

LAND AT CHURCH ROAD, IDMISTON, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE

(NGR SU 20035 37336)

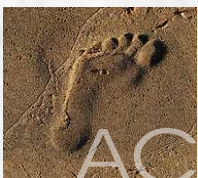
Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

Wiltshire Council planning reference PL/2023/04010
(Condition 3)

Prepared by:
Simon Hughes

Document No: ACA0078/2/0

Date: April 2026



archaeology

LAND AT CHURCH ROAD, IDMISTON, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE

(NGR SU 20035 37336)

Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

Wiltshire Council planning reference PL/2023/04010 (Condition 3)

Client	Private owner
Report Number	ACA0078/2/0
Date	7 April 2026
Status	Version 1
Report Author(s)	Simon Hughes
Contributions	-
Checked by	Simon Hughes
Approved by	Simon Hughes

Acknowledgments

The investigations were commissioned by the land owner and managed for AC archaeology Ltd by Simon Hughes. The archaeological fieldwork was carried out by Mike Trevarthen. The illustrations for this report were prepared by Leon Cauchois. The advice of the Wiltshire Council Assistant County Archaeologist is gratefully acknowledged.

The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of AC archaeology Ltd and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

Copyright

AC archaeology Ltd shall retain full copyright of any report 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 the report by the Client in all matters directly relating to the project. Any document produced to meet planning requirements may be freely copied for planning, development control, education and research purposes without recourse to the Copyright owner subject to all due and appropriate acknowledgements being provided.

CONTENTS

Summary

1.	Introduction	1
2.	Archaeological background	1
3.	Aims	2
4.	Methodology	2
5.	Results	2
6.	Comments	2
7.	Archive and OASIS	2
8.	References	3

List of Figures

Fig. 1: Location of site and development plan with monitored area shown

List of Plates

Plate 1: General view of site looking northeast

Plate 2: Working view during machine stripping of site. View to north

Plate 3: Representative section of excavated area including colluvial soils. View to south

Summary

Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by AC archaeology during November 2025 on land at Church Road, Idmiston, Salisbury, Wiltshire (SU 20035 37336). The work comprised the monitoring of groundworks associated with the construction of two new dwellings.

The monitoring of groundworks comprising the preparation of ground for the two new dwellings did not expose any archaeological features or deposits. Bulk reduction of the area exposed colluvial soil accumulation in the lower-lying portion of the site beneath agricultural soils. No finds were recovered.

1. INTRODUCTION (Fig. 1; Plate 1)

- 1.1** This report sets out the results of archaeological monitoring and recording undertaken by AC archaeology in November 2025, during groundworks associated with the construction of two new dwellings on land at Church Road, Idmiston, Salisbury, Wiltshire (ST 93222 20301). The work was required by Wiltshire Council as Condition 3 of planning permission reference PL/2023/04010. The scope of work was based on consultation advice provided by the Wiltshire Council Assistant County Archaeologist.
- 1.2** The site lies in the northeast of Idmiston and occupies what was prior to commencement part of a wider agricultural field bounded to the south by Church Road (Fig. 1). It is situated on land with a moderately steep slope down to the south between 94m and 82m above Ordnance Datum (Plate 1). The underlying solid geology comprises chalk of the Seaford Chalk Formation (British Geological Survey 2026).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The site is in an area with previously recorded prehistoric site comprising funerary monuments and findspots. To the north and east of the site are four bowl barrows (Wiltshire and Swindon Historic Environment Record ref. SU23NW724; SU23NW616; SU23NW617; SU13NE607), while to the east, south and north of the site are several findspots comprising Neolithic worked flint (SU13NE101; SU23NW10; SU23NW104) and a Bronze Age razor (SU23NW150).
- 2.2** The village of Idmiston has probable Saxon origins and was first recorded as *Idemestone* in 947 AD (Gower et al 1939). To the west of the village are surviving earthworks, thought to be Saxon in date, which were surveyed in 1994 by the Royal Commission on the Historic Monuments of England (SU13NE401).
- 2.3** Idmiston contains a number of Listed buildings dating from between the 12th to 19th centuries. These include the Grade-I Church of All Saints, which has surviving elements dating from the 12th century, and domestic properties dating between the 15th and 16th centuries (National Heritage List for England ref. 1023956). The most notable of these properties is the Grade-II Listed Idmiston Manor (1355682), and associated Grade-II Listed front gateway (1183901), dated to c. 1600 AD and located approximately 190m west of the site.

