



**PROPOSED DAIRY COMPLEX, BAYARD DAIRY,  
GOULDS HILL, UPWEY, DORSET  
Archaeological Evaluation**



**Report No. 53322/2/1**

**June 2010**



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GOULDS HILL, UPWEY, DORSET**

**Archaeological Evaluation, June 2010**

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# **PROPOSED DAIRY COMPLEX, BAYARD DAIRY, GOULDS HILL, UPWEY, DORSET**

## **Archaeological Evaluation, June 2010**

### **SUMMARY**

*In June 2010, Terrain Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of about two hectares of agricultural land immediately east of Bayard Dairy, Upwey, Dorset. The site (centred on NGR SY666853) lies on the southern flank of the South Dorset Ridgeway, above the villages of Elwell and Upwey, and is the subject of a planning proposal to construct new dairying facilities.*

*Eleven 30 m long trial trenches were mechanically excavated, amounting to a c. 2.5% sample of the proposed impact area. No conclusively archaeological features were identified, but all eleven trenches produced evidence for prehistoric flint- and chert working. The majority of the flint assemblage is likely to be of Later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age date, but a small Early Neolithic component was identified and some Middle-Late Bronze Age material may also be present. The greatest concentrations of lithic material lay in the central and southeastern parts of the site, corresponding to the positions of Trenches 7 and 11. A natural feature believed to be a relict tree-throw was investigated in Trench 9 and also yielded worked flint and chert.*

*The evaluation has provided a baseline characterisation of the site and has ruled-out the presence of extensive or large-scale archaeological remains within the proposed development area, but it was less able to assess the potential for smaller-scale, localised archaeological features or deposits to survive in association with the lithic scatters.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Terrain Archaeology was commissioned by David Foot Ltd, through their agents Symonds and Sampson, to undertake archaeological evaluation of about two hectares of land (centred on NGR SY666853, hereafter referred to as 'the site') immediately east of the existing Bayard Dairy, Upwey, Dorset (Figure 1). The site is the subject of a development proposal by David Foot Ltd. to construct a new dairy complex. Because of the site's prominence on the South Dorset Ridgeway (part of Dorset's Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty), it is intended that the new dairy and associated infrastructure will be constructed partially below present ground levels. The ground-reduction required to achieve this will involve total removal of any archaeological deposits or remains within the proposed development area.

The evaluation was requested by Weymouth and Portland Borough Council in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5, published March 2010), to provide them and their archaeological advisor with more detailed information on the likely archaeological impact of the proposal, prior to determination (or otherwise) of planning consent. No formal brief was issued for the archaeological works, but the scope of the evaluation was agreed with Steve Wallis (Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council) at a site meeting held on 27th May 2010. It was confirmed at this meeting that the proposed development would not require Scheduled Monument Consent, and that the impact of the development on the setting of two adjacent Bronze Age round barrows (Scheduled Monument DO244) would not be regarded as prohibitive (Veryan Heal, pers. comm.).

An archaeological evaluation, as defined by the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (1994, as revised) is "a limited programme if intrusive fieldwork,

which determines the presence, or absence of archaeological features, structured, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present, field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context, as appropriate."

The fieldwork was carried out on between the 7th and 9th March 2010 by Peter S Bellamy and Mike Trevarthen. The project was managed for Terrain Archaeology by Peter S Bellamy.

Terrain Archaeology would like to acknowledge the help and cooperation of the following during this project: Andrew Booth (Symonds & Sampson), Sam Foot (Bayard Dairy). The Project was monitored by Steve Wallis (Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council), and the comments of Veryan Heal (English Heritage) are gratefully acknowledged.

## **THE SITE**

The site (Figure 1) lies immediately east of the existing Bayard dairy. It occupies a slight topographic 'bench' on the southern flank of Bayard Hill (at approximately 100 m above Ordnance Datum) and comprises some two hectares of gently undulating agricultural pastureland centred on NGR SY666853. Immediately south of the site, ground drops more steeply toward the villages of Upwey and Elwell. Underlying geology comprises Jurassic limestone supporting silty clay-based soils.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

Data from Dorset County Council's Historic Environment Record (HER) has been reviewed online ([www.heritagegateway.org.uk](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk)). No archaeological sites or findspots have previously been recorded within the proposed development area, although its setting, just above the southern scarp of the South Dorset Ridgeway, places it in a zone of demonstrably high archaeological potential.

The South Dorset Ridgeway has a very dense concentration of Neolithic and Bronze Age barrows, many of which are in close association with 'celtic' fields, stone circles and enclosures, forming a rich and important archaeological landscape. Recent work in advance of the Weymouth Relief Road, about 0.4 km to the east of the site, has revealed Late Neolithic pits, Bronze Age barrows and a Viking mass grave.

In the immediate vicinity of the site are two Bronze Age round barrows (Scheduled Monument DO244; RCHME 1970, 457), which survive as upstanding earthworks about 30 m and 100 m southwest of the site (Figure 2). A small end-scraper of grey limestone chert found on ploughed land immediately east of the site during a preliminary walkover (May 2010) is possibly of Neolithic date. The Dorset HER notes relict Iron Age field systems locally, and the projected course of the Roman road from Dorchester (Durnovaria) to Radipole passes about 0.3 km to the east of the site.

