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A34 NEWBURY BYPASS, BERKSHIRE/HAMPSHIRE
STAGE 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

ASSESSMENT REPORT

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SUMMARY

During the Stage 3 fieldwork a total of 37 machine trenches were excavated. Of these 28 were to evaluate areas which could not be accessed during the Stage 2 evaluation, seven were excavated in order to investigate possible features identified during the geophysical survey at Enborne Street and two 20m by 20m trenches were excavated to investigate apparently isolated features identified during the Stage 2 evaluation.

A ploughzone site of Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date, identified during Stage 2 at Curridge Road, was ploughed and fieldwalked. In spite of the recovery of a reasonable quantity of worked flint, no further identification of likely areas of archaeological significance was possible.

In addition five areas were stripped of topsoil in order to define the nature and limits of previously identified sites. This was originally planned for the sites at Great Pen Wood, Wheatlands Lane and Hills Pightle. However, following the completion of the machine trenching, it was decided that the same strategy would be employed at two further sites, those at Enborne Street and Elmore Plantation.

The archaeological monitoring of enabling works was restricted to the recording of a limited number of poorly preserved features and the recording of the railway. During the watching brief the areas to be preserved, at Enborne Road and near the Lambourn, were closely checked to ensure their continuing survival, and on-site advice was given where requested to the main contractors and sub-contractors. A small site of Romano-British date which was not located by the evaluation was excavated and recorded at Bagnor Road.

The relocation of a balancing pond allowed *in situ* Mesolithic remains identified in the Lambourn valley during the Stage 2 evaluation to be preserved. Part of the site which lay on the line of the proposed carriageway was excavated by the York Archaeological Trust. The excavation confirmed that the focus of Mesolithic activity lies to the west of the road line in the area to be preserved.

The early Roman site at Enborne Road was also preserved *in situ*, under an embankment.

The project has generated an important range of data from a wide chronological period, spanning the Mesolithic, the Late Neolithic, Bronze Age, Late Iron Age, Romano-British, medieval, and post-medieval periods (i.e. 8500BC to present). Within this sequence the only major periods not represented are the Early-Middle Iron Age (700-100 BC, although this may be represented within the colluvial deposits recorded at Elmore Plantation) and the Saxon/early Medieval (410-1066 AD).

Individually the data sets from each site are of varying degrees of archaeological potential and significance. The only site regarded as of national importance was the Lambourn valley Mesolithic site, the most important *in situ* remains of which were preserved by the re-positioning of a balancing pond: the part of the site excavated by YAT proved to consist of natural layers and deposits containing derived Mesolithic material. At the request of the Highways Agency, an independent opinion regarding the potential of the data recovered from the excavation and the proposals for further analysis put forward by YAT was obtained from Dr J J Wymer.

Sites which are regarded as of regional interest are the Romano-British villa complex at Enborne Road, which has also been preserved; the medieval ceramic production sites at Enborne Street and Wheatlands Road; and the Late Iron Age and Romano-British site at Bagnor Road. The data sets from the other sites are generally small and of only local interest.

It is proposed that an expanded and fully integrated report presenting the results of all archaeological works undertaken along the bypass route, including both those works undertaken by Wessex Archaeology and the excavation of the Lambourn valley Mesolithic site undertaken by the York Archaeological Trust, be produced as a single volume publication. The results of the desk based study will be included in summary and the evaluation, the excavations and watching brief in detail where necessary. The efficacy of the evaluation methods will also be examined. The report will discuss the archaeological evidence recovered along the route by archaeological period. The evidence will be discussed in local and regional contexts as appropriate.

In order to produce the report, a single programme of post-excavation analysis commensurate with the perceived importance of the datasets - stratigraphic/structural, artefactual or ecofactual/palaeoenvironmental - for each site is proposed. This programme would include the analysis of the data from the Lambourn valley excavation. The programme would require 16 weeks from instruction to delivery of a publication text and would cost **£39,430 (excl. VAT).** It is recommended that an additional allowance of **£7,500** should be made for the typesetting, design and printing of a publication report in 1998/9, to be confirmed once the exact format and length of report has been agreed. A further allowance may also be necessary in respect of deposition of the archive from the Lambourn valley excavation.

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This report has been compiled by Chris Moore and Vaughan Birbeck with the assistance of Mike Allen and Lorraine Mepham. Information was supplied for incorporation and assistance given by John Lewis, Rachel Seager-Smith and Sarah Wyles of Wessex Archaeology, and Dr John Wymer.

The project has been managed for Wessex Archaeology by Ian Barnes, Dave Farwell and Chris Moore. The Stage 3 fieldwork was supervised by Vaughan Birbeck with the assistance of Rod Brook, Chris Ellis, Jez Fry, Jan Grove, Dave Murdie and Nick Wells.

The Lambourn valley excavation was managed on site for York Archaeological Trust by Bill Boismier and Robbie Browse; the finds work was managed by James Kenny. Site work was supervised by John Wildman.

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SECTION A - ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS AND POTENTIAL

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Following the publication of the Public Inquiry report into the route of the proposed A34 Newbury bypass, which indicated that the Department of Transport's preferred route lay to the west of Newbury, Wessex Archaeology was appointed by Mott MacDonald, on behalf of the Department of Transport, to undertake an archaeological assessment of the proposed route. Three stages of work were subsequently carried out:

Stage 1 evaluation (project design: Wessex Archaeology 1991a)

- Watching brief during geotechnical investigations - summer 1991
- Desk-top study - November-December 1991
- Hand test-pitting, fieldwalking and auger survey - December 1991 - January 1992
- Report (Wessex Archaeology 1991c)

Stage 2 evaluation (project design: Wessex Archaeology 1993a)

- Machine trenching - August 1993-April 1994
- Summary report Stage 1 and 2 evaluations May 1994 (Wessex Archaeology 1994c)

Stage 3 fieldwork - agreed September 1995

- Further machine trenching of all areas not previously accessible
- Mitigation before/during construction, comprising:

    1. Strip and record (five sites) - May-June 1996)
    2. Watching brief - July 1996-July 1997
    3. Excavation of Lambourn valley Mesolithic site by York Archaeological Trust - July-October 1996

1.1.2 This document presents an assessment of the results of the archaeological work carried out in Stage 3, drawing in material from earlier stages of work where relevant, and has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines set out in English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects* ('Map 2', 1991). It incorporates the results of the YAT excavation with a view to considering the archaeology of the whole routeline, at the request of the Highways Agency. A

separate assessment report submitted by YAT has been reviewed by Wessex Archaeology at the request of the Highways Agency. It is not proposed to repeat the contents of the YAT report in this document. The circumstances and results of the excavation are summarised below (3.10) in extract from the YAT document; an assessment of potential and proposals for further analysis as part of the overall post-excavation programme are presented in sections 6 and 8, as prepared by Wessex Archaeology.

