

# Evaluation at Cirencester Cattle Market and Leisure Centre Car Park



**Archaeological Investigation Report**



**Oxford Archaeology**  
October 2002

**Client Name: Cotswold District  
Council**

Issue N<sup>o</sup>: 1  
OA Job N<sup>o</sup>: 1515  
NGR: SP 0195 0175

**Client Name:** Cotswold District Council  
**Client Ref No:** N/A  
**Document Title:** Evaluation at Cirencester Cattle Market and Leisure Centre Car Park

**Document Type:** Archaeological Investigation Report

**Issue Number:** 1

**National Grid Reference:** SP 0195 0175  
**Planning Reference:** N/A

**OA Job Number:** 1515  
**Site Code:** CICM02  
**Invoice Code:** CICMEV  
**Receiving Museum:** Corinium Museum, Cirencester  
**Museum Accession No:** TBA

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**Date:** 21th November 2002

**Document File Location** projects Server5/cicmev  
**Graphics File Location** oaupubs1/AtoH/cicmev  
**Illustrated by** Amy Tucker

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Cotswold District Council

**Cattle Market/Leisure Centre Site,  
Cirencester, Gloucestershire**

NGR: SP 0195 0175 (Centred)

*ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION*

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Cotswold District Council

**Cattle Market/Leisure Centre Site,  
Cirencester, Gloucestershire**

NGR: SP 0195 0175 (Centred)

*ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION***SUMMARY**

*In October 2002, Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a field evaluation on behalf of Cotswold District Council at the Cattle Market/Leisure Centre site, Cirencester, Gloucestershire. The evaluation revealed an inhumation and cremation associated with the Roman extra-mural cemetery of Corinium; a possible buried ploughsoil, containing Iron Age pottery and two linear features of medieval or post-medieval date. The majority of archaeological deposits appear to have been removed during the construction of the Cattle Market.*

**1 INTRODUCTION****1.1 Location and scope of work**

1.1.1 During October 2002, OA carried out a field evaluation at the site of the Cattle Market and Leisure Centre at Cirencester. The work was carried out on behalf of Cotswold District Council, who are proposing to redevelop the area for offices and a new leisure centre. The proposal area lies within an area of archaeological interest therefore Charles Parry, the Senior Archaeological Officer for Gloucester County Council has required an archaeological evaluation of the site in order to inform the determination of a planning application. The work was carried out to the specifications of a brief set by and a WSI agreed with Charles Parry.

**1.2 Geology and topography**

1.2.1 The site is located in the central north-west part of Cirencester. The area lies on slightly sloping ground, falling south and east, at a height of approximately 115m OD. The underlying solid geology is formed of Forest Marble of the Middle Jurassic period.

1.2.2 The site is presently in use as a weekly cattle market, leisure centre and public car park.

**1.3 Archaeological and historical background**

1.3.1 The site lies within a Study Area, which has been the subject of a desk-based assessment (CAT 2000). A summary (omitting bibliographical and figure references) of the results is given below. This background should be read in conjunction with the desk-based assessment.

### **Prehistoric**

- 1.3.2 There have been few finds dating to the prehistoric period from Cirencester and there is no recorded evidence of prehistoric activity within the immediate vicinity of the proposed development site (the Site). A surviving mound to the south of the Site has previously been identified as a Neolithic long barrow, and is included within the Scheduled Area also containing the Roman amphitheatre (SAM GC 39). However, doubts about this identification have recently been expressed, and it is more likely that this feature is related to Roman quarrying in the area rather than prehistoric activity.

### **Romano-British**

- 1.3.3 The Romano-British occupation at Cirencester spans four centuries and can be divided into two broad phases: the early Roman period of military occupation (c. AD 45/50-AD 75), and the Roman town of *Corinium* (c. AD 75/80-AD 400). The Site lies on the western side of the later town, external to the defensive circuit, and contains one of several areas of burials suggesting a substantial extra-mural cemetery. It is also suggested that the line of the former Tetbury Road was in use in the earlier Roman period.

### **Early military occupation and the Fosse Way**

- 1.3.4 The focus of early activity in Cirencester lay some distance to the east of the Site, between Victoria Road and Watermoor Road, south of Lewis Lane. A fort was established in the Leaholme area in approximately AD 45-50 and was probably occupied until the mid 70s AD. It is thought that the civilian settlement, or vicus associated with this fort lay immediately to the north-west of the fort itself. It is argued that the original course of the Fosse Way Roman road, the line of which is preserved by Old Tetbury Road, was probably laid out at this early period. If so it would have passed to the north of the early fort some distance to the east of the Site. When the later street grid was laid out this road would appear to have been re-directed to the south of the site, entering the town along the line of Querns Lane, through the second-century Bath Gate. No firm excavated evidence has yet been recovered for an early road along the northern alignment, and although several sections of road have been uncovered and attributed to the later southern route, its exact course remains to be established.

### **The Roman town defences**

- 1.3.5 In the last quarter of the first century AD the timber buildings of the vicus were cleared away and the town of *Corinium Dobunorum* was established. A rectangular street plan was laid out, aligned with the pre-existing course of Ermin Street. Much of the stone used in the construction of the town, and of public buildings in particular was quarried at The Querns, a short distance to the south of the Site, in the vicinity of the later Roman amphitheatre. During the second century AD the town was enclosed within a defensive circuit, initially consisting of an earthen rampart, but later reinforced with a stone wall along the external face of the rampart, as well as defensive

towers, and monumental gates such as the 'Bath Gate' uncovered to the south east of the Site. The defences of Roman Corinium in the vicinity of the Site have been subject to a series of well recorded archaeological investigations.

- 1.3.6 Excavations in 1967 took the form of a trench, and a series of smaller test pits in Station Yard, (what is now the Sheep Street car park), and a further trench to the south in the grounds of the Memorial Hall. Remains of the defences were found at a depth of 0.6m below the modern ground surface. These consisted of parts of the clay-built earlier rampart, and a robbed-out trench where the stone-built outer wall had been inserted into the front face of the rampart. The wall itself was estimated to have been 1.75m wide when first constructed, but later widened by further cutting back of the rampart, to 3.5m. Location of the wall-line in both the northern and southern excavation trenches allows the alignment of the defences to be postulated with some certainty in this area. It was also during these works that the absence of any evidence for a gate through the defences on the line of the Old Tetbury Road was first noted and doubts cast upon this as the course of the Fosse Way. Two further test pits were excavated by CAT to the south of the Memorial Hall in 1989. Both of these produced yellow clay rampart material. In Test Pit 9 (see DBA) to the south, this material was encountered 0.7m below the modern ground surface and survived up to 1.5m thick. In Test Pit 1 (see DBA) possible revetting of the rear face of the rampart was encountered, allowing the overall width of the clay rampart behind the wall to be postulated.
- 1.3.7 CAT excavated a series of trenches to the east and south east of the Site prior to the construction of Waitrose supermarket in 1994 and 1995. Once again the characteristic yellow clay rampart material was identified at a depth of 1.2m, along with a wall 3.1m wide which, although robbed-out to its foundations, lay on an alignment corresponding with the sections found to the north. Two ditches running outside the wall were also uncovered during this work. The outer edge of the inner ditch was identified approximately 13 m from the face of the wall, with a second outer ditch separated from it by approximately 2.5m, with its outer edge somewhere between the two trenches excavated in 1994. It was not possible to establish the depths of these ditches during this work, but the outer ditch was augered to a depth in excess of 2m. It is possible to postulate a continuation of these ditches along the face of the defences to the north. Trenching to the west of the wall line in Station Yard in 1969 failed to locate archaeological deposits due to a thickness of 4-5m of overburden. This was attributed to nineteenth-century consolidation of the ground for the construction of the railway station and it may be that this consolidation was at least partially filling the line of the defensive ditches.

#### *The extra-mural cemetery*

- 1.3.8 The area of the probable Roman cemetery to the west of the defences is less well understood. Substantial numbers of burials have been uncovered, starting in the nineteenth century, and continuing during rescue projects from the 1960s onwards.

Many of these discoveries have taken place without systematic archaeological recording, or during development. As a result no complete picture of the layout or extent of the cemetery has yet been produced. However, all of the various finds were catalogued by the Cirencester Excavation Committee in a gazetteer produced in 1982 (McWhirr, Viner, & Wells 1982).

- 1.3.9 The earliest discoveries took place during the construction of the cattle market in 1867. When the site was levelled numerous interments were found as well as a number of what were presumably cremation urns. Of these only two stone coffins and three cremation vessels, which were recovered from the site intact, these were retained to form part of the collection now in the Corinium Museum. Despite the loss of much of the evidence for this cemetery, it would seem likely that it occupied a large part of the cattle market area.
- 1.3.10 Subsequently in 1933 a single burial in a stone coffin was uncovered by workmen digging in the garden of Oakley House immediately to the north of the Site. Further work in this area, was carried out in 1960 during the construction of a garage on the site. On this occasion it was only, possible to maintain a watching brief on the mechanical stripping of the site and no plan was produced, but at least 46 cremations, in pottery vessels and eight inhumations were identified, dating from the first to the third centuries AD.
- 1.3.11 Three further stone coffins were located in 1975 during the construction of the new Tetbury Road. Once again these were only identified during watching briefs, and one burial in particular was found on a spoil heap and is likely to be some distance from its original position. It is probable, however that these originated near the finds from 1960.
- 1.3.12 Further observations were made during the construction of the leisure centre swimming pool in 1971, but no burials were observed, bedrock appearing only a few feet below the modern ground surface.