To the south, the settlements of Upwey and Elwell have their origins in the Saxon period. The steep valley sides between the villages and the site are occupied by the remains of medieval strip lynchets, attesting the intensification of farming at this time. A number of small disused and undated quarries and 'pits' are mapped locally, including examples 40 m to the southeast of the site, and 100 m and 150 m to the northwest and east respectively. The position of the site can be clearly identified on the Ordnance Survey's 1-inch map of 1811 (Cassini Publishing Ltd 2007). Although this map indicates a landscape of enclosed fields by the late 18th or early 19th century, it presents no additional detail of the site.



## **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The objective of the archaeological works, as established in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Terrain Archaeology 2010, Document No. 3322/0/1), were:

- to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site, that is, to appraise the nature, extent, level of preservation and importance of any archaeological deposits.

Its specific archaeological aims were:

- to observe and record all the *in situ* archaeological deposits and features revealed during the groundworks to an appropriate professional standard.
- to assess the nature, extent, state of preservation and importance of the archaeological remains and present the results in a report

The results of this evaluation may be used to formulate a strategy for the preservation or management of any archaeological remains; and/or formulate an appropriate response or mitigation strategy to planning applications or other proposals which may affect adversely any such archaeological remains, or enhance them; and/or formulate a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research.

## **METHODS**

The Evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Terrain Archaeology 2010) and with the Institute for Archaeologists *Code of Conduct and Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (1994, as revised).

A total of eleven trenches were excavated (numbered as Trenches 1-11, see Figure 2), each measuring c. 30 m long by 1.6 m wide. A summary of the trench results is presented below, and fuller descriptions are tabulated in Appendix 1.

All trenches were staked-out and stripped of overburden under the direct supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist, using a JCB back-hoe excavator fitted with a 1.6 m wide toothless ditching bucket. Mechanical excavation continued to the upper interface of undisturbed natural deposits or to the upper exposure of potential archaeological remains, after which select manual cleaning of trench-bases was undertaken where necessary.

All trenches were recorded to a standard commensurate with the aims and objectives of the project, 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 UKIC guidelines and the requirements of the receiving museum. A photographic record of the evaluation was maintained in 35mm black-and-white print and digital format, recording the setting and conduct of the works, as well as its technical detail.

The backfilling of trenches was undertaken by the client following the completion of the archaeological recording.

## **RESULTS**

### **Evaluation Trenches**

The majority of trenches contained similar sequences of deposits, with significant variations noted only in Trenches 3 and 8. Trench 8 lay along a prominent low mound visible in the field surface. No archaeological features were identified, but a possible infilled tree-throw hole was investigated

in Trench 9. The low mound was proved to be natural in origin. All eleven trenches produced quantities of struck flint and chert (see below), from the topsoil and upper interface of the underlying natural silty clay.

### *Topsoil*

Modern pasture soil in all trenches comprised up to 0.25m of friable dark yellow-brown silty clay, capped with turf and containing moderate amounts of small limestone and flint. In parts of Trenches 3 and 8, topsoil cover had been reduced to as little as 0.1m

### *Natural deposits*

In most trenches natural deposits comprised a variable depth of compact mid-yellowish brown silty clay with drifts and patches of moderate- to frequent fragmented limestone, often between, or giving way rapidly with depth to rubble weathered limestone or shattered, laminated limestone, sometimes in a matrix of light yellowish-grey clay.

In Trenches 3 and 8, possible remnant head deposits were identified beneath topsoil, where they formed the upper part of the natural deposit sequence: These layers ranged up to c. 0.15 m thick, and both were observed as very compact dark yellow-brown silty clay with abundant jumbled shattered limestone pieces. In Trench 4, natural deposits included areas of stoneless mid yellow-brown clay-silt.

### *Tree throw 902*

In the central part of Trench 9, just north of a slight natural topographic 'ridge', feature 902 (Plate 5) comprised an irregular curvilinear feature of unknown dimensions. Sample-excavation showed its northern edge to be comparatively well defined but irregular, with a moderately sloping 'stepped' profile. No corresponding southern edge could be defined, either in plan or section. Lower fill deposit 904 was of mid-dark orange-brown silty clay, homogenous to the north but mottled with orange clay and a limestone fragment (>130 mm) to the south. Seven pieces of struck flint and chert (110g) were recovered. Overlying 904, upper fill 903 comprised re-deposited natural silty clay with occasional small limestone fragments. The form of this feature is consistent with naturally formed tree-throw holes, the infilled remains of which are commonly encountered in archaeological excavations.

## **Finds**

Archaeological finds were recovered from all eleven trenches. The site assemblage was dominated by struck/worked flint and chert, with very small amounts of post-medieval pottery.