1.1.3 The document sets out the results of the archaeological work by site, and evaluates the significance and potential of the information retrieved in a local, regional and national context. It then recommends an appropriate course of action for analysis and reporting, commensurate with the perceived significance of the information retrieved, which will lead to an appropriate level of published report.

1.2 Geology and Topography, Landaus and General Archaeological Background

1.2.1 The route can be divided into four distinct topographic and geological zones which can be characterised as follows:-

- A low plateau with occasional low hills occupying most of the southern half of the route to the south of the Kennet valley. This lies at between 96m and 110m O.D. and is divided by the valley of the river Enborne. The underlying drift geology comprises London Clay (blue-grey marine clay), Reading Beds (variable sands, clays and gravels) and Bagshot Beds (sands with seams of clay).

- Chalk downland with dry valleys occupying most of the northern half of the route to the north of the Kennet valley and divided by the Lambourn valley, lying at between 94 and 125m O.D.. The underlying drift geology comprises upper chalk some of which is overlain by Reading Beds or Plateau gravels.

- The valley floors of the rivers Enborne, Kennet and Lambourn which lie at between 79 and 92m O.D.. The underlying drift geology comprises a mixture of river gravels, peat and alluvium.

- The valley sides which rise from the valley floors to the chalk downland or the low plateau. These vary from steep (the northern sides of the Kennet and Lambourn) to very gentle (the sides of the Enborne valley). The underlying geology comprises a mixture of Terrace gravels, Reading Beds and Upper Chalk.

1.2.2 Sites have been recognised and excavated or preserved *in situ* in all of these zones. Three sites (Great Pen Wood, Enborne Street and Wheatlands Lane) were situated on the low plateau to the south of the route, four sites (Bath Road, Hills Pightle, Swilly Copse and Curridge Road) were located on the chalk downland, three sites (Enborne Road, Bagnor Road and the Lambourn

Mesolithic site) were on the valley floors of the Kennet and the Lambourn and a single site (Elmore plantation) was on the northern valley side of the Kennet.

1.2.3 The land-use and archaeological background of the proposed route are fully detailed in previous Wessex Archaeology reports (1993a and 1994e), as are the evaluation results (Wessex Archaeology 1994c); it is not proposed to repeat the information here.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

The techniques employed during the Stage 3 fieldwork are set out below. In addition, archaeological excavation of the Lambourn valley Mesolithic site was undertaken by the York Archaeological Trust.

2.1 Machine Trenching

2.1.1 A total of 37 machine trenches was excavated. Of these 28 were to evaluate areas which could not be accessed during the Stage 2 evaluation, seven were excavated in order to investigate possible features identified during the geophysical survey at Enborne Street and two 20m by 20m trenches were excavated to investigate apparently isolated features identified during the Stage 2 evaluation. The two 20m x 20m areas are described below (see 3.8, Bath Road and 3.12, Swilly Copse).

2.1.2 The trenches were excavated by JCB using a 1.70m wide toothless bucket, working under continuous archaeological supervision. Topsoil and overburden were removed in a series of spits down to the surface of archaeological deposits or drift geology, whichever was encountered first. Full textual, graphic and photographic records were made of all deposits using the Wessex Archaeology *pro forma* recording system.

2.2 Strip and Record

2.2.1 The removal of topsoil from large areas, in order to define the nature and limits of previously identified sites was originally planned for the sites at Great Pen Wood, Wheatlands Lane and Hills Pightle. However, following the completion of the machine trenching, it was decided that the same strategy would be employed at two further sites, those at Enborne Street and Elmore Plantation.

2.2.2 The final extent and location of the stripped areas was dependant on the findings and was decided on site. Stripping was continued until the full extent of a located archaeological site along and within the route corridor was defined. The stripping was conducted using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a 1.80m wide toothless bucket, working under continuous archaeological supervision. The spoil was removed from site by dumper truck. Stripping continued to the surface of the drift geology or archaeological deposits, whichever was encountered first.

2.2.3 Following the removal of the topsoil and appropriate hand cleaning all features were investigated by hand excavation. Full textual, graphic and photographic records were made of all deposits and features encountered using the Wessex Archaeology *pro forma* recording system.

2.3 Field Walking

2.3.1 Following the ploughing and after a period left for weathering, a number of fields adjacent to the present course of the A34 in the area of Curridge Road

were fieldwalked. The fieldwalking was undertaken by two people over two days. Conditions were dry with a strong summer sun. Surface visibility was hampered by direct sunlight and glare, but generally good ground conditions prevailed.

2.3.2 Collection units were laid out on the Ordnance Survey Grid, within which complete hectares were subdivided into 25m long stints at 25m intervals. In total 115 stints were walked. The work concentrated on the recovery of worked flint and pottery. Modern material was noted in the field but not collected.

2.4 Watching Brief

2.4.1 The archaeological monitoring of enabling works started in July 1996 and continued until July 1997. The watching brief was restricted to the recording of a limited number of poorly preserved features and the recording of the railway. Any archaeological remains requiring specific mitigation were dealt with under separate instruction. In this way a small site of Romano-British date which was not located by the evaluation was excavated and recorded at Bagnor Road. The watching brief also resulted in the recording of a small number of features of archaeological interest at Enborne Street, to the north of the A4 Bath Road, to the east of Swilly Copse and at Curridge Road, together with many features which proved to be of modern or natural origin.

At the time of writing, it is understood that a minor piece of topsoil stripping requiring archaeological attendance at one of the A34 slip roads/tie-ins north of Newbury, remains outstanding.

2.4.2 Written, drawn and photographic records were made of all details of excavation and/or demolition likely to reveal material of archaeological significance, using Wessex Archaeology's standard recording system. Where possible features were revealed, these were investigated by hand excavation and full recording. Where more recent features, notably parts of the disused railway and agricultural drainage systems, were reduced, a full photographic record was made, augmented by plans and sections where necessary.

2.4.3 During the watching brief the areas to be preserved, at Enborne Road and near the Lambourn, were closely monitored to ensure their continuing survival. On-site advice was given where requested to the main contractors and sub-contractors.

2.4.4 The monitoring operation allowed areas of high potential to be preserved, either by avoiding specific areas or by adapting the methods of construction to avoid damage to the existing ground surface. An on-site archaeologist was present to maintain communication with the various work crews and supply background information and advice where necessary.

3.0 RESULTS

The results of the Stage 3 fieldwork are presented below. The results of the machine trenching and the watching brief are summarised first, followed by the site specific results including watching brief discoveries associated with specific known sites. The sites are described from south to north along the bypass route.

3.1 Machine Trenching

3.1.1 Machine trenching was undertaken in areas where the Stage 2 evaluation was incomplete due to access problems. Additional trenches excavated at specific sites are discussed in the site specific results. A catalogue of trench descriptions is included at **Appendix 2.**

3.1.2 It was not possible during the Stage 2 evaluation to fully define the northern extent of the Elmore Plantation site due to dense woodland. To remedy this situation three machine trenches were excavated in order to complete the evaluation trenching within the route corridor after the removal to stump of the woodland. No archaeological deposits or features were located.

