



# HPS

Professional Archaeological Services



Manor Farm, Grittleton, Chippenham, SN14 6AN

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**Project:** Desk-Based Assessment

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Applicant Name / Agent: Mr J Brunt / LDPC  
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## Contents

1. Introduction .....	1
Background.....	1
The Project Site and Study Area .....	2
Site Visit.....	3
2. Planning Policy.....	5
NPPF .....	5
3. Aims .....	6
4. Methodology.....	6
5. Archaeological and Historical Baseline Survey .....	7
Introduction.....	7
Designated Assets .....	7
Events.....	8
Discussion .....	9
Monuments .....	9
Prehistoric .....	10
Romano-British (AD 44 AD 410).....	10
Early Medieval (AD 410 – AD 1066).....	11
Medieval (AD 1066 – AD 1539) .....	11
Post-Medieval (AD 1540 – AD 1900).....	12
6. Historic Development of the Project Site .....	12
Project Site A.....	12
Project Site B.....	15
7. Conclusion .....	20
Site A.....	20
Site B.....	20
8. Impact Assessment & Proposed Mitigation Strategy .....	21
Site A.....	21
Site B.....	21
9. Bibliography .....	23
10. Appendices.....	24

## List of Figures

Figure 1: General location of the Project Sites.....	1
Figure 2 Project Site A Detailed Location - Proposed Residential Development.....	2
Figure 3 Project Site B Detailed Location - Proposed New Farmstead .....	3
Figure 4 Events Location Plan.....	8
Figure 5 Monuments Location Plan .....	9
Figure 6 1790 Grittleton Estate Map (Site A outlined in red) .....	13



Figure 7 1840 Tithe Map with Area A outlined in red .....	14
Figure 8 1886 1 <sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Site A outlined in red).....	15
Figure 9 1790 plot description and ownership from A Terrier and Valuation of Farmlands and Premises in the Manor of Grittleton in the County of Wilts (p. 30).....	16
Figure 10 1790 Grittleton Estate Map (Site B outlined in red) .....	17
Figure 11 1840 Tithe Map with Area B outlined in red .....	18
Figure 12 1886 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Site B outlined in red).....	19

## List of Photographs

Photo 1 SSE facing view of the threshing barn .....	4
Photo 2 Southeast facing view of the cart shed with first floor granary .....	4
Photo 3 Northwest facing view of Site B .....	5

## List of Appendices

Appendix 1 Event Gazetteer .....	24
Appendix 2: Monument Gazetteer .....	26
Appendix 3 Standards and Guidance .....	29



## Non-Technical Summary

In November 2016, Heritage Planning Services Ltd was commissioned by Mr J Brunt (the client) via LDPC (the agent) to prepare an archaeological desk-based assessment for Manor Farm, Grittleton, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN14 6AN (the Project Site). Permission is being sought for the relocation of the existing farmstead, the conversion of an existing farmhouse into two dwellings, the conversion of barns to form eight new dwellings and the erection of ten new build dwellings.

Whilst there are few records pertaining to previous archaeological activity within the Study Area, the occurrence of a major Roman Road (Fosse Way) to the west of Site B and the potential for Roman archaeology to the north of Site A raises the possibility for associated activity to be preserved. Furthermore, the location of Site A, close to the core of Medieval and potentially Early Medieval expansion and the development of the site in the 18<sup>th</sup> century highlights the possibility for Early Medieval to Post Medieval archaeology to be encountered during the proposed redevelopment. However, there is no evidence to suggest that any such remains would be of national significance.

Site B is located in an area designated as Fishlands, with part of the modern plot potentially designated Church Yard. The specific fieldnames raise the potential for part of the site to preserve evidence of early land use, potentially dating to the Medieval Period.

It is suggested that the archaeological potential of Site A may have been reduced by truncation from two previous periods of development. However, it may be advised to monitor groundworks in the region of Areas A and B and to consider a conditioned evaluation of Area C, as the least developed region of the Project Site.

Site B has the potential to preserve evidence of previously unidentified archaeological activity and should be subject to a further programme of investigation and recording. However, due to the evidence of probable truncation, it is suggested that a conditioned approach may be considered.



# 1. Introduction

## Background

- 1.1. In November 2016, Heritage Planning Services Ltd was commissioned by Mr J Brunt (the client) via LDPC (the agent) to prepare an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) for Manor Farm, Grittleton, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN14 6AN (hereafter referred to as the Project Site). Permission is being sought for the relocation of the existing farmstead, the conversion of an existing farmhouse into two dwellings, the conversion of barns to form eight new dwellings and the erection of ten new build dwellings.
- 1.2. The DBA has been requested by Wiltshire Council in order to identify the nature, extent and significance of any archaeological resource within the Project Site and its environs (the Study Area) and to assess the impact that any development might have upon any known or unknown heritage assets.
- 1.3. This document has been compiled by Sam Driscoll BA (Hons), MA, MCI/A and is completed under HPS project reference HPS-147/16.
- 1.4. This DBA focusses on two sites. For ease of reference they are referenced Site A (proposed residential development) and Site B (proposed new farmstead).



Figure 1: General location of the Project Sites



## The Project Site and Study Area

- 1.5. Both Sites A and B are situated within the parish of Grittleton, a small village located 7km northwest of Chippenham, Wiltshire. Project Site A is located at the cross roads of Alderton Road and The Street, which form the focus of the main settlement. Project Site B is situated c.750m to the west of the core of Grittleton village, on agricultural land.

