Allen Archaeology Limited

SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING:
LAND AT 3 LOVEGROVE ACRE, DINTON, WILTSHIRE

Client:	**Karen Parnell**
National Grid Reference:	**SU 0130 3155**
AAL Site Code:	**DILO 23**
Date:	**27th June 2023**
Museum Accession Code:	**SBYWM:2023.28**
Planning Reference:	**20/07853/FUL**

1.0 Summary

This document is the written scheme of investigation (WSI) for archaeological monitoring and recording, prepared for Karen Parnell to satisfy a planning condition issued by Wiltshire Council. It sets out a proposal for a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording for the erection of a detached dwelling with associated parking and driveway in the garden of number 3 Lovegrove Acre, Dinton, Wiltshire, SP3 5EA.

The monitoring and recording as well as the reporting will conform to current national guidelines, as set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists '*Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*' (CIfA, 2020a) and the Historic England document *'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment'* (Historic England 2015). All Historic England guidelines on archaeological best practice will also be followed (www.historicengland.org.uk/advice/).

2.0 Site Location and Description

The site is located to the north of Hindon Road, Dinton, Wiltshire, c.13 km west of Salisbury. The site comprises an area of c.0.12ha in the back garden of number 3, Lovegrove Acre (Figure 1). The site is centred on SU 0130 3155.

The bedrock geology comprises Mudstone of the Gault Formation, with no superficial deposits recorded (https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/).

3.0 Planning Background

Planning permission has been granted (20/07853/FUL) for the erection of a detached dwelling with associated parking and driveway in the garden of number 3 Lovegrove Acre, Dinton, Wiltshire, SP3 5EA. The permission was granted subject to conditions, including the undertaking of a scheme of archaeological works involving a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during all associated groundworks.

The scheme of works will comprise the monitoring of all groundworks by a suitably competent archaeologist, and the recording of any archaeological remains exposed, effectively 'preserving the archaeology by record'. This approach is consistent with the guidelines that are set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities 2021).

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

Three palaeolithic handaxes (Wiltshire and Swindon Historic Environment Record / WSHER MWI6580) were

recorded in 1969 at a location c.380m to the west of the site. Four mid/upper Palaeolithic scrapers and three Acheulian handaxes were found in 1904-20 at Dinton Brickworks (now Tan industrial estate), c.500m to the south-east (WSHER MWI6577). More palaeolithic tools were found in the 1950s c.200m west of the former Dinton Brickworks (WSHER MWI6578). Neolithic (WSHER MWI6598) and Mesolithic (WSHER MWI6598) flint tools are recorded c.500m to the northwest. There is also further undated evidence for settlement that may relate to earlier, possibly prehistoric, activity - a semi-circular feature enclosing two small circular and one L-shaped feature has been noted on aerial photographs in an area c.100m to the west of the site currently in use as a sports field (WSHER MWI66811).

The proposed development site is located in the historic core of the village of Dinton, which appears to be of Saxon or earlier origin. The Domesday Survey of 1086 lists a population of 37 households (https://opendomesday.org/place/SU0131/dinton/). Dinton Parish Church (Church of St Mary the Virgin), located c.350m northwest of the proposed development site, is a listed building (list no: 1146120) with surviving architectural details dating to between the late 12th and 15th centuries. It was restored 1873-75 by William Butterfield. Earthworks survive south-east of the church and at east end of modern village. These have not been surveyed (RCHME 1994).

5.0 Aims and Objectives

The purpose of the archaeological monitoring will be to mitigate the effects of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource and to create a permanent record of the features and deposits exposed, in advance of development.

Evidence shall be gathered to establish the presence/absence, nature, date, depth, quality of survival and importance of any archaeological deposits to enable an assessment of the potential and significance of the archaeological remains, and to allow for the determination of any appropriate strategies to mitigate the effect of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource should any unexpected and significant remains be present.

6.0 Methodology

One experienced field archaeologist will be present during all groundworks for the scheme. They will act strictly in accordance with the contents of this document, and will adhere to national and local guidelines regarding agreed best practice for archaeological monitoring and recording projects.

The scheme of archaeological works will involve monitoring of all ground disturbances, with the ability to stop and fully record archaeological features. If archaeological remains are revealed then hand excavation will be required where such deposits can be accessed safely. Additional staffing will be deployed as required to excavate and record archaeological features and deposits in advance of development.

All groundworks should be carried out using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, except for where removal of concrete or tarmac surfaces or obstructions necessitates the use of a hydraulic breaker or toothed bucket, at the discretion of the supervising archaeologist.

Metal detector searches will be undertaken, where appropriate, by an archaeologist experienced in the use of metal detectors.

A full written record of the archaeological deposits will be made on standard Allen Archaeology Limited context recording sheets. Archaeological deposits will be drawn to scale, in plan and section at an appropriate scale (usually 1:20 or 1:50), with Ordnance Datum heights being displayed on each class of drawing. Full colour photography will form an integral part of the recording strategy, and all archive

photographs will incorporate scales, a directional arrow and an identification board where appropriate. Additional working shots of the site may also be taken to complement the record.

If human burials or cremations are exposed during the watching brief, in the first instance the advising historic environment officer will be contacted to discuss an appropriate strategy for the management of the human remains on site. It is anticipated however that wherever possible the human remains will be left *in situ* unless at direct threat from the proposed development. If the remains are at threat from the development, they will be lifted. AAL will obtain a Ministry of Justice licence authorising the removal of the remains. These will be cleaned, photographed and recorded on standard AAL human skeletal remains recording sheets, prior to removal for cleaning at the offices of AAL and subsequent analysis by the named specialist.

