LAND AT KENNEL LANE BROCKWORTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

For

CSJ PLANNING

on behalf of

DAVID WILSON HOMES SOUTH-WEST

CA PROJECT: 2607 CA REPORT: 08136

JUNE 2008

COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY



BROCKWORTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

CA PROJECT: 2607 CA REPORT: 08136

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date	10th June 2008
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date	26th June 2008
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signed	
date	June 2008
issue	01

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CONTENTS

SUMM	ARY	2
1.	INTRODUCTION	3
2.	RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)	5
3.	DISCUSSION	7
4.	CA PROJECT TEAM	8
5.	REFERENCES	8
APPEN	IDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	9
APPEN	IDIX B: THE FINDS	13
APPEN	IDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM	14

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)
- Fig. 2 Trench location plan, showing archaeological features (1:1250)
- Fig. 3 Section AA (1:100)

SUMMARY

Project Name: Land at Kennel Lane

Location: Brockworth, Gloucestershire

NGR: SO 8985 1570

Type: Evaluation

Date: 27 May- 06 June 2008

Location of Archive: To be deposited with Gloucester city Museum and Art Gallery

Site Code: KLB 08

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology between May and June 2008 at the request of CSJ Planning, on behalf of David Wilson Homes South-West, on land at Kennel Lane, Brockworth, Gloucestershire. Fourteen trenches were excavated.

The evaluation revealed evidence of an undated ditch and at least two distinct periods of ridge and furrow cultivation. The later phase of ridge and furrow sealed an undated posthole and two intercutting rubbish pits, which contained dating evidence from between the 12th and 14th centuries. A small modern north/south ditch was recorded which was a former field boundary known to have been present in 1955.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between May and June 2008 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for CSJ Planning, on behalf of David Wilson Homes South-West, at Kennel Lane, Brockworth, Gloucestershire (centred on NGR: SO 8985 1570; Fig. 1). The evaluation was undertaken to support an application for planning consent for a new development.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a recommendation for archaeological evaluation prepared by Mr Charles Parry, Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC), archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) Tewkesbury Borough Council, and with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2008) and approved by Mr Charles Parry (GCC). The fieldwork also followed the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (2001), the Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Gloucestershire (GCC 1995), and the Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991). It was monitored by Ms Jan Wills, Gloucestershire County Council Archaeologist.

The site

- 1.3 The site is located at the base of the northern scarp of Cooper's Hill and is bounded to the north by a modern housing estate (Fig. 2). The site lies at approximately 65m AOD, with the ground level gradually dropping to the north.
- 1.4 The proposed development area is approximately 3.2ha in area, and comprises two fields currently used as pasture and parts of three gardens.
- 1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as clay of the Jurassic Era (BGS 1975).

Archaeological background

1.6 A Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) was carried out which noted that a scatter of pottery and two ditches had been recorded to the east of the site (CA 2006). These finds may indicate a Roman settlement in the area, and if so there may also be some potential for associated features, such as field system ditches, to be present within the application site. Ridge and furrow earthworks were recorded as surviving within the eastern area of the site and traces of a headland are also visible in the western field. The reverse-S shape of now-removed earthworks in the western field of the site suggests that these may be of medieval origin. Certain hedgerows within the site are depicted on the Brockworth Tithe Map of 1841 and therefore may be considered of some historic interest.

1.7 Additionally Mr Charles Parry, in a letter to Tewkesbury Borough Council dated 31 January 2008, noted that Roman remains had been found during the development of nearby housing. Mr Parry also noted that the Severn Vale is 'notable generally for extensive archaeological remains dating to the prehistoric and Roman periods' and that 'these sites are often covered by deposits of medieval and modern ploughsoils and are not visible at ground level'.

Archaeological objectives

1.8 The objectives of the evaluation were to establish the character, quality, date and extent of any archaeological remains or deposits surviving within the site. This information will assist the Tewkesbury Borough Council in making an informed judgement on the significance of the archaeological resource, and the likely impact upon it of the proposed development.

Methodology

- 1.9 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 14 trenches; 13 trenches were 50m in length by 1.8m in width, whilst a single trench was reduced in length to 30m, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). The trench locations were placed randomly across the proposed area. Trench 13 was moved to the west and placed on a different alignment to avoid overhead services, and trench 12 was shortened due to the presence of services and thick foliage. These alterations were made with the approval of Ms Jan Wills.
- 1.10 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant

archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual (2007).

