



# Land at the junction of Little Knowl Hill and Ashford Hill Road Ashford Hill, Hampshire

Archaeological Watching Brief Report



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Portway House  
Old Sarum Park  
Salisbury  
Wiltshire  
SP4 6EB

[www.wessexarch.co.uk](http://www.wessexarch.co.uk)

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Address Persimmon House  
Knoll Road  
Camberley  
Surrey  
GU15 3TQ

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Fieldwork directed by Rachel Williams

Project management by Damian De Rosa

Document compiled by Rachel Williams

Contributions from

Graphics by Nancy Dixon

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## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Persimmon Homes to carry out an archaeological watching brief on Land at the junction of Little Knowl Hill and Ashford Hill Road, Ashford Hill, Hampshire, centred on National Grid Reference 455455 161850. A planning application (ref.15/01224/FUL) has been approved (subject to conditions) by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC) for the erection of 35 dwellings, with open public space and associated car parking and access, creation of a 31-space community car park with vehicular access from Ashfield Hill Road, and associated parking. One of the conditions attached to the consent included the requirement for an archaeological watching brief.

A miscommunication unfortunately meant that most of the Site had been stripped and some groundworks undertaken without archaeological supervision. However, a programme of works was set in place whereby the on-going below ground works, including 190 m of cable trench, were monitored along with a ten trench evaluation which ensured that a c.4 % of the 3 hectare site has been confidently monitored with only modern features (land drains and tractor ruts) identified, whereupon the Planning Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council agreed that the monitoring could cease.

The fieldwork was completed over a five-day period 19th – 23rd February 2018.

## Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Persimmon Homes, for commissioning the archaeological watching brief, in particular Paul Davis, Laura Graham and Jaclyn Murphy. Wessex Archaeology is also very grateful for the advice of David Hopkins, Planning Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council, who monitored the project for Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, and to Blaze Construction Limited for their cooperation and help on site.

The fieldwork was directed by Rachel Williams. This report was written by Rachel Williams and edited by Damian De Rosa. The project was managed by Damian De Rosa on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.



# Land at the junction of Little Knowl Hill and Ashford Hill Road, Ashford Hill, Hampshire

## Archaeological Watching Brief Report

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Persimmon Homes Thames Valley ('the Client') to undertake an archaeological watching brief of Land at the junction of Little Knowl Hill and Ashford Hill Road, Ashfield Hill, Hampshire centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SU 455455 161850 (hereafter 'the Site', Figure 1).

1.1.2 A planning application (ref.15/01224/FUL) has been approved (subject to conditions) by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC) for the erection of 35 dwellings, with open public space and associated car parking and access, creation of a 31-space community car park with vehicular access from Ashfield Hill Road, and associated parking.

1.1.3 The following archaeological condition was attached to the planning consent:

#### Condition 12

*No works shall commence on site until an archaeological watching brief has been arranged to be maintained during the course of the works. The watching brief shall be carried out in accordance with a written specification which shall have first been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The watching brief shall be by a professional archaeologist or an organisation with acknowledged experience in the recording of archaeological remains.*

1.1.4 The requirement for an archaeological condition being attached to the planning consent followed consultation by BDBC with their archaeological planning advisor at Hampshire County Council (HCC).

1.1.5 Prior to the commencement of the watching brief and in accordance with condition 12 a written scheme of investigation (WSI) (WA 2017) was prepared by Wessex Archaeology in March 2017 on behalf of the client and submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

1.1.6 Unfortunately, due to a miscommunication by the Client, groundworks commenced without the attendance of a monitoring archaeologist and the overburden was stripped and six housing platforms and drainage trenches excavated four months prior to the commencement of the Watching Brief in February 2018 (**Plate 1**). Following consultation with the Planning Archaeologist for HCC (PA HCC) of the situation a revised mitigation strategy was proposed and agreed to adapt to the conditions of the site, and ongoing groundworks, to determine the archaeological potential of the site. This included the opportunity to monitor the excavation of a cable trench, drainage works and house platforms and to utilise a machine to excavate ten 30 x 2 m archaeological evaluation trenches. The revised strategy resulted in the monitored works being able to cover a c.4 % sample of the c. 3 ha Site



- 1.1.7 The HCC planning archaeologist was updated on the progress of the fieldwork by WA, and following an assessment of the archaeological potential identified, the fieldwork ceased with the agreement and sign off of the HCC Planning Archaeologist.
- 1.1.8 The watching brief was undertaken in general accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed (Wessex Archaeology 2017). The variations to the proposed fieldwork methodology were agreed in consultation with the HCC Planning Archaeologist.
- 1.1.9 The watching brief was undertaken from 19th – 23rd February 2018.

