

Wessex Archaeology

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Ground Investigation 2002
Archaeological Watching Brief

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A303 STONEHENGE

GROUND INVESTIGATION 2002: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the Balfour Beatty/Costain JV on behalf of the Highways Agency to undertake an archaeological watching brief programme during geotechnical Site Investigation (SI) works along the Proposed Route of the A303 Stonehenge Improvement in Wiltshire (NGR 405100 140640 to 415400 142200). The SI programme comprised the sinking of exploratory boreholes and the excavation of trial pits. The archaeological watching brief programme comprised the excavation of hand-dug test pits at each SI location, in order to identify the presence of artefacts within the topsoil and/or archaeological remains, together with the monitoring of topsoil stripping prior to excavation of geotechnical trial pits. The watching brief followed a complementary exercise in 2000-1 and was undertaken between October 2002 and January 2003.

A total of 71 test pits was excavated. Artefacts were recovered from the topsoil and/or subsoil in 42 of these. The topsoil stripping prior to excavation of the geotechnical trial pits revealed archaeological features in six locations; most of these were undated. Three areas of interest may be highlighted. Part of a rectilinear enclosure at the western end of the route (Test Pit 139, Field 17) is probably related to the Iron Age/Romano-British enclosure complex evaluated close by (Area C1). A shallow pit containing Middle Bronze Age pottery and re-deposited animal and human bone in Field 73 (Test Pit 157) probably represents activity associated with the settlement and funerary monuments focussed around Longbarrow Crossroads. In Field 90, south of Stonehenge, human bone recovered from a modern feature in Test Pit 171 further highlights the potential for prehistoric graves within the World Heritage Site.

The results of the watching brief programme generally correlate well with information from other surveys, including geophysical survey and trial trenching. However, the watching brief has again demonstrated that archaeological features and deposits, including human remains, may be encountered in the smallest interventions along the length of the Proposed Route.

Only the Middle Bronze Age pit (Test Pit 157, Field 73) offers any potential for further analysis. In the absence of associated features to provide a broader archaeological context, however, it is recommended that analysis should only be considered as part of any mitigation intervention in this part of the Proposed Route.

The majority of the Proposed Route has been surveyed by evaluation trenching, and recommendations for mitigation have been made on the basis of the results of these surveys. The three areas of interest noted above all lie within areas proposed previously for further investigation by 'strip and record' prior to construction.

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The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Chris Moore. The watching brief team was led in the field by Steve Thompson and Simon Skittrell. This report was prepared by Chris Moore and Steve Thompson. The finds were assessed by Lorraine Mepham, and the environmental evidence by Sarah F. Wyles and Michael J. Allen. The animal bone was commented on by Pippa Smith and the human bone by Jacqueline I. McKinley. The illustrations were prepared by Linda Coleman.

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GROUND INVESTIGATION 2002: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the Balfour Beatty/Costain JV on behalf of the Highways Agency to undertake an archaeological watching brief during a geotechnical Site Investigation (SI) along the Proposed Route of the A303 Stonehenge Improvement in Wiltshire.
- 1.1.2 The SI programme followed on from that undertaken by the Stage 2 design consultants and comprised the sinking of exploratory boreholes (rotary and cable percussion) and the excavation of trial pits (deep and shallow). These were located to provide additional geotechnical information along the whole of the Preferred Route together with new alignment options for the Winterbourne Stoke Bypass and the tunnel past Stonehenge.
- 1.1.3 The archaeological watching brief followed a complementary programme of work undertaken in 2000-1 (Wessex Archaeology 2002a) and comprised the excavation of hand-dug test pits at each SI location, together with the monitoring of topsoil stripping prior to excavation of geotechnical trial pits. The archaeological work was undertaken in accordance with a Method Statement (Wessex Archaeology 2002b).
- 1.1.4 This document sets out the project background, results and conclusions of the archaeological watching brief. The work was undertaken between October 2002 and January 2003.

1.2 Site Description

- 1.2.1 The A303 Improvement starts at the end of the existing dual carriageway on Berwick Down west of Winterbourne Stoke (NGR 405100 140640). The Proposed Route (**Figure 1**) follows the existing road before curving north to pass Scotland Lodge Farm, avoiding the Parsonage Down National Nature Reserve. It then continues to curve eastwards to cross the B3083 and the River Till north of the village. The Proposed Route crosses the existing A303 to the west of Longbarrow Crossroads so as to run south of the existing road and to allow for a new junction with the A360.
- 1.2.2 East of Longbarrow Crossroads, the Preferred Route duals the existing road on the south side and incorporates a 2km tunnel where it passes Stonehenge. The new dual carriageway joins the existing Amesbury Bypass approximately 1km west of Countess Roundabout. The scheme has also been extended to include the improvement of Countess Roundabout (NGR 415400 142200).

- 1.2.3 The Proposed Route passes across the typically undulating chalk downland of Salisbury Plain, descending into the valleys of the rivers Till and Avon as well as a number of dry valleys. The majority of the route lies on Upper Chalk, although the river valleys contain Quaternary gravels, alluvium and colluvium. Field evaluations have shown that localised areas of Clay-with-Flints, not necessarily mapped, can occur on the higher parts of the area.
- 1.2.4 All fields crossed by the Proposed Route have been allocated a scheme field number for ease of reference. These fields are grouped together into archaeological areas defined in the *A303 Stonehenge Archaeological Appraisal* (Wessex Archaeology 2001). Both archaeological areas and scheme field numbers are referred to in this report.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Archaeological Appraisal

- 2.1.1 The *Archaeological Appraisal* collates and summarises the existing knowledge of the archaeological resource of the Preferred Route. It draws on information gathered from previous surveys, the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and the Stonehenge Geographic Information System database (Stonehenge GIS), together with the results of surveys commissioned under Stage 1 of the scheme. The archaeological background is summarised here from the *Appraisal* and the results of Stage 2 surveys now completed.
- 2.1.2 West of Winterbourne Stoke, the landscape is dominated by the well-preserved Iron Age hillfort of Yarnbury Camp and related features. Extensive cropmark traces of field systems and other smaller enclosures that are likely to be related to the hillfort are crossed by the Proposed Route (**Figure 2**, Fields 8, 10, 13, 14, 17 and 21; Appraisal Areas A, B, C and E). These sites have been mapped by geophysical survey (GSB 2001a and b) and investigated by trial trenching (Wessex Archaeology 2002c and d). Of particular note is a multi-period enclosure complex (Site 25) and associated features west of Scotland Lodge (Area C1, Field 17). A small rectilinear enclosure (Site 23) to the west of the main complex may be related. A small interrupted circular feature (Site 29) on the eastern edge of Area C may be a significant earlier (Neolithic or Early Bronze Age) feature. Trial trenching suggests much of the cropmark field system intersected by the route is likely to represent medieval strip fields (Wessex Archaeology 2003). None of the sites within this section of the Proposed Route are visible as earthworks.
- 2.1.3 The landscape to the north of Winterbourne Stoke (**Figure 2**, Fields 21, 28, 43, 88 and 47; Appraisal Areas E, G and H) is dominated by two well-preserved Bronze Age barrow groups, The Coniger and the Winterbourne Stoke West Group, which lie to the north of the Proposed Route. Geophysical survey of the Proposed Route and its alternative alignments here has identified a sparse array of linear boundary features of likely prehistoric date and pit-type anomalies, confirmed by recent trial trenching (Wessex Archaeology 2003). Fieldwalking has not identified any notable

concentrations of material; medieval and post-medieval pottery and ceramic building material north of Scotland Lodge suggests the manuring of fields rather than settlement (Field 21; Wessex Archaeology 2002e).

- 2.1.4 To the east of Winterbourne Stoke (**Figures 2 and 3**, Fields 48, 56 and 63; Appraisal Area J), geophysical survey has identified long-distance land divisions of likely prehistoric date and a scattering of possible pit-type anomalies. Fieldwalking found no notable concentrations of material. Recent trial trenching (Wessex Archaeology 2003) has confirmed the survival of the land boundaries as subsurface features; the pit-type anomalies have generally proved to be of natural origin, however. A series of negative lynchets representing medieval strip fields was also found. Deep (1.5m) deposits of colluvium were recorded in an extensive dry valley in Field 56.
- 2.1.5 The area around Longbarrow Crossroads (**Figure 3**, Fields 64, 67 and 74; Appraisal Areas L and O) contains many well-preserved monuments, including Neolithic and Bronze Age barrows and later prehistoric boundary earthworks. The Proposed Route crosses traces of a possible palisade and an extensive array of buried pits of later prehistoric date found by geophysical survey and trial trenching, suggesting the presence of further settlement evidence close by, as well as the course of the former military light railway (Wessex Archaeology 2002f).
- 2.1.6 East of Longbarrow Crossroads, within the World Heritage Site, fewer archaeological remains have been recorded (**Figure 3**, Fields 73, 80, 79 and 83; Appraisal Areas P and R). Although the area includes important sites such as the Wilsford Shaft (probably a prehistoric well) and Bronze Age barrows, geophysical survey (GSB 1992; 2001a) and trial trenching (Wessex Archaeology 2002g and h) have not located any evidence for settlement here. The Proposed Route also crosses the site of the First World War Stonehenge aerodrome; the positions of former buildings here have been located by geophysical survey.
- 2.1.7 No visible monuments exist in the area immediately south of Stonehenge and the A303 (**Figures 3 and 4**, Fields 91, 90, 95 and 102; Appraisal Area T; Wessex Archaeology 2002h). However, augering has located an important colluvial sequence and evaluation on King Barrow Ridge has demonstrated the presence of Neolithic and Bronze Age pits beneath scatters of surface artefacts (Field 102; Wessex Archaeology 1993).
- 2.1.8 To the east of King Barrow Ridge the Proposed Route crosses the Avenue, the formalised approach to Stonehenge (**Figure 4**, Fields 101, 110 and 111; Appraisal Areas V and W). In the 18th century this part of the Proposed Route formed part of the Amesbury Abbey park, which included distinctive stands of beech trees (the Nile Clumps). To the east, the route skirts the northern fringes of the Iron Age hillfort of Vespasian's Camp, which also formed part of the parkland (Fields 115, 123 and 122; Appraisal Area X). The land here slopes down to the River Avon and colluvial sequences have been investigated previously here.