### *Post-medieval Pottery*

Four sherds of post-medieval glazed earthenware (45 g) were found (Table 1). All are probably products of the East Dorset potting industries and have green or yellowish green glaze. Fabrics are fine sandy, usually with reddish- and orange oxidised margins and light grey cores. Date range 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Context	Number	Weight (g)	Comments
100	1	7.0	Part of base, internal and external glaze
200	1	10.5	Part of base, internal glaze
1100	2	27.5	1 x sherd from near base, internally glazed, 1 x rim sherd (from same vessel, bowl or wide-mouthed jar??), internal and external glaze
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>45</b>	

Table 1: Pottery assemblage

## Flaked stone

### Introduction

Two hundred and eighty-nine pieces of struck/worked stone weighing 5155g were recovered from the evaluation (Table 2). Of these, two hundred and nine pieces (3692 g, 72.3% by count, 71.6% by weight) are flint, and eighty pieces (1463 g, 27.6% by count, 28.3% by weight) are grey limestone chert. Most of the assemblage comprises flakes and broken flakes (76.1% by count), although a small component of blade-like flakes and prepared blades is present (blades have been defined for the purposes of this report as deliberately elongate flakes with a length-to-width ratio of 3:1). Average weight per piece (excluding hammerstone SF 11) is 16.12 g. Direct evidence for on-site knapping comes from waste cores, a transverse core-rejuvenation flake (Trench 5) and a flint hammerstone (SF 11).

Context	Total	Flake	Broken flake	Blade	Broken blade	Core	Tool	Misc	Burnt un-worked	Flint sub-total	Chert sub-total
100	11/137	5/55	4/33			1/32	1/17			7/101	4/38
200	11/240	7/94				2/137	1/5	1/4		6/131	5/109
300	6/79	5/69	1/10							4/65	2/14
400	9/135	6/98	2/30				1/7			8/128	1/7
500	26/588	12/210	4/48			3/206	3/71	4/53		15/302	11/286
600	39 /1134	18/153	11/134		1/3	3/201	5/612	1/33	1/4	26/843	13/291
700	58/795	29/315	10/81			4/208	6/77	9/114		45/677	14/118
800	28/577	12/220	7/76			2/223	4/53	3/5		19/415	9/162
900	14/237	7/103	4/26			1/59	2/49			13/177	1/60
904	7/110	6/107	1/3							5/61	2/49
1000	21/298	14/132	4/40			1/104	1/13	2/9		15/140	6/158
1100	59/825	23/368	26/230	1/12		3/179		5/26	1/8	46/652	12/171
Total	289/ 5155	146/ 1937	74/711	1/12	1/3	20/ 349	22/891	25/244	2/12	209/3692	80/1463

Table 2: Quantification of flaked flint and chert (no/wt (g)).

### Condition

The assemblage is of mixed character, suggesting deposition in several phases, or over a long span of time. Much of the flint is slightly worn and blunted, with evidence for minor post-depositional edge-abrasion and damage, probably from past ploughing. A few pieces retain semi-sharp edges and may previously have been protected from ploughing. Surface alteration of the flint ranges from unpatinated through incipient and 'milky' clouding to thin, mottled blue-white patination (typical of the majority of the assemblage). A few items have thicker white recortification, but there is no clear evidence that these are of significantly greater antiquity. The chert assemblage includes many pieces that have developed mid or mid-light grey surfaces. A small proportion of the assemblage is burnt.

### Raw material

Much of the flaked stone is likely to have been sourced locally; either as redeposited nodules from the site and its environs, or from the chalk ridge just to the north. The grey limestone chert exploited on the site can also be found locally along the southern flanks of the South Dorset Ridgeway, as well as on the coast and on the Isle of Portland. The high incidence of primary or

secondary flint flakes (flakes bearing remains of nodule cortex) suggests much of the raw flint was obtained in the form of relatively small, irregular nodules. These often require considerable preparation for a comparatively small yield of 'useful' flint. At least one piece (the broken blade from Trench 6) was made in a finer quality flint bearing traces of thin, worn cortex, and probably obtained from secondary alluvial gravel deposits.

### Technology

The assemblage as a whole is dominated by flakes and broken flakes, but amongst these were a number of elongate or broken pieces which may be indicative of deliberate attempts to produce blades. Several broken flakes may in fact be broken blade fragments, but remain unproven. Good evidence for systematic blade production (typical of Earlier Neolithic flint working) was limited: A well-made blade in sharp condition came from Trench 11 and the distal end of a parallel-sided incurving blade (see above) came from Trench 6. A possible worked-out blade core was also found in Trench 11.

Where it was possible to ascertain, most, if not all of the flint recovered was produced by hard-hammer flaking. One flake (SF 26) showed deliberate truncation on an anvil-stone to remove its bulbar end. Indirect percussion may have been employed to produce the blades and some of the blade-like flakes, but this cannot be demonstrated conclusively.

