

**ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
SUTTON BENGER  
WILTSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

*For*

**ANDREW TOWNSEND ARCHITECTS**

*on behalf of*

**SUTTON BENGER PCC**

CA PROJECT: 3020  
CA REPORT: 10051

JANUARY 2010

ALL SAINTS CHURCH  
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WILTSHIRE

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CA PROJECT: 3020  
CA REPORT: 10051

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date	30 March 2010
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date	
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signed	
date	31 March 2010
issue	01

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## CONTENTS

SUMMARY .....	2
1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
2. RESULTS .....	4
3. DISCUSSION.....	4
4. CA PROJECT TEAM.....	5
5. REFERENCES.....	5
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS .....	6
APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	7

### LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- Fig. 1 Site location plan 1:25000
- Fig. 2 The site, showing location of groundworks

## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** All Saints Church  
**Location:** Sutton Benger, Wiltshire  
**NGR:** ST 9472 7872  
**Type:** Watching Brief  
**Date:** January 2010  
**Location of Archive:** To be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes  
**Site Code:** SBA 10

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the installation of new drainage and other services within the Tower base and across the churchyard to the west of All Saints Church, Sutton Benger, Wiltshire.

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2010 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Andrew Townsend Architects (ATA) on behalf of Sutton Benger Parochial Church Council (PCC) at All Saints Church, Sutton Benger, Wiltshire (centred on NGR: ST 9472 7872; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken to monitor any disturbance of deposits within the Tower base and across the churchyard to the west. The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the groundworks.
- 1.3 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with the *Brief for Archaeological Consultant* (ATA 2009), and with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2009). The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (IfA 2008), the *Standards for Archaeological Assessment and Field Evaluation in Wiltshire* (Wiltshire County Council 1995), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991), the *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England* (English Heritage 2005) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006).

### ***The site***

- 1.4 All Saints Church is located at the centre of the small village of Sutton Benger. (Fig. 2). The site, approximately 0.16 ha in area, lies at approximately 55m AOD.
- 1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Oxford Clay of the Upper Jurassic period. This is overlain by drift geology First Terrace gravel of the Pleistocene and recent era (BGS 1965). The groundworks revealed a layer of buried graveyard soil but did not intrude on either the solid geology or drift geology of the area.

### ***Archaeological background***

- 1.6 The Grade II\* listed All Saints Church is constructed in rubble stone with stone slate roofs and coped gables. The main body of the church dates to the 14th to 15th centuries (with 12th century origins) and was heavily restored in 1851 by J. H. Hakewill (EH 2010).

### ***Methodology***

- 1.7 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2009). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks associated with the installation of new drainage and other services. (Fig. 2).
- 1.8 No Archaeological deposits were uncovered during the groundworks.
- 1.9 The archive from the watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner, the archive will be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes. 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**

- 2.1 No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.

## **3. DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 Despite the archaeological potential of the application area (see archaeological background above) the watching brief identified no archaeological remains within the area of observed groundworks. The absence of archaeological deposits may indicate that structural remains associated with the church either do not extend as far as or were not exposed by the development.

#### 4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Tim Havard. The report was written by Martin Harrington. The illustrations were prepared by Jon Bennett. The archive has been compiled by Angela Aggujaro, and prepared for deposition by Jon Hart. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.

#### 5. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 1965 *Geological Survey of Great Britain, Bath, Solid and Drift Geology Edition*, Sheet 265, 1:50000.

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 *All Saints Church, Sutton Benger Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

[English Heritage \(2010\) http://lbonline.englishheritage.org.uk/BuildingDetailsForm.aspx?id=316100&search=y](http://lbonline.englishheritage.org.uk/BuildingDetailsForm.aspx?id=316100&search=y)

**APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS**

Trench 1:

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
100	Layer	Concrete path			0.08	Modern
101	Layer	Mid yellow gravel sub-base for 100			0.35	Modern
102	Layer	Buried graveyard soil			>0.3	Modern



**APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	All Saints Church, Sutton Benger, Wiltshire	
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the installation of new drainage and other services within the Tower base and across the churchyard to the west of All Saints Church, Sutton Benger, Wiltshire.</p> <p>No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered.</p>	
Project dates	January 2010	
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Watching Brief	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	N/A	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	All Saints Church, Sutton Benger, Wiltshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)		
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	ST 9472 7872	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Andrew Townsend Architects	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Tim Havard	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	N/A	N/A
Paper	Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes	Trench recording, plans, photographic register
Digital	Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes	Digital photos
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 <i>All Saints Church, Sutton Benger Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief</i>		