## **1.2 Scope of the report**

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the results of the watching brief, to interpret the results within their local or regional context (or otherwise), and to assess their potential to address the aims outlined in the WSI, thereby making available information about the archaeological resource (a preservation by record).

## **1.3 Location, topography and geology**

- 1.3.1 The Site is c. 3 ha in size and is located on the southern edge of the village of Ashford Hill. It lies on the corner and junction of Little Knowl Hill (B3051) to the east and Ashford Hill Road to the north. It is bounded by a trackway to the west and fields to the west and south. The Site is comprised of an agricultural field which forms the majority of the Site, and a former agricultural yard to the south.
- 1.3.2 The Site is generally level with a gentle rise to the west and lies at a height of c.78m above Ordnance Datum (aOD)
- 1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as London Clay Formation - Clay, Silt and Sand. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 34 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period. No superficial deposits are recorded. (British Geological Survey online viewer).

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

- 2.1.1 The following uses data from the Hampshire HER data along with a short background provided by the HCC Archaeologist to provide a short summary to the archaeological background to the site.
- 2.1.2 The Site is located in an area where low levels of archaeology have been recorded in the past mainly during a watching brief in 1993 and 1994 to monitor the excavation of a cable route from Bramley to Ashford Hill (SAS 2001). The cable route passed along the southern boundary of the Site as it continued both to the south east and west. The watching brief was able to identify a Bronze Age/Iron Age burnt feature (HER 51203) recorded around 140 metres to the south west and Roman material was found c.420 m to the west. Features of possible late prehistoric date were found further to the east at Wheathold. Worked flints were found scattered along the whole of the cable route but there was a concentration on the high ground at Wheathold (HER 51192 and 51193). A spread of Medieval pottery (HER 51199) comprising over 270 sherds was exposed, west of Woodhouse Lane to the north west of the Site. The pottery was all of local manufacture from the period AD1300 to 1400, though some may be of 16th century in date. Although there was no occupation evidence within the area, it may suggest nearby settlement over this period. A spread of Medieval





activity was noted in the area of St Peter's Church to the west of the Site, possibly suggesting a possible deserted medieval village.

2.1.3 The line of the Roman road "The Portway" connecting the Roman town of Silchester "Calleva Atrebatum" with Old Sarum "Segiodunum" lies c.4.5km to the south of the Site.

2.1.4 A review of the historic mapping shows that the Site has lain within its current boundaries since at least the 1st edition OS map of 1873 and there has been no change up until the current day. The only changes within the environs of the Site has been residential development along the eastern side of the B3051 and on the northern side of Ashford Hill Road at its junction with B3051.

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 Aims**

3.1.1 The aims of the watching brief, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017) and as defined in the ClfA' *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014a), were:

- To allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of the development or other works;
- To provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard; and
- To guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

#### **3.2 Objectives**

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the objectives of the watching brief, also defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017), were:

- To determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified works area;
- To record and establish, within the constraints of the works, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains (a preservation by record);
- To place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- To make available information about the archaeological resource on the site by preparing a report on the results of the watching brief.



## 4 METHODS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methodology set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017); with variations to the mitigation strategy agreed with the Planning Archaeologist at HCC to address the conditions of the site, and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

### 4.2 Fieldwork methods

#### *General*

4.2.1 On commencement of the Archaeological Watching Brief a 190 m long cable diversion trench was monitored (Trenches 1 and 3). The groundworkers then supplied a tracked 360° excavator with a toothless grading bucket and ten 30 x 2 m archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated, located as close as feasible to proposed house locations and in areas in which minimal disturbance had occurred (**Plate 2**). One trench was located in the area of the proposed drainage pond (Trench 13) and one trench was located in the area of the proposed community car park (Trench 4). Neither of these areas had been subjected to prior stripping. All groundworks undertaken whilst the attending archaeologist was present were also monitored, this included drainage works (Trench 2 and 14) (**Plate 3**), previously excavated house platforms in which the sections were still clearly visible were also cleaned up and recorded (Trenches 15 – 17) (**Fig. 1**).

