

Archaeological Watching Brief Report



September 2010



RUSHMORE PARK PARKING BAYS TOLLARD ROYAL WILTSHIRE

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

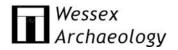
Prepared for: Savills Ltd Rolfes House 60 Milford Street Salisbury Wilts SP1 2BP

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QUALITY ASSURANCE

SITE CODE	73793	ACCESSION CODE	CLIENT CODE
PLANNING APPLICATION REF.		NGR	395397 117460

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* I= Internal Draft E= External Draft F= Final

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Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Savills on behalf of the Trustees of MALF Pitt Rivers and Sandroyd School, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the consolidation of a number of passing bays positioned adjacent to an access track within Rushmore Park, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire, located at National Grid Reference (NGR) 395397 117460.

The area surrounding the site is archaeologically significant, containing seven Scheduled Monuments and eight Grade II Listed Buildings. In addition, Rushmore Park is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden and the site lies on Cranborne Chase, part of the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which is well known for its high densities of archaeological remains as well as its association with the archaeological investigations of Lt General Pitt Rivers.

Following an archaeological desk-based assessment and subsequent archaeological evaluation on three of the passing bays, the Assistant County Archaeologist at Wiltshire Council required a watching brief during groundworks as a condition of planning consent.

A number of unstratified worked flint finds were identified within the topsoil during the watching brief and are indicative of the known background level of prehistoric activity across the site. Two shallow ditches were also identified and are considered to be minor boundary or field boundary ditches, pre-dating the present configuration of the park.

The watching brief was undertaken over three days between the 4th and 9th August 2010.



Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Acknowledgements

This watching brief work was commissioned by Savills on behalf of the Trustees of MALF Pitt Rivers and Sandroyd School, and Wessex Archaeology would like Ruth Mason (Associate) in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank the construction team of Raymond Brown Construction Ltd for their assistance during the fieldwork. Wessex Archaeology would also like to acknowledge the collaboration of Clare King (Wiltshire Council) during the project.

The fieldwork was conducted by Stephen Beach (Archaeologist) and John Millward (Researcher/Surveyor). The report was compiled by Stephen Beach. The figures were prepared by Kenneth Lymer and Stephen Beach. The fieldwork and post-excavation was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Sue Farr.



Archaeological Watching Brief Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Project Background**

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Savills on behalf of Trustees of MALF Pitt Rivers and Sandroyd School, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the consolidation of a number of passing bays positioned adjacent to an access track within Rushmore Park, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire, located at National Grid Reference (NGR) 395397, 117460 hereafter 'the Site' (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The area surrounding the Site has previously been identified as archaeologically significant, containing seven Scheduled Monuments and eight Grade II Listed Buildings. Rushmore Park is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden.
- 1.1.3 An archaeological desk-based assessment (Wessex Archaeology, 2010a) detailing the archaeological and historical background to the Site has been completed and an archaeological evaluation on three of the passing bays (Wessex Archaeology, 2010b) considered to have greatest archaeological potential was completed.
- 1.1.4 The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI, Wessex Archaeology 2010c) which was approved in advance of the fieldwork by the Assistant County Archaeologist at Wiltshire Council. The WSI was prepared in keeping with the relevant standards and guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008).
- 1.1.5 The watching brief was undertaken over three days between the 4th and 9th August 2010. This report documents the results of archaeological watching brief and presents an assessment of the results of these works.

1.2 Site location and geology

- 1.2.1 The Site is located along the main access track to Sandroyd School and the Rushmore Park Golf Club, to the east of Tollard Royal.
- 1.2.2 The current usage of the track by multiple vehicle users was never envisaged when the track was laid out and as a consequence, areas along the track are being eroded by vehicles, including within the Scheduled area of South Lodge. The locations of the proposed passing bays are based upon the distribution of the existing *ad-hoc* erosion along the track and reflect the natural sight lines within the park.
- 1.2.3 The groundworks at the Site comprise formalisation of passing bays (PB's) adjacent to the main access track to Sandroyd School and the Rushmore

Park Golf Club. In total 31 passing bays were proposed along approximately 4km of the access track. Three of the passing bays (PB21, PB22 and PB23) were located within the Scheduled area of South Lodge, an important late prehistoric landscape which includes a settlement enclosure and numerous burial mounds. These three passing bays are subject to Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) and form a separate application.

