

## Archaeological Review No. 34 2009

Edited by JAN WILLS and JON HOYLE

The Archaeological Review presents brief summaries of archaeological research, fieldwork and building recording undertaken during the year. Information is arranged mostly by civil parishes (as shown on the OS 1:10,000 series maps) with the parish name followed by the site name or description and grid reference. For the cities of Bristol and Gloucester entries are arranged by street or area. Contributions for the next review should be sent to the Archaeology Service, Gloucestershire County Council, Shire Hall, Gloucester, GL1 2TH.

### *Abbreviations*

AAU	Avon Archaeological Unit
BaRAS	Bristol and Region Archaeological Services
CA	Cotswold Archaeology
FA	Foundations Archaeology
GADARG	Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group
GCCAS	Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service
JMHS	John Moore Heritage Services
MA	Monmouth Archaeology
MOLAS	Museum of London Archaeological Service
OAS	Oxford Archaeology South
TVAS	Thames Valley Archaeological Services
WHEAS	Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service
WM	Warwickshire Museum
110 Arch	110 Archaeology

**ALVESTON**, *Little Abbey Camp*, ST 64008850-64608950. A Watching Brief in December 2007 and January 2008 provided an important transect across the scheduled monument which was confirmed as a single-rampart hillfort of probable late prehistoric origin, although the identification of a substantial ditch, seemingly well outside the spread bank on its eastern side, hints at a more complex form. An adult inhumation provided a radiocarbon date of the late 1st to early 2nd century AD and evidence for a possible second inhumation (in addition to a third burial reported in the 1920s), in conjunction with related postholes, raises the possibility that a small extra-mural cemetery was located immediately adjacent to the north-eastern side of the camp. A small assemblage of Romano-British pottery (broadly of 2nd-century date and later) was recovered from stratified deposits suggesting significant Romano-British settlement activity from the 2nd century onwards. No earlier finds, in particular prehistoric pottery, were recovered, but this is consistent with earlier records for the site. Although the modern A38, which cuts across the site, is thought to follow the route of a Roman road, no evidence of any Roman road surface or formation deposits were identified.

Andrew Young, AAU

**ALVINGTON**, *Alvington Court*, SO 61060072. A watching brief recorded an east-west orientated wall which partly formed the northern side of the farm building. Although the wall could not be confidently dated, it predates the garage and the rear extension. A single original window and a blocked up doorway,

on the western side of the farmhouse, was of similar construction to the sills, reveals and mullions within the wall, suggesting that it may be contemporary with the original 16th-century building. The wall and a flagstone gully were left *in situ*.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

**AYLBURTON**, *land at 36 High Street*, SO 61760184. Two evaluation trenches were excavated within an area of garden. Two medieval pits (the earliest of which dated from the 12th to 13th century), and a post-medieval linear feature were recorded.

Nick Witchell, GCCAS

**AMPNEY ST PETER**, *land at Ranbury Farm*, SP 08800085. Excavation on the western side of Ranbury Ring Iron-Age ringwork found five undated pits on an east-west alignment. A poorly preserved, possibly crouched, child/adolescent inhumation was sited immediately north of the pit alignment and a small posthole, containing a small quantity of burnt bone, lay adjacent to one of the pits.

Tim Havard, CA

**BISHOP'S CLEEVE**, *43 Evesham Road*, SO 95602820. Archaeological recording was carried out during the construction of a new rear extension. Although the remains of a mid to late Iron-Age settlement were identified in the vicinity in 2005, no deposits associated with this settlement were found, suggesting that Iron Age settlement features do not extend into this area. Evidence for former medieval and post-medieval ridge and furrow was also found. Surface evidence for this had been destroyed by later cultivation.

Sean Cook, 110 Arch

**BITTON**, *the former Intier Works, Golden Valley Mills, Mill Lane*, ST 68206980. An English Heritage level 2 building survey prior to the demolition of the former paper mill buildings recorded a number of features relating to the early development sequence of the complex. This, combined with map and aerial photographic evidence, suggest that development on the site took place over less than a hundred years.

Simon Roper, BaRAS

*Land at Oldland Common*, ST 67507095. Evaluation identified a range of features, including the likely alignment of the Roman road between Berkeley Street and Bitton. A large earthwork, probably a fishpond of medieval or post-medieval date, was not investigated.

Mark Brett, CA

**BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER**, *Bow House*, SP 16682054. A watching brief recorded eight features. The earliest, four early medieval pits and a probable early medieval pit, contained pottery dating from the 10th to mid 12th centuries and residual sherds of Roman pottery dating from the 2nd to 4th centuries. These were cut by two further pits which contained no dating evidence, but which may be contemporaneous. There was also a large amount of post-medieval disturbance throughout the site.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

*New Sports Hall, Cotswold School*, SP 16742116. Excavation revealed a pair of ditches which defined a Roman enclosure. A worn silver *siliqua* of Gratian (AD 367–83) or Valentinian I (AD 364–75) was recovered from the primary fill of the outer ditch. A number of postholes, one of which could be firmly dated to the Roman period, were also found.

David Cudlip, CA

**BRISTOL**, *Avonmouth, St Brendan's Church, St Andrews Road*, ST 51797811. Recording prior to the demolition of the church indicated that it had not seen any significant alteration between its construction in the mid-1950s and its closure in early 2004. There was an aisleless nave with a west gallery above a narthex, and a small south transept. Tiny side chapels were placed to either side of the chancel and there was an attached bell tower close to the north-west corner of the building. Some of the fittings, including the altar

and font, had already been removed, but the 1950s decorative communion rail ironwork and narthex screen remained.

John Bryant, BaRAS

*Avonmouth, site of the former St Brendan's Church, St Andrews Road, ST 51797811.* An excavation revealed the brick and concrete foundations of the former church. The heavily truncated remains of an earthen sea bank and its in-filled drain or rhine, which cartographic evidence suggests dates from as early as 1769, were also identified. No other features or deposits of archaeological significance were recorded.

Tim Longman, BaRAS

*Barton Hill, junction of Avonvale Road and Beam Street, ST 61087304.* A watching brief during groundworks for the construction of commercial units and flats recorded the brick foundations of one of the 19th-century terraced houses which occupied the site between the 1830s and 1960s.

Richard Coe, BaRAS

*Bedminster, The Red Cow Public House, West Street, ST 58087106.* An English Heritage level 2 building survey, prior to demolition, indicated that the two-storey Lias limestone structure was probably of 18th-century origin. Single storey rear blocks were added in the 19th century and partial cellarge survived at basement level. Internal alterations in 1932 (and later) included the installation of what was reputedly Bristol's shortest skittle alley in the former scullery. A brick-built stable and coach house in the rear yard dated to the second half of the 19th century.

John Bryant, BaRAS

*Bower Ashton, former milking parlour, Kennel Lodge Road, ST 56287180.* Recording of the standing structure, followed by a watching brief during subsequent redevelopment, identified both end walls of the original south-east block (later incorporated into the milking parlour range), original drainage, and a later cross-wall.

John Bryant, BaRAS

*Former Post Office sorting office, Cattle Market Road, ST 59907243.* A watching brief during the removal of five fuel storage tanks in October 2009 recorded 19th- to 20th-century ground-raising dumps in the western part of the site, directly above the natural alluvium. No evidence of the 1832 cholera burial ground or any other archaeological features were observed.

Dan Waterfall, MOLAS

*Clifton, 4 Harley Place, ST 56897342.* A building assessment of the garage at the rear of the property, prior to its demolition, was commissioned to assess the potential for reuse of the building materials. The early 19th-century structure had a wooden roof, flagstone floor, brickwork, rubble side walls and the front (north) elevation had been rebuilt in the modern period. The majority of these materials were deemed unlikely to be of reuse value.

