# LONG COPSE LANE, WESTBOURNE, CHICHESTER

# ARCHAEOLOGY & HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

Prepared by ACD Archaeology

For



Landscape Architecture

Arboriculture



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#### 1.0 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 1.1 A desk based archaeology and heritage assessment has been completed for a site composed of a single field lying north-west of the historic centre of Westbourne in Chichester District, West Sussex.
- 1.2 The Chichester Historic Environment Record and English Heritage's National Monuments Record were consulted as to their holdings of information for the site and its environs. Records included those relating to known sites and findspots, listed buildings and past archaeological investigation, together with aerial photographs and secondary sources held by English Heritage.
- 1.3 The West Sussex County Record Office was also visited and its holdings of maps and secondary sources were checked. These sources informed a site visit in February 2012.
- 1.4 It is certain that the field which forms the site has been in existence since the 17<sup>th</sup> century. It is likely to have been used for both arable and grazing since that time and certainly since the Second World War. Some houses and their curtilages lay to the north and east of the site from that time.
- 1.5 None of the sources consulted, nor the site visit, identified any particular potential within the site and there are no designated heritage assets which would be adversely affected by development. The hedgerow and tree line marking the boundaries of the site marks a four hundred year old boundary and should be retained as far as practicable.
- 1.6 Finds and known sites within the study area date from prehistory and later and it is known that the area was settled in these periods. However, any hitherto unidentified sub-surface remains within the site would have been truncated by later cultivation and are unlikely to rate as of greater than local significance.
- 1.7 It is suggested that, given the absence of known remains, any further archaeological work within the site might be conditioned. Such work is likely to be limited to evaluation or a watching brief.

## 2.0 INTRODUCTION, PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

#### Introduction

- 2.1 In February 2012, ACD Archaeology was commissioned by Southcott Homes Limited to carry out an archaeological and heritage assessment of an area at Long Copse Lane, Westbourne, hereinafter referred to as the 'site'.
- 2.2 The site comprises of a single field bordered by Long Copse Lane, School Lane and North Street. It comprises largely of pasture associated with its current function as a paddock.

#### Context

2.3 Plans are being drawn up to re-develop the site for housing and related access and landscaping. A masterplan for the site is being produced, which will form the basis for a planning application in the near future.

#### **Purpose**

- 2.4 The purpose of this assessment is to:
  - Ascertain the general archaeological and heritage value of the site by;
    - Identifying known heritage assets within or in such close proximity to the site that they might be affected;
    - Assessing the potential for hitherto undiscovered sub-surface archaeological deposits;
    - To inform refinements of the masterplan; and
  - Assess any archaeological impacts of the proposed scheme.

#### 3.0 METHODOLOGY

#### **Background Data Search**

- 3.1 Information on previously recorded heritage assets, findspots and past archaeological investigation has been obtained from the Chichester Historic Environment Record (HER). The data search has been undertaken for a kilometre radius around the site.
- 3.2 The following sources have also been consulted and, where relevant, the information provided has been incorporated with acknowledgement within this report:
  - English Heritage National Monuments Record (NMR) in Swindon;
  - English Heritage National Heritage List for England (NHLE) online;
  - Chichester District Council website (CDC); and
  - West Sussex County Record Office (WSRO) in Chichester.
- 3.3 The NMR holds secondary sources and also a national collection of aerial photographs which provide information about the land use post-second world war and can indicate subsurface remains. The NHLE records designated heritage across the country including listed buildings, scheduled monuments and registered landscapes. The WSRO holds historic maps and other sources for the parish.

#### Site Visit

3.4 The site was surveyed in February 2012. Both the site itself and its environs were considered during the visit to identify any heritage assets or potential assets within the site and also to consider if development of the site would have an adverse effect on any nearby designated heritage assets.

#### **Evaluation and Impact Assessment**

3.5 Having defined the known and potential constraints to development of the site, the impacts of the proposed scheme have been predicted, taking into account different stages and activities within the development process. Further evaluation or mitigation is recommended as appropriate.