3.1.3 At the southern end of the route there were two areas, one to the south and one to the north of Tot Hill, where the Stage 2 evaluation trenching was unable to proceed because of the tree cover. Nine machine trenches were excavated to complete the trenching pattern. These trenches did not reveal anything of archaeological significance.

3.1.4 To the west of the Swilly Copse area and in the vicinity of Snelsmore House, five evaluation trenches were previously unexcavated because of tree cover. In order to complete the trenching pattern five 25m trenches were excavated. These trenches did not reveal anything of archaeological significance.

3.1.5 Approximately 150m to the north of the Swilly Copse area, within the Curridge Road fieldwalking area, a further machine trench was excavated in order to evaluate a small field which was not accessible during the Stage 2 evaluation. This revealed a shallow circular feature, probably the base of a heavily truncated pit. No datable material was recovered from either of the two fills. It is therefore uncertain whether this feature is related to the scatter of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age worked flint and burnt flint identified in the Stage 2 evaluation.

3.1.6 To the east of Bath Road a single evaluation trench was previously unexcavated because of tree cover. This 25m long trench was excavated to complete the evaluation of this area. No archaeological deposits or features were encountered.

3.1.7 Five trenches were excavated in order to evaluate part of the floodplain of the River Enborne which could not be investigated during the Stage 2 evaluation due to dense woodland and access problems. During the Stage 1 evaluation

burnt flint and medieval tile, and one undated feature, were found in test-pits on the floodplain. Only one further feature, an undated ditch on a north-south alignment, was revealed during the Stage 3 evaluation.

3.1.8 Five further machine trenches were excavated in order to complete the trenching pattern, two at Skinners Green and three at Castle Wood. No archaeological features or deposits were encountered.

3.2 The Watching Brief

3.2.1 The monitoring of enabling works included the following: compound construction, temporary haul routes, borrow pits, bridging operations, drainage improvements, railway bridge and embankment reductions and topsoil stripping. Whilst many of these works were, individually, of limited scope, overall a considerable ground surface area was opened for archaeological inspection.

3.2.2 The sites of high archaeological potential at Enborne Road and by the River Lambourn were closely monitored to ensure that all contractors were aware of the measures in place to preserve these sites, and that these were adhered to. Advice was given where variations and/or additions to works affecting the archaeological heritage were proposed. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were discovered during the minor enabling works carried out at the Enborne Road site prior to the site being preserved *in situ*.

3.2.3 Excavations for a balancing pond in the Kennet valley, north of the river, were also monitored in order to recover samples of the Mesolithic sedimentary sequence and possible palaeochannel previously investigated by auger survey during the Stage 1 evaluation.

3.2.4 Features recorded during the watching brief are discussed in the site-specific sections which follow.

3.2.5 Apart from the Romano-British site discovered at Bagnor Road, only isolated remains were encountered during the watching brief. This serves to validate the results of the evaluation stages, which suggested that much of the route passes over areas which have either already been truncated by railway construction and agricultural erosion, or which may have been less intensively utilised during past periods.

3.3 Great Pen Wood

3.3.1 During the Stage 2 evaluation three possible features were found in a single machine trench between Great Pen Wood and the dismantled railway line to the north. During the Stage 3 evaluation/excavation, which comprised the removal of all tree stumps and controlled topsoil stripping over an area of *c.* 2000m² (80m x 25m), centred on SU 45200 62600, a total of five archaeological features - the truncated remains of five pits - were identified. Pottery and tile datable to the Romano-British period was recovered from three of these.

3.3.2 No structural features were located, probably due to the truncation caused by the construction of the railway embankment and the removal of trees. If these features represent Romano-British settlement or industrial activity, then the main focus of this would appear to lie outside the road corridor. Alternatively, the site has been so heavily truncated within the corridor that its original function cannot be discerned. Given the levels of truncation and its uncertain function this site can only be considered of local importance.

3.4 Enborne Street

3.4.1 To investigate further the source of the medieval material recovered during previous stages of evaluation, a geophysical survey (GeoQuest Associates 1994) was undertaken over the site during the Stage 2 evaluation. This survey suggested the presence of three ditches, possible pits and possible masonry features. During the Stage 3 work, therefore, seven trenches were excavated over the defined anomalies. Although a reasonable quantity of pottery was recovered from topsoil and subsoil deposits, together with some material from linear features, the location and type of features suggested by the anomalies recorded during the geophysical survey were not confirmed by the trenching.

3.4.2 Strip and record was subsequently undertaken over an area of approximately 2600m² centred on SU 44370 64050. Probable field boundary ditches, of possible post-medieval date, running both north-south and east-west were encountered. No structural evidence, the presence of which was implied by the geophysical evidence, was identified. However, several pits and linear features, datable to the 12th or 13th century, were also uncovered, some of which contained vast quantities of pottery and tile. All showed signs of truncation, probably due to ploughing.

3.4.3 Two of the pits displayed considerable scorching of the natural clay around them. Both were sub-circular, between 1.5m and 2.60m in diameter with a maximum depth of 0.20m, and had similar 'bowl' shaped profiles. It is possible that these represent the truncated remains of small 'clamp' kilns. Immediately to the north was a spread of burnt material from which several fragments of fired clay were recovered. These could represent fragments of either the superstructure or lining of the putative kiln. However, it is possible that the features are merely hearths and unconnected with ceramic production.

3.4.4 The other six pits were generally sub-rectangular in shape with near vertical side and flat bases, larger then the possible kilns and up to 1.15m deep. The function of these is uncertain, they could represent quarry pits for clay extraction or possibly be associated with some form of levigation (clay puddling) process. It is clear from the vast assemblages of pottery and tile they contained that they were subsequently used for the disposal of kiln waste.

3.4.5 Two shallow linear features containing very large quantities of pottery were also excavated and it is provisionally thought that these may be associated with some of the pits, probably serving a drainage function. Similar gullies have

been found on other medieval kiln sites, in particular the site at Harefield Lane, Nuneaton, Warwickshire (Moorhouse 1981), where a drain constructed of broken pots was excavated. The concentrations of pottery recovered from relatively short sections of some of these gullies could represent the remains of similar 'pot drains', possibly where the features passed below structures or surfaces. An alternative interpretation is that these gullies were utilised in the levigation process. The clay slip would have flowed slowly along the gully before being collected, with the concentrations of pottery functioning as 'baffles' within the gullies which would have trapped the coarser or heavier particles, while the finer material would have remained in suspension (Rye 1981).

3.4.6 The pits and shallow linear features are assumed to be the main source of the medieval materials recovered during earlier evaluations, although other sources may lie outside the road corridor.

3.4.7 In addition to the above features a further three linear features of probable medieval date were excavated, one with a fairly regular 'V' shaped profile, possibly a field or property boundary.

