

Wiltshire Council Event/Activity Full Report

21/08/2019

Number of records: 25

Melksham Neighbourhood Plan - Events Report

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI3253	Bore Hole Survey at the Hurn Site, Melksham	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 07/09/1994 - 15/09/1994, between (1994)

Project Details:

Event Types

BOREHOLE SURVEY

Event/Activity References

PC - Project Code/ Site Code 0416

WSMR - Wiltshire SMR Event Number 3351

Organisation: Cotswold Archaeological Trust

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Cotswold Archaeological Trust Carried out by

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9026 6395 (315m by 361m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

A bore hole survey was carried out in advance of construction work. Possible feature revealed through the survey were an earthen bank or wooden river defence and a palaeochannel.

Sources

Report: Wilkinson, K.. 1994. The Hurn Site, Melksham, Bore Hole Survey. Cotswold Archaeological Trust. (1994.028)

Associated Monuments

MWI31372 Palaeochannels, Adjacent to the River Avon (Monument MWI31372)

Event ID: EWI3540 **Name:** Watching Brief on the Beanacre to St Edith's Marsh Gas Pipeline

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI3540	Watching Brief on the Beanacre to St Edith's Marsh Gas Pipeline	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 01/01/1990 - 31/12/1990, between (1990)

Project Details:

Event Types

WATCHING BRIEF

Event/Activity References

WSMR - Wiltshire SMR Event Number	3641
WSMR - Wiltshire SMR Event Number	3639

Organisation: Thamesdown Archaeological Unit

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Thamesdown Archaeological Unit Carried out by

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9401 6467 (7732m by 1834m) ST96SW Line

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	Bromham, Kennet, Wiltshire
Civil Parish	Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire
Civil Parish	Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire
Civil Parish	Rowde, Kennet, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

Overall, the watching brief found two areas where substantial archaeological activity was present. These were the earthworks at Forest Farm and the area between Lower Woodrow Road and the stream, representing medieval and Roman deposits respectively.

Sources

Report: Gregory, J. + Miller, A.. 1990. Beanacre to St. Ediths Marsh Gas Pipeline 1990. Thamesdown Archaeological Unit. (1990.015)

Associated Monuments

ST96NW313	Lower Woodrow (Find Spot ST96NW313)
ST96NW459	Woodrow Medieval Settlement (Monument ST96NW459)

Event ID: EW15849 **Name:** Archaeological Evaluation on the Route of the A350 Semington-Melksham

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW15849	Archaeological Evaluation on the Route of the A350 Semington-Melksham Diversion	Event - Interpretation

External Reference:

Dates: 01/12/2001 - 31/12/2002, between (2003)

Project Details:

Event Types

EVALUATION

Event/Activity References

WSMR - Wiltshire SMR Event Number 898

WSMR - Wiltshire SMR Event Number 5949

Organisation: Wessex Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Wessex Archaeology Excavator

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9037 6118 (951m by 3671m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

Thirty five evaluation trenches were excavated along the line of the proposed A350 Semington to Melksham diversion. No features of archaeological significance were discovered during the evaluation, and a limited quantity of finds were recovered.

Sources

Report: Wessex Archaeology. 2003. A350 Semington-Melksham Diversion, Wiltshire. (2003.058)

Associated Monuments - None recorded

Event ID: EWI6381 **Name:** Archaeological Evaluation at The Bear Public House, Bath Road, Melksham

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI6381	Archaeological Evaluation at The Bear Public House, Bath Road, Melksham	Event - Interpretation

External Reference:

Dates: 01/01/2003 - 31/12/2003, between (2003)

Project Details:

Event Types

EVALUATION

Event/Activity References

WSMR - Wiltshire SMR Event Number 6484

WSMR - Wiltshire SMR Event Number 6483

Organisation: Wessex Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Wessex Archaeology Excavator

Location

Grid Reference - Not recorded

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in advance of development. Two trial trenches were excavated. A small palaeochannel was revealed.