Simon Roper, BaRAS

*Cotham, 6 Cotham Road, ST 58307381.* A photographic survey of the rear boundary wall, prior to its repair, recorded the original stone-built wall below a later brick extension. The line of the wall is recorded on the 1841 tithe map, but not on Sturge's map of 1825 (which also excludes Cotham Road), suggesting that it was constructed between those dates.

Simon Roper, BaRAS

*Former English Corrugating Paper Company Works, Dove Lane, ST 59657383.* Building recording prior to demolition indicated that the majority of the buildings on the site were utilitarian brick-built structures of mid to late 20th-century date, representing the remains of the former English Corrugating Paper Company works. A number of small 19th-century buildings, incorporated within the factory complex, also survived. Little machinery remained *in situ* within the buildings.

Peter Davenport, CA

*Easton, the former Waggon and Horses public house, 83 Stapleton Road, ST 60257368.* Building recording observed substantial elements of the original late 18th- or early 19th-century structure. The north-west elevation of the 'Front Building' (i.e. that fronting Stapleton Road), appeared to retain much of its original character, whilst the 'Rear Building' appeared to incorporate elements of the 19th-century brewery, and a skittle alley of possible late 19th- or early 20th-century date. Redevelopment in 1935 appears to have entailed the removal of a number of 19th-century buildings. Probable 19th-century masonry and evidence for the addition of a cellar was recorded in the north-east and south-west boundary walls. Further evidence for alterations undertaken at other dates was found at the rear of the premises, but none for brewing or other industrial activities.

Andrew Townsend, BaRAS

*Hotwells, Entrance Lock and Junction Lock, Cumberland Basin, ST 56777241 and ST 57117230.* Recording of locks and quayside features took place preparatory to Phase 2 of the Bristol City Docks Operational Infrastructure scheme. In addition to the stonework of the two locks, built between 1867 and 1873, some of the cast-iron plates above the lock walls were probably original, and a number of mooring posts may also be contemporary.

John Bryant, BaRAS

*Lawfords Gate, St Nicholas of Tolentino, ST 59947348.* A watching brief was carried out on the site of a new presbytery in late September 2009. Remains of the previous building, formerly a Roman Catholic school, had been removed in 2008 and the site excavated to a depth of at least 0.6 m and then backfilled. Trenching for the new building, cut into the natural red-brown sand below the backfilled level, revealed a short length of foundations from the earlier school, and two possibly recent features.

John Bryant, BaRAS

*Lawrence Weston, land off Barrowmead Drive, Crokeswood Walk and Saltmarsh Drive, ST 54057766, ST 54187828 and ST 54267834.* Three evaluation trenches (one at each site) were excavated. A 2 m-length of possible enclosure ditch (0.65 m wide by 0.35 m deep), containing several small sherds of Romano-British pottery and a single small flint, was recorded off Barrowmead Drive, although no significant archaeology was recorded at either of the other two sites.

Tim Longman, BaRAS

*Lawrence Weston, The Rose, ST 54527833.* Following the demolition of The Rose public house, a single evaluation trench was excavated to the rear of the newly built dwellings which had replaced it. No finds, features or deposits which pre-dated the modern period were found.

FA

*Hill House Hammond, Lewins Mead, ST 58847339.* An excavation and watching brief identified a number of medieval walls and pits, probably associated with an outbuilding of the friary which was in the area during the medieval period. The walls and yard area of the 18th-century 'New Buildings' were also recorded.

Simon Roper, BaRAS

*Montpelier, former 63 Ashley Hill, ST 59727497.* A building assessment compared the 1877 architectural plans for the new St Werburgh's Vicarage with those of 1975, when the building was the Ashley Court Hotel. This suggested that much of the original 19th-century exterior survived until the 21st century, although the building's interior had been extensively altered.

Andrew Townsend, BaRAS

*Redcliffe, St Mary Redcliffe Church, Redcliffe Way, ST 59147232.* A watching brief in the room known as Canynges' Kitchen identified nothing pre-dating ceramic drainage pipes which had been laid below the concrete floor in the 1930s to act as air ducts to the church organ from the outside blowing room.

John Bryant, BaRAS

*Redcliffe, Church of St Thomas the Martyr, Thomas Lane, ST 59127277.* A watching brief during groundworks associated with the installation of a toilet, kitchenette and services revealed an empty burial vault and a possible crypt entrance associated with the current 18th-century church, as well as a wall, which may have been part of the earlier, medieval church.

Heather Hirons, BaRAS

*Redcliffe, Little Thomas Lane, ST 59097278.* A watching brief during the excavation of four test pits revealed possible stone vaulting, earlier lane surfaces, the footings of the tower of the medieval Church of St Thomas the Martyr, the footings for Beckett Hall, and a brick-built drain associated with Beckett Hall.

Heather Hirons, BaRAS

*Sea Mills, Phase 2 Evaluation, Hadrian Close, ST 55047583.* Fourteen evaluation trenches, excavated within the Roman town of *Abonae* between April 2008 and June 2009, identified well-preserved archaeological features and deposits. This included evidence for buildings and yards, linear ditches and gullies, discrete pit-type features, and human remains which appear to represent sub-Roman squatter-type activity, rather than formal burials. A substantial and well-preserved assemblage of Romano-British pottery spanned the 1st to 4th centuries, with a particular focus in the 1st and early 2nd centuries. Other finds comprised a large number of identifiable and high status items, including jewellery and personal items, a spoon, possible furniture fittings, and fragments from decorative glass bowls, glass bottles and the base of an unguent flask. The evaluation demonstrated dense Roman occupation at depths of between 0.12 m and 1.08 m below the present ground level. Much of this dates to the 1st to 2nd centuries, with little activity during the 3rd to 4th centuries, although this may reflect the limited nature of the investigation. Evidence for later Roman activity may have been destroyed by later activity.

FA

*Sea Mills, 8 Hadrian Close, ST 55047570.* In March 2009 a programme of excavation and recording investigated deposits below the depth of earlier groundworks within the Roman town of *Abonae*. A large stone-built structure, possibly the *agger* of a Roman road, was recorded, along with a partially exposed cut feature and numerous soil and stone deposits which were frequently associated with charcoal and contained occasional bone fragments. The pottery assemblage was a mixture of 1st- to 4th-century material, suggesting the site had been occupied throughout the Roman period.

FA

*Shirehampton, 2 Pembroke Road, ST 53267680.* A single-storey outbuilding was recorded prior to demolition. It was built of local stone rubble with red brick dressings, bonded in a creamy/light grey lime mortar, and had a pitched, pan tile roof. It had probably been erected in the 1880s for the local blacksmith and is recorded as a smithy on early 20th-century Ordnance Survey maps. It was later used by a wheelwright and undertaker.

John Bryant, BaRAS

*St George, Crew's Hole Road, ST 62497318.* A building survey indicated that a small single cell, two-storey structure, built in random sandstone rubble and brass slag blocks, was probably of later 18th-century date. Soon after construction it had been extended by one small bay to its western side which incorporated a re-used timber. A second floor and extensions to the south and west were added, probably in the 1960s and 1970s. Ruined remains of similar cottages were recorded at the southern and western edges of the site which was defined by contemporary boundary and terrace walls, mostly in black brass slag blocks. The complex was probably built as accommodation for workers in the copper smelting and brass working industry that flourished here in the 18th and early 19th centuries.

Peter Davenport, CA

*St Michaels Hill, former Bristol Children's Hospital, 73-77 St Michaels Hill and 22-24 Tyndall Avenue, ST 58357350.* In late 2009 and early 2010 three groups of buildings were recorded to English Heritage level 2 standard prior to demolition. The hospital was built in the 1880s but significantly altered between 1929 and

1931 to the designs of George Oatley, chiefly in the rebuilding of the ward blocks and addition of a third storey. Three early Edwardian terraced houses in St Michael's Hill were of two storeys, and two of them had partial basements. The semi-detached three storey villas in Tyndall Avenue were designed in 1905. Some contemporary fittings survived in all buildings, although much, including virtually all of the chimney-pieces, has been lost.

