

# Glebe Paddock Great Kimble Buckinghamshire



## Archaeological Watching Brief



**Oxford Archaeology**

10th July 2002

**Client Name: Neil Morgan**

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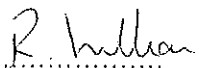
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## Glebe Paddock, Great Kimble, Buckinghamshire

### *ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT*

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## SUMMARY

*In July 2002 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at Glebe Paddock, Great Kimble, Buckinghamshire (NGR SP 8270 0580). The work was commissioned by Neil Morgan in advance of the construction of new drive way. The watching brief revealed 19<sup>th</sup> century garden landscaping features.*

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 In July 2002 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out an archaeological watching brief at Glebe Paddock, Great Kimble, Buckinghamshire (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Neil Morgan in respect of a planning application for new driveway (Planning Application No. 02/6081).
- 1.1.2 A project brief was set by David Radford the Archaeological Officer for Buckinghamshire.
- 1.1.3 OA prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation detailing how it would meet the requirements of the brief.

#### 1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The site lies on Lower Chalk at 130 m above OD. The site is situated in bottom of the Happy Valley which is part of the Great Kimble Warren.

#### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological background to the watching brief was prepared for the WSI for the project (OA, 2002) and is reproduced below.
- 1.3.2 Glebe Paddock is situated in an area of considerable archaeological potential. To the north-east are earthwork banks running along the hill that may be the remains of a hill fort or a system of Late Bronze Age cross dykes.
- 1.3.3 A plated denarius of Septimus Severus (193-211) mint of Edessa was found just south of the site, and a mound west of the site 20 m in diameter and 3 m high (Dial Hill) may represent a tumulus. The local vicar investigated the feature in 1887 and Roman pottery was found.
- 1.3.4 Also to the west, Manor House Farm was built on the site of an old moated mansion. The barn is thought to have been re-erected on the present site in 1704. The nearby parish church of Saint Nicholas is of flint with stone dressings and dates to the 12th century church. It was enlarged c 1250 by the addition of north and south aisles. In the second half of the 14th century the chancel was added and the north aisle rebuilt and a clerestory added. The south window was added and the south aisle added to the

chancel in the 15th century. The whole building was extensively restored from 1876-81.

## 2 PROJECT AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 To identify and record the presence/absence, extent, condition, quality and date of archaeological remains in the areas affected by the development.
- 2.1.2 To make available the results of the archaeological investigation.

### 2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 Due to the nature of the ground the new driveway had to be both cut and embanked as it went across the valley floor to the new entrance way (Fig. 2). The excavation was carried out using a small 360<sup>o</sup> excavator with a ditching bucket.
- 2.2.2 All archaeological features were planned at a scale of 1:500 and where excavated their sections drawn at scales of 1:20. All excavated features were photographed using colour slide and black and white print film. A general photographic record of the work was made. Recording followed procedures detailed in the *OAU Fieldwork Manual* (ed D Wilkinson, 1992).

## 3 RESULTS

### 3.1 Description of deposits

- 3.1.1 The stripping of the ground from the entrance way removed a 0.07 m thick layer of topsoil (1) comprising a of dark greyish brown silty clay loam over an earlier hardcore track of tarmac scrapings and building rubble (Fig. 2).
- 3.1.2 The second area of excavation for the driveway was cut from the centre of the lawn through the line of lime trees into the bottom of the garden and measured approximately 13 m in length. This cut through a topsoil of dark greyish brown silty clay loam (1) which was 0.23 m thick and overlay a 0.5 m thick layer of light grey silty clay (2) subsoil. Below this was the natural chalk (3) (Figs 2 & 3).
- 3.1.3 The sub soil (2) had been cut by a ditch (4) (Figs 2 & 3, section 1) with a concave profile cutting through the subsoil into the natural. It measured 1.7 m in width and 0.3 m in depth and 6 m of its length was exposed. It was filled with dark greyish brown silty clay (5) with a lot of 19<sup>th</sup> debris consisting of bottles, slate, tile, pottery and CBM fragments. This had been cut by a garden path (7) of compacted flint gravel 0.08 m thick on a hardcore base of rubble, which had been laid in a shallow trench with vertical sides and a flat base (4 m x 1 m x 0.22 m) (Fig. 3).

### 3.2 Finds

- 3.2.1 No finds were retained from the watching brief.

