson 1992; CA 2000).

Methodology

- 1.8 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2010). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising ground reduction within an area measuring 5m x 3m in extent to a depth of 0.025m below the present ground level (Fig. 2).
- 1.9 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.10 The archive and artefacts from the watching brief are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Corinium Museum, along with the site archive. 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

- 2.1 The only exposed deposit was modern make-up layer 101, which consisted of limestone fragments and gravel building ballast within a matrix of redeposited garden soil. This was excavated to a depth of 0.025m bpgl without the base of the deposit being encountered. Two Roman pottery sherds were recovered as residual finds from this layer and included one bodysherd in a black-firing sand-tempered fabric, imitating the Black-Burnished ware, and a cup 27 in Central Gaulish Samian ware (Appendix B).

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 is due to the limited depth of the intrusive groundworks.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Martin Harrington. This report was written by Martin Harrington with illustrations prepared by Jonathan Bennett. The finds report was compiled by Angela Aggujaro. The archive has been compiled by Martin Harrington and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2010 *Geology of Britain Viewer* Online resource at <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?pub=FMB> accessed 1 September 2010

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2010 *30 King Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2008 *5 Prospect Place, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief* CA Report No. **08216**

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2000 *Cirencester Traffic and Environmental Plan: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment* CA Report No. **001239**

CAT (Cotswold Archaeological Trust) 1992 *Archaeological Watching Briefs 1990-1992 Miscellaneous Reports Vol. II* CAT Report No. **09279**

Johnson, C., 1992 'King Street, Cirencester' In CAT 1992

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Type	Description	Depth
101	Layer	Modern made ground: limestone fragments and gravel ballast within a matrix of redeposited garden soil	0.025m+

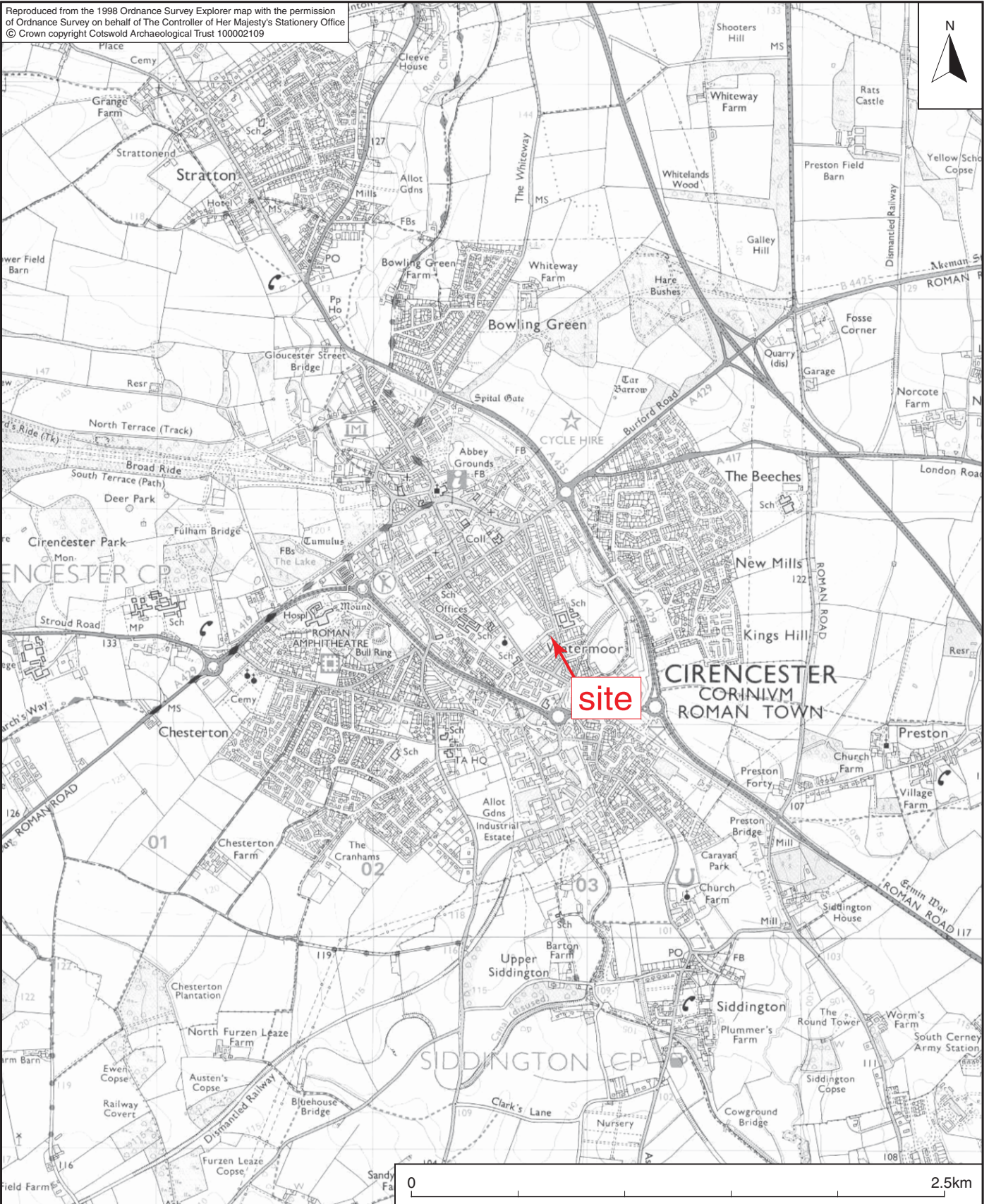
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Description	Count	Weight (g)
101	Roman pottery: CG Samian ware cup 27 (Cirencester type code 154B); black-firing sand-tempered fabric imitating Black-Burnished ware (Cirencester type code: 118)	2	48