3.4.8 During the watching brief a single, shallow sub rectangular pit from which a small quantity of medieval pottery was recovered, was recorded cut into the natural clay immediately to the east of the excavation area.

3.4.9 The large assemblage of pottery and tile recovered from this site, and the relatively narrow range of forms represented within this assemblage, appears to relate to a medieval production centre, probably of 13th century date. This site, along with the site at Wheatlands Lane, should be considered together as part of what may have been a large, dispersed, pottery and tile production complex in this area, which would probably have exploited the natural London Clay substrata of the local area, this being "excellent for throwing" (Musty *et al* 1969), as a source of clay. It is therefore possible that further features will survive outside the road corridor.

3.4.10 As one of only three known ceramic production sites of this date in Berkshire, the Enborne Street site can potentially provide information relating to the nature, organisation and techniques of ceramic production during this period and should be considered of regional importance.

3.5 Wheatlands Lane

3.5.1 To investigate further a localised concentration of medieval pottery and tile of 12th-13th century date located during the previous evaluations, a geophysical survey (GeoQuest Associates 1994) was undertaken over the site during the Stage 2 evaluation. This survey suggested the presence of possible pits. During the Stage 3 work, therefore, two areas were subject to strip and record operations: approximately 50m x 40m to the south of Wheatlands Lane, and approximately 90m x 45m to the north of Wheatlands Lane.

3.5.2 In the southern area two linear features were identified. In the northern area a single linear feature and a possible pit were identified, together with three less well-defined spreads of pottery and burnt flint. The two features identified in the southern area were both shallow gullies which contained dense concentrations of pottery, similar to those at the nearby Enborne Street site (see 3.4.6 above).

3.5.3 To the north of Wheatlands Lane a slightly curving ditch traced on a north-south alignment, probably a silted up field boundary ditch, was recorded. The only other feature recognised in this area was an amorphous, irregular feature from which a small assemblage of medieval pottery was recovered, probably a tree throw containing accumulated debris.

3.5.4 Sondages were excavated into the substrata in the areas where concentrations of pottery and burnt flint were noted during the initial topsoil stripping. However, no features were discerned.

3.5.5 The similarity of these features to those at Enborne Street, their possibly contemporary date and close proximity suggest that these represent the remains of a similar, if not the same, dispersed ceramic production complex. Although heavy truncation is assumed, it is likely that these features were on the periphery of a settlement which probably either lies outside the road corridor, or has been destroyed by the construction of the railway. As with the Enborne Street site this should be considered of regional importance.

3.6 Enborne Road

3.6.1 This site is located on the south side of the Kennet valley between Enborne Road and the London-Penzance railway line, centred on SU 44900 66500, on the shallow southeast facing slope of a small valley running northeast towards the river Kennet. A series of features and deposits of both early and late Romano-British date were found in eight of the Stage 2 evaluation trenches, covering an area of approximately 6500m². These were described in detail in an earlier report (Wessex Archaeology 1993) and it is not proposed to repeat the information here. It is likely that the settlement represented was a Romano-British farmstead, which could be termed a villa, given the substantial 'Romanised' structures which must have stood on the site.

3.6.2 The most important aspect of the site is the discrete pre-Flavian element. This may represent military activity, possibly as part of the campaigns of consolidation which followed the invasion of AD 43, or be evidence of early settlement. The understanding of the immediate post-conquest period has always been of great interest and English Heritage identify the era as being of particular importance in *'Exploring Our Past'*, a discussion document for directions in future archaeological research.

3.6.3 Farmstead/villas vary considerably in status and complexity. The artefact assemblage recovered from the site, though extensive for an evaluation, displayed few exotic finds; however, the site covered a large area and probably

extends beyond the road corridor to the west. The pre-Flavian element and the excellent preservation on the site accords it 'regional or county' importance.

3.6.4 Because of the nature and importance of this site, a strategy was developed to allow the site to be preserved *in situ* beneath an embankment. No further work was undertaken during the Stage 3 investigations, apart from the monitoring of construction works.

3.7 Elmore Plantation

3.7.1 To investigate further ten possible features and a colluvial deposit which contained many artefacts of Romano-British date discovered during previous stages of work, a geophysical survey (GeoQuest Associates 1994) was undertaken over the site. This survey suggested the presence of possible pits.

3.7.2 An area of *c.* 1800m² centred on SU 45920 67770 was stripped of topsoil, a colluvial deposit and a buried soil horizon of Romano-British date, to the surface of an underlying colluvium. This exposed a number of archaeological features which were cut into the lower colluvial deposit. The sequence of colluvial deposits was confined to a small coombe or bowl shaped depression approximately 30m long and 23m wide towards the north-western side of the stripped area. A cross-baulk was left across this area of the site in order to show the sequence of deposits and allow column samples to be taken. The majority of the south-eastern part of the stripped area was completely truncated by a large backfilled quarry, of probable post-medieval date.

3.7.3 Sondages were dug through the lower colluvial deposits to the surface of the mixed clay and weathered chalk natural substrata. A further buried soil dated to the Late Bronze Age was identified in the sondages, within the colluvial deposits.

3.7.4 Eleven archaeological features, together with two further features of probable natural origin, were sealed below the Romano-British buried soil. Six post-holes, located towards the centre of the stripped area in two discrete groups of three, were excavated. These did not appear to form any coherent structure. Only one post-hole could be broadly dated to the Romano-British period. However, on the basis of the grouping of the post-holes and their similarity of form they are all assumed to be of a similar date.

3.7.5 Two possible pits, irregular in shape with steep, irregular sides were probably the result of disturbance caused by tree roots, although both features contained pottery datable to the 3rd or 4th century AD.

3.7.6 A short linear feature, possibly a beam slot, was located towards the north-east of the stripped area. Romano-British pottery of 3rd or 4th century date was recovered, along with small quantities of iron slag, tile and stone.

3.7.7 A small sub-circular pit had been cut through the Romano-British buried topsoil, and possibly through the overlying colluvium, in the extreme north-east

of the area of excavation where the colluvial deposits were only some 0.20-0.30m deep. Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from its single fill. No other features of this date were located and only two further sherds of this date were recovered during the machining. The nature of the activity which this feature represents is unclear.

3.7.8 The Romano-British features excavated at this site only appear to have survived within the colluvial deposits which built up within the small coombe during the later prehistoric and Romano-British periods. The colluvial deposits, although natural, are an indirect result of agricultural activity, i.e. ploughing. The two soil horizons may therefore represent breaks in the continuity of the agricultural activities in the immediate vicinity, possibly caused by a change from agricultural to domestic and/or industrial use. The Romano-British features themselves appear to represent the remains of a small farmstead. Overall, this site should be considered of local importance.