Sources

Report: Wessex Archaeology. 2003. The Bear Public House, Bath Road, Melksham, Wiltshire. Wessex Archaeology. (2003.143)

Associated Monuments

MWI31372 Palaeochannels, Adjacent to the River Avon (Monument MWI31372)

Event ID: EWI6784 **Name:** Gower House, 1 Place Road, Melksham

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI6784	Gower House, 1 Place Road, Melksham	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 17/05/2011 - 18/05/2011, between (2011)

Project Details:

Event Types

WATCHING BRIEF

Event/Activity References

OASIS - OASIS	cotswold2-112826
PC - Project Code/ Site Code	3335

Organisation: Cotswold Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Cotswold Archaeology	Archaeological Field Investigator
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Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9043 6369 (20m by 31m)	ST96SW	Area
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Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire
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Description and Sources

Description

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of a garage and conservatory at Gower House, 1 Place Road, Melksham, Wiltshire. No features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, and no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered. (1)

Sources

(1) Report: Wilkinson, A.. 2011. Gower House, 1 Place Road, Melksham, Wiltshire. Archaeological Watching Brief. Cotswold Archaeology. (2011.041)

Associated Monuments - None recorded

Event ID: EWI6905 **Name:** Archaeological Watching Brief on Land to the West of Sainsbury's Store,

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI6905	Archaeological Watching Brief on Land to the West of Sainsbury's Store, Bath Road, Melksham	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 13/06/2011 - 27/06/2011, between (2011)

Project Details:

Event Types

WATCHING BRIEF

Event/Activity References

OASIS - OASIS	wessexar1-116126
PC - Project Code/ Site Code	72031
Organisation:	Wessex Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Wessex Archaeology	Archaeological Field Investigator
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Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9017 6385 (163m by 187m)	ST96SW	Area
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Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire
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Description and Sources

Description

Wessex Archaeology was appointed by ISG Pearce, to carry out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with flood alleviation on land at Bath Road, Melksham, Wiltshire, centred on NGR 390195 163888. The watching brief was a requirement of the planning consent, for the extension to an existing Sainsbury's store and associated works, including landscaping, car parking and flood alleviation works. The watching brief monitored groundworks associated primarily with the proposed flood alleviation works on the Site. Heavily disturbed modern material was recorded overlying alluvial deposits related to the River Avon which bounds the Site to the north and west. No archaeological features or material was found during the watching brief.

Sources

Report: Good, O.. 2011. Land to the West of Sainsbury's Store, Bath Road, Melksham, Wiltshire. Archaeological Watching Brief Report. Wessex Archaeology. (2011.018)

Associated Monuments - None recorded

Event ID: EWI6906 **Name:** Archaeological Evaluation on Land to the West of Sainsbury's Store, Bath

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI6906	Archaeological Evaluation on Land to the West of Sainsbury's Store, Bath Road, Melksham	Event - Interpretation

External Reference:

Dates: 07/07/2009 - 10/07/2009, between (2009)

Project Details:

Event Types

EVALUATION

Event/Activity References - None recorded

Organisation: Wessex Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Wessex Archaeology Excavator

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9017 6385 (163m by 187m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

A programme of archaeological work was undertaken in advance of development proposals to extend the food store and other associated works. Ten evaluation trenches were excavated. One area revealed evidence of a possible palaeochannel or natural river terrace. A possible disturbed ground surface or occupation layer containing Saxon pottery was recorded, which was cut through by a post medieval or modern water culvert.

Sources

Report: Wessex Archaeology. 2009. Land to the West of Sainsbury's Store, Bath Road, Melksham, Wiltshire. Archaeological Evaluation Report. Wessex Archaeology. (2009.103)

Associated Monuments

MWI31372 Palaeochannels, Adjacent to the River Avon (Monument MWI31372)
MWI31373 Ditches and a Water Culvert, East of Conigre Mead Nature Reserve (Monument MWI31373)

Event ID: EWI6907 **Name:** Archaeological Watching Brief at the ASDA Store Site, Western Way,

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI6907	Archaeological Watching Brief at the ASDA Store Site, Western Way, Melksham	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 01/10/2010 - 31/01/2011, between (2010-2011)

Project Details:

Event Types

WATCHING BRIEF

Event/Activity References

OASIS - OASIS bristola1-79218

Organisation: Bristol and Region Archaeological Services

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Bristol and Region Archaeological Services Archaeological Field Investigator

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 8993 6416 (130m by 220m) ST86SE Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

An archaeological watching brief was carried out during groundworks associated with the construction of a new ASDA store. An intermittent layer of clayey silt was revealed, containing flinty gravel and occasional fresh water snails, probably representing flood episodes across the floodplain from the River Avon. Two very small, heavily abraded sherds of unidentified pottery were recovered from this context.