- 1.11 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (2003). No deposits were identified that required sampling. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of Finds Immediately After Excavation* (1995).
- 1.12 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIGS 2-3)

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A and B respectively.
- 2.2 Due to the very similar nature of revealed deposits only those trenches that contained differing features are to be discussed in specific detail. All the trenches contained evidence of a north/south aligned ridge and furrow cultivation system that cut the underlying natural substrate, comprising a light clay. The fill of the furrows was clean in nature and no dateable material was recovered. On average the furrows were 2.6m in width and separated by a ridges between 3m and 6m in size. The furrows were overlain by a clean subsoil that became thicker towards the northwest of the site, and varied from 0.09m to 0.3m in thickness. This was overlain by a topsoil/ploughsoil that appeared even across the whole site.

Trench 1 (Fig. 2)

2.3 The natural substrate 102 comprised a firm light clay that was cut by a small undated posthole 0.3m in diameter and 0.04m in depth. This feature contained no

dateable evidence and was heavily truncated by the overlying furrow 112. This furrow also sealed two intercutting pits 103 and 105. Pit 105 was a long oval shaped pit measuring 2.6m by 0.45m, with the long axis aligned east to west. Pit 105 contained a silt rich clay 106 that was flecked throughout with charcoal. Sealed within this fill were fragments of a pottery vessel that dated to between the 12th and 14th centuries. Fill 106 was truncated by pit 103. Pit 103 was only 0.13m deep, and measured 1m by 0.6m. It contained a silt rich deposit 104 that contained both charcoal flecks, and pottery dated to between the 12th and 14th centuries.

Trenches 7 and 11 (Fig. 2)

2.4 In addition to the north/south aligned furrows, trenches 7 and 11 provided evidence to suggest that an earlier field system had been in operation. Although not present in the section of the trenches it was noted in plan that a furrow system orientated north-west/south-east was sealed by the later north/south ridge and furrow system.

Trench 9 (Fig. 2)

2.5 Trench 9 contained a north/south aligned ditch 910 that measured 2.75m in width, cutting the natural substrate 902, and sealed by subsoil 901. No direct relationship could be determined between this undated ditch and the furrow system. In furrow 903 parts from at least three Romano-British vessels were recovered, although from the state of preservation and high quantity of abrasion it is thought that these vessels were redeposited and are intrusive to the feature.

Trench 10 (Fig. 2)

2.6 Trench 10 revealed evidence for a north/south aligned ditch 1006 that measured 1m in width and was 0.34m in depth. The fill of this feature was a light orange silt, and whilst no dateable evidence was recovered it is thought to be modern in date.

The Finds

2.7 Quantities of pottery, ceramic building material, fired clay, and worked flint were recovered from six deposits (Appendix B).

- 2.8 Roman pottery was present in furrow fills 707, 903 and 907. Occurring types consist of Dorset Black Burnished ware, Severn Valley ware and miscellaneous, probably local-type, greywares. The majority of the pottery came from deposit 903 and mainly consisted of Dorset Black Burnished ware. One vessel form from this deposit could be identified, represented by numerous joining sherds from a flat-rim dish, typical of mid 2nd century to 3rd century dating (Seager-Smith 1993, 232–3). The presence of what are reasonably large quantities of Roman pottery from furrow fills requires some explanation. The condition of this pottery was typically poor, with surfaces heavily abraded. With this in mind it seems most likely that the Roman material was re-deposited and derived from disturbed Roman deposits located in the vicinity.
- 2.9 Medieval pottery was recovered from pit fills 104 and 106. Unglazed Malvernian and Cotswold type oolitic limestone-tempered coarseware fabrics are represented, dateable broadly to between the 11th to 13th/earlier 14th centuries. Identifiable forms are restricted to jars in the Malvernian fabric, from deposits 104 and 106. The jar rims are of in-turned type, characteristic for this fabric between the 13th and early 14th centuries.
- 2.10 Other finds present include two fragments of fired clay, a fragment of Roman tile and a small and burnt flint flake.