#### 4.0 BASELINE INFORMATION

- 4.1 This review of baseline information has been informed by data held by the Chichester Historic Environment Record and English Heritage relating to previously identified heritage. Appendix 1 provides a gazetteer of noted sites and Appendix 2, a plan.
- 4.2 Sections below also review relevant information held at English Heritage's National Monuments Record and the West Sussex County Record Office including historic maps and aerial photographs. References and sources are detailed in Appendix 3.

#### Context

- 4.3 The site lies on the north western edge of Westbourne which itself lies on the western edge of Chichester District, in West Sussex, but close to the Hampshire border. The geology is calcareous and the site is currently under grass (Leslie & Short 1999). It slopes from north-west to south-east and from circa 16 metres above Ordnance Datum to 13m.
- 4.4 The site is bordered by Long Copse Lane in the south, North Road in the east and School Lane in the west. Property boundaries mark the northern edge of the site.

#### **Chichester Historic Environment Record Search Results**

#### **Designated Sites**

- 4.5 The site does not contain any designated heritage and there are no scheduled monuments or registered landscapes parks and gardens or battlefields, within the study area.
- 4.6 The historic core of Westbourne is designated as a conservation area, but this only extends to the River Ems, 100m south-east of the site at its closest point (see Appendix 2).
- 4.7 The conservation area contains a number of listed buildings which lie along North Street and River Street and face onto these principal thoroughfares. The closest listed buildings to the site itself are Bridge House and Norman House which are both Grade II listed 18<sup>th</sup>-century or early 19<sup>th</sup>-century houses (1276096 & 1354635). Bridge House lies circa 350 metres to the north-east of the site, whilst Norman House is the closest, some 100m to the south-east. The only listed building outside the conservation area and within the study area is the Grade II listed Monk's Farm farmhouse of early 19<sup>th</sup> century date, over 400m to the north-west of the site (CD9134).
- 4.8 Although there is a list of locally important buildings within the city of Chichester,

Westbourne does not appear to have any such buildings.

#### **Non-designated Sites**

- 4.9 The HER does record a number of finds which suggest that the study area has seen activity from the prehistoric period on. Archaeological trial trenching in 2008, in advance of development on the south-eastern side of the village recorded a single Neolithic or early stone age pit (CD7938 & Event 1114). This early feature contained more than 200 sherds of pottery and 11 struck flints which may have been deposited purposefully rather than as waste. The feature lay some 750m from the site and a total of eleven trenches found no other archaeological features.
- 4.10 The HER also records two findspots of Bronze Age date, including a whole burial urn found by chance during development in 1949, circa 250m south-east of the site in the heart of the village (CD70 & Event 59). Further Bronze Age pottery sherds were recovered over 400m south-east of the site from the former course of the River Ems (termed a palaeo-channel) during a watching brief in 1999-2000 (CD4045 & Event 738).
- 4.11 The same palaeo-channel also contained sherds of both Roman and Anglo-Saxon pottery (CDs 4106 & 4107). Further evidence of Roman activity is recorded under CD118, 500m south of the site, where three coins have been recovered.
- 4.12 A medieval seal is also recorded as being recovered from the same location and presumably both were from metal detecting (CD116). Metal detecting certainly recovered a medieval silver ring and other objects some 500m south-east of the site (CD117 & Event 252). This detecting was part of a watching brief during development in the 1980s, but no features came to light.
- 4.13 Other records held by the HER for the study area are all of post-medieval date and appear to have been informed by consultation with the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Ordnance Survey (OS) and other historic maps. CD96 and CD4333 to the north-west of the site record a former brickworks and related clay pit. CD4334 to the north records the site of Westbourne workhouse, whilst CD128 to the east records a large rectangular water body which is thought to date to the 18<sup>th</sup> century and most likely to be related to nearby mills. CD9135, 9136 and 9145 all record the sites of farms noted on historic OS mapping. The closest of the former farms lay on the opposite side of North Street from the site.