4.2.2 Where necessary, the surface of uncovered archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits identified was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the watching brief.

4.2.3 Spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Where found, artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.

#### *Recording*

4.2.4 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete drawn record of excavated features and deposits was made including both plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections), and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD: Newlyn) heights of all principal features were calculated, and levels added to plans and section drawings.

4.2.5 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSGM15 and OSTN15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.

4.2.6 A full photographic record was made 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 has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.



### 4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies

4.3.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of artefacts and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

### 4.4 Monitoring

4.4.1 The Planning Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council, on behalf of the LPA, monitored the watching brief. The variations to the WSI, necessitated by the Site conditions, were agreed by both the client and the Planning Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council.

## 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The only features noted by the Watching Brief were modern. This included a series of land drains and a shallow ditch like feature that may have been the result of tractor ruts located parallel to the western field boundary. The only finds recovered from this feature were modern (1800 – present). This section is designed to be read in conjunction with the Trench Tables (**Appendix 1**).

### 5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

5.2.1 The northeastern corner of the Site had not been previously stripped. Here the soil sequences comprised a dark grey silty clay topsoil 0.10 m thick overlying a dark-grey/brown silty clay 0.23 m thick, the natural was a mid-orange/brown sandy clay with grey hues (**Plate 4**), this trench is probably the most representative of the overburden sequence removed from the field and is similar to the soil sequence recorded in Trench 1.

5.2.2 A spur on the northwestern edge of the Site still contained crops on a 0.35 m thick greyish brown sand ploughsoil. The natural here consisted of a pale brown sand with rare subrounded medium gravels (BGS on line viewer) (**Plate 5**).

5.2.3 The majority of the Site had been stripped and here the soil sequence comprised a mid grey sandy clay weathered natural which had a sharp horizon with the mid orange/brown sandy clay natural in which features could be identified (**Plate 6**).

5.2.4 The southeastern corner of the Site had been previously truncated by the farmer and in this area only made ground was visible (**Plate 7**).

### 5.3 Modern

5.3.1 A single ditch like feature was recorded by the evaluation (**Fig. 1**). Shallow ditch **503** measured 1 m wide and 0.19 m deep and contained a single secondary fill (**Plate 8**). This feature was noted as continuing in Trench 6 where it contained a large piece of modern brick and an electrical cable. The fill of this feature contained lenses of clean natural in the mid grey clay fill. It is likely that this feature is agricultural in origin and may be the result of tractor rutting (given its proximity to the field boundary and undulating base).



## 6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

- 6.1.1 No artefacts pre-dating the 20th century were noted. Accordingly, these were recorded on Site but not retained.

## 7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1.1 No deposits deemed suitable for sampling were encountered, accordingly no samples were taken.

## 8 CONCLUSIONS

### 8.1 Summary

- 8.1.1 Although the Site had unfortunately been stripped four months prior to the commencement of the Watching Brief the monitored works and ten evaluation trenches demonstrated that it is unlikely that significant archaeological remains were present on the Site. The four percent of the Site monitored did not find any features of archaeological note. The monitored works were distributed across the Site, the only area not monitored was a small portion in the northern part of the Site which has been designated as an area for green space and will not be subjected to intrusive groundworks. The features recorded by the evaluation were all modern in date and were limited to land drains and a shallow ditch or possible rutting.
- 8.1.2 The results of the fieldwork confirm a low potential for the presence of archaeological remains dating to any period being present within the Site, and generally confirms the low potential previously identified in the limited work undertaken within the immediate vicinity of the Site. Although Later Prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval activity has previously been identified within the wider vicinity this would not appear to and is unlikely to extend within the Site.

## 9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

### 9.1 Museum

- 9.1.1 The archive resulting from the watching brief is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Hampshire Cultural Trust has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code **A2017.21**. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

### 9.2 Preparation of the archive

- 9.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Hampshire Cultural Trust, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 9.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the **accession code A2017.21**, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 1 file/document case of paper records and A3/A4 graphics;

### 9.3 Selection policy

- 9.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4). In accordance with these, and any specific guidance prepared by



the museum, a process of selection and retention will be followed so that only those artefacts or ecofacts that are considered to have potential for future study will be retained. The selection policy will be agreed with the museum, and is fully documented in the project archive.

