

**28 Old Dilton Road
Dilton Marsh
Wiltshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

for

Mr Kevin Peters


CA Project: 3530
CA Report: 12051

August 2013

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Dilton Marsh
Wiltshire

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date	7 August 2013
checked by	Richard Young, Project Manager
date	19 August 2013
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signed	
date	20 August 2013
issue	01

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Fig. 2 The site, showing location of observed groundworks (1:500)



SUMMARY

Project Name:	28 Old Dilton Road, Dilton Marsh
Location:	Dilton Marsh, Wiltshire
NGR:	ST 8586 4900
Type:	Watching Brief
Date:	12 and 14 March 2012 and 25 July 2013
Planning Reference:	Wiltshire Council W/11/01252/FUL
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with the Wiltshire Heritage Museum
Site Code:	ODR 11

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with a residential development at 28 Old Dilton Road, Dilton Marsh, Wiltshire.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and no artefactual material was recovered.



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In March 2012 and July 2013 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Mr Kevin Peters at 28 Old Dilton Road, Dilton Marsh (centred on NGR: ST 8586 4900; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to planning consent for a replacement residential development granted by Wiltshire Council (WC; Planning ref: W/11/01252/FUL). The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the development.

1.2 The watching brief was requested by Mr David Vaughan, then Assistant County Archaeologist, WC and archaeological advisor to WC. It was undertaken in accordance with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2011) and approved by WC acting on the advice of Mr Vaughan. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA 2008), the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Wiltshire* (Wiltshire County Council 1995), the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006).

The site

1.3 The development area, which encloses an area of approximately 0.1ha, is bounded by Old Dilton Road to the east, St Mary's Church and cemetery to the north and private gardens to the south and west. Biss Brook exits a drain at the south-western corner of the site and flows along its eastern edge, parallel to the road. The development area encompasses the garden and grounds of 28 Old Dilton Road (Fig. 2). The existing property had been demolished to ground level prior to the start of the watching brief. The site lies at approximately 90m AOD.

1.4 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as un-differentiated mudstone, sandstone and limestone of the Gault and Upper Greensand Formations, with Grey Chalk outcropping to the south and east of the Cretaceous era (BGS 2013). The Upper Greensand Formations were observed across the site during the course of the watching brief.

Archaeological background

- 1.5 The church and cemetery of St Mary's, Old Dilton lies immediately to the north of the site. The building, which dates from at least the 14th century, has an interior that has not been altered since the 18th century and retains many features and fittings of this date, and earlier (Pevsner and Cherry 1975).
- 1.6 The site is located in Old Dilton which is a small settlement with late medieval origins (SMR No. ST84NE454). Potential medieval earthworks have been plotted from aerial photographs to the north of the development (SMR No. ST84NE679). The Roman road from Bath to Salisbury also passes through Dilton Marsh and Hisomley. A possible Roman settlement was also identified during realignment work on the A350 to the east of the site at Biss Bottom (SMR No. ST84NE309).
- 1.7 The Victoria County History records that Dilton, 'locally called Old Dilton...is a mere hamlet, consisting of the church of St Mary, Dilton Farm, and a few cottages' (VCH 1965). By the beginning of the 19th century Dilton Marsh, to the north-west of Old Dilton, had become a centre of hand-loom weaving industry. There were several mills in the area including Upper Mill, located south of St Mary's Church, which was a large spinning factory (SMR No. ST84NE716), and Dilton Lower Mill, located at Dilton Vale Farm, which was described as a fulling mill and spinning manufactory (SMR No. ST84NE717).

Methodology

- 1.8 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2011). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks, including the removal of over-burden, and the excavation of foundations and service trenches. Non-archaeologically significant deposits were removed by the contractors under archaeological supervision (Fig. 2).
- 1.9 Written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.10 The archive from the watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. It will be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum in due course. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIGS 2)

- 2.1 Natural geological substrate 1001 comprising green sand was revealed across site at an average depth of 0.3m below present ground level (bpgl). In the northern and eastern part of the area it was overlain by a layer of topsoil 1006 which comprised dark brown sandy silt. The foundations of the previous residential structure and modern services were also identified.
- 2.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material was recovered.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks. The absence of archaeological deposits may indicate that remains associated with the late medieval settlement of Old Dilton and the 14th-century church and cemetery of St Mary's either do not extend into the site, were not exposed by the development, or that they have been removed during the construction of the dwelling which stood on the site until recently or any precursors (a building is depicted on Ordnance Survey maps in this location from 1890 until the present day).

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Diarmuid O'Seaneachain, Daniel Sausins and Charlotte Haines. The report was written by Daniel Sausins and Charlotte Haines. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Daniel Sausins and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

5. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2013 *Geology of Britain Viewer* <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 16 March 2012

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2011 *28 Old Dilton Road, Dilton Marsh, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Pevsner, N. and Cherry, B. 1975 *The Buildings of England: Wiltshire (2nd edition)* Penguin

VCH (Victoria County History) 1965 Wiltshire Publications

<http://www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/counties/wiltshire/volumes/wiltshire-vol-viii>

Accessed 23 August 2011



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	1000	Fill	1007	Demolition layer	Dark brown black sand			0.5	
1	1001	Layer		Natural substrate	Upper Greensand Formation				
1	1002	Cut		Foundation trench	linear		1.0	0.7	
1	1003	Wall	1002	Foundation	Concrete, brick and stone		1.0	0.7	
1	1004	Cut		Service trench	NE/SW linear		1.1	0.8	
1	1005	Fill	1004	Backfill	Modern brick and rubble in a sandy silt matrix		1.1	0.8	
1	1006	Layer		Topsoil	Grey silty clay			0.3	
1	1007	Cut		Demolition cut	Horizontal truncation			0.5	

