



# Clandon Farm, Martinstown, Dorset

## Archaeological Field Evaluation of Site of New Slurry Lagoon



Report No. 53444/2/1

October 2015



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**Client:** J W Finding (Farms) Ltd, Clandon Farmhouse, Martinstown, Dorchester, DT2 9JF

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### Document Quality Control

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## Project Report Summary Page

Project Details			
<b>OASIS Reference</b>	terrains1-225316		
<b>Project Title</b>	New Slurry Lagoon, Clandon Farm, Martinstown, Dorset		
<b>Short Description of Project</b>	Terrain Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of the proposed site of a new slurry lagoon at Clandon Farm, Martinstown, Dorset. A single trench 30.7 m long was excavated, investigating a sample of approximately 5% of the site. The trench revealed a single tree throw, from which a small quantity of worked flint was recovered.		
<b>Project Dates</b>	Start: 28-09-2015	End: 28-09-2015	
<b>Previous/Future Work</b>	No/Not known		
<b>Project Code</b>	53444		
<b>Monument Type and Period</b>	Tree Throw (Not known, possibly early prehistoric)		
<b>Significant Finds</b>	None		
Project Location			
<b>County/District/Parish</b>	Dorset/ West Dorset/ Winterborne St Martin		
<b>Site Address</b>	Clandon Farm, Martinstown, Dorchester, DT2 9JF		
<b>Site Coordinates</b>	SY 6597 8916		
<b>Site Area</b>	46 m <sup>2</sup>		
<b>Height OD</b>	c. 100 m		
Project Creators			
<b>Organisation</b>	Terrain Archaeology		
<b>Project Brief Originator</b>	None		
<b>Project Design Originator</b>	Terrain Archaeology		
<b>Project Supervisor</b>	Mike Trevarthen		
<b>Project Manager</b>	Peter Bellamy		
<b>Sponsor or Funding Body</b>	Landowner		
Project Archive			
<b>Archive Type</b>	<b>Physical</b>	<b>Digital</b>	<b>Paper</b>
<b>Location/Accession No</b>	No physical archive	Terrain Archaeology offices, pending deposition with Dorset County Museum.	Terrain Archaeology offices, pending deposition with Dorset County Museum.
<b>Contents</b>		Digital photography	context sheets, diary, photographs, plans, report

# Clandon Farm, Martinstown, Dorset

## Archaeological Evaluation of Site of New Slurry Lagoon, September 2015

### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Project introduction

Terrain Archaeology was commissioned by Nick Finding of J W Finding (Farms) Ltd to undertake an Archaeological Field Evaluation of land at Clandon Farm, in support of an application for planning for a new Dirty Water/Slurry Lagoon.

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) definition of Archaeological Field Evaluation is "*a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their significance in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.*" (CIfA 2014a).

The purpose of Archaeological Field Evaluation as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists is as follows: "*The purpose of field evaluation is to gain information about the archaeological resource within a given area or site (including its presence or absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality), in order to make an assessment of its merit in the appropriate context, leading to one or more of the following:*

- *The formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource*
- *The formulation of a strategy to mitigate a threat to the archaeological resource*
- *The formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research)*" (CIfA 2014a).

The fieldwork was carried out on the 28th September 2015 by Peter Bellamy and Mike Trevarthen.

#### 1.2 Brief

No written brief for the works was produced by or on behalf of the Client, but the scope of the works was discussed with Steve Wallis, Senior Archaeologist (Advice and Management), Dorset County Council.

#### 1.3 Site Location

Clandon Farm lies at SY 6597 8916, to the north of Clandon Hill and Hog Hill, which form part of an undulating chalk ridge with Maiden Castle. The proposed lagoon site is surrounded by grazing land on two sides, the farm buildings to the south and the farm access road to the east. The ground slopes gently down to the north and west.

#### 1.4 Geology

The geology is mapped as the Seaford Chalk Formation And Newhaven Chalk Formation (undifferentiated) (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>). No superficial deposits are recorded.