- 2.1.9 North of Amesbury, the Proposed Route includes the existing Countess Roundabout, the adjacent Countess Farm here containing a group of Listed buildings (**Figure 4**, Field 121; Appraisal Area V). East of the junction, the route crosses the edge of the floodplain of the River Avon and skirts the proposed Stonehenge Visitor Centre site at Countess East (Fields 135 and 136; Appraisal Areas Y and Z). Archaeological fieldwalking, test pitting and evaluation has identified Saxon and early medieval features in the southern part of Field 134, adjacent to the road corridor. Colluvial sequences have also been investigated previously here.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Strategy

- 3.1.1 The Site Investigation programme proposed the sinking of 34 rotary boreholes, 20 deep trial pits and 11 shallow trial pits. In order to ensure that any archaeological remains that might be affected by these exploratory holes could be identified and recorded, a programme of archaeological monitoring and investigation was proposed, to be carried out in tandem with the Site Investigation. This programme was set out in a Method Statement (Wessex Archaeology 2002a) and comprised two principal elements:

- The hand excavation of a total of 65 archaeological test pits, one at each exploratory hole location, in order to recover artefacts from the topsoil and identify and investigate any buried archaeological remains, where present.
- The removal by the Site Investigation Contractor, under archaeological supervision, of the topsoil at each trial pit location beyond the area hand excavated, in order to allow the identification and investigation of any buried archaeological remains present, prior to the complete excavation of the trial pit.

- 3.1.2 In addition, an archaeological watching brief was to be maintained on the sinking of boreholes.

- 3.1.3 The Method Statement excluded the excavation of archaeological test pits at SI locations in the floodplain of the River Till, due to anticipated waterlogged ground conditions and deep alluvial deposits resulting in the deep burial of any archaeological remains.

3.2 Aims and Objectives

- 3.2.1 The aims and objectives of the watching brief were set out in the Method Statement. The primary objective was to ensure that any archaeological remains that might be affected by the exploratory holes were identified and recorded.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Archaeological Test Pits

- 4.1.1 Archaeological test-pits, each 1m x 1m square, were excavated by hand at the SI locations marked by the Site Investigation Contractor. In some instances, SI locations were re-positioned after the archaeological test pit had been completed; as a result, a greater number of test pits was excavated than originally proposed (see section 5 below).
- 4.1.2 Following de-turfing the test-pits were excavated stratigraphically to chalk or clay base and all spoil was sieved through a 10mm mesh in order to ensure good artefact retrieval. The sieved residues were sorted by hand on site and all artefacts were collected for cataloguing.
- 4.1.3 Any bedrock-cut features were sample-excavated. Both natural and archaeological features were investigated. On completion of recording, the test-pits were backfilled with the excavated material and the turf replaced where appropriate and feasible, but not otherwise reinstated or consolidated.
- 4.1.4 All test-pits were recorded on standard Wessex Archaeology test-pit record sheets. All archaeological features and deposits encountered during the evaluation were recorded by Wessex Archaeology using *pro forma* recording sheets and a continuous unique numbering system.
- 4.1.5 Plans, sections and elevations of archaeological features and deposits were drawn as necessary at 1:10, 1:20, 1:50 and 1:100 as appropriate. Drawings were made in pencil on permanent drafting film.
- 4.1.6 A full photographic record was created using both monochrome prints and colour transparencies.
- 4.1.7 Environmental samples were taken where appropriate in accordance with Wessex Archaeology's guidelines for environmental sampling.
- 4.1.8 Each exploratory hole location had a reference number assigned by the Site Investigation contractor. All locations were renumbered by Wessex Archaeology for ease of use in the field.

4.2 SI Trial Pits

- 4.2.1 Following completion of an archaeological test pit at each location, topsoil and modern overburden were removed by the Site Investigation Contractor using a mechanical excavator operating under continuous archaeological supervision.
- 4.2.2 Following removal of the topsoil, any features were sample excavated and recorded in accordance with the approach outlined above for the archaeological test pits. On completion of recording, the trial pits were handed over to the SI Contractor for completion.

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 This section presents a summary of the principal archaeological features and deposits investigated during the watching brief programme. A total of 71 test pits was excavated (see 4.1.1 above). Only test pits that located archaeological features are described here; details of the deposits recorded in each individual test/trial pit are given in **Appendix 1**. The results of the hand test pitting are given first, then the results of subsequent topsoil stripping, where relevant.

5.1.2 The test pits with archaeological features are described below in number order. The test pit numbers used here follow on from those allocated during the 2001 site investigation (Wessex Archaeology 2002h), beginning with archaeological test pits located in an ancillary area south of Stonehenge Bottom, then those from west to east. The equivalent SI contractor's reference number is also given for each test pit. Locations of test pits are shown on **Figures 2-4**; plans and sections of archaeological features encountered are shown on **Figure 5**.

5.1.3 The finds recovered during the test pitting and watching brief are described in **Section 6** below.

5.1.4 All fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the Method Statement except for the following variations:

- Proposed SI locations R122, 123 and 124 were not excavated as these fell within the floodplain of the River Till north of Winterbourne Stoke.
- Proposed SI location DTP160 was not excavated as it fell within disturbed ground where Stonehenge Road joins the A303;
- Proposed SI locations R165, 166 and 167 and STP 164, 180 and 181 were not excavated as they fell within disturbed ground around Countess Roundabout;
- Proposed SI location DTP155B was not excavated as it fell on the position of an earlier backfilled archaeological evaluation trench;
- Proposed SI location R163 was moved north of the A303 close to STP182 (TP196); and
- An additional 14 archaeological test pits were excavated to investigate new locations proposed for geotechnical investigation after test pits at the original locations had already been excavated. These new test pits retained the original SI location number with the suffix A, B, C etc, but were allocated a unique archaeological test pit number.

5.2 Test Pit 136 (RP4)

5.2.1 This test pit was located to the south of Stonehenge Bottom in an area used for ancillary works (**Figure 4**). A small feature (4001) of uncertain form or

function was located. No finds were recovered from this possible pit or ditch terminus.

5.3 Test Pit 139 (DTP 109)

5.3.1 This test pit was located in Field 17 (Appraisal Area C) immediately to the west of the enclosure complex (Site 25, Area C1; **Figure 2**). Burnt flint was recovered from the topsoil.

5.3.2 Observation during topsoil stripping for excavation of geotechnical trial pit DTP 109 (an area 17m by 10m) revealed an east-west aligned ditch (109003) (**Figure 5**). The ditch was an average of 1.5m wide and the fills suggested a possible bank on the northern side. Although no finds were recovered, this would seem to be the northernmost ditch of a rectangular enclosure of probable Late Iron Age or Romano-British date (Site 23) visible as a crop mark feature and geophysical anomaly.

5.4 Test Pit 146 (DTP 116)

5.4.1 This test pit was located in Field 28, to the north of Winterbourne Stoke (**Figure 2**). Struck flint and pottery of medieval and post-medieval date were recovered from the topsoil.

5.4.2 Topsoil stripping for the excavation of geotechnical trial pit DTP 116 (an area 9m by 14m) revealed no archaeological features. However, further excavation of a 1.95m wide by 11m long trench through the subsoil down to natural chalk revealed a series of three small intercutting features (**Figure 5**, 116005, 116007 and 116009). These could have been small pits or postholes, or possibly part of a tree throw. No finds were recovered.

5.4.3 A loess deposit recorded in the near vicinity (Wessex Archaeology 2003, 10, Trench 29) was not observed in either watching brief intervention here.

5.5 Test Pit 157 (DTP 131)

5.5.1 This test pit was located in Field 73, to the east of Longbarrow Crossroads on the southern side of the A303, to the south of the Winterbourne Stoke Group of barrows (Appraisal Area P, **Figure 3**). No features were noted on the excavation of the 1m by 1m test pit, and a single piece of undiagnostic worked flint was recovered.

5.5.2 Observation of topsoil stripping prior to excavation of geotechnical trial pit DTP 131 (an area 10.5m by 22.5m) revealed a single pit (131003) towards the eastern end of the trench (**Figure 5**). On excavation this small pit, less than 0.30m deep, produced a moderate assemblage of animal bone, predominantly cattle, human bone (a single femur), and Middle Bronze Age pottery. The bone showed signs of carnivore damage, suggesting it had been re-deposited.

5.6 Test Pit 163 (DTP 136)

- 5.6.1 This test pit was also located in Field 83, on the southern side of the A303, just to the west of the small long barrow (Appraisal Area R, **Figure 3**). Burnt flint and modern clinker were recovered from the topsoil.
- 5.6.2 Topsoil stripping for excavation of geotechnical trial pit DTP 136 revealed a large tree throw. Animal bone and a single sherd of Middle-Late Bronze Age pottery were recovered from the feature.

5.7 Test Pit 171 (R 143)

- 5.7.1 This test pit was located in Field 90, to the south of Stonehenge on the eastern side of Byway 11 (Appraisal Area T, **Figure 3**). An apparently modern feature was found, containing pieces of brick and shotgun cartridges together with a few fragments of (presumably re-deposited) human bone. Worked flint and tile were recovered from the topsoil.

6 FINDS

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 Finds were recovered from 42 test pits, most commonly comprising lithic material (worked and burnt flint), with small quantities of other material types. Within test pits, finds derived largely from topsoil and subsoil layers, with some from colluvial layers (TPs 144, 153) and feature fills (TPs 157, 171, 196). All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and this information is summarised by test pit in **Appendix 2**. The assemblage ranges in date from prehistoric to post-medieval.

