

22 Windrush Windrush Gloucestershire



Archaeological Watching Brief Report



Oxford Archaeology

November 2005

Client: B. Boyle

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OA Job N^o: 2881

Planning Ref N^o: 04/02369/FUL

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**New Garden Room, 22 Windrush,
Windrush, Gloucestershire**
NGR: SP 192 132

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

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SUMMARY

On October 18th 2005 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at 22 Windrush, Windrush, Gloucestershire (NGR: 192 132). The work was commissioned by B. Boyle in advance of construction of a detached Garden Room. The watching brief revealed foundations probably relating to an outhouse associated with the standing house, sealed by 19th and 20th century garden deposits.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 On October 18th 2005 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at 22 Windrush, Windrush, Gloucestershire (NGR: SP 192 132). The work was commissioned by B. Boyle in respect of a planning application for a detached Garden Room (Planning Application No. 04/02369/FUL).
- 1.1.2 A project brief was set by Charles Parry, the Senior Archaeological Officer with Gloucestershire County Council requiring a Watching Brief to be maintained during the groundwork phase of the construction (GCC, 2005).
- 1.1.3 OA prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) detailing how it would meet the requirements of the brief (OA, 2005).

1.2 Location, geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The development area lies within the rear garden of the property at approximately 130 m above OD and occupies an area of 20 m² (Fig. 1). The underlying geology lies on the Great Oolite Limestone and Upper Lias Clay boundary (British Geological Survey Sheet No. 235).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological background to the watching brief was prepared for the WSI for the project (OA, 2005) and is reproduced below.
- 1.3.2 The site of the development is situated on the north side of the village, which is centred on the medieval triangular green. The village church is situated to the south-east of the green and dates from the 12th century with 14th and 15th century additions. The current buildings around the green date from the 18th and 19th century and are located on the site of the medieval settlement. An Iron Age hill-fort, Windrush Camp, is located approximately 1.2 km south-west of the site (*Pevsner and Sherwood, 1974, 591-2*).

2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 To identify and record the presence or absence, extent, condition, quality and date of archaeological remains in the areas affected by the development.
- 2.1.2 To preserve by record any archaeological deposits that may be damaged or removed during the development.
- 2.1.3 To make available the results of the archaeological investigation.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The foundation trench was excavated using a mechanical digger under archaeological supervision. Any exposed archaeological features were cleaned by hand.
- 2.2.2 A plan of the extent and location of the excavations (Fig. 2) was drawn at a scale of 1:100 and the sections were drawn at a scale of 1:20. All excavated features were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. A general photographic record of the work was also made. Recording followed procedures detailed in the *OA Field Manual* (ed. D Wilkinson, 1992).

3 RESULTS

3.1 Description of deposits

- 3.1.1 The underlying natural, a mixture of small oolitic limestone fragments within a yellow-brown clay matrix, (3), was reached at a depth of between 0.45 m and 0.5 m below the current ground level (Fig. 2, section 1). This was cut by a 0.6 m wide 0.15 m deep linear feature (5), running approximately east-west across the site (Fig. 2, plan). This was filled by roughly dressed oolitic limestone blocks bonded with a lime mortar (4) representing the robbed out remains of wall footings. Projection of the alignment of this feature shows it to line up with the original northern wall of the standing property. This feature was sealed by a 0.2 m thick layer of olive-brown silty clay (2) which produced fragments of pottery and clay pipe stem dating to the 19th century and is indicative of a worked soil.
- 3.1.2 Overlying layer 2 was a 0.25 m deep layer of a very dark grey silty loam (1) which produced fragments of pottery and bottle glass dating to the late 19th and 20th century and which represents the current garden soil.

3.2 Finds

- 3.2.1 Finds were recovered by hand from identified deposits during the course of the watching brief. These finds included pottery, clay pipe fragments and bottle glass, all dating between the 19th and 20th centuries. No residual earlier dated finds were recovered.

3.3 Palaeo-environmental remains

- 3.3.1 No deposits suitable for palaeo-environmental sampling were encountered during the course of the watching brief.