### Tools

8.65% of the site's lithic assemblage can be classified as tools (see Table 3). These included twelve (possibly thirteen) scrapers, amongst which were end-scrapers on elongate flakes, 'horseshoe', 'thumbnail' and straight-ended varieties. One of the thumbnail types (SF 6) may be a combination tool with a piercer or awl at the opposing end. Three other piercers/awls were also recovered (SF 16, SF 18, SF 19). A broken 'leaf' arrowhead (SF 9) possesses only partial retouch and may be a broken or unfinished example, and a draw-knife, wood-shave or concave scraping tool (SF 20) has been formed by re-working one margin of an opportunely shaped flint flake. Two (possibly three) retouched/utilised flakes have been modified to serve as scraping or cutting tools, but cannot be more closely classified. A sub-spheroidal hammerstone (SF 11) was formed from a rounded flint nodule, and showed extensive surface battering from use in flint knapping.

### Burnt flint

Two small pieces of unworked burnt flint were recovered during the evaluation (from Trenches 6 and 11, total 12g). Two flint flakes also showing signs of having been burnt (Trenches 8 and 11).

### Date

No Palaeolithic or Mesolithic material was identified. The leaf arrowhead (SF 9), some of the scrapers (for example SF 1 and SF 23), the worked-out blade core from Trench 11 and the small blade- and blade-like component of the assemblage are all potentially indicative of human activity on-site during the Earlier Neolithic period. Much of the other lithic material is more characteristic of Later Neolithic, Beaker and Early Bronze Age industries. A small but unquantifiable part of the assemblage may also derive from lower-level activity spanning the Middle-Late Bronze Age.

Object Number	Context	Material	Weight (g)	Type
1	100	Flint	17.0	End scraper on long flake
2	200	Flint	4.9	Small 'thumbnail' scraper (broken)
3	500	Flint	51.0	Rough 'horseshoe scraper' on primary flake
4	600	Flint	36.2	'Horseshoe' scraper on thick flake
5	600	Flint	32.3	End scraper on long flake
6	700	Flint	5.2	Small combination 'thumbnail' scraper/piercer
7	700	Flint	15.0	Scraper
8	700	Flint	19.7	End scraper on long flake
9	800	Flint	2.8	'Leaf' arrowhead (crude example, broken or unfinished)
10	800	Chert	30.4	'Horseshoe' scraper on thick flake

Object Number	Context	Material	Weight (g)	Type
11	600	Flint	512.0	Hammerstone
12	900	Flint	11.2	Small scraper, some retouch to lateral margins
13	600	Flint	24.8	Retouched/utilised flake (possible scraper)
14	800	Flint	14.1	Scraper
15	1000	Flint	13.4	Flake with oblique dorsal retouch on distal end
16	700	Flint	19.6	Piercer/awl
17	900	Flint	37.6	Rough straight-end scraper on long triangular-section flake
18	1100	Flint	27.9	Piercer/awl
19	400	Chert	6.7	Piercer/awl
20	700	Flint	10.8	Draw-knife/ wood-shave
21	500	Chert	12.5	Straight-end scraper
22	500	Flint	6.4	Retouched flake
23	700	Flint	11.6	End scraper on long flake
24	700	Flint	48.6	Rough scraper on thick primary flake
25	600	Chert	5.8	Flake with retouch along left dorsal margin
26	600	Chert	7.2	Bulbar-end removal flake

Table 3: Flint and chert tool assemblage.

## CONCLUSIONS

The evaluation trenches were located to provide a widespread sample of the proposed development area, based on a nominal 2% sample.

The evaluation trenching found no evidence for archaeological features. Therefore, it is reasonable to rule out the existence of extensive archaeological remains such as ditched field systems, large-scale funerary or ceremonial monuments or other enclosures within the site. However, spreads of prehistoric flint- and chert-working debris have been identified (apparently concentrated most densely in the south-central and south-eastern parts of the site) which cannot be accounted for by colluvial redeposition from the Ridgeway slopes to the north, and must, therefore, have been generated (at least in part) by knapping activity on site. Amongst this lithic material is a significant proportion (8.65%) of stone tools of a range characteristic of domestic occupation sites. This proportion of tools is significantly greater than that found from surface collection over the Bronze Age settlement sites at Rowden and Cowleaze, Winterborne Steepleton, that are situated on spurs running off the northern side of the South Dorset Ridgeway (Woodward 1991). It is also a much larger percentage than recovered from extensive fieldwalking in several sample areas along the Ridgeway (Woodward 1991). This may be archaeologically significant and could indicate intensive use of this part of the landscape. It is unclear from the results of the evaluation, whether this flint assemblage is associated with any subsurface features. Typological study of the flint indicates that there is some Early Neolithic material (c. 4000-3000 BC), with greater quantities resulting from Later Neolithic (c. 3000-2400 BC), Beaker period (c. 2400-1800 BC) and Early Bronze Age (c. 2400-1500 BC) activity. The Beaker and early Bronze Age material is very broadly contemporary with the main phase of round-barrow building (locally and along the Ridgeway to the north). A smaller component of the assemblage probably represents Middle – Late Bronze Age landuse (c. 1500-700 BC).

Although medieval lynchet terraces south of the site indicate arable agriculture in the medieval period, there is no clear evidence of this from the site itself. Past ploughing of the site is attested by the spread and degree of edge-abrasion seen in the flint assemblage, but the very low levels of pottery recovered from the evaluation suggest that manuring with domestic waste was comparatively uncommon, and none of the pottery found need be later than the 19th century, suggesting the site has remained under grass pasture for much of the recent historical period. The relatively low levels of stone in the topsoil contrast with the stone-rich ploughsoil seen in fields east of the site.