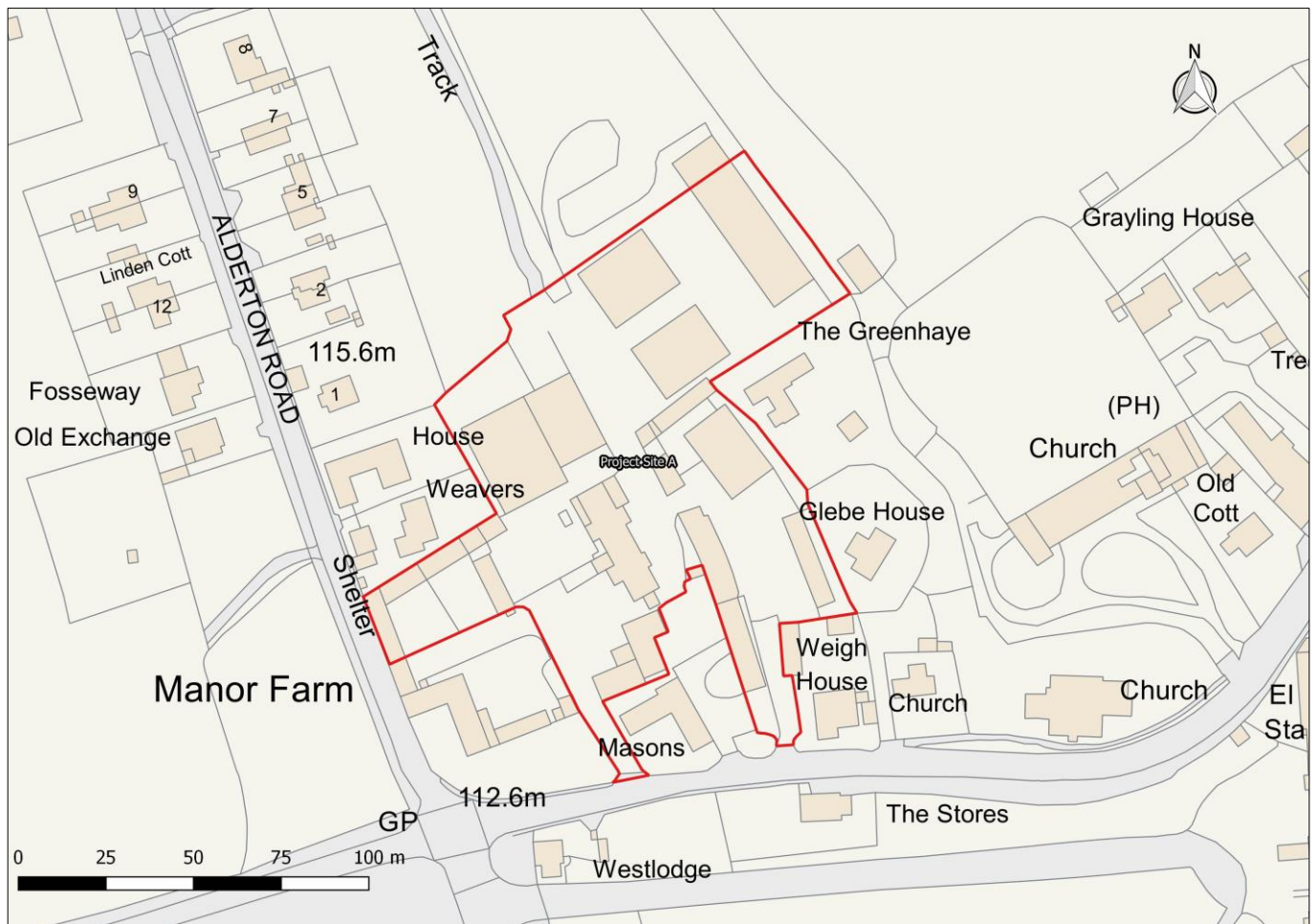


Figure 2 Project Site A Detailed Location - Proposed Residential Development



Figure 3 Project Site B Detailed Location - Proposed New Farmstead

- 1.6. Geologically the Study Area is defined by Mid Jurassic Forest Marble Formation. Site A is located 115m aOD. The ground rises to the west, with site B located 120m aOD.
- 1.7. A radius of 1500m has been given for the Study Area within the DBA, in order to incorporate both Sites A and B.

### Site Visit

- 1.8. Both sites were accessed on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Manor Farm (Site A) comprises a late 18<sup>th</sup> / early 19<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse with gardens, enclosed by a high stone wall. The farm buildings extend to the northeast of the plot and represent elements belonging to the redesigned farmstead along with 20<sup>th</sup> century additions. The complex is described in detail in the Statements of Significance compiled by JME Conservation Ltd, which accompany the application and so further detail is not required here. The only heritage assets noted on the site at the time of the visit were the historic farm buildings referenced above.





*Photo 1 SSE facing view of the threshing barn*



*Photo 2 Southeast facing view of the cart shed with first floor granary*



1.9. Site B is located on arable farmland to the west of the village. The land is accessed via The Street, to the south. A historic field boundary marks the eastern extent of the plot. To the north is the copse named High Elms Covert. To the west is an enclosed plot which marks the location of an historic quarry and limekiln. No heritage assets were noted on the site at the time of the visit.



*Photo 3 Northwest facing view of Site B*

## 2. Planning Policy

### NPPF

2.1. "In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum, the relevant



historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary.” Paragraph 128.

### 3. Aims

3.1. The aim of this study is to:

- Identify the presence of designated and non-designated cultural heritage assets within the Study Area;
- Identify the potential of the Project Site to include archaeological deposits and to determine, where possible, their condition and likely level of survival;
- Provide an assessment of the known or predicted heritage assets considering their archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interests;
- Define the potential development impact to the archaeological resource.

### 4. Methodology

4.1. This document has been prepared in accordance with the CIfA Standard and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (revised Dec 2014), which states that a DBA *‘will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area’* and that in *‘development context desk-based assessment will establish the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment (or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so), and will enable reasoned proposals and decisions to be made whether to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact’* (CIfA 2014: 4).

4.2. All work was carried out in line with the following standards and guidance-

- *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment*. The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Guidance Document, University of Reading, Reading;
- *The Management of Archaeological Projects-2*. English Heritage, 1991;
- *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraph 128*. Communities and Local Government 2012.

4.3. The study involved consultation of available archaeological and historical information from documentary, cartographic and historic environment record sources.



- 4.4. The aim was to produce a document that not only considered the potential for archaeological remains on the Project Site, but to also put these into their historical and archaeological context.
- 4.5. The primary repositories for information consulted comprised:
- Wiltshire Council Historic Environment Record;
  - National Heritage List for England (NHLE);
  - AMIE database
  - Geological Maps;
  - Ordnance Survey maps of the site and its environs;
  - Historical maps and documents held in the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre, local libraries or other archives (where relevant);
  - Appropriate archaeological and historical journals and books;
  - Unpublished research reports and archives, including those held by relevant museums and local societies.

## **5. Archaeological and Historical Baseline Survey**

### **Introduction**

- 5.1. The information presented here is derived from sources including the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record, the Historic England AMIE database, the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) and surviving cartographic resources, along with other published or documentary sources.

### **Designated Assets**

- 5.2. There are no scheduled monuments within the Study Area.
- 5.3. There are 37 Listed Buildings in the Study Area, of which three are grade II\* and the rest grade II. Listed Buildings have been dealt with under a separate report completed by JME Conservation Ltd.