#### ***Anglo-Saxon and medieval***

- 1.3.13 No Anglo-Saxon finds or deposits have been identified within the Site area. This reflects a general paucity of material from this period from within Cirencester. It is likely that the activity within the town was reduced in area, and had its focus in the vicinity of the current Market Place and Church.
- 1.3.14 Reference has been made above to the quarrying of stone from the area of The Querns, to the south of the Site, in the Roman period. It would appear that such activity continued in the Anglo-Saxon and early medieval period, although probably on a lesser scale. Sufficient quarrying activity or its remains survived for the area to be known as the 'Crundles' (or 'quarries') in the early medieval period, by which time much of the area was also used as common grazing by the townspeople. The purchase and

enclosure of the area by the Abbot of Cirencester is recorded from 1286, and subsequently it was used as a rabbit warren.

- 1.3.15 The extent of the later medieval town is defined by the borough boundary recorded in 1571. This passes along Sheep Street leaving the Site outside the western boundary of the town. The place-name 'Athelmede' survives from 1535 for the area immediately to the west of Sheep Street, suggesting that the area was occupied by meadows and grazing at that period.

#### ***Post-medieval***

- 1.3.16 The post-medieval history of the Site is principally discernible from historic maps. The earliest map to show the area in detail is that of Richard Hall, produced in 1795. This covers only the portion to the north east of the Site and shows several buildings on the corner of Tetbury Road and Sheep Street, as well as a row of cottages extending down the west side of Sheep Street itself. Also depicted on this map to the south east of the Site, is the open feeder channel for the Cirencester branch of the Thames and Severn Canal, opened in 1789. Not depicted on the map is the northern portion of this feeder channel, which passed underground to the east of the Site via a culvert, and on to its source near Barton Mill. Remains of this culvert were encountered immediately to the south east of the Site during the construction of Hammond Way in 1975.
- 1.3.17 A map published in Lysons' *Reliquiae Britannico-Romanae* of 1817 shows the Site in some detail. Only a single building is depicted, on the corner of Sheep Street and Tetbury Road. The remainder of the area is occupied by gardens, and by Lord Bathurst's kitchen garden, which occupies the plot later forming the garden of Oakley Cottage, although the cottage itself was apparently not yet built. This map also depicts Cirencester Park on the north side of Tetbury Road. The park was developed by the first Earl Bathurst after the construction of Cirencester House in 1714, and preserves much of its original eighteenth-century form. The park is included at Grade I in the *Register of Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in England* (English Heritage 1993), however, no part of it falls within the Site.
- 1.3.18 A Map of 1835 provides partial coverage of the Site. Oakley Cottage (now Oakley House) presumably built since 1817, and its garden are depicted. Also shown is the Independent Chapel on Sheep Street. This was constructed as a non-conformist chapel in 1833, and with alterations in 1888 still stands as The Cirencester Memorial Centre, a Grade II Listed Building. The remainder of the Site appears to have been undeveloped at this period.
- 1.3.19 Complete coverage of the Site available on the First Edition Ordnance Survey maps produced in 1875 at both 1:500 and 1:2500 scales. These maps show the two major nineteenth century developments; the railway station to the east of the Site and the cattle market. The former was opened in 1841. This connected Cirencester by branch line with the Great Western Railway main line at Kemble, and remained open until



1964. The station building itself was designed by Brunel and still stands, a Grade II Listed Building.

1.3.20 The cattle market was constructed by Lord Bathurst in 1867, on a previously undeveloped field at the western end of the Site. Cattle had already been sold informally on the site for several years, but Bathurst equipped it with brick paving and iron stock pens, levying a fee on all sales taking place there. A link to the railway lines to the east, and stock pens adjacent to the tracks were also constructed. The remainder of the Site was occupied at this period by the gardens of Oakley Cottage, and by open fields. No further significant changes to the layout of the Site are discernible from later maps until the 1970s. The railway was closed in 1964, and from 1971 to 1975 the whole area was redeveloped, with a re-alignment of the A429 Tetbury Road, and the construction of Hammond Way, and the Link Road to the east of the Site. New buildings were constructed including the leisure centre, and Bridge's and T.H. White's garages. The former station, remains undeveloped, with the station yard, as well as the area of tracks to the south of the booking hall vacant and used as car park, while the building itself stands empty. The cattle market at the western end of the Site also remains substantially unchanged from its earlier form.

1.3.21 In addition to results of the desk-based assessment summarised above a trial pit evaluation was carried out by CAT on the site of the Cirencester Social & Services Club (to the east end of the site) in January 2001. Four test pits each 1.5 m square were excavated in the car park area. No archaeological deposits or remains were revealed. Natural limestone was revealed between 0.6 and 0.9 m below the modern ground surface. In three of the test pits the car park surface and associated construction deposits had truncated all subsoils. One test-pit revealed the remains of an undated garden soil beneath the car park construction and overlying the limestone natural.

#### 1.4 Evaluation aims

1.4.1 The evaluation aims as detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation were:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the proposal area.
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present.
- To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features.
- To make available the results of the investigation

## 2 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Scope of fieldwork

2.1.1 The evaluation consisted of thirty trenches. Table 1 below records the trench dimensions and orientation. The overburden was removed under close archaeological supervision by a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket.

Table 1: Trench Dimensions

Trench No	Length	Width	Orientation
1	15m	1.6 m	nw-se
2	6m	1.6 m	nw-se
3	5m	1.6 m	ne-sw
4	5m	1.6 m	ne-sw
5	1m	1.0 m	ne-sw
6	5m	1.6 m	ne-sw
7	5 m	1.6 m	nw-se
8	5 m	1.6 m	nw-se
9	5 m	1.6 m	nw-se
10	5 m	1.6 m	nw-sse
11	10 m	1.6 m	nw-sse
12	5 m	1.6 m	ne-sw
13	1 m	1.0 m	ne-sw
14	5 m	1.6 m	nw-sse
15	5 m	1.6 m	nw-se
16	10 m	1.6 m	nw-se
17	10 m	1.6 m	ne-sw
18	10 m	1.6 m	ne-sw
19	10 m	1.6 m	ne-sw
20	10 m	1.6 m	nw-se
21	10 m	1.6 m	ne-sw
22	1 m	1.0 m	nw-se
23	1 m	1.0 m	nw-se
24	1 m	1.0 m	nw-se
25	15 m	1.6 m	ne-sw
26	15 m	1.6 m	ne-sw
27	5 m	1.6 m	ne-sw
28	5 m	1.6 m	ne-sw
29	3 m	1.6 m	nw-se
30	1 m	1.6 m	nw-se

## 2.2 Fieldwork methods and recording

2.2.1 The trenches were cleaned by hand and the revealed features were sampled to determine their extent and nature, and to retrieve finds and environmental samples. All archaeological features were planned and where excavated their sections drawn at scales of 1:20. All features were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. Recording followed procedures laid down in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed D Wilkinson, 1992).

## 2.3 Finds

2.3.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context. Finds retrieval policy was as set out in the *OA Finds Manual* (OA2002).

## 2.4 Palaeo-environmental evidence

- 2.4.1 Several environmental samples were taken to retrieve small bones, charcoal and any charred plant remains associated with a cremation found within Trench 6 and a single sample was also taken of soil around scattered Iron Age pottery and animal bone within Trench 25. The recovered pottery and bone is described together with other finds within section 4.6. The on site sampling strategy adhered to the *OAU Environmental Sampling Guide and Instruction Manual* (OAU July 2000).

## 2.5 Presentation of results

- 2.5.1 A description of soils and ground conditions is given and the general distribution of archaeological deposits stated. This is followed by a brief description of the strata within trenches that contained no archaeological features. Trenches containing archaeological features are described according to their location (i.e. to the north of site, east of site etc). This is followed by a description of the finds and a discussion and interpretation of the results.

## 3 RESULTS: GENERAL

### 3.1 Soils and ground conditions

- 3.1.1 The site lies on sloping ground, falling towards the south and east, and varies in height from approximately 112m OD to 116.61 m OD. The underlying solid geology is formed of Forest Marble of the Middle Jurassic period but for archaeological purposes the underlying natural was found to consist of limestone bedrock, frost shattered limestone ('cornbrash') or pale brownish orange silty clay containing fragmented limestone. There was some variation across the site with limestone bedrock at a consistently higher level within the center and north of the site and deposits of silty clay fragmented limestone overlying these to the south and east. Towards the southern corner of the site, a deep deposit of clean silty clay overlay the bedrock within Test-pit 22. This is thought to indicate the presence of a possible former gully or other 'low ground' here.