John Bryant, BaRAS

*South View, Stibbs Hill*, ST 63347331. Evaluation in an area of waste ground partly exposed the south-eastern part of a circular feature which was interpreted as the foundations of a pug mill recorded on the first edition Ordnance Survey map.

Simon Roper, BaRAS

*Westmoreland House, Stokes Croft*, ST 59177406. Evaluation established that, contrary to the findings of a previous investigation, there was no evidence for Civil War defences within the site. A feature previously interpreted as part of these works is probably an 18th-century wall.

Mark Brett, CA

*Canningford House, 38 Victoria Street*, ST 59237278. Two evaluation trenches confirmed the location of the western edge of the former route of Temple Street which was modified during development in the 1970s. The remains of a probable 17th- or 18th-century cellar, constructed with rubble stone walling, was built into a previously identified layer of re-deposited clay thought to have been laid to seal waterlogged levels prior to building. A section of a possible late medieval wall was also recorded. No remains of the medieval conduit and fountain, both documented features of Temple Street, were found.

Justin Hughes, WHEAS

**CHEDWORTH**, *Chedworth Roman Villa*, SP 05301345. Evaluation identified intact fabric of the south wall of the corridor of the south range, together with a mortar floor, overlain by charcoal lenses. A robber trench may relate to a continuation of the southern wall of the south range. A bedding layer or floor of the corridor of the west range was also revealed, associated with an intact limestone step. A limestone and mortar deposit was found within the courtyard.

Alistair Barber and Philippa Mitcheson, CA

**CHELTENHAM**, *109-117 High Street*, SO 95132232. A single evaluation trench revealed no archaeological features or deposits.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

*Land at St Mary's Church*, SO 94782261. Two evaluation trenches exposed two archaeological features which were interpreted as post-medieval in date.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

*Normandy House, High Street*, SO 94692279. Evaluation in January 2009 identified an early soil horizon above the natural Cheltenham Sand but no evidence of pre-19th-century activity. The remains of a large stone wall represented a former north range and associated cellar to the rear of the existing house, which had been depicted on a town plan of 1838. The range was probably demolished and the cellar backfilled during the second half of the 19th century. A greater depth of soil in the south side of the site suggests general levelling after the demolition of the north range.

Sean Cook, 110 Arch

**CHIPPING CAMPDEN**, *Cotswold House Hotel, Back Ends*, SP 14973924. Excavation in June and July 2009 identified the natural substrate, a post-glacial deposit, which was overlain by a subsoil layer containing a few sherds of 15th- to 17th-century pottery. This was overlain by later post-medieval soil representing a former garden soil which predated the use of the area as car parking.

Sean Cook, 110 Arch

*The Kings*, SP 14983918. A single evaluation trench exposed one archaeological feature, interpreted as a large ditch, which, on the basis of the pottery evidence, appears to have been infilled in the 13th century. The ditch was on the same alignment as the medieval burgage plots, but was far too wide to be a plot boundary and its function remains unclear.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

**CIRENCESTER**, *14 Ashcroft Road*, SP 02270182. Evaluation revealed layers of silt which probably derived from a Roman street 9 m north-west of the site. These were sealed by layers of demolition material and dark earth.

Philippa Mitcheson, CA

*12 Castle Street*, SP 02210204. A watching brief recorded the bank of a possible water course. It was unclear if this was part of a relict channel of the River Churn or part of an outer ditch or channel associated with Cirencester Castle. Two Roman pits were also found.

David Cudlip, CA

*53-61 Castle Street*, SP 02100190. An evaluation comprising two hand-excavated trenches recorded deposits of medieval date, which also contained residual Roman pottery, at depths of 1.3 m below ground level.

Edmund Stratford, GCCAS

*43 Dollar Street*, SP 02150226. A watching brief in October and November 2009 revealed two possible stone surfaces, at least three courses in depth, a curvilinear stone feature, perhaps a soakaway or back-filled pit or well, a short length of large stone slabs, a stone wall and a possible robbed-out wall trench. These deposits were of late medieval/early post-medieval origin and sealed by 19th- or 20th-century layers between 0.2 m and 0.5 m in depth. Structures or deposits of medieval or Roman date, which had been identified on the site during evaluation in 2008, were not encountered as the groundworks did not penetrate to sufficient depth. All significant features and deposits, with the exception of the large stone slabs, remain *in-situ*.

FA

*20 Shepherds Way*, SP 02280270. In June 2009 a watching brief on the excavation of footings trenches for an extension identified no significant archaeological features or deposits. The footings were excavated to an average depth of 1.16 m exposing the undisturbed natural sealed by subsoil.

FA

*The Garden House, Stonewalls, Victoria Street*, SP 02800146. Between January and May 2008 an archaeological watching brief was undertaken, principally to ensure that development groundworks did not impact upon a previously defined archaeologically sensitive layer. Five trenches were also excavated by hand. No archaeological features were encountered, although a small pottery assemblage, comprising Roman, medieval and post-medieval/modern material, was recovered from the topsoil.

FA

*Paternoster School play area*, SP 02540142. A watching brief and excavation was undertaken in connection with the construction of a play area. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

*St John Baptist Parish Church, Market Place*, SP 02330210. Recording during the installation of a new heating system and the replacement of the Victorian floor in the nave identified pre-Victorian layers towards the east end of the south aisle and nave and in some areas in the north aisle. These consisted predominantly of 18th-century burials, and brick and stone vaults. The footings of the external walls, the arcade piers and tower, and parts of a wall between the nave and chancel and between the south aisle and St John's Chapel, were also uncovered. The footings of the arcade piers were of two phases, the upper largely constructed of re-used 13th- to 14th-century grave covers which served as footings for the existing early 16th-century piers.

Below these, a wide sleeper wall of small, squared stones set in a red lime mortar ran from the chancel wall, below the eastern respond of the arcade, to the western respond against the tower, although this wall may originally have been continuous. The western arch of the south arcade sat on red mortared footings laid on an unmortared pitched footing, a detail observed in several other places. Walls of identical construction were seen all along the southern and western walls of the south aisle, under the nave/chancel wall, and under part of the north wall of the north aisle. These made extensive use of 13th- and 14th-century grave covers set in a yellow mortar, suggesting broad contemporaneity with the rebuilding of the nave arcade and were clearly the foundations of an earlier church which had similar dimensions to the present Perpendicular building, although the north aisle may have been considerably shorter. The two eastern bays of the south aisle, the adjacent arch into the St John's Chapel and the wall between this and the chancel arch were also of one build with the fabric of the earlier church which survived well into the upper parts of the wall in the former area. The lowest parts of the tower arch jambs may also be of this earlier phase, and other details of the 12th- and 13th-century building were recorded around the complex junction of north nave aisle, Lady Chapel and St Catherine's Chapel. A significant number of grave ledgers and some wall plaques, dating from the later 17th century to the early to mid 18th century, had been re-used during the Victorian alterations. Thirty-four 17th- to 19th-century burials were also recorded.

Peter Davenport, CA

**COLN ST ALDWYNS**, *Sundial site*, SP 14340508. In November 2009 an evaluation, comprising the excavation and recording of six 1 m<sup>2</sup> hand-dug test-pits, identified a single north-south aligned linear feature, probably a ditch. This produced no dating evidence but was cut into the natural deposits and sealed by the subsoil, and may therefore be of some antiquity. A deep deposit of silty clay with frequent chalk inclusions was also encountered. This also produced no dating evidence and has been interpreted as a quarry or the result of landscaping activity. The limestone bedrock was identified in the majority of the test pits and there was no evidence for extensive modern truncation or disturbance.

