FS05 Former Royal Mail Distribution Centre Site Historic Environment Assessments for Strategic Assessment of Land Availability (SALA)

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Site Historic Environment Assessment for Strategic Assessment of Land Availability (SALA)

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FS05 Former Royal Mail Distribution Centre

I. Background

I.I Location

This site historic environment assessment consists of FS05 Former Royal Mail Distribution Centre located within the parish of Eastgate, in the Ward of Barnwood within the wider boundary of Gloucester City (Fig I). It consists of a former mechanical letter sorting office bounded by the Barnwood Road and Eastern Avenue on the north and east and the railway line on the west.

1.2 Site Visits

Site visits were undertaken in May 2016. Photographs of the site have been reproduced in this document in section 11 (below). Archaeological information, historic maps and plans have also been reproduced as Figs 2-4.

1.3 Topography, Geology and Land Use

The site encompasses an area of 2.25 hectares (Fig I), is centred on NGR SO 85281834 and is located on a gentle slope running north east to south west. It lies at a height of between 24m and 22.15m AOD.

The underlying bedrock is 'Blue Lias Formation And Charmouth Mudstone Formation (Undifferentiated)' (BGS 2015). This is a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 183 to 204 million years ago in the Jurassic and Triassic Periods. These rocks were formed in warm shallow seas with carbonate deposited on platform, shelf and slope areas. The soils overlying the area are a sandy to sandy loam type (UKSO 2015).

The last use of the site was as a Royal Mail sorting office consisting of a number of modern buildings and hard standing area used for car parking.

1.4 Site Constraints

A table detailing all the designated and undesignated assets within and in the area of the site is included in Appendix 1.

There are no scheduled monuments or listed buildings contained within the FS05 site. The closest scheduled monument is about 1.3 km to the west and the closest listed building is around 350m to the west. The FS05 site is not part of a registered park or garden or a battlefield and is not within a conservation area.

There is a long planning history for the FS05 site starting with an application in 1955 to build a 'three storey office block, workshops and repair depot' (P/446/55) which was approved. A number of further applications for extensions, signs and small additional structures were submitted and approved between 1955 and 1961. A larger application was approved in 1961 for a 'garage and store building with lounge and recreational facilities on first floor, small stores building, two petrol pumps,

one 1,000 gallon petrol storage tank and car wash oil interceptors' (P/300/61). There were a number of applications for signage, advertising boards, extensions and an incinerator between 1961 and 1982. At this time an application was approved for the construction of a 'temporary parcels office' (11068/02) before the application for 'erection of a mechanised letter sorting office, motor transport workshop, administration and welfare facilities' (11068/01 and P4830/80). All subsequent applications relate to the continued use and of the site as a Royal Mail Distribution Centre.

2. Assessment

2.1 Archaeology, Built Heritage and Settings

A search of the Gloucester City Council Historic Environment Record (HER; GUAD numbers) for the site and its surrounding area revealed a number of records relating to the buried archaeology of the FS05 site area. This was enhanced by a search of records included in the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) and the National Monuments Record (NMR). The relevant records are shown on Figure 2 and discussed below.

2.1.1 Previous Assessments

There has only been one previous assessment within the area around the FS05 site. This geophysical survey (GUAD1960) revealed possible archaeological features.

2.1.2 Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon

Whilst no prehistoric activity was recorded within the vicinity of the FS05 site, areas of activity have been recorded to the east along Barnwood Road. There is also a large area of Romano-British activity to the east including a cemetery.

Unlike prehistoric evidence, in the area of the FS05 site Roman activity has been recorded. Within the site itself a number of Roman coins have been found. An As of Domitian (GUAD5) dated to 87AD was found in the north of the site with two other coins found close by (GUAD6). These coins were Antoninianus' of Tetricus I and Tetricus II dated between 2701 and 274AD. To the west along Barnwood Road, a Roman inhumation (GUAD18) was uncovered along with a lamp containing a Dupondius of Antonia dating to between 41 and 54AD. Three other coins were also recovered here; an As of Nero (54-69AD)' an Ae3 of Crispus (317-326AD) and an Ae3 of Constantius I (323-361AD).

2.1.3 Medieval

Archaeology

Medieval evidence within the vicinity of the FS05 site consists mainly of stray finds. At 38 Barnwood Road (GUAD4) a medieval socketed and barbed iron arrowhead was found with other medieval material. Close to this a bronze harness mount (GUAD17) was recovered and not far away a 13th century pendant (GUAD16) was found, possibly a horse pendant. This rectangular pendant had a heraldic design with a central bird and trefoils in the corners. Where the railway line crosses the Barnwood Road, a watching brief (GUAD1824) recorded a number of sunken medieval street surfaces. To the north of the FS05 site a watching brief on Windfall Way (GUAD1696) recorded the remains of medieval field systems.

Built Heritage

To the west of the FS05 site the grade II listed Old House (NHLE1271566) has been subject to a building assessment (GUAD2194). This revealed that the house was first constructed in the early

15th century as a cruck framed building. The listing description describes the house as late 16th century but does detail that the house was formerly a farmhouse. Another grade II listed building, Old Rectory (NHLE1271565) is also located west of the FS05 site. The Old Rectory is described in the listing information as 16th century or earlier. It was formerly a farmhouse before it became a rectory and is now a house.