Sources

Report: Longman, T.. 2011. Archaeological Watching Brief at the ASDA Store Site, Western Way, Melksham, Wiltshire. Bristol and Region Archaeological Services. (2011.030)

Associated Monuments - None recorded

Event ID: EW17049 **Name:** Environmental Impact Assessment on Land at Clackers Brook, Snarlton

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW17049	Environmental Impact Assessment on Land at Clackers Brook, Snarlton Lane	Event - Survey

External Reference:

Dates: 23/03/2004 - 23/03/2004, throughout (2004)

Project Details:

Event Types

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Event/Activity References - None recorded

Organisation: CgMs Consulting

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

CgMs Consulting Publisher

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9190 6373 (653m by 550m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

The study found evidence of significant early human activity in the surrounding area, likely to be Neolithic and Bronze Age. From the Iron Age to the Roman period, evidence from the surrounding area indicates possible emparkment and settlement, though the site itself is likely to have been arable. In the medieval period, evidence is peripheral, but adjacent ridge and furrow suggests inclusion within the Melksham common field area. Later developments nearby indicate forest clearance and the transition to enclosed landscape. The report concludes that the effects of development on the known historic and significant buildings in the area can be mitigated by design, and recommends further evaluation in areas where archaeological potential is indicated.

Sources

(1) Report: Dawson, M.. 2004. Land at Clackers Brook, East Melksham, Wiltshire. CgMs Consulting. (2004.151)

Associated Monuments - None recorded

Event ID: EW17050 **Name:** Archaeological Excavation at Clackers Brook, Snarlton Lane, Melksham,

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW17050	Archaeological Excavation at Clackers Brook, Snarlton Lane, Melksham, Wiltshire.	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 01/03/2010 - 31/08/2010, between (2010)

Project Details:

Event Types

EXCAVATION

Event/Activity References - None recorded

Organisation: Cotswold Archaeological Trust

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Cotswold Archaeological Trust Excavator

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9190 6373 (653m by 550m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

Three areas were excavated across the development area, split into five stripped areas in all. The great majority of features excavated were of the 11th to 13th centuries, with evidence of iron production and probably ironworking. There was no clear evidence of domestic occupation, perhaps because the site had been heavily truncated. An animal burial with a barbed-and-tanged flint arrowhead suggests Early Bronze Age activity. A single human inhumation contained a medieval potsherd, but this is considered most likely to be intrusive and the burial to be of Roman or early medieval date.

Sources

- (1) Report: Davenport, P. + Schuster, J.. 2012. Land at Clackers Brook, East Melksham, Wiltshire. Cotswold Archaeology. (2012.003)
 - (2) Report: Hardy, A. + Dungworth, D.. 2013. A Medieval Iron Production Site at Little Snarlton Farm, East Melksham, Wiltshire: Excavations in 2010. Cotswold Archaeology. (2013.054)
 - (3) Article in serial: Hardy, A. + Dingworth, D.. 2014. A medieval iron production site at Little Snarlton Farm, East Melksham, Wiltshire: excavations in 2010. Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine. 107.
 - (4) Article in serial: Draper, S.. 2012. Excavation and Fieldwork in Wiltshire 2010. Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine. 105.
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Associated Monuments

MWI74524	Excavated Features from Area 1, Little Snarlton Farm, East Melksham (Monument MWI74524)
MWI74525	Excavated Features from Area 2A, Little Snarlton Farm, East Melksham (Monument MWI74525)
MWI74526	Excavated Features in Area 2B & C, Little Snarlton Farm, East Melksham (Monument MWI74526)

Event ID: EW17370 **Name:** Evaluation at National Spiritualist Church, Melksham

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW17370	Evaluation at National Spiritualist Church, Melksham	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 13/05/2013 - 13/05/2013, throughout (2013)

Project Details:

Event Types

EVALUATION

Event/Activity References

PC - Project Code/ Site Code 3609-2

Organisation: Michael Heaton Heritage Consultants

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Michael Heaton Heritage Consultants Excavator

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9043 6350 (1m by 5m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

A machine-excavated trench revealed significant concentrations of disturbed human remains lying below a thick deposit of cemetery soil containing artefacts of medieval to 19th century date.

