



Church Farm, West Hanney, Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report





**CHURCH FARM,
WEST HANNEY, OXFORDSHIRE**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology (WA) were commissioned by DPDS Consulting, on behalf of The Executors of the Estate of Mr Nigel Eady (deceased), to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Church Farm, West Hanney, Oxfordshire, centred on National Grid Reference 440684 192890.

The Site is located in West Hanney, Oxfordshire, and c.15km southwest of Oxford and comprises a c.0.55ha irregular parcel of land to the north of Church Farm Farmhouse. The Site is currently occupied by a farmyard with accompanying farm buildings, one of which, a barn and stables is a Grade II Listed Building. The topography of the Site is relatively flat at c.63m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), situated between the Childrey Brook to the west and the Letcombe Brook to the east, which are tributaries of the River Ock.

The site was investigated by eight machine excavated trial trenches of varying sizes and represented a 4% sample of the c.0.55ha development area.

A metalled/cobbled surface associated with 17th to 18th century pottery was revealed within a number of the trenches, which is likely to be contemporary with the 18th century Grade II listed Barn and Stables and possibly even the slightly earlier 17th century Grade II listed Church Farm house just to the south of the Site. The surface was fairly haphazard, utilising whatever stone material was to hand; indicative of a typical farm yard surface and not like the well-constructed cobbled surfaces visible around the listed buildings. However, the surfaces revealed in the trenches could be associated with the listed structures and visible cobbled surfaces and are therefore of relatively moderate importance.

It would appear that the south west corner of the farm is the oldest part of the Site and the proximity to the Church of St James (dating from at least the 1150s) could indicate the potential for medieval remains sealed beneath the post-medieval cobbled surfaces. However, these surfaces were not removed during this programme of works as they may be incorporated into the redevelopment of the Site.

The remaining areas of the Site within in the trenches revealed no archaeological features and/or deposits of significance; modern animal burials and services.

In the event that the metalled/cobbled surfaces revealed in the trenches are considered to be in a condition not worthy of preservation *in situ*, and not deemed suitable for retention within the redevelopment of the Site, it is possible that further archaeological mitigation could be required where they are removed. The full scope and methodology of any required mitigation would need to be confirmed and agreed with the Oxfordshire County Archaeological Officer who advises the Local Planning Authority.

The archaeological evaluation was undertaken from 10 to 12 December 2012.

Church Farm, West Hanney,
Oxfordshire
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Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Kerry Pflieger of DPDS Consulting who commissioned the archaeological evaluation on behalf of The Executors of the Estate of Mr Nigel Eddy (deceased). Thanks are also extended to Hugh Coddington Oxfordshire County Archaeological Officer who monitored the work on behalf of Local Planning Authority.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Steve Thompson, Matt Kendall, and Piotr Orczewski. This report was written and compiled by Steve Thompson and Matt Kendall and edited by Damian De Rosa, with finds analysis by Lorraine Mephram, and report illustrations prepared by Elizabeth James.

The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Damian De Rosa.

Church Farm, West Hanney, Oxfordshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) were commissioned by DPDS on behalf of The Executors of the Estate of Mr Nigel Eady (deceased), to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Church Farm, West Hanney, Oxfordshire, centred on National Grid Reference 440684 192890 (hereafter 'the Site') (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The Site comprises of a number of agricultural buildings including a Grade II listed barn and stable. It is proposed that the Site is redeveloped for housing, which will involve the retention of the listed barn as well as the timber barn of post and truss construction to the west, but the demolition and removal of all other existing undesignated farm buildings. The proposal also includes landscaping works and the construction of new housing, with associated ground-works related to foundations and services.
- 1.1.3 A desk-based assessment (DBA) of the Site was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology (WA 2012a) in support of the proposed development. The DBA assessed the archaeological potential of the Site based on the known archaeological records. It considered that although no archaeological sites from any period are known within the proposed development Site, there remained a limited potential for the discovery of prehistoric remains, and potential for the discovery of remains from the Anglo-Saxon period onwards, as the Site is situated close to the historic core of West Hanney which originated during the Anglo-Saxon period.
- 1.1.4 The DBA also considered that there is the potential for elements of post-medieval historic buildings to survive within the core of later farm buildings within the Site.
- 1.1.5 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with an archaeological brief issued by Hugh Coddington, Oxfordshire County Archaeological Officer (CAO) at Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) acting on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA). The brief was issued in response to a Site visit and consultation with Wessex Archaeology and the CAO. This was in order to determine the scope of work required to be undertaken, so that an informed decision in regard of the proposed planning application in respect of the Site's archaeological potential can be determined.
- 1.1.6 In accordance with the archaeological brief and prior to the commencement of the evaluation fieldwork a written scheme of investigation (WA 2012b) setting out the methods by which the work would be undertaken by Wessex Archaeology was submitted to and approved by DPDS and the CAO.