#### **9.4 Security copy**

- 9.4.1 In line with current best practice (eg, 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.

#### **9.5 OASIS**

- 9.5.1 An OASIS online record (<http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>) has been initiated, with key fields and a .pdf version of the final report submitted. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service ArchSearch catalogue.

### **10 COPYRIGHT**

#### **10.1 Archive and report copyright**

- 10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. 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 conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
- 10.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

#### **10.2 Third party data copyright**

- 10.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.



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## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1: Trench Tables

NGR coordinates and OD heights taken at centre of each trench; depth bgl = below ground level

<b>Trench 1</b>	<b>89 m x 0.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455505 161787</b>	<b>77.9 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
101	Layer		Topsoil – Dark grey brown silty clay with rare sub-angular gravels. Turf covered, fine rooting throughout. Plastic, loose with a distinct horizon with 102. All finds modern (crisp packet)	0 - 0.25
102	Layer		Subsoil – Mid grey brown silty clay with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded gravels. Plastic, loose with a distinct horizon with 103	0.25 – 0.36
103	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic.	0.36 +

<b>Trench 2</b>	<b>14 m x 0.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455429 161887</b>	<b>81.4 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
201	Layer		Made ground. Mid grey-brown silty clay with rare gravels, C.B.M., plastic, uncertain horizon with 202.	0 - 0.30
202	Layer		Subsoil – Mid grey brown silty clay with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded gravels. Plastic, loose with a distinct horizon with 103	0.30 – 0.40
203	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic.	0.36 +

<b>Trench 3</b>	<b>102 m x 0.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455467 161724</b>	<b>79.2 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
301	Layer		Made ground. Lenses of topsoil, redeposited chalk, redeposited subsoil, redeposited clay, tarmac, C.B.M.	0 - 0.80+
302	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic. Only seen in the eastern portion of the trench.	0.80 +

<b>Trench 4</b>	<b>29 m x 1.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455326 161974</b>	<b>85.5 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
401	Layer		Ploughsoil – Mid greyish brown sand with rare sub-rounded medium gravels, rare C.B.M. Topped with wheat crop, some fine rooting. Loose with an undulating horizon with 402.	0 - 0.35
402	Layer		Natural – Pale brown sand with rare sub-rounded medium gravels.	0.35 +



<b>Trench 5</b>	<b>30 m x 1.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455386 161830</b>	<b>82.2 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
501	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown silty clay with rare sub-angular gravels. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 502	0 - 0.10
502	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic	0.10 +
503	Cut		Ditch/ wheel rutting. N – S aligned linear feature, 1 m wide, 0.19 m deep, with steep sides and an undulating base. Filled with 504.	0.10 – 0.30
504	Fill	503	Secondary fill. Mid grey silty clay with lenses of orange clay, frequent manganese flecks. Contained 1 small piece of rubber, not retained.	0.10 – 0.30

<b>Trench 6</b>	<b>29 m x 1.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455376 161800</b>	<b>82.8 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
601	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown silty clay with rare sub-angular gravels. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 602	0 - 0.10
602	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Stiff and waterlogged, 5% manganese flecking at the western end.	0.16 +
603	Cut		Ditch/ wheel rutting. N – S aligned linear feature, 1.3 m wide. Filled with 604. Not excavated.	0.16 +
604	Fill	503	Secondary fill. Mid grey silty clay with lenses of orange clay, frequent manganese flecks. Contained 1 piece of C.B.M. and an electrical cable, not retained.	0.16 +

<b>Trench 7</b>	<b>29 m x 1.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455377 161785</b>	<b>83.1 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
701	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular gravels. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 702	0 - 0.16
702	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic	0.16 +

<b>Trench 8</b>	<b>29 m x 1.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455393 161778</b>	<b>82.9 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
801	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular gravels. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 802. Some fine rooting.	0 - 0.10
802	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic	0.10 +

<b>Trench 9</b>	<b>29 m x 1.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455429 161827</b>	<b>80.6 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
901	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular gravels. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 902	0 - 0.12
902	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic	0.12 +





<b>Trench 10</b>	<b>30 m x 1.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455437 161785</b>	<b>80.7 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
1001	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular gravels. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 1002	0 - 0.08
1002	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic. Cut by 2 land drains and 1 geotechnical investigation pit.	0.08 +