6.2 Worked Flint

- 6.2.1 The lithic assemblage consists almost entirely of flake and core material; there are two scrapers. Condition varies, but most pieces are patinated, and show varying degrees of edge damage consistent with a ploughzone assemblage. In the absence of diagnostic material, this assemblage cannot be dated closely, but flake morphology and technology (broad, squat flakes with prominent bulbs of percussion, struck using hard hammer technique) would be consistent with a Bronze Age date. Flint was found in small quantities in 36 of the excavated test pits; no test pit produced more than 16 pieces. This low level distribution, however, is sufficient to demonstrate widespread prehistoric activity across the area.

6.3 Burnt Flint

- 6.3.1 Burnt, unworked flint was recovered in smaller quantities than the worked flint. This material type is undatable, but is frequently associated with

prehistoric activity. As for the worked flint, quantities recovered were relatively small within each individual test pit.

6.4 Pottery

- 6.4.1 A very small quantity of pottery was recovered (26 sherds), and this covers a wide date range, including material of later prehistoric, Romano-British, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval date. The earliest material comprises two sherds in a coarse, shelly fabric (TP 157) and six sherds in coarse, flint-tempered fabrics (TPs 157, 163). None are chronologically diagnostic, but on fabric grounds these sherds can be broadly dated as Middle to Late Bronze Age. Six sherds in sandy fabrics (TPs 142, 151) are again undiagnostic, but are likely to be of Early to Middle Iron Age date.
- 6.4.2 A single sherd of Romano-British pottery was found (TP 151), a coarse greyware, and one Saxon grass-tempered sherd (TP 153). The latter was found north of Winterbourne Stoke, in an area where previous test pits have also recovered Saxon pottery (Wessex Archaeology 1992).
- 6.4.3 Six sherds have been identified as medieval, five coarsewares of relatively local source and one fineware (Laverstock-type ware from the Salisbury area). These sherds have a probable date range of late 12th to early 14th century. All were recovered from test pits located either side of the Shrewton Road, to the north of Winterbourne Stoke (TPs 144, 146, 148 and 151).
- 6.4.4 Three sherds are post-medieval – two coarse redwares and one tinglazed earthenware. The remaining sherd (TP 151) is in an unusual fabric containing igneous rock inclusions, an obvious non-local type but of unknown date.

6.5 Other Finds

- 6.5.1 Other material types are present in very small quantities, comprising ceramic building material (CBM), slag, glass, metal (iron nail and plate fragment; brass cartridge case) and roof slate. With the exception of a few pieces of CBM, which could be of medieval date, all these finds are demonstrably or probably of modern date.

6.6 Animal Bone

- 6.6.1 Of the small animal bone assemblage recovered (**Appendix 2**), the vast majority came from the Bronze Age pit in TP 157. This produced mostly cattle bone, with some horse and sheep and a possible goat horn core. The bones comprise elements from all parts of the carcass, including long bones, ribs, feet, skull fragments and horn cores. The bone survived in good condition. There was clear evidence of carnivore damage and this, together with the presence of a single human bone, suggests that the bones are re-deposited.

6.7 Human Bone

- 6.7.1 Human bone was recovered from two test pits. A single carnivore-damaged femur was found amongst the animal bone assemblage from the Bronze Age pit in TP 157. This, as with the animal bone, is probably re-deposited.
- 6.7.2 Test Pit 171 produced fragmentary human bone, including part of a femur, a finger bone and a rib. Although these were recovered from an apparently modern feature also containing shotgun cartridges and modern CBM, and are assumed, therefore, to be re-deposited, the bones nevertheless suggest a disturbed grave, of probable prehistoric date, close by.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 A bulk sample of 30 litres was taken from a single pit of Middle Bronze Age date for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoal. The bulk sample was processed by standard flotation methods, with the flot retained on a 0.5mm mesh and the residue fractionated into 4mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fraction (4mm) was sorted, weighed and discarded. The flot was scanned under a x10 - x30 stereo-binocular microscope and the presence of charred remains quantified (**Table 1**) to record the preservation and nature of the charred plant and charcoal remains.

Feature type/ No	Context	Sample	Size litres	Flot							Residue	
				flot ml	size	Grain	Chaff	Weed seeds uncharred charred	Charcoal >5.6mm	Other	Charcoal >5.6mm	
Middle Bronze Age Pit												
DTP 131003	131	131004	1001	30	125 ⁷⁵	B	-	a	C	B	moll-t (A) smb (B)	-

KEY: A** = exceptional, A* = 30+ items, A = ≥10 items, B = 9 - 5 items, C = < 5 items, smb = small mammal bones; Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs

NOTE: ¹flot is total, but flot in superscript = ml of rooty material. ²Unburnt seed in lower case to distinguish from charred remains

Table 1: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

7.2 Results

- 7.2.1 The flot was small (average flot size for a 10 litre sample is 60 millilitres), with 60% rooty material and a high number of uncharred weed seeds, which can be indicative of stratigraphic movement. A moderate quantity of charred grain fragments and a few charred weed seeds were observed. Land snails and small mammal bones were also present. The presence of charcoal was noted and fragments of greater than 5.6mm were retrieved in a moderate amount. The charcoal was mainly large wood fragments.

7.3 Discussion

- 7.3.1 The density of plant remains in this pit was low, but the presence of charred grain and weed seeds and charcoal nonetheless indicates burning and human activity in the vicinity. However, although the remains can provide information about the function of the pit, the nature of the agronomy and the local woodland, without a wider framework of archaeological features in which to place this isolated evidence, its potential is limited.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 Summary

- 8.1.1 The archaeological test pitting recovered artefacts from the topsoil and/or subsoil in 42 of the 71 test pits. These were mostly flintwork of prehistoric, probably Bronze Age, date; the small assemblage of pottery includes Bronze Age material from within the World Heritage Site, Iron Age from the western part of the route, and Saxon and medieval from north of Winterbourne Stoke. This finds distribution is broadly consistent with that seen in the Stonehenge Environs Project (Richards 1990) and other previous fieldwalking surveys (Wessex Archaeology 1992a and b; 1994; 2002e).
- 8.1.2 The topsoil stripping prior to excavation of the geotechnical trial pits revealed archaeological features in six locations. Most of these were undated. Three principal areas of interest may be highlighted: at the western end of the route (Field 17) and east of Longbarrow Crossroads (Fields 73 and 90).
- 8.1.3 The linear ditch seen in Field 17 (Test Pit 139) is probably part of Site 23, a rectilinear enclosure seen on aerial photographs and geophysical survey. Although undated, the form of both the ditch and the enclosure as a whole suggests that it is related to the Iron Age/Romano-British enclosure complex *c.* 200m to the east in Area C1 (Wessex Archaeology 2002c). Subsequent evaluation also located the enclosure ditch, together with a pit apparently internal to the enclosure (Wessex Archaeology 2003); both features remain undated, however.
- 8.1.4 A shallow pit containing Middle Bronze Age pottery and redeposited animal and human bone in Field 73 east of Longbarrow Crossroads (Test Pit 157) is likely to represent activity associated with the Bronze Age settlement at Longbarrow Crossroads. The prominent funerary monuments of the Winterbourne Stoke Group of barrows lie close by to the north and a rectilinear field system visible as cropmarks extends across Field 73. The environmental evidence from the feature tends to support the impression of peripheral activity here.
- 8.1.5 In Field 90, south of Stonehenge, the presence of a few fragments of human bone in a modern feature in Test Pit 171 suggests the presence of a grave, of probable prehistoric date, in the vicinity. Although archaeological evaluation

in this part of the route (Area T; Wessex Archaeology 2002h) did not locate any burials, the potential for flat graves in the area cannot be ruled out.

- 8.1.6 The results of the watching brief programme on the further geotechnical investigations generally correlate well with information from other surveys, including fieldwalking, geophysical survey and trial trenching. However, the watching brief has again demonstrated that archaeological features and deposits may be encountered in the smallest interventions along the length of the Proposed Route. In particular, the potential for prehistoric graves within the World Heritage Site, whether associated with known settlement and barrows or not, has been highlighted.

8.2 Potential for further analysis

- 8.2.1 Only one feature produced material capable of further analysis. This was the Middle Bronze Age pit in Test Pit 157. In the absence of associated features to provide a broader archaeological context for this apparently re-deposited material, however, any such work offers little potential to inform. It is recommended, therefore, that any consideration of further analysis of the retained environmental material should be made in conjunction with any mitigation interventions in this part of the Proposed Route.

8.3 Recommendations for mitigation

- 8.3.1 The majority of the Proposed Route has been surveyed by evaluation trenching, and recommendations for mitigation have been made on the basis of the results of these surveys. The three areas of interest noted above all lie within areas proposed previously for further investigation by 'strip and record' prior to construction.

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10 APPENDIX 1: TEST PIT SUMMARIES

The order in which the deposits are listed below reflects their stratigraphical position, except where noted. Both the Wessex Archaeology and the S.I. Contractors test pit number are quoted.