2 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1.1 The Site is located in West Hanney, Oxfordshire, and c.15km southwest of Oxford (**Figure 1**).
- 2.1.2 The Site comprises a c.0.55ha irregular parcel of land to the north of Church Farm Farmhouse. The Site is currently occupied by a farmyard with accompanying farm buildings, one of which, a barn and stables is a Grade II Listed Building.
- 2.1.3 The topography of the Site is relatively flat at c.63m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), situated between the Childrey Brook to the west and the Letcombe Brook to the east, which are tributaries of the River Ock.
- 2.1.4 The underlying geology is mapped as Kimmeridge Clay and Ampthill Clay of the Jurassic period overlain by superficial deposits of River Terrace sand and gravel (<http://maps.bgs.ac.uk>). The soils are very rich, and comprise of clay subsoil overlain by loam and clay (Page and Ditchfield, 1924). On excavation the geology was revealed as limestone, silt and sandy gravels of the Corallian beds (BGS Sheet 253)
- 2.1.5 The evaluation was undertaken between 10th and 12th December 2012.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 A DBA detailing the archaeological and historical background of the Site and surrounding area has been prepared by Wessex Archaeology (WA 2012). A brief summary of the archaeological potential identified within the DBA for the Site is presented below

3.2 Archaeological potential

- 3.2.1 Although no known prehistoric archaeological features or findspots are recorded within the Site itself, disperse archaeological findspots and sites dating from the Neolithic to the Romano-British periods were identified within the 1km Study Area and the wider local landscape. It was therefore considered that although the prehistoric to Romano-British potential of the Site is limited, due to the lack of intrusive archaeological investigations within the Site the archaeological potential remains unknown.
- 3.2.2 As the Site is located close to the historic Anglo-Saxon and medieval core of West Hanney the archaeological potential for these periods was considered to be increased, and it remains a possibility that an earlier farmstead and/or settlement could have been established during these periods. However, due to the lack of intrusive archaeological investigations the Anglo-Saxon and medieval archaeological potential within the Site remains unknown.
- 3.2.3 The potential for buried post-medieval remains is derived from historic map regression and the WA Site visit. It is considered possible that elements of the foundations of the northern section of the surviving Grade II listed barn and stables block, demolished before 1899, may survive under the present farmyard. The antiquity of this demolished northern section is not entirely clear, its presence is suggested on the 1809 estate map, and more obvious

on the 1840 enclosure mapping. If this northern structure is of a similar age to the surviving barn and stables, it may also have been of a stone built construction and substantial foundations may still survive. There is also the potential for historic cobbled surfaces to survive in the areas to the west of barn and stables block.

4 AIMS AND METHODS

4.1 Introduction and General Objectives

4.1.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (WA 2012b) was prepared in accordance with an archaeological brief issued by Hugh Coddington, Oxfordshire County Archaeological Officer (CAO) at Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) acting on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA). The brief was issued in response to a Site visit and consultation with Wessex Archaeology and the CAO.

4.1.2 The WSI (which was submitted to and approved by the CAO) set out the methodologies and standards to be employed by Wessex Archaeology in order to undertake the trial trench evaluation.

4.1.3 The aims of the programme of archaeological works was to:

- clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be threatened by development.
- identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, condition and depth of any surviving remains within the Site.
- assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits.
- the production of a report which will present the project information in sufficient detail to allow interpretation without recourse to the project archive. This will facilitate judgements on the status of the archaeological resource and allow the formulation of an appropriate response ('a mitigation strategy') to the impact of the proposed development on any surviving archaeological deposits, if required.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The evaluation methodology undertaken in order to meet the aims and objectives of the fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the 'Institute of Field Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2008) and the archaeological brief issued by the CAO for the Site and OCC Annex 1 Project Methodology and Data Collection – Field Evaluation

5.2 Evaluation strategy

5.2.1 The trench locations were agreed in consultation with the CAO and represent a 4% sample of the c.0.55ha development area.