Sources

(1) Report: Heaton, M.. 2013. National Spiritualist Church, King Street, Melksham, Wiltshire. Michael Heaton Heritage Consultants. (2013.049)

Associated Monuments

ST96SW542 Quaker Burial Ground, King Street (Monument ST96SW542)

Event ID: EW17574 **Name:** Desk Based Assessment on Land East of Spa Road

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW17574	Desk Based Assessment on Land East of Spa Road	Event - Survey

External Reference:

Dates: 01/08/2013 - 31/03/2014, between (2013-2014)

Project Details:

Event Types

DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

Event/Activity References - None recorded

Organisation: CgMs Consulting

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

CgMs Consulting Carried out by

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9163 6316 (726m by 516m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Civil Parish Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

The assessment established that the south western portion of the site has high potential for prehistoric/Roman remains of local significance. The site has low potential for remains of all other periods. The prehistoric/Roman remains will be impacted by earthmoving operations such as topsoil stripping, cutting foundations, and the construction of infrastructure.

Sources

(1) Report: Bourn, R.. 2014. Land East of Spa Road, Melksham, Wiltshire. CgMs Consulting. (2014.083)

Associated Monuments - None recorded

Event ID: EW17575 **Name:** Geophysical Survey on Land off Snowbery Lane

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW17575	Geophysical Survey on Land off Snowbery Lane	Event - Survey

External Reference:

Dates: 03/03/2014 - 07/03/2014, between (2014)

Project Details:

Event Types

MAGNETOMETRY SURVEY

Event/Activity References

OASIS - OASIS	stratasc1-253988
OASIS - OASIS	stratasc1-183607
PC - Project Code/ Site Code	J6506

Organisation: Stratascan

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Stratascan	Geophysical Surveyor
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Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9163 6316 (726m by 516m)	ST96SW	Area
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Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire
Civil Parish	Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

A number of features of archaeological interest have been identified within the survey area. These include a concentrated area of ditches, enclosures, and pitting possibly related to historic settlement activity. Extensive ridge-and-furrow is also present across the site. Possible footpaths linked to features on historic mapping have also been identified. Other anomalies identified are likely modern or natural in origin including ploughing, land drains, ferrous objects in the topsoil and magnetic disturbance relating to field boundaries and fences.

Sources

- (1) Report: Jones, J. T. + Prestidge, O. J.. 2014. Land off Snowbery Lane, Melksham, Wiltshire. Stratascan. Appendix (2014.087)
- (2) Report: Bourn, R.. 2014. Land East of Spa Road, Melksham, Wiltshire. CgMs Consulting. Appendix (2014.083)

Associated Monuments

MWI64723	Ridge and Furrow at Melksham Town Football Club (Monument MWI64723)
MWI74426	Ridge and Furrow, East of Snowbery Lane (Monument MWI74426)
MWI74427	Romano-British Settlement, East of Snowbery Lane (Monument MWI74427)

Event ID: EW17633

Name: Evaluation at Land East of Spa Road, Melksham

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW17633	Evaluation at Land East of Spa Road, Melksham	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 06/10/2014 - 24/10/2014, between (2014)

Project Details:

Event Types

EVALUATION

Event/Activity References

PC - Project Code/ Site Code MESR 14

PC - Project Code/ Site Code 60148

Organisation: Oxford Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Oxford Archaeology Excavator

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9162 6317 (851m by 519m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