### 3.2 Distribution of archaeological deposits

- 3.2.1 Generally there were few archaeological finds and a complete absence of archaeological features within the central area of the site, which included the former sheep pens and most of the council car park. To the north of the site and adjacent to the old roman road, a single urned cremation and rock-cut inhumation were found within Trench 6. Nearby Trench 5 was found to contain a soil layer containing a fragment of Samian and scattered animal bone. However, as medieval tile was also recovered, the Roman pottery is certainly residual and the deposit is probably associated with either the construction of the livestock market, or the earlier cattle market known to have been held on the site. To the east a possible hedge-line and/or orchard features were



found within Trench 11. Towards the south of the site the probable survival of earlier soil horizons was indicated. A scatter of Iron Age pottery and animal bone was located within Trench 25 and Iron Age pottery was also recovered from Trench 26. Early post-medieval finds were recovered from within Test-pit 24.

#### 4 RESULTS: DESCRIPTIONS

##### 4.1 Description of deposits: The empty trenches.

4.1.1 Trenches 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30 were all empty of archaeological features.

4.1.2 Within these trenches the underlying natural was found to consist of either a clean silty clay with fragmented limestone, "cornbrash" or limestone bedrock. The level of these deposits was generally higher within the centre and north of the site and dropped away gradually towards the east, south and west. An indication of these levels is given on Figure 8 (Section 41).

4.1.3 Within the center of the site overlying deposits had been truncated by the construction of the cattle market and the modern car-park, although a thin layer of disturbed soil associated with this construction was recorded within the area of the former sheep-pens and along the northern edge of the site.

4.1.4 Post-medieval made-ground deposits were identified within trenches 1, 2, 3 and 21, which lay within the western side of the site, and these are associated with a leveling up of the market area in comparison to the slightly lower ground seen to the south west.

4.1.5 The presence of a layer of clean brownish orange silty clay within trenches 22, 24, 25 and 26 indicates the survival of either hill-wash or water-bourne clays within the area of low lying ground to the south. Within two of these trenches (25 and 26) Iron Age pottery was recovered from a thin spread of material directly overlying these deposits (2506 and 2605). Although these deposits did not appear to be filling cut features, they may indicate that evidence for Iron Age activity may still be extant in this area of the site.

##### 4.2 North of site: Test-pit 5 and Trench 6

4.2.1 Within Test-pit 5 the underlying bedrock was located at a depth of 0.7 m (115.53 m OD). This was overlain by a 0.22 m thick deposit of brown silty clay (504), which contained much scattered animal bone, slate and charcoal flecking in addition to a sherd of Roman pottery and a fragment of medieval tile. This deposit appeared to be a layer of disturbed soil and bone rather than the fill of a distinct feature, and it may represent a medieval or post-medieval deposit which has been disturbed during the construction of the cattle market.

- 4.2.2 Layer 504 was overlain by a 0.16m thick layer of brownish red silty clay (503) which also contained Roman pottery. The trench was sealed by a modern gravelly make-up layer, associated with the present tarmac car-park surface.
- 4.2.3 Trench 6 (see Fig.6) was located within the northern corner of the site. The underlying bedrock was located at a depth of between 0.36-0.5 m (116.27 - 116.55 m OD) beneath the present car-park surface. It was overlain by up to 0.23 m of yellow-brown silty clay (603). Both the clay and the underlying bedrock were cut by infant burial (607) and an adjacent urned cremation (612). These burials lay on the northwestern side of the trench and the cremation was only revealed within the cleaned main trench section.
- 4.2.4 Skeleton 607 lay within a shallow rock-cut grave (605) which measured 0.90 m long by 0.52 m wide. The skeleton and grave cut were cleaned enough to identify and record this burial but were not otherwise fully excavated. The skeleton was in a very fragmentary condition and most of the bone seemed to have been previously disturbed and partially scattered. The skull appeared to have been broken in antiquity and was incomplete, the lower skull and jaw were missing. Both the grave and skeleton appear to have been orientated NE-SW and the size of the burial cut and of the uncovered bone indicates this to have been the grave of a young juvenile. This burial was not lifted but subsequently re-covered and left in situ. The adjacent cremation burial cuts from the same level and indicates both burials date to the Roman period.
- 4.2.5 Cremation 612 was only revealed within the north-western section of Trench 6 and as such consisted of a black burnished ware urn containing cremated bone within a brown silty-clay fill. The urn was very fragmentary and filled a somewhat irregular cut (608) which measured up to 0.8 m wide by 0.34 m deep, as seen in section. The upper fill of this cut contained scattered pottery from more than one vessel (see 4.6.3) and it appears likely that the construction of the market pens had partially disturbed this cremation and possibly other nearby burials.
- 4.2.6 Both burials were overlain by a 0.09 m thick make-up layer immediately beneath the brick surface of the former market pens and the present car-park surface.

#### 4.3 North-eastern side of site: Trench 11

- 4.3.1 Within trench 11 (see Fig.4) the underlying bedrock was found at a depth of 0.85 m (114.00 m OD) beneath the present car-park surface. One or possibly two roughly linear features (1106) and (1107) were partially revealed cutting the bedrock on the western side of the trench. These both appeared to be aligned approximately NNW-SSE and typically measured up to 0.18 m deep. A section dug across cut 1107 revealed probable root disturbance to a depth of 0.38 m. Both features contained post-medieval material (a pipe stem and post-medieval pottery) and it therefore seems likely that these features represent a post-medieval hedge-line and root disturbance.

4.3.2 The fills of these features were overlain by a thick deposit of sandy gravel make-up beneath the tarmac of the present car-park surface.

#### 4.4 South of site: Test pits 22, 24 and Trench 25

4.4.1 Test-pits 22 and 24 were situated within cattle pens to the south of the site and trench 25 was placed immediately to the south of these pens.

4.4.2 Test-pit 22 was placed close to the southern corner of the site. It was noted that the main drainage sump for the market was only approximately 20 m to the south and that this was the lowest part of the site.

4.4.3 Within Test-pit 22 a stoney orange-brown silty clay (2204) was encountered at a depth of 1.2 m (112.96 m OD) beneath the present surface of the cattle pens. At this level the bottom of the test-pit flooded indicating the present water-table.

4.4.4 Layer 2204 was overlain by a 0.8 m thick layer of orange-brown silty clay (2203). This layer was cleaned and inspected but appeared 'clean', i.e. it contained no finds or other indication of human activity. It also appeared to be fairly uniform throughout and it was un-banded. It therefore seems likely that this deposit was the result of a single episode of hill-wash deposition or flooding.

4.4.5 This layer (2203) was in turn overlain by a 0.25 m thick layer of brown silty clay (2202). It contained a small amount of scattered limestone which was concentrated within the bottom of this layer, and a single piece of clay pipe stem.

4.4.6 Layer 2202 was overlain by the modern gravelly make-up beneath the concrete of the market's cattle-pens.

4.4.7 Within Test-pit 24 the underlying bedrock was encountered at a depth of 0.74 m (111.60 m OD) beneath the present surface of the cattle pens. It was overlain by a 0.36 m thick layer of reddish brown silty clay (2405), which contained 16th-17th century pottery, ceramic building material and animal bone.

4.4.8 Layer 2405 was in turn overlain by a very thin layer (2404) which was possibly the result of staining from a dark grey layer (2403) above. These layers were 0.03 m and 0.1 m thick respectively. Layer 2403 appeared to contain decayed organic material and produced pieces of 16th-17th century pottery. It was overlain by a brown clay-silt (2402) which also contained post-medieval pottery, ceramic building material and glass. These deposits were sealed by the make-up for the concrete surface of the cattle market.

4.4.9 Trench 25 (see Fig.5) was machined down within its eastern end to investigate the underlying natural and revealed a broken limestone 'cornbrash' at a depth of 1.2 m (110.68 m OD) beneath the present yard surface. This was overlain by a 0.4 m thick layer of clean orange brown silty clay (2504). A scatter of animal bone and Iron Age

pottery was seen at its surface, within a very diffuse spread of reddish brown, charcoal flecked, silty clay (2506). This deposit was very poorly defined but was thought to be a mixed spread of material rather than the fill of any definite feature.

- 4.4.10 Layer 2504 and spread 2506 were in turn overlain by a 0.3 m thick layer of brown slightly silty clay (2503) which also contained a small amount of charcoal flecking as well as flint pieces and fragments of Roman pottery. A thin and patchy spread of grey silty clay (2502) overlay 2503, immediately beneath the modern hardcore make-up for the present concrete yard surface.

#### 4.5 The south-western corner: Trench 1

- 4.5.1 Within trench 1 (see Fig.3) a natural limestone 'cornbrash' was found at a depth of 1.4 m (112.53 m OD) beneath the present yard surface. It was overlain by a 0.25 m thick deposit of reddish brown silty clay (104), which also appears to be part of the undisturbed natural. A small, shallow, east-west aligned gully (107) cut from the top of this layer, and was filled by a very compact greyish white clay-silt (106). A single piece of post-medieval pottery was recovered from this fill.