FA

*Village Stores site, Main Street*, SP 14540518. In November 2009 an evaluation comprising two 4.5 m by 1.6 m trenches and two 2 m<sup>2</sup> test-pits identified three shallow features of uncertain purpose and a feature which may represent the corner to a small enclosure of medieval date. Another feature, interpreted as either a very substantial boundary ditch or, more likely, a small quarry pit was also found. Later features consisted of a post-medieval terrace wall, defining an existing land boundary which had been slighted, probably during the late 19th or early 20th century, and a second section of post-medieval drystone walling, probably part of a small building shown on mid-late 19th-century maps. A well-built stone surface of 19th-century date was also found beneath a modern gravel hardstanding. The limestone bedrock was identified in all of the trenches and there was no evidence for extensive modern truncation or disturbance.

FA

**CONDICOTE**, *Tally Ho Cottage*, SP 15332838. A watching brief identified probable bank material of Condicote henge. No artefacts pre-dating the modern period were recovered.

Ray Holt, CA

**COTSWOLDS EDGE**, *Lidar project*. Gloucestershire County Council Archaeology Service and the Gloucester and District Archaeological Research Group (GADARG) have worked on a joint project using lidar data supplied by the Cranham Local History Group and the Cotswold AONB, and covering an area from Leckhampton to Haresfield along the Cotswolds escarpment. The project has identified over 400 potential new archaeological sites including a possible mill, a Neolithic round barrow, a possible Roman complex, and a Bronze-Age round barrow. Following training in survey techniques, and with grant aid from the Heritage Lottery Fund, over 40 volunteers from GADARG, and other local history groups have visited a number of sites to validate their archaeological significance or been involved in field survey, geophysics or documentary research.

Tony Roberts GCCAS/GADARG

**COTSWOLDS HILLS**, *National Mapping Programme*. The aim of National Mapping Programme (NMP) projects is to transcribe and interpret archaeological features from all periods visible on aerial photographs. This project covers over 100 parishes and 35 Ordnance Survey quarter sheets, extending from Wickwar and Hawkesbury in the south-west to the Windrush Valley between Bourton-on-the-Water and Burford in the east. Mapping continued throughout 2009 and has now covered the area from Burford in the east to Leckhampton and Rodmarton in the west. Previously unknown sites include banjo enclosure cropmarks at Sapperton and Frampton Mansell as well as a large complex of such enclosures in the Northleach area, a Roman villa near Hazleton and many rectilinear enclosures throughout the study area. Over 900 new records have been added to the NMR AMIE database so far and 780 updated. The mapping and records are provided to the relevant HER/SMR on completion of each quarter sheet. The project will be completed in 2010 covering areas around Nailsworth, Tetbury, Wotton-under-Edge and Malmesbury.

Amanda Dickson, Josephine Janik, Russell Priest and Toby Catchpole, GCCAS

**CUTSDEAN**, *Nayles Barn*, SP 12853105. Fifteen evaluation trenches, some of which were placed to examine geophysical anomalies identified no finds or features of archaeological interest. The geophysical anomalies are believed to have been of geological or modern agricultural origin.

Heather Hopkins, TVAS

**DOWN AMPNEY**, *Whetstone Bridge* SU 12579604. One hundred evaluation trenches, excavated immediately to the west of the prehistoric site at Roundhouse Farm, revealed both Iron-Age and post-medieval features and pottery. Iron-Age activity was focussed in the north-eastern part of the site where ditches and gullies representing parts of a field system, and enclosures or roundhouse gullies, were found along with rubbish pits, posthole structures and fence lines. Bone preservation was poor but 264 fragments representing horse, sheep/goat and cattle were found; only one cattle skull had butchery marks. Slag provided evidence of metalworking. Despite intensive later ploughing these features were remarkably well preserved. Numerous post-medieval ditches were interpreted as field and droveway systems, and there was also evidence for ridge and furrow, a watermeadow and a 19th-/20th-century water channel. Palaeochannels with high environmental potential were found in the eastern part of the site.

Heather Hopkins, TVAS

**DURSLEY**, *11/11A May Lane*, ST 75429811. Two evaluation trenches revealed a large post-medieval pit and a deep subsoil deposit which produced fragments of medieval pottery.

Nick Witchell, GCCAS

*Sainsbury's site, Castle Street*, ST 75559827. The excavation of twenty-two evaluation trenches and a watching brief during the removal of foundations of the existing buildings identified no significant archaeological features or deposits.

Edmund Stratford, GCCAS

**DYMOCK**, *Kyrleside*, SO 69973112. An excavation recorded two ditches and a pit which contained pottery dating from the 1st to early 2nd centuries AD. Three ditches, two pits and a possible backfilled well contained pottery from the 12th to 14th centuries, and three further ditches, a posthole and cow burial were of post-medieval date.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

**EASTINGTON**, *Millend Mill*, SO 78120536. Building recording and a watching brief during the conversion of the stone mill building recorded evidence for alterations which had taken place since the main range was erected in *c.* 1818. Two brick ranges along the River Frome were probably added by the 1830s. One of these had replaced an earlier stone-built range which was probably contemporary with the main range. The main building was heavily damaged by a fire in the early 1930s and all the machinery, apart from some remnants of belt drive wheels, had been removed.

Peter Davenport and Jon Bennett, CA

**EASTLEACH**, *St Andrew's House*, SP 20180536. The excavation of three trenches in January 2009 revealed a single east-west aligned linear feature. No dating evidence was recovered but it was sealed beneath a subsoil layer and is unlikely to be of modern origin.

FA

**EBRINGTON**, *Elm Grove*, SP 18924012. In April 2009 an evaluation of five 20 m trenches revealed a series of Roman ditched fields and enclosures, dating from the 2nd to 3rd century, along with a number of ephemeral features, including gullies, a possible posthole and evidence for metal working. A later Roman cemetery, comprising five graves, with at least four inhumations, was also found. Although poorly dated, at least two of the graves were cut into the top of earlier ditches, and one grave was associated with a *terminus post quem* of the 3rd to 4th century. A stone-built cist and a lead coffin in two of the graves suggests high status burials, and copper staining on the bones of one inhumation represents evidence for funerary attire. The enclosures, burials and other Roman features are likely to relate to the known villa site to the south, with evidence for post-Roman activity limited to a single probable plough furrow.

FA

**ELKSTONE**, *Elkstone Manor*, SO 96581238. Two evaluation trenches uncovered no archaeological features or deposits.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

*Land north of the Old Rectory*, SO 96791237. Monitoring recorded a probable pond filled with silt and decomposed vegetation which produced 12th- to 14th-century pottery.

Sian Reynish, CA

**FROCESTER**, *land at Peter's Street*, SO 77350344. A watching brief during groundworks for the construction of stables recorded a single pit which was probably contemporary with 11th- to 12th-century pottery found in the disturbed subsoil. Roman and late Saxon pottery was also found suggesting a long period of occupation in the surrounding area relating to the nearby Roman settlement at St Peter's Church and possible medieval settlement in the field directly to the south.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

**GLOUCESTER**, *6 Commercial Road*, SO 82971841. Evaluation and a watching brief revealed the infill of the outer bailey ditch of the 11th-century castle which lay to the north-west of the site. This was sealed by medieval walls, foundations, floor surfaces and deposits which formed part of the east range of the Blackfriars Dominican priory. The evaluation also identified post-medieval walls and floor surfaces, including evidence for the post-Dissolution use of the site as a cloth manufactory in the 16th century. Structures of the 19th-century Talbot Bottling Company and properties fronting onto Commercial Road were also identified.