3. AIMS

- 3.1 The aim of archaeological monitoring and recording was to preserve by record any archaeological features or deposits exposed during groundworks associated with the construction of the new lakes. This was with the potential for medieval activity to be exposed.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AC Archaeology Ltd (Vinnels 2024) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' documents *Standard for Archaeological Monitoring* (2023a) and *Recording and Universal Guidance for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording* (2023b).
- 4.2 The monitored groundworks comprised the machine stripping of soils from the footprints of the two new dwellings and associated patio terraces and parking areas (Fig. 1).
- 4.3 All features and deposits revealed were recorded using the standard AC archaeology Ltd *pro-forma* recording system, comprising written, graphic and photographic records, and in accordance with AC archaeology Ltd's *General Site Recording Manual, Version 2* (September 2012).

5. RESULTS (Fig. 1; Plates 2-3)

- 5.1 The monitored groundworks exposed natural subsoil, which comprised weathered chalk with flint inclusions. This was exposed at a depth of 0.35m below existing levels in the north of the site, with this extending to a maximum of 0.8m down slope to the south. In the southern portion of the site the natural subsoil was overlain by two colluvial soils. These consisted of a 0.1m thick light yellowish brown clay loam lower layer, which was sealed by a 0.35m thick mid to light yellowish brown clay loam. The colluvial soils, where present, or natural subsoil in the north portion of the site were then sealed by a 0.1m thick subsoil and 0.25m thick plough soil. No archaeological features were exposed and no finds were recovered.

6. COMMENTS

- 6.1 The monitoring of groundworks comprising the preparation of ground for the two new dwellings did not expose any archaeological features or deposits. Bulk reduction of the area exposed colluvial soil accumulation in the lower-lying portion of the site beneath agricultural soils. No finds were recovered that could be associated with the wider occupation of the area during the medieval period.