2.1.4 Post-medieval

Archaeology

There has been little post-medieval archaeology recorded within the area of the FS05 site. This may be partly because of the large amount of more modern development within the area. To the west of the FS05 site, at 72 Barnwood Road, a watching brief (GUAD1430) revealed evidence of a post-medieval field boundary ditch in its southern trench. To the east, an evaluation at 101 and 103 Barnwood Road (GUAD2237) also revealed a post-medieval boundary ditch but this was truncated by modern activity.

Built Heritage

The area around the FS05 site became more built-up during the 19th century. The area was fairly rural, located on the western edge of Barnwood, but the construction of areas of housing in the 19th century caused expansion of the village towards Wotton in the west. Portions of this housing have survived including the terrace of 50 to 70 (even) Barnwood Road, labelled Chedworth Villas on the 1880s Ordnance Survey, and the adjoining 76 Barnwood Road, called Laurel Lawn in the 1880s. The houses of Ebor Road, originally Ebor Terrace, were built at the end of the 19th century. To the south east of the FS05 site a large house called The Limes was built in the early to mid 19th century.

Surviving medieval buildings were also altered in this period. The listed Old Rectory (NHLE1271565) was altered in the 17th century and again in the early to mid 19th century in a Tudor style. Pevsner describes this phase of the structure as 'patterned tiled roof, gables with pierced bargeboards, Tudor Gothic windows under hoodmoulds, and a square bay with balustrade and pinnacles' (Verey and Brooks 2002, p503). The grade II listed The Old House (NHLE1271566) was partly remodelled in the 17th century and extended in the 18th century and then altered in the 19th and 20th century.

2.1.5 Modern or Undated

Archaeology

Only two records of modern archaeological deposits in the area of the FS05 site are known. A watching brief (GUAD1364) at Northbrook Road revealed a spread of demolition rubble from a modern structure. At 101 and 103 Barnwood Road, an evaluation (GUAD2237) revealed a large amount of modern truncation of post-medieval deposits including modern building foundations.

A number of archaeological investigations revealed only garden or plough soils and natural geology. These were watching briefs at 106 Barnwood Road (GUAD1773) and at109 Barnwood Road (GUAD1293 and GUAD2239). Other investigations are recorded as revealing no archaeological features at Luther Challis Business Park (GUAD1527), Elmbridge Infants School (GUAD1638) and 17 Ebor Road (GUAD 1610).

Built Heritage

Given the expansion of housing in the suburbs of Gloucester in the early to mid 20^{th} century, it is not surprising that many buildings of this age survive in the area around the FS05 site. The only structure worthy of note here is Royal Mail House on the corner of Eastern Avenue and Barnwood Road

within the north eastern part of the site. This structure was built in the late 1950s to early 1960s and first appears on an Ordnance Survey map of 1962.

2.1.6 Settings and Key Views

'The NPPF makes it clear that the setting of a heritage asset is the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve' (HE 2015d, p2). Whilst setting is itself not a heritage asset, its importance lies in what it contributes to the significance of the heritage asset.

Views into the FS05 site are completely open on all sides with the buildings of the site being visible from both Eastern Avenue and Barnwood Road. Royal Mail House, on the corner of Eastern Avenue and Barnwood Road, effectively provides screening for the north part of the site.

There are no listed buildings or conservation areas within the vicinity of the AE06 site that would be affected by development within the site.

2.2 History and Map Regression Analysis

The FS05 site sits between the two historic areas of Barnwood and Wotton. The earliest evidence for people within the area of Barnwood can be dated back well into the prehistoric period. Darvill describes Barnwood as 'the most prolific site yielding Acheulian implements' (Darvill 1987, p20) in the Severn Valley. This lower Palaeolithic use of the area continued into the upper Palaeolithic of around 40,000 years ago with further objects being found in the gravels at Barnwood (ibid, p23). Late Neolithic flint tools and Mortlake ware pottery have also been found at Barnwood (ibid, p69), thereby continuing the use of the area to 2500-2000 BC. From the same period, a Beaker settlement, including pottery, flint scrapers and a knife, was found in the Barnwood area (ibid, p82) showing that the late Neolithic peoples were not only passing through the area. Close to the settlement was also a Beaker burial (ibid, p86). An early Iron Age burial of a young woman (GUAD50) was also found (ibid, p151). Along with ephemeral traces of late Iron Age occupation (ibid, p162), two distinct clusters of late Iron Age cremations have been found at Barnwood (ibid, p170).

Following the prehistoric usage and occupation of the area, the area was heavily used by the Romans as shown by the large number of sites to the east of the FS05 site (Fig 3). The most significant of these sites is a large cemetery (GUAD52) close to the Barnwood Road that contained 100 inhumations and 50 cremations. It is even marked on the 1924 Ordnance Survey. With further inhumations and cremations (GUAD48, GUAD1120 and GUAD1248) found to the west and east of the initial excavation it is likely that the cemetery extended much further than originally thought. The burials all date to the 1st to 2nd centuries. McWhirr notes that 'this cemetery must have served a settlement close by and is unlikely to be associated with Gloucester 2.5km away' (McWhirr 1986, p165). Evidence of this settlement was found with a building of 1st century date (GUAD1243) along with a large pit and a 2nd century ditch(GUAD1219) being uncovered close to the cemetery. Further

EFRAS PETRI DE COUVEC. In DUSESTANCES IN ESPERANS DE COLONIECESTRE TENUTE I. R. E. ON BERTANES OU MEDING ASIACENTAD. BETTIELLADE.