## Events

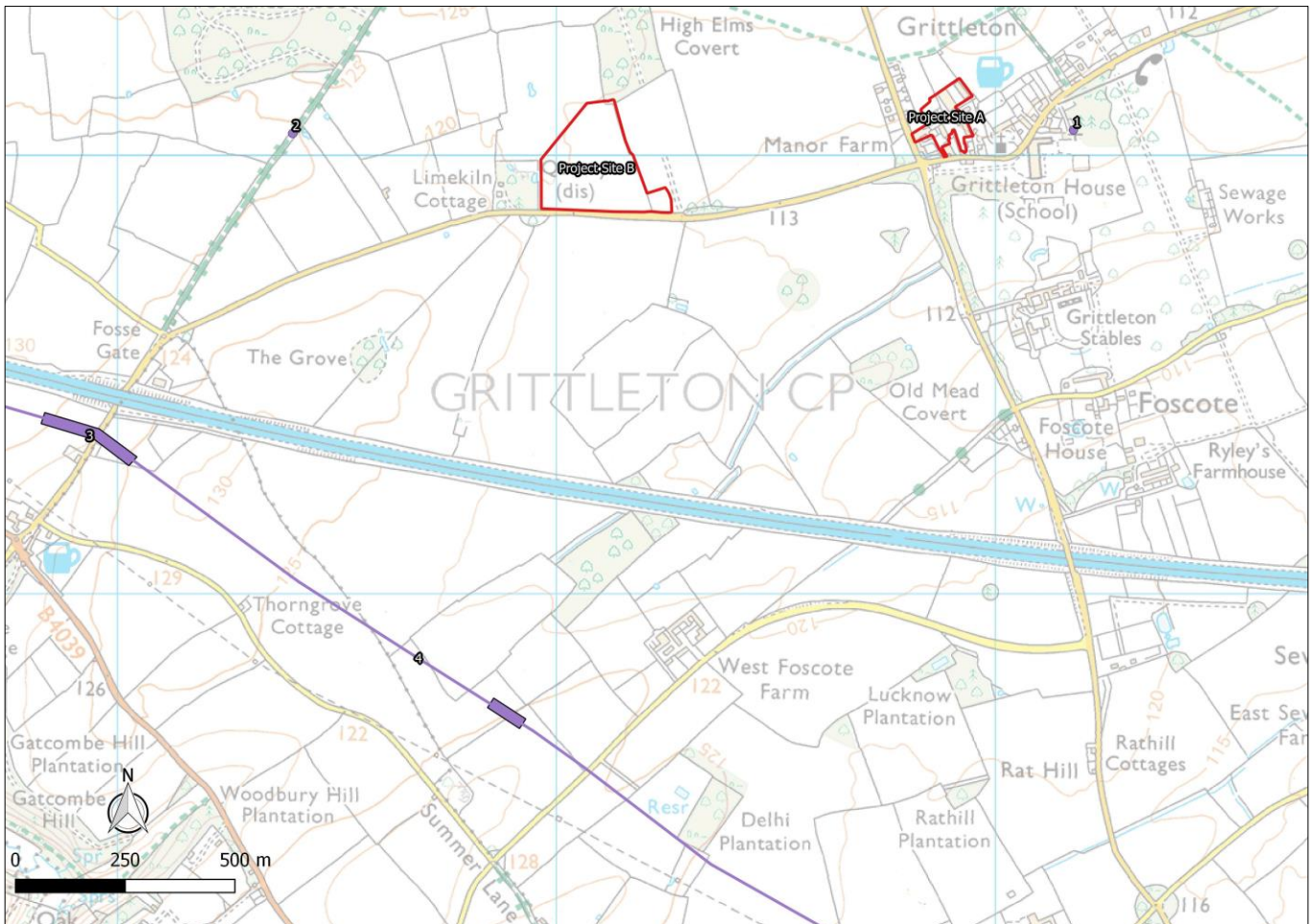


Figure 4 Events Location Plan

- 5.4. Distances given in the following text relate to the location of each event in proximity to the Project Site.
- 5.5. There are four archaeological events recorded within the Study Area.
- 5.6. A watching brief took place at the Strict Baptist Chapel less than 300m to the east of Project Site A (HPS EV ID: 1), which whilst noting scars left by the removal of the pulpit, provided little extra information for the archaeological potential of the wider area.
- 5.7. A small excavation undertaken in 1949, c570m to the west of the western boundary of Project Site B found traces of Roman activity (HPS EV ID: 2). The site appeared to comprise earthworks and below ground features and was interpreted as signal station. The site is situated in the vicinity of the Fosse Way, a major Roman road.



- 5.8. Two related events (HPS 3 & 4) occurred c1km to the south of Project Site B, following the route of a pipeline. These events comprised a watching brief and subsequent excavation of features. The excavation (HPS EV ID: 3) revealed a concentration of Iron Age to Romano-British activity, Romano-British ditches either side of the Fosse Way and undated pits, along with a Post Medieval field boundary.
- 5.9. The watching brief (HPS EV ID: 4) found a Mesolithic flint scatter and confirmed a cropmark complex previously identified from aerial photography.

## Discussion

- 5.10. The lack of information with regards to the archaeological potential of the Study Area would appear to be in part the result of the low amount of fieldwork that has been carried out to date. Investigation appears to have been focussed around the Fosse Way, to the west of the Project Sites.

## Monuments

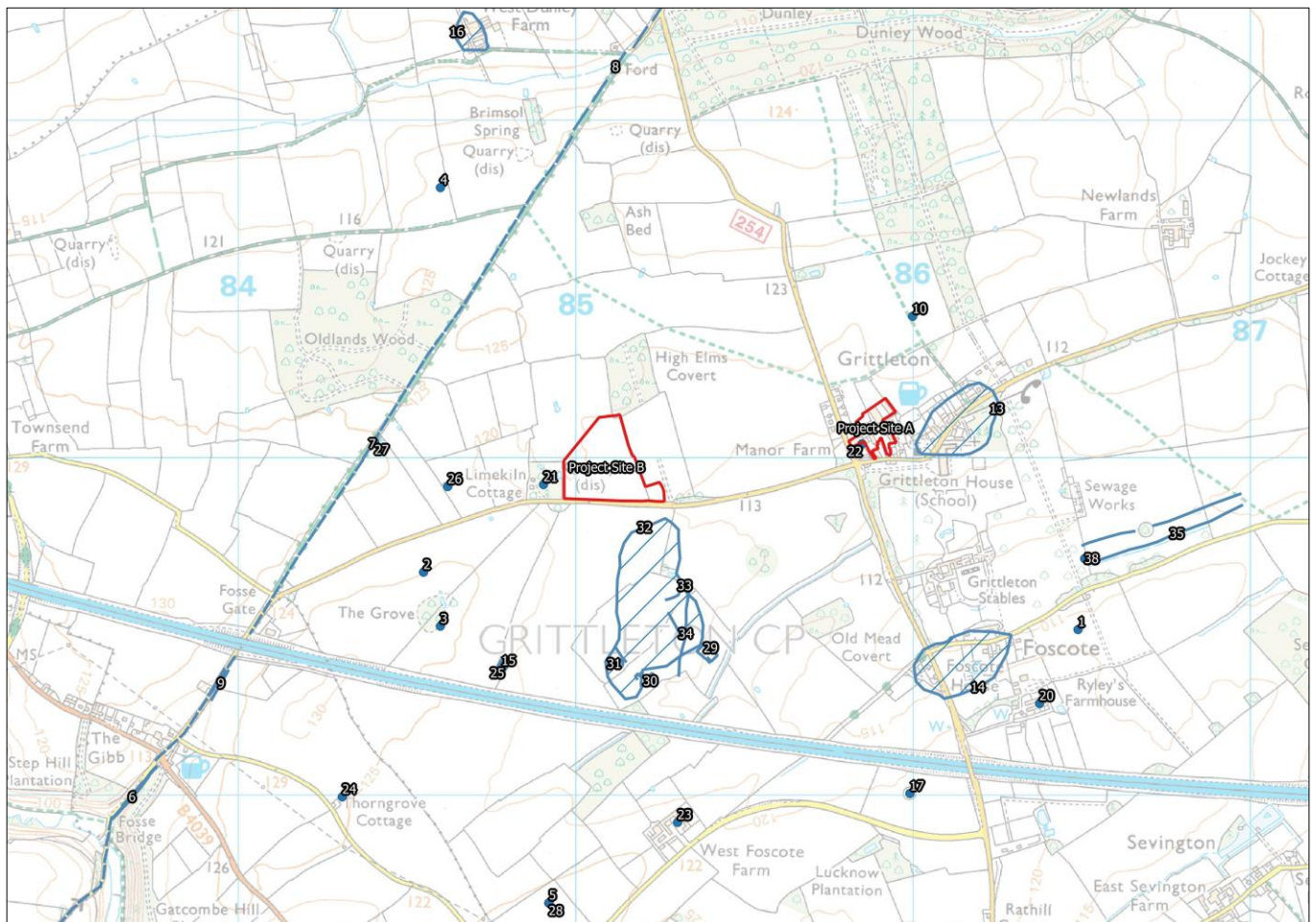


Figure 5 Monuments Location Plan



## Prehistoric

- 5.11. Two prehistoric findspots have been identified within the Study Area, both dating to the Neolithic period. A flint fabricator was found c785m SE of the Project Site A in 1975 (HPS Mon ID: 1), whilst one core and nine flakes were found during fieldwork (probably field walking) c465m SW of Project Site B in 1976 (HPS Mon ID: 2). Neither of these findspots are conclusive evidence for Prehistoric occupation, but do indicate a probable Neolithic presence in the wider landscape.
- 5.12. Whilst there is a presence within the Study Area in the Prehistoric period; based on current evidence the potential for the Project Sites to preserve Prehistoric archaeology is considered low.

## Romano-British (AD 44 AD 410)

- 5.13. Seven sites have been identified as Roman or as preserving Roman material.
- 5.14. An alleged Roman building was identified in 1957 (HPS Mon ID: 3), but a subsequent field visit by Ordnance Survey found no trace of this.
- 5.15. Similarly, and as outlined above, another possibly Roman site was identified through small scale fieldwork in 1949 (HPS EV ID: 2).
- 5.16. A small gold finger ring, possibly a child's, was found c.840m to the NW of Project Site B (HPS Mon ID: 4) and a single sherd of 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> century pottery was found during the pipeline investigations (HPS Mon ID: 5).
- 5.17. The most prominent Romano-British feature within the Study Area is the Fosse Way, the route having been confirmed through various excavations (HPS Mon ID: 6-9). The Fosse Way is located c580m west of Project Site B.
- 5.18. A potential Romano-British asset of note is a lead coffin and associated building, supposedly discovered c260m NNE of Project Site A (HPS Mon ID: 10) in 1852, in North Field. The discovery included a lead coffin containing an inhumation associated with a few Roman coins and a Roman building found in the adjoining plot. Whilst it is assumed that the location of the site is correct, it is pointed out that there are two North Fields in Grittleton and as such there is potential for error.
- 5.19. Although the majority of Roman activity appears confined to the west around the Fosse Way, there is some additional evidence to suggest a Roman presence near Project Site A, notably the lead coffin



and associated building. Although not confirmed, the potential for discovery of Roman Archaeology in the vicinity of Site A should be considered.