#### 1.5 Archaeological and Historical Background

The site lies in an area very rich in prehistoric remains dating from the Neolithic to the Late Iron Age (RCHME 1970). The Neolithic monuments in the area include the Causewayed Enclosure at Maiden Castle and long barrows on Hog Hill and at Lanceborough. The area contains a large concentration of Bronze Age round barrows which include the very large Lanceborough Barrow (and other smaller barrows) to the east of the site, a barrow cemetery on Hog Hill and two barrows on Clandon Hill, of which one — Clandon Barrow — contained a rich and important array of grave

goods. Later Bronze Age and Iron Age activity is represented by extensive earthwork boundaries, field systems and enclosures. The most impressive and visible Iron Age monument is Maiden Castle, which lies to the south east of the site.

The date when Clandon Farm was established is unclear, but the buildings were largely reconstructed in the late nineteenth century.

## 1.6 Previous Archaeological fieldwork

Clandon Barrow was partly excavated by Cunnington in 1882, when a cremation burial within an urn, a copper dagger, shale mace head, bronze ring and gold plate were all recovered (RCHME 1970, 471). The adjacent barrow was partly excavated by Edward Cunnington in 1883, when Beaker pottery, three cremation burials and ten inhumation burials were recovered (RCHME 1979, 471).

The area of the site was included in the South Dorset Ridgeway National Mapping Programme project (2008-2010) which systematically recorded all components of the historic environment visible from aerial photographs and lidar data (Royall 2011).

## 1.7 Aims and Objectives

The aim of the field evaluation is to understand, record and make available information on the archaeological resource existing on the site.

Its objectives were:

- To record all the in situ archaeological deposits and features revealed to an appropriate professional standard.
- To provide sufficient data to assess the significance of the heritage assets and potential heritage assets on the site
- To provide sufficient data to enable an informed planning decision to be taken on the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the heritage assets on the site.
- To present the results in a report to the appropriate standard.

## 1.8 Proposed Development

The proposed dirty water/slurry lagoon (including the earth bunding) will cover an area of 0.0918 ha in total. The lagoon will have a grey plastic liner and will be surrounded by earth bunds. A loading and turning area for the vehicles delivering and extracting the lagoon material will be laid in the South West corner of the proposed site area.

The site is bounded by trees and a hedgerow on the South and East sides. It is proposed that the bank of the lagoon could be planted with a new hedge to border the two sides West and North on the lagoon banks to complement the existing hedges South and East.

During construction the topsoil of approximately 20 cm will be removed from the site of the lagoon and from the perimeter bund areas. This will be stored on the lower part of field while areas for lagoon are then excavated out and material placed to form surrounding earthworks. The topsoil will then be spread back over the outer face and top of earthwork.

## 1.9 Methods

The methodology, scope, aims and objectives of the works was set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by Terrain Archaeology in September 2015 (Terrain Archaeology document no. 3444/0/1). All archaeological works were carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014a).

The evaluation comprised intrusive investigation in the form of trial trenching. One trench (Trench 1, Figure 2; Plates 1-3), measuring 30.7 m by 1.5 m, was mechanically excavated using a JCB fitted with a toothless grading bucket.



All archaeological deposits and features exposed during the works were recorded and excavation of archaeological deposits and features was limited to resolving questions relating to their date, nature, extent and condition. All deposits revealed, irrespective of their apparent archaeological significance, were recorded using components of the Terrain Archaeology recording system of complementary written, drawn and photographic records. These have been compiled in a stable, cross-referenced and fully indexed archive in accordance with current guidelines (AAF 2007; ClfA 2014b) and the requirements of the receiving museum. A photographic record of the work was maintained in digital format, and includes aspects of its setting, conduct and technical detail.

## 1.10 Archive and Dissemination

The project archive, comprising written, graphic and photographic records, and appropriate background documentation, is currently stored by Terrain Archaeology under the project code 53444.

A paper copy of this report will be lodged with Dorset County Council's Historic Environment Record (HER). The HER is a publicly funded and accessible resource, and deposition of the report will place it, and the project results, in the public domain.

A digital summary of the archive will be placed with the OASIS project ([www.oasis.ac.uk](http://www.oasis.ac.uk)) under the reference code *terrains1-225316*. A digital copy of this report will be uploaded for inclusion in the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) online 'grey literature' library.

A brief report of the project will be published by Terrain Archaeology in the *Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society*.

## 2. Results

### 2.1 Introduction

The evaluation trench was excavated diagonally across the footprint of the proposed lagoon (Figure 2). The features and deposits revealed in Trench 1 are described in detail in Appendix 1.