During the evaluation, five trenches revealed significant archaeological features, all concentrated in a field to the south-east of Bowerhill Lodge. All of the significant features identified appear to be of Roman date. Their location corresponds closely with a complex of enclosures previously detected by geophysical survey. The overall layout appears to be an organised rectilinear plan, with at least two phases of ditched enclosure, with an entrance track to the south and possible building plots in the middle. The excavated features include a series of enclosure ditches and pits, with slight evidence for stone structural elements or surfaces coinciding with the possibly building plots. The associated pottery assemblage was quite large, given the very limited extent of the investigation, and indicated that the site was occupied in the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD. A single Roman Antoninianus coin, from the fill of an enclosure ditch, dates from c AD 260-296, which lends supports to the pottery dating evidence. The settlement does not appear to have been occupied beyond c. 300 AD and appears to have been relatively low status. Two fragments of Roman window glass, and one of vessel glass were recovered from the site. Animal bone and charred plant remains were recovered by sieving from soil samples. Small amounts of slag from the sieved soil samples indicate some metal-working activity in the vicinity. The discovery of traces of a boot and a shoe from two separate trenches (recognised from distinctive clusters of hobnails and other metal components), is interesting in this context and might suggest the presence of a cobbler or smith engaged in making or repairing shoes. After the Roman period the site seems to have developed as part of the core agricultural lands associated with Melksham. 'Ridge-and-furrow', the remnants of medieval and post-medieval open field agriculture, were clearly apparent on the geophysical survey plot in all of the fields investigated. The ridges do not survive as upstanding earthworks, but traces of furrows were visible in some of the evaluation trenches.

Sources

- (1) Report: Hughes, V.. 2014. Land East of Spa Road, Melksham, Wiltshire. Oxford Archaeology. (2014.104)
- (2) Article in serial: Clarke, B.. 2015. Excavation and Fieldwork in Wiltshire 2013-14. Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine. 108.

Associated Monuments

MWI64723 Ridge and Furrow at Melksham Town Football Club (Monument MWI64723)

Event ID: EW17633

Name: Evaluation at Land East of Spa Road, Melksham

MWI73978 Ridge and Furrow, Melksham (Monument MWI73978)
MWI74426 Ridge and Furrow, East of Snowberry Lane (Monument MWI74426)
MWI74427 Romano-British Settlement, East of Snowberry Lane (Monument MWI74427)
MWI74439 Pits, Melksham Town FC (Monument MWI74439)

Event ID: EW17891 **Name:** Desk-based Assessment and Geophysical Survey at Melksham Campus

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW17891	Desk-based Assessment and Geophysical Survey at Melksham Campus Development, Melksham	Event - Survey

External Reference:

Dates: 05/08/2013 - 08/08/2013, between (2013)

Project Details:

Event Types

DESK BASED ASSESSMENT
MAGNETOMETRY SURVEY
WALKOVER SURVEY

Event/Activity References

PC - Project Code/ Site Code 86400.01

Organisation: Wessex Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Wales and West Utilities Carried out by
Wessex Archaeology Geophysical Surveyor

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9021 6359 (421m by 265m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

The proposed development was noted to have the potential to cause an adverse impact to the settings of the designated heritage assets located both within and beyond the site, including the Grade II Listed Melksham House, Grade II Listed St Michael's Church and The Grange. The assessment established that the site had the potential for the presence of buried archaeological remains potentially relating to the medieval and later development of Melksham and to agricultural activity. The geophysical survey confirmed the presence of archaeological features across the site. The assessment established that some of the outbuildings within the site selected for demolition were related to the post-medieval development of Melksham House. It was considered that any potential loss of historic fabric from Melksham House and the total loss of the unlisted structures associated with it might be mitigated through a programme of building recording prior to construction/demolition. It was also considered that potential impacts to the settings of designated heritage assets both within and beyond the site could be partially or fully mitigated through redesign of the proposed development. The geophysical survey demonstrated the presence of anomalies of definite, probable and possible archaeological interest and areas of strong magnetic disturbance.

Sources

(1) Report: Sulikowska, J.. 2012. Melksham House Service Campus, Melksham, Wiltshire. Wessex Archaeology. (2012.126)

Associated Monuments

MW174494 Medieval Enclosures, Melksham Campus (Monument MW174494)
MW174495 Medieval Pits, Melksham Campus (Monument MW174495)

Event ID: EW17893

Name: Evaluation at Melksham Campus Development, Melksham

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW17893	Evaluation at Melksham Campus Development, Melksham	Event - Survey

External Reference:

Dates: 05/08/2013 - 08/08/2013, between (2013)

Project Details:

Event Types

TRIAL TRENCH

Event/Activity References

MAN - Museum Accession Number	100580
OASIS - OASIS	wessexar1-162084
PC - Project Code/ Site Code	100580
Organisation:	Wessex Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Wessex Archaeology	Excavator
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Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9021 6359 (421m by 265m)	ST96SW	Area
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Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire
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Description and Sources