Key:

STP Shallow trial pit

SSTP Shallow supported trial pit

CP Cable percussion borehole

R Rotary drillhole

S Shaft

***** Layer with finds

Test Pit 134 (R1 Recharge)		Max Depth: 0.55m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
1001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid brown silty loam with very rare sub rounded flints <0.06m. Well bioturbated and mixed by deep ploughing		0-0.29m
1002		Light to mid grey brown silty loam with abundant angular flints <0.07m. Very flinty layer, appears unaffected by ploughing, probably run off from the valley sides		0.29-0.48m
1003	<i>Horizon layer</i>	Mixed and degraded chalk and pea grit layer		0.48-0.55m
1004	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk		0.55m→

Test Pit 135 (R3 Recharge)		Max Depth: 0.55m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
3001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark blackish brown clayey silt with occasional chalk pea grit		0-0.29m
3002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid blackish brown clayey silt. Moderate/abundant chalk pea grit. Moderate large sub angular flints		0.29-0.5m
3003	<i>Degraded Natural</i>	Powdery disturbed natural, possibly weathered natural chalk. Light greyish white in colour		0.5-0.55m
3004	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk		0.55m→

Test Pit 136 (R4 Recharge)		Max Depth: 0.84m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
4001	<i>Cut</i>	Possible pit or ditch terminus, with moderate concave sides, not bottomed as only clipped in Test Pit		0.53-0.84m
4002	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of 4001. Mid dark brown clayey loam <10% flint and chalk fragments <0.10m		0.53-0.84
4003	<i>Layer</i>	Light-mid brown clayey loam with <60% flint and chalk fragments <0.20m scattered, probably run off from the valley sides		0.31-0.60m
4004	<i>Topsoil</i>	Light-mid brown clayey loam. <5% flint and chalk fragments <0.20m scattered. Current Plough Soil		0-0.31m
4005	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk		0.60m→

Test Pit 137 (R5 Recharge)		Max Depth: 0.71	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
5001	<i>Layer</i>	Mid-light brown clayey loam, <20% flints and chalk fragments <0.20m, some bioturbation, deep enough to prevent plough damage. Finds: flint	0.38-0.71m	
5002	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid-dark brown clayey loam. <5% flint and chalk fragments <0.10m. Well worked plough soil. Finds: flint	0-0.38m	
5003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk. Clean white with 'tiger stripes' of water affected degraded chalk	0.71m →	

Test Pit 138 (STP101)		Max Depth: 0.27m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
101001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid yellow brown with 'orange' hue, silty clay frequent sub-angular and angular flints and chalk fragments. Finds: flint	0-0.27m	
101002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, with some patches of degraded chalk forming 'tiger stripes'	0.27m →	

Test Pit 139 (DTP109)		Max Depth: 0.25m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
109001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Reddish brown sandy loam with moderate chalk fragments and flecks <0.03m. Finds: burnt flint	0-0.25m	
109002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk with some patches of water degraded natural	0.25m →	
109003	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of East-West orientated ditch, probably Romano-British in date	0.25-0.96m	
109004	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of East-West ditch	0.74-0.96m	
109005	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of East-West ditch	0.70-0.94m	
109006	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of East-West ditch	0.40-0.92m	
109007	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of East-West ditch	0.62-0.89m	
109008	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of East-West ditch	0.55-0.88m	
109009	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of East-West ditch	0.42-0.55m	
109010	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of East-West ditch	0.30-0.61m	
109011	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of East-West ditch	0.25-0.49m	

Test Pit 140 (DTP110)		Max Depth: 0.27	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
110001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern plough soil. Brown silty clay with <3% sub-angular flints and chalk. Finds: burnt flint	0-0.27m	
110002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, solid and not too disturbed some evidence of water disturbance	0.27m →	

Test Pit 141 (DTP111)		Max Depth: 0.27	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
111001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid grey brown with 'orange' hue, silty clay with chalk and flint fragments. Finds: burnt flint; flint	0-0.27m	
111002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, with degraded patches of greyer white material	0.27m →	

Test Pit 142 (DTP112)		Max Depth: 0.23m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
112001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid grey brown with 'orange' hue with abundant flint fragments and some chalk. Finds: burnt flint; flint; ?Iron Age pottery; post-med. pottery	0-0.23m	
112002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk with some degraded patches	0.23m →	

Test Pit 143 (DTP113)		Max Depth: 0.22m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
113001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid grey brown with 'orange' hue with abundant flint fragments and some chalk. Finds: flint; burnt flint; post-med. CBM	0-0.22m	
113002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk with some degraded patches	0.22m →	

Test Pit 144 (STP114)				
		Max Depth: 0.72	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
114001	Topsoil	Dark grey brown with slight 'orange' hue silty clay with frequent sub-angular flints and considerable bioturbation. Finds: flint; post-med. CBM; modern slag	0-0.32m	
114002	Colluvium	Colluvial layer below topsoil, dark yellow brown with flint fragments sub-angular to angular. Finds: burnt flint; flint; medieval pottery	0.32-0.45m	
114003	Colluvium	Dark yellow grey brown silty clay with just a few flint inclusions	0.45-0.58m	
114004	Layer	Light yellow brown silty clay with abundant chalk flecks and fragments, degraded chalk layer, bioturbated	0.58-0.72m	
114005	Natural	Natural chalk with some water degraded patches	0.72m →	

Test Pit 145 (DTP115)				
		Max Depth: 0.32m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
115001	Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay with abundant flint and chalk fragments, modern plough soil. Finds: burnt flint; flint scraper; medieval roof tile	0-0.32m	
115002	Natural	Natural chalk with water caused degraded patches	0.32m →	

Test Pit 146 (DTP116)				
		Max Depth: 0.69m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
116001	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clayey silt, with occasional sub-angular flint and rare chalk and pea grit inclusions. Finds: flint; medieval pottery; post-med. pottery	0-0.45m	
116002	Natural	Disturbed natural chalk, light yellow brown white patches. Silt and powdery, possibly plough damaged but may be a natural weathering	0.45-0.69m	
116003	Natural	Natural chalk, slightly mottled in colour in places	0.69m→	
116004	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown clayey silt with abundant sub angular flints <0.06m	0.27-0.66m	
116005	Cut	Cut of small pit or post hole	0.66-0.84m	
116006	Fill	Fill of small pit or post hole	0.66-0.84m	
116007	Cut	Cut of small pit or post hole	0.66-0.75m	
116008	Fill	Fill of small pit or post hole	0.66-0.75m	
116009	Cut	Cut of small pit	0.66-0.95m	
116010	Fill	Fill of small pit	0.66-0.87m	
116011	Fill	Fill of small pit	0.87-0.95m	

Test Pit 147 (DTP117)				
		Max Depth: 1.08m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
117001	Topsoil	Mid to dark grey brown clayey silt with occasional sub-angular flints <0.04m and common isolated pockets of pea grit	0-0.29m	
117002	Subsoil	Light reddish brown clayey silt with rare sub-angular flints <0.02m and occasional flints <0.01m. Colluvium deposit?	0.29-0.51m	
117003	Layer	Mid reddish brown clayey silt with abundant pea grit, most probably material washed down slope.	0.51-0.85m	
117004	Layer	Degraded chalk and pea grit layer, naturally bioturbated	0.85-0.87m	
117005	Cut	Cut of probably natural feature	0.85-1.08m	
117006	Fill	Fill of natural feature 117005	0.85-1.08m	
117007	Natural	Natural chalk, light grey and quite degraded in places	0.87m →	

Test Pit 148 (DTP118)				
		Max Depth: 0.65m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
118001	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay with flint inclusions (35-40%) <0.01-0.06m, angular. Finds: burnt flint; flint; CBM; medieval pottery; iron object.	0-0.30m	
118002	Natural	Greenish yellow brown sand with clayey pockets and occasional large flints <0.25m	0.30m→ (0.65m+)	

Test Pit 149 (DTP119)		Max Depth: 0.43m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
119001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid-dark orange brown silty clay with abundant flints sub-angular to angular, common bioturbation. Finds: burnt flint; post-med. tile; slate		0-0.19m
119002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Light – mid orange yellow brown silty clay with flint fragments and chalk lumps, some bioturbation		0.19-0.43m
119003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural degraded chalk		0.43m →

Test Pit 150 (STP120)		Max Depth: 0.80m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
120001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid to dark orange grey brown silty clay with flints, and bioturbation		0-0.26
120002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid orange brown silty clay with flint fragments		0.26-0.51m
120003	<i>Layer</i>	Gravel layer above natural, mid orange brown silty clay with chalk fragments and flints		0.51-0.80m
120004	<i>Natural</i>	Chalk with degraded patches		0.80m C

Test Pit 151 (R121)		Max Depth: 0.62m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
121001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark greyish brown silty clay with flint inclusions, 20-25% and <0.005-0.03m angular. Finds: animal bone; burnt flint; flint; Iron Age pottery; RB pottery; CBM; medieval pottery.		0-0.28m
121002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Dark reddish brown silty clay with flint inclusions, 35% and <0.01-0.05m, angular		0.28-0.62m
121003	<i>Natural</i>	Chalk with degraded patches		0.62m →

Test Pit 152 (STP125)		Max Depth: 0.50m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
125001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional angular and sub-angular flints, small to medium		0-0.23m
125002	<i>Subsoil</i>	mid orange brown clayey silt with very frequent inclusions of medium to large mainly rounded flints with pea grit, an alluvial deposit		0.23-0.50m
125003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, white with a yellowish hue and badly degraded with inclusions of occasional flints		0.50m →

Test Pit 153 (R126)		Max Depth: 0.92m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
126001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid greyish brown clayey loam with c.10% flint pebbles angular and sub-angular<0.10m, scattered. Finds: flint		0-0.24m
126002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid greyish brown clayey loam with c.30% angular and sub-angular flints <0.15m unsorted		0.24-0.35m
126003	<i>Colluvium</i>	Light brown silty loam with c.2% flints <0.02m scattered. Finds: Saxon pottery		0.35-0.50m
126004	<i>Colluvium</i>	Light brown silty loam with c.20% flints angular and sub-angular 0.20m scattered. Finds: flint		0.50-0.72m
126005	<i>Layer</i>	Light slightly reddish brown clayey silt with c.5% flints rounded and sub-rounded <0.10m scattered		0.72-0.92m
126006	<i>Natural</i>	Reddish clay with angular and sub-angular gravel patches		0.92m →

Test Pit 154 (DTP128)		Max Depth: 0.35m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
128001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern plough soil, mid greyish brown clay silt with common sub-angular flints<0.04m and common flecks of chalk, dragged up and mixed by the plough. Finds: flint		0-0.35m
128002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, upper part quite blocky and possibly plough disturbed becomes more solid, though evidence of water created disturbance.		0.35m →

Test Pit 155 (R129)		Max Depth: 0.29	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
129001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current plough soil, light grey brown silty clay with common chalk fragments dragged up from the natural chalk by ploughing	0-0.29m	
129002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, ploughed and disturbed, becomes more solid	0.29m →	

Test Pit 156 (R130)		Max Depth: 0.39	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
130001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid dark brown silty clay, with frequent chalk fragments. Finds: burnt flint; flint	0-0.36m	
130002	<i>Horizon layer</i>	Thin layer of degraded chalk and pea grit, result of worm action	0.36-0.39m	
130003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, solid and quite clean and undisturbed	0.39m →	

