

## RESULTS OF A WATCHING BRIEF AT CORNMARKE STREET, OXFORD

### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 On 26<sup>th</sup> of August 2003 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at the southern end of Cornmarket Street, Oxford. The work was carried out in response to the discovery of possible human bones during trenching work directly in front of the H.S.B.C. bank near the corner of Queen Street and Cornmarket Street. (NGR: SP 51325 06193)
- 1.1.2 A visual examination was made of the area the bones were recovered from. A limited, shallow trial excavation was also made in this area (approximately 0.5m x 0.5m by 0.1m deep) in order to recover further artefacts for examination and to clearly expose edges of any cut features. A location plan of the area was produced and a general photographic record of the work was made.

### 1.2 Results

- 1.2.1 Immediately below the existing road surface, a deposit of a friable greyish brown loamy silt was exposed. (Approximately 64.9m AOD) This layer contained many small to medium stone, brick and tile fragments as well as much charcoal and mortar flecking. Many animal bones were also recovered. No edges of any cuts were observed suggesting that this was a layer of disturbed/made ground rather than the fill of a rubbish pit. Examination of the brick and tile suggests a post-medieval date.



B.M. 64.14m

LB\*

63.7m

Post

BM 64.77m

St Michael's Church (C of E)

Banquets House

SHIP STREET

SALINDERS PASSAGE

Chapel (Private)

EXETER COLLEGE (Founded 1314)

Chapel (Private)

JESUS COLLEGE (Founded 1571)

El Sub Sta

CORNMARKET STREET

STREET MARKET B.M. 65.87m

Lincoln House

LINC COLLEGE (Founded 1314)

Market

Clarendon House

Bank

Golden Cross

The Mitre (P.H.)

HIGH STREET

Area of recovered land

65.5m

Carfax Corner

A.A. Office G.P.

QUEEN STREET

Marygold House

Town Hall & Municipal Buildings

Museum

Council Offices

Bank

BLUE BOAR STREET

El Sub Sta

CITY CHAMBERS

PH

63.1m

ST. GILBERT STREET