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7. De. ac pa. 7 silua. v. qe. la. 7 m. lat.

Valuro. Vin. lib. Modo. De 111. lib.

Hoc an geau sum sep ageldo. 7 ab omi yearli serumo.

settlement remains are likely to exist close to this area.

The settlement of Barnwood was included as part of the Abbots Barton in the Domesday survey (Moore 1982, 10,1). The entry states that 'St Peter's of Gloucester held the manor of (Abbots) Barton with the attached members, Barnwood, Tuffley and Morwents (End) before

1066' (ibid). Inclusion within the Domesday survey shows that there was a settlement at Barnwood in Saxon times. No evidence of this has been found however. It is likely that, because Barnwood was included as part of the farming manor of Abbots Barton, the settlement consisted mainly of scattered farm tenants.

Barnwood was called *Berneuude* in the Domesday survey in 1086 and in 1235 it was known as *Bernwude* (Baddeley 1913, p15). The 'Nominum Villarum' of the early 14th century records it as *Berenwode* (ibid). There is some uncertainty as to the meaning of the name with two possible interpretations existing. The second part of the name *wudu* means 'a wood' in Old English. The first part of the name, also Old English, may have derived from *Beorna*, a personal name, or *beorn* meaning warrior. Thus Barnwood means either 'Beorna's wood' or 'warriors wood' (Ekwall 1960, p43). The land of Barnwood was apparently given to St Peter's Abbey by William the Conqueror (Rudder 1779, p261) and was owned by St Peter's until the dissolution when it was given by Henry VIII to the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester Cathedral. Barnwood church was constructed by the 12th century, with a manor close by it, to the south of Barnwood Road, the Roman Ermin Street. Barnwood developed as a roadside settlement strung out along Ermin Street until by the late 18th century it had around 35 houses on the road, many set in small orchards and several with farm buildings (Herbert 1988, p411). Many of these buildings were replaced by the later development of the village. By the later 19th century, the settlement was dominated by the Barnwood House Mental Hospital which lay between the Manor House and Church Lane.



Wotton was an early settlement on Ermin Street (Barnwood Road), to the north east of Gloucester Cross. The settlement was certainly in existence in Anglo-Saxon times as it is

recorded in a charter of around 848 AD (Birch 1887, p35). At this time it is known as 'Wudotune'. The name Wotton means 'farm-enclosure by, or in, the wood' (Baddeley 1913, p167). By the time of the Domesday survey of 1086, the name of the settlement is recorded as 'Utone' (Moore 1982, 36,1). It was a small settlement of only two hides, eight households with a taxable value of only two geld units. Prior to the conquest, it was held by Godric, who held a large amount of land within Gloucestershire, and it was worth 30s. After the conquest, William Breakwolf held the settlement for the King and it was worth 60s. There were only four smallholders and four slaves and they could field two lord's plough teams.

By 1327, fourteen people were deemed affluent enough to be assessed for the lay subsidy roll (Herbert 1988, 388). The existence of late medieval buildings along Barnwood Road shows that it was still a successful settlement at this time, although it was predominantly a farming area that was not densely populated. The area of Wotton was one of the outlying hamlets of Gloucester forming part of the 'inshire' of Gloucester and Dudstone Hundred. The inshire was an area within the County of Gloucester but with separate County status that was administrated by Gloucester. After the Restoration, as a punishment for siding with the Parliamentarians, the inshire outside the Gloucester City boundary was returned to the County. Wotton had, essentially, been divided and it became two parishes, Wotton St Mary (Within) inside the City boundary and Wotton St Mary (Without) outside the City boundary.

The earliest historic maps of the area of the EA06 site are not very detailed. The Saxton map (Fig 3) of the later 16th century shows only settlements with churches and the River Severn with Gloucester very prominent. Barnwood can be seen on this map and it is also shown on the 1646 Blaeu map which is very similar. Wooton however does not appear on either map. The 1794 Cary map (Fig 3)

includes roads and shows Gloucester prominently but does not have any other detail of the city. The two settlements of Barnwood and Wooton can be seen very close to each other. The 1811 Dawson map (Fig 3) includes more detail and shows the area of the FS05 site with at least two buildings and trees within it to the north of a number of fields. The 1828-31 Ordnance Survey (Fig 3) shows how settlement has take place in a linear fashion along the Barnwood Road between Wotton and Hucclecote with very little encroachment into the rural areas to the north and south of the road. This map shows the area of the FS05 site with a number of buildings with in close to the railway line that is marked on this map to the immediate west of the site.