5.2.2 Eight trenches were proposed 1 no 25m x 1.8m; 4 no 15m x 1.8m; 1 no 12m x 1.8m and 2 no 3m x 1.8m trenches. However, some trench locations had to be slightly moved due to onsite constraints in the form of underground services and to maintain vehicular access routes (**Figure 1**).

5.3 Fieldwork

5.3.1 Prior to machine excavation, trench locations were scanned by Wessex Archaeology using a cable tracing device (CAT). The positions of all detected services were marked on the ground and trench locations appropriately relocated and altered.

5.3.2 Each trench was excavated under constant archaeological supervision using a toothless grading bucket. The upper levels of overburden were broken using a hydraulic breaker. Excavation of and overburden (topsoil and subsoil) was undertaken in spits to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or natural geology, whichever was encountered first.

5.3.3 Each trench was cleaned by hand where appropriate and planned prior to any hand-excavation. All pre-modern stratified deposits were excavated by hand. A representative section, not less than 1m in length, of deposits through each trench from ground surface to the top of the natural geology was recorded.

5.3.4 A sample of each feature type identified in the evaluation was excavated and recorded. The selection of features for excavation was determined on the basis of their form, fill, and stratigraphic relationship and in order to ensure a reasonable coverage of features and deposits within each trench and provide the best opportunity for the recovery of dating evidence. On advice from the CAO none of the metallised surfaces identified were removed as these may be retained within the proposed redevelopment of the Site.

5.4 Recording

5.4.1 All recording was undertaken using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording sheets and recording system.

5.4.2 A complete drawn record of excavated and archaeological features and deposits was compiled. This included both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections). The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels was calculated and plans/sections annotated with OD heights.

5.4.3 Trench locations and all recorded archaeological features revealed were surveyed using a Leica VIVA GNSS GPS survey system and tied in to the Ordnance Survey.

5.4.4 A photographic record was maintained during the evaluation using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images will be subject to managed quality control and curation processes which will embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set. In addition, colour transparencies and black and white negatives (on 35mm film) were taken of archaeological features.

5.5 Monitoring

- 5.5.1 During the course of the evaluation the work was monitored by Hugh Coddington Oxfordshire County Archaeological Officer on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The following sections provide a summary of the information held in the Site archive. Details of individually excavated contexts and features are retained in the Site archive and a detailed tabulated version of these can be found in **Appendix 1**.

- 6.1.2 The following results section should be read in conjunction with **Appendix 1**.

6.2 Trench 1

- 6.2.1 Trench 1 (**Figure 1** and **Plate 1**) was positioned in the north-west corner of the Site to investigate an area of grass to the north of a building which appears to have developed in three phases from analysis of the 1809, 1899 and modern OS maps.

- 6.2.2 Following the removal of 0.14m of topsoil and turf **101** and a 0.04m thick layer of made ground **102**, a 0.10m thick possible old subsoil layer **103** was revealed sealing *in situ* archaeology. Two approximately north to south aligned parallel bands of sub angular stones in a light yellow mortar **105** were revealed cutting into the top of the natural geology **104**.

- 6.2.3 Feature **105** was revealed on excavation to mark the course of vehicular access (hard-standing in wheel ruts) from Church Street to the north into the building to the south of **Trench 1**. A blocked doorway was visible in the northern elevation of the building to the south to indicate this access. The hard-standing aligns with the 20th century addition to the building and is therefore likely to be contemporary.

6.3 Trenches 2 and 3

- 6.3.1 **Trenches 2** and **3** (**Figure 1**) were positioned to investigate an area of hard-standing towards the central northern area of the Site. Following the removal of a 0.10-0.14m thick layer of rough tarmac recorded as **201** and **301** respectively, the natural basal geology was revealed. The upper levels of geology had been used as a yard surface within the farm complex due to its hard compact nature and for the fact that it was well draining. This reworked natural was recorded as **202** and **302**. Below **202** and **302** was the clean natural recorded as **203** and **303** respectively.

- 6.3.2 At the northern end of **Trench 2**, surface **202** was cut by a modern animal burial **204** (**Plate 2**), and by a ceramic land drain. At the southern end of the trench an area of modern hard standing associated with a man hole and drain was revealed.

- 6.3.3 Towards the south eastern end of **Trench 3** an area of metallised surface was revealed infilling a small hollow and recorded as **304**, while at the north

western end an area of modern hard standing associated with a man hole and drain was revealed.

6.3.4 All identified remains were modern in date.

6.4 Trench 4

6.4.1 **Trench 4 (Figure 1 and Plate 3)** was positioned at the very north east corner of the Site and following the removal of 0.25m of overlying topsoil (**401**) three features were observed cutting the underlying subsoil (**402**). These features were clearly relatively modern in date and on investigation proved to be modern animal burials. Once identified as modern these were removed along with the remaining 0.15m thick subsoil layer (**402**) to reveal the natural basal geology (**403**).

6.4.2 The natural geology was cut by two east west aligned ditches, **404 (Plate 6)** at the south and **410** (which had been cut by modern animal burial **412**) at the north of the trench, while two further features, tree/shrub root bole hole **406 (Plate 4)** and a small pit or post hole **408 (Plate 5)** were also identified.

6.4.3 All features were undated though it is likely they are associated with the orchard located in the field directly to the east, as this part of the Site was still part of the orchard up until sometime between c.1960 and 1975 when the eastern boundary changed as indicated by the historical mapping.

6.5 Trench 5

6.5.1 Trench 5 (**Figure 1**) was positioned directly north of the timber-framed barn dated to 1745. Following the removal of 0.12m of overlying topsoil (**501**) a metalled/cobbled surface (**502**) (**Plate 7**) was revealed. The surface was constructed of roughly rounded stones and was heavily compacted. This surface was not investigated further due to water inundation from the drainage ditch to the west.

6.6 Trench 6

6.6.1 **Trench 6 (Figure 1)** was positioned to the west of the Grade II listed Barn and Stables and to the east of the barn with the timber dated to 1745. Following the removal of 0.07m of compacted gravel (the current farm yard surface) (**601**) a further 0.16m of levelling (**602**) and a 0.09m thick layer of crushed brick and tile (**603**), a metalled/cobbled surface (**604**) (**Plate 8**) was revealed. This surface (**604**) was similar, if not identical to that within **Trench 5** and showed clear indication of repair and the use of different materials to create the surface. Recovered from within deposit **603**, sealing the surface **604**, were a number of sherds of coarse redware pottery dated to the 17th or 18th century, which is contemporary with the date of the listed Barn and Stables and the 1745 dated barn.

6.6.2 At the northern end of Trench 6 metalled surface **604** was truncated by a modern post hole (**606**), which contained the remains of a machine cut timber post.

6.7 Trench 7

6.7.1 **Trench 7 (Figure 1 and Plate 9)** was positioned to the east of the listed Barn and Stables and following the removal of 0.04m of tarmac (**701**) and

0.04m of brick rubble (**702**) the natural geology was encountered. The upper levels of geology had been used as the yard surface associated with the farm due to its compact and well draining nature in the same way as in **Trenches 2 and 3**. This upper geology was recorded as **703** and was 0.07m thick and sealed the undisturbed natural geology (**704**). No archaeological features were observed in **Trench 7**

6.8 Trench 8

6.8.1 **Trench 8 (Figure 1)** was positioned to the south west of the Grade II listed Barn and Stables in the very south west corner of the Site. Following the removal of 0.08m of tarmac and gravel (**801**) and a further 0.14m of made ground (**802**) a metalled/cobbled surface (**804**) (**Plate 10**) was revealed, which was sealed in part by occupation layer **803**. The compact metalled surface was the same as that revealed in **Trench 5** and **7** though unfortunately no dateable material was recovered from the occupation layer (**803**).

7 FINDS

7.1.1 The only finds recovered from the Site comprised nine sherds of pottery, all from the layer (**603**) of crushed brick and tile in Trench 6. All the sherds are of the same type – coarse redwares of post-medieval date. All sherds are internally glazed (three sherds have a white slip coating beneath the glaze), indicating that they probably derive from open forms, and two rim sherds belong to large bowls with thickened and everted rims. The whole group probably dates to the 17th or 18th century. The sherds have not been retained.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL

8.1.1 No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were identified.

9 CONCLUSIONS

9.1.1 The evaluation within Church Farm, West Hanney has identified that there are a limited number of archaeological features and deposits which could be impacted upon by the redevelopment of the Site, but that these features and deposits are of relatively **low** to **moderate** significance.

9.1.2 It is clear that the metalled/cobbled surface observed within Trenches 5, 7 and 8 (the south west corner/quarter of the Site) are likely to be contemporary with the 18th century Grade II listed Barn and Stables and possibly even the slightly earlier 17th century Grade II listed Church Farm house just to the south of the Site. The surface was not as well made as the neatly formed sets, which are located directly west of the Barn and Stables but was more of haphazard metalled surface utilising whatever stone material was to hand; a typical farm yard surface. However, this is associated with two listed structures and therefore of relatively moderate importance.

9.1.3 It is clear that this is the oldest part of the Site and the proximity to the Church of St James (dating from at least the 1150s) could indicate the potential for medieval remains sealed beneath the post-medieval surfaces.

However, these surfaces could not be removed during this programme of works as they may be incorporated into the redevelopment of the Site.

- 9.1.4 The remaining areas of the Site revealed no archaeological features of significance. Trench 4 contained undated features likely associated with the post-medieval orchard located to the east and modern animal burials, as one would expect around a farm yard. Trenches 2 and 3 contained further animal burials and modern services. Trench 1 revealed the remains of consolidated wheel ruts associated with the 20th century addition to a 19th century structure.

10 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1.1 In the event that the metalled/cobbled surfaces revealed in the trenches are considered to be in a condition not worthy for preservation *in situ*, and not deemed suitable for retention within the redevelopment of the Site, it is possible that further archaeological mitigation could be required where they are removed. The full scope and methodology of any required mitigation would need to be confirmed and agreed with the Oxfordshire County Archaeological Officer who advises the Local Planning Authority.

11 ARCHIVE

11.1 Preparation and Deposition

- 11.1.1 The project archive will be prepared in accordance with the guidelines outline in Appendix 3 of Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991) and in accordance with the UKIC Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (Walker 1990).
- 11.1.2 The archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury under the WA project code **86381**. The completed archive, which will include all paperwork, will on the completion of the all fieldwork and post-excavation reporting ultimately, be deposited with the Oxfordshire County Museum Service for permanent storage under Accession Code **OXCMS:2012.148**.
- 11.1.3 Digital images will be curated under arrangements agreed for the Wessex Archaeology Digital Image Archive Trial and will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (University of York) as part of the submission of an OASIS record for the project.

11.2 Copyright

- 11.2.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the Site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. The Museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profit making, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003.

11.3 Security Copy

- 11.3.1 In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a security copy of the paper records will be prepared, in the form of microfilm. The

master jackets and one diazo copy of the microfilm will be submitted to the National Monuments Record Centre (Swindon); a second diazo copy will be deposited with the paper records at the Museum, and a third diazo copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology.

12 REFERENCES

12.1 Bibliography

English Heritage, 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*

Institute of Field Archaeologists [IfA], 2008 (revised), *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation*

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APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

Bgl: below ground level

aOD: above Ordnance Datum

Trench 1	Dimensions :	4.40 x 1.50 x 0.30m	Ground surface level:	62.75m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	440665.78, 192916.50 440663.51, 192913.08		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
101	Layer	Topsoil – Dark grey silty clay loam containing abundant rooting and occasional red brick fragments (<0.05m).	0 – 0.14m	
102	Layer	Made ground – Pale whitish grey silty clay containing abundant chalk flecks. Only present in the first 0.60m at the south-western end of the trench.	0.14 – 0.18m	
103	Layer	Subsoil – Mid grey silty clay loam containing occasional to common, sub-rounded to sub-angular, stone inclusions (<0.10m). Possibly remains of demolition rubble.	0.18 – 0.28m	
104	Layer	Natural – River gravels; mid greyish white silty sand with greyish green sand patches. Contains common to abundant gravel inclusions (<0.05m).	0.28m+	
105	Layer	Hard standing – Two bands of a metalised surface most likely put down due to farm traffic. Could be in filled wheel ruts linked to the barn that is located immediately to the south of the trench.	-	

Trench 2	Dimensions :	11.20 x 1.50 x 0.40m	Ground surface level:	62.80m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	440693.65, 192923.74 440687.77, 192914.41		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
201	Layer	Hard standing – Compacted hardcore material used as the present day working surface.	0 – 0.12m	
202	Layer	Reworked natural used as a prior yard surface for the farm. Topsoil obviously removed at some point and solid geology used as the surface.	0.12 – 0.16m	
203	Layer	Natural – River gravels; silty sand with green sandy patches containing sub-angular to sub-rounded gravels (<0.04m)	0.16m+	
204	Cut	Modern north – south aligned animal burial, possibly a cow, measuring 2.04m in length by 0.96m wide. Unexcavated.	-	
205	Fill	Deliberate backfill of 204 consisting of redeposited soils and an articulated animal skeleton.	-	

Trench 3	Dimensions :	14.30 x 1.50 x 0.40m	Ground surface level:	62.73m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	440684.09, 192913.74 440695.10, 192904.15		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
301	Layer	Tarmac/hard standing – Mix of compacted hardcore material and loose tarmac which is being used as the present day working surface.	0 – 0.10m	
302	Layer	Reworked natural used as a prior yard surface for the farm. Topsoil obviously removed at some point and solid geology used as the surface.	0.10 – 0.23m	
303	Layer	Natural – River gravels; silty sand with green sandy patches containing sub-angular to sub-rounded gravels (<0.04m).	0.23m+	
304	Layer	Metalled surface – Area of compacted rounded stones (<0.1m) measuring 1.49m by 1.47m used to infill a depression which had formed in 302.	0.22m	

Trench 4	Dimensions :	27.20 x 1.50 x 1.10m	Ground surface level:	62.93m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	440714.20, 192921.05 440714.47, 192894.38		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
401	Layer	Topsoil – Dark greyish brown silty clay loam containing abundant rooting and occasional sub-rounded to sub-angular stone (<0.06m) and brick fragments (<0.15m).	0 – 0.25m	
402	Layer	Subsoil – Mid to dark grey silty clay containing occasional sub-rounded chalk inclusions (<0.04m) and occasional to sparse brick fragments (<0.12m).	0.25 – 0.40m	
403	Layer	Natural – Degraded limestone gravel, different from the surrounding geology, containing occasional to frequent sub-rounded to sub-angular flint inclusions (<0.05m).	0.40m+	
404	Cut	An east – west aligned ditch measuring 1.25m in width and 0.42m deep with moderate concave sides and a flatish base. Undated but probably relates to the orchard which first appears on the 1877 25" OS map.	0.42m deep	
405	Fill	Secondary fill of 404 – Mid grey silty clay containing occasional chalk (<0.04m) and sparse flint (<0.03m) inclusions. Derived from natural depositional processes.	0.42m thick	
406	Cut	An east – west aligned shrub bowl measuring 1.13m in length by 1.18m in width and 0.33m deep with moderate concave sides and a slightly concave base. Undated but probably relates to the orchard which first appears on the 1877 25" OS map.	0.33m deep	

407	Fill	Bioturbation fill of 406 – Dark grey silty clay containing occasional to common chalk inclusions (<0.04m). Derived from root action and decomposition. Fragments of animal bone were recovered.	0.33m thick
408	Cut	A circular pit measuring 0.63m by 0.69m and 0.19m deep with steep concave sides and a flat base. Undated but probably relates to the orchard which first appears on the 1877 25" OS map.	0.19m deep
409	Fill	Secondary fill of 408 – Dark grey silty clay containing occasional sub-rounded to sub-angular flint and chalk inclusions (<0.03m). Derived from natural depositional processes.	0.19m thick
410	Cut	An east – west aligned gully measuring 0.50m in width located at the northern end of the trench. Cut by animal grave 412. Unexcavated.	-
411	Fill	Secondary fill of 410 – Mid grey silty clay containing occasional sub-rounded chalk (<0.04m) and sparse flint (<0.03m).	-
412	Cut	A modern north – south aligned animal burial, possibly a pig, measuring 1.35m in length by 0.46m in width and cuts 410. Unexcavated.	-
413	Fill	Deliberate backfill of 412 consisting of redeposited soils and an articulated animal skeleton.	-

Trench 5	Dimensions :	2.50 x 1.50 x 0.12m	Ground surface level:	62.04m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	440654.43, 192886.48 440654.20, 192884.38		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
501	Layer	Topsoil – Dark brown silty loam containing occasional sub-rounded stones (<0.05m). This is a modern deposit/accumulation which seals metallated surface 502.	0 – 0.12m	
502	Layer	Metallated surface – Compacted rounded to sub-rounded stones (<0.15m) visible in the entire trench, similar to Trench 6 but not investigated due to water inundation.	0.12m+	

Trench 6	Dimensions :	14.70 x 1.50 x 0.47m	Ground surface level:	62.20m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	440674.29, 192894.84 440675.08, 192880.29		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
601	Layer	Hard standing – Compacted gravel used as the present day working surface.	0 – 0.07m	
602	Layer	Made ground – Loose gravel components (<0.03m) put down to level the ground prior to the establishment of 601.	0.07 – 0.23m	
603	Layer	Made ground – Thin band of CBM rubble which occurs in patches throughout the trench. Made up of brick and tile fragments. Pottery recovered from this layer.	0.23 – 0.32m	

604	Layer	Metalled surface – Compacted rounded to sub-rounded stones (<0.15m) occurring throughout the trench apart from the northernmost 2m. An older yard surface for the farm.	0.32 – 0.39
605	Layer	Natural – River gravels; mid greyish white silty sand with greyish green sand patches. Contains common to abundant gravel inclusions (<0.05m).	0.39m+
606	Cut	Cut of a modern post hole with an in-situ post. Most likely cutting 604 but this is unclear. Measures 0.47m by 0.39m.	-
607	Fill	Modern post and post-packing of 606.	-

Trench 7	Dimensions :	13.60 x 1.50 x 0.50m	Ground surface level:	62.50 - 63.00m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	440692.98, 192884.87 440695.12, 192871.49		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
701	Layer	Hard standing – Modern tarmac surface of farm yard. Becomes thinner further north and is almost non-existent at the northern end of the trench.	0 – 0.04m	
702	Layer	Made ground – Modern brick rubble crushed into the top of the re-worked natural layer towards the south of the trench.	0.04 – 0.08m	
703	Layer	Reworked natural used as a prior yard surface for the farm. Topsoil obviously removed at some point and solid geology used as the surface.	0.08 – 0.15m	
704	Layer	Natural – River gravels; silty sand with green sandy patches containing sub-angular to sub-rounded gravels (<0.04m).	0.15m+	

Trench 8	Dimensions :	7.78 x 1.50 x 0.24m	Ground surface level:	62.24m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	440656.94, 192862.36 440659.02, 192854.95		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
801	Layer	Ground surface – Compact dark brown black gravel used as the present day working surface.	0 – 0.08m	
802	Layer	Made ground – Loose gravel components (<0.03m) put down to level the ground prior to the establishment of 601.	0.08 – 0.22m	
803	Layer	Occupation layer – Mid brown silty loam which has been pushed in amongst the depressions in the metalled surface.	0.22 – 0.24m	
804	Layer	Metalled surface – Compacted rounded to sub-rounded stones (<0.15m) occurring throughout the trench. An older yard surface for the farm.	0.24m+	

APPENDIX 2: OASIS

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: wessexar1-139710

Project details

Project name	CHURCH FARM, WEST HANNEY, OXFORDSHIRE
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology (WA) were commissioned by DPDS Consulting, on behalf of The Executors of the Estate of Mr Nigel Eady (deceased), to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Church Farm, West Hanney, Oxfordshire. A planning application has been submitted for the residential redevelopment of the farmyard and retention of a number of Grade II listed buildings. A metalled surface associated with 17th to 18th century pottery was revealed within a number of the trenches, which is likely to be contemporary with the 18th century Grade II listed Barn and Stables and possibly even the slightly earlier 17th century Grade II listed Church Farm house just to the south of the Site. The surface was a fairly haphazard metalled surface utilising whatever stone material was to hand; indicative of a typical farm yard surface and not the well constructed sets visible around the listed buildings. The remaining areas of the Site within in the trenches revealed no archaeological features and/or deposits of significance; modern animal burials and services.
Project dates	Start: 10-12-2012 End: 12-12-2012
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	86381 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	OXCMS:2012.148 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	P12/V2067/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	ANIMAL BURIALS Modern
Monument type	METALLED SURFACES Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval

Project location

Country England

Site location OXFORDSHIRE VALE OF WHITE HORSE WEST HANNEY CHURCH FARM,
WEST HANNEY, OXFORDSHIRE

Postcode OX12 0LE

Study area 0.55 Hectares

Lat/Long Datum 440684/192890
(other)

Height OD / Depth Min: 62.50m Max: 62.60m

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 Damian De Rosa

Project supervisor S Thompson

Type of sponsor/funding body Executors of the Estate

Name of sponsor/funding body Executors of the Estate of Nigel Eady (Deceased)

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Oxfordshire Museums Service

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

Paper Archive recipient Oxfordshire Museums Service

Paper Media available "Context sheet","Diary","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title CHURCH FARM, WEST HANNEY, OXFORDSHIRE, Archaeological Evaluation Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) Thompson, S

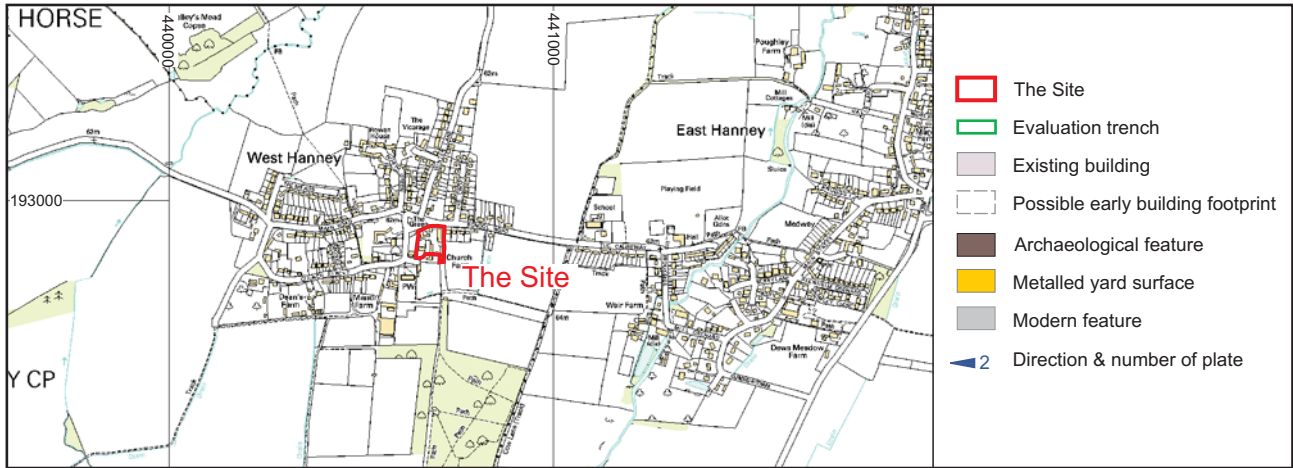
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Entered on	19 December 2012

OASIS:

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Date:	17/12/12	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:20,000 & 1:600 at A4	Illustrator:	KL/SEJ
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Site and trench location showing archaeological features

Figure 1



Plate 1: South east facing representative section of Trench 1 (scale 1m)



Plate 2: Trench 2 from the north east, showing modern animal burial and land drain (scale 2m, 1m)

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Plate 3: Trench 4 from the south, (scale 2m, 1m)



Plate 4: North facing section of tree/shrub root bole hole 406. (scale 1m)

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Plate 5: West facing section of pit 408 (scale 0.50m)



Plate 6: West facing representative section Trench 4 and ditch 404 (scale 1m, 0.20m)

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Plate 7: Trench 5 from the north showing metallised surface 502.
(scale 2m, 1m)



Plate 8: Trench 6 from the south showing metallised surface 604.
(scale 1m)

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Plate 9: Trench 7 from the north (scale 2m, 1m)



Plate 10: Trench 8 from the south showing metallised surface 804. (scale 2m, 1m)

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