### 2.2 Distribution of the Revealed Archaeological Resource

A single feature was discovered roughly halfway along the length of the evaluation trench. It was only partially within the trench and extended further to the west.

### 2.3 Natural Deposits

The natural chalk bedrock (101) was exposed at a depth of 0.2 m across the whole of the trench.

### 2.4 Archaeological Features

A single feature (102) was partially exposed within the trench. Its form, with disturbed chalk and a crescent-shaped deposit of soil along one side, is typical of a tree-throw, formed when a tree is blown over and uprooted. A small quantity of worked flint was recovered from the small sondage dug into this feature.

### 2.5 Agricultural Soils

Overlying the natural chalk was a 0.2 m thick deposit of ploughsoil and pasture turf (100) forming the current field surface.

## 3. Finds

### 3.1 Finds Assemblage

The finds recovered from the evaluation are presented below in Table 1. No systematic sampling for finds was undertaken.

Context	Flint
103	5/108g
<b>Total</b>	<b>5/108g</b>

Table 1: Quantification of finds by context (count/weight in grams)

### 3.2 Worked Flint

Five pieces of worked flint were recovered from the fill 103 of Tree Throw 102. These included both heavily and lightly patinated pieces. The assemblage consisted of one a core on a large thick squat flake, one other squat hard-hammer flake, a broken burin spall and two small broken thin flakes. The flint was generally undiagnostic, other than the burin spall, which may be of Upper Palaeolithic/Mesolithic date.

## 4. Assessment

### 4.1 Sample

Evaluation Trench 1 evaluated a total area of about 46 m<sup>2</sup>, which represents an approximate 5% sample of the site. Experiments on the effectiveness of differing sample strategies on large scale rural archaeological sites have indicated a trial trenching sample of between 5%-10% of the area is broadly effective in evaluating Roman and medieval remains with a relatively high degree of confidence, but is less effective at picking up and understanding prehistoric and Saxon archaeology (Hey & Lacey, 2001).

### 4.2 Heritage Asset Resource of the Site

Trench 1 revealed a single feature, a tree throw (Feature 102). Although this feature may be natural in origin, there is an increasing body of evidence to suggest that tree throws form a focus of prehistoric activity in the Mesolithic and Early Neolithic periods (Evans *et al.* 1999; Bellamy 2009). This tree throw may be an isolated feature, or may be one of a number of such features, which were formed before this part of the landscape was cleared in the Later Neolithic period (Woodward 1991). The site lies in an area where extensive prehistoric and Roman field systems and associated enclosures have been found and similar features could potentially exist on the site, beyond the limits of the evaluation trench.

### 4.3 Significance

#### 4.3.1 Definition of Significance

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) defines significance as: *The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.*

Value of Heritage Asset	Factors for assessing the value of archaeological assets
Very High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Heritage Sites (including nominated sites).</li> <li>Assets of acknowledged international importance.</li> <li>Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged international research objectives.</li> </ul>
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheduled Monuments (including proposed sites).</li> <li>Undesignated assets of schedulable quality and importance.</li> <li>Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged national research objectives.</li> </ul>
Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designated or undesignated assets that contribute to regional research objectives.</li> </ul>
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designated and undesignated assets of local importance.</li> <li>Assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations.</li> <li>Assets of limited value, but with potential to contribute to local research objectives.</li> </ul>
Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest.</li> </ul>
Unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The importance of the resource has not been ascertained.</li> </ul>

Table 2: Scale of Heritage Asset Value

In the case of the heritage assets related to this current development proposal, the interest is primarily archaeological. The value of the heritage assets has been assessed with reference to the guidance given by the

Highways Agency in 2007 in *The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2: Cultural Heritage (Highways Agency document 208/07)*, which is the most suitable and widely-acknowledged detailed assessment methodology for assessing the impact on and value of heritage assets. The scale of heritage asset values is set out in Table 2, which is based on Highways Agency document 208/07, Annex 5, Table 5.1.

#### 4.3.2 Heritage Asset Significance

A single tree-throw was found during the evaluation. This can be assessed as having **Low** significance, according to the criteria set out in Table 2. Any potential heritage assets associated with the prehistoric field systems and settlements that have been recorded surrounding the area of the site can be assessed as likely to have **Low** to **Medium** significance.