1.2.4 The Site is located on Upper Chalk, which was laid down as sedimentary deposits during the Upper Cretaceous period (Geological Survey of Great Britain (England & Wales) 1:50,000 sheet 314).

1.3 Archaeological Background

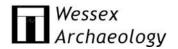
- 1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background to the Site has been covered in detail in the desk-based assessment (Wessex Archaeology, 2010a), and is therefore presented below in summary form only.
- 1.3.2 The desk-based assessment focused on a Study Area of 500m either side of the access track and identified a number of sites and find spots, ranging in date from the prehistoric to modern periods.

Designated Sites

- 1.3.3 There are five Scheduled Monuments within the Study Area, although these lie in seven different Scheduled areas. The scheduled monument of South Lodge Camp (SM 33564) its associated field system and barrow cemetery includes a portion of the access road.
- 1.3.4 There are eight Listed Buildings within the Study Area, all of which are 19th century in date and Grade II.
- 1.3.5 The entire Site lies within the Grade II Registered Park and Garden around Rushmore Park. The park incorporates a 17th century enclosure and a medieval deer park.

Previous Fieldwork

- 1.3.6 Various archaeological monuments within the Rushmore Estate were investigated by Augustus Lane-Fox Pitt-Rivers who inherited the land in 1880. He opened a number of barrows as well as investigating the Carrion Tree Rack boundary dyke and South Lodge Bronze Age camp.
- 1.3.7 South Lodge camp was re-excavated between 1977 and 1981 and the phasing of the site was found to comprise of two distinct periods of activity during the Bronze Age (Barrett *et al*, 1991).
- 1.3.8 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken in 2007 by Wessex Archaeology whilst an electricity cable was being laid. Five ditches were located to the south of Park House. These are believed to date to the prehistoric period but produced little artefactual evidence. One of the ditches encountered appeared to follow the projected line of the Scheduled Carrion Tree Rack (Wessex Archaeology 2007).
- 1.3.9 An archaeological evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2010b) undertaken to inform the current proposals comprised the excavation of three trenches (15m x 2m) positioned in three of the passing bays (Nos. PB4, PB5 & PB7).



Trench 1, proposed at PB20 was not excavated as it was positioned under the canopy of a mature beech tree. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded in the three trenches and no surface or topsoil finds were retrieved.

Archaeological Background

- 1.3.10 A small group of Mesolithic flints are recorded within 500m either side of the access track, although their exact provenance cannot be verified.
- 1.3.11 Neolithic remains are characterised by three separate locations of the discovery of stone tools. All these finds are associated with the later (Bronze Age) funerary landscape and monuments on Rotherley Down and Tinkley Down. An excavated pit at South Lodge, attributed to the Neolithic, produced a stone axe and a female burial and is suggestive of settlement in this area during the Neolithic.
- 1.3.12 There is extensive evidence for prehistoric activity in this area during the Bronze Age. The Scheduled remains of South Lodge Camp comprise a Bronze Age settlement set within a field system. Also within the Scheduled area of South Lodge are a number of barrows; and within Calcots Wood, 100m east of South Lodge, is another Scheduled barrow. There are two further barrows near Rotherley Wood and unscheduled barrows on Tinkley Down 400m west of the estate track.
- 1.3.13 Iron Age settlement within 500m of the access track is defined by the presence of two Scheduled circular enclosures, located on Rotherley Down and Brookes Coppice. Another Iron Age settlement without an enclosure has also been identified near to the scheduled Carrion Tree Rack earthwork (SM 33564) immediately to the west of PB7. The remains of two field systems attributed to this period have been identified within 500m of the access track.
- 1.3.14 The Iron Age settlements on Rotherley Down and the Carrion Tree Rack continued in use during the Romano-British period. A number of findspots have been recorded in the area and are indicative of extensive settlement activity during this period.
- 1.3.15 The Site lies within Cranborne Chase, named after the number of hunts which occurred in the area from Saxon times onwards. Much of the parish of Berwick St John lay within the estate of Chalke granted by King Edwy to the nuns of Wilton in 955.
- 1.3.16 The estate of Berwick St John continued in the ownership of the Earls of Shaftesbury until the manor was sold in two parts in 1792. The lordship, land held in copy and 750 acres of woodland were bought by George Pitt, Baron Rivers. The property passed through several generations of the family until in 1880 it passed to Augustus Lane-Fox Pitt-Rivers who used the newly inherited estate as a means to hone his scientific approach to archaeological research and excavation (Crowley 1987).
- 1.3.17 Rushmore Lodge was standing in the 15th century and was repaired in 1546; it was replaced in the early 17th century. Part of the 17th century lodge was demolished and the remainder used as offices from the mid 18th century, when Rushmore House was built nearby. The remains of this 1760 house

may remain within the present 19th century building. A southern range was added in the early 19th century and a northern range demolished and replaced with a service range. The interior was extensively altered after 1880.