3.7.9 To the east of the track an 'L'-shaped trench, a total of 39 metres long, was excavated in order to expose oyster-shell deposits encountered during the Stage 2 evaluation. These deposits were located but found to be intermixed with the sandy silty clays lying above natural chalk and clay with flints. As such, they are unlikely to be of archaeological significance. However, a bulk sample was taken to elucidate the nature and origin of the oysters.

3.8 Bath Road

3.8.1 In order to further investigate a shallow feature from which Bronze Age pottery was recovered during the previous evaluations, an area of approximately 20m x 20m centred on SU 44980 68150 was excavated over the immediate area. This revealed a shallow irregular sub circular feature, probably a tree throw.

3.8.2 During the watching brief a hearth and a single post hole were recorded. The base and sides of the sub rectangular hearth were clearly heat effected, which had caused a distinct reddening of the natural gravels into which the feature was cut. A relatively large quantity of pottery of Middle-Late Bronze Age date was recovered from the two fills. Four metres to the west of this feature was a shallow post hole; although no datable material was recovered from this feature, it is likely that it was associated with the nearby hearth.

3.8.3 On the southern edge of Whittle Copse, *c.* 220m to the northeast, centred on SU 45100 68340, an extensive spread of burnt flint and charcoal some 20m in diameter and up to 0.50m thick was recorded. This overlay a thin (0.05m) layer of dark peat, possibly a buried turf line, which in turn overlay a layer of bluish grey gleyed clay which directly overlay the natural sand and gravel sub strata. No datable artefacts were recovered from any of these deposits, which are interpreted as the plough-damaged remains of a burnt mound. Burnt mounds are usually attributed to Bronze Age cultures, given that features of this date were recorded some 200m to the south-west (see above) it is possible that these deposits are also of Bronze Age date.

3.8.4 The limited nature of the features and deposits discovered in this area means that these can only be regarded as of local importance.

3.9 Bagnor Road

3.9.1 During the watching brief a small site of Romano-British date was found during groundworks for a balancing pond. This was located on the south side of the Lambourn, centred on SU 45441 68944, on a gentle north-east facing slope running parallel to and on the eastern side of the Bagnor Road. The archaeological deposits and features occupied a strip of land approximately 110m long and 20m wide. Some of the features were sealed below an extensive sub soil deposit, possibly a buried soil horizon, of Late Romano-British date which covered much of the northern half of the site. This was investigated by both machine and hand excavation prior to being removed by machine to reveal the underlying archaeological features, cut into mixed alluvial deposits overlying river gravels. Machine excavation on the western side of Bagnor Road revealed a shallow, localised deposit of Romano-British date, possibly a remnant of the more extensive deposit recorded on the eastern side of the road, but no further features or deposits were identified.

3.9.2 Four linear features, probably ditches representing field or property boundaries, were identified on the site, aligned approximately east-west. The earliest of these was located towards the northern end of the site and was sealed below the late Romano-British sub soil deposit. A single sherd of pottery, datable to the 1st century BC or the 1st century AD was recovered from this feature, along with small quantities of animal bone, worked flint and burnt flint. The feature appeared to have been truncated towards its eastern end.

3.9.3 Pottery dated to the 1st or 2nd centuries AD, including continental imports, was recovered from the other three ditches, together with other finds. Only one of these ditches appeared to be sealed by the possible buried soil horizon.

3.9.4 A roughly rectangular spread of flint and chalk rubble was revealed by excavation to be a well preserved "T"-shaped grain drier or malting kiln. This comprised a sub circular stoke hole approximately 1.5m in diameter and 0.70m deep with a horizontal flue on its north western side which led to the vertical flue. This was constructed in a large irregular cut which was lined with walls of chalk, flint and mortar, which showed distinct signs of heat discoloration. A 1.60m length of the drying floor, consisting of re-used ceramic and limestone roof tiles set on edge and mortared together to form a low arch, survived intact. The remaining superstructure had been completely destroyed, possibly by deliberate demolition.

3.9.5 Charcoal rich deposits in the base of the stokehole and flue probably represent the remains of the final firing of the kiln. Pottery datable to the 3rd or 4th century AD was recovered from these deposits. These were overlain by layers of tile, masonry and mortar rubble, presumably the result of a collapse of the superstructure or drying floor. Pottery, including Oxford colour coated fine

wares, also datable to the 3rd or 4th century, were recovered from these along with fired clay, possibly part of the superstructure, and ceramic and limestone roof tiles. The remainder of the feature was filled with very mixed deposits of building rubble and dark greyish brown silty clay loam deposits, possibly the result of deliberate backfilling. Large quantities of pottery, again datable to the 3rd or 4th century, coins, all of 4th century date, and other metal objects were recovered from these deposits.

3.9.6 Immediately to the north of the kiln were the truncated remains of two hearths, datable broadly to the Romano-British period. Further to the north, three large irregular pits containing finds datable to the 3rd or 4th century AD were recorded. To the north of these a further three possible pits were excavated, but no datable material was recovered from these. An undated hearth and three post holes, datable only broadly to the Romano-British period, were also found in the same area of the site.

3.9.7 This site seems to represent a small part of a settlement, probably a small farmstead, of unknown size which appears to have been largely truncated within the road corridor, although it may continue to survive outside the corridor. A disputed site of archaeological interest potentially lies approximately 900m to the south in the grounds of Speen House. This has been regarded by some antiquarians as the location of the Roman station of *Spinis* as recorded in the *Antonine Itinerary*. This location, however, has been disputed on the grounds of the paucity of finds from the site. In addition according to the mileages given in the *Itinerary* its location should be approximately 2.0km to the west. Nevertheless, the generally high level of Romano-British material from the Speen vicinity is significant. It is possible that the Bagnor Road site represents an outlying farmstead or *Mansio* associated with the station. Other better preserved settlements are known within the county, so this would ordinarily only be considered of local importance, however, as the main body of the settlement has not been located and given the Late Iron Age and Early Romano-British date of some of the features and its probably association with the roadside station this site should be considered as of regional importance.

3.10 Lambourn Valley Mesolithic site

3.10.1 During the Stage 2 evaluation in 1993, an assemblage of Mesolithic flintwork was recovered from Trenches 294 and 297 immediately south of the River Lambourn (Wessex Archaeology 1994, 14) on the first gravel terrace (SU 454 690) at 82-83 m OD. The material was contained within a c. 0.20m thick layer of possibly alluvial silt sealed by 0.50m of topsoil and modern overburden, and appeared to be *in situ*. The assemblage included a range of diagnostic Mesolithic pieces including scrapers, serrated blades, microliths, and a burin as well as discarded debitage consisting of blades, flakes, cores and core trimming flakes. Further test excavation indicated that the spread of flintwork was very limited in extent.

