



## Kirkee, Gomeldon Road, Winterbourne Gunner Salisbury, Wiltshire

### Archaeological Watching Brief Report





**KIRKEE, GOMELDON ROAD, WINTERBOURNE GUNNER  
SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE**

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

Prepared for:  
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Wiltshire Council  
Planning Application Ref: S/2011/1453/FULL

**September 2012**

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### QUALITY ASSURANCE

SITE CODE	<b>86830</b>	ACCESSION CODE		CLIENT CODE	
PLANNING APPLICATION REF.	<b>S/2011/1453/ FULL</b>	NGR	<b>418172 135348</b>		

VERSION	STATUS*	PREPARED BY	APPROVED BY	APPROVER'S SIGNATURE	DATE	FILE
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**SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

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**SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Mr. Crispin Bickle to undertake a watching brief on land adjacent to Kirkee, Gomeldon Road, Winterbourne Gunner, centred on National Grid Reference 418172 135348. The archaeological work was undertaken during groundwork in advance of the construction of a new bungalow on a plot of land neighbouring an existing dwelling.

The Site lies in the immediate vicinity of a Bronze Age pond barrow. In addition, Romano-British remains are known to exist in Gomeldon Road and an Anglo-Saxon cemetery was excavated to the south-east of the Site.

During the course of the archaeological works, no archaeological features or finds were identified.

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**KIRKEE, GOMELDON ROAD, WINTERBOURNE GUNNER,  
SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Acknowledgements**

This project was commissioned by Mr. Crispin Bickle and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to him in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Clare King, Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service, who monitored the project on behalf of Wiltshire Council

The report was researched and compiled by Matt Leivers. The Fieldwork was completed by Matt Leivers and Sue Nelson. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Andrew Manning. The figures were prepared by Rob Goller and S.E. James.

**ABBNEY HOUSE, LA SAGESSE CONVENT,  
ROMSEY, HAMPSHIRE****Archaeological Watching Brief****1 INTRODUCTION****1.1 Project Background**

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Mr. Crispin Bickle, to undertake an archaeological watching brief on land adjacent to Kirkee, Gomeldon Road, Winterbourne Gunner, Salisbury, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 418172 135348, henceforth referred to as 'the Site (**Figure 1**)

1.1.2 The Site lies within an area which is known to contain significant archaeological remains, predominately of a prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon date. Full planning permission was granted in November 2011 (S/2011/1453/FULL) with the following archaeological condition, based on the advice of the Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service (WCAS):

## Condition 10

*No development shall commence within the area indicated (proposed development site) until:*

- *A written programme of archaeological investigation, which should include on-site work and off-site work such as the analysis, publishing and archiving of the results, has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority; and*
- *The approved programme of archaeological work has been carried out in accordance with the approved details.*

*Reason: To enable the recording of any matters of archaeological interest- Policy G2*

1.1.3 Consultation with WCAS indicated that the required archaeological fieldwork was an archaeological watching brief during any subsequent groundwork, with the potential for further archaeological mitigation if significant archaeology was identified.

1.1.4 A *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) for the archaeological watching brief was prepared by Wessex Archaeology in accordance with standards and guidance for archaeological watching brief published by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008), detailing the strategy, methodology and standards to be employed during the archaeological fieldwork (Wessex Archaeology 2012). The WSI was approved by the Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service before the commencement of archaeological fieldwork.

1.1.5 The watching brief was carried out in August and September 2012.

**1.2 The Site, Location and Geology**

1.2.1 The Site is positioned on the eastern fringes of Winterbourne Gunner village approximately 4km north-east of Salisbury. It is bounded on the west by Gomeldon Road and to the north and south by existing house plots and to the east by a field under crop (**Figure 1**).

- 1.2.2 The Site slopes up from north-west to south-east, rising from c.66m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in Gomeldon Road. The British Geological Survey map for the area (1:50,000 Solid and Drift Series, sheet 298) indicates that the underlying geology of the Site consists of Upper Chalk.

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

- 2.1.1 The Site lies within an area of high archaeological potential, with a significant number of known sites in close proximity.
- 2.1.2 Information on the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (Wilts HER) shows that immediately south-east in Salt Lane, a Bronze Age pond barrow was discovered during the excavation of a site prior to development for a bungalow in May 1994.
- 2.1.3 In close proximity to the Site in Gomeldon Road, a Romano-British oval pit or ditch end was excavated in 1995.
- 2.1.4 Immediately to the south-east of the Site an Anglo-Saxon cemetery dating from the 6th to 8th centuries was partially excavated in 1960.
- 2.1.5 Approximately 500m to the south-west at St. Marys Church, Bronze Age pottery has been recovered. In addition, 22 sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered at St. Mary's field during excavations between 1965 and 1968 which is also the proposed site of a Romano-British enclosure and a medieval settlement.