### Early Medieval (AD 410 – AD 1066)

- 5.20. There is a strong Early Medieval presence within the Study Area, as both Foscoote (HPS Mon ID: 11 & 14) to the south of the Project Sites and Grittleton itself (HPS Mon ID: 12 & 13) are considered Early Medieval in origin. Foscoote is referenced by AD 940 whilst Grittleton is documented by AD 900, where it was spelt *Grutelington*<sup>1</sup> and appears to be referenced in an Anglo-Saxon charter of King Edmund. The etymology of the name would appear to derive from *Gravel Hill* or *Gravel Leah* (Ekwall, 206). In the 10<sup>th</sup> century, *Grutelington* which had land to support 25 families was granted by Edmund, grandson of King Alfred, to Wulfric who later donated the settlement to Glastonbury Abbey. Glastonbury Abbey held the land until Domesday (AD 1086), when it passed to the Bishop of Coutances (Walters, 216).
- 5.21. Despite the notable documentary evidence for Grittleton and Foscoote, there is no confirmed Early Medieval archaeology in the Study Area, possibly because of the lack of archaeological interventions.
- 5.22. If the origin of the village is correct, then there is potential to encounter Early Medieval archaeology within the core of the settlement. However, the lack of associated finds to date suggests that the potential for either Project Site to preserve associated remains should be considered low.

### Medieval (AD 1066 – AD 1539)

- 5.23. The Domesday survey lists Grittleton as having 10 villeins, 11 smallholders and two slaves, with land for 20 ploughlands (13 lord's plough teams and 7 man's plough teams (Open Domesday: Grittleton).
- 5.24. In a Papal Bull dated May AD 1144, the Manor of Grittleton returned to the ownership of Glastonbury Abbey and formed part of the Damerham Hundred, until the dissolution at which point it was seized by the King (Jackson 1949).
- 5.25. Direct archaeological evidence for Medieval activity within the Study Area includes Grove Barn (HPS Mon ID: 15 & 18), c640m SSW of Project Site B, which was the home of Willian de Grava (AD 1189) and Richard de la Grave (AD 1289), and West Dunley Farm (HPS Mon ID: 16, 19) located c1km NNW of Project Site B, which is recorded as a farmstead and probable Hundred Meeting Place.

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<sup>1</sup> Gretelintone in Domesday.  
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- 5.26. The final notable site, is the location of a Medieval coin hoard (HPS Mon ID: 17) which was found c990m south of Project Site A. This hoard contained some 52 English and foreign silver coins, deposited at some point after AD 1320.
- 5.27. Whilst again there is undoubted documentary evidence to demonstrate that Grittleton continued to exist throughout the Medieval period, associated activity is not recorded on land close to the Project Sites.

## Post-Medieval (AD 1540 – AD 1900)

- 5.28. There are several surviving Post-Medieval sites within the Study Area. The only one of note, regarding this DBA is Manor Farm itself, which is discussed below under Historic Development.

## 6. Historic Development of the Project Site

### Project Site A

- 6.1. The 1790 Grittleton Estate map illustrates that the village is already developed along the main high street (The Street). The Project Site comprised land belonging to Grittleton Farm, with homesteads to the east of the modern-day plot. The accompanying terrier and valuation names the plots. Those falling within the modern-day boundary of Manor Farm are listed below

Number on Plot	Premises	Farm or Premises	Tenant or Lifeholder
9	No Record (NR)	NR	NR
10	Farmstead Barns Stables and Rickyard	Grittleton Farm	Anthony Allen
11	Homestead	Smart's Lifehold	John Smart (?)
12	Homestead	Late Bradleys	James Smith
13	NR	NR	NR
16	NR	NR	NR
249	Part of Bosom Croft	Grittleton Farm	Anthony Allen
253	NR	NR	NR



Table 1 1790 plot description and ownership from *A Terrier and Valuation of Farmlands and Premises in the Manor of Grittleton in the County of Wilts.*<sup>2</sup>



Figure 6 1790 Grittleton Estate Map (Site A outlined in red)

- 6.2. By 1839 the Tithe map illustrates that the area has been redeveloped. Five roadside domestic houses with gardens have been established to the north of the site, along Alderton Road. On the Project Site the current farmhouse has been constructed, along with the main single story stock enclosures to the north. The threshing barn is also depicted in its current location. The eastern stable range is also established (although now extended to the north). Farm buildings extend to the east of the modern-day Project Site. At this time, Joseph Baldwin's farm appears to have occupied a central yard with buildings to the north, south and east, with the area to the southwest belonging to separate homesteads.
- 6.3. The western access is shown further to the east at this time and the cart shed with first floor granary has not yet been established. Instead two separate buildings define this area of the site.
- 6.4. The tithe records relating to the modern-day site are listed below.

<sup>2</sup> February 1790 for John Houlton Esquire by Richard Richardson of the Devides.  
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Number on Plan	Landowner	Occupier	Name and Description	State of Cultivation
5	Reverend William Way (Glebe)	Himself	Barns, Buildings, Yards and Drying Grounds	Plantation
7	Joseph Neeld	James May	Farm House, Buildings, Yard	Homestead
8	Joseph Neeld	Void	House, Gardens and Yard	-
9	Joseph Neeld	William Pitney	House and Garden	-
10	Joseph Neeld	Joseph Baldwin	House, Farm Buildings, Yards and Gardens	Homestead
16	Joseph Neeld	Joseph Baldwin	Bosom Croft	Pasture

Table 2 1839 Tithe plot numbers relating to the Project Site.



Figure 7 1840 Tithe Map with Area A outlined in red



6.5. By the publication of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey (OS) in 1886, the western access has been moved to its current location to accommodate the construction of a building in the location of the Masons (property fronting The Street, to the south of the Project Site). A building has been constructed in the location of the cart shed and granary. This is extended to its current proportions by 1890 (1<sup>st</sup> revision OS). It is at this time that the farm appears to take its shape, with a central yard enclosed by buildings belonging to a single farm complex.