The first of the detailed maps of the area is the 1883 Ordnance Survey (Fig 3). The FS05 site is very visible on this map containing the building of Bridge Farm to the south of Barnwood Road. The area around the site, to the east of the railway lane, is predominantly rural with the fields of Bridge Farm to the east and north east and a short row of houses with narrow gardens. To the west of the railway is the edge of Wotton and the beginnings of the Victorian suburban expansion of housing. The buildings of Bridge Farm are still shown on the 1902 Ordnance Survey (Fig 4) with the farmhouse against Barnwood Road in the north of the site and a U-shaped set of farm buildings south of this. To the north of the Barnwood Road the farm has grown slightly with a number of glass houses and to the west of the railway line, the expansion of housing can be seen to have continued since the 1880s map. This continued expansion can also be seen on the 1923 Ordnance Survey (Fig 4) although it is restricted by the railway line and does not continue beyond this. The buildings of the FS05 site have not changed by the time of this 1923 map but to the south east can be seen the beginnings of a new housing estate being constructed. By the 1938 map (Fig 4), this new estate has been completed, Grove Crescent, along with new houses along the Barnwood Road to the north east and east of the FS05 site. Within the site there is little change of the buildings with the exception of a the construction of a dutch barn to the east of the U-shaped farm buildings.

The Land Utilisation Survey of 1942 (Fig 4) shows the FS05 site shaded with green stripes indicating that it is 'meadowland and permanent grass'. To the west and east of the site are areas coloured purple meaning that they are 'houses with gardens sufficiently large to be productive of fruit, vegetables, flowers, etc' and to the south is an area coloured brown showing that it is 'arable land'. The largest change visible on the Ordnance Survey of 1955-6 (Fig 4) is the wide new road, Eastern Avenue, and roundabout that have been built to the immediate east of the FS05 site and has removed a large section of the farmland of Bridge Farm. The buildings of Bridge Farm, within the FS05 site, are unchanged although those north of Barnwood Road have been demolished. To the south west of the site, more houses have been constructed along the new Colin Road and also along the eastern side of Eastern Avenue. The 1971 Ordnance Survey (Fig 4) shows that Bridge Farm within the FS05 site has been demolished and a depot has been erected in its place with open land in the southern part of the site. The buildings to the north of the Barnwood Road belonging to the farm have also been demolished with a factory being constructed to the north alongside the railway. Further south along both sides of Eastern Avenue a number of buildings have been constructed. Modern maps (Fig 1) show that the southern part of the FS05 site has become built up and also show that when the Barnwood Road and Eastern Avenue roundabout was expanded, a number of buildings to the east of the FS05 site were completely demolished leaving an area of what is now scrubland.

2.3 Potential for Further Assets

Despite the location of the FS05 site between two areas of high archaeological use and between the two settlement areas of Wotton and Barnwood, archaeological evidence recovered close to the site has been very limited. The area around the site has been subject to high levels of development with

the construction of Eastern Avenue and the large roundabout immediately adjacent to the site which is likely to have removed a large amount of archaeological evidence. The FS05 site has also been developed in the past, with Bridge Farm existing on the site followed by large depot buildings and the Royal Mail buildings. However, it is still possible for archaeological remains to exist within the site especially given its location along the edge of the Ermin Street Roman road. Roman settlements were located alongside roadways such as Ermin Street. Whilst it is unlikely for a large settlement to exist this close to the major town of Glevum (Gloucester), it is possible that a small outlying farming settlement could exist in the area.

3. Significance

3.1 Intrinsic interest of the sites

The area of the FS05 site holds interest for the potential archaeological features that may exist upon the site.

3.2 Relative importance of the site

There are no designated heritage assets within the FS05 site and it therefore holds little national importance. Although there are a small number of designated assets within the vicinity of the site, none of them are associated with the site itself.

3.3 Physical extent of important elements

The physical extent of important features on the site cannot be identified because any archaeological features that could exist on the site have yet to be investigated.

4. Impact of Development of Site

4.1 Assessment Criteria

The NPPF (DCLG 2012) policy on harm to heritage assets is set out in paragraphs 132 to 134. This is further discussed in the NPPG (NPPG 2014) in paragraph: 017 (Reference ID: 18a-017-20140306) and paragraph: 018 (Reference ID: 18a-018-20140306) of the section on 'Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment'. The impact assessment table below has been produced with reference to these policies and guidance.

The site historic environment assessments will consider the impact of development for the allocation sites and will use the criteria cited in the following table.

Major	Demonstrable improvement to a designated heritage asset of the highest order (or its						
Enhancement	setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting) of interest of demonstrable significance						
	equal to that of a scheduled monument. Designated assets will include scheduled						
	monuments, grade I/II* listed buildings, grade I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered						
	battlefields, protected wrecks or World Heritage Sites.						
	Improvement may be in the asset's management, its amenity value, setting, or						
	documentation (for instance enhancing its research value). It may also be in better revealing						
	a World Heritage Site or Conservation Area						
Enhancement	Demonstrable improvement to a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non-						
	designated asset (or its setting) of interest such that the level of improvement will						
	demonstrably have a minor affect on the area and its heritage resource, either at a local or						
	regional level. For instance grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas and undesignated						
	heritage assets important at a sub-national level.						
	Improvement may be in the asset's management, its amenity value, setting, or						
	documentation (for instance enhancing its research value).						