## **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1.1 The objective of the watching brief was to establish within the constraints of the agreed strategy the presence or absence, location, extent, date, character, condition, and depth of any surviving remains which may be affected by the proposed development.
- 3.1.2 In particular the watching brief was to clarify the significance of any impact of the proposed construction groundwork upon the archaeological resource and ensure its preservation by record.

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 Introduction**

- 4.1.1 All works undertaken during the watching brief were conducted in accordance with the methods and standards outlined within the Written Scheme of Investigation (Wessex Archaeology 2012) and the requirements of the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Guidelines for an Archaeological Watching Brief (IfA 2008), except where these were superseded by statements below.

### **4.2 Fieldwork**

- 4.2.1 The fieldwork consisted of the monitoring of groundworks made beneath the present ground surface. The watching brief was maintained on the stripping



of a driveway and turning circle (referred to as Trench 1), building footprint (referred to as Trench 2), the excavation of building footings and services within Trench 2 and the excavation of two soakaways (**Figure 1**).

- 4.2.2 All stripping and excavation was undertaken by a machine using a toothless bucket under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist. When necessary, machine excavation was halted to allow for investigation of deposits.

### 4.3 Recording

- 4.3.1 All exposed remains were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system and sheets.
- 4.3.2 During fieldwork a full photographic record of any archaeological features and intrusive excavation was completed. This was undertaken using a digital camera with a 10 mega pixel image sensor. All digital images will be subjected to managed quality control and curation processes, resulting in appropriately embedded metadata within the image to ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

## 5 FIELDWORK RESULTS

- 5.1.1 The same sequence of deposits was encountered in all trenches. Below the turf, modern topsoil (Context **001**) and sub-soil (Context **002**) was 0.25m deep at the eastern end (upslope, in Soakaway 1 (**Plate 1**) and Trench 2 footings), deepening to a depth of 0.67m downslope to the west in Soakaway 2 (**Plate 2**). In Trench 1, the base of the topsoil was only reached in the westernmost 2.5m adjacent to Gomeldon Road, where landscaping had reduced its maximum depth to 0.47m below the modern ground surface.
- 5.1.2 Below the topsoil was a pale reddish brown silty clay subsoil with flecks and fragments of chalk increasing in frequency with depth. At the west end (in Soakaway 2) the subsoil was 0.30m deep; elsewhere it was progressively shallower upslope. In the easternmost footings in Trench 2 (**Plate 3**) and in Soakaway 1 it graded imperceptibly into the underlying natural chalk (Context **004**).
- 5.1.3 In the south-eastern corner of Trench 2 the top of the subsoil was cut by a 6m long, 0.42m wide parallel-sided ditch with vertical sides (Context **003**) which was filled with topsoil. Within the fill were fragments of window glass, coal, modern nails and hazelnut shells. This feature marks the line of a former hedge of hazel trees which ran across the lawn (C. Bickle *pers. comm.*).
- 5.1.4 Below the subsoil, the natural consisted of cryoturbated chalk. This layer was heterogeneous, being variously weathered; it contained moderately common flint nodules of varied size.

## 6 ARTEFACTS

- 6.1.1 A small quantity of finds was recovered from the topsoil (**001**) in Trench 1 and 2. These consisted of two sherds of pottery (one Verwood earthenware of broadly post-medieval date; one 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century stoneware).

## **7 ENVIRONMENTAL**

- 7.1.1 No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were recorded during the course of the watching brief.

## **8 CONCLUSIONS**

- 8.1.1 All ground works within the development area were monitored. A single stratigraphic sequence was recorded across the areas observed during watching brief.
- 8.1.2 Topsoil (**001**) overlay a chalky subsoil (**002**) which in turn was above weathered chalk natural (**004**). In Trench 2, the top of the subsoil was cut by a modern trench marking a former hedge line (**003**).
- 8.1.3 No archaeological features or non-modern finds were observed within the relatively small watching brief areas.

## **9 ARCHIVE**

### **9.1 The Archive**

- 9.1.1 The project archive is currently stored at Wessex Archaeology's office in Salisbury under the project code **86830**. In due course, the complete project archive will be deposited with the Wiltshire Museum Service.
- 9.1.2 The complete site archive, which will comprise paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following the standards outlined in nationally recommended guidelines (Walker 1990, SMA 1995) and the requirements of the Hampshire Museums Service.