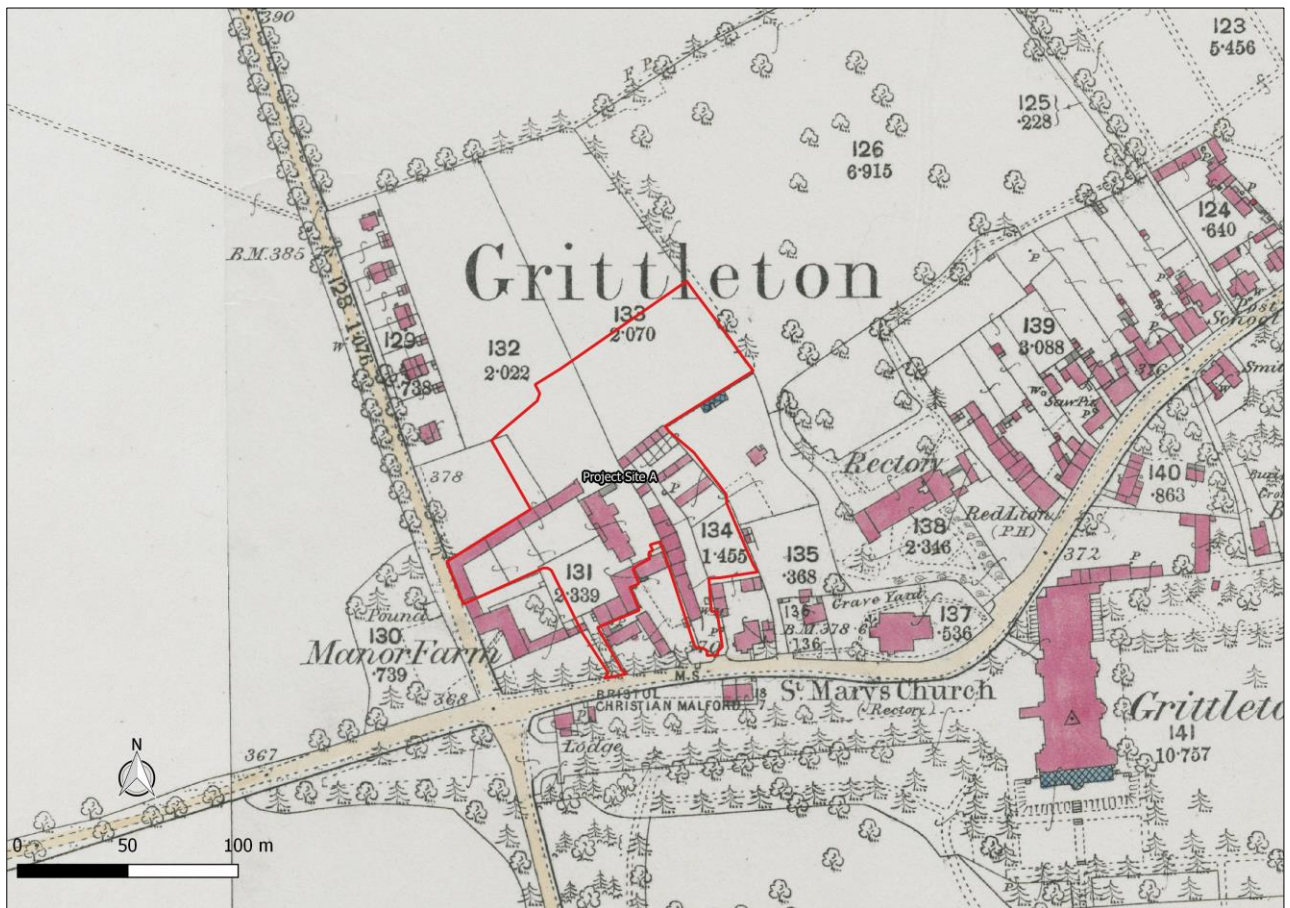


Figure 8 1886 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Site A outlined in red).

### Project Site B

6.6. The 1790 Grittleton Estate map illustrates the piecemeal enclosure of the land by the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. The eastern field boundary is established by this point and the Project Site is bisected by an east – west boundary, now removed. A small plot to the southwest corner is enclosed. Some interesting field names are identified by the terrier and valuation document. The Project Site is split between fields 201, 202, 203, 204 and 216, with the northern portion referred to as Fish Lands. Similar names are given to land to the north, including the small copse which makes the northern



boundary. All of the land is designated as agricultural at this time, suggesting that the names relate to an earlier specific use. A small enclosure now within the southwest corner of the Project Site appears to be designated Church Yard or Cowpen (plot number 202), similarly referring to a previous use of the land, which again is designated pasture. Whilst the lettering is not clear, the if 'Church Yard' is the correct reading, this is of potential significance. The relevant section from the terrier is included below.

165	New Pool	Arable	7.. 2.. 29
177	Little Park	Arable	1.. .. 15
190	Upper Grove	Pasture	8.. 1.. 11
192	Lower D.	Pasture	3.. .. 12
194	Pear Tree Grove	Pasture	3.. 1.. 21
199	Ashen Tree Grove	Pasture	5.. .. 36
202	Church Yard or Cowpen	Pasture	.. 2.. 0
79	May's far Adderalls	Pasture	3.. ..
92	D. middle D.	Pasture	6.. .. 11
189	Farm Long Grove	Pasture	5.. 3.. 11
			187.. 1.. 15

Figure 9 1790 plot description and ownership from A Terrier and Valuation of Farmlands and Premises in the Manor of Grittleton in the County of Wilts (p. 30).

Number on Plot	Premises	Farm or Premises	State	Tenant or Lifeholder
201	Grove Mead	Walter Brokenbrow	Pasture	Walter Brokenbrow's Lifehold
202	Church(?) Yard or Cowpen	Fosscott Farm	Pasture	Isaac (?)
203	Short Hedge	Grittleton Farm	Arable	Anthony Allen



204	Fish Lands	Walter Brokenbrow	Pasture	Walter Brokenbrow's Lifehold
205	Pike's Fishlands	Grittleton Farm	Pasture	Anthony Allen
215	Fish Lands	Grittleton Farm	Pasture	Anthony Allen
216	West Field	Grittleton Farm	Arable	Anthony Allen

Table 3 Table 1 1790 plot description and ownership from A Terrier and Valuation of Farmlands and Premises in the Manor of Grittleton in the County of Wilts. Lands belonging to modern Project Site shaded in green.

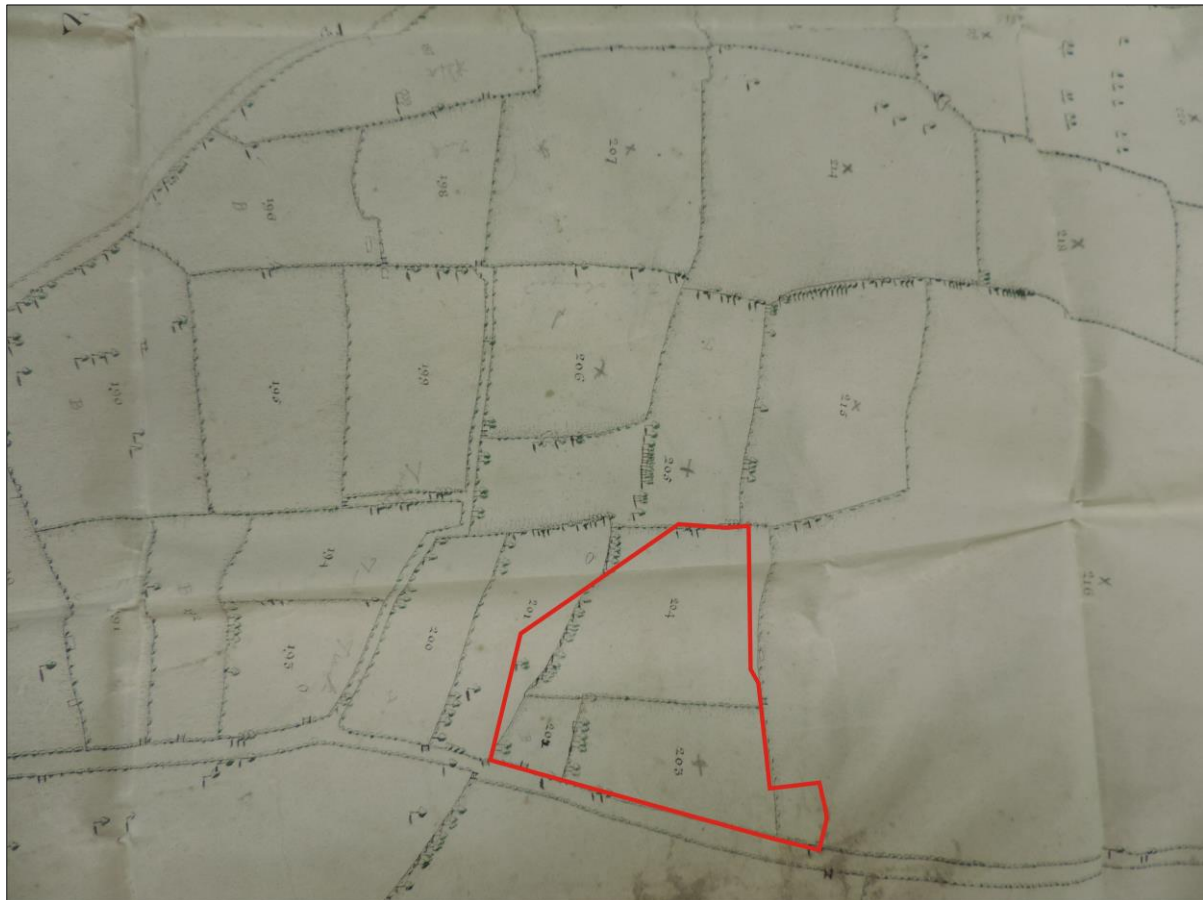


Figure 10 1790 Grittleton Estate Map (Site B outlined in red)

