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# The King John Inn Tollard Royal, Wiltshire

Archaeological Watching Brief Report



Wiltshire Council Planning Application number: 15/00629/FUL  
Ref: 109650.02  
July 2015



**The King John Inn  
Tollard Royal, Wiltshire**

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

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## Quality Assurance

<b>Project Code</b>	109650	<b>Accession Code</b>		<b>Client Ref.</b>	
<b>Planning Application Ref.</b>	15/00629/FUL	<b>Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)</b>	394215 117796		

<b>Version</b>	<b>Status*</b>	<b>Prepared by</b>	<b>Checked and Approved By</b>	<b>Approver's Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
v01	I	LN	GSC		10/07/15
<b>File:</b>	\\projectserver\wessex\Projects\109650\_Reports				
<b>File:</b>					
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<b>File:</b>					
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\* I = Internal Draft; E = External Draft; F = Final

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# The King John Inn Tollard Royal, Wiltshire

## Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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# **The King John Inn Tollard Royal, Wiltshire**

## **Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

### **Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Cirrus Inns Ltd to maintain an archaeological watching brief during groundworks at The King John Inn, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 394215 117796. The work was in preparation for the construction of a new underground sewage treatment plant. The watching brief was carried out on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

The archaeological watching brief was maintained during works to reduce the ground level in preparation for construction. No archaeological features were noted during the works, and only archaeological artefacts of a modern date were recovered.



# **The King John Inn Tollard Royal, Wiltshire**

## **Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

### **Acknowledgements**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Cirrus Inns Ltd and would like to thank Jean Taylor in this regard. Thanks are also extended to Clare King (Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service) who monitored the works on behalf of the Local Planning Authority. The help and assistance of Mike Willes of Hi-Tec Drains is also acknowledged.

The archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Dave Murdie and the report compiled by Lee Newton. The finds were examined by Lorraine Mephram. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Gareth Chaffey.



# The King John Inn Tollard Royal, Wiltshire

## Archaeological Watching Brief Report

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Cirrus Inns Ltd (hereafter 'the Client'), to carry out an archaeological watching brief on land at The King John Inn, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire (**Figure 1**), hereafter "the Site" (centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 394215 117796).

1.1.2 Planning permission (15/00629/FUL) has been granted by Wiltshire Council (WC) for the construction of a new underground sewage treatment plant to be connected to an existing soakaway. The development will be situated in the existing car park at the rear of the property and cover an area of approximately 200m<sup>2</sup>.

1.1.3 In response to this application the Assistant County Archaeologist, Clare King, had noted that the site lay in an area of archaeological interest. This was due to the fact that it lies within the medieval settlement area of Tollard Royal and is adjacent to the 18<sup>th</sup> century Grade II Listed Old Foundry Cottage (list entry 1262908)

1.1.4 Accordingly the following condition was recommended:

*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.*

1.1.5 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by WA and submitted to, and approved by, the client and WC prior to the start of fieldwork. The watching brief was conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA 2014a).

1.1.6 The fieldwork was undertaken on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

#### 1.2 The Site

1.2.1 The Site is located within the village of Tollard Royal, approximately 5 km to the west of Sixpenny Handley and around 9 km to the south-east of Shaftesbury.



- 1.2.2 The Site is bounded to the south by an unnamed road, to the west by Hanging Cottage, to the east by The Old Foundry and to the north by agricultural fields (**Figure 1**). The development area itself lies to the rear of the property in an area of the existing car park.
- 1.2.3 The Site is situated at an elevation of approximately 111 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The underlying geology of the Site is mapped as chalk of the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation with no superficial deposits recorded (British Geological Survey).

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 2.1.1 A Neolithic axehead, five arrowheads (Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (WHER) MWI2664) and a Bronze Age bracelet or arm ring (HER MWI2632), all found within the parish, suggest some prehistoric activity within the area.
- 2.1.2 The village itself is known to have medieval origins and is listed in the Domesday Survey (1086) as a large settlement of 31 households. King Johns House, which lies to the south-east of the Site, dates to the 13<sup>th</sup> century (list entry 1146279) as does the parish church (list entry 1146278). Two undated field systems (WHER MWI2652 and MWI2660) may also relate to activity at this time.
- 2.1.3 The area to the south-east of the village forms part of Grade II Registered Park and Garden of Rushmore Park, which has its origins as a post-medieval and possibly medieval deer park (list entry 1000542)
- 2.1.4 A number of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century farmsteads and outfarms within the parish (MWI65142, MWI65217, MWI65218, MWI65219, MWI65220, MWI65221, MWI65222 and MWI65283) demonstrate the largely rural nature of the parish during the post-medieval and early modern period. A number of Listed Buildings within the core of the village also date to this time (list entry 1146238, 1146277, 1251213, 1262888 and 1262901); including The Old Foundry which lies immediately to the east of the Site (list entry 1262908).
- 2.1.5 The King John Inn can be seen on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition (1887) Ordnance Survey (OS) map labelled as Queens Arms. It has, however, been renamed King John's Hotel by the 1901 edition.