<b>Trench 11</b>	<b>29 m x 1.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455455 161810</b>	<b>79.7 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
1101	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded gravels. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 1102	0 - 0.10
1102	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic	0.10 +

<b>Trench 12</b>	<b>30 m x 1.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455467 161785</b>	<b>79.3 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
1201	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular gravels and manganese flecks. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 1202	0 - 0.10
1202	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic	0.10 +

<b>Trench 13</b>	<b>30 m x 1.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455504 161882</b>	<b>77.8 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
1301	Layer		Topsoil – Dark grey silty clay with rare sub-angular medium and fine gravels. Turf covered and finely rooted throughout. Plastic with a diffuse horizon with 1302.	0 - 0.10
1302	Layer		Subsoil – dark grey brown silty clay with very rare sub-angular and sub-rounded medium gravels. Flecks of manganese. Sharp horizon with 1303.	0.10 - 0.33
1303	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic. Waterlogged at the southeastern end.	0.33 +

<b>Trench 14</b>	<b>70 m x 0.6 m</b>		<b>NGR 455413 161911</b>	<b>81.5 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
1401	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular gravels. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 1402	0 - 0.10
1402	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic	0.10 +

<b>Trench 15</b>	<b>11 m x 10 m</b>		<b>NGR 455417 161889</b>	<b>81.5 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
901	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular gravels. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 1502	0 - 0.13
902	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic	0.13 +



<b>Trench 16</b>	<b>11 m x 10 m</b>		<b>NGR 455411 161877</b>	<b>81.6 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
1601	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular gravels. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 1602	0 - 0.13
1602	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic	0.13 +

<b>Trench 17</b>	<b>7.2 m x 7.4 m</b>		<b>NGR 455429 161827</b>	<b>80.6 m OD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Fill of</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth bgl (m)</b>
1701	Layer		Weathered natural. Mid – dark grey brown sandy clay with rare sub-angular gravels. Plastic with a sharp horizon with 1702	0 - 0.15
1702	Layer		Natural – Orange clay with grey hues. Rare rounded gravels. Plastic	0.15 +



## Appendix 2: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-310272

### Project details

Project name	Land at the junction of Little Knowl Hill and Ashford Hill Road, Ashford Hill, Hampshire
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Persimmon Homes to carry out an archaeological watching brief on Land at the junction of Little Knowl Hill and Ashford Hill Road, Ashford Hill, Hampshire, centred on National Grid Reference 455455 161850. A planning application (ref.15/01224/FUL) has been approved by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council for the residential development of the site. One of the conditions attached to the consent included the requirement for an archaeological watching brief. A miscommunication unfortunately meant that most of the Site had been stripped without archaeological supervision. However, a programme of works was set in place whereby the on-going below ground works, including 190 m of cable trench, were monitored along with a ten trench evaluation which ensured that c.4 % of the 3 hectare site has been confidently monitored with only modern features (land drains and tractor ruts) identified, whereupon the Planning Archaeologist for Hampshire County Council agreed that the monitoring could cease. The fieldwork completed over a five-day period 19th - 23rd February 2018.
Project dates	Start: 19-02-2018 End: 23-02-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	116400 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	15/01224/FUL - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	A2017.21 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE ASHFORD HILL WITH HEADLEY Land at the junction of Little Knowl Hill and Ashford Hill Road, Ashford Hill, Hampshire
Postcode	RG19 8BB



Study area	3.06 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 55455 61850 51.352515717514 -1.203568836162 51 21 09 N 001 12 12 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 77m Max: 85m

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#### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Damian De Rosa
Project supervisor	Rachel Williams
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Persimmon Homes (Thames Valley)

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#### Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Diary", "Drawing", "Report"