Stuart Joyce, CA

'*Finale*', *Rivermead Close*, SO 83461995. A watching brief recorded an undated ditch and five small, sub circular pits, one of which was dated to the 12th to 13th century.

Nick Witchell, GCCAS

*Former British Energy site, Barnwood Road, Hucclecote*, SO 86391808. Excavation of 32 trenches and the site of a new road (a total area of approximately 1539.5m<sup>2</sup>) revealed natural yellow and orangey brown sands and gravels at depths of between 0.80 m and 1.10 m below the ground surface. Two disturbed partial inhumation burials were also recorded, along with an adjacent scatter of human bone. These were undated, but are probably associated with a Roman cemetery to the south-east. The partial remains of a cow skeleton to the north-west may be of the same date. Deliberate make-up and dump deposits related to both the construction of the British Energy buildings in the 1960s and landscaping for a small golf course, whilst a post-medieval

pit of indeterminate function was also found. A number of other features, only recorded in section, could not be interpreted or dated with any confidence and no trace of the quarry or infectious diseases hospital thought to be on the site was identified.

WHEAS

*Former Gloscat campus, Brunswick Road, SO 83101830.* Evaluation comprising eight trial trenches, four test-pits and the monitoring of geotechnical investigations identified extant remains of the Roman town wall and associated rampart of the south defences, along with evidence of well-appointed Roman buildings. Post-Roman dark earth deposits and medieval or later orchard/garden soils were encountered, together with robber trenches and evidence of extensive medieval and/or later pitting. A partially exposed tile floor may relate to part of the medieval and later Greyfriars complex, and deep, thick and relatively uncompacted deposits were interpreted as localised areas of possible medieval and/or later pitting or the infilling of a Civil War defensive ditch. The stone footings of a post-medieval building, known as Friars Orchard, were also revealed. Outside the defences, on the former Media Studies site, Roman drainage ditches and a soil horizon containing disarticulated human bone were found.

Alistair Barber, CA

*Former New County Hotel, 44 Southgate Street, SO 83041845.* Building recording and documentary research showed that the building, originally known as the Ram Inn and the Ram Hotel, is sited within a double-width medieval tenement plot and has medieval cellars that were reused in the 19th century. The 18th-century building may have replaced an earlier inn, and major refurbishments occurred throughout the 19th century reflecting fluctuations in the city's economic status. These consisted of extensions to the 18th-century buildings, partial rebuilding of structures and the replacement of the Southgate Street frontage. Extensive 20th-century remodelling included the creation of an Art Deco ballroom with painted wooden panelling.

Shona Robson-Glyde and Elizabeth Curran, WHEAS

*Kimbrose Triangle, SO 82981833.* A single evaluation trench along the line of the Roman city wall revealed a Roman floor surface, overlying a series of Roman deposits at a depth of 16.79 m above Ordnance Datum (AOD) and 1.02 m below the adjacent pavement level. The Roman city wall was not found, but may be present to the south.

Edmund Stratford, GCCAS

*Kingsholm Close, Sandhurst Road, SO 83421958.* A watching brief during excavations for the foundations of a new house recorded several areas of pebble surfacing and associated deposits. Ceramic finds dated the surface and deposits to the Roman period and they may relate to the 1st-century fort at Kingsholm.

Nick Witchell, GCCAS

*Llanthony Priory, SO 82371795.* Two evaluation trenches, subsequently extended to an area of c. 35 m by 19 m, were excavated in the south-western part of the Priory precinct. The earliest phase of medieval activity comprised three walls, associated floor surfaces and a substantial drain. At a later date a new wall was built and an entrance within the earlier wall blocked up before both walls were remodelled, creating three possible piers to support a structure of more than one storey. Post-medieval and modern activity was represented by the construction of new walls, drains and a service trench. Three test pits were also excavated on the site of the south range of the Priory. These established that a late medieval brick building, probably the early 16th-century stables, was constructed upon the foundations of an earlier structure which dated to the 13th to 14th centuries. A mortar floor, probably relating to the earlier ecclesiastical building, and deposits associated with the later secular use of the site, were also revealed.

Mark Brett, CA

**HANHAM ABBOTS**, *land at Hanbam Hall, Whittucks Road, Hanbam, ST 64547163.* A programme of monitoring and a watching brief, expected to last up to four years, commenced in late August 2009. The initial work (August to December) included monitoring trial pits, topsoil stripping and the installation of

temporary services. Several sherds of Romano-British and medieval pottery were recovered during the topsoil strip.

Tim Longman, BaRAS

**HAWLING**, *Old Rectory*, SP 06352296. Evaluation exposed a natural post-glacial deposit of sandy-silt and limestone which sloped down from north to south, producing an irregular shaped depression. This was filled with topsoil and interpreted as natural erosion, perhaps connected with an earlier pond, stream or former trees. A thin earlier soil horizon which overlay this deposit in the southern part of the trench was not clearly defined due to root penetration from the overlying topsoil. This layer produced 12th- to 18th-century pottery suggesting activity throughout these periods, although the date range of material from the same context suggests considerable mixing by root disturbance.

Sean Cook, 110 Arch

**HEWELSFIELD AND BROCKWEIR**, *Orchard Cottage*, SO 56850219. Although two areas of structural remains had been identified during work carried out in 2007, only three sherds of a local 16th-/17th-century tyg and no significant features were found in 2009.

Stephen Clarke and Jane Bray, MA

**HIGHNAM**, *West of Severn Park and Ride*, SO 79481889. A geophysical survey concentrated on two sites either side of the A48 road. Anomalies identified on the western site were interpreted as an area of possible ridge and furrow, three linear land drains and three areas of modern disturbance. On the eastern side of the A48, the survey found two parallel ditches (partly obscured by an extensive area of ridge and furrow) interpreted as the flanking ditches of a Roman road, a long curving and possibly prehistoric ditch, two possible narrow enclosure ditches, two possible pits and a number of field boundaries which were recorded on early maps. Subsequent evaluation on the western side of the A48 identified numerous shallow features most of which produced no dating evidence and were difficult to interpret. Some of these may have been associated with the planting and/or felling of the trees or with other landscaping activities recorded on the Highnam Estate map of 1751 which shows an avenue of trees running from north-west to south-east through the site and corresponding to at least eight of these features. A feature interpreted as a ditch terminus contained a sherd of 18th-century stoneware and another ditch, orientated north to south, may also have been a post-medieval boundary. A further ten linear features, two of which may relate to geophysical anomalies interpreted as ridge and furrow, were also found along with nine ovoid features which may have been pits, postholes or tree boles. The date or function of these features was uncertain, but they may relate to nearby prehistoric or Roman activity

Briege Williams, GCCAS

**HORSLEY**, *Bell and Castle*, ST 83859805. Building recording undertaken by Richard Morriss in March 2009 identified that the core of the property consists of a front range dating to the early to mid 18th century and a back range of late 18th- to early 19th-century date. Additional buildings include a single-storey Gazebo added to the front range, a long, broadly 18th-century stone-built range, which may have been used as stables, and modern, late 20th-century extensions. Subsequently five evaluation trenches revealed a shallow pit which contained Oolitic Limestone-tempered pottery of 12th- to 13th-century date and which was interpreted as a heavily truncated medieval pit, three post-medieval or modern features and an undated posthole. Some truncation and levelling deposits across the whole of the site may be associated with the construction, and subsequent phases of remodelling, of the Bell and Castle buildings from the early 18th century onwards.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

**KINGSWOOD**, *Kingswood Primary School*, ST 74689207. A single evaluation trench exposed compacted limestone and brick rubble interpreted as a post-medieval levelling layer possibly associated with earlier activity within the school grounds. No other archaeological features were observed within the trench.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

**LECKHAMPTON**, *Brizen Sports Pavilion*, SO 92901980. A watching brief in July and August 2009 identified the remains of a Roman ditch dated to the second half of the 1st century. The ditch was orientated approximately north to south across the southern end of the site and may represent the remains of a settlement boundary, or form part of a wider field system associated with nearby settlement. A possibly contemporary gully (dated by a single sherd of pottery) was recorded on a similar alignment in the northern part of the site. The finds assemblage, comprising animal bone, burnt stone, pottery and fragments of a possible loomweight, were indicative of Romano-British (1st-century) occupation, although residual late Iron-Age pottery suggests the settlement had pre-Roman origins.