#### 4.4 Potential impact of the proposed development

The policy on the impact of development on the significance heritage assets is set out in paragraphs 132 and 133 of the *National Planning Policy Framework*. The Planning Practice Guidance to the NPPF makes it clear that it is the degree of harm to the asset's significance rather than the scale of the development that should be assessed.

Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset, or development within its setting. The NPPF Practice Guidance describes the degree of harm to the significance of heritage assets in terms of 'substantial harm', 'less than substantial harm' and 'no harm'.

##### 4.4.1 Direct Impacts on Potential Heritage Assets

The excavation of the slurry lagoon will have a major direct impact on any heritage assets within its footprint, as it will be 5 m deep and will remove all traces of any heritage assets within the area of the site.

##### 4.4.2 Scale of Impact of the Development Proposals on Potential Heritage Assets

The excavation of the slurry lagoon will completely remove all traces of any heritage assets within the area of the site. Therefore, the impact of the works is assessed as causing **significant harm** to any known or potential heritage assets on the site.

#### 4.5 Suggested mitigation of the proposed development impacts

The evaluation revealed a single natural feature of potentially Mesolithic date, and no other archaeological finds, features or deposits. The sample size of the area evaluated is sufficiently large to determine that it is not a deeply stratified site with a large number of cut features. The sample size was not sufficiently large to be certain whether the recorded tree throw is an isolated feature or not. As the proposed new lagoon is likely to cause substantial direct harm to any features or deposits, it is suggested that the creation of the new slurry lagoon be subject to an archaeological programme of works consisting of a Strip, Map, Excavate and Record exercise to discover and investigate any archaeological features on the site.

## 5. References

- |   |       |  |
|---|-------|--|
| AAF,                                    | 2007  | <i>Archaeological Archives. A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation.</i> Archaeological Archives Forum.   |
| Bellamy, P. S.,                         | 2009  | 'Mesolithic' in L. Ladle and A. Woodward <i>Excavations at Bestwall Quarry, Wareham 1992-2005: Volume 1: The Prehistoric Landscape.</i> Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Monograph No. 19, 349-353. |
| CIfA,                                   | 2014a | <i>Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation.</i> December 2014. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.   |
| CIfA,                                   | 2014b | <i>Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Preparation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives.</i> December 2014. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.                                       |
| Evans, C., Pollard, J., and Knight, M., | 1999  | 'Life in Woods: Tree-throws, 'Settlement' and Forest Cognition' <i>Oxford Journal of Archaeology</i> <b>18</b> , 241-54.   |
| Hey, G. and Lacey, M.,                  | 2001  | <i>Evaluation of Archaeological Decision-making Processes and Sampling Strategies.</i>   |

- |                     |      |   |
|---------------------|------|---|
| Highways Agency     | 2007 | <i>The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2: Cultural Heritage (Highways Agency document 208/07)</i>   |
| RCHME               | 1970 | <i>An Inventory of Historical Monuments in the County of Dorset. Volume Two, South East.</i> HMSO; London.  |
| Royall, C.,         | 2011 | <i>South Dorset Ridgeway Mapping Project; Results of NMP Mapping.</i> Historic Environment Cornwall Council Report No: 2011R031.  |
| Terrain Archaeology | 2015 | Clandon Farm, Martinstown; Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation of the Site of a Proposed New Slurry Lagoon. Unpublished Terrain Archaeology document No. 3444/0/1, September 2015. |
| Woodward, P. J.,    | 1991 | <i>The South Dorset Ridgeway Survey and Excavations 1977-84.</i> Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society Monograph No. 8.   |