6.7. By 1839 the Project Site is split between plots 272 – 275. The small enclosure named Church Yard or Cowpen has been incorporated into plot (275) and is designated as a quarry. Two houses appear on land to the west of the Project Site at this time, and it is likely that the adjacent quarry and limekiln produced the materials for their construction. Land to the north (272) is still named Fishlands and land the south (273) is still named Short Hedge. Plots 275 and 273 are divided by a track which links the main road to Fishlands.

Number on Plan	Landowner	Occupier	Name and Description	State of Cultivation
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269	Joseph Neeld	Joseph Neeld	Part of West Field	Arable
270	Joseph Neeld	Joseph Neeld	Fishlands	Plantation
271	Joseph Neeld	Joseph Baldwin	Pikes Fishlands	Pasture
272	Joseph Neeld	Joseph Baldwin	Fishlands	Pasture
273	Joseph Neeld	Joseph Baldwin	Short Hedge	Arable
274	Joseph Neeld	Joseph Baldwin	Road to Fishlands	Road
275	Joseph Neeld	Joseph Neeld	Limekiln and Quarry	Quarry
276	Joseph Neeld	Benjamin Kington	Two Houses and Gardens	Houses
277	Joseph Neeld	Joseph Baldwin	Grove Mead	Pasture

Table 4 1839 Tithe plot numbers relating to the Project Site. Lands belonging to modern Project Site shaded in green.

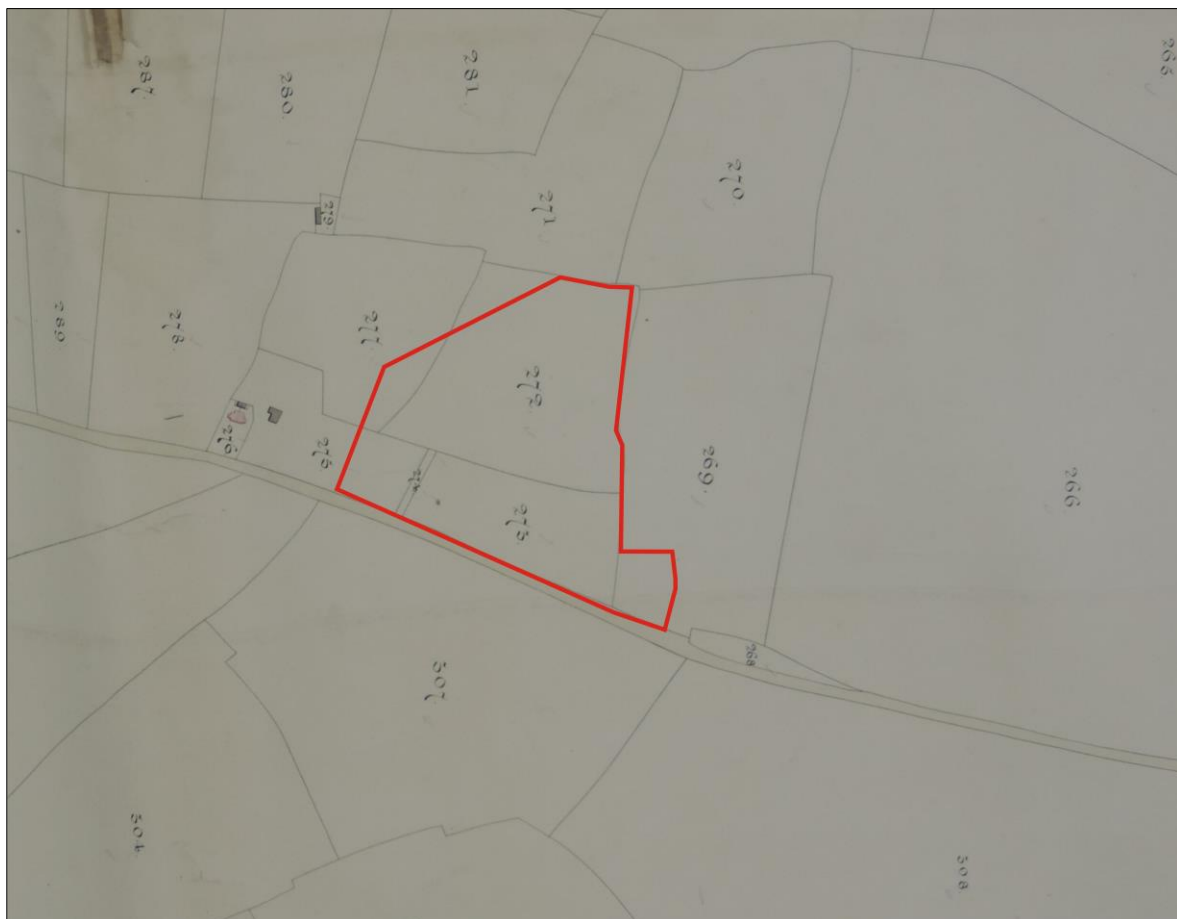


Figure 11 1840 Tithe Map with Area B outlined in red

6.8. By the production of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey (1886) a boundary has been established between the Project Site and the disused quarry and limekiln to the west. Small ponds are shown



scattered around the adjacent fields, including land to the north of the Project Site. The east-west boundary which formerly bisected the site has been removed.