3.10.2 *In situ* Mesolithic assemblages within an area with a long history of intensive agricultural use, such as the Lambourn valley, have only very rarely been identified and investigated. The site was therefore regarded as potentially being of national importance. In view of this, it was decided that the location of a proposed balancing pond to the west of the road line should be moved further to the south, in order to allow the *in situ* assemblage revealed in evaluation trench 297 to be preserved. It was assumed, therefore, that the focus of the area of Mesolithic activity would remain untouched to the west of the route. However, evaluation trench 294 lay directly on the route. Accordingly, a strategy for the excavation of an area of 0.4ha centred on this trench was drawn up by Wessex Archaeology, and approved by English Heritage.

3.10.3 York Archaeological Trust (YAT) was commissioned by the Highways Agency to undertake the excavation. The excavation was completed within the agreed period between 22nd July and 11th October 1996 and YAT submitted their assessment report (York Archaeological Trust 1996 Field Report Number 14) to the Highways Agency in March 1997. This report has been reviewed by Wessex Archaeology at the request of the Highways Agency. It is not proposed to repeat here in detail the results of the excavation as presented in the YAT report; however, a summary extract is set out below.

3.10.4 The aims and objectives of the excavation are summarised by YAT thus:

- *to establish whether the deposit represents an* in situ *Mesolithic occupation layer*
- *to determine the spatial extent and sediment stratigraphy of the site within the excavation area*
- *to define the nature of the Mesolithic environment during the occupation of the site and the general character of the environment in the Lambourn Valley during the early post-glacial period*
- *the typological and technological characterisation of the flint assemblage recovered from the site and its distribution across the excavation area*
- *an interpretation of the site in terms of relative date, taphonomic processes responsible for site formation, intrasite spatial organisation, and the relationship of the site to its environmental setting and other known Mesolithic sites in the region.*

3.10.5 The excavation strategy adopted a phased programme of investigation, comprising four stages of test pitting, machine stripping and manual excavation. The strategy was modified during the course of the project in order to ensure that the methods employed for data collection were appropriate to the character and content of the archaeological deposits present on the site. The results of the excavation are summarised by YAT:

3.10.6 *The excavation found no evidence for the presence of* in situ *Mesolithic occupation surfaces or layers within the area of the site intersected by the road. The site was made up of natural deposits and layers containing struck flint artefacts, with only a few archaeological layers and features of post-Mesolithic date found within the excavation area. Evidence for Neolithic-*

Bronze Age occupation of the site in the form of struck flint, pottery, one posthole and a colluvial occupation layer, was also found.

3.10.7 The absence of *in situ* occupation surfaces or layers and lack of associated faunal material reduces the importance of the deposits excavated on the line of the road. Significant Mesolithic assemblages, some *in situ*, are known, and have been excavated, elsewhere in the Kennet and Lambourn valleys. However, the site may contribute to knowledge of Mesolithic subsistence-settlement systems within the area. Overall, the excavated deposits may be considered of regional importance.

3.11 Hills Pightle

3.11.1 The site, centred on SU 46200 70000, lies within the base of a dry valley with two sink-holes to the north. The Stage 3 excavation comprised the re-directing of natural drainage channels and the controlled stripping of an area of *c.* 4000m² (80m x 50m). Valley base deposits composed of topsoil, subsoil and colluvium to a depth in excess of 1m were removed. Two linear features and three pits, all of medieval date, were excavated, along with two probably natural features which also produced small quantities of medieval pottery. All of the features were cut into the mixed natural substrata and appeared to be sealed below a thick (0.40m-0.60m) layer of yellowish brown sandy clay colluvium. This was in turn sealed below a 0.20m-0.30m thick layer of light brown sandy clay subsoil, which lay directly below the modern topsoil.

3.11.2 The largest of the two linear features was traced from the eastern limit of excavation across the entire width of the stripped area. A small assemblage of medieval pottery of probable 13th century date was recovered, along with small quantities of ceramic building material, worked flint, burnt flint and animal bone. All of the other features encountered were located to the north of this feature, suggesting that it may represent an enclosure or property boundary.

3.11.3 A short, shallow linear feature of uncertain function, orientated north-east to south-west, was located towards the north-western limit of excavation. The feature terminated within the area of excavation, the terminal consisting of a sub-circular pit, in the base of which was a small post-hole, these being interpreted as contemporary features. A small assemblage of medieval pottery was recovered, along with small amounts of ceramic building material, burnt flint and animal bone.

3.11.4 Three pits, all of medieval date, were also excavated, one a large sub-circular pit, 1.80m in diameter, which appeared to have been lined with clay, suggesting a storage function. Approximately 20m to the west of this, two intercutting sub-circular pits were recorded. Large quantities of burnt flint associated with a distinct deposit of charcoal were recovered from the later of these, together with two fragments of burnt sarsen stone; over 30 other fragments of the latter were found in unstratified contexts on the site.

3.11.5 A shallow feature approximately 8.00m long and 4.00m wide with very irregular sides and base, containing small quantities of medieval pottery, worked flint, animal bone and a probable iron nail, was interpreted as a remnant subsoil which had accumulated in a slight depression in the natural sub-strata. A further feature appeared to be the result of natural or animal disturbance, possibly a small, shallow pond or animal 'wallow'. Two small sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from this along with two pieces of worked flint and a single piece of burnt flint.

3.11.6 The finds recovered from the site and the features and deposits excavated appear to indicate a medieval domestic environment, although no structural features seem to have survived. This site can only be considered of local importance, although the pottery assemblage provides a useful comparison with the Enborne Street and Wheatlands Lane sites.

3.11.7 Approximately 150m to the east of the stripped area a ditch and bank earthwork was noted running along the west facing slope of the dry valley. This appears to form a continuous north-south property boundary that can be traced for *c.* 1300m. In order to investigate the nature of this earthwork its course along the bypass corridor was planned at an appropriate scale. Following this a single machine trench was excavated across the most appropriate section of the monument within the bypass corridor and a 1.50m section of the ditch was excavated by hand. Where a haul road cut through the earthwork on the southern side of the corridor, a section through both ditch and bank was cleaned by hand and recorded. The earthwork was found to comprise a broad shallow ditch, *c.* 2.50m wide and 0.40m deep, and a low bank *c.* 2.80m wide and 0.40m high on the western down slope side. No datable material was recovered from either the primary fill of the ditch or from the bank, however, modern (20th century) pottery and fragments of concrete were noted in the uppermost fills of the ditch. Ash trees up to 1.00m in diameter were noted growing on the bank to the north of the corridor, which would suggest an earlier date than the finds recovered from the ditch.

3.12 Swilly Copse

3.12.1 A single complete Middle Bronze Age Globular Urn was found in a shallow scoop at Swilly Copse, close to the proposed new junction with the A34. Further trenching in the vicinity of the find failed to discover any related vessels, nor any features to which to relate the deposit. An area of approximately 20m x 20m was stripped of topsoil over the immediate area, centred on SU 46840 70400. The only feature encountered within this trench was a small circular hearth containing a charcoal-rich primary fill.