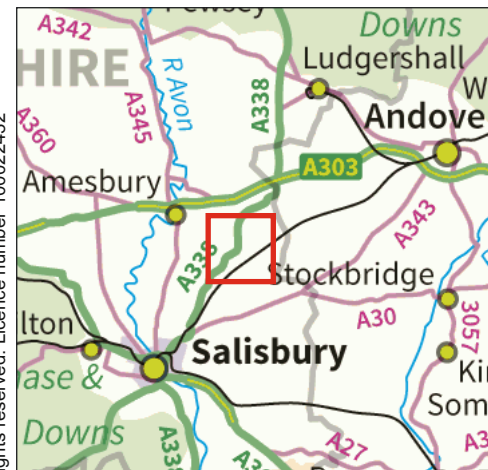
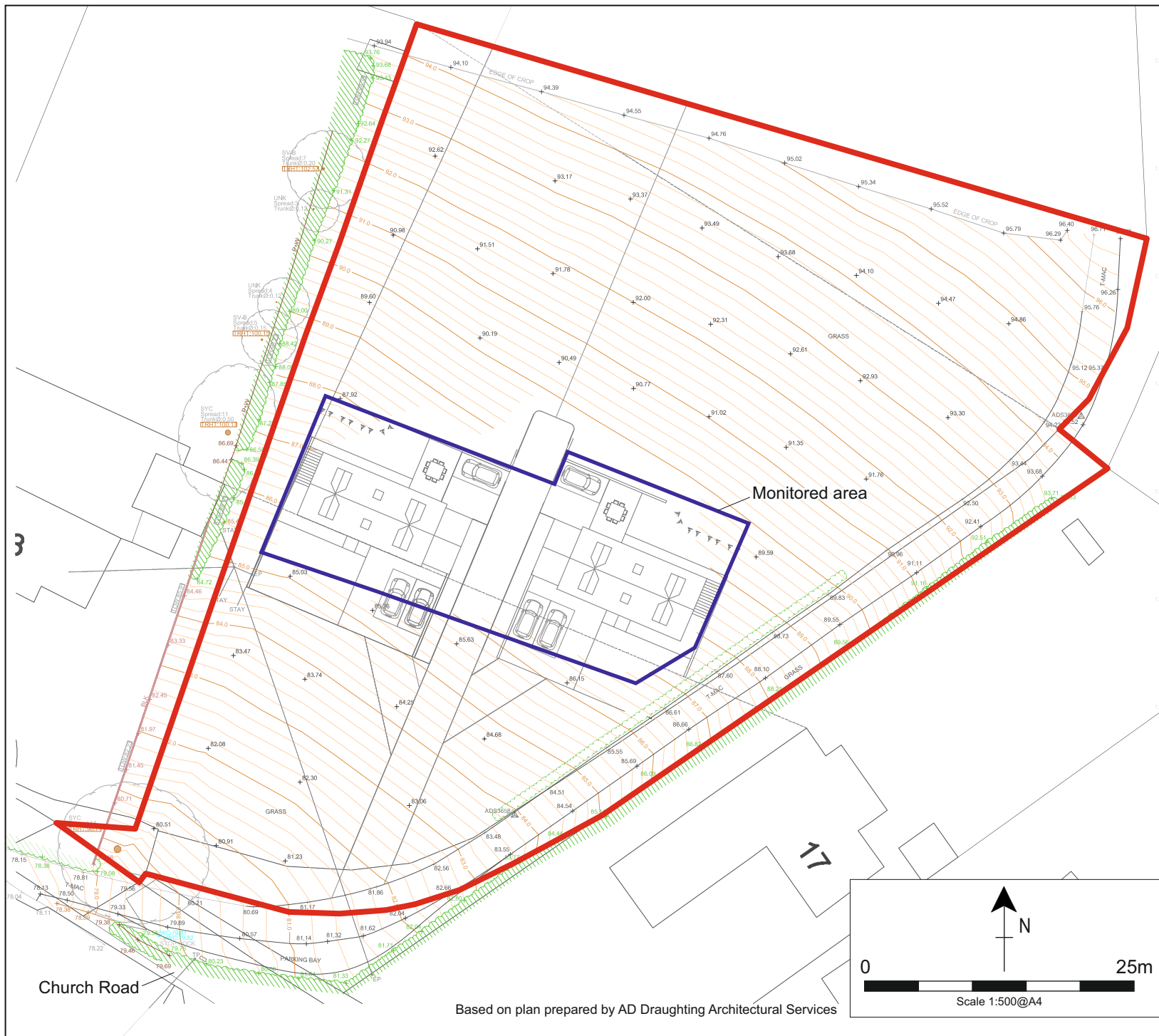
7. ARCHIVE AND OASIS

- 7.1 An online OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological investigationS) entry has been completed using the unique identifier **524900** which will include a digital copy of this report.

7.2 This report represents the archive for this project.

8. REFERENCES

- AC archaeology, revised 2012, *General Site Recording Manual, Version 2*.
British Geological Survey, 2026, online viewer, geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk
Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2023a, *Standard for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording*.
Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2023b, *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording*.
Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, accessed February 2026, www.archaeologists.net/reporting-toolkit/using-the-advisory-checklist
Vinnels, L. 2024. *Land at Church Road, Idmiston, Salisbury, Wiltshire: Project design for archaeological monitoring and recording*. Unpublished AC archaeology document ref. ACA0078/1/0.



Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright 2026. All rights reserved. Licence number 100022432

PROJECT

Land at Church Road, Idmiston,
Salisbury, Wiltshire

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site and
development plan with monitored
area shown



AC archaeology

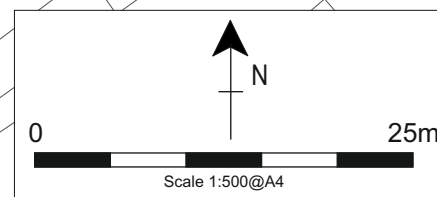




Plate 1: General view of site looking northeast



Plate 2: Working view during machine stripping of site. View to north



Plate 3: Representative section of excavated area including colluvial soils. View to south (0.3m scale)

AC archaeology Ltd
2-4 Halthaies Workshops
Bradninch
Exeter
Devon
EX5 4LQ

Telephone: 01392 882410

www.acarchaeology.co.uk