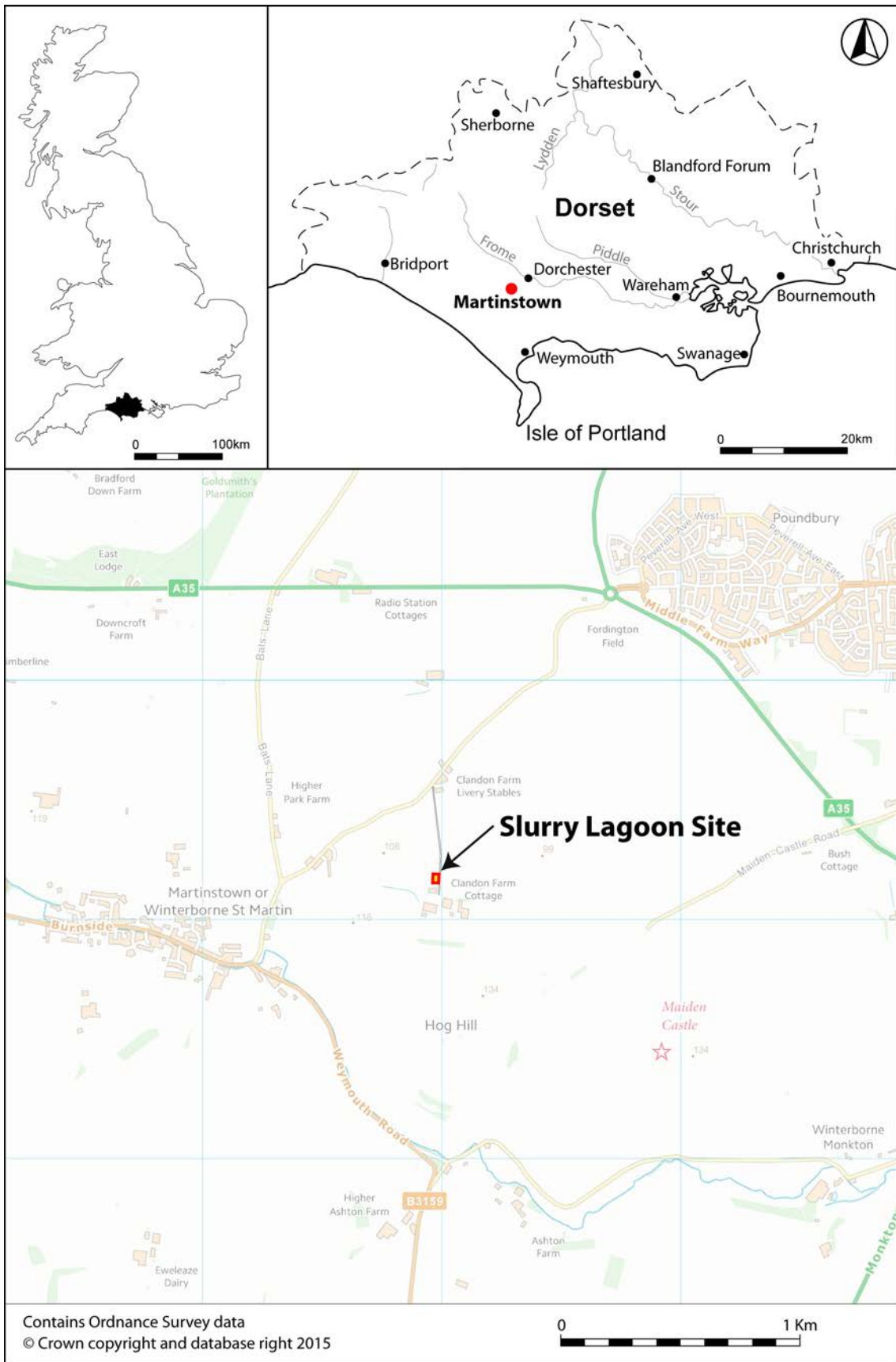


Figure 1: Site Location.