- 1.3.18 Lands around the lodge were imparked in the early 17th century although historical maps show that there was still no clear boundary between the park and the surrounding woods in the 19th and 20th centuries.
- 1.3.19 By the 1880's the track through South Lodge is recorded on Ordnance Survey maps and Pitt-Rivers' own survey of the park in 1884 shows the track crossing the South Lodge monument. The Pitt Rivers plan notes the road crossing the outer ditch of one of the barrows. The landscape has not altered since the late 19th/ early 20th centuries as shown on the 1902 Ordnance Survey maps

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled (Wessex Archaeology 2010c), providing full details of the research aims and methods. A brief summary is provided here.

The aims of the watching brief were:

- To determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains and if remains were found to be present, to ensure their preservation by record to the highest possible standard.
- To determine or 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 the 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.
- To prepare a report on the results of the watching brief

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1.1 The fieldwork comprised the monitoring of groundworks made beneath the present ground surface. This encompassed topsoil stripping associated with 27 passing bays (**Figure 1**).
- 3.1.2 A continuous archaeological presence was maintained during groundworks undertaken within the area of the watching brief.
- 3.1.3 The watching brief on PB20, near to South Lodge Scheduled Monument was to be undertaken as intensive monitoring with the archaeologists guiding the rate and depth of mechanical excavation.

- 3.1.4 Wessex Archaeology staff investigated archaeological remains by excavation and recording commensurate with the scale of work, and using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system, without causing unreasonable delay to the groundworks programme.
- 3.1.5 Areas under archaeological observation were surveyed using a GPS and tied in to the Ordnance Survey.
- 3.1.6 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Institute for Archaeologist's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (2008).
- 3.1.7 A full photographic record was maintained using a digital camera equipped with an image sensor 12 megapixels.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section includes information on the natural deposits encountered and any archaeological features and deposits recorded. A detailed summary of the stratigraphic sequence, deposits and structural remains of passing bays containing archaeological features are listed in **Appendix 1**.

4.2 Stratigraphic sequence

Natural bedrock (Parent material)

4.2.1 Natural bedrock was only reached in eleven of the Passing Bays (PB5, PB7, PB11, PB13 – 17, PB19, PB24 and PB29) at depths of 0.12 – 0.37m but generally at *c*. 0.25m from the present ground surface. This was charcaterised by white Upper Chalk, often found with periglacial scarring (PB5, PB7, PB13 -16) and bioturbation (PB17, PB19 and PB26) on the upper surface.

Clay with flint capping (Parent material)

4.2.2 Orange-brown clay with flint capping overlying natural chalk was observed between 0.16-0.24m from the present ground surface, within PB26 and PB27.

Subsoil (B-horizon)

4.2.3 Where present, the subsoil or the subsoil/natural interface was not exceeded in seven of the PBs (PB3, PB4, PB6, PB25, PB28, PB30 and PB31). When present subsoil was generally encountered between 0.15 – 0.23m from the present ground surface.

Topsoil (A-horizon)

4.2.4 Topsoil, generally consisting of a mid to light brown silty clay with common inclusions of small chalk and flint rubble was identified across the Site.

4.3 Archaeological Remains

4.3.1 Archaeological features were identified within two passing bays (PB5 and PB26), and artefactual remains were recovered from the topsoil layer within three passing bays (PB5, PB13 and PB26).