3. DISCUSSION

3.1 The evaluation revealed the presence of at least two distinct periods of ridge and furrow cultivation. Whilst no dateable evidence was recorded in either set of features the stratigraphic relationship helped to illustrate that the earliest system was orientated north-west/south-east and was present in the north-east corner of the large field. The later north/south ridge and furrow system truncated and sealed a number of features across the site. In the north-western part of the site the small undated posthole was found in isolation, and as such no interpretation can be provided at this time. To the immediate north of this undated feature two intercutting pits, of uncertain function, both contained medieval pottery dated between the 12th and 14th centuries. These were cut by the later ridge and furrow cultivation system. The only other features excavated were the two north/south ditches in trenches 9 and 10 respectively. Ditch 910 contained no dateable material and is not present on

any of the mapping consulted during the desk-based assessment. This feature also had no direct relationship with the recorded furrows, although it shares the alignment of the later system. The second north/south ditch in trench 10 contained a relatively loose fill that appeared modern in nature, and the alignment and placement of this ditch directly matches a former field boundary that was first noted on the 1955 Ordnance Survey map.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Jonathan Webster, assisted by Neil Wright, Darran Muddiman, Ashley Strutt and Robert Elliott. The report was written by Jonathan Webster. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Jonathan Webster, and prepared for deposition by Kathryn Price. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

5. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 1975 Geological Survey of England and Wales, Sheet 234, Gloucester. 1:50 000
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2006 Land at Kennel Lane, Brockworth, Gloucestershire:

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- Seager-Smith, R. 1993 'Black burnished ware and other Southern British coarsewares', in Woodward *et al.*, 229–84
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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1

No.	Туре	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
100	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.2	
101	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.12	
102	Layer	Natural substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
103	Cut	Small Pit	1	0.6	0.13	
104	Fill	Fill of 103	1	0.6	0.13	C12th- 14th
105	Cut	Small oval pit	2.6	0.45	0.15	
106	Fill	Fill of 105	2.6	0.45	0.15	C12th- 14th
107	Cut	Modern intrusion	0.6	1.3	>0.18	Modern
108	Fill	Fill of 107	0.6	1.3	>0.18	Modern
109	Cut	Posthole	0.3	0.3	0.04	
110	Fill	Fill of 109	0.3	0.3	0.04	
111	Fill	Generic fill of 112	>4	2.45	0.34	
112	Cut	Generic cut of north/south aligned furrows	>4	2.45	0.34	

Trench 2

No.	Туре	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
200	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.25	
201	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.26	
202	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
203	Fill	Generic fill of 204	>1.8	2.85	0.55	
204	Cut	Generic cut of north/south aligned furrows	>1.8	2.85	0.55	

Trench 3

No.	Туре	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Spot-
			(m)	(m)	(m)	date
300	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.31	
301	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.09	
302	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
303	Fill	Generic fill of 304	>1.8	2.8	0.42	
304	Cut	Generic cut of north/south aligned furrows				

No.	Туре	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Spot-
			(m)	(m)	(m)	date
400	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.24	
401	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.18	
402	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
403	Fill	Generic fill of 404	>1.8	2.79	0.43	
404	Cut	Generic cut of north/south aligned furrows	>1.8	2.79	0.43	

Trench 5

No.	Туре	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Spot-
			(m)	(m)	(m)	date
500	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.31	
501	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.12	
502	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
503	Fill	Generic fill of 505	>1.8	2.85	0.5	
504	Cut	Generic cut of north/south aligned furrows	>1.8	2.85	0.5	

Trench 6

No.	Туре	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Spot-
			(m)	(m)	(m)	date
600	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.29	
601	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.27	
602	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
603	Fill	Generic fill of 604	>1.8	1.55	0.57	
604	Cut	Generic cut of north/south aligned furrows	>1.8	1.55	0.57	

Trench 7

No.	Туре	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
700	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.25	
701	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.26	
702	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
703	Fill	Fill of 704	>1.8	1.5	0.52	
704	Cut	Generic cut of north/south aligned furrows	>1.8	1.5	0.52	
705	Fill	Fill of 706	>1.8	1.53	0.12	
706	Cut	Generic cut of north-west/south-east aligned furrows	>1.8	1.53	0.12	
707	Fill	Fill of 708	>1.8	1.5	0.52	
708	Cut	Cut of furrow	>1.8	1.5	0.52	

Trench 8

No.	Туре	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Spot-
			(m)	(m)	(m)	date
800	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.26	
801	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.18	
802	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
803	Fill	Fill of 804	>7	>0.95	0.45	
804	Cut	Cut of north/south aligned furrow	>7	>0.95	0.45	

No.	Туре	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Spot-
			(m)	(m)	(m)	date
900	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.23	
901	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.18	
902	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
903	Fill	Fill of 904	>1.8	2.25	0.42	
904	Cut	Cut of north/south aligned furrows	>1.8	2.25	0.42	
905	Fill	Fill of 906	>1.8	2.25	0.42	
906	Cut	Cut of north/south aligned furrow	>1.8	2.25	0.42	
907	Fill	Fill of 908	>1.8	2.25	0.42	