Description

The evaluation identified a number of archaeological features potentially relating to the use of the site in the medieval period. These consisted of a number of ditches, gullies and pits, suggesting possible domestic and agricultural activity from the 12th to the 14th century. In general, the archaeological features lay at a depth in excess of 0.5 metres below the current ground level beneath modern and buried soil deposits. In the eastern part of the site, a buried soil horizon thought to be medieval in date was identified at around 0.35 metres below the current ground level. The fieldwork both confirmed the presence of archaeological features identified by an earlier geophysical survey and also identified features in areas where the extant metal fixtures had obscured the geophysical data.

Sources

- (1) Report: Orzewski, P.. 2013. Melksham Campus Development, Melksham, Wiltshire. Wessex Archaeology. (2013.114)
- (2) Report: Last, J., Carpenter, E. + Evans, S.. 2016. West Wiltshire National Archaeological Identification Survey Lowland Pilot Project Report. Historic England. 38-2016. (2016.189)

Associated Monuments

MWI74494	Medieval Enclosures, Melksham Campus (Monument MWI74494)
MWI74495	Medieval Pits, Melksham Campus (Monument MWI74495)
MWI76415	Medieval Gullies, Melksham Campus (Monument MWI76415)

Event ID: EWI8018 **Name:** Desk Based Assessment at Land to the North of Sandridge Common,

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI8018	Desk Based Assessment at Land to the North of Sandridge Common, Melksham, Wiltshire	Event - Interpretation

External Reference:

Dates: 30/06/2015, pre (2015)

Project Details:

Event Types

DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

Event/Activity References

PC - Project Code/ Site Code SW/19899

Organisation: CgMs Consulting

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

CgMs Consulting Carried out by

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9173 6432 (212m by 267m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

The desk based assessment established that no designated assets lay within or in the immediate proximity of the site. Non-designated assets on the site comprised poorly preserved earthwork remains of former post medieval cultivation and a post medieval or medieval earthen bank of local significance. The construction of the proposed development was felt to potentially impact the earthwork remains and possibly on any previously unrecorded archaeology (if present). However, some truncation was suggested to have already occurred on site as a result of later agricultural activity.

Sources

(1) Report: Weaver, S.. Land to the North of Sandridge Common, Melksham, Wiltshire. CgMs Consulting. (2015.084)

Associated Monuments - None recorded

Event ID: EWI8019 **Name:** Heritage Statement for Land to the North of Sandridge Common,

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI8019	Heritage Statement for Land to the North of Sandridge Common, Melksham, Wiltshire	Event - Interpretation

External Reference:

Dates: 30/11/2015, pre (2015)

Project Details:

Event Types

HISTORIC AREA ASSESSMENT

Event/Activity References

PC - Project Code/ Site Code SW/19899

Organisation: CgMs Consulting

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

CgMs Consulting Carried out by

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9173 6432 (212m by 267m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

A heritage statement was prepared in advance of residential development on the site. This considered a suite of archaeological and historical information gathered for the proposed development area and surrounding area. This information was used to identify heritage assets which may have been affected by the proposed development (including the setting of these assets).

Sources

(1) Report: Weaver, S.. Land to the North of Sandridge Common, Melksham, Wiltshire. CgMs Consulting. (2015.085)

Associated Monuments - None recorded

Event ID: EW18020 **Name:** Geophysical survey on Land North of Sandridge Common, Melksham,

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW18020	Geophysical survey on Land North of Sandridge Common, Melksham, Wiltshire	Event - Survey

External Reference:

Dates: 28/10/2015 - 28/10/2015, throughout (2015)

Project Details:

Event Types

MAGNETOMETRY SURVEY

Event/Activity References

OASIS - OASIS	OASIS ID - stratasc1-241224
PC - Project Code/ Site Code	J9010

Organisation: Stratascan

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Stratascan	Geophysical Surveyor
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Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9173 6432 (212m by 267m)	ST96SW	Area
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Administrative Areas

Civil Parish	Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire
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Description and Sources

Description

A detailed gradiometry survey was conducted over approximately 3.1 hectares of grassland. The survey has not identified any anomalies of probable archaeological origin. A small number of possible bank features may be of archaeological origin, however a post-medieval agricultural or natural origin would be more likely. Areas of ridge and furrow cultivation and former field boundaries suggest that the site has been used for agricultural purposes since the medieval period. The remaining anomalies are modern in origin, relating to scattered magnetic debris, ferrous objects, and fencing.