Test Pit 157 (DTP131)		Max Depth: 0.29m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
131001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark grey brown silty clay loam with 1% sub-angular flints and 3% chalk fragments, Recent plough soil contains unrotted vegetation. Finds: flint	0-0.29m	
131002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk with some patches of water disturbed material	0.29m →	
131003	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of pit	0.29-0.59m	
131004	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of pit. Finds: burnt flint; flint; animal bone; human bone; M/LBA pottery.		
131005	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of pit		

Test Pit 158 (R132)		Max Depth: 0.26m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
132001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid to dark grey brown clayey loam with 3% chalk fragments <0.01m and 2% sub-rounded flints <0.05m	0-0.26m	
132002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, with some water disturbed patches	0.26m →	

Test Pit 159 (DTP133)		Max Depth: 0.40m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
133001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current ploughsoil, dark brown silty clay loam with 1% sub-angular flint<0.04m and 2% chalk fragments<0.005m, contains unrotted vegetation from last year. Finds: flint; modern glass	0-0.29m	
133002	<i>Layer</i>	Layer of sub-angular <0.05m c.20% in reddish brown pea grit gravel	0.29-0.40m	
133003	<i>Natural</i>	Degraded chalk in alight brown silty clay, water affected	0.40-0.45m	
133004	<i>Cut</i>	Probably old field boundary possibly an old hedgerow line	0.27-0.44m	
133005	<i>Fill</i>	Mid dark brown silty clay, with 1% sub-angular flints <0.04m	0.27-0.44m	
133006	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, still with some water degraded material	0.45m →	

Test Pit 160 (R134)		Max Depth: 0.30m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
134001	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, with degraded patches as a result of water action	0.30 →	
134002	<i>Horizon layer</i>	Mixed layer of pea grit and degraded chalk as a result of worm action	0.26-0.30m	
134003	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern plough soil. Mid brown silty loam contains common flint <0.04m and lots of unrotted vegetation from last years ploughing	0-0.26m	

Test Pit 161 (R134A)		Max Depth: 0.30m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
134004	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid greyish brown silt loam, with rare sub-angular flint and chalk and pea grit inclusions. Finds: flint	0-0.30m	
134005	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk	0.30m →	

Test Pit 162 (R135)				
		Max Depth: 0.41m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
135001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Light to mid brown silty clay loam , heavily ploughed contains occasional fragments of chalk and flint <0.04m and flecks of both. Finds: animal bone; flint; modern slag	0-0.24m	
135002	<i>Natural</i>	Degraded blocky chalk natural, weathered and possibly plough damaged, very blocky with pea grit and clayey patches	0.24m →	

Test Pit 163 (DTP136)				
		Max Depth: 0.21m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
136001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark greyish brown silty clay with flint inclusions, c.20-25% and <0.01-0.04m, chalk fragments at horizon with natural. Finds: burnt flint; modern slag	0-0.21m	
136002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk	0.21m →	
136003	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of tree throw	0.21-0.65m	
136004	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of tree throw. Finds: animal bone; M/LBA pottery		
136005	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of tree throw		
136006	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of tree throw		

Test Pit 164 (W137)				
		Max Depth: 0.32m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
137001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark brown clayey silt loam very loosely compact, friable with c.20-30% sub-angular flints and chalk fragments. Finds: flint	0-0.32m	
137002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk	0.32m →	
137003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural degraded chalk	0.32m →	

Test Pit 165 (R138)				
		Max Depth: 0.26m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
138001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid light grey brown clayey silt, friable with common small and very small sub-angular chalk fragments. Finds: flint	0-0.26m	
138002	<i>Horizon layer</i>	Mixed pea grit and degraded chalk layer	0.26-0.27m	
138003	<i>Fill</i>	Very light grey brown silty clay, fill of natural water worn channel	0.27-0.32m	
138004	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of naturally occurring water worn channel	0.27-0.32m	
138005	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk	0.27m →	

Test Pit 166 (R138A)				
		Max Depth: 0.23	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
138006	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid to dark grey brown clayey silt with flecks and fragments of chalk and abundant flints	0-0.23m	
138007	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk	0.23m →	

Test Pit 167 (R139)				
		Max Depth: 0.29m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
139001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid brown clay silt, with common flecks and fragments of chalk <0.03m	0-0.28	
139002	<i>Horizon layer</i>	Mixed layer of degraded chalk and pea grit, result of worm action	0.28-0.29m	
139003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk with periglacial stripes	0.29m →	
139004	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of natural water channel	0.29-0.50m	
139005	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of natural water channel	0.29-0.50m	
139006	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of natural water channel	0.29-0.35m	
139007	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of natural water channel	0.29-0.35m	

Test Pit 168 (R140)				
		Max Depth: 0.36m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
140001	Topsoil	Mid brown clay silt, common small flecks of chalk <0.01m and occasional fragments of chalk <0.03m. Finds: flint	0-0.34m	
140002	Horizon layer	Mixed layer of pea grit and degraded chalk mid gray cream in colour	0.34-0.36m	
140003	Natural	Natural chalk with natural water channels creating patches of degraded chalk	0.36m →	
140004	Cut	Cut of natural water worn channel	0.36-0.39m	
140005	Fill	Fill of natural water worn channel	0.36-0.39m	

Test Pit 169 (R141)				
		Max Depth: 0.34m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
141001	Topsoil	Dark brown clayey silt very loosely compacted and friable with 30-35%Sub-angular chalk and flint <0.10-0.20m. Finds: modern glass, CBM	0-0.29m	
141002	Subsoil	Mid to light brown, chalky subsoil, probably result of ploughing, churning up the natural chalk to create this layer	0.29-0.34	
141003	Natural	Natural chalk	0.34m →	
141004	Natural	Degraded chalk, result of water action	0.34m	

Test Pit 170 (R142)				
		Max Depth: 0.22m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
142001	Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay with occasional sub-rounded chalk and sub-angular flint	0-0.22m	
142002	Natural	Natural chalk	0.22m →	

Test Pit 171 (R143)				
		Max Depth: 0.80m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
143001	Topsoil	Mid gray brown silty clay, moderately compact with occasional small sub-angular flints, and common chalk fragments. Finds: flint; modern brick	0-0.35m	
143002	Fill	Fill of feature 143003; light gray brown silty clay with very common chalk fragments and large flints. A few fragments of human bone, but other finds (shotgun cartridges) suggest a modern date. Finds: flint; iron object; modern brick; human bone	0.35-0.80m+	
143003	Cut	Cut of modern feature probably initially cut from modern ground surface but ploughing has destroyed this	0.35-0.80m+	
143004	Natural	Natural chalk	0.35m→	

Test Pit 172 (R146)				
		Max Depth: 0.32m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
146001	Topsoil	Mid brown slightly clayey loam <5%chalk and flint fragments scattered <0.12m. Current plough soil	0-0.32m	
146002	Natural	Chalk natural, fairly broken and with frequent natural water caused features, filled with degraded chalk and pea-grit	0.32m →	

Test Pit 173 (R146A)				
		Max Depth: 0.23m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
146003	Topsoil	Dark 'orangey' brown silty clay with flint inclusions c.30% large nodules and small angular flints. Chalk fragments more common towards the horizon with the natural.	0-0.23m	
146004	Natural	Natural degraded chalk	0.23m →	

Test Pit 174 (R146AB)		Max Depth: 0.28m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
146005	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid to dark brown clayey silty loam with occasional small chalk fragments <0.04m and occasional small sub angular flints <0.02m, rare large flint nodules <0.10m. Modern plough soil		0-0.28m
146006	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk heavily degraded in some patches		0.28m →

Test Pit 175 (R146AC)		Max Depth: 0.30m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
146007	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark 'orangey' brown clayey silt with occasional small sub angular flint inclusions and also small chalk lumps		0-0.30m
146008	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk fairly degraded with lighter patches of silt and pea grit		0.30m →

Test Pit 176 (W148)		Max Depth: 0.59	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
148001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark brown silty clay with frequent angular and sub angular flint fragments and chalk flecks. Modern plough soil		0-0.32m
148002	<i>Layer</i>	Mid to dark 'orangey' brown silty clay with abundant sub angular and angular flints, with root disturbance. Finds: flint		0.32-0.59m
148003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, quite fragmented in places and degraded due to water action		0.59m →

Test Pit 177 (R149)		Max Depth: 0.25	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
149001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Brown clayey silt loam with c.10% sub rounded to sub angular chalk fragments <0.03m and c.3% sub angular flints <0.06m		0-0.25m
149002	<i>Natural</i>	Chalk natural		0.25m →

Test Pit 178 (R149A)		Max Depth: 0.31m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
149003	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid to dark brown clayey silt with rare sub rounded chalk and moderate pea grit. Finds: flint		0-0.31m
149004	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk		0.31m →

Test Pit 179 (R150)		Max Depth: 0.55m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
150001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark brown silty loam with sparse small angular flints c.0.02m and very sparse flint nodules c.0.15m. Finds: flint		0-0.30m
150002	<i>Layer</i>	Stony layer of angular flints <0.05m and occasional larger nodules c.0.15m within mid brown clayey silt loam		0.30-0.55m
150003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk with sparse flint nodules c.0.10m.		0.55m →

Test Pit 180 (R151)		Max Depth: 0.62m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
151001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Very dark black/brown silty clay, with occasional sub angular flint fragments. Finds: flint		0-0.31m
151002	<i>Layer</i>	Dark brown silty clay with occasional large sub angular and angular flints. Finds: flint		0.31-0.49m
151003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural degraded chalk		0.49m →

Test Pit 181 (R152)		Max Depth: 0.23m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
152001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Light brown silty clay loam with c.10% sub rounded to sub angular chalk <0.01m and c.5% sub angular flints <0.08m. Finds: flint	0-0.23m	
152002	<i>Natural</i>	Natural colluvium. Very light brown silty clay with c.30% sub rounded to sub angular chalk <0.01m and c.5% sub angular flint <0.06m	0.23m →	