Any artefacts found during the investigation that are deemed to be 'treasure' (as defined by the Treasure Act 1996) will be removed from site to a secure store and reported to the appropriate coroner's office and the Nottinghamshire Portable Antiquities Scheme.

Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled with the appropriate deposit context number, and then later processed at the offices of Allen Archaeology Limited. These will then be submitted for specialist assessment to the following organisations/persons (depending on their availability):

Barbara McNee	Prehistoric pottery
Joshua Hogue	Worked lithic material
Jane Timby	Roman pottery
Paul Blinkhorn	Post-Roman pottery
Paul Blinkhorn	Ceramic Building Materials
Malin Holst	Human bone
Adam Daubney	Other artefacts
Bryn Leadbetter	Animal bone
Bryn Leadbetter	Environmental analysis
York Archaeological Trust	Conservation

If the watching brief results in the recovery of unstable artefactual remains (e.g., metallic objects, preserved wood/leather), Allen Archaeology Limited will commission the services of York Archaeological Trust to advise and implement conservation of unstable artefacts; to undertake x-ray analysis and to provide an assessment of potential summary, which will then be attached to the main report.

The field team will be confirmed nearer the time according to availability of appropriately experienced staff. The project will be managed by Adam Lodoen on behalf of Allen Archaeology Limited.

7.0 Environmental Works

Samples will be taken from deposits that have the potential to provide information on the preservation conditions and potential of analysis of all biological remains. If appropriate during the investigation, specialist advice will be sought from the environmental archaeologist, including a site visit to develop the sampling strategy. Processing and assessment of environmental remains will take place at Allen Archaeology's Lincoln office.

Bulk samples will be taken from a selection of stratified contexts that have produced secure good dating evidence, and sufficient in number to establish the range and quality of the environmental evidence. Where feasible, bulk samples will be taken as scatter samples, whereby tubs will be filled from different

locations within the designated fill to avoid spatial preservation bias or missing biological remains invisible to the naked eye which can form discrete 'clusters' within the fill (Historic England 2011).

Animal bone will be hand collected from all excavated features. These will be identified and assessed by the named specialist, with any recommendations for future archaeological work on the site.

8.0 Post-Excavation and Reporting

On completion of site operations, the records produced during the archaeological monitoring will be checked and ordered and a stratigraphic matrix of all archaeological features and deposits prepared.

A fully illustrated text will then be prepared that will contain the following information:

- A non-technical summary of the results
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site
- Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area
- Description of the methodologies used during the works and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results
- A text describing the results of the fieldwork
- Overall plan of the site showing the areas investigated, accurately located to the national grid
- A plan of the site showing archaeological features exposed
- Sections of the foundation trenches and archaeological features
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site
- Appropriate photographs of the site, and specific archaeological features or groups of features
- A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria

9.0 Archive

All documentation and records generated during the project will be converted into an appropriate format conforming to CIfA policies (CIfA 2020b) and the local guidelines in *'The Salisbury Museum. guidelines and conditions for the preparation and deposition of archaeological archives'* (TSM 2019). The archive will be deposited at The Salisbury Museum, with the Salisbury Museum accession code SBYWM:2023.28.

A copy of the completed OASIS record should be included in the final fieldwork report and the site archive.

10.0 Report Dissemination

The report will be completed within three months of the completion of the fieldwork, and digital copies will be sent to the client, to the Local Planning Authority, and to the Assistant County Archaeologist at Wiltshire Council. A summary account on the results of the investigation in the form of an OASIS form will be forwarded to the ADS in York following the completion of the works.

11.0 Curatorial Monitoring

Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological works on the site rests with the Assistant County Archaeologist at Wiltshire Council. AAL will inform them in writing with as much notice as possible prior to

the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements.

Internal monitoring will be by undertaken by the AAL Project Management team.

12.0 Variations to the Proposed Scheme of Works
Variations to the proposed scheme will only be made following written confirmation from the advising Assistant County Archaeologist.

Should any further investigation be required beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

13.0 Health and Safety
All work will be carried out in a way that complies with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and its related regulations and codes of practice. Employees of Allen Archaeology Limited will perform their duties in accordance with company safety policy, with senior staff responsible for monitoring compliance with health and safety requirements and legislation.

The archaeological site supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that all on-site archaeological work is carried out in a safety-conscious, sensible and responsible manner with due regard for the relevant health and safety requirements and legislation. All staff involved in the scheme will be provided with a Risk Assessment document prior to commencement of site operations.

14.0 Insurance
Allen Archaeology Limited maintains Employers Liability Insurance to £10,000,000.00, Public Liability Insurance to £5,000,000.00 and Professional Indemnity Insurance to £2,000,000.00. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied upon request.

15.0 Copyright
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License is also given to the advising Historic Environment Officer to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes. This license does not cover commercial use of the material by the Nottinghamshire HER or a third party.

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The author of any specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes for further publication.

16.0 References

CIfA, 2020a, *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief.* Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

CIfA, 2020b, *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives.* Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

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Historic England. 2011. Historic England in the Centre for Archaeology Guidelines No.1. Environmental Archaeology and Environmental Archaeology; A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation. Historic England

Historic England, 2015, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* Historic England. Portsmouth

RCHME, 1994, *RCHM Survey Map 1994* (Map). The Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England.

TSM, 2019, *The Salisbury Museum. guidelines and conditions for the preparation and deposition of archaeological archives,* The Salisbury Museum

Adam Lodoen
Project Manager
27th June 2023