30 Long Street
Wotton-under-Edge
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

For

GRAND INVESTMENTS LTD

CA REPORT: 04077

MAY 2004
30 LONG STREET
WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CA PROJECT: 1740
CA REPORT: 04077

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<td>Date: 28 April 2004</td>
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Fig. 3 South facing section through Trench
SUMMARY

Site Name: 30 Long Street
Location: Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire
NGR: ST 7571 9325
Type: Evaluation
Date: 19 –20 April 2004
Location of Archive: Stroud District Museum
Site Code: LSW 04

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in April 2004 at the request of Grand Investments Ltd on land to the rear of 30 Long Street, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire. In compliance with an approved WSI (CA 2004), a single trench was excavated within the proposed development area.

Although a number of deposits and cut features were identified, none could be dated to before the 18th century and most probably represent episodes of landscaping and horticultural activity.
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In April 2004 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Grand Investments Ltd on land at the rear of 30 Long Street, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire (centred on NGR: ST 7571 9325; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken in advance of the determination of a planning application.

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2004) and approved by Mr Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer (Gloucestershire County Council). The fieldwork also followed the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1999) and the Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Gloucestershire (GCC 1995).

The site

1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 100m² sited to the rear of the existing property. It currently incorporates derelict outbuildings, concrete paving and an overgrown garden (Fig. 2).

1.4 The site lies at approximately 88m AOD, and slopes down to the east. The underlying geology of the area is mapped as Marlstone Rock Bed of the Lower Jurassic era (BGS 1970).

Archaeological background

1.5 The site lies within the historic core of Wotton-under-Edge itself first recorded in the Domesday Survey (1086). By the mid thirteenth century Wotton had gained borough status, with Long Street and High Street forming the main axis of the town. The extent of the medieval development of Wotton remains undetermined although the presence of property boundaries mirroring that of tenement and burgage plots is evidenced by later cartographic sources.

1.6 A programme of archaeological recording undertaken to the rear of 27 Long Street revealed a post-medieval/modern stone and brick-built subterranean structure interpreted as a water cistern/soakaway associated with the former laundry block.
that previously stood at the rear of the original building. No other deposits or features of archaeological interest were observed and no artefactual material predating the modern period was recovered.

Archaeological objectives

1.7 The objectives of the evaluation were to establish the character, quality, date, significance and extent of any archaeological remains or deposits surviving within the site. This information will assist the Local Planning Authority in making an informed judgement on the likely impact upon the archaeological resource by the proposed development.

Methodology

1.8 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2004). A single trench, measuring 1.5m x 1.5m in plan was excavated by hand to a depth of 1.25m (Fig. 2).

1.9 Written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with the CA Technical Manual 1: Excavation Recording Manual (1996).

1.10 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the finds and site archive will be deposited with Stroud District Museum.

2. RESULTS

2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in appendices 1 and 2 respectively.

2.2 The earliest deposit encountered was redeposited natural clay 115. It was over 0.5m thick and contained 18th century artefacts. Deposit 115 was sealed by broadly comparable layer 112, although the latter was more mixed and contained frequent charcoal flecks.
2.3 Deposits 115 and 112 were cut by a rectilinear feature 113 which extended beyond the northern limit of the trench. It contained sandy silt fill 114 from which 18th century artefacts were retrieved.

2.4 All of the above deposits were truncated by north–south orientated linear feature 110. It contained two fills (111 and 105) from which 19th century artefacts were recovered.

2.5 Deposit 105 was sealed by heavily reworked subsoil 102 which itself was cut by a two course, unbonded brick-built drain (which extended beyond the southern limit of the trench) and associated stone filled soakaway 104. Two postholes, 106 and 108, flanked the soakaway and were aligned parallel to the drain. All foregoing deposits were sealed by topsoil 101.

*The Finds*

2.6 Sherds of residual medieval and 15th to 16th century pottery were retrieved in association with 18th and 19th artefacts.

*The Biological Evidence*

2.7 Although assessed for their palaeoarchaeological potential, no deposits were sampled during the course of this evaluation.