- 4.3.2 PB5 was situated in the northern portion of the Site (Figure 1). PB5 was found to be considerably disturbed by a previous intervention adjacent to the access track (Wessex Archaeology 2010b). A small linear ditch (505) was identified in the south end of PB5 (Figure 2); the ditch which extended in a north-west to south-easterly direction, in contrast to the broadly north-south access track, was found to be 0.43m wide and 0.16m deep. Although shallow it contained two distinct fills (506 and 507); the first fill (506) originated from the east side of the ditch, the final fill (507) was topsoil derived, with no clear direction of deposition. A worked flint was recovered from the second fill (507) of the ditch.
- 4.3.3 A single unstratified worked flint flake was recovered from the topsoil layer of the southern end of PB13 in the central portion of the Site.
- 4.3.4 PB26 was situated in the southern portion of the Site (**Figure 1**). A shallow linear ditch (**2603**) was identified in the eastern half of the passing bay and measured 1.04m wide and 0.11m deep. (**Figure 3**). The ditch extended in a north-west to south-easterly direction, in contrast to the east-west section of access track in this area. This ditch contained a single fill of topsoil derived material, with no clear direction of deposition. No datable finds were recovered from this feature, which morphologically resembled a simple field boundary ditch, which pre-dated the access track and presumably pre-dates the imparkment of this part of the Site. An unstratified flint flake was recovered from the topsoil within PB26.

Modern disturbance

- 4.3.5 Modern disturbance including hardcore and tarmac, mostly derived from the modern consolidation of the access track, was identified within five of the passing bays (PB7, PB11, PB15, PB18 and PB20).
- 4.3.6 The level of modern disturbance was particularly acute within PB20. This passing bay was situated immediately north of the Scheduled area associated with South Lodge, and in accordance with the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2010c) was intensive monitored. As PB20 was situated at the apex of a relatively steep downward slope, the groundworks only required excavation to a depth of 0.18m below ground level. At this depth the topsoil was not breached on the north-western edge of the passing bay and considerable modern disturbance comprising tarmac and hardcore was found across the rest of the passing bay. Although no archaeological features were identified, it remains possible that archaeological features or deposits survive below the level of modern disturbance.

Modern services

- 4.3.7 Modern service trenches were encountered in PB5 (north-south), PB13 (north-south) and PB24 (south-east to north-west). No modern services were disturbed or damage during the groundworks.
- 4.3.8 Other
- 4.3.9 No groundworks were conducted within the Scheduled area during the watching brief.

4.3.10 PB12 was abandoned during the groundwork phase as it was considered unnecessary due to its close proximity to PB11.

5 FINDS

- 5.1.1 Three pieces of worked flint comprise the only finds recovered during the watching brief. These came, respectively, from three Passing Bays: PB5 (ditch/gully 505), PB26 (topsoil), and PB13 (unstratified).
- 5.1.2 All are waste flakes, which are not chronologically distinctive, and cannot therefore be dated more closely within the prehistoric period.

6 DISCUSSION

- 6.1.1 Given the high archaeological potential of the area, the quantity of archaeological remains identified during this watching brief was limited.
- 6.1.2 The unstratified worked flint finds identified within the topsoil layer during the watching brief are low given the known background level of prehistoric actively across the southern portion of the Site.
- 6.1.3 The two ditches (**505** and **2603**), were relatively shallow, and are considered likely to be minor boundary or field boundary ditches, pre-dating the present configuration of the park.
- 6.1.4 No archaeological features or deposits were identified or disturbed during the groundworks at PB20.

7 ARCHIVE

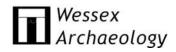
7.1.1 The project archive was prepared in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Appendix 3 of *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and in accordance with the *Guidelines for th e preparation of excavation archives for long term storage* (UKIC 1990). The excavated material and archive, including plans, photographs and written records, are currently held at the Wessex Archaeology offices under the project code 73793. It is intended that the archive should ultimately be deposited with Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum.

8 COPYRIGHT

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

9 **REFERENCES**

- Crowley, D.A. (ed) 1987 A History of the County of Wiltshire: Volume 13 -South-west Wiltshire: Chalke and Dunworth hundreds, Victoria County History.
- Wessex Archaeology 2010a Rushmore Park Parking Bays, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire. Archaeological Desk-based Assessment 73791.01
- Wessex Archaeology 2010b Rushmore Park Parking Bays, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire. Archaeological Evaluation Report 73792.03
- Wessex Archaeology 2010c Rushmore Park Parking Bays, Tollard R oyal, Wiltshire. Written Scheme of Investigation f or an Arch aeological Watching Brief 73792.04



APPENDIX 1: PASSING BAY SUMMARY TABLES

All archaeological deposits/features shown in **bold**. All (+) indicate deposits/features not fully excavated. 'Depth' equals depth from present ground surface.