3.12.2 During the watching brief a single feature, a small pit or post hole datable to the Early to Middle Bronze Age, was recorded 6m to the north of the excavated area. A small quantity of Early-Middle Bronze Age pottery was recovered from its single fill along with small quantities of charcoal. It is probable that this feature is associated with the small hearth and the complete Globular Urn.

3.12.3 Roughly 95m to the west of this pit (SU 46760 70390), a small sub circular hearth was also excavated during the watching brief. The base and sides of this feature were clearly heat affected, which caused a distinct reddening of the natural gravels into which it was cut, and the primary fill contained large quantities of charcoal. Although no datable finds were recovered, it is possible that this feature is associated with the hearth, pit etc. recorded to the east.

3.12.4 The dispersed and limited nature of these features means that they can only be considered as of local importance.

3.13 Curridge Road

3.13.1 A scatter of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age worked flint, burnt flint, and to a lesser extent medieval pottery and tile, covering an area of approximately 12.06 hectares (see DoT Sheets 11 and 12) was identified by test-pitting and fieldwalking (Wessex Archaeology 1991c, 20, A34.50-2). Subsequent machine trenching located four features, none of which were datable. The site appears to have been almost entirely contained within the ploughsoil, which was on average only 0.27m thick, any evidence of settlement present having been badly disturbed by ploughing. The density of the finds was not great but was extensive enough to be of significance.

3.13.2 The general level of modern debris across the field surfaces was very low, apart from specific areas of disturbance at the foot of the embankments for the existing A34, and immediately adjacent to Curridge Road opposite the 'Fox and Hounds' public house. From this it can be assumed that the field surfaces have not been generally disturbed by the addition of material in recent times, allowing greater reliance to be placed on the distribution of flint, and lack of pottery, as indices of the archaeological resource present in this part of the bypass route.

3.13.3 Approximately 45m to the west of the A34 Oxford Road and 20m to the south of its junction with Arlington Lane, at SU 47100 71250, a probable hearth containing a large quantity of charcoal was recorded during the watching brief. Although no datable finds were recovered from this feature, it lies within the Curridge Road fieldwalking site and may be of a similar, possibly Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, date.

3.13.4 Evidence of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age activity is relatively common in west Berkshire. Several contemporary finds spots are listed in the *Kennet Valley Survey* (Lobb and Rose 1996) and in the *Archaeology of the Berkshire Downs* (Richards 1978). Such a site cannot, therefore, be classified as rare. However, although many such sites are known, few have been studied in detail. Because of the truncated nature of the remains it is not possible to attribute a 'regional or county importance', but the site is extensive and significant enough to warrant being considered of local importance. The medieval artefact scatter is probably the result of material 'imported' during manuring and is of little importance save to indicate activity in the general area.

4.2.3 Fired Clay

In total, thirty fragments of fired clay were recovered in association with Romano-British pottery, half of which are featureless. The rest of the fragments have visible surfaces and may be structural or remnants of building material. None display any diagnostic features. Apart from three fragments which have an organic temper and are highly burnt, the rest of the fired clay is coarse grained and grog-tempered.

4.2.4 Pottery

All of the pottery is of Romano-British date, and consists of four sherds of samian, from a platter of form Drag 18 or 18/31, and 27 sherds of coarsewares, including both sandy and grog-tempered wares. A date range of 1st/2nd century AD may be suggested.

4.3 Enborne Street

4.3.1 This site produced the greatest quantity of artefacts, with an assemblage consisting mainly of pottery and ceramic building material (see Table 2). The quantity and condition of this material suggest that this is a production site, although the structural evidence for this was ambiguous.

4.3.2 Ceramic Building Material

Nearly 96 kg of ceramic building material was recovered from this site, and this represents a sample only of the total quantities observed during excavation. Particularly large quantities came from pits **7021** and **7030** and the upper fill (**7016**) of pit group **7061**. There is no evidence that these tiles had been used in any structure on the site and it seems likely, considering the quantities present, and the very homogeneous nature of the assemblage, that ceramic tiles were being produced on or near the site, together with pottery (see below).

4.3.3 The majority of the fragments came from medieval features associated with large quantities of 13th-century pottery (see below), and are assumed to be of similar date, although there are some diagnostic Roman fragments such as *tegulae* and poorly wedged, grog-tempered brick fragments. Given the lack of Romano-British pottery or other finds from the site, the latter fragments may have been deliberately collected from a nearby site for re-use.

4.3.4 Most of the medieval ceramic building material is represented by flat tile, most of which is of a very similar appearance. Tiles, some with surviving peg/nail holes, range in thickness from 13mm to 18mm and are generally in a dense, fine grog-tempered fabric or, less frequently, a dense, sandy fabric. The majority have been fired in oxidising conditions, although some of the tiles appear to have been overfired or burnt. A small proportion have traces of a clear lead glaze on the upper surface. As well as flat roof tiles there are at least three curved tile fragments, probably deriving from ridge tiles.

4.3.5 Fired Clay

Forty fragments in total were recovered from this site, all from medieval features, and most from a spread of burnt material (**7055**) associated with the

possible truncated kiln (**7054**). Just over half of these have a visible surface and could represent either superstructure or lining from the putative kiln. All the fragments are in a similar moderately coarse grained sandy fabric and many pieces are blackened through heating or burning. The remaining fragments are featureless.

4.3.6 Worked Flint

A small assemblage of worked flint was recovered from the site, 80% of which came from medieval features. The other 20% were recovered from unstratified contexts. The assemblage comprises patinated blade fragments and undiagnostic and therefore undatable flakes, all of which are edge damaged. All the flint derives from a local gravel source.

4.3.7 Burnt Flint

Small quantities of burnt, unworked flint were also recovered, mainly from unstratified contexts during initial clearance. This material type is of uncertain date; while a prehistoric date cannot be discounted, some at least of this material may have resulted from the putative industrial activities taking place on site (see below).

4.3.8 Pottery

With the exception of three post-medieval sherds, all of the large pottery assemblage recovered from the site is of medieval date, and both the quantity and condition of this material indicate that this does not represent a normal domestic assemblage.

4.3.9 Two fabric groups dominate the assemblage. The vast majority of sherds are in calcareous fabrics with some flint. A smaller proportion is in sandy flint-tempered fabrics. The distinction between the two types is not always clear-cut, and there is a range of variation in the quantity and size of inclusions in each. All sherds are in poor condition, soft and abraded, the calcareous sherds heavily leached. Surface slips applied in order to disguise the inclusions and to provide a smoother surface finish have been particularly badly abraded. A few sherds show signs of spalling of the surface.

4.3.10 Vessel forms are similar for both fabric groups, although the calcareous fabrics have the greatest variety. The main vessel forms are jars and bowls, with a small range of rim forms. Jars (or cooking pots) are either necked, with thickened and flattened rims, or unnecked with simpler rims. A few have a row of impressed 'dimples' around the shoulder. Bowls are either shallow vessels, often with inturned rims, or deeper forms with everted rims, frequently decorated on the inside of the rim. Some of the latter type may be curfews, as strap handles with perforated handle/body junctions, and perforated body sherds, indicate that these are present. Less common vessels include lamps, represented by three pedestal bases, a jug with strap handle, and a single cauldron. Two rod handles, one solid and one hollow, may derive from skillets or frying pans.