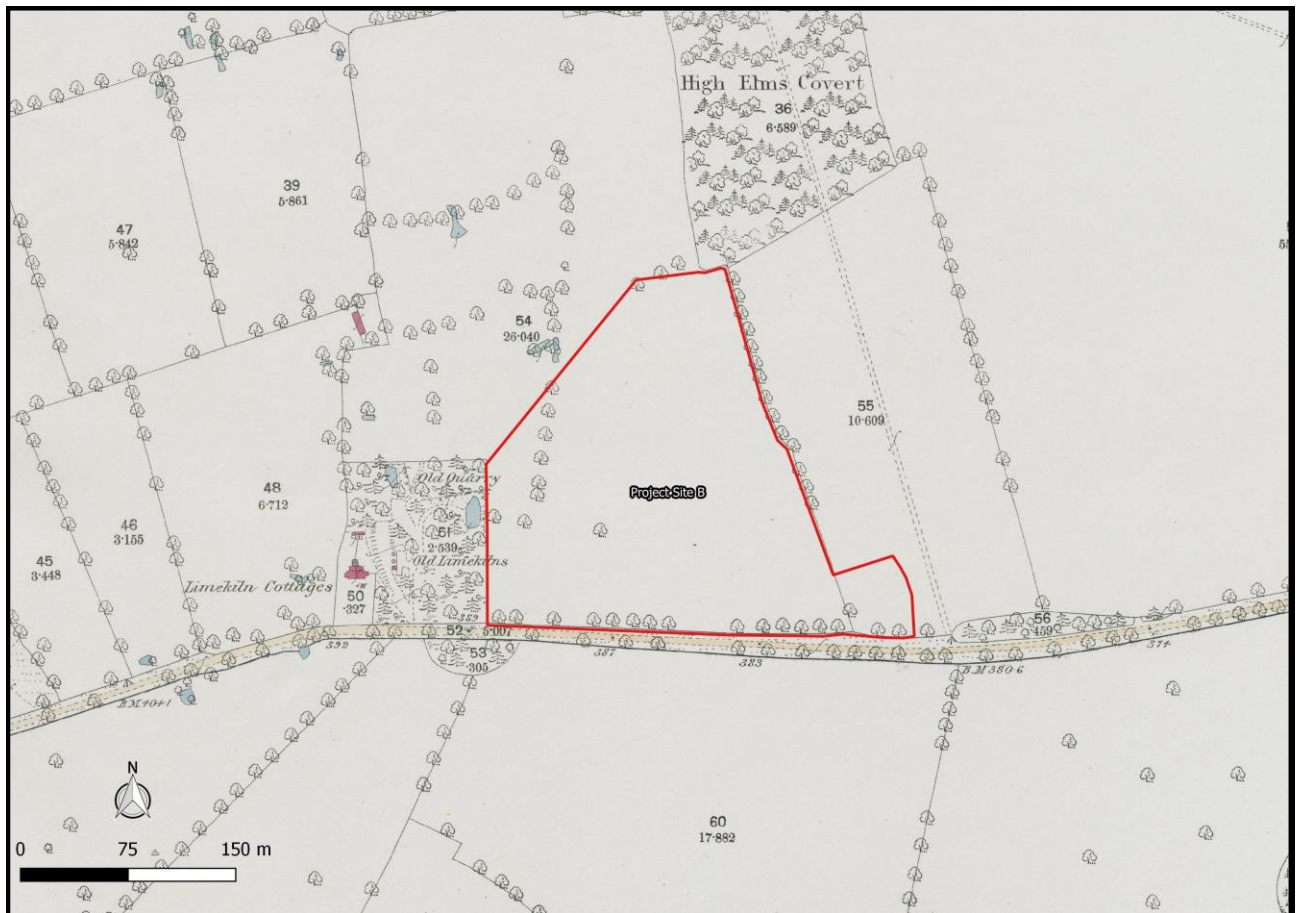


Figure 12 1886 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Site B outlined in red).

- 6.9. The landscape surrounding Site B has remained relatively unchanged to the present day.
- 6.10. Aerial photographs dating from 1945 to 2001 were viewed. The resource did not reveal any significant features.
- 6.11. The occurrence of distinctive fieldnames suggests that the land had a use prior to the arable and pasture of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. Fish appears on land comprising the northern portion of the Project Site and on adjacent plots. Although there is no recorded watercourse, ponds are noted in the vicinity of the Project Site indicating the occurrence of springs. It is possible that the term fish denotes use of the land for fishponds, pre-dating the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, whilst the *lands* portion of the name most likely refers to later ridge and furrow. The occurrence of the land potentially named Church Yard to the southwest of the Project Site, similarly points to prior land use. Whilst there is no supporting evidence for a chapel in this area, the potential for both Fish Lands and Church Yard to indicate previous land use is considered High.





## 7. Conclusion

- 7.1. Very little archaeological investigation has been carried out in the vicinity of the Project Site, resulting in a limited resource with which to determine the archaeological potential of Sites A and B.

### Site A

- 7.2. Although Site A has been significantly truncated by the initial development and redevelopment of the farmstead in the Post Medieval period, the proximity of the plot to the potential Medieval core of Grittleton raises the possibility of the survival of associated archaeology within the development area, especially in areas close to main the cross roads and The Street. Furthermore, the potential discovery of a Roman site to the north raises the possibility of associated activity in the vicinity of the northern portion of the proposed development area. However, due to the scarcity of existing records the potential is considered low.
- 7.3. It is likely that footings and potential surfaces belonging to the 18<sup>th</sup> century farmstead and neighbouring homesteads survive (although truncated) on the site in undeveloped areas. The potential to encounter elements belonging to the earlier farm during redevelopment is considered medium-high.

### Site B

- 7.4. Again, scarce records demonstrate little archaeological activity in the vicinity of Site B. Although, the proximity of the site to the Fosse Way raises the potential for Roman activity in the area. However, due to the lack of evidence the potential to encounter Roman archaeology is considered low.
- 7.5. The occurrence of the fieldname Fishlands raises the potential for fishponds on the site in the Medieval or early Post Medieval period (although the potential for Fish to relate to a personal name cannot be ruled out). However, this name in conjunction with Church Yard strengthens the case for a potential chapel and associated fishery. Whilst there is no documentary evidence to support this, the possibility for the site to preserve associated archaeology cannot be ruled out at this stage. However, the suffix 'lands' suggests evidence of ridge and furrow, which would have caused truncation to any earlier archaeology, if this interpretation is correct. It is further noted that 'Church Yard' is later designated as a quarry, raising the potential for truncation of archaeology in the southwest corner of the site.



## 8. Impact Assessment & Proposed Mitigation Strategy

### Site A

- 8.1. The proposed redevelopment of Manor Farm will comprise Area A, the sympathetic conversion of the Post Medieval farmhouse into two dwellings. Area B will comprise the conversion of Post Medieval sheds / stables, the granary and threshing barn into separate domestic dwellings. Area C will comprise an area of new dwellings with gardens and parking. The main entrance will be via the western drive and new access routes and services will be established to accommodate the housing.
- 8.2. The desk based assessment has highlighted the potential for the Project Site to preserve foundations relating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century Grittleton Farm and it is proposed that there is potential for the homestead to have earlier origins, perhaps dating to the Medieval period.
- 8.3. The conversion of Areas A & B will have minimal impact on buried archaeological remains, with groundwork being limited to landscaping, the establishment of new services and perhaps underpinning as required.
- 8.4. Area C occupies an area of land that was previously undeveloped in the Post Medieval period, and remained so until the expansion of farm in the latter 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is considered that there is potential for previously unidentified archaeology to be preserved in this region of the site, although it is likely to have been truncated by the development of the farm and the establishment of large agricultural buildings in the modern period.
- 8.5. It is considered that due to the truncation of the Project Site during the Post Medieval period, it is unlikely for archaeology of national significance to survive. It is suggested that monitoring of groundworks be carried out in conjunction with the conversion of Areas A and B. Area C could be investigated by way of a trench evaluation. It is proposed that further work in this area could be carried out by way of condition.

### Site B

- 8.6. The proposed development of the farm site, to the west of the village will comprise a new farmhouse and yard, farm buildings, access and services. It is considered that this would have a significant impact on any buried archaeological remains. Whilst there is no visible evidence of archaeological activity on the Project Site, the occurrence of distinctive fieldnames suggests that the plot may have been in use predating the 18<sup>th</sup> century, perhaps in the Medieval period. However, the potential for the land to have been truncated by farming practises and quarry activity (to the southwest) must



be considered, when assessing the significance of any potential surviving heritage assets. Furthermore, there is no evidence to suggest the preservation of archaeology of national significance on Site B.

- 8.7. It is concluded that Site B should be subject to a further programme of archaeological investigation and recording, however it is suggested that a conditioned approach may be considered.