Parking Bay No. 5	Co-ordinates: NE 395736 119031 SW 395730 119017 Ground Level (m aOD): 185.8	Dimensions:15.00 x 2.60m Max.depth: 0.35m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
501	Turf/Topsoil – Mid to dark grey-brown silty clay with very common filament root inclusions	0-0.10
502	Re-deposited chalk rubble – A narrow band of re- deposited small chalk rubble and 'pea-grit', suggesting old probably modern or late post-medieval disturbance.	0.10-0.15
503	Light brown silty clay with sparse inclusions of small chalk and flint rubble	0.15-0.35
504	Natural – Chalk natural, dense north-west to south- easterly peri-glacial scarring on the upper surface $0.35 \rightarrow$	
505	Small Ditch or Gully – Cut of small ditch or gully	
506	Fill of ditch or gully 505 – Orange-brown silty clay with common inclusions of fractured flint rubble. This fill originated from the east side of the feature.	
507	Fill of ditch or gully 505 – Mid brown silty clay with common inclusions of fractured flint and chalk rubble. A topsoil derived deposit with no clear direction of deposition.	

Parking Bay No. 26	Co-ordinates: E 395576 117207 W 395561 117210 Ground Level (m aOD): 126.32	Dimensions: 15.00 x 2.60m Max.depth: 0.32m
Context	Description	Depth (m)
2601	Topsoil – Mid to light brown silty clay with common inclusions of small chalk and flint rubble	0-0.16
2602	Natural – Orange-brown clay with flint capping overlying 0.16→ chalk	
2603	Ditch – Probable field boundary ditch pre-dating the present park.	
2604	Fill of ditch 2603 – Mid grey-brown silty clay with common inclusions of fractured flint rubble (not worked) and rare inclusions of old rotten roots (almost carbonised).	



APPENDIX 2: OASIS RECORD FORM

9.1 OASIS ID: wessexar1-83292

Project details

Proiect name	Rushmore	Dark	Parking	Rave	Tollard Royal	Wiltehira
i i oject name	Rushinore	I air	I arking	Days,	T Ullaru T Oyai	, vviitorine

- Short description of Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Savills on behalf of Trustees of MALF Pitt Rivers and Sandroyd School, to undertake the project an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the consolidation of a number of passing bays positioned adjacent to an access track within Rushmore Park, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire, located at National Grid Reference (NGR) 395397 117460. The area surrounding the site is archaeologically significant, containing seven Scheduled Monuments and eight Grade II Listed Buildings. In addition, Rushmore Park is a Grade II Registered Park and Garden and the site lies on Cranborne Chase, part of the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which is well known for its high densities of archaeological remains as well as its association with the archaeological investigations of Lt General Pitt Rivers. Following an archaeological desk-based assessment and subsequent archaeological evaluation on three of the passing bays, the Assistant County Archaeologist at Wiltshire Council required a watching brief during groundworks as a condition of the planning permission. A number of unstratified worked flint finds were identified within the topsoil during the watching brief and are indicative of the known background level of prehistoric activity across the site. Two ditches were also identified and were relatively shallow. They are considered likely to be minor boundary or field boundary ditches, pre-dating the present configuration of the park. The watching brief was undertaken over three days between the 4th and 9th August 2010.
- Project dates Start: 04-09-2010 End: 30-09-2010

Previous/future Yes / No work

- Any associated 73790 Contracting Unit No. project reference codes
- Any associated 73791 Contracting Unit No. project reference codes
- Any associated 73792 Contracting Unit No. project reference codes



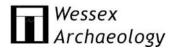
Type of project	Research project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 12 - Verge
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	FLINT FLAKE Bronze Age
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country Site location	England WILTSHIRE SALISBURY TOLLARD ROYAL Rushmore Park Parking Bays
Postcode	SP5 5QA
Study area	59500.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	ST 850 173 50.9543881043 -2.213579053230 50 57 15 N 002 12 48 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 177.98m Max: 188.41m
Project creators	

Name of Wessex Archaeology Organisation

Project brief Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)



Project design Wessex Archaeology originator

Project Sue Farr director/manager

Project supervisor S Beach

Type of Developer sponsor/funding body

Name of Savills on behalf of the Trustees of MALF Pitt Rivers and Sandroyd sponsor/funding School

Project archives

Physical recipient	Archive	Salisbury and South West Wilts Museum
Physical Co	ntents	'Worked stone/lithics'
Digital recipient	Archive	Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum
Digital Contents		'Worked stone/lithics'