- 4.5.2 Gully 107 and fill 106 were overlain by a 0.4 m thick layer of light brown silty clay (103). This layer contained occasional post-medieval pottery and approximately 15% of broken limestone. It was very compact and is thought to be a deliberate leveling-up deposit. Above 103 a heavily root-disturbed brown silty clay layer (102) appears to have been a disturbed or re-deposited topsoil horizon. It was overlain by a leveling up deposit of broken limestone and the 19th century, brick surface of the cattle market.

## 5 FINDS

### 5.1 Pottery

By Ed Biddulph

- 5.1.1 A total of 143 sherds, weighing 1005 g, was recovered from the evaluation. It was rapidly quantified and scanned for forms and fabrics with reference to the Oxford Archaeology later prehistoric and Roman pottery recording system. Most of the pottery (76% by weight) dated to the Roman period. Post-medieval pottery also made a significant contribution (19%), with a smaller amount (5%) dating to the middle or late Iron Age.
- 5.1.2 The evaluation yielded a limestone-tempered fabric (LN3) dating to the later Iron Age. This fabric is typical within the region, for example at Groundwell Farm, Wiltshire (Gingell 1982, 61). Also represented was a sandy fabric (AG4) from context 2506. All sherds were handmade. Fabric LN3 was retrieved from context 2503, but is probably residual in this case, as Roman oxidised ware (O10) was recovered. No forms were recognised.
- 5.1.3 Despite the presence of probable Savernake ware (unstratified), which dates to the early Roman period, the Roman pottery (amounting to some 760 g) tends to fall within

a middle 2nd to early 3rd century date range. Black-burnished ware from Dorset (B11) is among the most diagnostic pottery. At least two cooking jars (type CK) were represented. Rims from contexts 609 and 613 belonged to the same vessel. Another jar was found within a cremation burial (610). The remaining Roman pottery was largely confined to undiagnostic body sherds in grey and oxidised fabrics. These cannot be closely dated, but are consistent with a mid Roman date. Context 503 yielded a chip of samian ware, possibly from East Gaul, belonged to a decorated vessel.

- 5.1.4 The post-medieval element mainly comprises red earthenware vessels, usually glazed. These span the 17th-19th century. Fine creamware and porcelain dating to the 18th/19th century are also represented.

Table 2: Pottery

Context	Sherds	Weight	Date	Comments
0	3	55	M1-E2	R95-type ware (unstrat)
102	4	30	PM	Red earthenware
103	3	25	PM	Red earthenware
106	1	23	PM	Glazed red earthenware
202	2	2	?ROM	O10
503	1	2	?L2-M3	Chip of decorated samian (?S40)
504	1	4	ROM	R30
609	11	44	M2-E3	B11 (jar: rim joins sherd in 613), R30, W20
610	84	602	M2-L2/E3	B11 (type CK); sherd of fabric O20
613	10	38	M2-E3	B11 (jar: rim joins sherd in 609)
1102	1	14	?PM	Earthenware
2101	1	14	PM	Porcelain
2402	1	4	PM	Creamware
2403	1	15	?PM	Grey ware
2405	2	38	PM	Red earthenware, green glazed white ware
2503	6	8	ROM	LN3, O10
2506	5	50	M/LIA	LN3, AG4
2604	1	4	ROM	O20
2605	1	2	M/LIA	AG4
2802	2	17	PM	Earthenware
2902	2	14	PM	Earthenware
TOTAL	143	1005	-	-

## 5.2 Ceramic Building Material

- 5.2.1 A small quantity of CBM was recovered from the site but the majority was very fragmented and attributing a date to it was problematic. With the following exceptions, the CBM was exclusively found within post-medieval contexts, probably associated with the construction of the cattle market. The exceptions to this are the fragment of medieval tile from deposit 504, the few crumbs recovered from the fill of the inhumation in Trench 6 (606) and those from the possible buried ploughsoil in Trench 26 (2605).

## 5.3 Animal bone

By Bethan Charles



5.3.1 A total of 53 bones were recovered by hand during excavation at Cirencester Cattle Market by Oxford Archaeology. From this number 12 (22%) were identified to species with the majority of the remaining unidentified elements being highly fragmented fragments. The bones were in very good condition with very little attritional damage. Just under 20% of the bones had evidence of butchery marks consisting of chop and cut marks found on vertebrae, rib and long bone fragments.

5.3.2 12 fragments of cremated bone were recovered from contexts 613 (11 fragments) and 606 (1 fragment) the bone was not identified to species and may be human.

Table 3. Total number of bones recovered according to date of feature and species.

Date	Context	Cattle	Sheep/Goat	Dog	Frog	Unidentified	Total
Roman	504	1	2	1	0	19	23
Roman	613	0	0	0	0	11	11
M/LIA	2506	7	0	0	0	9	16
Unphased	606	0	0	0	1	2	3
Total		8	2	1	1	41	53

5.3.3 The small quantity of bone identified to species does not provide much information regarding the site other than the presence of the animals. However, the good condition of the bone and recovery of smaller elements indicates that the preservation of the material is good. It is recommended that any further excavations implement a comprehensive environmental sampling programme to recover smaller bones such as bird, small mammal and fish that may be preserved at this site and which are often missed during hand excavation.

## 6 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

### 6.1 The Human skeletal remains

By AnnSofie Witkin

6.1.1 One cremation (614) was recovered from the section of Trench 6. Burnt bone was recovered from the inside of the fragmented vessel (614), from the fills of the pit (609 and 613). The burnt bone recovered was of a sufficiently large amount to merit full osteological and palaeopathological analysis. The cremation consisted of an adult individual of an unknown sex. The investigation of the burial ritual concluded that there had been no preference in the selection of bone put in the urn for burial. Cremated animal bone and copper alloy objects were also found in the burial indicating these had been present on the pyre.

#### Recovery

6.1.2 In excavation, the cremation burial was subjected to 100% recovery as a whole-earth sample and subsequently wet sieved. Material from the >2 mm fraction was not sorted from the soil residue and was retained en masse.

#### Osteological procedures

- 6.1.3 The cremated bone from each context were passed through a sieve stack of 10, 5 and 2 mm mesh size. The bones from each sieve was weighed and calculated as a percentage of the total weight of the cremation. This allowed the degree of fragmentation to be calculated in each cremation. The degree of fragmentation may indicate if the cremated bones have been further processed after the body have been burnt.
- 6.1.4 In each of the sieved groups, the bones were examined in detail and sorted into identifiable bone groups, which were defined as skull (including mandible and dentition), axial (clavicle, scapula, ribs, vertebra and pelvic elements), upper limb and lower limb. This may elucidate any deliberate bias in the skeletal elements collected for burial. Each sample was weighed on digital scales and details of colour and largest fragment were recorded. Where possible, the presence of individual bones within the defined bone groups was noted.
- 6.1.5 In any cremation, the majority of the bones are unidentifiable fragments of long bone shafts and spongy bones. The quantity of the unidentified bone is dependent upon the degree of fragmentation. It is of course easier to identify larger fragments than smaller. Some areas of the skeleton, for example the skull, are also easier to identify than other bones. This is a factor which need to be considered when analysing cremation burials.
- 6.1.6 The estimation of age of a cremated individual is dependent upon the survival of particular skeletal elements indicative of age. In cremations of adult individuals, cranial suture closure (Meindl and Lovejoy 1985), degenerative changes to the auricular surface (Lovejoy et al. 1985) and pubic symphysis (Brooks and Suchey 1990) may be used as a general guide.

#### *Condition of the bone and disturbance*

- 6.1.7 Most of the cremated bone was in good condition. However, a few fragments were slightly abraded. This may be due to erosion from acid solution passing through the burial medium. This cremation burial had been placed in an urn (610). The urn was in turn positioned in a pit. The pits was 0.34 m deep and appeared to have been truncated by the construction of the post-medieval market pens. This had damaged the urn and bone had become mixed with the fills of the pit. This disturbance may also have contributed to the abrasion of bone fragments.

#### *Quantification age and sex*

- 6.1.8 This cremation contained the remains from one individual. It was not possible to ascertain the sex of the person since none of the sex diagnostic sites survived on any of the fragments. The individual was that of an adult since the femoral head present was fused. In addition, the sutures present on the cranial fragments were not closed. This suggests that this individual was aged between 20 and 30.

#### *Pathology*

- 6.1.9 Pathological lesions may be present on cremated bone, although the lesions seen may be fewer than one would expect from inhumation burials. The cremated bones present in a burial do not necessarily represent a complete individual and this may hamper the diagnosis of a specific disease.
- 6.1.10 Woven new bone was present on three unidentified long bone fragments. This type of lesion is indicative of a infection of the outer surface of the bones and is known as periostitis. The lesion was active at the time of death.

