

Ashdown Park A Upper Lambourn Berkshire

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
eight20

on behalf of
Thames Water Utilities Ltd

CA Project: 6620
CA Report: 18263

October 2018



Ashdown Park A Upper Lambourn Berkshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

CA Project: 6620
CA Report: 18263



Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	24 October 2018	Sian Reynish	Ian Barnes	Internal review	Client comment	xx

This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND.....	3
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	4
4. METHODOLOGY	4
5. RESULTS (FIGS 2).....	4
6. DISCUSSION.....	5
9. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	5
10. REFERENCES.....	5
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	7
APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	8

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

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



SUMMARY

Project Name: Ashdown Park A
Location: Upper Lambourn, Berkshire
NGR: 428957, 18083
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 8 and 9 May 2018
Location of Archive: To be deposited with West Berkshire Museum
Site Code: APUL 18

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the installation of a new borehole and associated infrastructure at Ashdown Park A, Upper Lambourn, Berkshire.

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



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2018 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for at the request of eight20, on behalf of Thames Water Utilities Ltd, at Ashdown Park A, Upper Lambourn, Berkshire (centred at NGR: 428957 18083; Fig. 1). The works were completed under Permitted Development rights but were governed by Thames Water's responsibilities under their *Code of Practice on Conservation, Access and Recreation*.
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with the *Archaeological Watching Brief Tender Specification* (eight20 2018), and with a subsequent detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2018) and approved by the eight20 Lead Archaeologist. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014).

The site

- 1.3 The site is approximately 0.15ha in extent, and comprises part of a field. The field itself is bounded to the north-east by the B4000 and on all other sides by agricultural land. The site lies at approximately 152m AOD and is broadly level.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Head - Clay, silt, sand and gravel of the Quaternary period. Superficial deposits of Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation – Chalk of the Cretaceous period are also noted (BGS 2018). The natural substrate was not observed during the groundworks.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site is located in area of known archaeological potential. The following is a brief summary of publically available information pertinent to the site.
- 2.2 The site is located approximately 200m to the north of two Scheduled Monuments associated with Fognam Clump. Other archaeological assets have been identified following archaeological fieldwork in the area, including Roman coinage during a watching brief on the Fognam Down to Ashdown Park Main (Entwistle 2005).

Lambourn Corner is noted to have been the site of recovery of undated human remains in the early 1960s (Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record ref: 7522).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:

- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;
- at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2018). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks ground reduction for the construction of a piling mat for installation of a new borehole (Fig. 2).

4.2 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

4.3 The archive from the evaluation is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. This will be deposited with West Berkshire Museum. 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.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2)

5.1 The earliest deposit encountered was sandy silt subsoil 101. This was revealed at a typical depth of 0.2m below present ground level (bpgl), and was in excess of 0.2m in thickness. Towards the western limit of the excavation, the subsoil was absent and consolidation deposit 102 was observed. It was formed from redeposited

natural. The consolidation deposit was revealed at a typical depth of 0.2m bpgl and was in approximately 0.1m in thickness. Both the subsoil 101 and levelling deposit 102 were overlain by topsoil 100. Along the northern limit of the excavation the topsoil contained modern demolition material, bricks and cement, along with gravel at the western limits of the excavation.

5.2 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material was recovered.

6. DISCUSSION

6.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the application area, the watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks. The absence of these archaeological deposits is primarily a function of the limited depth of groundworks. While evidence of modern activities was recorded, particularly the consolidation deposit which is likely to relate to maintenance of an access point to the field, the potential for archaeological assets to be present remains.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Sian Reynish. The report was written by Sian Reynish. The illustrations were prepared by Rosanna Price. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Ian Barnes.

10. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2018 *Geology of Britain Viewer* <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 6 April 2018.

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2018 *Ashdown Park A, Upper Lambourn, Berkshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief.*

eight20 2018 *Archaeological Watching Brief Tender Specification*

Entwistle R 2005 *An archaeological watching brief along the Fognam Down to Ashdown Park Main, West Berkshire.*

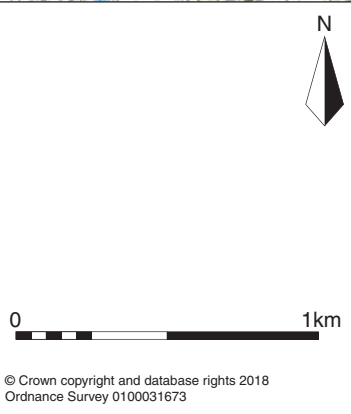


APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silty clay	20	18	0.2	
1	101	Layer		subsoil	light grey brown silty clay	20	13	>0.2	
1	102	Deposit		consolidation deposit	light yellowish grey sandy flint gravel. Possibly redeposited natural.	4	5	>0.1	

APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Ashdown Park A, Upper Lambourn, Berkshire	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the installation of a new borehole and associated infrastructure at Ashdown Park A, Upper Lambourn, Berkshire. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material was recovered.	
Project dates	8 and 9 May 2018	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	Not known	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Ashdown Park A, Upper Lambourn, Berkshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	0.15ha	
Site co-ordinates	428957, 18083	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	eight20	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Ian Barnes	
Project Supervisor	Sian Reynish	
MONUMENT TYPE		
None		
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
None		
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	N/A	N/A
Paper	West Berkshire Museum	Trench sheet and photographic register.
Digital	West Berkshire Museum	Digital photographs.
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2018 <i>Ashdown Park A, Upper Lambourn, Berkshire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> . CA typescript report 18263		