908	Cut	Cut of north/south aligned furrow	>1.8	2.25	0.42	
909	Fill	Fill of 910	>1.8	2.75	0.44	
910	Cut	Cut of U shaped ditch	>1.8	2.75	0.44	

Trench 10

No.	Туре	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
1000	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.18	
1001	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.21	
1002	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
1003	Fill	Fill of 1004	>1.9	1.87	0.42	
1004	Cut	Cut of north/south aligned furrow	>1.9	1.87	0.42	
1005	Fill	Fill of 1006	>1.8	1	0.34	Modern
1006	Cut	Cut of U shaped ditch	>1.8	1	0.34	Modern
1007	Fill	Fill of 1008	>1.9	1.87	0.42	
1008	Cut	Cut of north/south aligned furrow	>1.9	1.87	0.42	

Trench 11

No.	Туре	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
1100	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.21	
1101	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.27	
1102	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
1103	Fill	Fill of 1104	>1.8	3	0.48	
1104	Cut	Cut of north/south aligned furrow	>1.8	3	0.48	
1105	Fill	Fill of 1106	>1.8	3	0.48	
1106	Cut	Cut of north/south aligned furrow	>1.8	3	0.48	
1107	Layer	Mixed Subsoil noted at the top of furrow 1106	>1.8	1.64	0.15	

Trench 12

No.	Туре	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Spot-
			(m)	(m)	(m)	date
1200	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.34	
1201	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.3	
1202	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
1203	Fill	Fill of 1204	>1.8	2.81	0.65	
1204	Cut	Generic cut of north/south aligned furrows	>1.8	2.81	0.65	

No.	Туре	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Spot-
			(m)	(m)	(m)	date
1300	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.31	
1301	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.27	
1302	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
1303	Fill	Fill of 1304	>1.8	3	0.59	
1304	Cut	Generic cut of north/south aligned furrows	>1.8	3	0.59	

No.	Туре	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot- date
1400	Layer	Topsoil	n/a	n/a	0.32	
1401	Layer	Subsoil	n/a	n/a	0.45	
1402	Layer	Natural Substrate	n/a	n/a	n/a	
1403	Fill	Fill of 1404	>6.5	2.05	0.77	
1404	Cut	Generic cut of north/south aligned furrows	>6.5	2.05	0.77	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Artefact type	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
104	Medieval pottery: Malvernian unglazed; Cotswold oolitic	26	204	C13+
	limestone-tempered			
	Fired clay	2	6	
106	Medieval pottery: Malvernian unglazed	8	58	C13+
707	Roman pottery: Severn Valley ware	1	1	RB
903	Roman pottery: Dorset Black Burnished ware, Severn	177	792	C2-C3
	valley ware, local greywares			
	Flint flake	1	1	
907	Roman pottery: Severn Valley ware	1	4	RB
1007	Ceramic building material: tile	1	10	RB

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Name	Land at Kennel Lane, Bro	ckworth, Gloucestershire		
Short description (250 words maximum)	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology between May and June 2008 at the request of CSJ Planning, on behalf of David Wilson Homes South-West, on land at Kennel Lane Brockworth, Gloucestershire. Fourteen trenches were excavated.			
	The evaluation revealed e and at least two distinct p cultivation. The later ph sealed an undated post rubbish pits, which contain between the 12th and modern north/south ditch former field boundary known in 1955.	periods of ridge and furrow ase of ridge and furrow hole and two intercutting ined dating evidence from 14th centuries. A smal was recorded which was a		
Project dates	May to June 2008			
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Field Evaluation			
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	Desk-Based Assessment	Desk-Based Assessment (CA 2006)		
Future work	Unknown			
PROJECT LOCATION				
Site Location	Kennel Lane, Brockworth,	Gloucestershire		
Study area (M²/ha)	3.2ha			
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SO 8985 1570			
PROJECT CREATORS				
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology			
Project Brief originator	Gloucestershire County C	ouncil		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology			
Project Manager Project Supervisor	Richard Young Jonathan Webster			
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content (e.g. pottery animal bone etc)		
Physical	Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery	Ceramics, pottery		
Paper	Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery	Context sheets, plans sections		
Digital	Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery	Reports		
BIBLIOGRAPHY		1		
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