#### **Pyre technology and ritual**

##### *Efficiency of cremation*

- 6.1.11 The efficiency of a cremation is dependent upon the construction of the pyre, position of the body, tending of the pyre, duration of the cremation and the temperature of the pyre (McKinley 1994, 82-84). The process of cremation is one of oxidisation of the organic components of the body and dehydration. If there is poor oxidisation, the bones would be grey, black, blue or even brown in colour.
- 6.1.12 Dehydration results in visible shrinkage of the bone. Spongy bone shrinks more than compact bone and in exceptional dehydration conditions, spongy bone may be lost as dust. Compact bone has more fissuring and warping than spongy bone. The structure of the bone and the location of ligament insertions often influence the pattern of fissuring. For example, the femur often exhibits U-shaped transverse fissures (McKinley 1994, 77).
- 6.1.13 When colouration and cracking is variable, the skeleton is likely to have been exposed to a variety of temperatures on the pyre. This may be caused by the movement of the body on the pyre during the cremation process, such as during the collapse of the pyre. When the bones are mainly charred black or blue-grey, this might indicate insufficient time for the completion of the cremation process. It may also signify that the pyre was not tended properly. Poorly oxidised small bones and fragments may be those which fell to the lower, cooler part of the pyre during the initial stages of the process. Large fragments may also indicate a lack of pyre -tending which may serve to break up the bone (Boyle 1990, 178)

##### *Weight of bone*

- 6.1.14 Observations at modern crematoria have shown that collectable fragments (<2 mm fraction) from an adult cremation weigh between 1000-2400 g with an average of 1650 g. Weights between 1600-3000 g have also been cited but it is unclear whether this also includes the weight of bone dust (McKinley 1997, 68).
- 6.1.15 The total weight of this cremation (combined weight of the bones from all the contexts, excluding the small amounts present in the residues) was 487 g. The weight of these cremation is relatively low. This may signify selection of bones for a token deposit.



However, the most likely explanation is that the low weight is due to significant post-Roman disturbance.

#### **Fragmentation**

- 6.1.16 The factors governing fragmentation of cremated bones are: cremation, collection, burial, excavation and post-excavation treatment (McKinley 1997, 69). These processes do not involve deliberate breakage of the bone. Since larger bones are easier to identify, the level of fragmentation is reflected in the percentage of identifiable bones.
- 6.1.17 In this cremation burial, 56.7 % of the bone fragments were in the 10 mm fraction. The maximum fragment size was 51.4 mm. The level of fragmentation and fragment size of the cremation is within the normal ranges observed (McKinley 1994). There is nothing to suggest that any deliberate fragmentation of the burnt bone took place prior to burial.

#### **Skeletal elements within the burial**

- 6.1.18 Fragments from all body part groups were present, see Table 4.7.22. In general, more bones from the lower limbs was identified than any other body group. This was related to the fragment size since the bones of the legs are thicker and in this instance, survived in larger pieces.
- 6.1.19 Since bone from all areas of the skeleton was included in the burials this suggests that there was no preference in the selection of bones included in the cremations.

#### **Animal bone and grave goods**

- 6.1.20 Cremated animal bone was found amongst the burnt human bones. The bones were all from a bird and only a few grams were present. The presence of animal bone is dependent upon a) it being collected from the pyre along with the human remains and b) the fragments being recognised as animal and not human. Since the surviving sample sizes show that not all human bone was collected from the pyre, it is likely that not all animal bone was collected either. Moreover, some fragments of unidentifiable animal long bone are also likely to have been overlooked in analysis.
- 6.1.21 A small copper alloy hook and a tiny copper alloy stud was also recovered from the processed residues. The hook may originally have been part of a brooch but it could equally, together with the stud, have come from a small box.

Table 4: Summary of cremation burial (excluding unsorted residues)

Contexts	Age	Sex	10 mm					Total
			Skull	Axial	Upper Limb	Lower Limb	Unidentified	
609	20-30 years	Unknown						
613			24 g	24 g	37 g	56 g	135 g	276 g
614			5 mm					

	Skull	Axial	Upper Limb	Lower Limb	Unidentified	
	5 g	4 g	4 g	4 g	189 g	206 g
2 mm						
	Skull	Axial	Upper Limb	Lower Limb	Unidentified	
	0 g	0 g	0 g	0 g	5 g	5 g

## 6.2 Assessment of environmental indicators

By E.C.Stafford

6.2.1 Five soil samples, (listed in Table.5), were submitted for the assessment of environmental indicators . One sample was from a possible IA occupation deposit <1>, and four from a cremation burial found adjacent to a Roman road. Each sample was processed by flotation using a modified Siraf-type machine, with the flot collected on a 250µm mesh. After air-drying the flots were scanned for material under a binocular microscope at x10 and x20 magnification.

Table 5: Soil Samples

sample	context	Feature Type
1	2506	Layer (1A?)
2	611	Cremation Urn Fill (RB)
3	613	Cremation Urn Fill (RB)
4	609	Cremation grave fill (RB)
5	614	Cremation Urn Fill (RB)

## Results (Table 6)

### Modern intrusive material

6.2.2 The flots from all five samples were relatively small in size. Modern intrusive material in the form of the burrowing mollusc *Cecilloides acicula* was present in all flots, as well as occasional fragments of coal. Sample <1>, from the IA occupation layer, contained quantities of modern roots as well as fragments of slag/clinker.

### Charred plant remains

6.2.3 Charred plant material was abundant in all samples in the form of wood charcoal. In samples <1>, <2>, and <3> this was largely commutated with only perhaps a couple larger pieces that may be identifiable. Preservation however in samples 4 and 5 was much better. Charred cereal was present in most flots, although abundance and preservation was extremely poor. On the whole the fragments are unidentifiable in

samples <1>,<2>, and <3>. Again preservation was better in samples <4> and <5>. Occasional fragments of legumes were also noted in samples <3> and <4> as well as a possible fragment of charred hazel nut shell in sample <1>.

#### Molluscs

6.2.4 Land snails were present in all samples, although only samples <4> and <5> contained significant quantities. The assemblages were consistent throughout and dominated by open country fauna, particularly *Vallonia costata* and *excentrica*, *Pupilla muscorum*, *Helicella itala* and *Vertigo pygmaea*. Such an assemblage may be indicative of dry short-turfed grassland.

#### Conclusions

6.2.5 Charred plant remains were preserved in all five samples. However this was largely confined to fragmentary wood charcoal with only a very small quantity of cereal (ie.<5 in each sample) grain or other plant remains. The flots are considered to offer little potential for further work other than perhaps identification of some of the larger pieces of charcoal and the grain in samples <4> and <5>.

6.2.6 No further work on the molluscs is recommended. Since the flots were relatively small, and diversity low, it is unlikely the species list would be extended.

Table 6 : Residue Analysis

ctx.	sample	Flot Size	charcoal	charred grain	chaff	other CPR	modern roots	<i>Cecilioides acicula</i>	molluscs	notes
*1-4, **5-25, ***25-100, **** >100										

2506	1	small	**** (comm.)	* (comm.)	-	*	***	**	* ( <i>Trichia</i> sp.)	*clinker/slag *charred hazelnut shell
611	2	small	*** (comm.)	-	-	*	-	*	** ( <i>Trichia</i> sp., <i>Vallonia costata</i> , <i>Pupilla muscorum</i> <i>V. pygmaea</i> )	
613	3	small	**** (comm.)	* (comm.)	-	-	-	**	** ( <i>Vallonia</i> sp., <i>Trichia</i> sp., <i>V. pygmaea</i> )	*coal
609	4	small	****	**	-	*	-	**	*** ( <i>Vallonia</i> sp., <i>H. itala</i> , <i>Trichia</i> sp., <i>V. pygmaea</i> , <i>Pupilla muscorum</i> , <i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.)	* coal
614	5	small	*****	**	-	-	-	***	*** ( <i>Vallonia</i> sp., <i>H. itala</i> , <i>Pupilla muscorum</i> , <i>V. pygmaea</i> , <i>Trichia</i> sp., <i>Cochlicopa</i> sp.)	

## 7 DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

### 7.1 Reliability of field investigation

7.1.1 Depressions in the underlying and undulating limestone bedrock were filled with soft deposits probably derived from post-glacial solifluction events. These deposits could only be interpreted as the 'natural' (interface between holocene and pleistocene deposits) due to their sterile nature and the fact that they generally appeared to be formed by single extreme climatic episodes. It was possible that in some areas these deposits were formed through holocene colluviation. Where there was any doubt about the nature of deposits the trenches were machined in two phases; first to the interpreted 'natural' and then down to solid bedrock. Therefore all potential archaeological horizons have been investigated.

7.1.2 With the exception of the southern area of the site where a possible Iron-Age layer survives, and the east of the site where a garden soil was recorded, the evaluation revealed a consistent modern truncation to the geological horizon.