### 3.3 Palaeo-environmental remains

3.3.1 No environmental samples were taken during the watching brief.

## 4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1.1 The results from the watching brief exposed no archaeological features pre dating the construction of the vicarage in 1859. It would appear that the line of lime trees on the ridge was the original boundary for the vicarage using the natural contour. This being replaced when the garden was extended to its present boundary. The two features exposed were a ditch and a pathway of the 19<sup>th</sup> century that probably relate to the landscaping of the garden.

## APPENDICES

## APPENDIX 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT INVENTORY

<i>Context</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Depth</i>	<i>Width</i>	<i>Length</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i> Finds</i>
1	Layer	0.2 m			Garden topsoil	
2	Layer	0.5 m			Subsoil	
3	Natural				Natural chalk	
4	Cut	0.30 m	1.70 m	6 m	Ditch	
5	Fill				Fill of Ditch	
6	Cut	0.22 m	1 m	4 m	Foundation trench	
7	Fill				Garden Path	

## APPENDIX 2 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

OA, 2002, *Glebe Paddock, Great Kimble, Buckinghamshire*. Written Scheme of Investigation

OA 1992, Fieldwork Manual (ed. D Wilkinson, first edition August 1992)

## APPENDIX 3 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

**Site name:** Glebe Paddock, Great Kimble, Buckinghamshire

**Site code:** PRGKGP 02

**Grid reference:** NGR SP 8270 0580

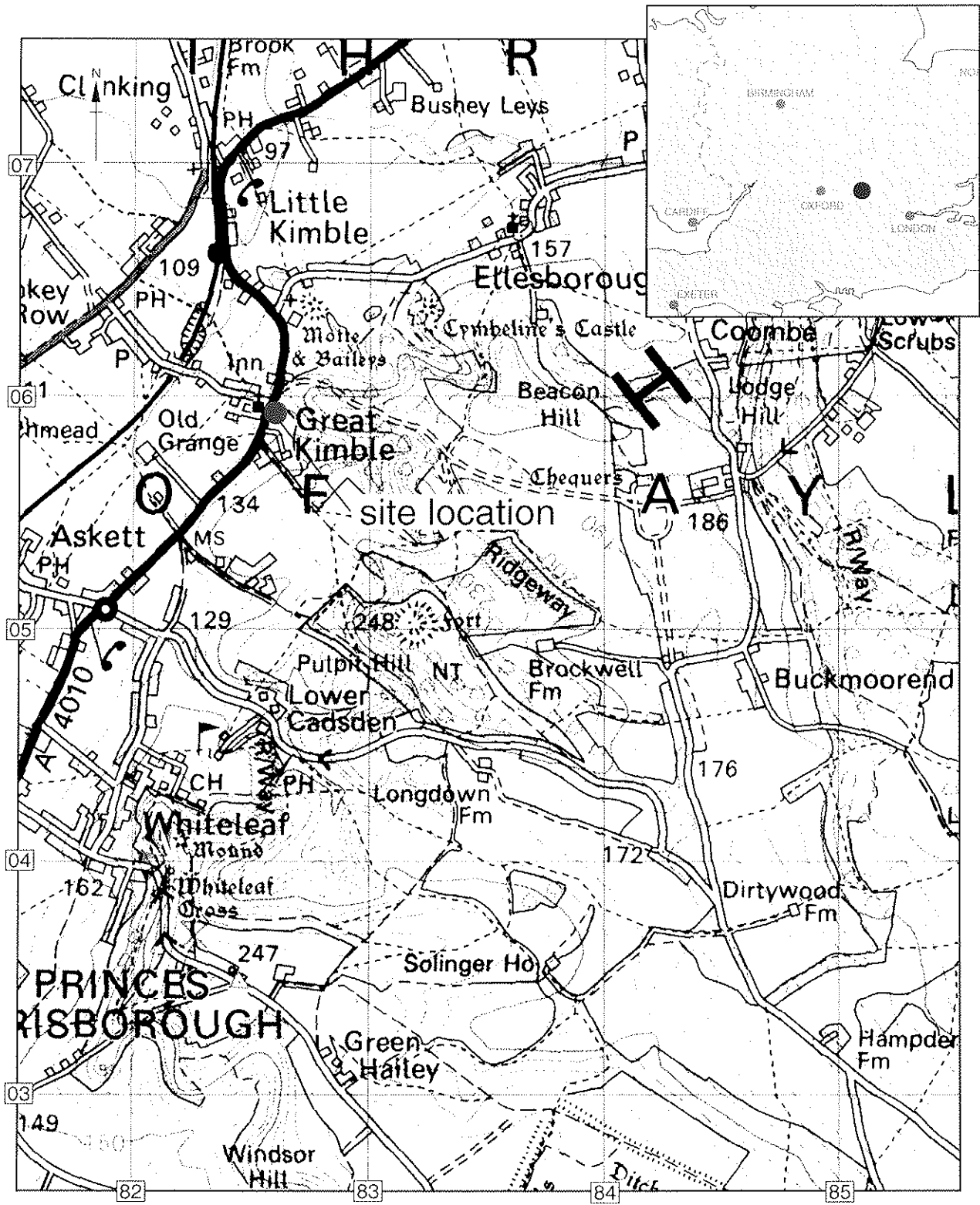
**Type of watching brief:** Construction of new driveway.