Sean Cook, 110 Arch

**LECHLADE**, *The Wern*, SU 20609990. Excavation of an area 20 m by 23 m identified linear and discrete features cut into a fine yellow gravel natural. Most of the discrete features were tree-throw holes, probably associated with orchards that once occupied the site. The shorter linear features may have been the remains of hedgerows, whilst a further two features could have been the remains of a heavily truncated ditch, although this was not certain. A number of features produced medieval pottery or were associated with dated medieval features. These consisted of four pits, a small posthole near the pit and a field drainage or boundary ditch. A 0.70 m wide structure consisted of four courses of flat stones of varying sizes with no bonding agent. This crossed the ditch and may have been designed as a causeway for use when it was flooded. Another undated ditch ran north-east to south-west and may have been a drainage/field boundary ditch which pre-dated two undated pits. The pits and ditches suggest some form of medieval activity on the site although the nature of this is not clear and more features may survive to the south and west of the excavation area.

David R P Wilkinson, OAS

**LITTLEDEAN**, *Gun Mill House, Spout Lane*, SO 67481594. Archaeological recording in February 2009 identified no significant deposits with the exception of the foundation trench for the adjacent outbuilding which cut the surface of the natural red clay. This building was an earlier extension to an existing row of buildings, formerly agricultural sheds, which had been recently converted to additional accommodation. A thick layer of re-deposited soil had been laid down when construction of the later outbuilding was complete.

Sean Cook, 110 Arch

**LONGHOPE**, *Rectory Meadows, School Lane, Longhope*, SO 68451965. Despite its proximity to the church, eleven evaluation trenches revealed only modern disturbance which would have removed any evidence for activity predating the 19th century.

Heather Hopkins, TVAS

**MANGOTSFIELD RURAL**, *Pomphrey Hill Sports Pavilion, Emerson's Green*, ST 67097604. A watching brief during June and July 2009 identified modern made ground overlying subsoil and undisturbed natural deposits. A soft, loamy deposit may have been the fill of an archaeological feature, sealed by up to 2.3 m of made ground, but it contained no dating evidence and its full extent could not be determined. A cobbled surface, an area of possible hard standing and several ceramic drains, probably associated with the 19th-century farm buildings recorded on the site, were also found. No further significant buried archaeological deposits or finds of pre-19th-century date were located and there was no evidence to suggest that the extensive Romano-British site, recorded at Pomphrey Hill to the southwest, or the earlier Iron-Age site to the north, extended into the study area.

Sarah Newns, AAU

*Rodway Hill sports ground, Pomphrey Hill Road, Mangotsfield*, ST 67007591. Trial excavation identified the remains of a long-lived rural medieval settlement, probably a farmstead spanning the 12th to the 15th centuries, and incorporating more than one building phase. The structural remains were preserved at a depth of between 75.8 m and 76.8 m AOD (0.5-0.8 m below the recently landscaped ground surface) and included the remnants of a metalled surface, possibly a path or trackway, sealed by demolition rubble associated with the partly re-exposed remains of a 14th- to 15th-century building identified during excavations in 1999.

These features were undated, but pottery dating to the 12th to 13th centuries was recovered from the fills of a pit and adjacent narrow gully or slot which were sealed by a truncated sandstone wall. Although this wall appeared similar to that of the building found in 1999, it was undated and its orientation did not correspond to the building, suggesting that it may have been part of an unrelated structure, or perhaps a boundary feature. Further structural remains dated to the 12th to 13th centuries were located on the south-eastern boundary of the site and appeared to represent one side of a probable building with reduced internal floor level. The small assemblage of Romano-British pottery was entirely residual.

Donna Young, AAU

**MICKLETON**, *Field House, Church Lane*, SP 16164340. Archaeological recording in February 2009 revealed a simple sequence of deposits comprising a post-glacial natural clayey-gravel overlain by an intermediate and undated subsoil layer below the modern topsoil. Variations in the thickness of the subsoil layer may suggest the remains of ridge and furrow; the first edition Ordnance Survey map (1889) shows the area as a large rectangular field used as orchard.

Sean Cook, 110 Arch

**MORETON-IN-MARSH**, *Tesco Express, 13 High Street*, SP 20433240. Observation of groundworks in August 2009 revealed no significant archaeological finds or features. The area had been considerably disturbed by recent service trenches.

Caroline Rann, WM

**NEWLAND**, *Clearwell Quarry, St Briavels*, SO 57000660. Excavation identified 30 iron-smelting furnaces, situated in three clusters, which have been dated (through radiocarbon dating) to the Saxon period, specifically the 8th to 9th centuries. Both tap and slag-pit types were represented and chemical analysis of the slag demonstrated that smelting was relatively inefficient when compared to Roman bloomeries in the region. Ten ore-roasting pits and seven probable charcoal clamps were also identified suggesting that the mixed, predominantly oak, charcoal used for the firing process was produced on site. The whole smelting process from fuel preparation to producing the bloom appears to have taken place within a small area, although there was no evidence that the blooms were also worked on the site. *In situ* evidence for Saxon metalworking is rare and whilst smelting from this period has been assumed to be present in the area, this represents the first archaeological evidence for it. Pits were dated to the medieval period by a small quantity of pottery and eight unstratified flints of mesolithic-Neolithic date were also discovered.

Heather Hopkins, TVAS

**NEWNHAM**, *3 Dean Road*, SO 69001167. A watching brief in June 2009 identified a single post-medieval or later cut feature at the west end of the development area. No other archaeological features or finds were recorded.

FA

**OLDBURY**, *Oldbury Power Station*, ST 61109500. Ridge and furrow earthworks were accurately surveyed providing a detailed plan and profile of the remains prior to removal and levelling. These earthworks form part of the much broader well-preserved landscape with associated field boundaries and historic farms. A subsequent watching brief established that potential archaeological horizons below the ridge and furrow were not affected by the development.

Steve Lawrence, OAS

**OLVESTON**, *St Mary's Church, Church Hill*, ST 60078729. A watching brief on new service trenches recorded five skeletons of indeterminate date, which were left *in situ*, and a 19th-century walled grave extending under the east wall of the church south of the choir vestry. A small quantity of disarticulated and broken human bones and a single sherd of 12th- to 13th-century pottery were also recovered. East of the vicar's vestry, the capping of a stone-lined late 19th-century box drain included a footstone bearing dates of 1793, 1812 and 1835, while a photograph of the inside of the drain revealed an elaborate headstone, probably of 18th or 19th century date, which was left *in situ*.

Marek Lewcun, MOLAS

**PATCHWAY**, *Northfield*, ST 59808060. A 20th-century borrow pit, which had not been excavated during earlier evaluation due to a gas pipe, was excavated to a depth of 3.8 m below current ground level. The feature contained three clay fills, all of which produced modern ceramic building material, plastic and concrete. The absence of a modern soil overlying the natural substrate suggests that it was backfilled soon after excavation.

Timothy Haines, OAS

**PILNING AND SEVERN BEACH**, *land off Bank Road, Pilning*, ST 55928499. Nine evaluation trenches revealed no features or deposits of archaeological significance other than a section of the track bed of a railway line (Bristol & South Wales Union Railway), and associated drainage ditches, built between Pilning Junction and New Passage between 1858 and 1863.