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	28 Old Dilton Road, Dilton Marsh, Wiltshire	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with a residential development at 28 Old Dilton Road, Dilton Marsh, Wiltshire. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.	
Project dates	March 2012 and July 2013	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	None	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	28 Old Dilton Road, Dilton Marsh, Wiltshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.1ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	ST 8586 4900	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	N/A	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Diarmuid O'Seaneachain, Daniel Sausins, Charlotte Haines	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	N/A	N/A
Paper	Wiltshire Heritage Centre	Trench sheets
Digital	Wiltshire Heritage Centre	Digital photos, Survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2013 <i>28 Old Dilton Road, Dilton Marsh, Wiltshire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> . CA typescript report 12051		



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PROJECT TITLE

28 Old Dilton Road, Dilton Marsh
 Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

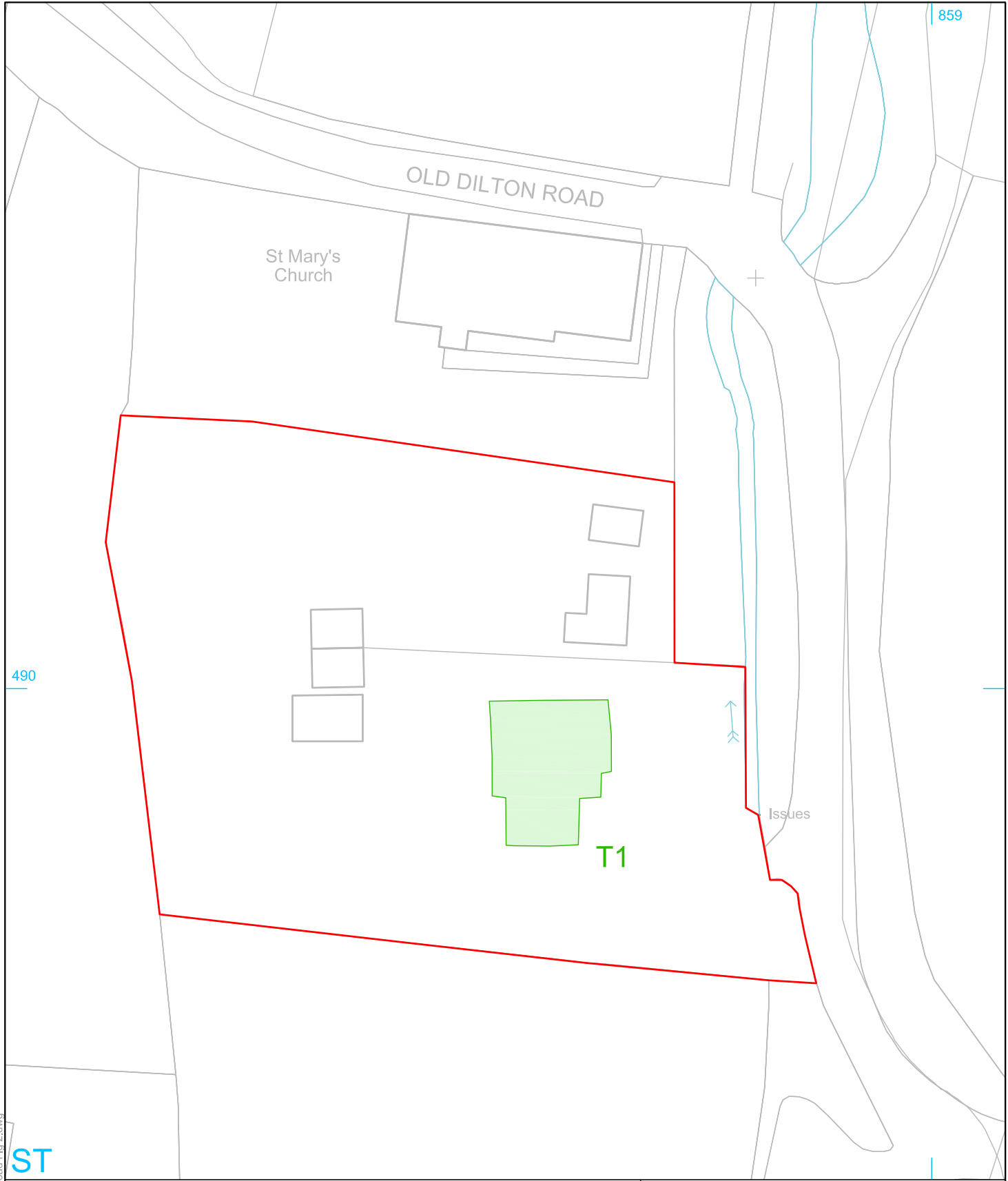


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PROJECT NO. 3530 DATE 15-08-2013
 DRAWN BY LG REVISION 00
 APPROVED BY PJM SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1



P:\3530 dilton marsh\Illustration\Drafts\3530_28 Old Dilton Road Fig 2.dwg

ST

- site
- area of observed groundworks



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PROJECT TITLE
 28 Old Dilton Road, Dilton Marsh
 Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE
 The site, showing location of observed
 groundworks

PROJECT NO.	3530	DATE	15-08-2013	FIGURE NO.
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APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A4	1:500	