### **9.2 Copyright**

- 9.2.1 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

## **10 REFERENCES**

- Institute for Archaeologists 2008: Standards and guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief.
- SMA 1995: Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive, Society of Museum Archaeologists
- Walker, K. 1990: Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage, UKIC Archaeology Section
- Wessex Archaeology 2012: *Kirkee, Gomeldon Road, Winterbourne Gunner, Salisbury, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an*

*Archaeological Watching Brief*, unpublished client report ref.  
T15772.01

**APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT SUMMARY TABLE**

<b>Trench 1</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	19.40 (max) by 8.40m (max) by 0.47m (max)	
	<b>Coordinates (NGR)</b>	Centre on 418177.065, 135394.71	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (bgl)</b>
001	Layer	Topsoil. Grey brown silty loam with gravel < 70mm Poorly sorted, sub rounded, common; slate <90mm Angular, poorly sorted, very rare; brick <230mm, angular, poorly sorted, occasional	0-0.47m (max)
002	Layer	Subsoil. Pale reddish brown silty clay with chalk <30mm, rounded, poorly sorted, common; flint <150mm, sub-angular to sub-rounded, poorly sorted, common.	0.47m+

<b>Trench 2</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	The footing were located within an area of 22.80m x 9.90m, with a maximum depth of 0.80m	
	<b>Coordinates (NGR)</b>	Centre on 418193.849, 135384.753	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (bgl)</b>
001	Layer	Topsoil. Grey brown silty loam with gravel < 70mm Poorly sorted, sub rounded, common; slate <90mm Angular, poorly sorted, very rare; brick <230mm, angular, poorly sorted, occasional	0-0.62m (max)
002	Layer	Subsoil. Pale reddish brown silty clay with chalk <30mm, rounded, poorly sorted, common; flint <150mm, sub-angular to sub-rounded, poorly sorted, common.	0.25m-0.75m
003	Cut	Modern hedge line, filled with topsoil	0.25m
004	Natural	Pale pinkish white; cream; pale brown silty clay. Heterogeneous weathered chalk with flint nodules <300mm, sub-angular to sub-rounded, poorly sorted, common.	0.35m+

<b>S'away 1</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	2.20m by 2.00m by 1.50m	
	<b>Coordinates (NGR)</b>	Centre on 418170.771, 135321.813	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (bgl)</b>
001	Layer	Topsoil. Grey brown silty loam with gravel < 70mm Poorly sorted, sub rounded, common; slate <90mm Angular, poorly sorted, very rare; brick <230mm, angular, poorly sorted, occasional	0-0.40m (max)
002	Layer	Subsoil. Pale reddish brown silty clay with chalk <30mm, rounded, poorly sorted, common; flint <150mm, sub-angular to sub-rounded, poorly sorted, common.	0.35m-0.60m
004	Natural	Pale pinkish white; cream; pale brown silty clay. Heterogeneous weathered chalk with flint nodules <300mm, sub-angular to sub-rounded, poorly sorted, common.	0.50m+

<b>S'away 2</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	2.00m by 1.60m by 1.30m	
	<b>Coordinates (NGR)</b>	Centre on 418148.218, 135336.49	

<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth (bgl)</b>
001	Layer	Topsoil. Grey brown silty loam with gravel < 70mm Poorly sorted, sub rounded, common; slate < 90mm Angular, poorly sorted, very rare; brick < 230mm, angular, poorly sorted, occasional	0-0.70m
002	Layer	Subsoil. Pale reddish brown silty clay with chalk < 30mm, rounded, poorly sorted, common; flint < 150mm, sub-angular to sub-rounded, poorly sorted, common.	0.70m-0.95m (max)
004	Natural	Pale pinkish white; cream; pale brown silty clay. Heterogeneous weathered chalk with flint nodules < 300mm, sub-angular to sub-rounded, poorly sorted, common.	1.00m+

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## APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM

**OASIS ID: wessexar1-133831**

### Project details

Project name	Kirkee, Gomeldon Road, Winterbourne Gunner
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Mr. Crispin Bickle to undertake a watching brief on land adjacent to Kirkee, Gomeldon Road, Winterbourne Gunner, centred on National Grid Reference 418172 1353487 (hereafter 'the Site'). The archaeological work was undertaken during groundwork in advance of the construction of a new bungalow on a plot of land neighbouring Mr. Bickle's existing dwelling. The Site lies in the immediate vicinity of a Bronze Age pond barrow. In addition, Romano-British remains are known to exist in Gomeldon Road and an Anglo-Saxon cemetery was excavated to the south-east of the Site. During the course of the archaeological works no archaeological features were identified.
Project dates	Start: 28-08-2012 End: 13-09-2012
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	86830 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE SALISBURY WINTERBOURNE Kirkee
Postcode	SP4 6LR
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 18172 35348 51 -1 51 06 59 N 001 44 25 W Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	A Manning
Project supervisor	Matt Leivers
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding	Mr. C. Bickle