## IMPACT STATEMENT

Development proposals for the new dairy will entail total removal all potentially archaeological levels across the entire 2ha of the site. Whilst the sample density of the evaluation (amounting to c. 2.5% by area of the proposed development zone) has been sufficient to characterise the site's archaeological potential at a very basic level of resolution, it is not possible, at current levels of knowledge, to make more specific predictions on the broader archaeological impact of the proposed development. Recent work in advance of the Weymouth Relief Road has highlighted that important archaeological remains can, and do, survive along the Ridgeway on a very localised scale, and can readily evade prospection by trial-trenching.

The flint-working and tool-use evidence from the site is of significance in its own right and there remains, within the unsampled areas of the site (97.5%), a moderate potential for survival of other archaeological features (heritage assets) associated with the lithic scatters. Any such remains are likely to be of local (rather than regional or national) significance, although they may augment understanding of the setting of the adjacent Scheduled round barrows.

It should be noted that this evaluation has been based on preliminary architects' ground-plans for the proposed dairy complex and associated access track: Significant design changes, creation of peripheral features such as earthen screening bunds or tree-belts, or aspects of earthmoving and/or construction (such as creation of temporary haul routes, construction compounds or temporary soil stores requiring prior stripping of topsoil), may all entail additional archaeological impacts that have not presently been evaluated.

## PROJECT ARCHIVE

The project archive (Terrain Archaeology Project Number 53322) will, in due course, and after legal transfer of title from the landowner has been obtained, be deposited for long-term curation by the Dorset County Museum, Dorchester, which has agreed in principle to accept it, subject fulfilment of the Museum's requirements of the preparation of archaeological archives. A copy of the microfilmed archive will be deposited with the National Monument Record.

## REFERENCES

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**APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARY TABLES**

TRENCH 1					
Length:	30.20 m	Width:	1.60 m	Depth:	0.40 m
NGR NNE:	SY6655985433		NGR: SSW:	SY6654585406	
Context Number	Description and interpretation				Depth below ground level
100	<i>General artefact collection number</i>				--
101	Topsoil: Turf over dark yellowish grey-brown silty clay, occasional small flint and limestone pieces.				0.00 – 0.15m
102	Natural deposits: Compact mid yellowish brown silty clay to frequent flint pieces (<100 mm) and moderate limestone pieces (150 mm). Some panning noted at SSW end of trench				0.15-0.4m+
Notes: Local topography dips gently from N to S					

TRENCH 2					
Length:	30.50 m	Width:	1.60 m	Depth:	0.36 m
NGR NE:	SY6654985380		NGR SW:	SY6652285368	
Context Number	Description and interpretation				Depth below ground level
200	<i>General artefact collection number</i>				--
201	Topsoil: Turf over dark yellowish grey-brown silty clay, occasional small flint and limestone pieces.				0.00 -0.25m
202	Natural deposits: Variable along the length of the trench: To north comprises compact mid yellowish brown silty clay with frequent flint pieces and occasional limestone, becoming stonier to the south with some tabular limestone which forms a 'ridge'. At the south end of the trench natural deposits are almost entirely broken tabular limestone.				0.25 – 0.36m+
Notes: Local topography slopes from N to S. The southern part of the trench corresponds with an area of surface irregularities including a low linear mound and two roughly circular mounds: The evaluation shows the former to be geological in origin.					

TRENCH 3					
Length:	30 m	Width:	1.60 m	Depth:	0.20 m
NGR NNW:	SY6651585347		NGR SSE:	SY6652085317	
Context Number	Description and interpretation				Depth below ground level
300	<i>General artefact collection number</i>				--
301	Topsoil: Turf over dark yellowish grey-brown silty clay, moderate small flint and limestone pieces.				0.00 -0.1m
302	Natural deposits: Compact dark yellowish grey clay with frequent small toms giving way to very frequent shattered limestone in yellowish grey clay at about 0.25m BGL				0.10 – 0.25m+
Notes: Local topography dips from east to west. A machine-dug sondage was dug at the western end of the trench to a depth of c0.35m.					

TRENCH 4					
Length:	30.70 m	Width:	1.60 m	Depth:	0.38 m
NGR ENE:	SY6655885355		NGR WSW:	SY6658958359	
Context Number	Description and interpretation				Depth below ground level
400	<i>General artefact collection number</i>				--
401	Topsoil: Turf over dark yellowish grey-brown silty clay, moderate to frequent small flint and limestone pieces.				0.00 – 0.20m
402	Compact dark yellowish clay with frequent small stones giving way to shattered limestone in yellowish grey clay at c0.25m BGL				0.20 – 0.38m+
Notes: Local topography dips from N & E to S & W:					