- Digital Media 'GIS', 'Survey', 'Text' available
- Paper Archive Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum recipient
- Paper Contents 'Worked stone/lithics'
- Paper Media 'Context sheet','Drawing','Notebook Excavation',' Research',' available General Notes','Plan','Report','Section','Survey '

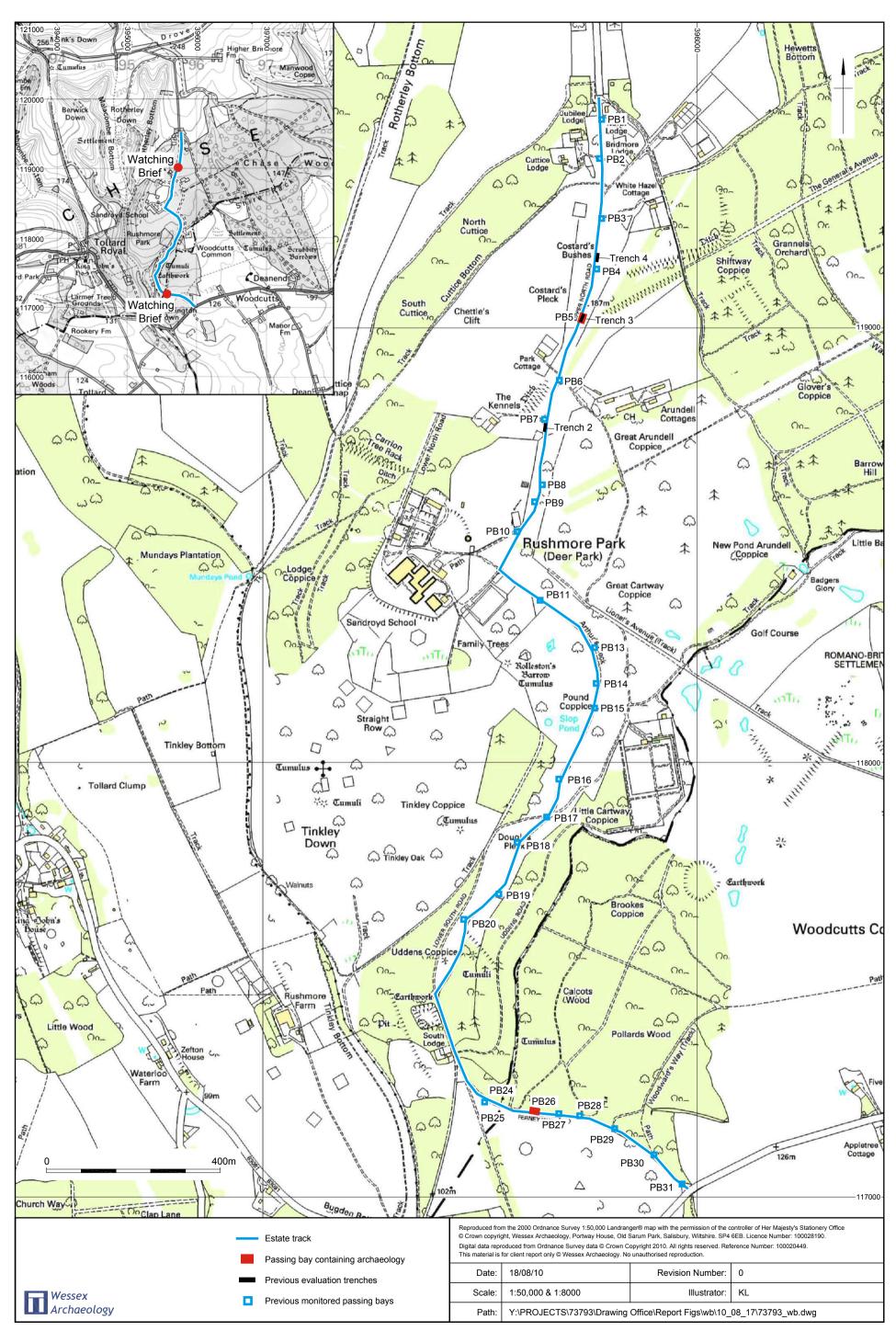
Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