Test Pit 182 (R152A)		Max Depth: 0.20m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
152003	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid brown clayey silt with frequent chalk pea grit and rare chalk pebbles and sub angular flints	0-0.20m	
152004	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk	0.20m →	

Test Pit 183 (R153)		Max Depth: 0.39m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
153001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid blackish brown silt with occasional chalk pea grit and sub angular flints. Finds: flint	0-0.27m	
153002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid 'orangey' brown silt with moderate chalk pea grit and occasional flint	0.27-0.39m	
153003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk	0.39m →	

Test Pit 184 (R154)		Max Depth: 0.48m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
154001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid gray brown silty clay loam with common small fragments of chalk <0.04m and abundant flecks of chalk. Deeply ploughed and very disturbed	0-0.32m	
154002	<i>Horizon</i>	Mixed layer of blocks of degraded chalk and pea grit, plough damaged	0.32-0.48	
154003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk	0.48m →	

Test Pit 185 (DTP155A)		Max Depth: 0.48m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
155004	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium flints and occasional chalk fragments	0-0.22	
155005	<i>Colluvium</i>	Dark reddish brown clayey silt with very frequent inclusions of angular and sub angular flints <0.10m	0.22-0.48m	
155006	<i>Natural</i>	Degraded chalk, with patches of water damaged chalk	0.48m →	

Test Pit 186 (DTP155C)		Max Depth: 0.52m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
155001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark brownish gray silty clay with moderate inclusions of chalk pea grit and small sub angular flints	0-0.30	
155002	<i>Colluvium</i>	Mid reddish brown clayey silt with moderate inclusions of small sub angular flints	0.30-0.52m	
155003	<i>Natural</i>	Degraded chalk and abundant pea grit and patches of decayed chalk	0.52m →	

Test Pit 187 (R157)		Max Depth: 0.42m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
157001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark blackish brown silt with occasional flint inclusions	0-0.24m	
157002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid greyish brown clay silt with abundant flint inclusions. Finds: flint	0.24-0.42m	
157003	<i>Natural</i>	Chalk natural	0.42m →	

Test Pit 188 (R157A)		Max Depth: 0.30m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
157004	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid brown clay silt with occasional sub rounded flints with rare pea grit inclusions	0-0.30m	
157005	<i>Natural</i>	Chalk natural	0.30m →	

Test Pit 189 (STP162)		Max Depth: 0.62m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
162001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark greyish clayey silt with occasional small to medium inclusions of angular and sub angular flints. Modern plough soil. Finds: flint; burnt flint; CBM; post-med. pottery	0-0.25m	
162002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid reddish brown clayey silt with moderate small to medium angular and sub angular flints	0.25-0.62m	
162003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk with degraded areas pea grit patches	0.62m →	

Test Pit 190 (R163)		Max Depth: 0.56m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
163001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small angular flint inclusions	0-0.28m	
163002	<i>Layer</i>	Thin layer of re-deposited chalk	0.28-0.36m	
163003	<i>Layer</i>	Dark greyish brown clayey silt layer with frequent angular and sub angular flints	0.36-0.56m	
163004	<i>Layer</i>	Mid greyish brown clay layer almost entirely composed of flints <0.06m	0.56m →	

Test Pit 191 (R168)		Max Depth: 0.21m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
168001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Very thin layer of dark brown organic clayey silt with occasional small angular and sub angular flints	0-0.05m	
168002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional inclusions of small to medium flints and chalk flecks	0.05-0.21m	
168003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk degraded in places with a pinkish hue.	0.21m →	

Test Pit 192 (R168A)		Max Depth: 0.30m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
168004	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern plough soil, heavily waterlogged very dark brown silty loam	0-0.30m	
168005	<i>Layer</i>	Gravel layer lying directly below the modern plough soil, unable to establish exactly what this is, due to extremely high water table (less than 0.20m below ground surface). Possibly natural river gravel.	0.30m →	

Test Pit 193 (STP169)		Max Depth: 0.24	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
169001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Very thin layer of dark brown organic clayey silt with occasional small angular and sub angular flints	0-0.06m	
169002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional inclusions of small to medium flints and chalk flecks	0.06-0.24m	
169003	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk degraded in places with a pinkish hue.	0.24m →	

Test Pit 194 (STP169A)		Max Depth:	Length:	Width:
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
169004	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern plough soil, heavily waterlogged very dark brown silty loam	0-0.31m	
169005	<i>Layer</i>	Gravel layer lying directly below the modern plough soil, unable to establish exactly what this is, due to extremely high water table (less than 0.20m below ground surface). Possibly natural river gravel.	0.31m →	

Test Pit 195 (R172)		Max Depth: 0.53m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
172001	Topsoil	Dark 'orangey' brown clayey silt with occasional chalk pea grit	0-0.45m	
172002	Subsoil	Mid blackish brown clayey silt with occasional sub angular flints	0.45-0.52m	
172003	Natural	Natural chalk	0.52m →	

Test Pit 196 (STP182)		Max Depth: 0.68	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
182001	Topsoil	Modern plough soil, recently disturbed, light grey clay silt with abundant chalk flecks, dragged up by the plough	0-0.16m	
182002	Cut	Natural feature, probably tree roots	0.16-0.52m	
182003	Fill	Fill of natural feature. Finds: flint	0.16-0.52m	
182004	Layer	Possibly natural colluvium layer but may be re-deposited, unable to tell in such a small hole	0.52-0.66m	
182005	Layer	Layer of re-deposited chalk, possibly from road construction	0.16-0.52m	

Test Pit 197 (R168B)		Max Depth:0.26m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
168006	Topsoil	Dark brown silty clay with c.3% sub angular flints <0.06	0-0.26m	
168007	Natural	Very light sandy clay with 10% sub angular flints <0.11m	0.26m →	

Test Pit 198 (STP169B)		Max Depth:0.40	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
169006	Topsoil	Dark brown silty clay with c.3% sub-angular flints <0.05m	0-0.25m	
169007	Natural	Very light brown sandy clay with 10% sub angular flints <0.10m	0.25-0.40	
169008	Natural	Very light brown clayey sand with 5% sub angular flints <0.06m	0.40m →	

Test Pit 199 (R157B)		Max Depth:0.25m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
157006	Topsoil	Brown silty clay loam with 3% sub angular flints <0.05m and 3% chalk flecks	0-0.25m	
157007	Natural	Very light brown silty clay with 30% sub angular chalk <0.04m	0.25m →	

Test Pit 200 (DTP155CA)		Max Depth:0.37m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
155007	Natural	Chalk and pea grit mix with patches of light reddish silt loam, occ flint nodules. Finds: burnt flint	0.52m →	
155008	Subsoil	Mid reddish orange clayey silt with frequent pea grit and small chalk and flint flecks	0.37-0.52m	
155009	Topsoil	Dark orange brown clayey silt with moderate small to medium angular and sub angular flints	0-0.37m	

Test Pit 201 (DTP155D)		Max Depth:0.28m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description	Depth	
155010	Natural	Broken chalk natural with patches of soft cream coloured chalk	0.28m →	
155011	Topsoil	Mid to dark brown clayey loam with <5% chalk and flint fragments <0.15m Present plough soil	0-0.28m	

Test Pit 202 (DTP155E)		Max Depth: 0.62m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
155012	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark orange brown clayey silt with moderate small to medium sub angular flints. Finds: burnt flint; flint		0-0.38m
155013	<i>Subsoil</i>	Mid reddish brown clayey silt with frequent angular and sub angular flints, within this alluvium layer		0.38-0.62m
155014	<i>Natural</i>	Chalk with pinkish patches with pea grit		0.62m →

Test Pit 203 (R152B)		Max Depth: 0.24m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
152005	<i>Topsoil</i>	Light to mid brown clayey loam with 5% chalk fragments <0.10m and 2% flints <0.15m . Modern plough soil . Finds: flint		0-0.24m
152006	<i>Natural</i>	Degraded and fragmented natural, with E-W aligned tiger stripes		0.24m →

Test Pit 204 (R154A)		Max Depth: 0.51m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
154004	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid brownish grey with moderate small chalk flecks and occasional flint fragments		0-0.51m
154005	<i>Natural</i>	Firm compact natural chalk		0.51m →

