

Fisher Bungalow, Alresford Road, Winchester, Hampshire

An Archaeological Watching Brief.



© Context One Archaeological Services Ltd 2011

Fisher Bungalow, Alresford Road, Winchester, Hampshire

An Archaeological Watching Brief

for

Greentithe Ltd

by



Brickfield Offices, Maperton, Wincanton, Somerset. BA9 8EG.

T: 01963 824696

F: 07092 259858

E: mail@contextone.co.uk

W: www.contextone.co.uk

COAS reference: COAS/WBF/10/FBW

National Grid Reference: centred on SU 52113 29642

OASIS identification number: contexto1-108351

Winchester Museums Service Accession Number: WINCM : AY 473

COAS Team:

Project Director: Richard McConnell

Fieldwork Manager: Stuart Milby

Fieldwork: Peter Fairclough, David Roberts & Richard McConnell

Report: Stuart Milby

Research: Stuart Milby

Graphics: Tara Fairclough

October 2011

Context One Archaeological Services Ltd shall retain the copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other projected documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved, excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Design/Specification/Written Scheme of Investigation.

Front cover image: Site reduction, viewed from the south-west. © Context One Archaeological Services 2009

Contents

Non-technical summary.....	i
1. Introduction	1
2. Site Location, Topography and Geology	1
3. Archaeological Background	3
4. Methodology	3
5. Results	3
6. Discussion and Conclusions	6
7. Archive	6
8. COAS Acknowledgements	6
9. Bibliography	6

Illustrations

Figure 1. Site setting	2
Figure 2: Detailed site setting showing area of new development and profile locations	5

Non-Technical Summary

Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief during groundworks relating to the replacement of two no. existing bungalows with two no. 2 bed eco-homes, landscaping and associated works, at Fisher Bungalow, Alresford Road, Winchester, Hampshire (NGR SU 52113 29642) (hereafter referred to as the Site). The project has been commissioned by Greentithe Ltd.

The request for the archaeological work was made by Ms Tracy Matthews (Historic Environment Officer (Archaeology), Winchester City Council (WCC)), following a consultation request from the Local Planning Authority (WCC)

No archaeological remains or significant deposits were exposed during construction groundworks. No archaeological finds were recovered during the watching brief.

1. Introduction

1.1 Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief during groundworks relating to the replacement of two no. existing bungalows with two no. 2 bed eco-homes, landscaping and associated works, at Fisher Bungalow, Alresford Road, Winchester, Hampshire (NGR SU 52113 29642) (hereafter referred to as the Site). The project has been commissioned by Greentithe Ltd.

1.2 The request for the archaeological work was made by Ms Tracy Matthews (Historic Environment Officer (Archaeology), Winchester City Council (WCC)), following a consultation request from the Local Planning Authority (WCC). In a consultation letter to the Local Planning Authority Ms Matthews states:

“Within the immediate vicinity of the application site, evidence of buried archaeological remains is known from aerial photographs. These remains comprise a series of enclosures, trackways and ditches, probably relating to field systems, which may extend into the application site. The morphology of the features suggests they may be of late prehistoric or Romano-British date.

Alresford Road to the south of the application site follows the alignment of a Roman road, while at Pitt Farm to the NE is the site of a post-medieval brick kiln. To the east of the site is the location of Avington Park Camp, a WWI army camp.”

1.3 At the request of Ms Tracy Matthews, COAS issued a *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief: Fisher Bungalow, Alresford Road, Winchester* (COAS, 2010), which provided a strategy for the archaeological works. This was submitted to and approved by Ms Matthews prior to the commencement of groundworks.