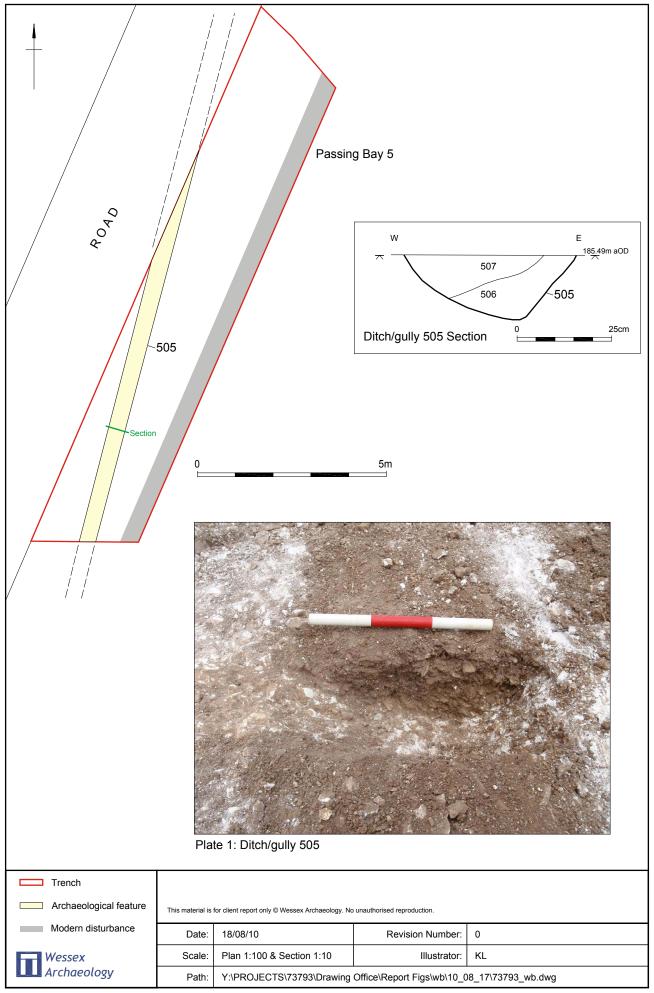


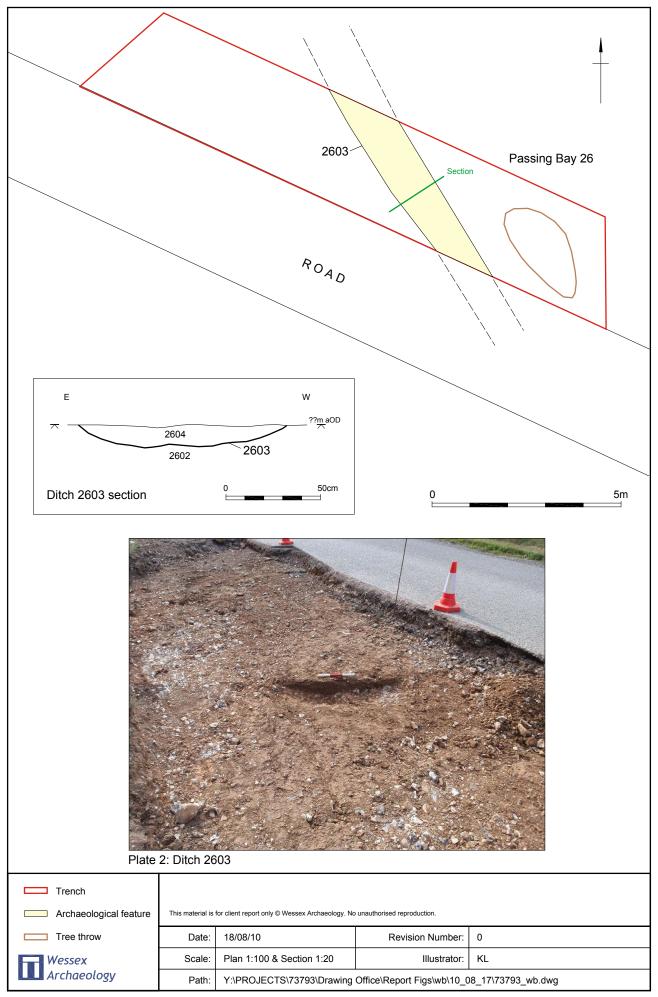
Title	Rushmore Park Parking Bays, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Beach, S
Other bibliographic details	73793
Date	2010
lssuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
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Description	Grey literature client report
Entered by	Sue Farr (s.farr@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	27 September 2010



Site location and passing bays monitored during watching brief

Figure 1











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