Neutral	Impacts that have no long-term effect on any heritage asset.					
Minor Harm	Minor harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non- designated asset (or its					
	setting) of interest such that the level of harm will demonstrably have a minor affect on th					
	area and its heritage resource, either at a local or regional level. For instance grade II listed					
	buildings, Conservation Areas and undesignated heritage assets important at a sub-national					
	level.					
Moderate	Minor harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting) of the highest significance or non-					
Harm	designated asset (or its setting) of interest of demonstrable significance equal to that of a					
	scheduled monument. For instance scheduled monuments, grade I/II* listed buildings, grade					
	I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, protected wrecks or World					
	Heritage Sites.					
	Harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting)					
	of interest such that the level of harm will demonstrably affect the area and its heritage					
	resource, either at a local or regional level. For instance grade II listed buildings,					
	Conservation Areas and undesignated heritage assets important at a sub-national level.					
Major Harm	Harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting) of the highest significance, or non-					
	designated asset (or its setting) of interest of demonstrable significance equal to that of a					
	scheduled monument. For instance scheduled monuments, grade I/II* listed buildings, grade					
	I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, protected wrecks, World					
	Heritage Sites or harm to a building or other element that makes a positive contribution to the significance of a Conservation Area as a whole.					
	Substantial harm to, or loss of, a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non-					
	designated asset (or its setting) of interest such that the level of harm or loss will					
	demonstrably affect the area and its heritage resource, either at a local or regional level.					
	For instance grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas and undesignated heritage assets					
	important at a sub-national level.					
Substantial	Substantial harm to, or loss of, a designated heritage asset (or its setting) of the highest					
Harm	significance, or non-designated asset (or its setting) of interest of demonstrable significance					
	equal to that of a scheduled monument. For instance scheduled monuments, grade I/II*					
	listed buildings, grade I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, protected					
	wrecks, World Heritage Sites or the loss of a building or other element that makes a					
	positive contribution to the significance of a Conservation Area as a whole					
Unknown	Where there is insufficient information to determine either significance or impact for any					
	heritage asset, or where a heritage asset is likely to exist but this has not been established,					
	or where there is insufficient evidence for the absence of a heritage asset. For instance					
	where further information will enable the planning authority to make an informed decision.					
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4.2 Assessment of Harm

4.2.1 Archaeology

The impact upon the unknown archaeological remains suspected to survive within the site cannot be quantified in detail as there are no proposals for comparison. However, given the nature of modern development, the depth of foundations and drainage, it is likely that any archaeology would be removed as a result of the development. This would cause **Major Harm** to the heritage assets.

4.2.2 Built Heritage

Development within the FS05 site would not have an impact upon any historic buildings but it is recommended that the existing Royal Mail House on the site is retained due to its aesthetic contribution to the local area. Demolition of this building would cause **Major Harm** to the undesignated heritage asset.

4.2.3 Settings

Development within the FS05 site would not have an impact upon the setting of any Conservation Areas or designated assets.

4.3 Improvements and Enhancements

The late 1950s Royal Mail House, in the north eastern corner of the site, has been designed to fit in with the local style of architecture in the Barnwood area and it sits in a prominent position on the Eastern Avenue and Barnwood Road roundabout. It also provides screening for a large portion of the northern part of the site. Retention of this building would be an **enhancement** of the area.

5. Planning Requirements

Any application for this site should be supported by a description of the significance of heritage assets likely to be affected by the proposed development. In the first instance applicants should provide a desk-based assessment describing the archaeological potential of the site.

Should the assessment indicate that the proposed development has the potential to conflict with buried archaeological remains, then there will be a need to undertake an archaeological evaluation (trial trenching supported by geophysical survey) to investigate in detail the presence/absence, character, significance and depth of archaeological remains within the site.

Should the assessment indicate that the proposed development has the potential to conflict with built heritage elements, then there will be a need to undertake built heritage assessment (proportionate to the significance of the heritage asset) to investigate in detail the character, history, dating, form and archaeological development of the specified structure on the site.

Reports outlining the results of each stage of work will need to be submitted in support of the application. This is in accordance with paragraph 128 of the NPPF (DCLG 2012) and policies BE.32 and BE.33 of the Second Stage Deposit Draft of the Gloucester Local Plan 2002 (GCC 2002).

A design and character assessment would need to be produced in order to provide information on heights, massing and scale of the proposed development. This is in accordance with paragraphs 61, 64 and 131 of the NPPF (DCLG 2012) and policies BE.7 and BE.22 of the Second Stage Deposit Draft of the Gloucester Local Plan 2002 (GCC 2002).

6. Minimising Harm

Should any development be proposed, then a number of actions are recommended to mitigate the impacts identified above.

- Retention and conversion of Royal Mail House.
- Desk-based assessment of the site, in line with relevant guidance produced by the ClfA (ClfA 2014f) and Historic England (EH 2010).
- Geophysical survey of the site, in line with relevant guidance produced by the ClfA (ClfA 2014d).
- Evaluation trenches to identify any possible buried archaeological remains followed by, if necessary, excavation in advance of development or watching brief during construction, in line with relevant guidance produced by the CIfA (CIfA 2014a; CIfA 2014b; CIfA 2014c).
- Key views should be retained within any development.
- Additional screening to be added where needed to reduce the visual impact of development.
- Full reporting, publication and dissemination of all results.

The scope and specification of any works would be agreed with the Gloucester City Archaeologist and the Principal Conservation and Design Officer.

7. Recommendations

The criteria used for the recommendations are detailed in the table below.

Development allowed	Development can go ahead with no mitigation subject to planning approval of proposals and designs.
Development	Development can go ahead but following a stage or number of stages of
Allowed -mitigation	mitigation designed to alleviate the impacts of any proposal. Also subject to
programme	planning approval of proposals and designs.
No development	No development within this area.