- 7.1.3 The evaluation represents a 2.2% sample of the proposal area. The trenches were located to give a spatial coverage of all areas likely to be affected by the development.
- 7.1.4 The results of the evaluation should be regarded as a reliable indication that an extensive, densely populated Roman cemetery no longer exists on this site. However the evaluation may have missed localised areas of burials and cremations that have survived modern truncation as a result of being buried at a greater depth than those known to have been revealed in the 19th century.

## 7.2 Overall interpretation

### *Summary of results*

- 7.2.1 Most of the site has been truncated by the construction of the cattle market and the modern council car-park. There was some survival of heavily disturbed soil levels associated with these activities and a post-medieval leveling up of the site to the west and southwest. Cultivated soils and a possible former hedge-line and root disturbance within the sports centre car-parking area are consistent with a previous CAT evaluation here and indicate the presence of former gardens or orchards. Finds from these features indicate a late medieval or post-medieval date.
- 7.2.2 A single cremation and infant inhumation were found within Trench 6, within the north edge of the site.
- 7.2.3 Within the south of the site and the cattle-pens area a surviving former topsoil or subsoil was found and was dated as post-medieval by finds recovered from Test-pit 24 and Trench 25, although Roman pottery was also recovered from this deposit within Trench 25. Beneath these levels there is potential for the survival of Iron Age activity, as indicated by the recovery of Iron Age pottery from Trenches 25 and 26.

### *Significance*

- 7.2.4 The presence of two burials adjacent to the old Roman Road indicates that further burials could survive within the site despite extensive modern truncation. However, the level of truncation across the site is consistent with the level of truncation under the sheep pens. This is where 'numerous inhumations' were revealed in the 19th century. The absence of any burials (or 19th century excavation cuts) in the area of the sheep pens suggests that all the burials were discovered above the present level. Therefore it is highly likely that what once was a cemetery site has been almost completely removed with the potential for only occasional isolated burials and cremations that are, for some reason cut deeper into the geology.
- 7.2.5 Within the south of the site, the underlying geology dips down. This has resulted in strata surviving the modern truncation level. Here there is potential for the survival of early post-medieval soil horizons and some possible Iron Age activity.

## APPENDICES

## APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench	Cxt No	Type	Width (m)	Thick. (m)	Comment	Finds	No./ wt	Date
001								
	100	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			
	101	Layer		0.45	Made ground			
	102	Layer		0.34	Buried modern topsoil?	CBM Pottery	5g 30g	?Post-med Post-med
	103	Layer		0.40	Made ground	CBM Pottery	12g 25g	Post-med Post-Med
	104	Layer		0.25	Natural clay			
	105	Layer			Natural cornbrash			
	106	Fill		0.08	Fill of 107	Pottery	23g	Post-med
	107	Cut	0.42	0.08	Gully			
002								
	200	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			19th C.
	201	Layer		0.35	Made ground			19th C.
	202	Layer		0.25	Clay	CBM Pottery	16g 2g	Post-med ?Roman
	203	Layer		0.15	Disturbed natural clay			
	204	Layer		0.10	Natural clay			
	205	Layer			Natural cornbrash			
003								
	300	Layer		0.12	Tarmac surface			Modern
	301	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			19th C.
	302	Layer		0.35	Made ground			19th C.
	303	Layer		0.10	Natural clay			
	304	Layer		0.50	Natural clay			
	305	Layer			Natural cornbrash			
004								
	400	Layer		0.08	Tarmac surface			Modern
	401	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			19th C.
	402	Layer		0.20	Made ground			19th C.
	403	Layer		0.08	Buried modern topsoil?			19th C.

Trench	Cxt No	Type	Width (m)	Thick. (m)	Comment	Finds	No./wt	Date
	404	Layer		0.23	Natural clay			
	405	Layer		0.20	Natural clay			
	406	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
005								
	500	Layer		0.12	Tarmac surface			Modern
	501	Layer		0.02	Blinding for 500			Modern
	502	Layer		0.16	Hardcore			Modern
	503	Layer		0.16	Disturbed clay	Pottery	2g	Roman
	504	Layer		0.22	Clay silt	Animal Bone CBM Pottery	82g 38g 4g	Uncertain Medieval Roman
	505	Layer			Clay			
006								
	600	Layer		0.12	Tarmac surface			Modern
	601	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			19th C.
	602	Layer		0.09	Make-up for 601			19th C.
	603	Layer		0.23	Buried topsoil?			
	604	Layer			Natural limestone bedrock			
	605	Cut	0.52	0.30	Grave Cut			
	606	Fill	0.52	0.30	Grave fill	Animal Bone CBM	8g 7g	Uncertain ?Roman
	607	Find			Skeleton			
	608	Cut	0.80	0.34	Cremation cut			Roman
	609	Fill		0.34	Cremation fill	Pottery	44g	Roman
	610	Find	0.17	0.22	Cremation urn	Pottery	602g	Roman
	611	Fill		0.22	Cremation deposit			
	612	Grp			Cremation Group No			
	613	Fill		0.22	Cremation fill	Animal Bone Flint Pottery	20g 6g 38g	Uncertain Uncertain Roman
007								
	700	Layer		0.12	Tarmac surface			Modern



Trench	Cxt No	Type	Width (m)	Thick. (m)	Comment	Finds	No./wt	Date
	701	Layer		0.32	Make-up for 700			Modern
	702	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
008								
	800	Layer		0.14	Tarmac surface			Modern
	801	Layer		0.35	Make-up for 800			Modern
	802	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
009								
	900	Layer		0.13	Tarmac surface			Modern
	901	Layer		0.20	Make-up for 900			Modern
	902	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
010								
	1000	Layer		0.16	Tarmac surface			Modern
	1001	Layer		0.20	Make-up for 1000			Modern
	1002	Layer		0.13	Make-up			Modern?
	1003	Layer		0.08	Buried topsoil			
	1004	Layer		0.16	Natural clay			
	1005	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
011								
	1100	Layer		0.14	Tarmac surface			Modern
	1101	Layer		0.45	Make-up for 1100			Modern
	1102	Fill		0.18	Fill of 1106	CBM Glass Pottery	10g 2g 14g	?Post-med ?Post-med ?Post-med
	1103	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
	1104	Fill		0.07	Upper fill of 1107	CBM, Clay Pipe	5g 3g	Post-med Post-med
	1105	Fill		0.20	Lower fill of 1107			
	1106	Cut		0.18	Linear Cut			
	1107	Cut		0.38+	Root hole ?			
012								
	1200	Layer		0.15	Tarmac surface			Modern
	1201	Layer		0.40	Make-up for 1200			Modern
	1202	Layer			Limestone bedrock			



Trench	Cxr No	Type	Width (m)	Thick. (m)	Comment	Finds	No./wt	Date
013								
	1300	Layer		0.17	Tarmac surface			Modern
	1301	Layer		0.2	Make-up for 1300			Modern
	1302	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
014								
	1400	Layer		0.35	Tarmac surface			Modern
	1401	Layer		0.50	Make-up for 1400	Shell	4g	?Modern
	1402	Layer		0.08	Disturbed clay			?Modern
	1403	Layer		0.10	Natural clay			
	1404	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
015								
	1500	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			19th C.
	1501	Layer		0.17	Make-up for 1500			19th C.
	1502	Layer		0.14	Buried modern topsoil?			19th C.?
	1503	Layer		0.15	Natural clay			
	1504	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
016								
	1600	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			19th C.
	1601	Layer		0.40	Made Ground/ soliflucted natural			
	1602	Layer		0.21	Made Ground/ soliflucted natural			
	1603	Layer			Natural cornbrash			
017								
	1700	Layer		0.18	Brick surface			Modern
	1701	Layer		0.55	Made ground			Modern
	1702	Layer		0.23	Made ground			Modern
	1703	Layer		0.32	Silty Clay			
	1704	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
018								
	1800	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			19th C.
	1801	Layer		0.20	Make-up for 1800			19th C.
	1802	Layer		0.13	Buried topsoil?			
	1803	Layer		0.80	Natural clay			

Trench	Cxrt No	Type	Width (m)	Thick. (m)	Comment	Finds	No./wt	Date
	1804	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
019								
	1900	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			19th C.
	1901	Layer		0.26	Made ground			19th C.
	1902	Layer		0.22	Buried topsoil			
	1903	Layer		0.60	made ground?			
	1904	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
020								
	2000	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			19th C.
	2001	Layer		0.18	Buried topsoil?	Clay Pipe	7g	Post-med
	2002	Layer		0.37	Natural clay			
	2003	Layer			Natural clay			
	2004	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
	2005	Layer			Natural clay			
021								
	2100	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			19th C.
	2101	Layer		0.45	Made ground			19th C.
	2102	Layer		0.45	Buried topsoil?	Pottery	14g	Post-med
	2103	Layer			Natural clay			
022								
	2200	Layer		0.1	Concrete surface			Modern
	2201	Layer		0.2	Make-up			Modern
	2202	Layer		0.25	Silty clay fill?			Post-med
	2203	Layer		0.80	Natural clay			
	2204	Layer			Natural clay			
023								
	2300	Layer		0.07	Concrete surface			Modern
	2301	Layer		0.20	Make-up for 2300			Modern
	2302	Layer		0.30	Clay			
	2303	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
024								
	2400	Layer		0.1	Concrete surface			Modern
	2401	Layer		0.14	Make-up for 2400			Modern