TRENCH 5					
Length:	29.4 m	Width:	1.60 m	Depth:	0.40 m
NGR NNW:	SY6659685413		NGR SSE:	SY6660685384	
Context Number	Description and interpretation				Depth below ground level
500	<i>General artefact collection number</i>				--
501	Topsoil: Turf over dark yellowish grey-brown silty clay, moderate to frequent small flint and limestone pieces.				0.00 – 0.25m
502	Natural Deposits: Reddish grey clay with moderate small flint and limestone: Tabular limestone exposed at southern end of trench.				0.25m+
Notes: Local topography slopes from N-S					

TRENCH 6					
Length:	30.20 m	Width:	1.60 m	Depth:	0.35 m
NGR ENE:	SY6653185313		NGR WSW:	SY6656185317	
Context Number	Description and interpretation				Depth below ground level
600	<i>General artefact collection number</i>				--
601	Topsoil: Turf over dark yellowish grey-brown silty clay, moderate to frequent small flint and limestone pieces.				0.00 – 0.20m
602	Natural Deposits: Yellowish brown clay with bands of tabular limestone.				0.20m+
Noted: Local topography dips slightly from S to N and E-W					

TRENCH 7					
Length:	30.5 m	Width:	1.6 m	Depth:	0.35 m
NGR NW:	SY6659085318		NGR SE:	SY6661585302	
Context Number	Description and interpretation				Depth below ground level
700	<i>General artefact collection number</i>				--
701	Topsoil: Turf over dark yellowish-grey-brown silty clay, sparse to moderate small flint and limestone pieces.				0.00 – 0.18m
702	Natural Deposits: yellowish grey clay and eroded limestone bedrock.				0.18 – 0.35m+
Notes: Local topography dips slightly from E-W					

TRENCH 8					
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Length:	29.10 m	Width:	1.60 m	Depth:	0.30m
NGR WSW:	SY6662085347		NGR ENE:	SY6664885348	
Context Number	Description and interpretation				Depth below ground level
800	<i>General artefact collection number</i>				
801	Topsoil: Turf over dark yellowish-grey-brown silty clay, moderate small flint and limestone pieces.				0.00 – 0.10m
802	Natural deposits: Compact yellowish brown to yellowish grey clay with frequent to abundant limestone pieces, giving way to yellowish-grey clay with abundant limestone pieces at c. 0.20 m.				0.1 – 0.30m
Notes: Trench aligned along part of a prominent irregularly linear 'ridge' in the central part of the field: The evaluation proved this to be geological in origin.					

TRENCH 9					
Length:	30 m	Width:	1.60 m	Depth:	0.50 m
NGR N:	SY6666285377		NGR S:	SY6666385348	
Context Number	Description and interpretation				Depth below ground level
900	<i>General artefact collection number</i>				--
901	Topsoil: Turf over dark yellowish grey-brown silty clay, occasional small flint and limestone pieces.				0.00 – 0.25m
902	Cut of tree-throw: Irregularly curvilinear, aligned broadly ENE-WSW. Sample-excavation showed northern edge to be relatively well-defined, of 'stepped' profile with an average slope of c. 45°. Southern edge not identified in plan or section. Feature not excavated to full depth. Filled with 903 and 904.				0.25 – 0.75m+
903	Upper fill of 902: Re-deposited mid orange- and yellowish brown natural silty clay with some small limestone pieces. No finds.				0.25 – 0.55m
904	Lower fill of 902: Mid-dark orange-brown silty clay with scarce small stones. To south the deposit becomes mottled with patches of mid-dark orange silty clay and a limestone piece measuring in excess of 0.13 m. Finds comprised seven pieces of struck flint and chert (110 g).				0.25 – 0.75m+
905	Natural deposits: Compact mid to mid-light yellowish- and orange brown silty clay giving way rapidly to degraded and weathered limestone rubble.				0.25 – 0.50m+
Notes: Local topography slopes gently from N-S: Southern part of trench positioned across a part of a prominent irregularly linear 'ridge' in the central part of the field: The evaluation proved this to be geological in origin.					

TRENCH 10					
Length:	30 m	Width:	1.60 m	Depth:	0.40 m
NGR NE:	SY6667385329		NGR SW:	SY6665085310	
Context Number	Description and interpretation				Depth below ground level
1000	<i>General artefact collection number</i>				--
1001	Topsoil: Turf over dark yellowish grey-brown silty clay, moderate small flint and limestone pieces.				0.00 – 0.25m
1002	Natural deposits: Compact mid- and mid-light yellowish brown silty clay giving way rapidly to rubbly weathered upper limestone.				0.25 – 0.40m+
Notes: Local topography is comparatively level at east end of field.					

TRENCH 11					
Length:	29.2 m	Width:	1.60 m	Depth:	0.35 m

NGR NNW:	SY6664085286	NGR SSE:	SY6665085260
Context Number	Description and interpretation	Depth below ground level	
1100	<i>General artefact collection number</i>		
1101	Topsoil: Turf over dark yellowish-grey-brown silty clay, sparse small flint and limestone pieces.	0.00 – 0.20m	
1102	Natural deposits: Compact mid yellowish-brown silty clay with moderate limestone pieces, giving way to rubbly weathered limestone.	0.20 – 0.40m+	
Notes: The trench occupies a level 'plateau' in the southwest corner of the field.			