**Date and duration of project:** Single site visit on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2002

**Area of site:** 4 m x 80 m

**Summary of results:** The watching brief revealed 19<sup>th</sup> century garden landscaping features.

**Location of archive:** The archive is currently held at OA, Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, and will be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum, Technical Centre, Tring Rd, Halton, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 5PJ in due course.

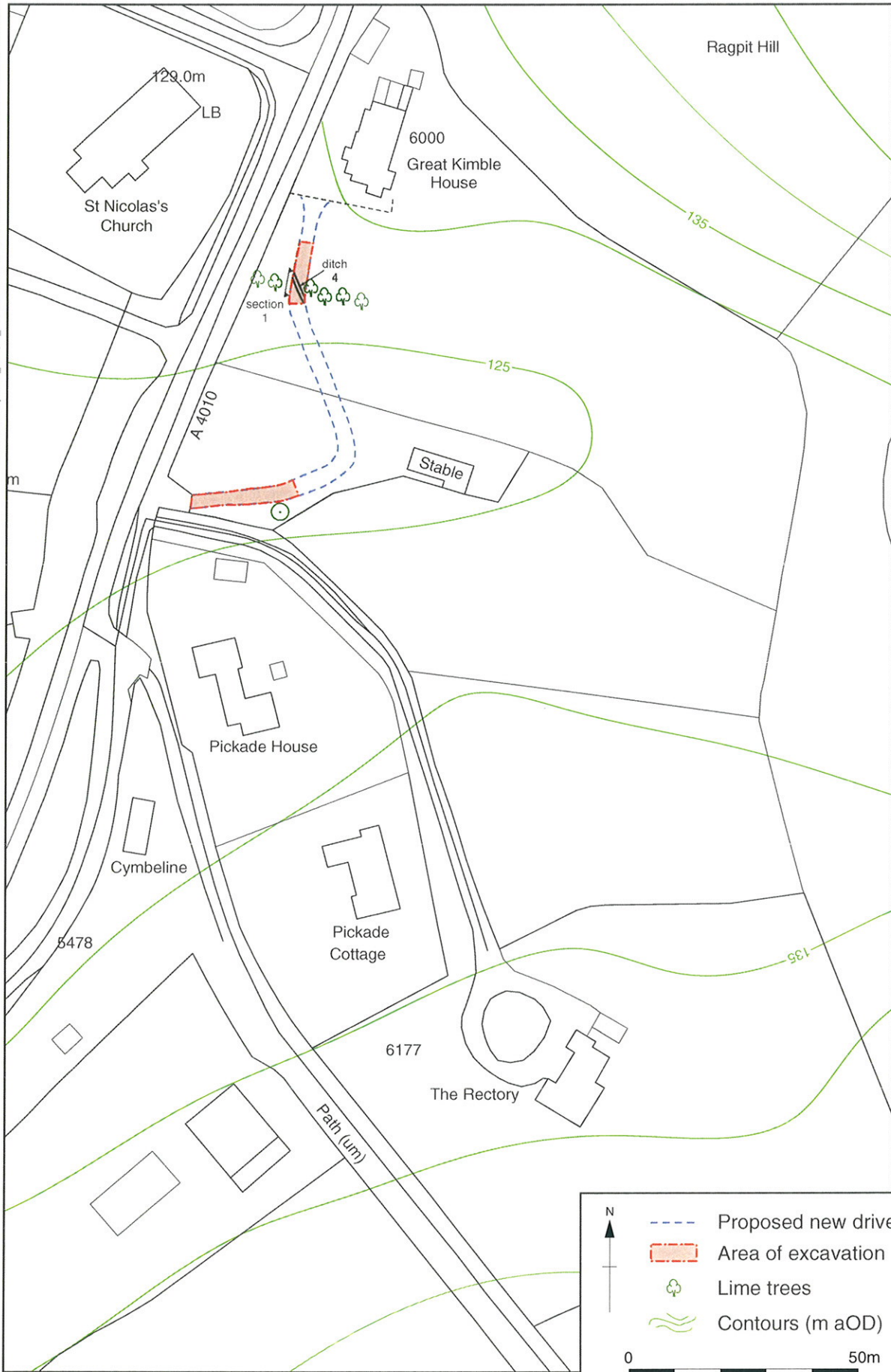


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Figure 1: Site location.



\\Server10\oapubs1\_ItOP\_codes\PRGKGPWB\*Great Kimble, Whitelief Hill\*AMD\*10.07.02



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Figure 2 Location of excavation areas.

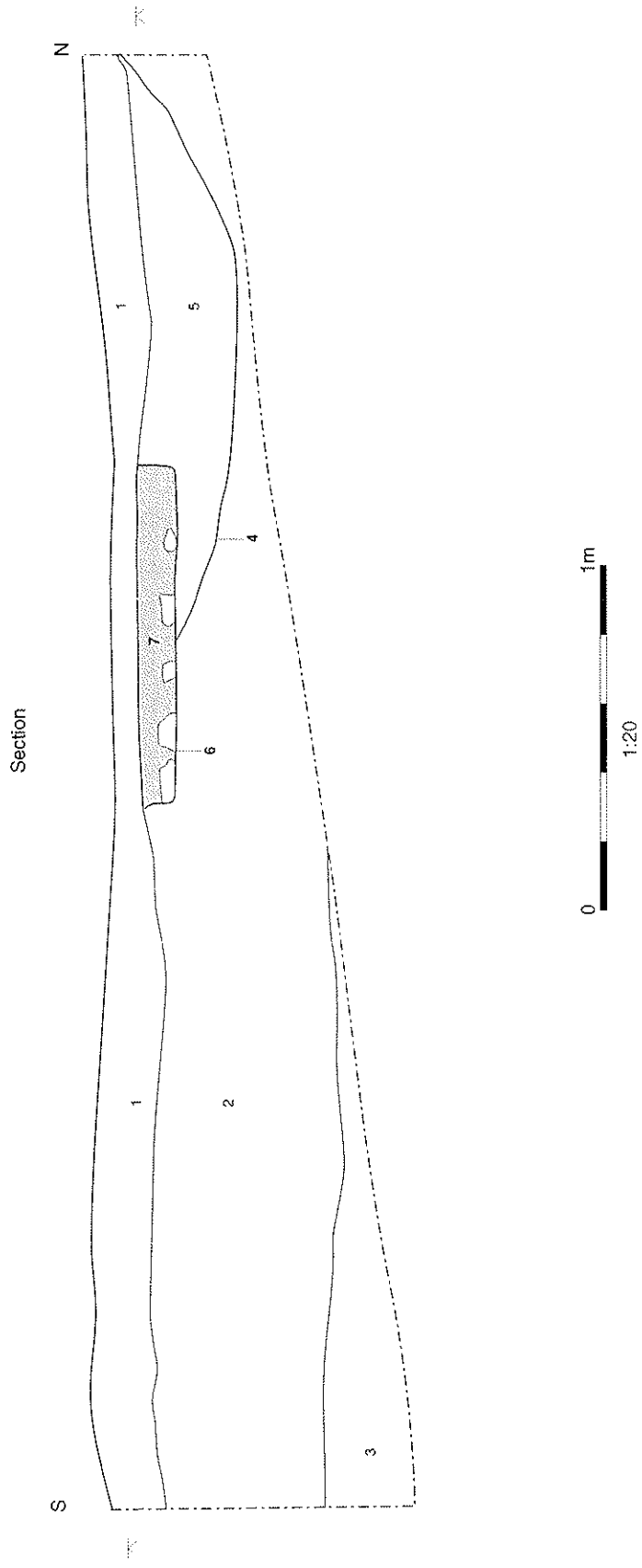


Figure 3 Section



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