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body

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Text"

Paper Archive recipient Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum

Paper Contents "Stratigraphic","other"

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Microfilm","Miscellaneous Material","Plan","Report","Section"

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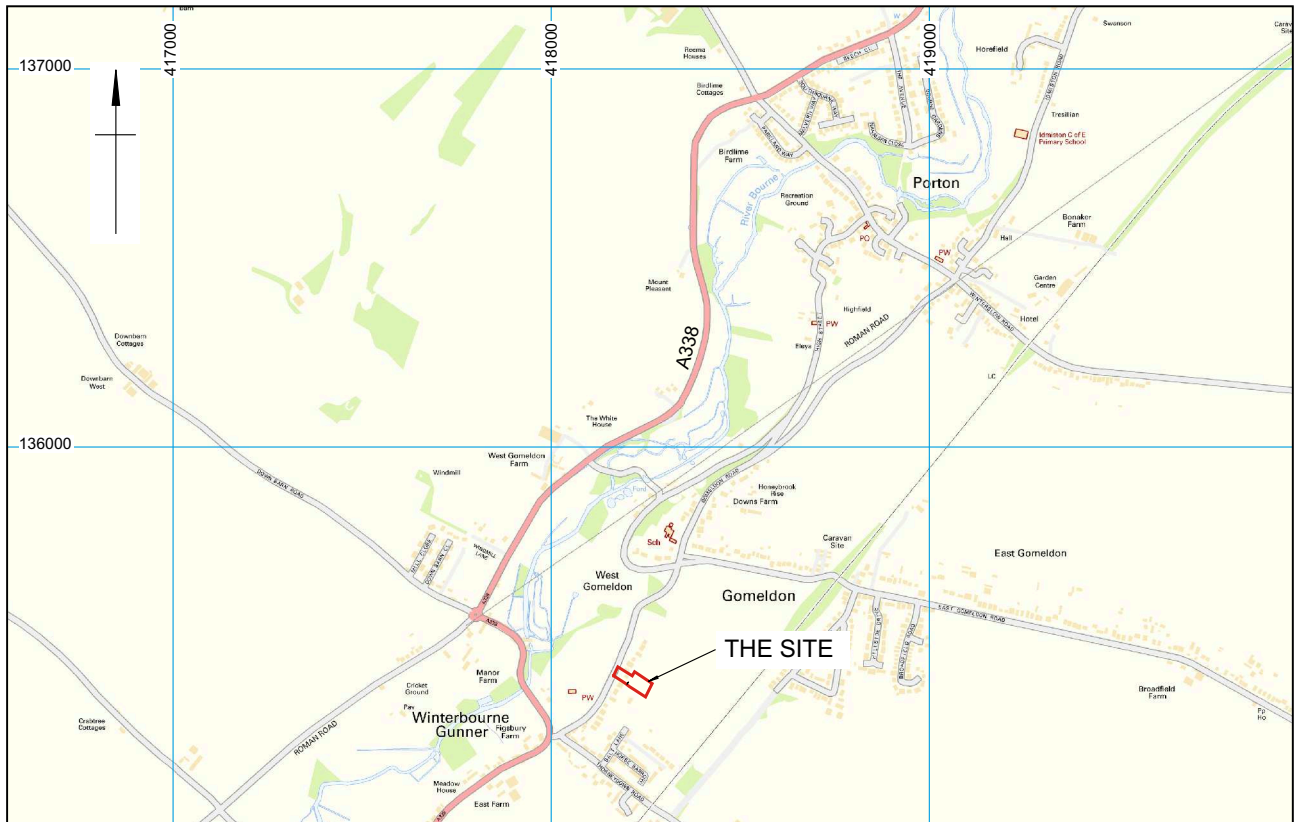
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□ Site boundary  
□ Stripped area  
□ Excavated area

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Site location with areas of archaeological monitoring

Figure 1





Plate 1: Soakaway 1, north-facing section



Plate 2: Soakaway 2, north-facing section


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Plate 3: Trench 2, base of subsoil and weathered chalk in south-east corner of footings



Plate 4: Trench 2, base of topsoil, subsoil and weathered chalk in south-west corner of footings

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