## **3 AIMS AND METHODS**

### **3.1 General aims and objectives**

3.1.1 The aims of the watching brief were:

- *to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains, and, should remains be present, to ensure their preservation by record to the highest possible standard;*
- *to confirm the approximate date or date range of the remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;*
- *to determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains;*
- *to determine the condition and state of preservation of the remains;*
- *to determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present; and*
- *to prepare a report on the results of the watching brief.*





## **3.2 Fieldwork methodology**

- 3.2.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the methodology set out within the WSI and in compliance with the ClfA's *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (ClfA 2014a), excepting where they were superseded by statements made below.
- 3.2.2 The fieldwork consisted of the monitoring of all soil stripping and excavations associated with the proposed development, namely a 9.7m x 2.5m (24.5m<sup>2</sup>) area, Trench 1, and a connecting pipe trench. The watching brief was undertaken by an experienced archaeologist and the mechanical excavation was undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant supervision by WA.
- 3.2.3 The watching brief was maintained throughout initial excavations and was concluded when it was clear that the potential for archaeological remains to be exposed had been exhausted.
- 3.2.4 WA staff investigated archaeological deposits and features by excavation and recording commensurate with the scale of work. All exposed archaeological deposits were recorded using WA's *pro forma* recording system.
- 3.2.5 A complete drawn record of archaeological features and deposits was compiled and included both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and with reference to a site grid tied to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels was calculated and plans/sections were annotated with OD heights.
- 3.2.6 A photographic record was maintained during the watching brief using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been 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.

## **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

- 4.1.1 No archaeological remains or features were recorded within the area of the proposed development.

## **5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE**

- 5.1.1 The only finds recovered from the Site comprised one piece of glass, from the neck of a 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century soda bottle; and five sherds of pottery (two of Verwood-type earthenware, 18<sup>th</sup> century or later, and three refined whitewares, 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century). These finds were recovered from modern deposits and have not been retained.

## **6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

- 6.1.1 No material suitable for environmental analysis was observed within the monitored areas.

## **7 DISCUSSION**

- 7.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the excavations. No further archaeological works are therefore deemed necessary at this time. The only finds recovered from the site were of a modern date.



## 8 STORAGE AND CURATION

### 8.1 Museum

8.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum, though it should be noted that this is currently a closed repository. The archive is currently held at WA's Salisbury office under the Site code **109650**.

### 8.2 Archive

8.2.1 The complete Site archive will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014b; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

8.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the Site code, and a fill index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:

- 1 file of paper records.

### 8.3 Discard policy

8.3.1 WA follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant further analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.

8.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2002).

### 8.4 Security Copy

8.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

## 9 REFERENCES

ADS 2013. *Caring for Digital Data in Archaeology: a guide to good practice*, Archaeology Data Service & Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice

Brown, D.H., 2011. *Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014a. *Standards and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief*, CIfA

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014b. *Standards and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, CIfA

SMA 1993. *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections*, Society of Museum Archaeologists



SMA 1995. Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive, Society of Museum Archaeologists.

Wessex Archaeology 2015. The King John Inn, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief, unpublished client report

**Online resources**

British Geological Survey, <http://www.bgs.ac.uk> [accessed June 2015]



## 10 APPENDIX 1 – CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Description	
101	<i>Layer</i>	Limestone chipping, present day car park surface
102	<i>Layer</i>	Modern made up ground, mainly limestone ballast with some concrete, tarmac and brick rubble. Levelling surface.
103	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of [104]. Fine limestone chipping over modern pipe.
104	<i>Cut</i>	Filled with (103). Cut of modern pipe trench, contained 10mm Cu central heating pipe.
105	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of [106]. Fine limestone chipping over modern pipe.
106	<i>Cut</i>	Filled with (105). Cut of modern pipe trench, contained 10mm Cu central heating pipe.
107	<i>Layer</i>	Natural chalk.