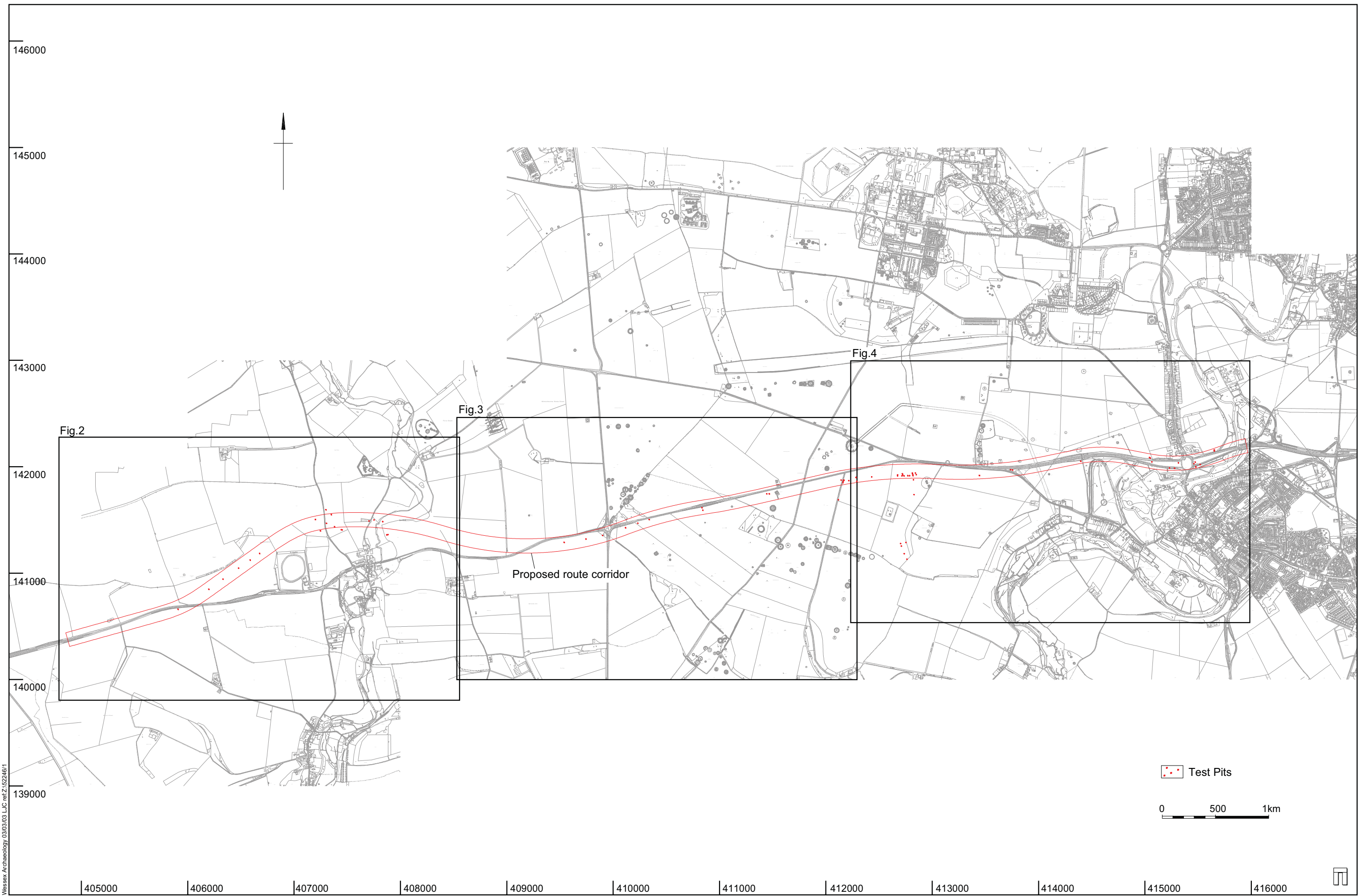
Test Pit 205 (DTP159)		Max Depth: 0.28m	Length: 1m	Width: 1m
No.	Type	Description		Depth
159000	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark orange brown clayey silt with moderate angular flints and occasional chalk lumps. Finds: flint		0-0.28
159001	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk, good condition with occasional patches of pinkish clay		0.28m →

11 APPENDIX 2: ALL FINDS BY TEST PIT

KEY: Number/weight in grammes; CBM = ceramic building material

Test Pit	Animal Bone	Burnt Flint	Worked Flint	Prehist Pottery	RB Pottery	Saxon Pottery	Med Pottery	Post-med Pottery	Undated Pottery	CBM	Other Finds
137			16/205								
138			2/15								
139		1/26									
140		3/49									
141		1/12	3/23								
142		4/56	1/27	1/1				1/3			
143		3/122	3/29							2/5	
144		2/25	6/156				1/15			1/41	1 slag
145		1/56	11/117							2/32	
146			9/51				3/14	1/5			
148		33/269	16/60				1/1			4/133	1 metal
149		1/38								2/11	1 slate
150			1/3								
151	1/1	7/113	7/33	5/33	1/2		1/15		1/3	3/10	
153			2/20			1/2					
154			3/73								
156		1/30	1/5								
157	388/3600	1/128	2/58	7/44							
158			2/36								
159			1/5								1 glass
161			1/18								
162	1/3		4/87								1 slag
163	1/19	15/228		1/3							1 slag
164			1/3								
165			1/3								

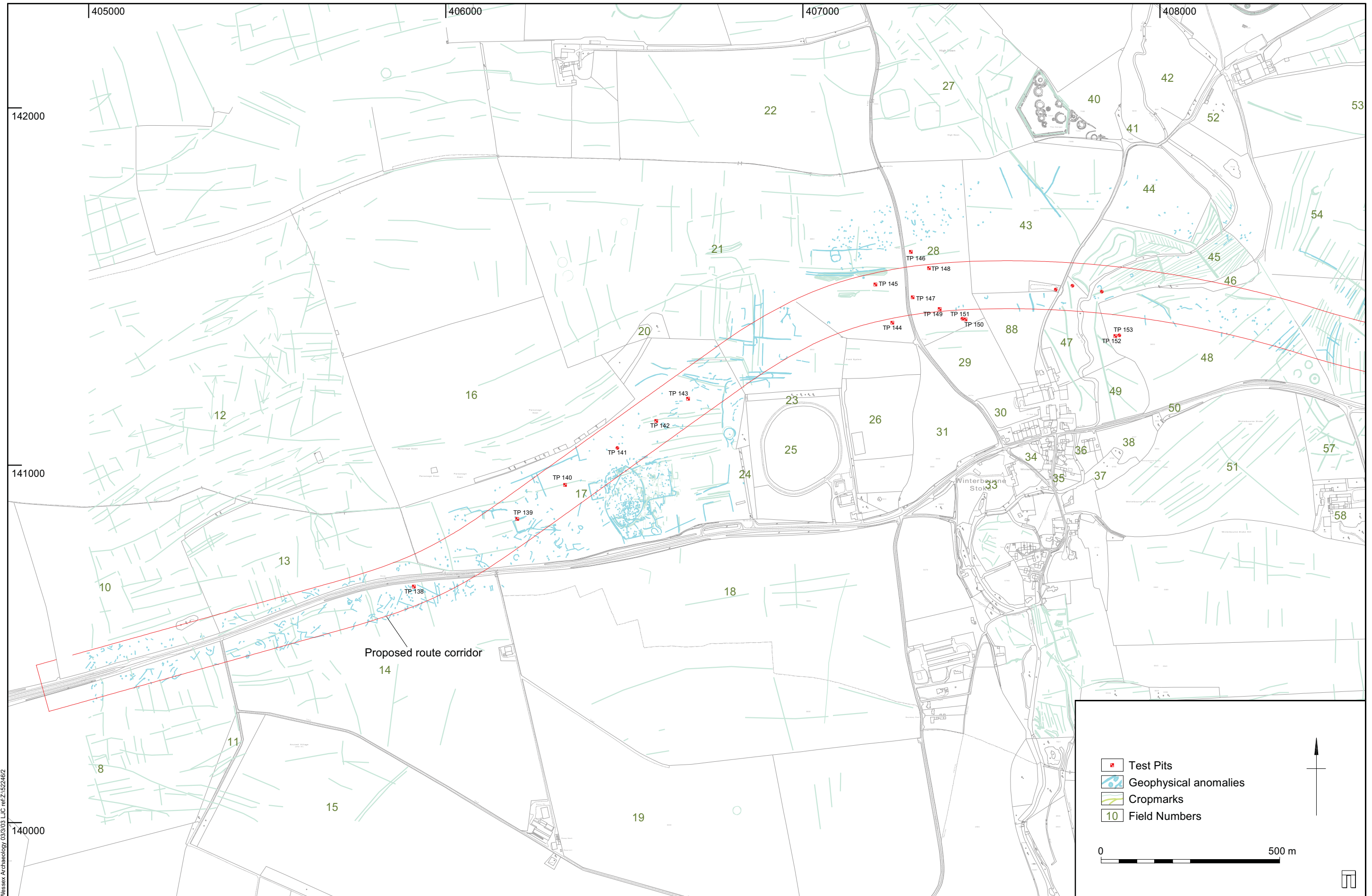
168			1/3								
169										1/6	1 glass
171	3/11		7/96							6/49	2 metal
176			4/17								
178			2/4								
179			11/87								
180			14/226								
181			2/4								
183			14/130								
184		1/8	1/4								
187			14/69								
189		4/25	6/47					1/3		1/77	
196			2/24								
200		1/44									
202		1/5	8/35								
203			4/12								
205			1/12								
TOTAL	394/3634	80/1234	184/1793	14/81	1/2	1/2	6/45	3/11	1/3	22/364	