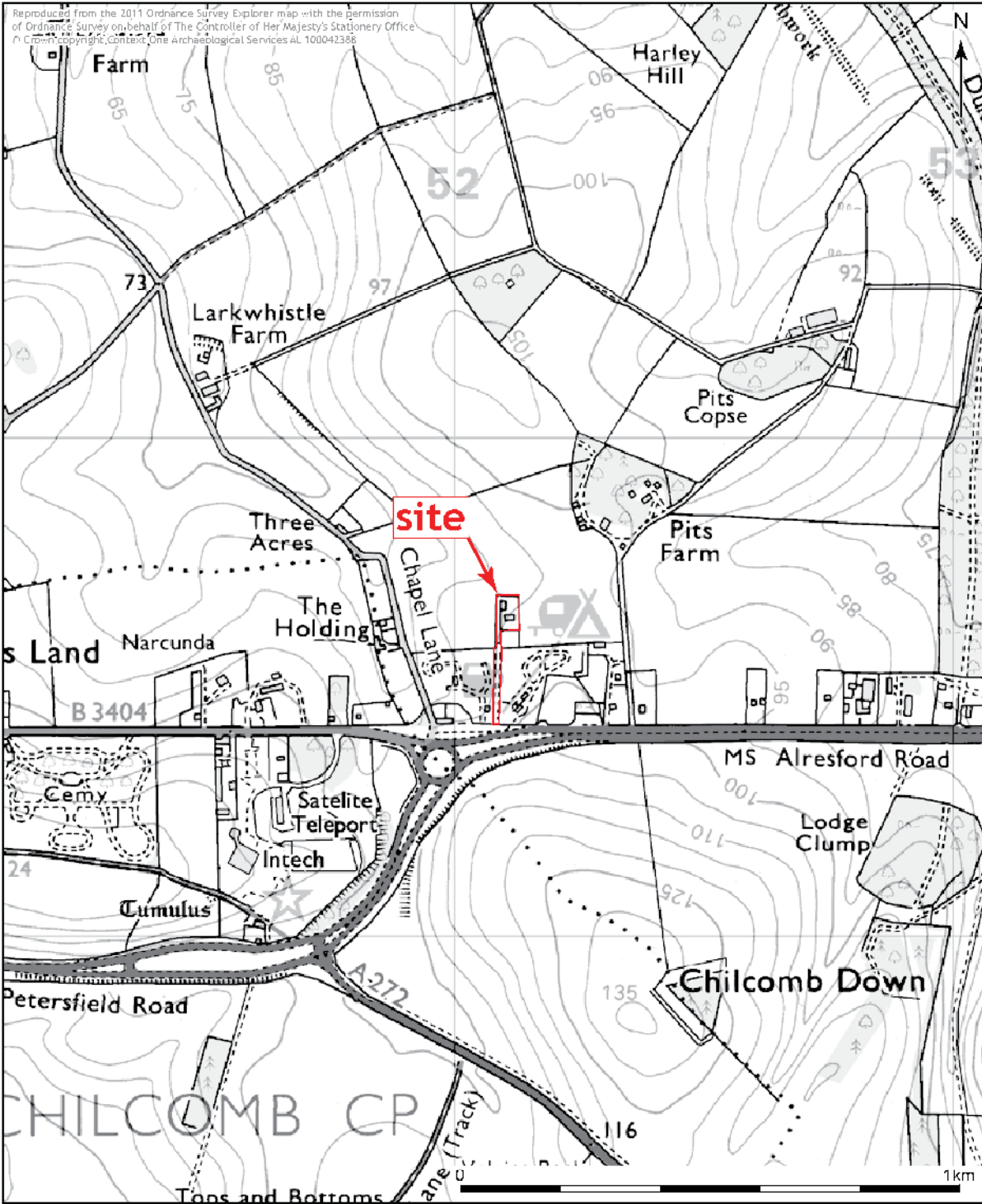
1.4 The request for the archaeological work follows advice given by Central Government as set out in Planning Policy Guidance Note 1 (PPG1), General Policy and Principles, 1997, Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (2010) and the Local Development Framework Policy on Archaeology.

1.5 This report summarises the topographical, geological, archaeological setting of the site, and presents the results of the Watching Brief.

2. Site Location, Topography and Geology

2.1 The Site (centred on NGR SU 52113 29642) is situated c. 4KM to the east of the City of Winchester, Hampshire and is immediately to the north of Alresford Road (A31) (**Figure 1**). The Site slopes gradually from 94.56m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the north, to 96.67m aOD in the south.

2.2 According to the British Geological Survey (2001), no superficial geology has been recorded. The underlying bedrock geology comprises Seaford Chalk Formation chalk (Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC), 2009).



PROJECT TITLE		
Fisher Bungalow, Alresford, Winchester, Hampshire		
FIGURE TITLE		
Site setting		
SCALE	PROJECT CODE	FIGURE NO.
as shown	C1/WBF/10/FBW	1

3. Archaeological Background

- 3.1 The archaeological background for the Site is drawn from secondary sources, principally on information provided by the Winchester Urban Archaeological Database ('UAD': compiled and maintained by Winchester City Council).
- 3.2 Lying due east of the City of Winchester, the Site sits within a well known and documented prehistoric and historic landscape. Aerial photographs of the area immediately surrounding the Site show a number of cropmarks (most likely field systems), whilst the Iron Age hill-fort of St Catherine's Hill lies not more than 2km to the south-west.
- 3.3 A Second World War heavy anti aircraft battery, located at Pits Farm, lies c. 150m to the north-east of the Site.