## 11 APPENDIX 2 – OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: [wessexar1-217435](#)

### Project details

Project name	The King John Inn, Tollard Royal
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Cirrus Inns Ltd to maintain an archaeological watching brief during groundworks at The King John Inn, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 394215 117796. The work was in preparation for the construction of a new underground sewage treatment plant. The watching brief was carried out on 6th July 2015. The archaeological watching brief was maintained during works to reduce the ground level in preparation for construction. No archaeological features were noted during the works, and only archaeological artefacts of a modern date were recovered.
Project dates	Start: 06-07-2015 End: 06-07-2015
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	109650 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	15/00629/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern



Investigation type "Watching Brief"  
Prompt Planning condition

### Project location

Country England  
Site location WILTSHIRE SALISBURY TOLLARD ROYAL The King John Inn, Tollard Royal  
Postcode SP5 5PS  
Study area 0 Hectares  
Site coordinates ST 394231 117806 50.9017657147 -2.86156411712 50 54 06 N 002 51 41 W Point  
Lat/Long Datum WGS 84 Datum

### Project creators

Name of Organisation Wessex Archaeology  
Project brief originator Cirrus Inns Ltd  
Project design originator Wessex Archaeology  
Project director/manager Gareth Chaffey  
Project supervisor D Murdie  
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer  
Name of sponsor/funding body Cirrus Inns Ltd

### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No  
Digital Archive recipient Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum  
Digital Archive ID 109650  
Digital Contents "none"  
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Text"  
Paper Archive recipient Salisbury and South Wilts Museum



Paper Archive ID	109650
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Report"

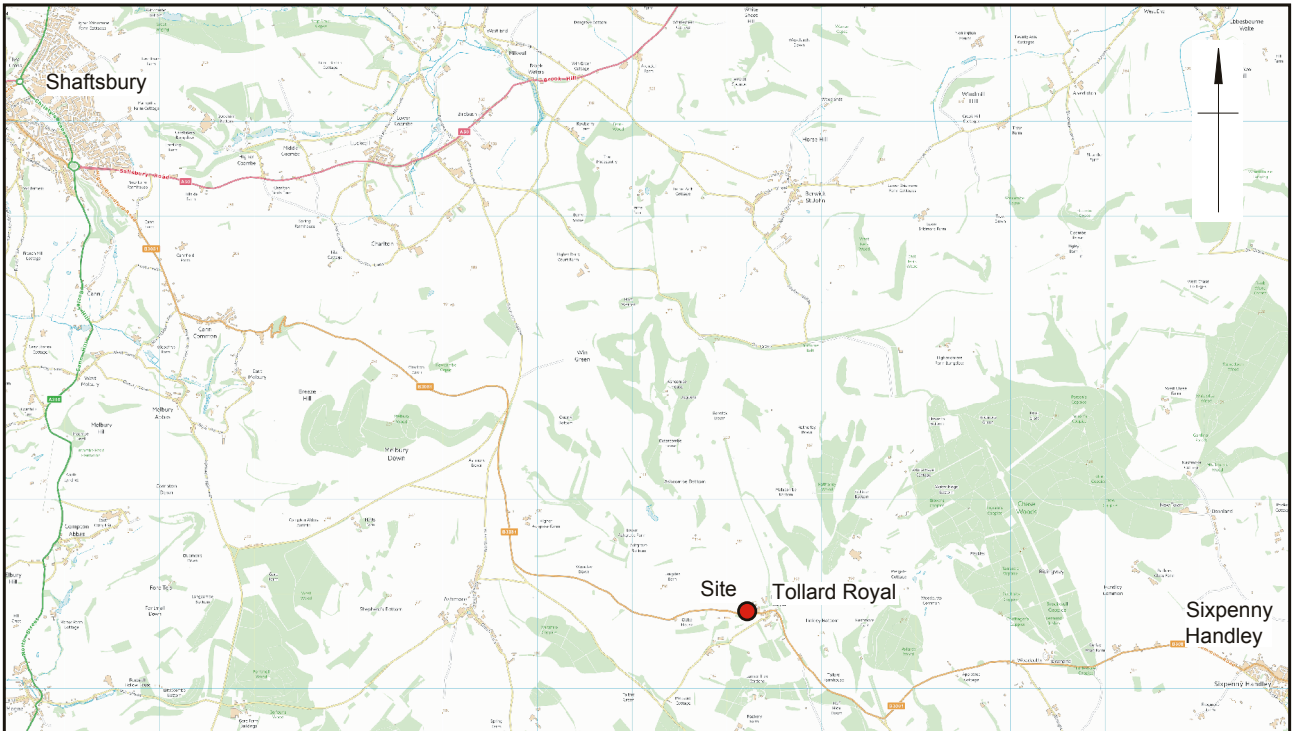
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### **Project bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	The King John Inn, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newton, L
Other bibliographic details	109650.02
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Wessex Archaeology, Salisbury
Description	A4 illustrated client report

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Entered by	Gareth Chaffey (g.chaffey@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	10 July 2015



- Site boundary
- Approximate watching brief location



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Date:	28/07/2015	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:800,000 & 1:800 @A4	Illustrator:	KJF/KMN
Path:	X:\PROJECTS\109650\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\wb\2015_07_28		

Location of Site and watching brief area

Figure 1



Plate 1: View of Trench 1 from north-west



Plate 2: South facing representative section of Trench 1



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Plate 3: View of excavated pipe trench, from east

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