Sources

(1) Report: Richardson, T.. 2015. Land North of Sandridge Common, Melksham, Wiltshire. Stratascan. (2015.086)

Associated Monuments

MWI73983	Ridge and Furrow, East of Melksham (Monument MWI73983)
MWI74757	Banks, East of Melksham (Monument MWI74757)

Event ID: EWI8022 **Name:** Evaluation at Land North of Sandridge Common

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI8022	Evaluation at Land North of Sandridge Common	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 29/02/2016 - 02/03/2016, between (2016)

Project Details:

Event Types

TRIAL TRENCH

Event/Activity References

OASIS - OASIS fieldsec1-245498

PC - Project Code/ Site Code P4783

Organisation: Worcestershire Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Worcestershire Archaeology Excavator

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9173 6432 (212m by 267m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

The evaluation revealed an historic field boundary that was removed in the latter half of the 20th century, and limited survival of post medieval ridge and furrow. The site lay within the medieval Royal Forest of Melksham, and it was suggested that the land was wooded until disafforestation in the 17th century for agricultural purposes, therefore precluding any earlier settlement activity.

Sources

(1) Report: Lovett, P.. 2016. Land North of Sandridge Common, Melksham, Wiltshire. Worcestershire Archaeology. (2016.002)

Associated Monuments

MWI73983 Ridge and Furrow, East of Melksham (Monument MWI73983)

MWI74757 Banks, East of Melksham (Monument MWI74757)

Event ID: EWI8127 **Name:** Geophysical Survey at Woodrow Road

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI8127	Geophysical Survey at Woodrow Road	Event - Survey

External Reference:

Dates: 04/01/2016 - 07/01/2016, between (2016)

Project Details:

Event Types

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

Event/Activity References - None recorded

Organisation: Pre-Construct Geophysics

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Pre-Construct Geophysics Surveyor

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9113 6522 (596m by 348m) ST96NW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

A fluxgate gradiometer survey was undertaken and recorded only limited magnetic variation that conceivably reflects archaeological remains - in the form of a small number of ditch/pit-like anomalies that were detected in the mid northern and north eastern regions. It is more likely that the majority reflect natural features. Predominately strong responses were recorded along and adjacent to the course of a back-filled canal, in proximity to modern boundaries, with variously strong readings across former or possible post medieval boundaries. Traces of ridge and furrow cultivation were detected in the north western corner.

Sources

(1) Report: Bunn, D.. 2016. Woodrow Road, Melksham, Wiltshire. Pre-Construct Geophysics Ltd. (2016.018)

Associated Monuments

MWI73990 Medieval Settlement, North of Melksham (Monument MWI73990)
MWI74725 Ditches, North of Melksham (Monument MWI74725)
MWI74726 Undated Pits, North of Melksham (Monument MWI74726)
MWI75560 Roman Settlement, North of Melksham (Monument MWI75560)

Event ID: EWI8517 **Name:** Evaluation on Melksham Link Canal

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI8517	Evaluation on Melksham Link Canal	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 01/06/2015 - 30/06/2015, at some time (2015)

Project Details:

Event Types

TRIAL TRENCH

Event/Activity References - None recorded

Organisation: AC Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

AC Archaeology Excavator

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9017 6267 (991m by 3282m) ST96SW Line

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

A first phase of archaeological evaluation, consisting of the excavation and recording of seven machine excavated trenches, was undertaken on the route of the proposed canal linking the River Avon at Melksham with the Kennet and Avon canal at Semington. The evaluation followed an earlier geophysical survey, with the trenches being located by GPS to target a series of geophysical anomalies or areas of magnetic disturbance. Four of the trenches revealed evidence for archaeological activity, including probable post-holes and ditches. The earliest phase of this activity comprised part of a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age enclosure ditch revealed in Trenches 8 and 9, with further later activity, including a number of Romano-British deposits revealed in Trenches 4 and 5.