Tim Longman, BaRAS

**PRESTBURY**, *Moat Corner*, SO 96762459. Two evaluation trenches exposed the edge of a large water feature interpreted as a pond. Its precise shape, size and depth were not established and no finds were recovered from its fill.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

**PRESTON**, *Kingshill South*, SP 03600100. An excavation on a 4.5 ha area of land c. 0.5 km from the walls of Roman *Corinium* identified part of a large rectangular Roman building, 19.5 m by 14 m, with walls and foundations over 0.5 m deep. This contained evidence of storage, lined tanks, hearths, clay floors and stone post pads, and may have had two storeys, perhaps with domestic accommodation on the upper floor. The building was set in an agricultural landscape with a sequence of two corn-dryers and an associated surface, a revetment wall and a number of ditches, one of which contained a large amount of processed bone waste, suggesting deliberate rubbish disposal. Four inhumation burials and numerous neonatal remains were also discovered and an apsidal structure, over 8.5 m in length and 11.5 m wide, was found at the western end of the site. Its form might suggest a mausoleum, ritual enclosure, or temple, but its association with industrial residues, pits and partial sheep remains suggest a more utilitarian use. A small 'garden style' wall, 35 m to the east perfectly reflected its apsidal end and there were the slight remains of several other similar walls and a series of possible terrace walls on the southern slope of the main building. The finds assemblage included over 100 coins, 30 brooches, four fragments of stamped samian, a pair of lead weights, two spoons, parts of personal hygiene kits, roof tiles, possible spindle whorls, and a large amount of pottery and animal bone (including a single articulated horse leg). Dating evidence suggests the site was occupied throughout the Roman period, although pottery from the buildings suggests a 2nd- or 3rd-century date for their construction.

Vix Hughes and Ken Welsh, OAS

**SEVENHAMPTON**, *The Manor*, SP 03222171. A watching brief in May 2009 identified no archaeological finds or features with the exception of an undated well of dry stone construction.

FA

**SEVERN ESTUARY**, *Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment*. The Severn Estuary Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey (RCZAS) is examining approximately 575 km<sup>2</sup> of the intertidal zone and foreshore from Beachley to Maisemore Weir and from Maisemore Weir south-west to Porlock Weir in Somerset. It is part of a national programme of RCZAS projects organised by English Heritage and is being undertaken by GCCAS and the Somerset Historic Environment Service on behalf of English Heritage and the archaeological curators at the relevant local authorities.

Phase 1 comprised a desk-based assessment of information from published books and research articles, Sites and Monuments Records/Historic Environment Records (SMR/HERs) and other sources. The report outlined all known archaeology within the survey area, assessed erosion patterns and threats and provided an overview of coastal change from the Palaeolithic to the present day along with a list of prioritised sites requiring field survey. This phase also included the analysis of aerial photographs and lidar data as part of English Heritage's National Mapping Programme (NMP).

The Severn Estuary RCZAS NMP created 928 new monument records in the National Monument Record (NMR) AMIE database and revised 373 existing records. The new records included large numbers

of V- and U-shaped fishing weirs, constructed using a wide variety of different designs and materials. Several medieval settlements and moated sites were also identified, together with extensive areas of ridge and furrow of various types and dates, different phases of land reclamation, drainage features and flood defences. More recent archaeology included First World War armaments factories and stores, Second World War coastal defences, anti-aircraft batteries and prisoner of war and other military camps.

Phase 2a of the Severn RCZAS took place in April-June 2009 and consisted of a pilot fieldwork project. This covered areas at Elmore, the Forest of Dean and Bridgewater and Minehead Bays. All records and data resulting from the survey work were passed to the relevant HERs and the NMR. Phase 2a work also included an update of the original desk-based assessment and an aerial photographic progression study of the vessels deliberately beached between Purton and Sharpness in Gloucestershire. The main Phase 2 survey phase will take place from April 2010 onwards and will target prioritised areas and groups of features for further more detailed recording and investigation.

Adrian Chadwick and Toby Catchpole, GCCAS

**SIDDINGTON**, *Dryleaze Farm*, SU 03309830. An evaluation comprising 60 trenches, some of which were positioned to target geophysical anomalies, confirmed the presence of a Bronze-Age causewayed ring ditch identified through aerial photography, along with a significant number of prehistoric features and evidence of Iron Age and Roman activity. Roman trackway ditches, and ditches and gullies of Roman, medieval and post-medieval date were also recorded along with evidence for ridge and furrow, corresponding to geophysical anomalies. Dating evidence was rare with only nine sherds of pottery (two were Iron Age, five Roman and two of late medieval or early post-medieval date), three sherds of ceramic building material and an iron stud of Roman date. Environmental evidence was sparse but included seeds, charcoal and snail shells.

Heather Hopkins, TVAS

**SISTON**, *site of the former Lindman Works, Tower Road North*, ST 66937282. In May and November 2007 two programmes of recording and excavation were undertaken within the area of the former Champion Brassworks, an innovative 18th-century industrial complex of international importance which is also a scheduled monument. An area of c. 880 m<sup>2</sup> had been stripped of topsoil and underlying archaeological deposits exposing two culverts, three structures and extensive deposits of industrial waste, all relating to the Champion works. These were fully recorded and samples of industrial waste were taken from the backfill of one of the industrial buildings. Further excavation, consisting of five interconnected trenches revealed the substantial remains of three further buildings as well as extensive deposits of associated industrial waste. These were variously overlain and/or truncated by the base of a large brick Hoffmann kiln, part of the 19th-century Haskin's Ceramic Works also on the site. The remains of the kiln were recorded and preserved *in situ* and an extensive series of samples were taken from the stratified industrial waste associated with the Champion structures.

Sarah Newns, AAU

**STRENSHAM TO KNIGHTSBRIDGE**, *Water Pipeline*. A total of 88 evaluation trenches were excavated along the length of the proposed pipeline. At two sites in Fiddington parish (SO 92673098 and SO 92823118) late prehistoric trackways, enclosure ditches and possible roundhouses were found. Roman agricultural and enclosure ditches were also present at the second site. At Pamington (SO 94552330) two well defined late prehistoric enclosures were identified.

Stuart Joyce, CA

**ST BRIAVELS**, *Ashfield House, High Street*, SO 55810442. A watching brief identified two pits cut through the natural substrate with fills which contained medieval pottery of probable 12th-century date. Most of the pottery recovered from the site dated from around the later 13th to the early 14th century, and very little post-medieval pottery was recovered. Stone wall foundations to the west (rear) of the present building were also recorded. These were undated, but appeared to pre-date the standing Georgian building.

Stephen Clarke and Jane Bray, MA

*Havenwood, Hudnalls Loop Road, SO 53810366.* A watching brief close to the line of Offa's Dyke recorded a single undated pit.

Nick Witchell, GCCAS

**SUDELEY**, *Spoonley Wood Roman Villa, SP 04502568.* Survey, recording and documentary research indicate that the extant mosaic at Spoonley Wood is a Victorian replica of the original Roman mosaic uncovered during the 1882 excavations. The mosaic is set on a cement rather than *opus signinum* base and the *tesserae*, which are very even and regular, appear to have been machine cut. Some of the original Roman *tesserae* may have been reused, perhaps in the outer borders where they are larger and more roughly cut. The mosaic has suffered damage in several areas, most notably in its eastern section. Some of this damage could have been caused by weathering or general wear and tear, but some is deliberate vandalism. Further study is planned to aid the future management of the site.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

**TAYNTON**, *Kents Green Road, SO 75072297.* In July 2009 a single 10 m long trench excavated to the east of the scheduled monument of Taynton Parva medieval settlement, revealed no archaeological features or deposits with the exception of possible evidence of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation.

