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Chisbury Manor Ground Source Heat Pump Chisbury, Marlborough, Wiltshire

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Scheduled Monument Consent Ref.: S00107896
Ref: 109340.01
July 2015



**Chisbury Manor Ground Source Heat Pump
Chisbury, Marlborough, Wiltshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Prepared for

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Quality Assurance

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Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Mr Andrew Stafford-Dietsch to carry out an Archaeological Watching Brief during groundworks for the installation of a ground source heating system at Chisbury Manor, located within the ramparts of Chisbury Camp - a multivallate Iron Age hillfort 0.5 km south-east of the village of Chisbury, Marlborough. The Site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 427910 166101. The fieldwork was undertaken between 8th June and 15th July 2015

The site was within the confines of a driveway comprising gravel and made-ground. This overlay a soft black buried soil, beneath which was the natural gravel. No excavation extended beyond 1 m in depth, and no archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were found.



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Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Mr. Andrew Stafford-Dietsch for commissioning the work, and for the advice and assistance of Hugh Beamish for Historic England.

The fieldwork was managed by Bruce Eaton and directed in the field by Phil Harding and Mike Dinwiddy, the latter wrote this report. Illustrations were prepared by Kitty Foster.



Chisbury Manor Ground Source Heat Pump Chisbury, Marlborough, Wiltshire

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Mr. Andrew Stafford-Dietsch ('the Client') to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the installation of a ground source heating system at Chisbury Manor, Chisbury, Marlborough, centred on NGR 427910 166101 ('the Site'; **Figure 1**).

1.1.2 The ground source heating system will be capable of providing all heating and hot water needs for the Manor house and a nearby cottage. The system required 8 x 140 mm diameter boreholes to be drilled to a depth of 125 m and positioned no less than 6 m apart. Pipes laid in 1 m deep trenches are used to connect the boreholes to the associated apparatus in the adjacent outbuildings.

1.1.3 The Site lay within the confines of a Scheduled Monument – Chisbury Camp (Scheduled Monument List Entry No. 1013400; see below).

1.1.4 Scheduled Monument Consent (ref: S00107896) was issued by Mr Hugh Beamish, Inspector of Ancient Monuments, on the 8th May 2015, with the following archaeological condition attached:

'No ground works shall take place until the applicant has confirmed in writing the commissioning of a programme of archaeological work before and during the development in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Secretary of State advised by Historic England.'

1.1.5 This report has been prepared in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; WA 2015) and guidance given in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE, Historic England 2015), ClfA's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (ClfA 2014a) excepting where superseded by statements below.

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 Chisbury Manor is located within the ramparts of Chisbury Camp, an Iron Age hillfort 0.5 km south-east of the village of Chisbury, a hamlet approximately 10 km south-east of Marlborough and 6.5 km west of Hungerford. The hillfort is approximately 175 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), the highest point in the parish of Little Bedwyn.

1.2.2 The underlying geology of the area is mapped as Plateau Gravel of doubtful age and origin (BGS 1971, sheet 267).



2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1.1 Chisbury Camp is an Iron Age hillfort with bivallate and trivallate defences. In some places the defences are over 50 m wide in overall width and enclose an area of approximately 5.6 ha. The Historic Environment Record (<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>) describes Chisbury Camp as a well preserved example of its class, with extensive and well-preserved evidence for occupation within the interior, dating to the Late Iron Age and Roman periods.
- 2.1.2 Isolated finds from around the hillfort's environs include a silver coin of Epaticca (type Mack 263), a Gaulish Potin coin dating to the mid-1st century BC, a fragment of an Iron age sword hilt, a hoard of 99 Romano-British coins dating from the late 4th century and a crescentic headed Romano-British lynch pin.
- 2.1.3 St Martin's Chapel - a rare, relatively intact 13th century example - is situated on the eastern edge of the hilltop across the line of the hillfort defences. It is unclear as to whether this area was levelled prior to construction or if the chapel was founded in an existing entranceway. It retains original fabric and features and features re-used 12th century stonework within its structure. The chapel is thought to be either a chapel of ease to the parish of Great Bedwyn or a free chapel of the abbey of St Denys in Hampshire. From the 18th century until recently the chapel was used as a farm building.
- 2.1.4 The present Manor House dates to the 18th century, but replaced a much older timber framed structure.

3 AIMS

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

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The strategy and methodology for the watching brief is set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; WA 2015), which follows current best practice and guidance as outlined in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015), and the ClfA's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (ClfA 2014a).



4.2 Watching brief

- 4.2.1 All groundworks associated with heating system installation were monitored by an experienced archaeologist.
- 4.2.2 Test pits were hand dug to the level of the natural in the eight borehole locations, and the pipe trenches were mechanically excavated to a depth of 1 m (**Plates 1 and 2**).
- 4.2.3 Stripped material was visually examined for archaeological material.
- 4.2.4 Recording included written, drawn, and photographic elements as conditions allowed, and using WA's *pro forma* recording system. Details are available upon request.
- 4.2.5 The watching brief was maintained throughout.

