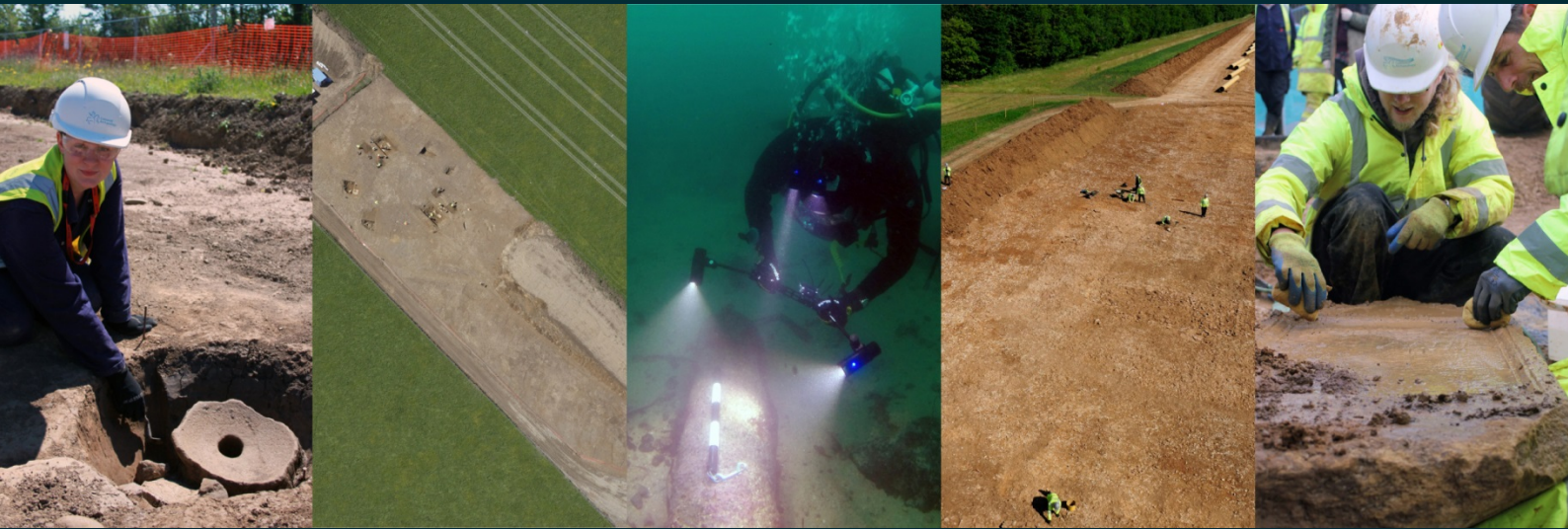


Tinkinswood Green St Nicholas Vale of Glamorgan

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
Redrow Homes Ltd

CA Project: 6296
CA Report: 17368

October 2017



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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Tinkinswood Green
Location:	St Nicholas, Vale of Glamorgan
NGR:	309230 174470
Type:	Watching Brief
Date:	12 June– 25 September 2017
Planning Reference:	Vale of Glamorgan Council ref. 2015/00249/FUL
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with the RCAHMW
Site Code:	ESN 17

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken between June and September 2017 by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the development of 100 houses.

The partial remains of a single furrow, probably post-medieval or modern in date, were identified. No further 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 Between June and September 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Redrow Homes Ltd at Tinkinswood Green, St Nicholas, Vale of Glamorgan (centred at NGR: 309230 174470; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition (Condition 5) attached to a planning consent granted by Vale of Glamorgan Council (VoGC) for the development of 100 houses and associated works, including the demolition of an existing dwelling (VoGC Planning ref: 2015/00249/FUL).
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2017) and approved by the Gwent and Glamorgan Archaeological Trust (GGAT), the archaeological advisor to VoGC. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014).

The site

- 1.3 The development site, approximately 3.5ha in extent, lies on the eastern outskirts of the village of St Nicholas. The site is bound by residential housing to the south and west, by agricultural land to the north and by a housing development to the east.
- 1.4 The underlying geology of the site comprises Friars Point Limestone Formation of the Carboniferous Period overlain by Devensian Till of the Quaternary Period (BGS 2017). Light orange-brown sand and gravel was encountered during the watching brief.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site has been the subject of an archaeological appraisal (GGAT 2012) and an archaeological evaluation (CA 2014), the results of which are summarised below.
- 2.2 The appraisal noted that there are no known designated or non-designated heritage assets recorded within the current site, but did highlight the prehistoric and Roman potential within the immediate vicinity. In particular, it noted that evidence for Neolithic and Bronze Age funerary monuments is widely distributed throughout the Vale of Glamorgan (GGAT 2012). The course of the Roman road from Bridgend to

Cardiff lies immediately to the south of the proposed development area, along the line of the modern A48 (Margary 1967; Road 60c). Medieval settlement at St Nicholas is demonstrated by the construction of the stone church, which is first mentioned in the later 12th century.

2.3 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by CA in November 2014. A total of six trenches was excavated and a single furrow on an east/west alignment was identified in Trench 6, in the eastern half of the site (CA 2014; see Fig. 2 of this report).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:

- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;
- at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2017). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks which comprised the reduction of ground level to the underlying natural substrate across the site.

4.2 Written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

4.3 The archive from the watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble and will be deposited with the RCAHMW.



5. RESULTS (FIGS 2–3)

- 5.1 A broadly analogous stratigraphic sequence was identified throughout the site. The natural geological substrate, consisting of orange-brown sand was revealed at an average depth of 0.4m below present ground level. This was overlain by subsoil, averaging 0.2m in thickness, which in turn was sealed by 0.2m of topsoil.
- 5.2 Furrow 2003 (excavated during the previous evaluation as furrow 603) cut the natural substrate and was identified for a length of approximately 35m. Its survival was coincident with a natural hollow in the natural substrate. The furrow was sealed by subsoil.
- 5.3 No other features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed during the groundworks and, despite visual scanning of spoil, no artefactual material pre-dating the modern period was recovered. The modern material will not be retained.

6. DISCUSSION

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 The only feature encountered during the groundworks, furrow 2003, survived solely within a part of the site where a natural hollow containing a greater depth of subsoil had formed. This suggests that any features that may once have existed on the site have since been truncated by ploughing.

7. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Busby, Greg Crees, Christopher Leonard, Sian Reynish and Alison Roberts. The report was written by Alison Roberts, Christopher Leonard and Tim Havard. The illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.



8. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2017 *Geology of Britain Viewer*
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 25 September 2017

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 *Land East of St Nicholas, Vale of Glamorgan: Archaeological Evaluation*, CA Report No. **14551**

CA 2017 *Land East of St Nicholas, Vale of Glamorgan: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

GGAT (Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust) 2012 *St Nicholas, Vale of Glamorgan: Initial Archaeological Appraisal*. Report No. **2012/026**

Margary, I. D., 1967 *Roman Roads in Britain*



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context No.	Type	Context Interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)
1000	Layer	Topsoil	Dark grey brown clay sand. Occasional stone inclusions	115	40	0.2
1001	Layer	Subsoil	Mid yellow brown clay sand. Frequent stone inclusions	115	40	0.2
1002	Layer	Natural substrate	Light orange brown sand and gravel			
2000	Layer	Topsoil	Same as 1000	300	250	0.2
2001	Layer	Subsoil	Same as 1001	300	250	0.3 (max)
2002	Layer	Natural substrate	Same as 1002			
2003	Cut	Furrow	E/W aligned furrow	35	0.85	Unexc.
2004	Fill	Furrow fill	Mid grey brown silty sand	35	0.85	Unexc.

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