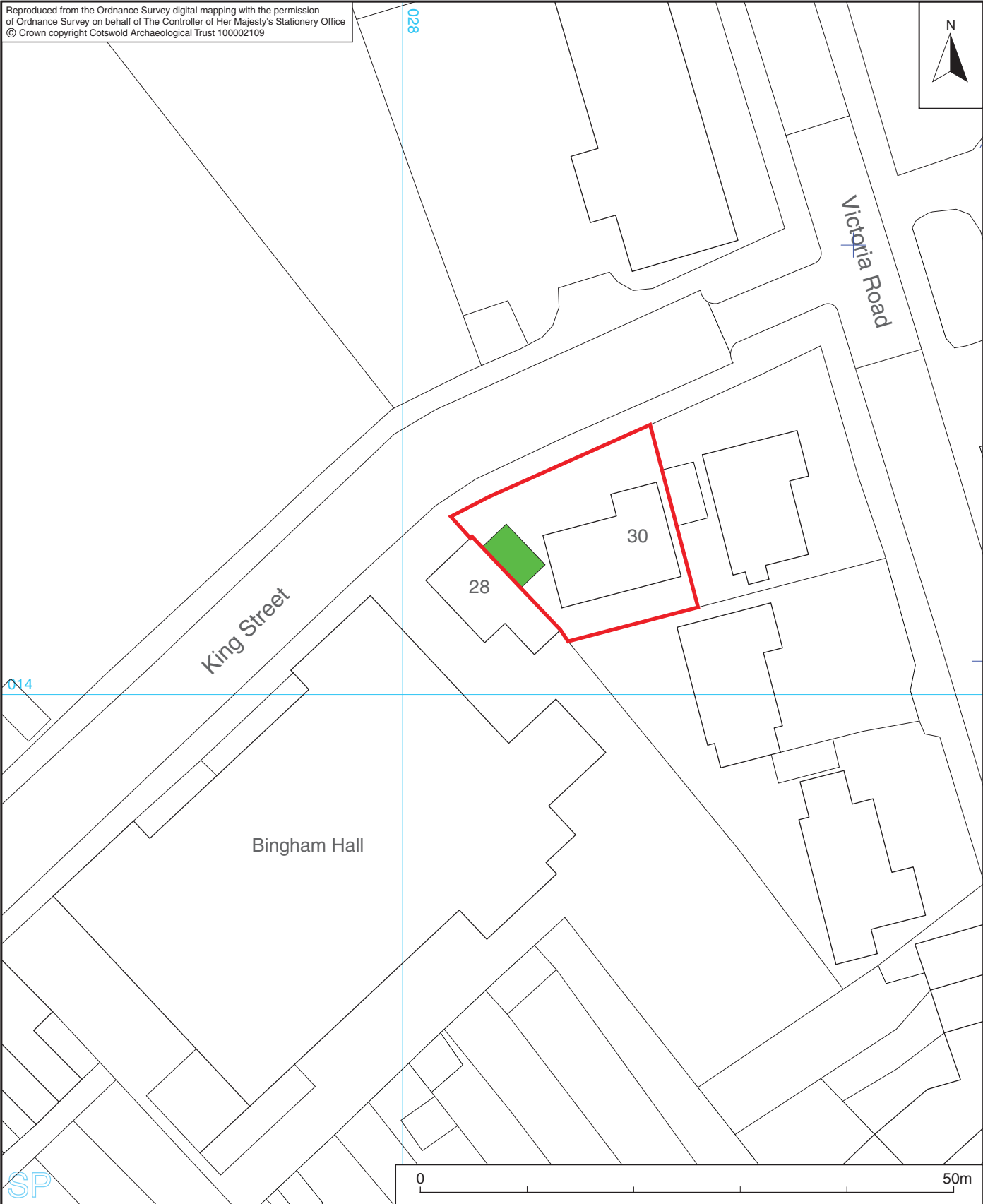
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM


PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	30 King Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of a single storey extension to form a garage at 30 King Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were observed during the groundworks. Two unstratified pottery sherds dating to the Roman period were recovered.	
Project dates	17 August 2010	
Project type	Watching brief	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	30 King Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire	
Study area	c. 20m x 17m	
Site co-ordinates	NGR: SP 0282 0141	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Gloucestershire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Martin Harrington	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Corinium Museum	pottery
Paper	Corinium Museum	Context records, reports
Digital	Corinium Museum	reports
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2010 30 King Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief CA Report No. 10150		

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 COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY			
PROJECT TITLE 30 King Street, Cirencester Gloucestershire			
FIGURE TITLE Site location plan			
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-  site
-  area of observed groundworks



COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY

PROJECT TITLE
30 King Street, Cirencester
Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
The site, showing location of groundworks

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
JB	1:500@A4	3203	2