4. Methodology

Construction Methodology

- 4.1 The two existing wooded bungalows within the Site were demolished and their foundations grubbed out using a tracked 360 degree machine fitted with a 1m toothed bucket. The Site level was then reduced using the same machine fitted with a 1.6m toothless bucket.
- 4.2 Following demolition and reduction a soakaway and two surface water harvesting tanks were excavated.

Archaeological Methodology

- 4.3 The programme of archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the *Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* published by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IfA) in 1995 (revised 1999). COAS adhered to the *Code of Conduct* issued by the IfA in 1985 (revised 2000), and *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (1990, revised September 2000), at all times during the course of the investigation. Current Health and Safety legislation and guidelines were followed on Site.
- 4.4 A qualified archaeologist was present on Site to monitor major groundworks relating to the development for the purpose of identifying and recording any archaeological features/deposits present.
- 4.5 All deposits were recorded using standard COAS pro-forma recording sheets. Stratigraphic relationships were recorded using a "Harris-Winchester matrix" diagram. Soil colours were recorded using a Munsell soil colour chart. A photographic record of the work was prepared and involved the use of digital images. The photographic record included shots of the excavated area and working shots to illustrate the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. Consideration was also given to the possibility of publication.

5. Results

- 5.1 The conditions on Site were generally good, with a mix of overcast and bright skies allowing for good light.
- 5.2 A total of three profiles were recorded during the course of the watching brief; Profile 1 was recorded in the soakaway; Profiles 2 and 3 were recorded in the surface water harvesting tanks (**Figure 2**).