Cotswold Archaeology
 Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
 Ashdown Park A, Upper Lambourn, West Berkshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

DRAWN BY	RP	PROJECT NO.	6620	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	14.06.18	1
APPROVED BY	IB	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	



-  site boundary
-  area of observed groundworks



© Crown copyright and database rights 2018 Ordnance Survey 0100031673

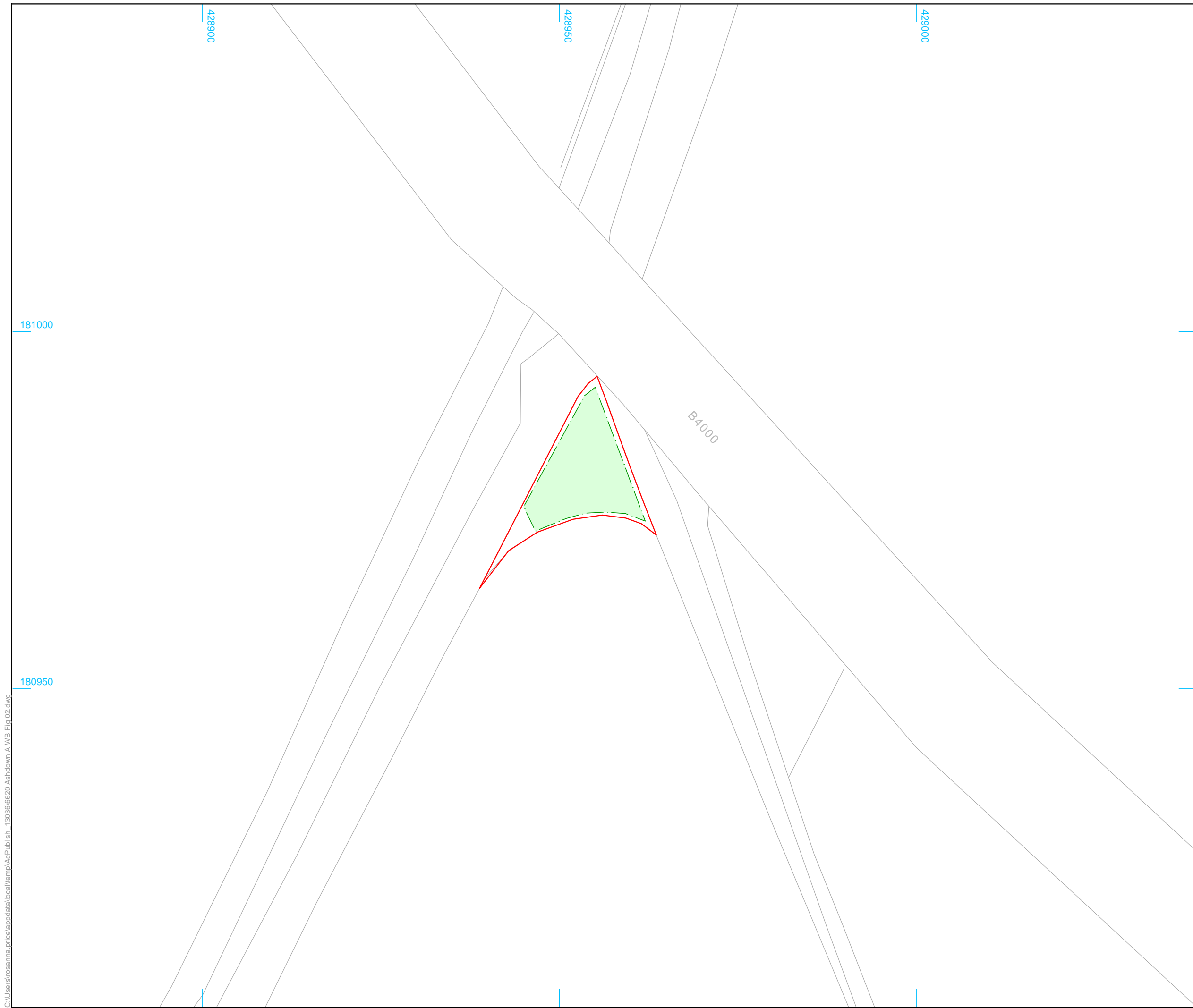
 Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
 Cirencester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 826185
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE
Ashdown Park A, Upper Lambourn, West Berkshire

FIGURE TITLE
The site, showing location of groundworks

DRAWN BY RP	PROJECT NO. 6620	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY DJB	DATE 14.06.18	2
APPROVED BY IB	SCALE@A3 1:500	



C:\Users\rosanna.price\appdata\local\temp\AcPublish_13036\6620_Ashdown_A_WB_Fig.02.dwg

Andover Office

Stanley House
Walworth Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

Cirencester Office

Building 11
Kemble Enterprise Park
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

Exeter Office

Unit 53
Basepoint Business Centre
Yeoford Way
Marsh Barton Trading Estate
Exeter
EX2 8LB

t: 01392 826185

Milton Keynes Office

Unit 8 - The IO Centre
Fingle Drive
Stonebridge
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK13 0AT

t: 01908 564660

e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