#### **Historic Maps**

- 4.14 Westbourne is unusual in having been mapped in detail in 1640 (WSRO ref. 2856). The coloured estate map confirms that the field that forms the site existed at that time defined, as now, by lanes and hedgerows. North Street appears the main route, but all are shown as being a similar width. The field is named as 'Widow Fabinlife land' of slightly over two acres. Two properties are shown in the apex of the triangle to the north, lying close to what is now North Street. Properties are also shown east of North Street and on the corner of Long Copse Lane, south-east of the site.
- 4.15 The next earliest detailed map is the Tithe map of 1840 which shows an almost identical situation for the site and its environs (WSRO ref. W138). The apportionment notes the field as 'meadow' and belonging to James Whitley's executors. A school lay to the north, on School Lane, by this time.
- 4.16 The first edition 25 inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1874 shows an almost identical situation, with slight additions to off-site properties and Long Copse Lane named (Sheet XLVII/14, see Appendix 2). The name 'Paradise' marked to the east is perhaps ironic and tiny cottages remain to this day south-east of the site.
- 4.17 Terraces and a haulier's house and stabling which survive as residences today had been built by 1898, south, east and north of the site respectively. The third edition OS map of 1912 confirms the addition of two more paired properties, one of which has a date-stone of 1901.

#### **Aerial Photographs**

- 4.18 A search completed at the National Monuments Record provided 57 vertical black and white images of the site and its environs, with images from every decade between 1943 and 1996.
- 4.19 No sign of any archaeology was apparent on any of the photographs. It was clear that the land use within the site had oscillated between arable and pasture in each decade. The field appeared as a single unit except in photographs of 1959 when it was divided in two from north to south.
- 4.20 The surrounding area does not appear to have changed much in the fifty year period, although School Lane appears to have been a wider route in the 1940s and 1950s, before narrowing to a footpath only.

#### **Other Sources**

- 4.21 Other sources did not provide any information specific to the site itself. The village was known simply as 'Bourne' in the 1086 Domesday survey and was ravaged by fire in the 16<sup>th</sup> century (Rock & Toms 2005). *The Westbourne Story* also confirms that the School Lane school went out of use in the early 20<sup>th</sup>-century and that the building facing it was used by a haulier and hence has a waggon sized entrance.
- 4.22 The village was important by the medieval period if not before, with a weekly market in 1362 and it was known as Westbourne by the 14<sup>th</sup> century (Salzman 1953). Indeed, a major Roman road runs east west approximately a mile south of the village centre and the Sussex Atlas notes the church as an Anglo-Saxon minster (Leslie & Short 1999).

#### **Site Survey Results**

- 4.23 The site was visited in late February 2012. The site was observed to consist of a single grass field. The southern, northern and eastern boundaries are bordered by a hawthorn dominated hedgerow. No features lie within the site.
- 4.24 Although the site is fairly level, there is a notable drop to Long Copse Lane in the south and North Street in the east of over 1.5 metres, accentuated by the hedgerow. A number of late 19<sup>th</sup>-century or later properties lie at a similar level on the far side of these two roads and overlook the site.
- 4.25 Earlier properties lie to the north, at the apex of North Road and School Lane, but face away from the site. To the west, School Lane ceases to be more than a footpath adjacent to the site itself, with trees and other vegetation to either side where the lane once ran.
- 4.26 No listed buildings are inter-visible with the site, whilst the Westbourne Conservation Area's western edge is just visible on North Street where a bridge crosses the River Ems.

#### 5.0 PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

5.1 This section summarises the relevant national and local planning policies, as well as other reference documents, relevant to the baseline results. There is no legislation relevant to the site given an absence of designated monuments or buildings.

#### **National Planning Policy**

- 5.2 Planning Policy Guidance Note (PPG) 15 Planning and the Historic Environment and PPG 16 Archaeology and Planning were replaced by Planning Policy Statement 5 Planning for the Historic Environment in 2010 (DoE 1994, 1990 and DCLG 2010) but has recently been superseded by the relevant sections of the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012).
- 5.3 The *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) covers all aspects of planning in one document and mentions heritage in several paragraphs. In particular, under bullet point 10 of 12 'Core Principles' set out in Paragraph 17 it states planning should:
  - 'Conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations.'
- 5.4 Section 12 'Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment' replaces the main policies of *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* in sixteen paragraphs. The relevant paragraphs generally reflect the heritage policies of PPS5 succinctly, with similar information requirements to inform an understanding of the significance of 'heritage assets' and the aim of sustaining or enhancing that significance. Heritage assets are defined in the NPPF glossary as any designated or undesignated element of the historic environment which is identified as being of such significance that they are a material consideration in the planning process.
- 5.5 In determining applications which cause harm to heritage assets directly, or indirectly, through affecting a complementary setting, the NPPF recommends that considerable importance and weight should be given to their conservation when reaching a planning decision. This does replace the presumption in favour of conservation embodied in earlier policy. The more important the asset, the greater the weight that should be ascribed. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, it is noted that any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification. It notes that 'substantial harm' to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance should be wholly exceptional (Paragraph 133).