Wessex Archaeology_030303_LIC_ref:52246/1

Site location

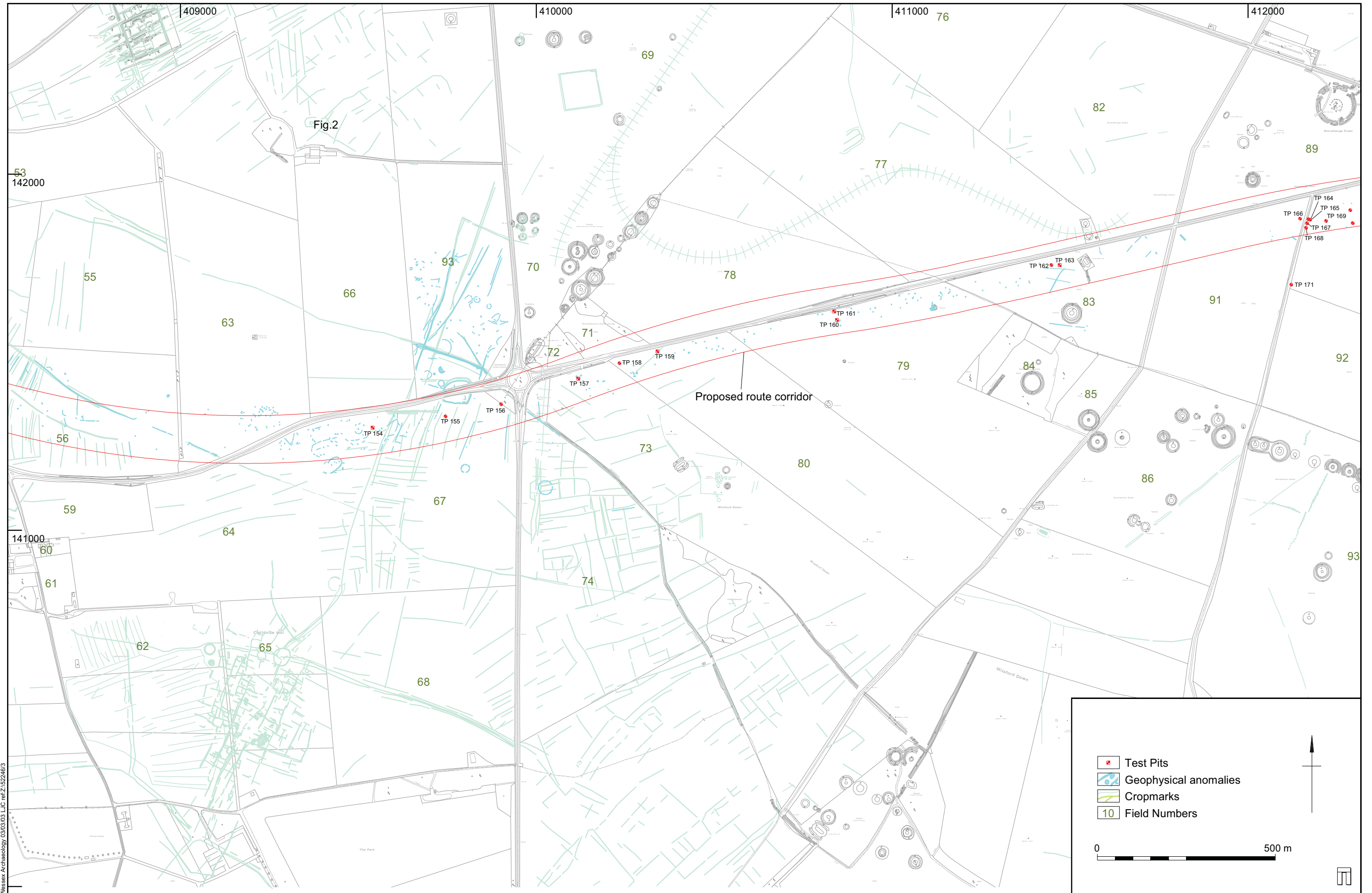
Figure 1



Wessex Archaeology 03/03/03_LUC_ref:1522462

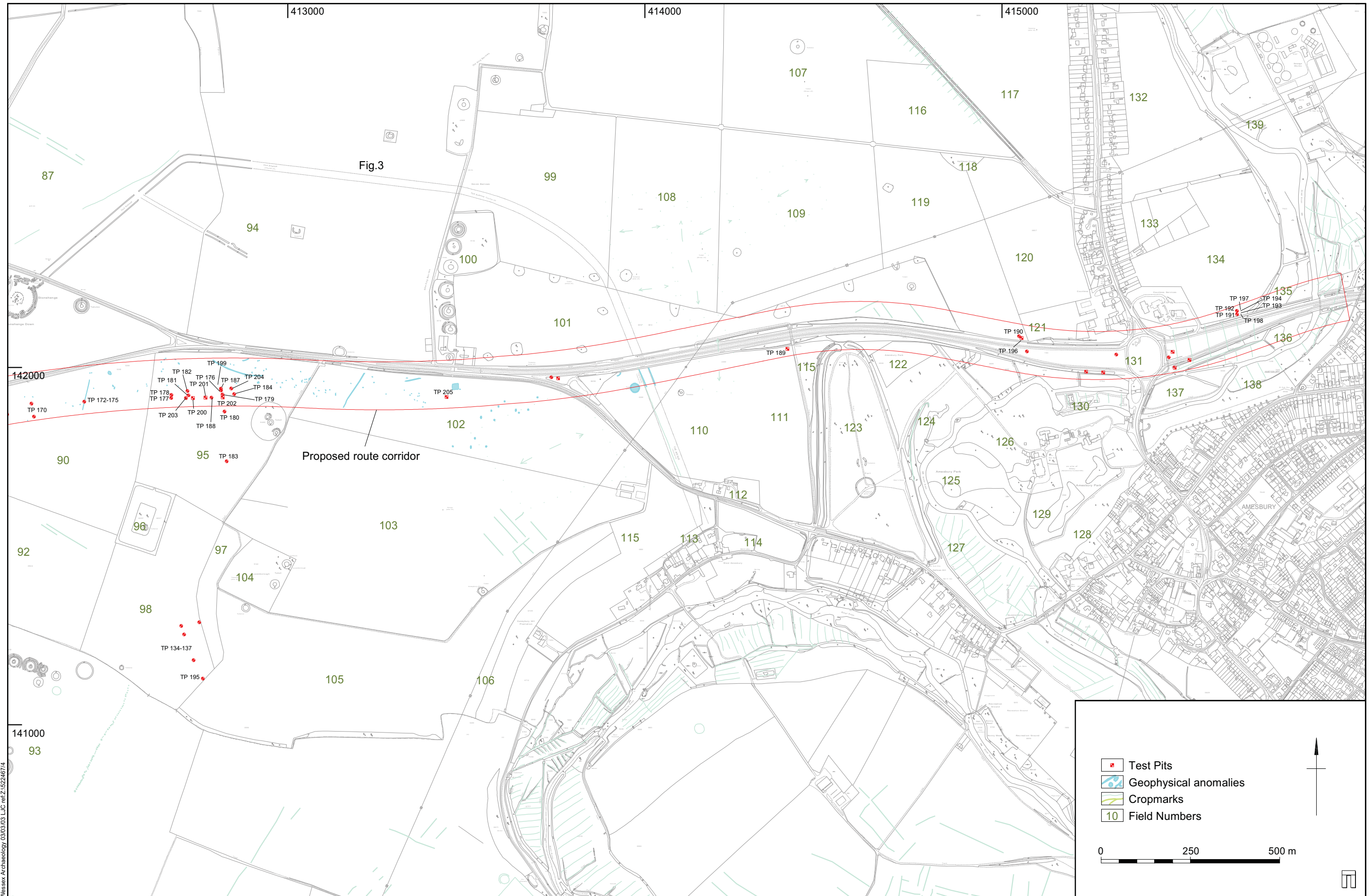
Location of Test Pits

Figure 2



Location of Test Pits

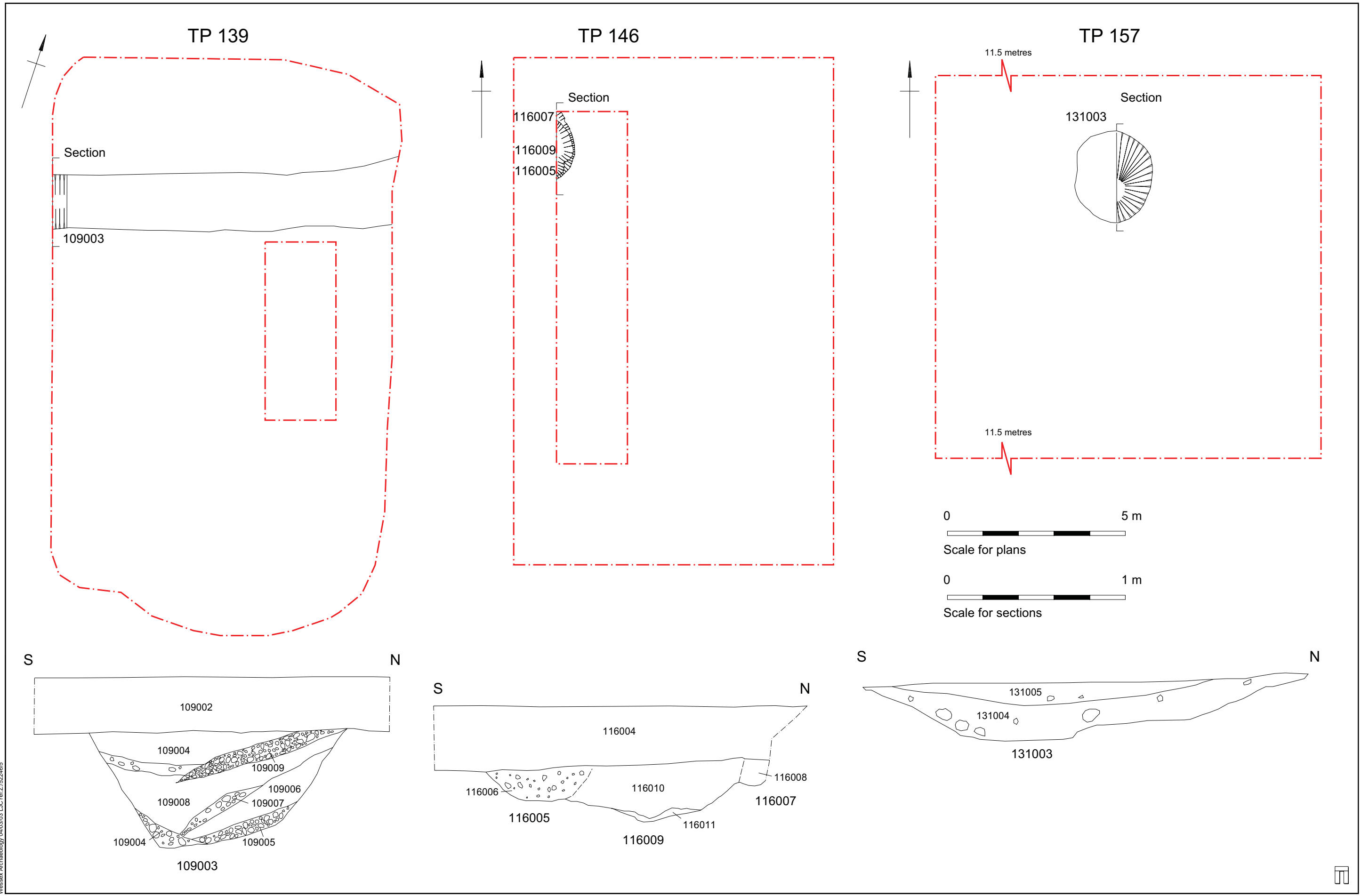
Figure 3



Location of Test Pits

Figure 4

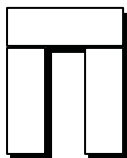
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Test Pits 139, 146 and 157 plans/sections

Figure 5

Wessex Archaeology 0403/03_LJC ref Z:522485



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