



JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**AT**

**80 ST BERNARD'S ROAD,**

**OXFORD, OXFORDSHIRE**

**NGR SP507072**

*On behalf of  
Mr & Mrs P Bowyer*

**JUNE 2016**

## **Summary**

*John Moore Heritage Services carried out an archaeological watching brief at 80 St Bernard's Road, Oxford (NGR SP 507 072).*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Location**

The development site is located at the rear of 80 St Bernard's Road, Oxford (NGR SP 507 072). The underlying geology is 2<sup>nd</sup> (Summertown-Radley) Terrace Deposits, now named Summertown-Radley Sand and Gravel Member (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?pub=SURA>).

### **1.2 Planning Background**

Oxford City Council granted planning permission for the erection of part single, part five storey rear extension and formation of no. 1 rear dormer (15/01946/FUL).

Due to the archaeological and historical importance of the surrounding area a condition was attached to the permission requiring a watching brief to be maintained during the course of building operations or construction works on the site. This was in line with NPPF and Local Planning policies.

## **2 RESULTS**

Due to miscommunications between the landowner and the contractor, earthworks were carried out without archaeological monitoring.



Plate 1: Excavation area

At the time of visit, the entire development area had been reduced, exposing the top of the sand and gravel geological deposit (Plate 1). No archaeological features were noticeable on the exposed surface. Part of the surface had been heavily disturbed by the mechanical excavator.

A vertical section of the removed deposits was preserved in the south-eastern corner of the area. The upper visible layer was positively identified as made-up ground containing modern materials, noted on site and not collected. This deposit overlay a layer of gravel tentatively identified as a modern path. The lowest visible layer was identified as subsoil above the gravel deposits.

### **3 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

British Geological Survey (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk>)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*