- 5.6 Paragraphs 134 and 135 clarify that, where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including safeguarding its future. Paragraph 135 also notes that effects on the significance of non-designated heritage assets require a balanced judgement weighing the scale of impact and the significance of the heritage asset against the benefits of the proposed development.
- 5.7 Where heritage assets are to be lost, the final paragraph in Section 12, Paragraph 141, confirms that a record of the elements to be lost should be provided and disseminated by the developer.

#### **Local Policy**

- 5.8 The Development Plan for the district consists solely of saved policies of the 1999 Chichester District Local Plan First Review (CDC 1999). Relevant policies include BE3 Archaeology, BE4 Buildings of Architectural or Historic Merit and BE6 Conservation Areas.
- 5.9 Policies BE4 and BE6 state that the Council will seek to preserve the historic character and appearance of buildings of special architectural or historic interest and conservation areas. This explicitly includes preservation of the settings of listed buildings and conservation areas.
- 5.10 Policy BE3 Archaeology notes that where areas of interest are likely to be affected by proposals, a desk based assessment and possibly the results of fieldwork evaluation may be required to accompany an application. There will be a presumption in favour of preserving important remains in situ through development design or refusal of planning permission. If development is permitted in the absence of particularly significant remains, there will be a requirement to complete suitable recording and reporting in advance of construction.
- 5.11 More recently, Chichester District Council has produced the *Interim Policy Statement on Housing Facilitating Appropriate Development* to inform decisions on housing applications (CDC 2012). This notes that new housing may be acceptable outside of Settlement Policy Areas where:

<sup>&#</sup>x27;6) Archaeological sites, ancient monuments and listed buildings and their settings are protected, in accordance with national guidelines (sic) and saved policies of the Local Plan.'