The recommendations are mapped on Figure 5.

The January 2015 SALA report (GCC 2015a) includes the FS05 site and describes it as 'employment site with good potential for re-use or redevelopment for employment' (ibid, Appendix 2). Should the site be approved for development for residential, business or industrial use then certain areas of the site would need to be left free of development and some would involve mitigation from the impacts identified above.

8. Conclusion

This assessment has looked at the heritage assets within and in the area of the FS05 site and discussed the past and present uses of the site. It has looked at the potential for unknown heritage assets to exist with the site and whether they would be at risk of harm from a development. It is considered that development on the FS05 site could be delivered without significant impact on the heritage assets of the site provided that the actions proposed to minimise the impacts of development, as detailed above, are followed.

Taking into account the impacts discussed and the recommendations to avoid harm to the heritage assets, of the 2.25 hectares of the site, a total area of 0.12 hectares would be unavailable leaving an area of 2.13 hectares available for development. This figure is indicative only – the final extent of mitigation will need to be agreed in consultation with the City Archaeologist and Principal Conservation and Design Officer.

9. Bibliography

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10. Appendix 1: Table of designated and undesignated assets

Those marked in **bold** are within the site.

HER	Name	Period	Туре	Details
GUAD4	38 Barnwood Road	Medieval	Arrowhead	Stray find. Medieval socketed and
				barbed iron arrowhead found in
				association with other medieval
				material.
GUAD5	74 Barnwood	Roman	Coin	Stray find. As of Domitian
	Road			COSXIII dated 87 AD
GUAD6	74 Barnwood	Roman	Coins	Stray find. Antoninianus' of
	Road			Tetricus I (271-274 AD) and
				Tetricus II (273-274AD)
GUAD16	Barnwood	Medieval	Pendant	Stray find. 13 th century heraldic
				pendant. Rectangular with 'bird' in
				centre and trefoils in corners.
				Possibly a horse pendant
GUAD17	Barnwood	Medieval	Harness Mount	Stray find. Medieval bronze harness
				mount.
GUAD18	Barnwood	Roman	Excavation	Inhumation with a lamp containing a
				Dupondius of Antonia (41-54AD).
				Other coins also recovered
				including an As of Nero (54-69AD),
				Ae3 of Crispus (317-326AD) and an
				Ae3 of Constantius I (323-361AD)
GUAD 1293	109 Barnwood Road	-	Watching Brief	Natural soils and geology recorded.
GUAD1364	Northbrook Road	Modern	Watching Brief	Demolition rubble from a modern
6114 5 1 420	70.0)	structure revealed.
GUAD1430	72 Barnwood Road	Post-	Watching Brief	Post-medieval field boundary ditch
CUADIFAT	L d CLU	medieval	F 1	uncovered in southern trench
GUAD1527	Luther Challis	-	Evaluation	No archaeological features
GUAD1610	Business Park		Massahina Duinf	recorded.
GUADIOIU	17 Ebor Road	-	Watching Brief	No archaeological features recorded.
GUAD1638	Elmbridge Infants	_	Watching Brief	No archaeological features
GOAD 1030	School	-	vvaccining biller	recorded.
GUAD1696	Windfall Way	Medieval	Watching Brief	Medieval field systems recorded.
GUAD1773	106 Barnwood Road	- ledievai	Watching Brief	Only garden soils recorded
GUAD1773 GUAD1824	Barnwood Road/	Medieval	Watching Brief	Sunken medieval street surfaces
30/1024	Railway bridge	i icaicvai	, vaccining biller	Samen medieval su eet surfaces
GUAD1960	Elmbridge Road	-	Geophysical	Assessment of large area.
	5.1460 11044		Survey	, soossiller or large area.
GUAD2239	109 Barnwood Road	-	Watching Brief	Only natural geology recorded
GUAD2237	101 and 103	Post-	Evaluation	Post-medieval boundary ditch
30.12220	Barnwood Road	medieval	_,	truncated by modern building
		Modern		foundations
NHLE1271565	Old Rectory,	Medieval	House	Grade II listed house, formerly
	16 Barnwood Road	Post-		rectory, originally farmhouse. 16 th C
		medieval		or earlier, altered in 17 th C with
				early to mid 19 th C alterations in
				Tudor style.
NHLE1271566	The Old House,	Medieval	House	Grade II listed former farmhouse of
	30 Barnwood Road	Post		Wotton Farm. Timber-frame with
		medieval		stuccoed brick. 16 th C remodelled
				in 17 th C and extended in 18 th C
				with alterations of 19 th and 20 th C.