4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1.1 The alignment of the footings observed, (4), suggest it was contemporary with the 18th and 19th century origins of the house. The lack of depth of the foundation trench (5) suggests a light structure, probably an outbuilding, which was probably demolished in the 19th century. This was sealed by deposits indicative of garden soils.
- 4.1.2 No features or residual finds relating to the medieval origins of the village were observed.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

<i>Context</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Depth /Height</i>	<i>Width</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i> Finds</i>	<i>Date</i>
1	Layer	0.25 m	-	Modern garden soil	Pottery, glass	C19th/20th
2	Layer	0.2 m	-	Earlier worked soil	Pottery, clay pipe stem	C19th
3	Layer	> 0.15 m	-	Weathered oolitic limestone/ corn brash	-	-
4	Structure	0.15 m	0.6 m	Robbed out remains of wall footings	-	C18th/19th
5	Cut	0.15 m	0.6 m	Foundation trench	-	C18th/19th

APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

GCC 2005 *22 Windrush, Windrush: Erection of a detached garden room. Brief for a programme of archaeological recording*

OA 1992 *Field Manual* (1st edition ed. D. Wilkinson)

OA 2005 *22 Windrush, Windrush, Gloucestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Pevsner, N and Sherwood, J 1974 *The Buildings of England: Gloucestershire the Cotswolds*

APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: 22 Windrush, Windrush, Gloucestershire