#### 6.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

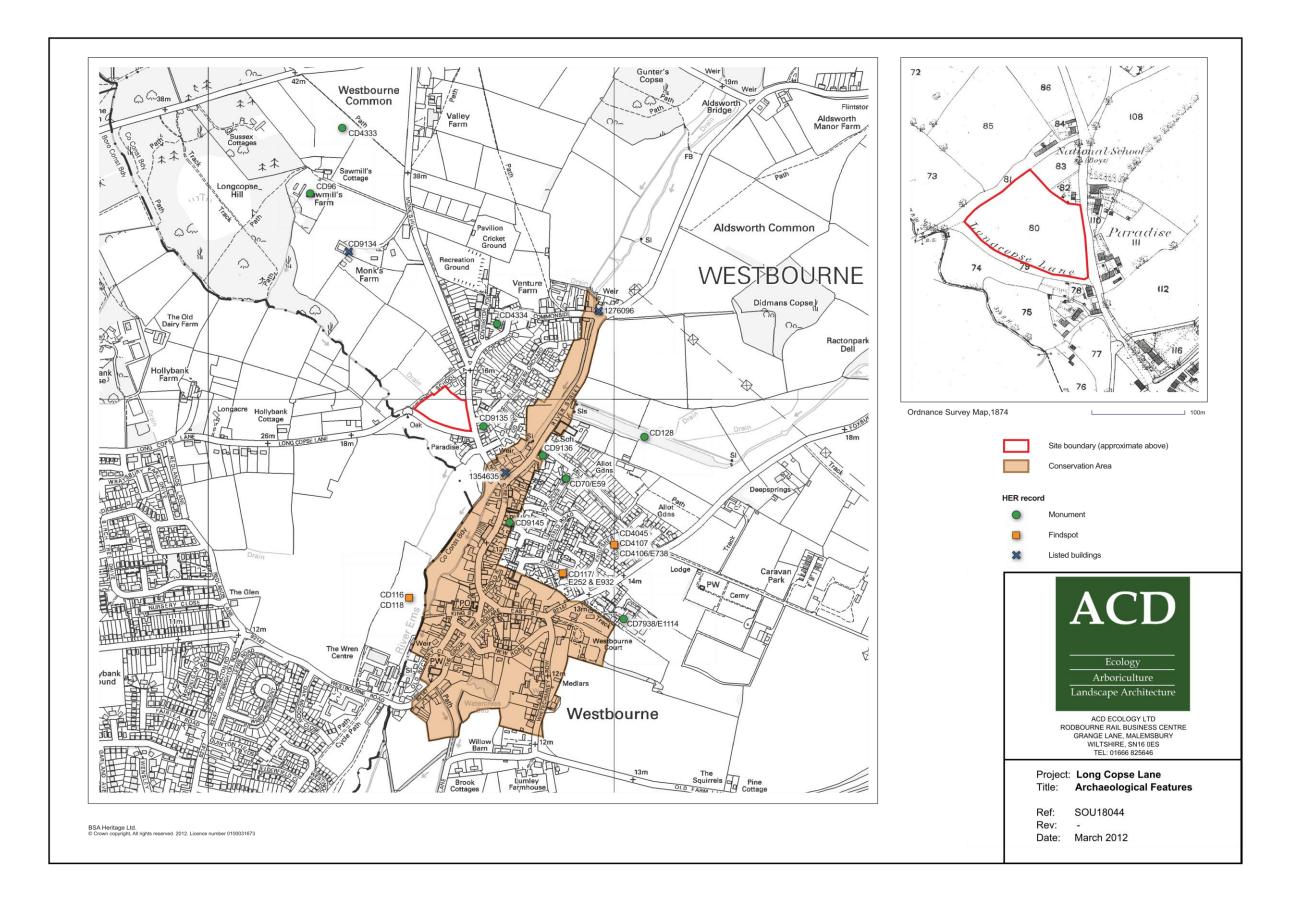
- 6.1 This assessment has been prepared on behalf of Southcott Homes Limited to support a planning application for residential development of land north-west of Westbourne, Chichester District. It accords with current national and local policy which requires consideration of the heritage implications of development in advance of a planning determination.
- 6.2 The assessment has been informed by consultation with the Chichester Historic Environment Record, Chichester District Council and West Sussex County Record Office. English Heritage's National Monuments Record and National Heritage List for England have complemented these county based sources as have Google Earth images. A walkover survey in February 2012 completed the work informing this report.
- 6.3 The site itself does not contain any extant heritage assets other than field boundaries dating to before 1640 which would rate as of local significance. The proposals for the development will retain the majority of these features except where access is required.
- 6.4 Designated heritage assets, including Westbourne Conservation Area and listed buildings within it and at Monk's Farm to the north-west lie at some distance from the site. Topography and intervening vegetation and built form mean that development of the site would not harm the setting or character and appearance of any designated heritage assets.
- 6.5 The site lay outside medieval Westbourne and was meadow-land in the mid-17th century. It was certainly cultivated more recently. Finds and features suggest activity from prehistory and sub-surface remains of such activity in the Westbourne area, but no particular interest within the site or close to it.
- 6.6 Nonetheless, as a greenfield area which has not previously been subject to archaeological investigation, some further work is likely to be required in advance of development to confirm the presence or absence of hitherto unidentified sub-surface remains. The nature of any such remain would determine if further investigation is required in advance of development. However, given known cultivation of the site in recent decades, it is extremely unlikely that remains worthy of preservation in situ exist within the site.
- 6.7 Non-intrusive geophysical survey might be a suitable initial evaluation method. However, given the low likelihood of deposits warranting preservation in situ, it is suggested that further work could be completed as a condition of planning permission.
- 6.8 In order to accord with current policy, should sub-surface remains be identified during

evaluation, they would normally need to be subject to suitable further archaeological investigation prior to construction. Such work can involve full archaeological excavation, more limited recording or a watching brief. Suitable post-fieldwork analysis and dissemination of the results would ensure the site is developed in accordance with planning policy.