11. Plates

Photos from Google maps



Plate 1: The FS05 site from the south east



Plate 2: The FS05 site, Royal Mail House, from the north east



Plate 3: The FS05 site, Royal Mail House, from the north

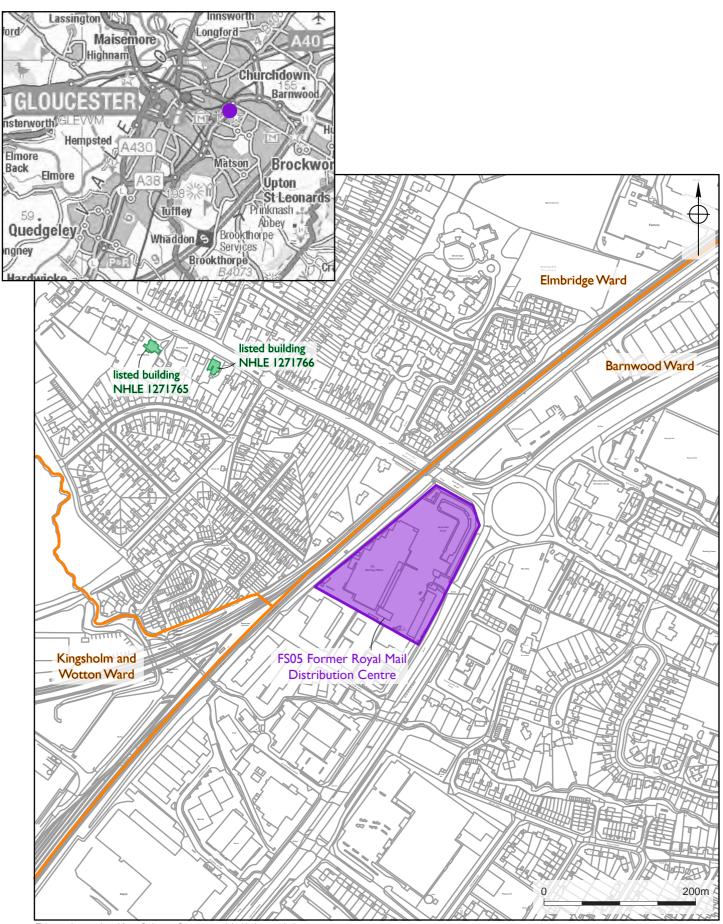


Plate 4: The FS05 site, Royal Mail House, from the south east

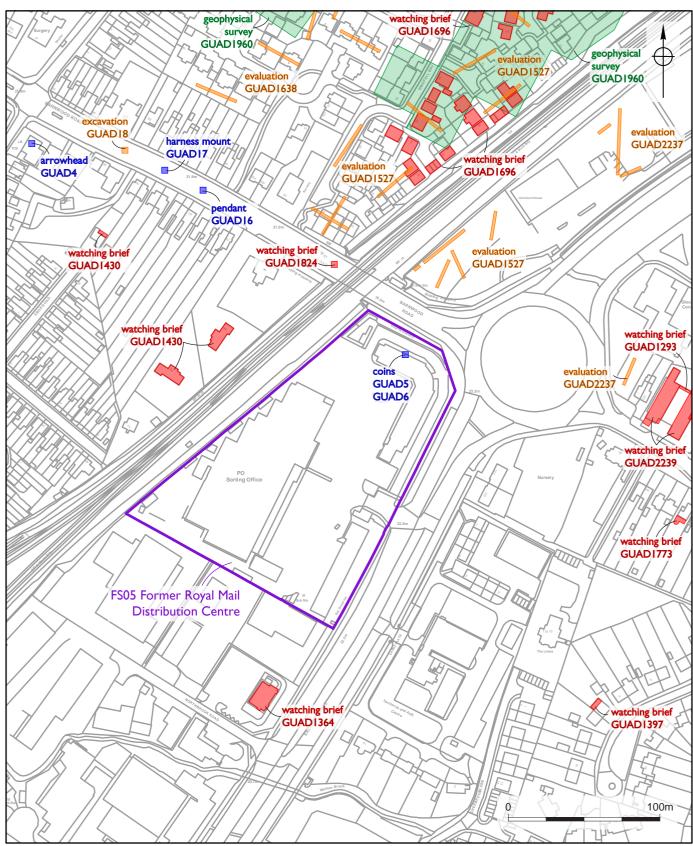


Plate 5: Entrance into the FS05 site from the east

12. Figures



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Figure 2 - Archaeological Information