Site code: WIGG 05

Grid reference: SP 192 132

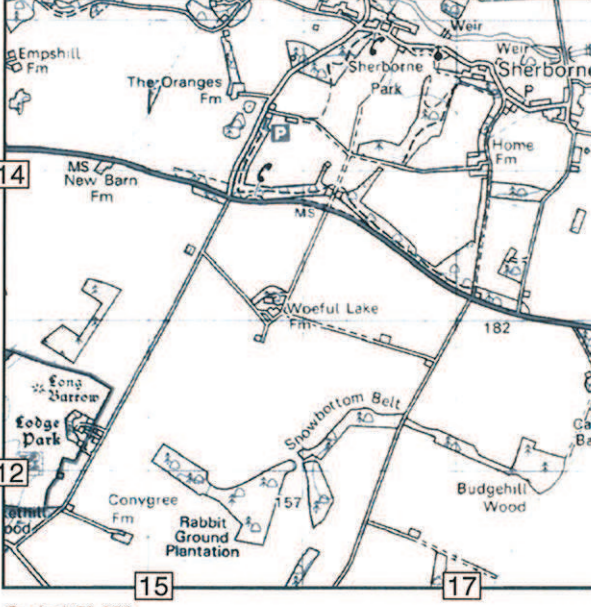
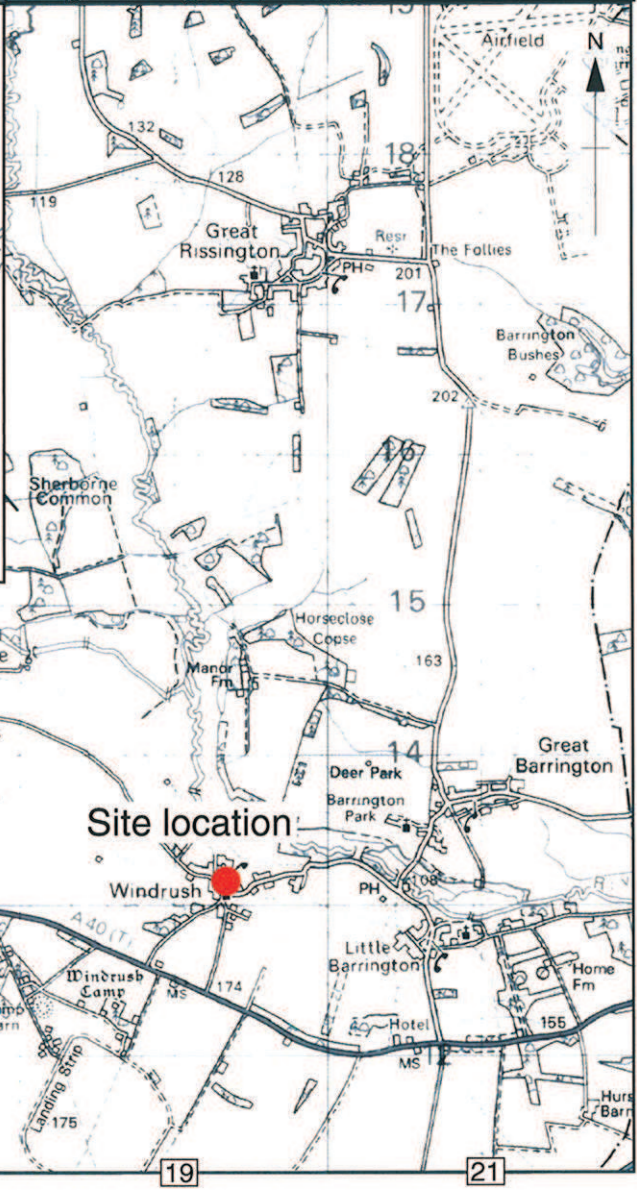
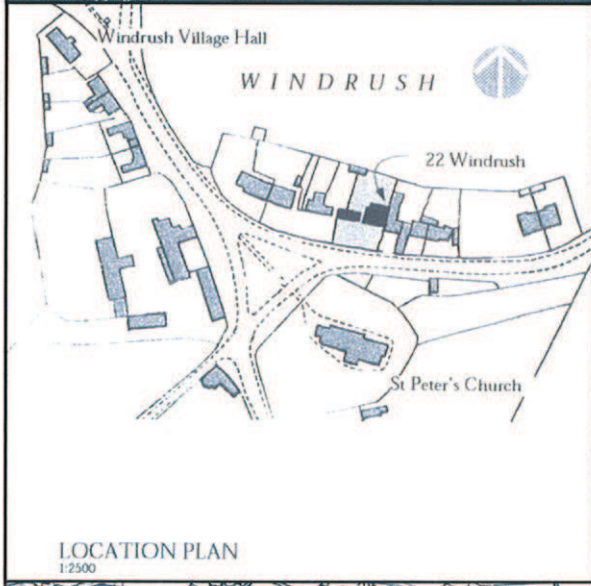
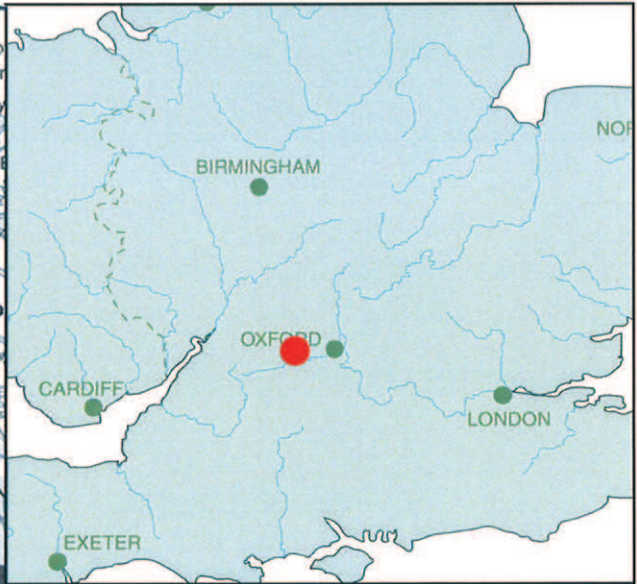
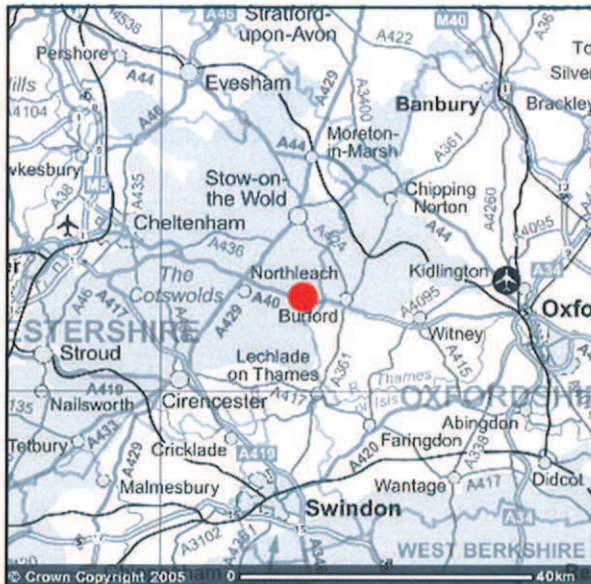
Type of watching brief: Machine excavated foundation trench

Date and duration of project: 18th October 2005, 1 day

Area of site: 20 m²

Summary of results: Footings relating to a contemporary outhouse to the standing house, 19th and 20th century garden soils