# Appendix 1 – Chichester Historic Environment and National Heritage List for England Data

HER/NHLE Ref.	NGR (SU prefix)	Period	Notes	
CD70/E59	759 078	Bronze Age	Middle Bronze Age urn recovered during construction in 1949. E59 relates to this chance find event.	
CD96	752 085	Post- medieval	Site of 19 <sup>th</sup> century brickworks noted from historic maps.	
CD116	755 075	Medieval	Engraved seal findspot. No further information.	
CD117/E252&932	759 076	Medieval	Watching brief during 1985 development recorded silver ring and other metal objects recovered by metal detectorist, but no features. E252 and E932 record metal detecting and two site visits respectively.	
CD118	755 075	Roman	Findspots of three Roman coins dating to 2 <sup>nd (2)</sup> and early 4 <sup>th</sup> centuries.	
CD128	761 079	Post- medieval	Water filled rectangular feature linked to River Ems and thought to be early 18 <sup>th</sup> century in date, may have been cut to power mill or alleviate flooding.	
CD4045/E738	760 076	Bronze Age	Watching brief on Foxbury Lane during 1999-2000 development recovered Late Bronze Age pottery sherds from upper levels of palaeo-channel thought to be former course of River Ems. E738 records the watching brief.	
CD4106	760 076	Roman	Record of Roman pottery sherds found during E738 investigation.	
CD4107	760 076	Anglo- Saxon	Record of middle to late Anglo-Saxon sherds found during E738 investigation.	
CD4333	753 086	Post- medieval	Clay pit recorded on historic maps and possibly related to CD96 brickworks.	
CD4334	757 082	Post- medieval	Westbourne workhouse shown on historic maps.	
CD7938/E1114	760 075	Neolithic	Evaluation trial trenching in 2008 recorded a single pit containing over 200 sherds of pottery and 11 struck flints. E1114 records the evaluation.	
CD9134	753 083	Post- medieval	Monks Farm recorded as farmstead and also has Grade II listed stuccoed and slate roofed farmhouse of early 19 <sup>th</sup> century.	
CD9135	757 079	Post- medieval	Site of now demolished farmstead presumably noted on historic maps.	
CD9136	758 078	Post- medieval	Site of now demolished farmstead presumably noted on historic maps.	
CD9167	757 076	Post- medieval	Site of farm presumably noted on historic maps. Notes that only farmhouse now survives.	
1276096	759 082	Post- medieval	Bridge House – Grade II listed early 19 <sup>th</sup> century stuccoed and tiled house.	
1354635	757 078	Post- medieval	Norman House - Grade II listed brick and tile roofed probably 18 <sup>th</sup> century and later house.	

#### **APPENDIX 2 PLAN**



#### **APPENDIX 3 REFERENCES AND SOURCES**

Chichester District Council (CDC) 1999 Chichester Local Plan, First Review Chichester

Chichester District Council (CDC) 2012 Interim Policy Statement on Housing – Facilitating Appropriate Development Chichester

Department of the Environment (DoE) 1990 Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning London

Department of the Environment (DoE) 1994 Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment London

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) 2010 *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* London

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) 2011 *Draft National Planning Policy Framework* London

English Heritage (EH) 2010 Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment – Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide London (with DCLG and DCMS)

Leslie K. 2006 A Sense of Place - West Sussex Parish Maps Chichester

Leslie K. and Short B. (eds.) 1999 An Historical Atlas of Sussex Chichester

Mawer A. and Stenton F. M. 1929 *The Place-Names of Sussex, Part 1* Cambridge (English Place Name Society VI)

Rock L. and Toms M. 2005 The Westbourne Story Westbourne

Salzman L. F.. (ed.) 1953 *The Victoria County History of the County of Sussex – the Rape of Chichester*, vol. iv, London

#### Maps

Westbourne Manor Estate Map of 1640 (WSRO ref. 2856)

Westbourne Tithe Map and Apportionment of 1840 (WSRO ref. TDW138)

First edition twenty five inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1874 (Sheet XLVII.14)

Second edition twenty five inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1898 (Sheet XLVII.14)

Third edition twenty five inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map of 1912 (Sheet XLVII.14)

#### **Web Sources**

Chichester District Council website accessed at www.chichester.gov.uk/planning

English Heritage's National Heritage List for England accessed at www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england

Google Earth aerial photographs of site accessed at <a href="www.maps.google.co.uk">www.maps.google.co.uk</a>

Street Map Ordnance Survey map of Westbourne accessed at www.streetmap.co.uk



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