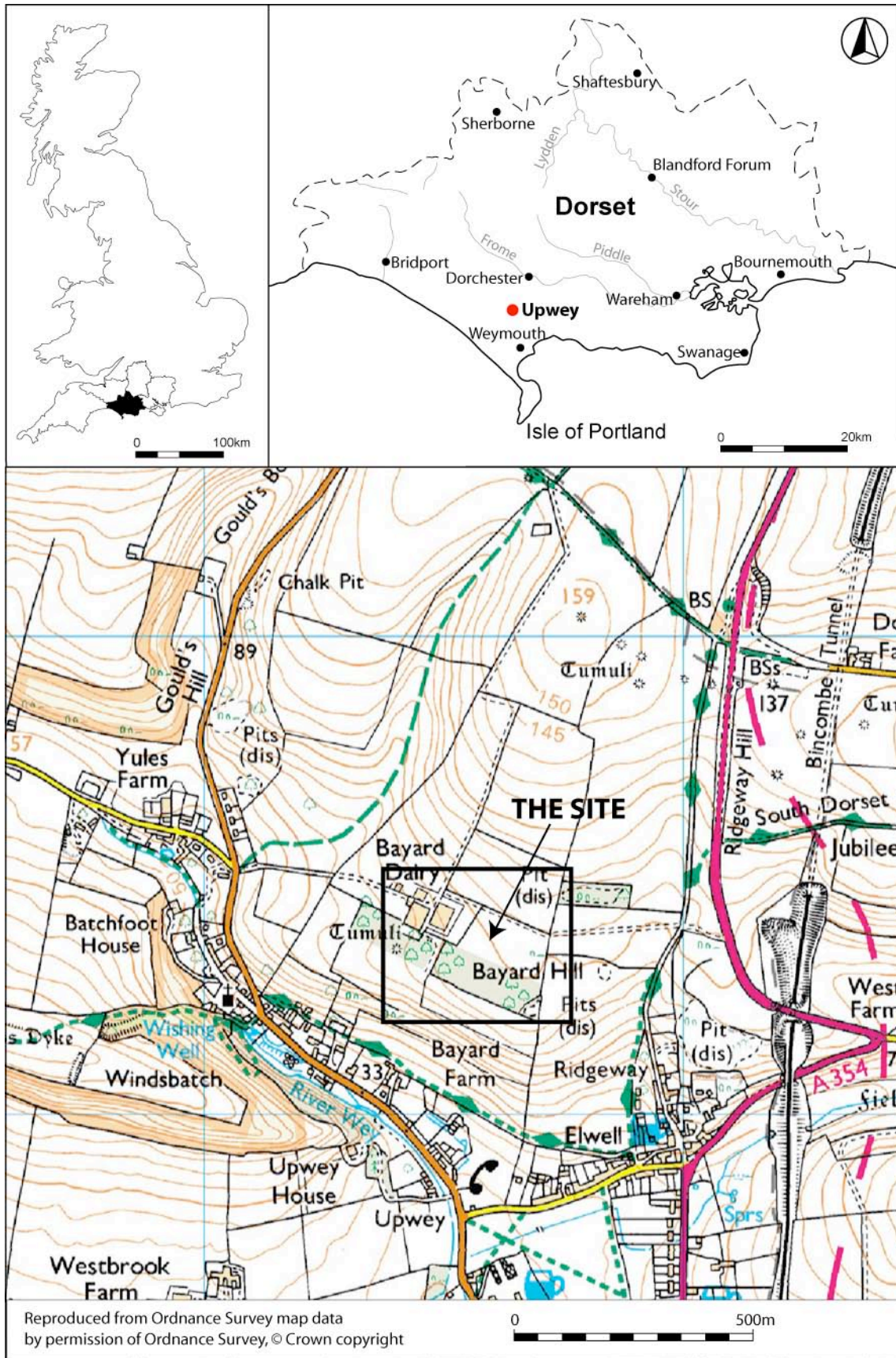


Figure 1: Location map

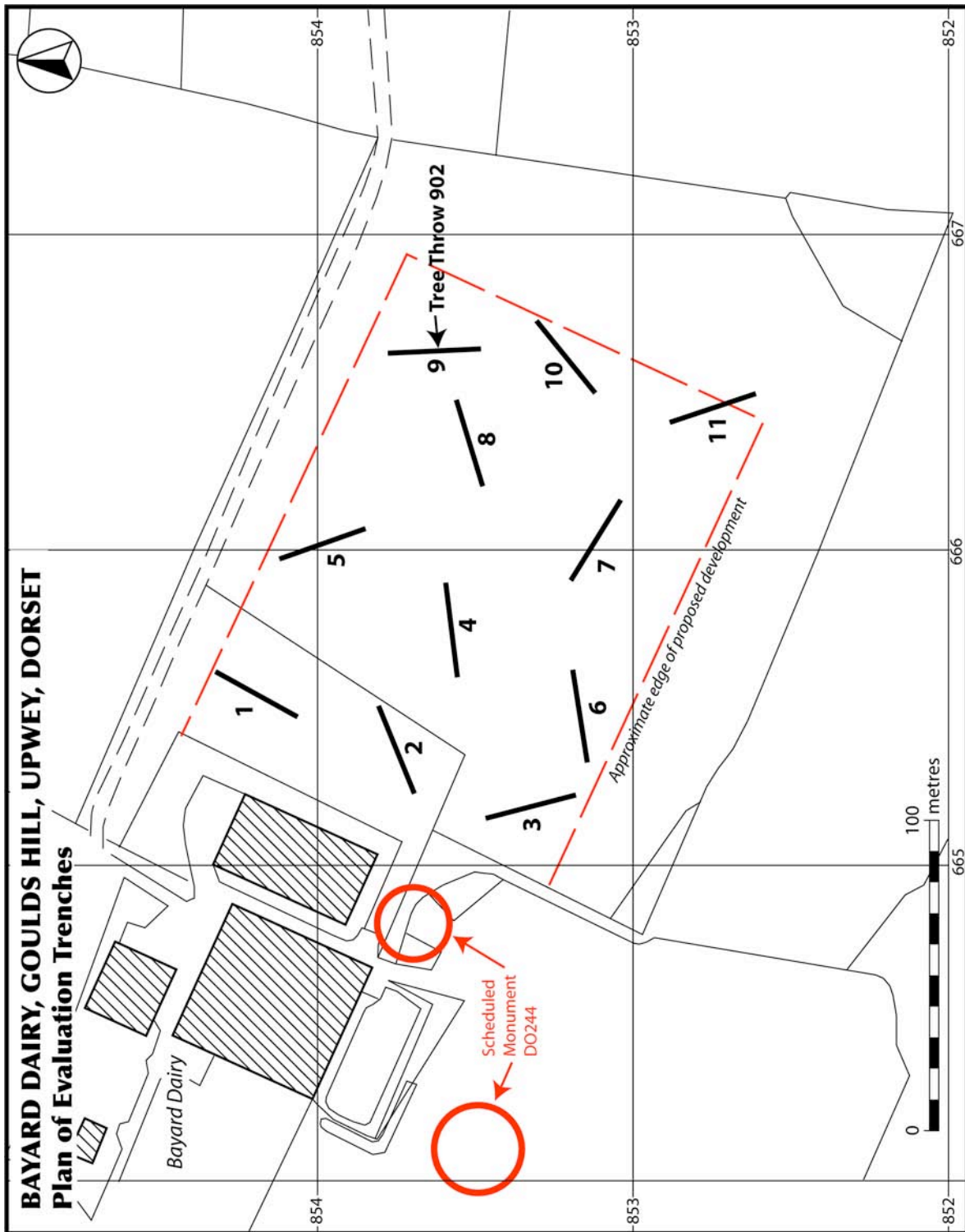


Figure 2: Trench location plan (based on a plan provided by the agent)





*Plate 1: View of site looking northwest towards Bayard Dairy, with the Ridgeway behind. Trench 6, in foreground.*