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



Scale 1:50,000

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Figure 1: Site location

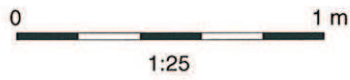
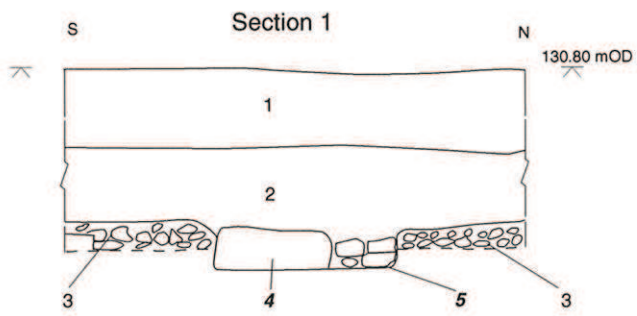
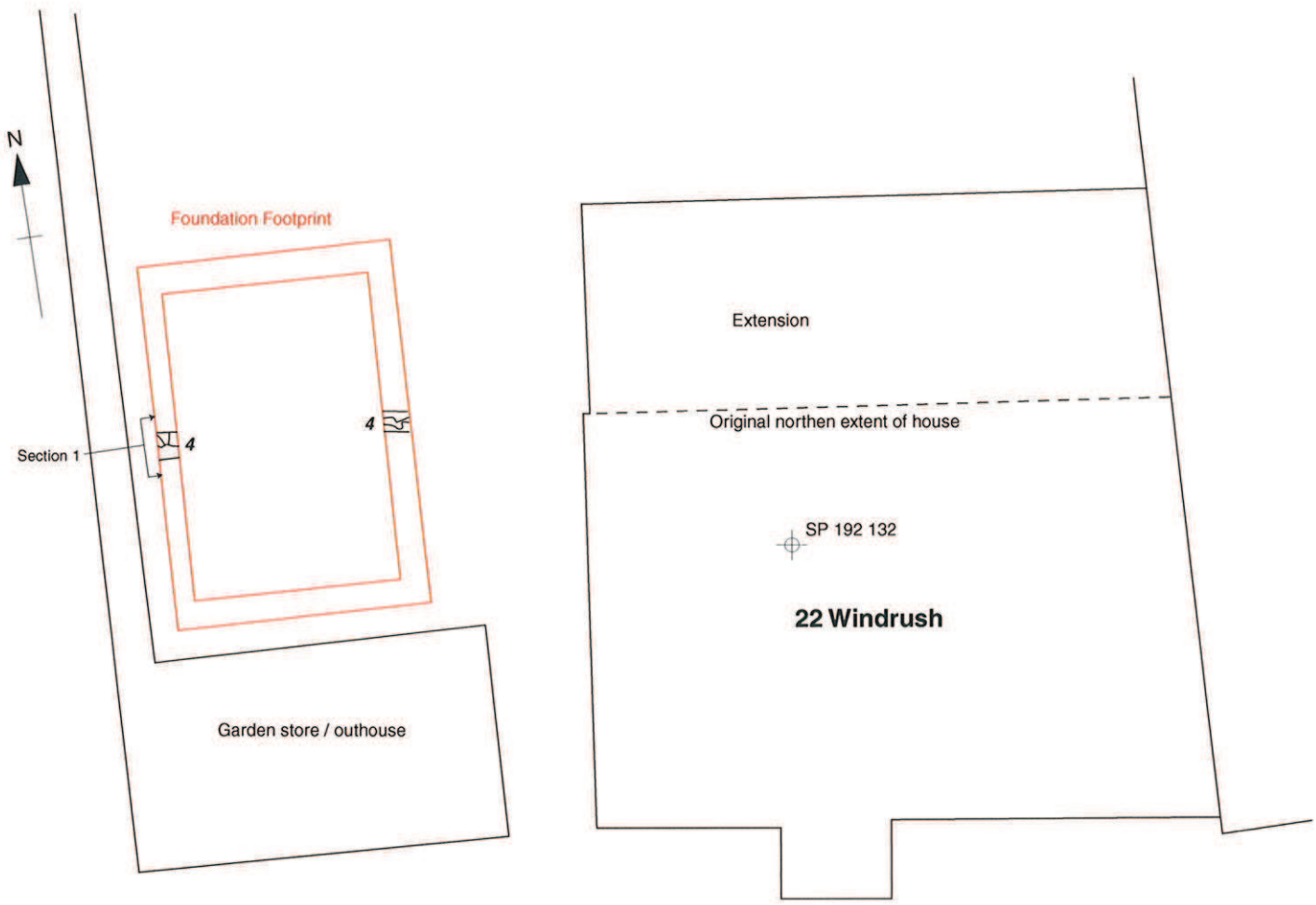


Figure 2: Plan of area of Watching brief and section



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