Trench	Cxt No	Type	Width (m)	Thick. (m)	Comment	Finds	No./wt	Date
	2402	Layer		0.14	Buried topsoil?	CBM Glass Clay Pipe Pottery Slag	19g 19g 3g 4g 6g	Post-med Post-med Post-med ?Post-med Uncertain
	2403	Layer		0.1	Clay silt	Pottery		Post-med
	2404	Layer		0.03	Silty clay			
	2405	Layer		0.36	Clay / early ploughsoil?	CBM Pottery Shell	57g 38g 4g	Post-med Post-med Uncertain
	2406	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
025								
	2500	Layer		0.04	Concrete surface			Modern
	2501	Layer		0.40	Make-up for 2500			Modern
	2502	Layer		0.12	Silty clay			
	2503	Layer		0.30	Clay	Flint Pottery	3g 8g	Uncertain Roman
	2504	Layer		0.4	Natural clay			
	2505	Layer			Natural cornbrash			
	2506	Layer		0.20	Clay	Animal Bone Pottery	95g 50g	Uncertain Iron Age
026								
	2600	Layer		0.02	Tarmac surface			Modern
	2601	Layer		0.30	Make-up for 2600			Modern
	2602	Layer		0.08	Brick surface			19th C.
	2603	Layer		0.26	Make-up for 2602			19th C.
	2604	Layer		0.22	Silty clay	CBM Pottery	31g 4g	?Post-med Roman
	2605	Layer		0.20	Disturbed natural clay	CBM Pottery	8g 2g	?Roman Iron Age
	2606	Layer		0.15	Natural clay			
	2607	Layer			Natural cornbrash			
027								

Trench	Ctxt No	Type	Width (m)	Thick. (m)	Comment	Finds	No./wt	Date
	2700	Layer		0.15	Tarmac surface			Modern
	2701	Layer		0.22	Make-up for 2700			Modern
	2702	Layer		0.08	Buried topsoil?			
	2703	Layer		0.25	Natural clay			
	2704	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
028								
	2800	Layer		0.17	Tarmac surface			Modern
	2801	Layer		0.20	Make-up for 2800			Modern
	2802	Layer		0.20	Buried topsoil?	Pottery	17g	Post-med
	2803	Layer		0.15	Natural clay			
	2804	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
	2805	Fill		0.25	Fill of 2806	Pipe		Post-med
	2806	Cut		0.25	Root hole?			
029								
	2900	Layer		0.32	Turf			Modern
	2901	Layer		0.33	Made ground			Modern
	2902	Layer		0.3	Buried topsoil?	Pottery	14g	Post-med
	2903	Layer		0.35	Natural clay			
	2904	Layer			Limestone bedrock			
030								
	3000	Layer		0.50	Turf			Modern
	3001	Layer		0.46	Made ground	Plastic		Modern
	3002	Layer		0.16	Buried topsoil?			
	3003	Layer			Natural clay			
	3004	Layer			Limestone bedrock			

**APPENDIX 2 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS**

**Site name:** Cirencester Cattle Market

**Site code:** CICM 02

**Grid reference:** SP 0195 0175

**Type of evaluation:** 24 trenches and 6 test-pits

**Date and duration of project:** October 2002. Duration: 3 weeks

**Area of site:** 13800m<sup>2</sup>

**Summary of results:** One cremation and one infant inhumation were found close to the former Roman Road (Old Tetbury Road). A scatter of I.A. pottery and bone found within the southern corner of the site. There was also some survival of early post-medieval soil horizons in this area.

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Corinium Museum in due course.

## APPENDIX 3 BIBLIOGRAPHY:

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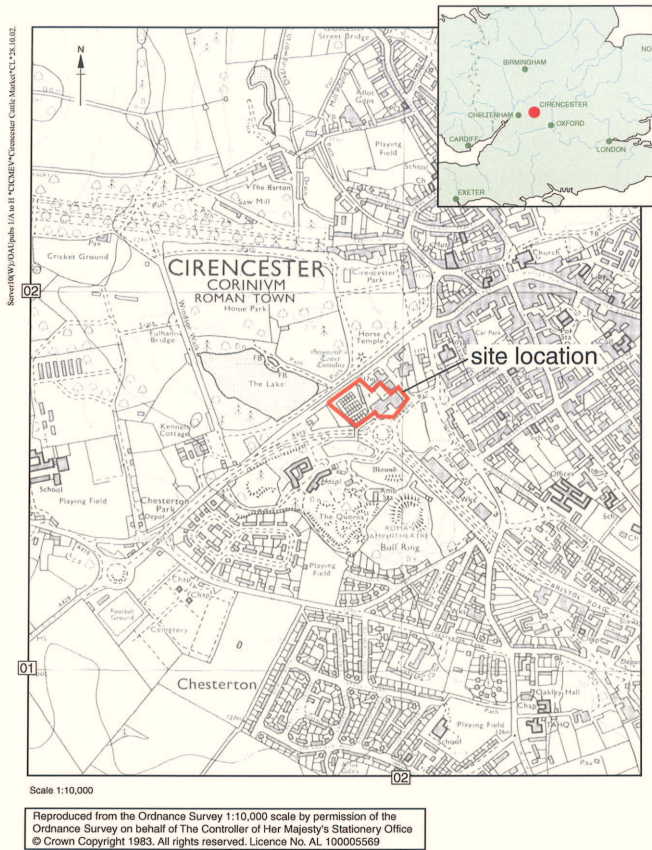