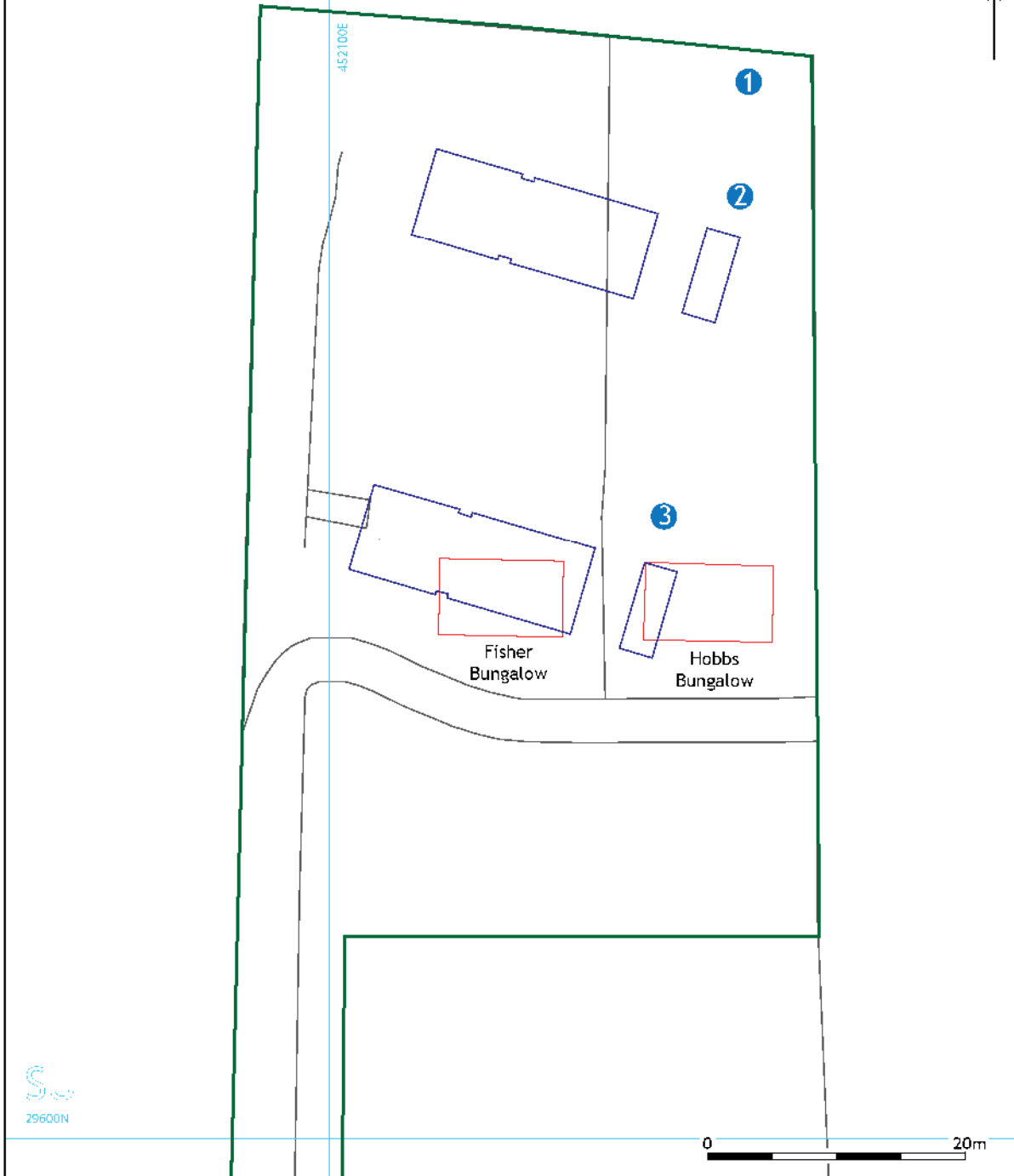
Soil Sequence and Geology

- 5.3 A horizontal sequence of sediments was recorded across the Site comprising c.0.30m soft-firm, clay/silt topsoil (100), (102), (104) overlying cemented chalk natural (101), (103), (105). The same sequence of sediments was recorded within all three profiles

Archaeological Features

- 5.4 No archaeological remains or significant deposits were exposed during construction groundworks. No archaeological finds were recovered during the watching brief.

Reproduced from the 2011 Ordnance Survey digital mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office
 © Crown copyright. Context One Archaeological Services L272



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> site boundary new development X profile location 	PROJECT TITLE Fisher Bungalow, Alresford, Winchester, Hampshire	
	FIGURE TITLE Detailed site setting	
	SCALE as shown	PROJECT CODE C1/WBF/10/FBW

6. Discussion and Conclusions

- 6.1 Despite the proximity of the Site to a number of known archaeological events, including a series of enclosures, trackways and ditches identified on aerial photographs, and a Roman road to the south, no archaeological features/deposits were observed during the course of the watching brief.

7. Archive

- 7.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of Context One Archaeological Services Ltd and consists of 29 digital images in .jpg format, the written paper record, which includes COAS pro-forma profile log sheets and various registers. The archive will be prepared to comply with guidelines set out in *Environmental Standards for the Permanent Storage of Excavated Material from Archaeological Sites* (UKIC 1984, Conservation Guidelines 3)/ *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (UKIC 1990)/ *Standards in the Museums Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museum and Galleries Commission 1992)/ *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991). Arrangements will be made to deposit the archive with Winchester City Museum within 12 months following the submission of this report.
- 7.2 Copies of the Watching Brief report will be deposited with:

Nicolas Price
Greentithe
Mill House
Hartest
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP29 4JN

Winchester City Council
City Offices
Colebrook Street
Winchester
Hampshire
SO23 9LJ

8. COAS Acknowledgements

- 8.1 Context One Archaeological Services Ltd would like to thank Mr Rob Newbold, for his kind assistance throughout the course of the investigation, and Ms Tracy Matthews (Historic Environment Officer (Archaeology), Winchester City Council), for curatorial advice.

9. Bibliography

- | | |
|--|---|
| Beaumont James, T., 1997 | <i>Winchester, English Heritage, London: Batsford</i> |
| British Geological Survey, 2001 | Geological Map of Great Britain 1:625,000 (England & Wales south sheet) 4 th Edition: Solid Geology |
| Milby, S., 2010 | <i>Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief: Fisher Bungalow, Alresford Road, Winchester, Hampshire</i> |
| Department for Communities and Local Government, 2010 | <i>Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment, London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office</i> |

- Department of the Environment, 1997 *Planning Policy Guidance Note 1: General Policy and Principles*, London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office
- C S Dobinson 1996 *Twentieth century fortifications in England, volume 1. Anti-aircraft artillery : England's air defence gunsites, 1914-46*
Code of Conduct, Reading: IfA
- Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), 1985 (rev. 2000) *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*, Reading: IfA
- Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), 1990 (rev. 2000) *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*, Reading: IfA
- Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), 1994 rev. 1999 *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Excavation*
- Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC), 2009 <http://www.magic.gov.uk>
9.1
- Winchester City Council, 2006 *Policy HE.1 of the of the Winchester District Local Plan Review*