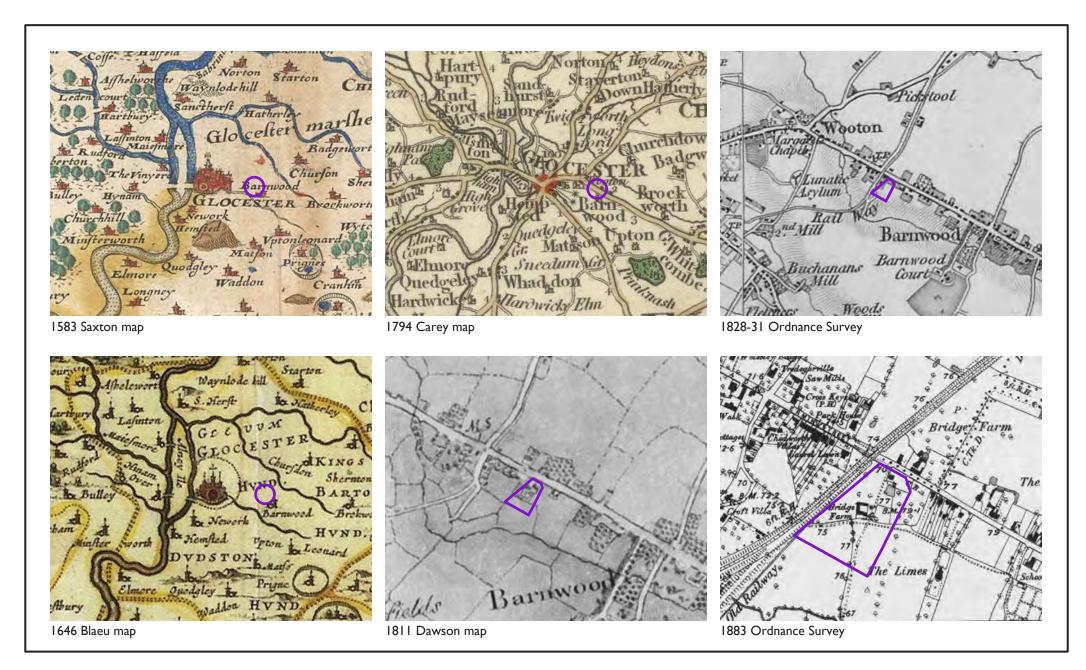


Figure 3 - Historical mapping

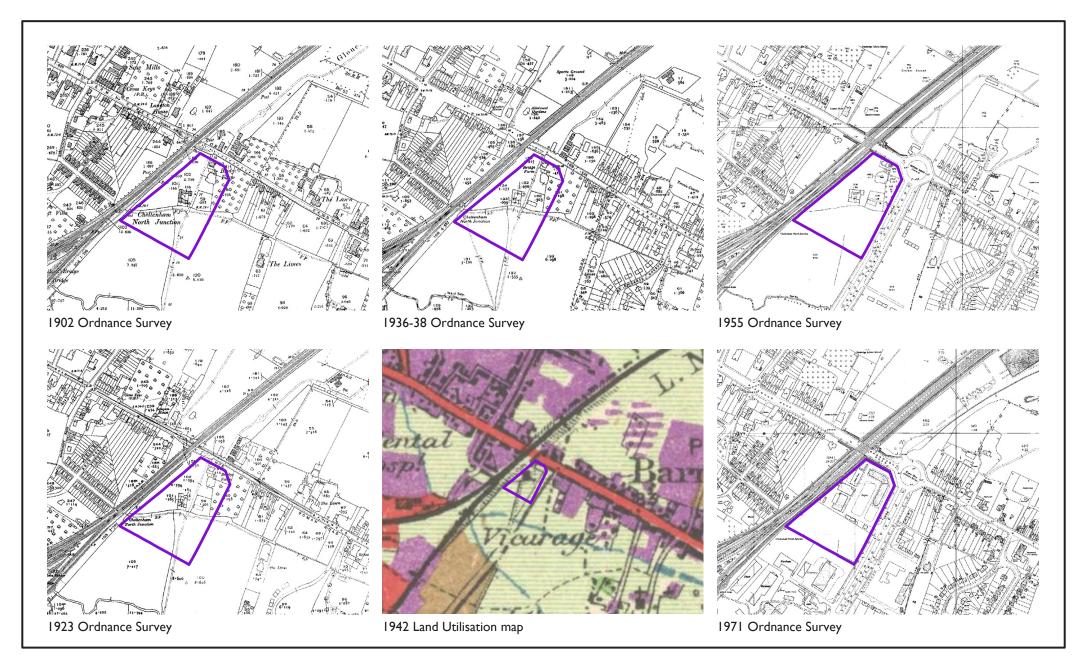
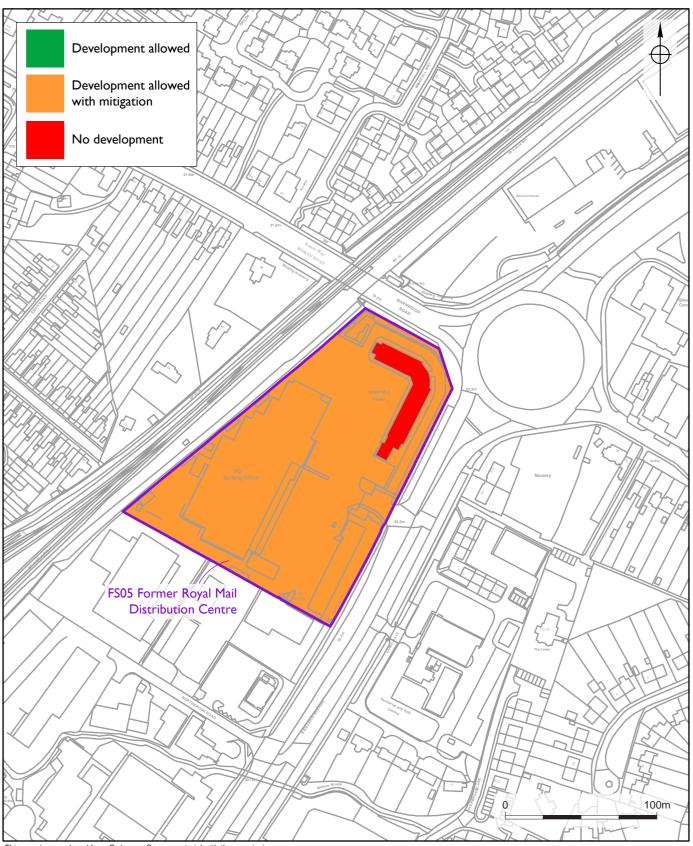


Figure 4 - Historical mapping



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Figure 5 - Recommendations