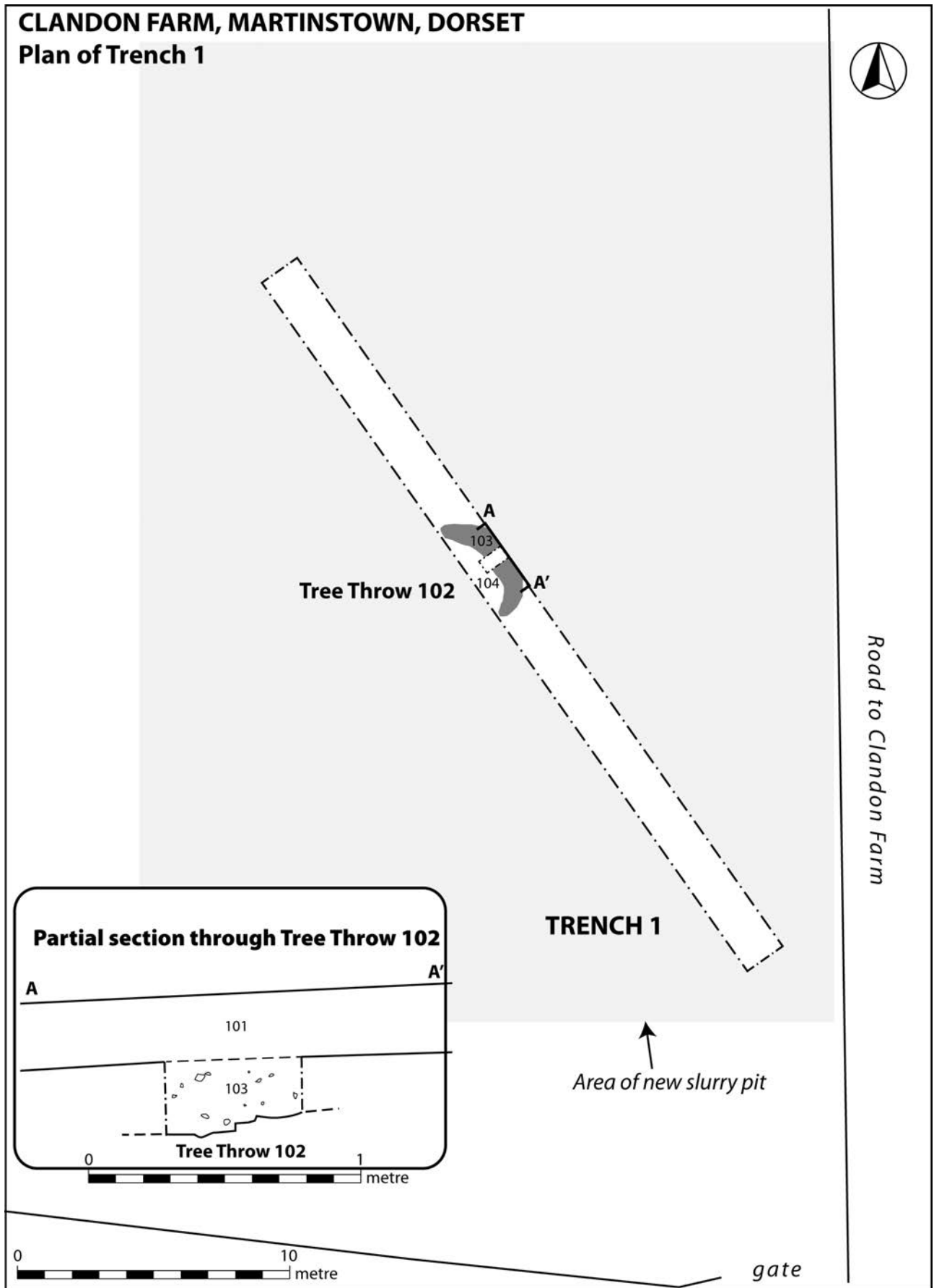


Figure 2: Trench Location Plan





*Plate 1: Trench 1 viewed from south east. 1 m and 2m scales.*



*Plate 2: Tree Throw 102 prior to investigation. Viewed from south west. 1m scale.*



*Plate 3: Tree Throw 102 after excavation of sondage. Viewed from north west. 1m scale.*

## Appendix 1: Trench Summary

### Trench 1

Length: 30.7 m; Width 1.5 m; maximum depth 0.3 m.

Context	Description and Interpretation	Depth (m) below ground level
100	<b>Ploughsoil:</b> Moderately firm mid-dark greyish-brown silty clay with moderate chalk lumps and flecks, occasional small nodular and brecciated flint. It has a well-defined basal interface with context 101.	0.00 – 0.20m
101	<b>Natural Chalk Bedrock:</b> Clean bedded chalk bedrock with no evidence for discolouration and solution hollows.	0.20– 0.25m +
102	<b>Tree Throw Hollow:</b> Irregular sub-circular in exposed. Filled with 103 and 104.	0.20 – 0.60m +
103	<b>Soil fill in Tree Throw 102:</b> Firm mid-dark orange brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks and small nodular and brecciated flint. Forms an irregular crescent of soil up to 0.3 m thick in east part of tree throw 102.	0.20 – 0.60m
104	<b>Chalky fill in Tree Throw 102:</b> Irregular deposit of pale pink/buff chalky paste over loose irregular chalk rubble, mainly 0.1 m across, within western part of tree throw 102.	0.20 – 0.60m