FA

**TEMPLE GUITING**, *Manor Farm, SP 09002800.* Building recording and a watching brief demonstrated that the building largely dates from the late 16th or early 17th century, but there is an important core of probable 14th-century date, and evidence of later alterations. The site of the proposed development was occupied by a small yard and a lean-to attached to the south end of the building. This had originally been an open-fronted shed with a thick stone wall at each end, a doorway in the west wall and a central post on a stone pedestal which supported the wall plate on the open, south side. The shed had been much altered in the 1980s although two stone benches, one of which occupied the full width of its east end, appeared to be original. A large but relatively shallow, external recess in the south wall with a massive double lintel appeared to be contemporary with the construction of the single-storey kitchen wing and was clearly external. A late 18th-century to early 19th-century date is suggested for the kitchen wing and lean-to.

Peter Davenport, CA

**TEWKESBURY**, *Former Abbey School, SO 89223256.* An evaluation comprising two trenches identified no archaeological features or deposits.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

*Land east of 1, Ten Acre Cottages, Lincoln Green Lane, SO 89123115.* A watching brief recorded a single ditch, which was dated to the Romano-British period and is likely to relate to the nearby Romano-British settlement at Southwick Park.

Nick Witchell, GCCAS

*Spring Gardens Car Park, SO 89443295.* An evaluation comprising a single trench recorded a heavily truncated feature containing a single sherd of late Iron-Age/early Roman pottery at a depth of 1.11 m below ground level.

Edmund Stratford, GCCAS

**THORNBURY**, *sites on Rock Street and Bath Road, ST 63808983 and ST 63938990.* Between September and October 2008 a watching brief was undertaken at two sites. A series of modern service trenches, a possible cistern and a small brick-built structure sited on the frontage were recorded at Bath Road along with a post-medieval quarry, an extensive concrete foundation slab and several modern services, probably associated with the Elliot buildings that formerly occupied the site. A single sherd of Somerset red ware dated to the period 1600-1800 AD was also recovered. The Rock Street site produced a very small assemblage of unstratified blue transfer-printed white ware pottery dating to the 19th century. No earlier features or artefacts were

recorded, suggesting that the site, which is on the edge of the conjectured medieval borough of Thornbury, was not occupied before the modern period.

Donna Young, AAU

**UPPER SLAUGHTER**, *The Laurels*, SP 15612323. An evaluation at the base of the medieval motte and bailey castle mound identified a layer of limestone rubble interpreted as part of the structure of the motte. Pottery dating from the 12th to 14th centuries was recovered from the rubble and from the deposit which overlay it.

Briege Williams, GCCAS

*Tytbe Barn*, SP 15542321. A watching brief recorded a post-medieval pit, an earlier wall associated with the present building and a ditch dated to the 12th century.

Nick Witchell, GCCAS

**WESTERLEIGH**, *Ram Hill Colliery, off Station Road*, ST 67908026. In October and November 2009, following undergrowth clearance by the Friends of Ram Hill Colliery, a detailed drawn, photographic and written record was made of part of the dramway, the dramway retaining walls, the standing remains of a horse gin, its associated mine shaft and the standing remains of the engine house. The colliery was in operation between c. 1830-1860 and is a scheduled monument.

David Etheridge, AAU

**WINCHCOMBE**, *Back Lane Car Park*, SP 02362847. A watching brief in May 2009 revealed no archaeological deposits with the exception of a series of landscaping deposits associated with the construction of the public conveniences in 1996.

Sean Cook, 110 Arch

*Land off Greet Road*, SP 02362934. Thirty evaluation trenches revealed evidence for activity from the early Neolithic, probably in the form of hunting or other resource gathering. From the middle Iron Age there were indications of more settled occupation, probably focussed on a large enclosed middle-late Iron Age settlement to the south of the site, which in the early Roman period was either abandoned or had its boundaries removed and replaced with agricultural activity. Towards the middle of the 2nd century parts of the eastern side of the site were terraced and much of the area built up into platforms on which a series of buildings, or a building complex, were constructed. These were stone-built with painted plaster and *opus signinum* floors and may have been a villa. Subsequent subsidence of the unstable platforms required a major phase of rebuilding and evidence for a post-pad suggests that much of this later phase was constructed in wood. To the north a series of contemporary enclosed areas, possibly fields and animal pens, were linked by trackways which may also have connected the fields to the buildings complex. The site appears to have been abandoned towards the end of the 3rd century. In addition to the domestic and agricultural activity, there was some evidence to suggest ritual and religious structures and practices from the Iron Age into the Roman period. Some evidence for later ridge and furrow was also found on the western part of the site.

Steve Hammond, David Gilbert and Daniel Heale, JMHS

*Lloyds TSB Bank, Abbey Terrace*, SP 02402820. Evaluation recorded a sequence of medieval and post-medieval garden soils. The earliest layer, at a depth of 1.80 m below the existing ground level, produced a single sherd of Roman pottery and may have been cut by a small pit. This was overlain by an accumulation of domestic refuse containing animal bone and medieval pottery. A stone well cut through this layer but was abandoned and sealed by a deposit of clay and stone probably derived from its superstructure. These were subsequently sealed by a further thick layers of garden soil comprising composted refuse from the 17th- to 20th-century occupation of the property.

Sean Cook, 110 Arch

*Winchcombe Primary School, Back Lane, SP 02222834.* Eight evaluation trenches in an area previously excavated in 1963, demonstrated that the depth of the 1960s excavations varied from 0.58 m to 1 m below current ground level. Undisturbed archaeological deposits were recorded in the section edges of the 1963 excavation and also in areas where earlier excavation had not taken place. Some of these dated to the 11th to 12th centuries and were found at depths of between 0.14 m and 0.88 m below ground level.

Edmund Stratford, GCCAS

**WINTERBOURNE**, *tithe barn, Winterbourne Court Farm, Church Lane, ST 64608100.* In September 2008 a watching brief on the excavation of a c. 35 m long service trench identified a broad gravel and cobble surface just below ground level. A single white ware sherd and an associated mortar deposit suggested that this was a 19th-century farmyard surface. An un-mortared pennant sandstone wall on a north-west to south-east alignment (different from the existing farm buildings) was also recorded. This may correspond with a geophysical anomaly identified in 2004, although it was undated and the suggestion that the anomaly indicates a Roman building could not be substantiated.

David Etheridge, AAU

*Tithe barn, Winterbourne Court Farm, Church Lane, ST 64608100.* In April 2009 a detailed photographic and written record, supported by levelled transects, was made of the interior floor of the Grade II\* listed late medieval tithe barn, one of a very few secular medieval tithe barns that survive in England. The results provide a record of the interior of the barn that may inform ongoing discussions concerning the future conservation and use of the building, and have highlighted variations across the floor and, in particular, the uncertain origin and history of its eastern section.

Lynn Hume, AAU

**WITHINGTON**, *The Old Rectory, SP 03151563.* A watching brief on a small area of topsoil stripping in May 2009 exposed the surface of the natural substrate and the remains of a tarmac surface. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

Sean Cook, 110 Arch

**WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE**, *Coombe Hall Farm, Coombe, ST 76889409.* A programme of building recording undertaken by Richard Morriss established that the Coombe Hall Farm complex comprises mainly 18th- and 19th-century stone buildings. These are in poor condition, have been subject to a great deal of alteration in recent years and retain few internal fixtures or fittings of note. The farm house, which is made up of three separate components, the oldest probably of 18th-century date, is of limited local importance although the 18th-century threshing barn and early 19th-century horse gin house are potentially of national significance. A single evaluation trench exposed no archaeological features or deposits.

Edmund Stratford, GCCAS