*Plate 2: View of site looking southeast, with Trench 6 in foreground.*

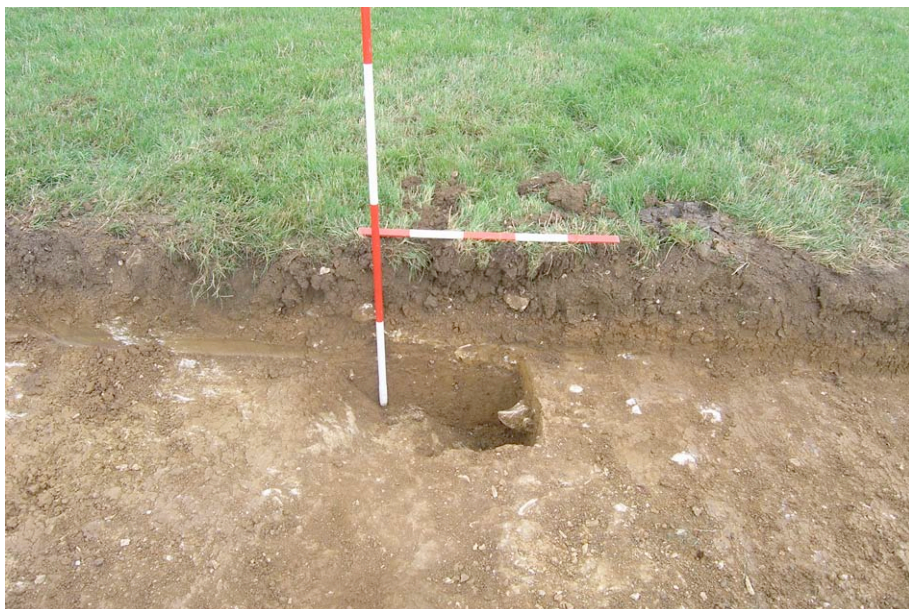


*Plate 3: View of site Trench 2, where it crosses low geological ridge.*





*Plate 4: View of Trench 8 looking along low geological 'mound', with Trench 9 in background.*



*Plate 5: View of excavated slot in possible tree-throw 902 in Trench 9.*