Sources

(1) Report: Robinson, S.. 2015. Melksham Link Canal: Results of Stage 1 Trench Evaluation. AC Archaeology. (2015.192)

Associated Monuments

MWI73892 Ridge and Furrow, Berryfield (Monument MWI73892)

MWI75667 Neolithic/Bronze Age Enclosure, North of Boundary Farm (Monument MWI75667)

MWI75668 Roman Ditches, North East of Boundary Farm (Monument MWI75668)

Event ID: EWI8717 **Name:** Evaluation of Land at Woodrow Road

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EWI8717	Evaluation of Land at Woodrow Road	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 03/10/2016 - 30/11/2016, occasionally (2016)

Project Details:

Event Types

EXCAVATION

Event/Activity References

OASIS - OASIS cotswold2-282698

PC - Project Code/ Site Code 6047

Organisation: Cotswold Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Cotswold Archaeology Archaeological Field Investigator

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9113 6522 (596m by 346m) ST96NW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

An archaeological evaluation involving 25 trenches. Prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains were found. The Roman features were related to mid to late 1st to 2nd century settlement activity. The medieval ditches, gullies and pits were related to a deserted settlement.

Sources

- (1) Report: Whelan, J. + Orellana, J.. 2016. Land at Woodrow Road, Melksham, Wiltshire. Cotswold Archaeology. (2016.153)
 - (2) Article in serial: Clarke, B.. 2018. Excavation and Fieldwork in Wiltshire 2017. Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine. 111.
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Associated Monuments

MWI73990 Medieval Settlement, North of Melksham (Monument MWI73990)

MWI74726 Undated Pits, North of Melksham (Monument MWI74726)

MWI75560 Roman Settlement, North of Melksham (Monument MWI75560)

Event ID: EW19104 **Name:** Watching Brief of Land at Withleigh House, Melksham

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW19104	Watching Brief of Land at Withleigh House, Melksham	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 01/02/2017 - 31/05/2017, occasionally (2017)

Project Details:

Event Types

WATCHING BRIEF

Event/Activity References

PC - Project Code/ Site Code ACW855

Organisation: AC Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

AC Archaeology Archaeological Field Investigator

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9070 6351 (86m by 91m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

The monitoring of primary ground works has revealed one edge of a broad linear feature. This corresponds with the former Wiltshire and Berkshire Canal. Elsewhere, the watching brief was largely negative and did not identify any evidence for structures related to wharf-side buildings or a canal retaining wall.

Sources

(1) Report: Jones, P.. 2018. Proposed redevelopment of land at Withleigh House, Spa Road, Melksham, Wiltshire. AC Archaeology. (2018.032)

Associated Monuments - None recorded

Event ID: EW19304 **Name:** Evaluation at Melksham Campus Development

Event ID	Event Name	Event Type
EW19304	Evaluation at Melksham Campus Development	Event - Intervention

External Reference:

Dates: 11/06/2018 - 13/06/2018, between (2018)

Project Details:

Event Types

EVALUATION

Event/Activity References

Organisation: Wessex Archaeology

Associated Individuals

Associated Organisations

Wessex Archaeology Excavator

Location

Grid Reference

Centred ST 9023 6350 (127m by 99m) ST96SW Area

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Melksham Without, West Wiltshire, Wiltshire

Description and Sources

Description

Only five of the six trenches were accessible. The evaluation was successful in locating seven archaeological features, of which two have been dated, a pit to the Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age and a second pit is dated as Romano-British. Two linears, corresponding with linear anomalies on the geophysical survey, were also excavated as were three undated pits. One of the undated pits is likely to be archaeological in origin, the other two cut the subsoil and are unlikely to be of archaeological interest. Finds indicate isolated Late Bronze Age, Early Iron Age or Middle Iron Age and Romano-British activity within the site and possibly within the wider vicinity

Sources

(1) Report: Orzewski, P.. 2018. Melksham Campus Development, Melksham, Wiltshire. Wessex Archaeology. (2018.146)

Associated Monuments

MWI74495 Medieval Pits, Melksham Campus (Monument MWI74495)
MWI76758 Late Bronze Age Pit, Melksham Campus (Monument MWI76758)
MWI76759 Romano-British Pit, Melksham Campus (Monument MWI76759)