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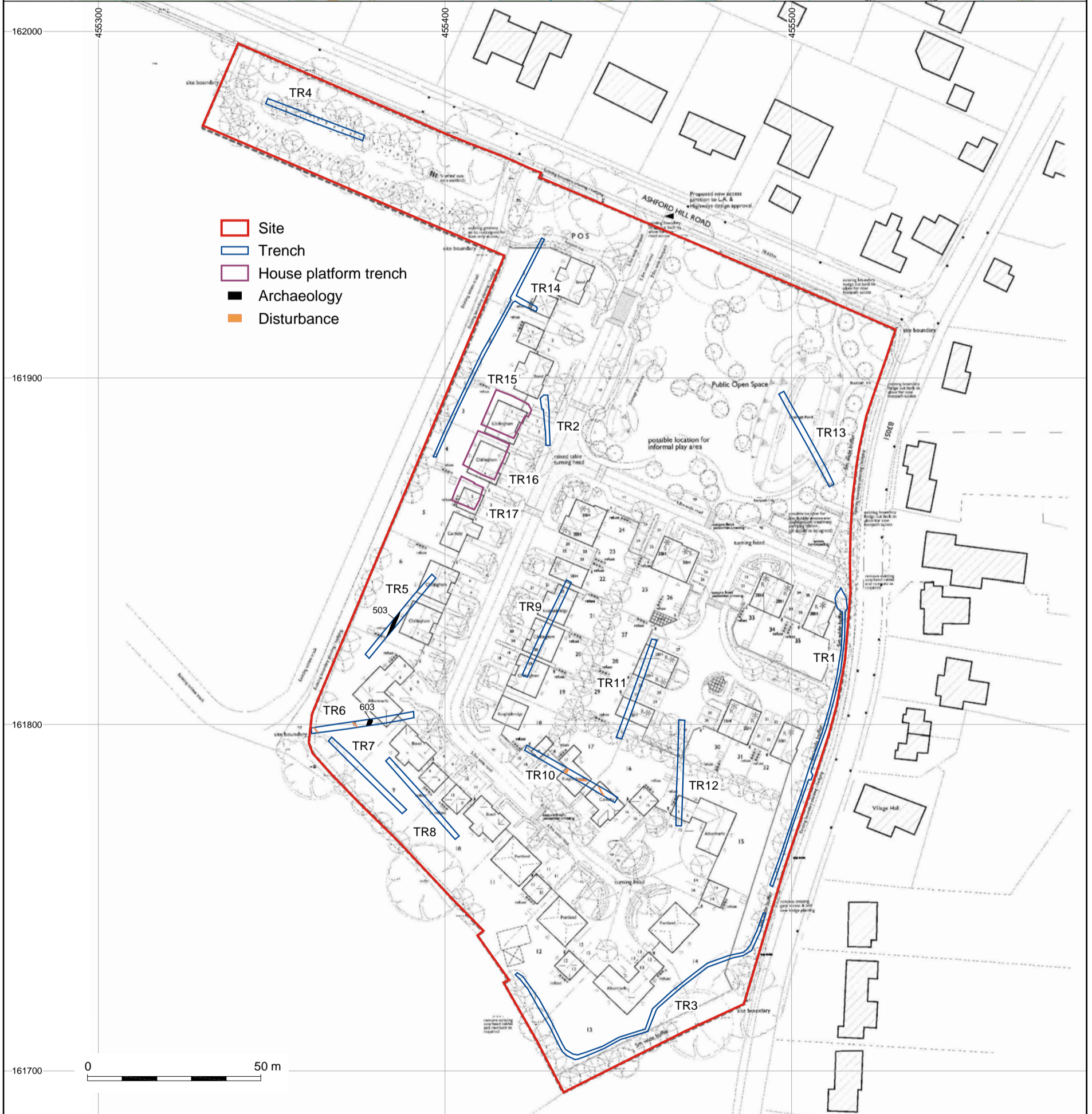
#### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at the junction of Little Knowl Hill and Ashford Hill Road, Ashford Hill, Hampshire Archaeological Watching Brief Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Williams, R.
Other bibliographic details	116400.03
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology

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Place of issue or publication	Salisbury
Description	WA standard A4 text format with illustrations and plates



Coordinate system:  
OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15)



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Site location and area of proposed development

Figure 1



Plate 1: Overview of the Site from the north



Plate 2: North facing Trench shot Trench 9. Scales are 1 and 2 m


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Plate 3: South facing view along Trench 14



Plate 4: South-west facing representative section Trench 13. Scale is 1 m


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Plate 5: South facing representative section Trench 4. Scale is 1 m



Plate 6: North-east facing representative section Trench 8. Scale is 1 m



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Plate 7: North facing representative section Trench 3. Scale is 1m



Plate 8: North facing section of Ditch 503. Scale is 1 m

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Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB  
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk