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Summaries of the test pit and trench observations are in **Appendix 1**.
- 5.1.2 Similar stratigraphic sequences were observed throughout the Site. The uppermost deposit – the driveway surface - comprised a 0.25-0.30 m deep layer of gravel and peagrit. This overlay a substantial layer of made-ground up to 0.80 m thick and consisting of mixed demolition waste (including dumps of whole bricks and thermolite insulation blocks (**Plate 3**), soils and gravels.
- 5.1.3 A 20 m thick layer of soft black silty clay, probably representing a burial soil, was observed below the made-ground.
- 5.1.4 The natural was encountered at 0.5-1.0 m, pale brown compact poorly sorted pebble sized sub angular flint.
- 5.1.5 No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were observed.

6 DISCUSSION

- 6.1.1 The results indicate that the original ground surface has been buried below dumps of imported demolition debris. Whilst no archaeological remains were observed below the buried soils, the apparent lack of truncation and disturbance indicates a potential for archaeological features and deposits to be preserved some depth below the current surface in the immediate vicinity of the Site.

7 OASIS

- 7.1.1 An OASIS online record (<http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>) will be initiated for the work and key fields in regard of the evaluation will be completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All appropriate parts of the form will be completed for submission to the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive).



8 STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with Devizes Museum, who has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the site code **109340**.

8.2 Preparation of Archive

- 8.2.1 The complete archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Salisbury Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993, 1995; CIfA 2014b; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 8.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises one file of paper records.

8.3 Security Copy

- 8.3.1 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.

8.4 Copyright

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

9 REFERENCES

9.1 Bibliography

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10 APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1: Test pit and Trench summary tables

Test pit	dimensions (m): 0.30 x 0.30 x 0.90	
1	land use: drive way and parking area	
category	description	depth (m) blg
Made ground	Made ground including brick rubble	0–0.25
Buried soil	dark grey/black slightly silty clay with mixed gravel	0.25–0.90
Natural	gravel not seen clearly but deposit very compact and clearly lighter in colour than the buried soil	0.90 +

Test pit	dimensions (m): 0.30 x 0.30 x 1	
2	land use: drive way and parking area	
category	description	depth (m) blg
Made ground	Made ground as in test hole 1, electricity cable at 0.40m	0–0.50
Buried soil	Buried soil	0050-1
Natural	Natural gravel. Not seen clearly but lighter in colour	1 +

Test pit	dimensions (m): 0.30 x 0.30 x 0.80	
3	land use: drive way and parking area	
category	description	depth (m) blg
Made ground	Made ground. Extensive deposits of brick and gravel Natural deposits not seen hole aborted at 0.80	0–0.80

Test pit	dimensions (m): 0.30 x 0.30 x 0.55	
4	land use: drive way and parking area	
category	description	depth (m) blg
Made ground	Deposit included large deposits of brick rubble near the top with poorly sorted material further down. This included quantities of chalk not seen elsewhere on the site. No clear dividing line between upper and lower components. No buried soil. Deposit extremely well compacted.	0–0.55



Test pit 5	dimensions (m): 0.30 x 0.30 x 0.85	
	land use: drive way and parking area	
category	description	depth (m) blg
Made ground	Made ground as elsewhere	0–0.40
Buried soil	Buried soil as elsewhere	0.40–0.85
Natural	Natural gravel. Surface con tact not clearly defines, very compact and lighter than the buried soil	0.85+

Test pit 6	dimensions (m): 0.30 x 0.30 x 0.70	
	land use: drive way and parking area	
category	description	depth (m) blg
Made ground	Made ground and topsoil made ground beneath topsoil, topsoil beneath lawn	0–0.40
Buried soil	As elsewhere	0.40–0.70
Natural	Natural gravel as elsewhere	0.90 +

Test pit 7	dimensions (m): 0.30 x 0.30 x 0.70	
	land use: drive way and parking area	
category	description	depth (m) blg
Made ground	Extensive brick rubble with a motar layer at the base, this may show the marking of a shallow foundation.	0–0.25
Buried soil	As elsewhere	0.25–0.70
Natural	Natural gravel as elsewhere	0.70 +

Test pit 8	dimensions (m): 0.30 x 0.30 x 0.50	
	land use: drive way and parking area	
category	description	depth (m) blg
Made ground	As elsewhere	0–0.25
Buried soil	As elsewhere	0.25–0.50
Natural	Natural gravel, light yellow medium fine poorly sorted, and angular matrix supported gravel	0.50 +



Section/test pit 8	dimensions (m): 0.50 x 1	
	land use: drive way and parking area	
category	description	depth (m) blg
Made ground	Made ground, rubble brick, mixed stone gravels	0-0.25
Buried soil	Buried soil. Possible garden soils 18 th C. Black silty clays	0.25-0.50
Natural	Mid to pale yellowy brown sub angular gravels, poorly sorted, mixed, pebble to pea sized. compact	0.50 +

Section/test pit 4	dimensions (m): 0.30 x 0.90	
	land use: drive way and parking area	
category	description	depth (m) blg
Made ground	Pea grit, as part of the driveway and many layers of made ground, very mixed brick stone and gravels, occasional dumped brick.	0-0.30
Buried soil	Black silty clays, occasional sub-rounded gravels,	0.30-0.80
Natural	Mid to light brown gravels, poorly sorted pea to cobble sized.	0.80 +

10.2 Appendix 2: OASIS form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-218347

Project details

Project name	Chisbury Manor Ground Source Heat Pump
Short description of the project	A watching brief during works associated with the instillation of a ground source heat pump. No archaeological deposits or features were identified.
Project dates	Start: 08-06-2015 End: 15-07-2015
Previous/future work	No / No
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	NONE
Significant Finds	NONE

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE KENNET LITTLE BEDWYN Chisbury Manor
Postcode	SN8 3JA
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 427901 166101 50.9467900222 -1.39082597499 50 56 48 N 001 23 26 W Point



Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Historic England
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Bruce Eaton
Project supervisor	M. Dinwiddy
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

Project archives

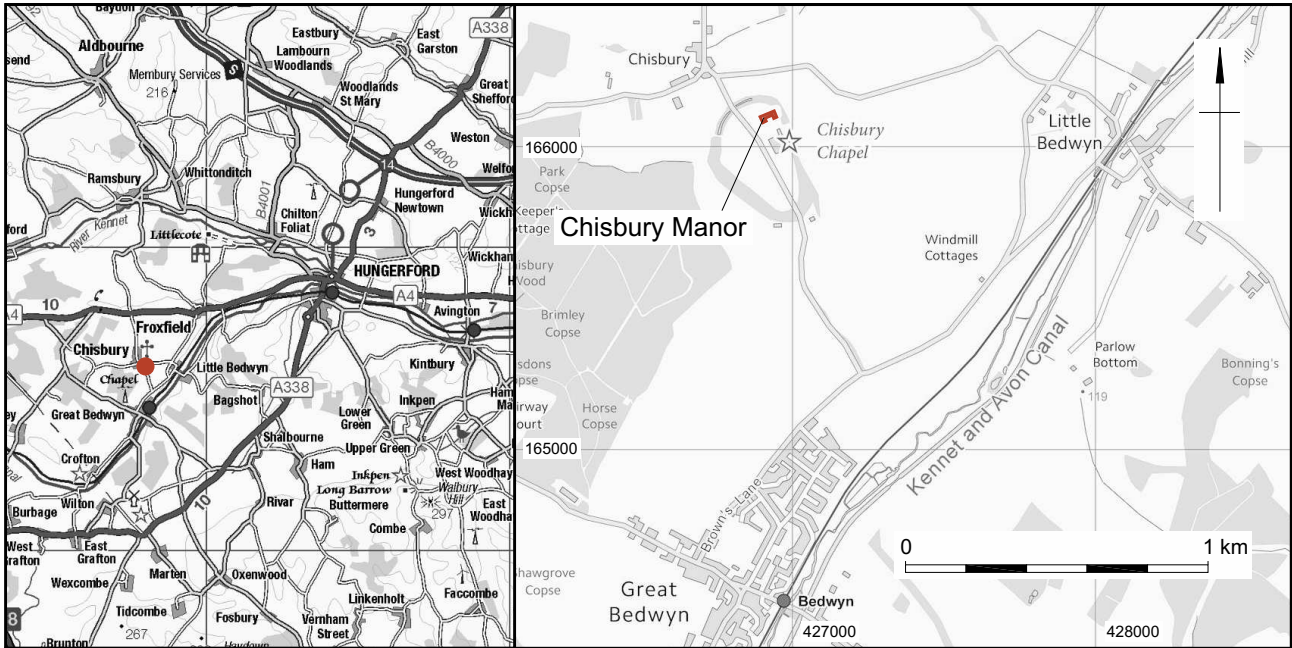
Physical Archive Exists?	No
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Project bibliography

1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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Other bibliographic details	109340.02
Date	2015

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Entered on	20 July 2015



	<p>— Trench location</p> <p>— Section location</p>	<p>Digital data reproduced from Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright 2015 All rights reserved. Reference Number: 100022432. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2015. This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.</p>	
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Site plan and location

Figure 1



Plate 1: East facing section showing stratigraphy at trench/test pit 8



Plate 2: South East facing section showing stratigraphy at trench/test pit 4



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Plate 3: Brick and rubble up-cast

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