## 9. Bibliography

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## 10. Appendices

### Appendix 1 Event Gazetteer

HPS EV ID	Name	Event type	Description	Source
1	Strict Baptist Chapel, Grittleton: Watching Brief	Watching Brief	Observations during repairs noted the scars left by the removal of the pulpit	<a href="#">ADS 1847385</a>
2	Fosse Gate	Excavation	<p>A Roman Site on the Fosseway in N.W. Wiltshire. On the Fosseway, where it forms the boundary between Littleton Drew and Grittleton, 1 mile north of Fosse Gate, a hitherto unrecorded Roman site has been found straddling the modern cart track under which the Fosseway lies.</p> <p>In October, 1949, a brief and incomplete investigation of the site was made. Two trenches were dug, one to the east, the other to the west of the track. In the field to the east, the trench, taken back to the hedge, sectioned part of the Fosseway, showing it to lie slightly to the east of the modern track. The road here was lightly metalled and less carefully constructed than near Easton Grey, where A. D. Passmore cut a section (W.A.M., xlv). The surface of small limestone slabs rested on a layer 1ft. deep of clay loosely packed with limestone, which lay on the natural clay.</p> <p>The site itself can be most clearly seen in the field to the west, which has only been ploughed and planted in times of national emergency. The rampart stands 1ft. 6in. above the level of the field. The site is a rectangular earthwork with rounded corners, its overall measurements 128ft. x 140ft. approximately. The trench through the defenses on this side showed a shallow ditch and a clay bank with a footing of limestone blocks.</p> <p>There was no gap in the rampart this side suggesting a gate-way. The only entrance seemed to be on the east side, but this was not tested by excavation. Unfortunately, neither of the trenches produced any adequate dating evidence. A few sherds of coarse ware were found, but they were so fragmentary that no more can be said of them than that the fabric was of Romano-British type.</p> <p>The site is probably a signal station, although the slightness of the defenses and the lack of material remains suggest the possibility of a small marching camp. But its position is ideal for a signal station. Even from ground level the site commands wide views, and with the added height of a signal tower it should be quite possible to see through to Easton Grey, the next site to the north, which has long been known.</p>	WC EW11214
3	Excavation on the Littleton Drew-Chippenham Gas Pipeline	Excavation	Excavation was carried out on significant archaeological deposits discovered during the watching brief along the pipeline route. These included two ditches presumed to represent the Romano-British roadside ditches of the Fosse Way, undated pits, a post medieval field boundary and concentrations of Iron Age to Romano-British activity.	WC EW1602



4	Watching Brief Along the Route of the Littleton Drew-Chippenham Gas Pipeline	Watching Brief	The pipeline ran for approximately 12 kilometres, through a landscape of proven archaeological interest, including the Fosse Way, a Mesolithic flint scatter and a cropmark complex previously identified from aerial photography	WC EW1601
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Appendix 2: Monument Gazetteer

HPS Mon ID	Name	Mon Type	Period	Description (AMIE only)	HER Source
1	East of Foscode House	FINDSPOT	Neolithic		WCC MonUID MWI2071
2	East of Fosse Gate	FINDSPOT	Neolithic		WCC MonUID MWI2146
3	The Grove	SETTLEMENT	Roman		WCC MonUID MWI2155
4	Near Fosseway	FINDSPOT	Roman		WCC MonUID MWI2546
5	NE of Castle Combe Castle	FINDSPOT	Roman		WCC MonUID MWI2164
6	Foss Way	ROAD	Roman		WCC MonUID MWI2152
7	Foss Way	ROAD	Roman		WCC MonUID MWI2544
8	Foss Way	ROAD	Roman		WCC MonUID MWI2481
9	Foss Way	ROAD	Roman		WCC MonUID MWI2152
10	Lead Coffin	COFFIN	Roman	In 1852 a lead coffin containing an inhumation and a few Roman coins, was found in draining North Field. In adjoining ground traces of a Roman building were found. (The field is said to have been identified from tithe maps by Rev. E.A.Gowring, in 1925, as N. of the church and E. of the road to Chippenham - ST 8600 8025; but inspection of this Tithe Map, Grittleton, 1838/40, indicates that there are two fields of this name in the parish. One, Northfield, is centred at ST 874814, and the other North field centred at ST 860 805. The latter's name however with its division into two words would seem more likely to be the field in which the find was made.) No additional information can be obtained as to the precise site of these finds. It should be noted that the O.S. published entry does not fall in the North Field, which is centred at ST 860 804, but immediately south of it the area is under pasture.	Pastscape Mon ID 208743
11	Foscode	SETTLEMENT	Early Medieval (Saxon)		WCC MonUID MWI2090
12	Grittleton	SETTLEMENT	Early Medieval (Saxon)		WCC MonUID MWI2488
13	Grittleton	SETTLEMENT	Early Medieval (Saxon)		WCC MonUID MWI2488
14	Foscode	SETTLEMENT	Early Medieval (Saxon)		WCC MonUID MWI2090
15	Grove Barn	SETTLEMENT	Medieval		WCC MonUID MWI2181
16	West Dunley Farm Littleton Drew	SETTLEMENT	Medieval		WCC MonUID MWI2556



17	Coin Hoard	FINDSPOT	Medieval	A coin-hoard of some 52 English and foreign silver coins was found at Grittleton, 1903. It was deposited after 1320. The coins were identified at the British Museum (1) and subsequently given to the Wilts Arch. Society by Col. Sir Audley Neele, Bart., c.1920 (2). (1-2). The coins are of Edward I and II and in Devizes Museum	Pastscape Mon ID	208259
18	Grove Barn	SETTLEMENT	Medieval		WCC MonUID	MWI2181
19	West Dunley Farm Littleton Drew	SETTLEMENT	Medieval		WCC MonUID	MWI2556
20	Ryley's Farm	FARMSTEAD	C17		WCC MonUID	MWI65922
21	Limekiln	LIME KILN	C19		WCC MonUID	MWI71266
22	Manor Farm, Grittleton	FARMSTEAD	C19		WCC MonUID	MWI65923
23	West Foscote Farm	FARMSTEAD	C19		WCC MonUID	MWI65880
24	Outfarm adjacent to Thorngrove Cottage	OUTFARM	C19		WCC MonUID	MWI65846
25	Gore Barn	OUTFARM	C19		WCC MonUID	MWI65845
26	Outfarm West of Limekiln Cottages	OUTFARM	C19		WCC MonUID	MWI65844
27	Fosse Gate	RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE	Undated		WCC MonUID	MWI2567
28	NE of Castle Combe Castle	PIT	Undated		WCC MonUID	MWI2204
29	N of West Foscote Farm	SQUARE ENCLOSURE	Undated		WCC MonUID	MWI2134
30	N of West Foscote Farm	ENCLOSURE	Undated		WCC MonUID	MWI2136
31	North of West Foscote Farm	RING DITCH	Undated		WCC MonUID	MWI2124
32	N of West Foscote Farm	SITE	Undated		WCC MonUID	MWI2137
33	N of West Foscote Farm	SITE	Undated		WCC MonUID	MWI2137
34	N of West Foscote Farm	DITCH	Undated		WCC MonUID	MWI2135
35	Grittleton House Grounds	SITE	Undated		WCC MonUID	MWI2118
36	N of West Foscote Farm	SITE	Undated		WCC MonUID	MWI2137
37	North of West Foscote Farm	RING DITCH	Undated		WCC MonUID	MWI2124
38	Banks and Ditches	BANKS AND DITCHES	Undated	ST 866797. Parallel banks and ditches, very straight and distinct, run east to west through parkland in Grittleton House grounds. Visited 30.3.76. (1). Two parallel banks 0.5m high with small ditches, and approximately 40.0m apart, run from ST 86517970 to ST 86907983 along the floor of a shallow valley. Large tree stumps protruding from each bank indicates that they were probably boundary banks, perhaps of ornamental origin.	Pastscape Mon ID	208281





				The southern bank is shown on the OS 6" 1955; of minor archaeological interest. (2)	
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## Appendix 3 Standards and Guidance

### Methodology

The methodology employed in compiling this document is derived from a number of key sources.

This DBA has been undertaken in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment* (CIfA 2014), which states that a DBA 'will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area' and that in 'development context desk-based assessment will establish the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment (or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so), and will enable reasoned proposals and decisions to be made whether to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact (CIfA 2014: 4).

### Study Area

A 750m Study Area was established for the Project Site in order to contextualise the known and potential archaeological resource.

### Data Collation

The DBA involved consultation of available archaeological and historical information from documentary, cartographic, photographic and historic environment record sources. The aim was to produce a document that not only considered the potential for archaeological remains on the Project Site, but to also put these into their historical and archaeological context.

This DBA has been undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. *Standard Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*. Reading: CIfA.



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