3. **DISCUSSION**

3.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the application area (see archaeological background 1.5 above), the evaluation identified no significant archaeological remains within the area of the evaluation trench. The deposits encountered are representative of the reworking of soils throughout the post-medicieval period with perhaps cultivation, waste dumping and improved drainage being represented. The retrieval of early medieval pottery from the site is of note given the potential for medieval settlement throughout Long Street, although the residual nature of these ceramics should be noted.
4. **CA PROJECT TEAM**

Fieldwork was undertaken by Michael Rowe, who also compiled this report. The illustrations were prepared by Peter Moore. The archive has been compiled by Michael Rowe, and prepared for deposition by Ed McSloy. The project was managed for CA by Cliff Bateman.

5. **REFERENCES**

BGS (British Geological Survey) Sheet 251, 1970

CA 2003 27 **Long Street, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire. Programme of Archaeological Recording. CA Typescript Report 02133**

CA 2004 30 **Long Street, Wotton-under Edge, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation**
APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Trench</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Topsilt: dark brown humic sandy silt with occasional small stone fragments, &lt;0.31m thick.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>Subsoil: dark brown sandy silt with frequent stone, brick and slate fragments, &lt;0.29m thick.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103</td>
<td>Cut of drain and soakaway: linear, straight sides and base. 1.3m long, 0.5m wide and 0.18m deep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>104</td>
<td>Brick drain and stone filled soakaway of 103: Two course unbond brick drain and small stone filled pit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td>Secondary fill of 110: mid red brown clayey sand silt with occasional small stone fragments and charcoal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>Cut of Posthole: 0.19m in diameter, 0.34m deep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107</td>
<td>Fill of 106: same as 102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td>Cut of Posthole: 0.19m in diameter, 0.34m deep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109</td>
<td>Fill of 108: same as 102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td>Cut of pit (?): linear, aligned N-S, side sloping c.45°, &gt;1.5m long, &gt;0.94m wide, &gt;0.64m deep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td>Primary fill of 110: dark brown sandy silt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td>Layer: mixed light-mid orange brown silty clay and mid grey brown sandy silt with small stone fragments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td>Cut of trench (?): rectangular with a rounded end and base, &gt;0.35m long, 0.29m wide, 0.39m deep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td>Fill of 113: mid grey brown slightly clayey sandy silt with occasional small stone fragments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Layer: light-mid orange brown silty clay with occasional lenses of brown silt and small stone fragments.</td>
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APPENDIX 2: THE FINDS BY ED MCSLOY

Archaeological work at site LSW04 resulted in the recovery of small quantities of pottery, glass and clay pipe. The earliest material present consists of a single sherd of Cotswold oolitic type ware of 11th to 13th century date from context 114 and a sherd of 13th to 15th century dateable Minety Ware from context 105. In both instances the medieval sherds are clearly residual. The remainder of the pottery, clay pipe and glass dates to the post-medieval or modern periods. Included among the pottery are sherds of Tudor Green/Surrey whiteware and Cistercian ware type glazed earthenware of likely 15th to 16th century date and Donyatt type glazed earthenware, North Devon Gravel-tempered ware, iron-glazed earthenware, yellow slipware and English stonewares of likely 18th century date.

Due to the demonstrable lateness of deposits, recovered artefactual material has not been retained.

CONCORDANCE

104 3 sherds pottery (48g): misc. ?Somerset glazed earthenware, English stonewares and unglazed earthenware (flowerpot type).
2 fragments clay pipe stem and bowl
1 fragment bottle glass
Spot-date: C19+

105 10 sherds pottery (144g): Minety Ware (everted-rim jar), misc. glazed red earthenware, Donyatt type glazed earthenware, tin glazed earthenware, English white china.
6 fragments clay pipe stem
2 fragments animal bone (14g)
Spot-date: C19+

112 7 sherds pottery (34g): Tudor Green/Surrey whiteware, Cistercian type ware, misc. glazed red earthenware, and English white stoneware bottle.
6 fragments clay pipe stem
2 fragments bottle glass
2 fragments of animal bone (22g)
Spot-date: C19+

114 2 sherds pottery (18g): medieval cooking pot fabric (Cotswold oolitic type); ?Bristol yellow slipware
4 fragments clay pipe stem
Spot-date: C18+

115 7 sherds pottery (84g): Tudor Green/Surrey whiteware, Donyatt type glazed earthenware, North Devon Gravel-tempered ware, iron-glazed earthenware, and English stonewares.
3 fragments clay pipe stem and bowl
2 fragments window glass
Spot-date: C18+
Fig. 1  Site location plan (1:25,000)
Fig. 2  Trench location plan (1:250)
Fig. 3 South facing section through trench (1:20)