Figure 1: Site location



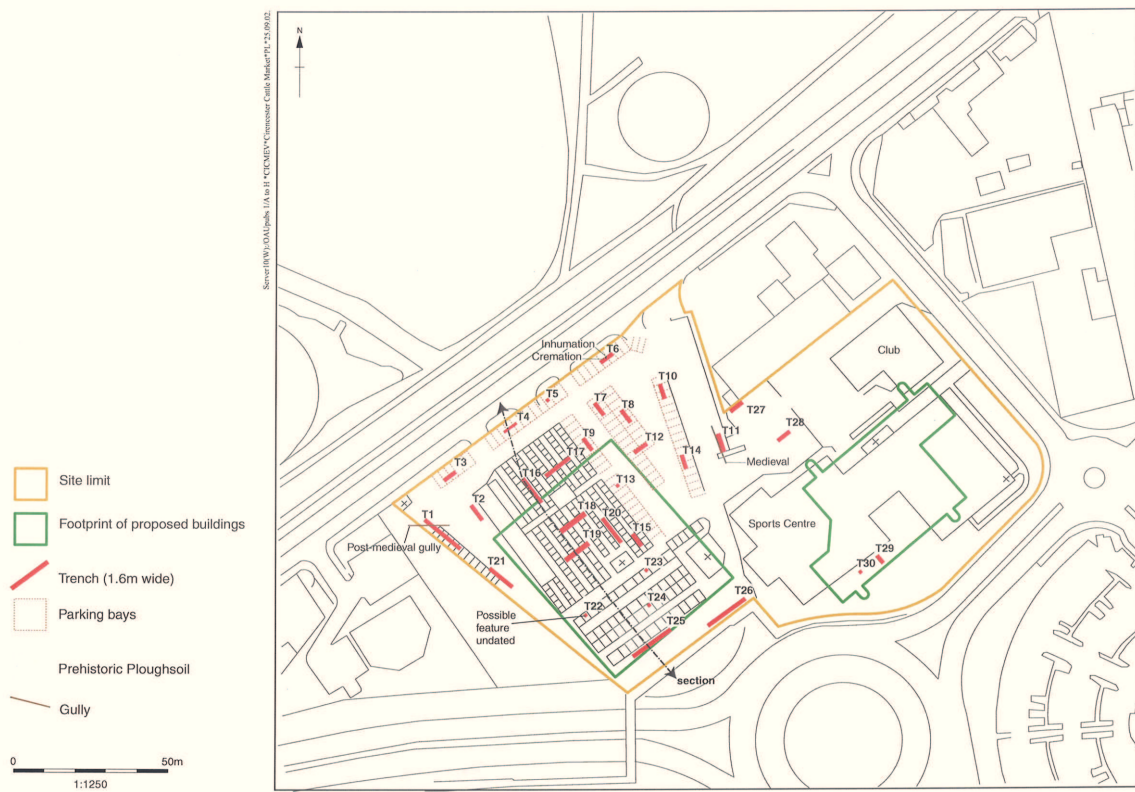


Figure 2: Trench location

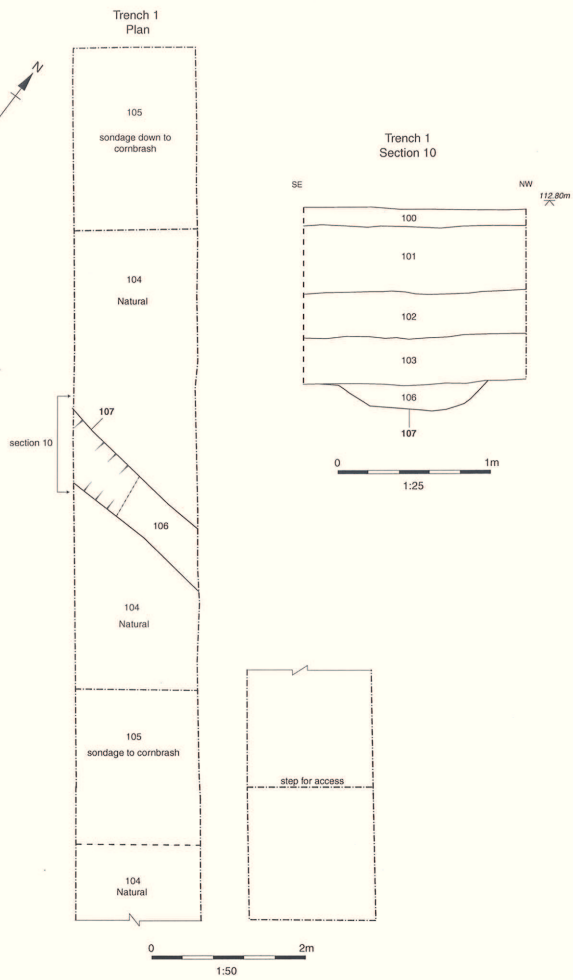


Figure 3: Trench 1, plan and sections

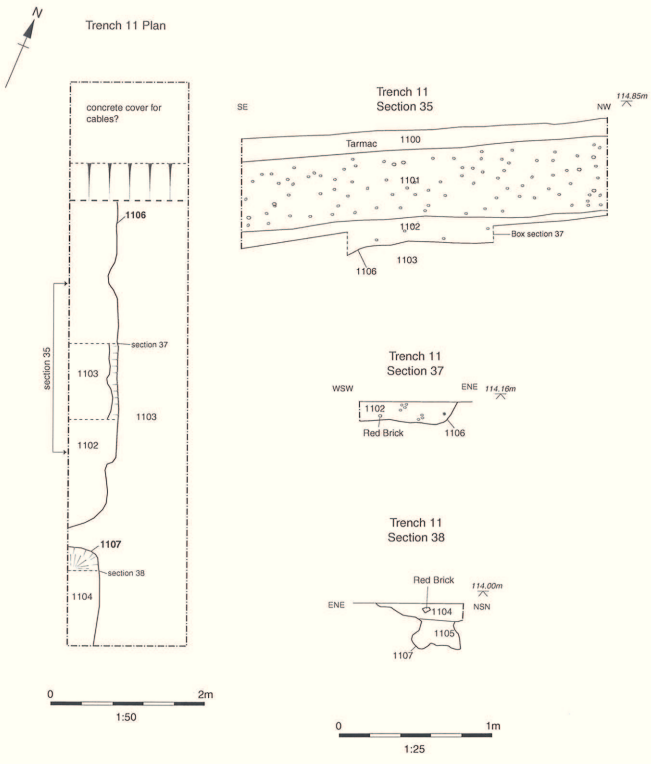


Figure 4: Trench 11, plan and sections

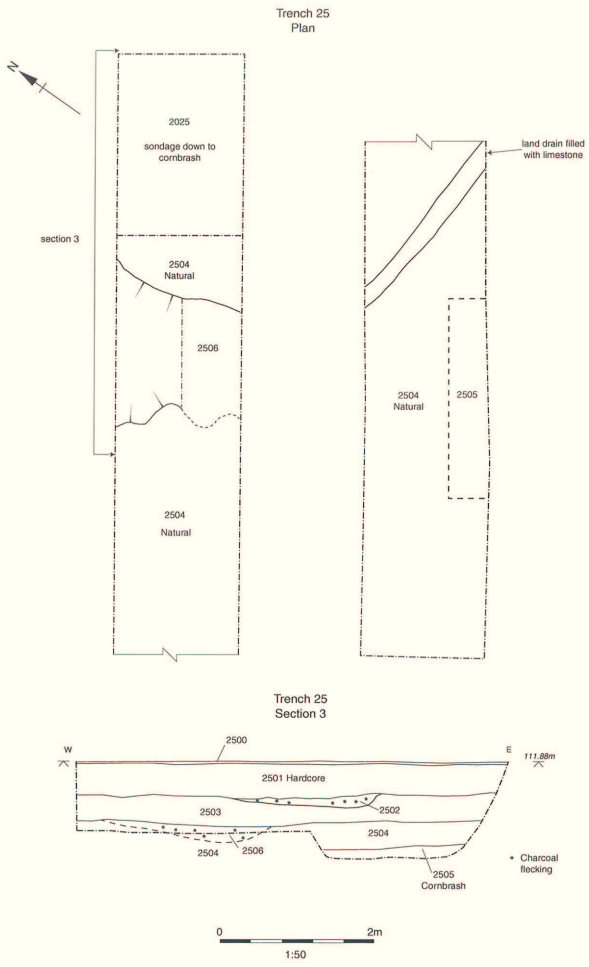


Figure 5: Trench 25, plan and Section

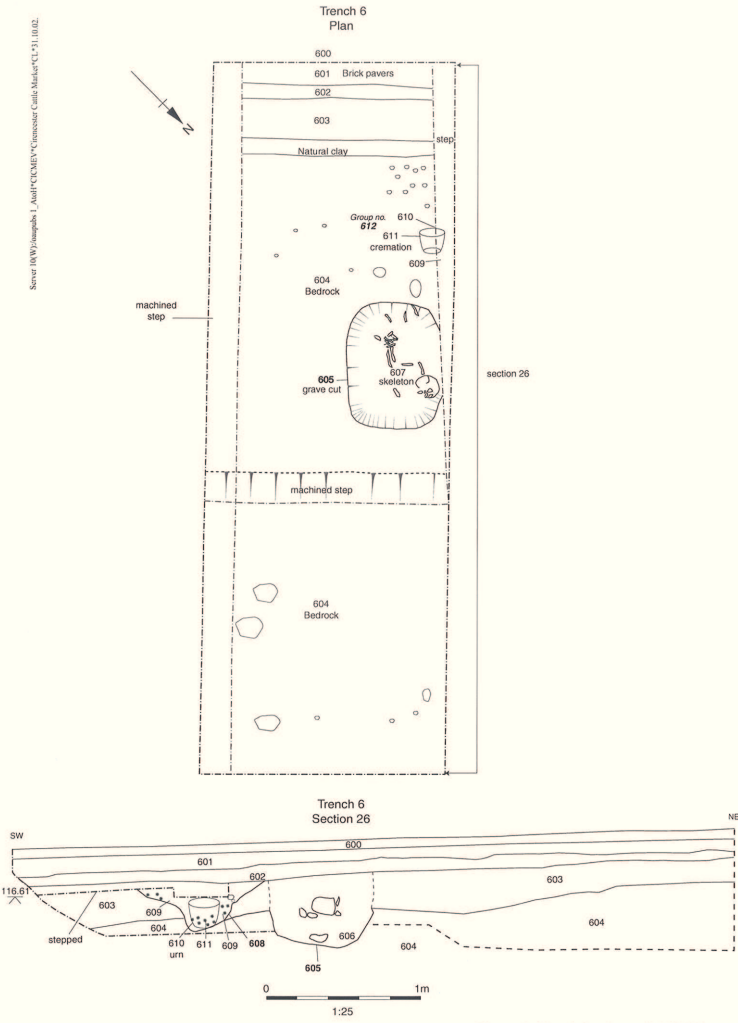


Figure 6: Trench 6, plan and sections

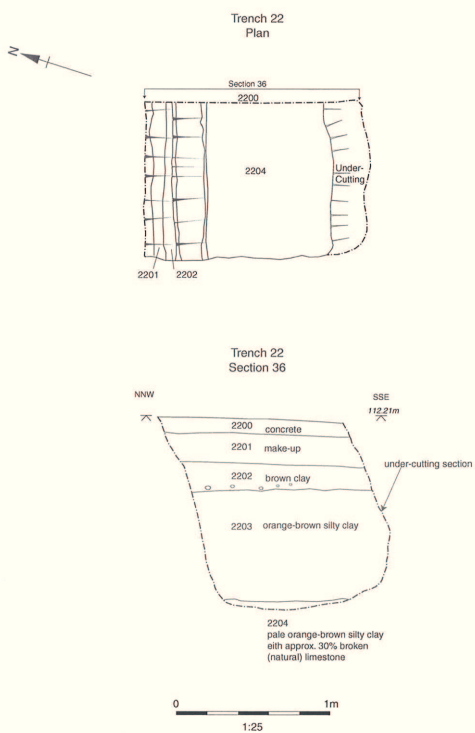


Figure 7: Trench 22, plan and sections

Section 41  
Profile Across Site