4.3.11 Decoration is scarce, and consists mainly of combed or incised wavy lines, which occur most commonly on bowls. Jars are generally plain, apart from a few with 'dimpled' shoulders; a handful of rims are finger-impressed. There is no evidence at all of glaze.

4.3.12 These two fabric groups have both been recognised from excavations within Newbury, and at other sites along the Kennet valley as far west as Devizes (Vince 1997, fabric groups A and B). Although one putative source has been proposed, in the Savernake Forest area, it is evident that these fabrics form part of a widespread tradition in central southern England, and that each type was probably manufactured at more than one location. The evidence from Enborne Street would suggest that this is one of those locations. The sheer quantity of material, and the nature of its deposition, would suggest repeated episodes of dumping, each involving large amounts of pottery. No obvious wasters, in the form of distorted vessels, were found, but the poor condition of the pottery could be a result of either underfiring or overfiring. Some spalling has been noted, which could also be attributed to firing faults. The assemblage is dominated by a very restricted range of vessel forms.

4.3.13 Evidence from Newbury suggested that the flint-tempered fabrics (group A) were gradually replaced at around the end of the 12th or beginning of the 13th century by the flint-tempered/calcareous fabrics (group B), the latter continuing in use into the 14th century with little evidence of any chronological development. The Enborne Street assemblage includes both types, which might suggest a start date within the transitional phase, perhaps in the early part of the 13th century, although the undiagnostic nature of the group B vessel forms hinders the determination of an end date, which could be as late as mid 14th century.

4.3.14 In addition to the two main fabric groups, there is a small proportion of sherds in sandy fabrics. These are mainly glazed wares, deriving from jugs, some with slipped decoration; there is also one internally glazed dripping dish. A few sherds are in finer, pale-firing sandy fabrics, representing at least two glazed, slip-decorated jugs. These could be products of either the Surrey whiteware industry or the Laverstock kilns outside Salisbury, and are of 13th-century type.

4.3.15 Although pottery was recovered from features across the site, particularly large groups were recovered from five features: pits **7031** and **7030**, the upper fill of pit group **7061**, linear feature **7033** and ditch **8084**.

4.3.16 Slag

Only one piece of slag was recovered, from ditch **8096**. This is likely to represent smithing rather than smelting slag, but quantities are insufficient to indicate iron working on the site.

4.3.17 Stone

Twenty-seven fragments of stone were recovered, the majority of which came from pit 7021 and comprised fragments of local sarsen, unworked. The rest of

the stone comprised two whetstone fragments; a fragment of sandstone with one polished surface, possibly utilised; and three unworked fragments of medium grained sandstone, probably burnt.

4.3.18 Metalwork

The metalwork comprises eleven iron objects and one lead object. The majority of the metalwork was found in medieval ditch, linear and pit features. One iron object was from a subsoil context, and a second, plus the lead object (a musket ball) were unstratified. All the iron objects are highly encrusted and therefore difficult to identify, even from X-ray, but at least four nails and possibly three or four knife fragments were observed.

4.4 Wheatlands Lane

4.4.1 A restricted range of finds was recovered from a small number of features, comprising mainly pottery, with smaller quantities of ceramic building material, fired clay, and burnt and worked flint (see Table 3). A large proportion of the finds came from topsoil contexts. Overall, the assemblage shows considerable similarities with that from Enborne Street (see above).

4.4.2 Ceramic Building Material

The ceramic building material derived almost entirely from topsoil and subsoil contexts. Of the 61 fragments recovered, only four displayed any diagnostic features; one Roman *tegula* fragment and three peg tiles. Apart from the *tegula* fragment, all the ceramic building material is assumed to be of medieval date.

4.4.3 The majority of the medieval ceramic building material is tile, and the assemblage is visually very similar to that from Enborne Street (see above). The tiles range from 13mm to 18mm in thickness, and most are in a fine, dense fabric with rare flint inclusions. Three fragments are glazed on the upper surface.

4.4.4 Fired Clay

Seven of the fired clay fragments came from the topsoil and two from ditch **6024**. As for Enborne Street (see above), all the fragments are in a similar moderately coarse sandy fabric. Only one piece has a visible surface. Five of the fragments are blackened from heating or burning. As for Enborne Street, the suggestion that these pieces derived from a possible kiln structure may be made, although the evidence here is even more ambiguous than for the other site.

4.4.5 Worked and Burnt Flint

A small number of worked flints was recovered, mainly from an unstratified topsoil context; the remainder comes from two medieval features (gully **6019**, ditch **6024**). The assemblage comprises one core and several undiagnostic flakes, all in local gravel flint. The items are all slightly patinated and show edge damage.

4.4.6 In addition, a small quantity of burnt, unworked flint was recovered, again mainly from the topsoil. Although intrinsically undatable, this material type is often taken as an indicator of prehistoric activity.

4.4.7 Pottery

With the exception of three post-medieval sherds from the topsoil, the pottery is entirely of medieval date. The range of fabrics and forms present is very similar to that observed at Enborne Street (see below) and, as for the latter site, the condition of the sherds and the quantity recovered would suggest that this represents waste from a production site.

4.4.8 The assemblage is dominated by sherds in coarse flint- and flint-/limestone-tempered fabrics, comparable respectively with fabric groups A and B as identified at Newbury (Vince 1997). Vessel forms in these fabrics include jars, shallow bowls or dishes, deeper bowls, and curfews. Rod handles may derive from jugs, while strap handles could represent either jugs or curfews. Sandy wares (comparable to Newbury fabric group C: *ibid.*) are present in much smaller quantities; sherds derive from at least one jar, one hollow-handled skillet or dripping dish, and one jug. A few sherds have combed or incised curvilinear decoration. A date range within the 13th century may be proposed for this assemblage; the homogeneity of the pottery would suggest a fairly short timespan but neither fabrics nor forms are sufficiently diagnostic to enable closer dating.

4.5 Elmore Plantation

4.5.1 Finds were recovered from topsoil, subsoil, hill-wash and colluvial deposits, as well as several features (see Table 4). Pottery indicates that most of these contexts and features are of Romano-British date, although the colluvium appears to be of prehistoric date.

4.5.2 Worked and Burnt Flint

A small assemblage of worked gravel flint was recovered mainly from unstratified and colluvial deposits. The assemblage comprises a blade core, blade fragments and undiagnostic flakes. The majority of the flint is patinated and edge damaged.

4.5.3 In addition, a small quantity of burnt, unworked flint was recovered, mainly from hill-wash and colluvial deposits. This material is undatable, and here occurs mainly in contexts dated by pottery to the Romano-British period, although the presence of worked flint would indicate a prehistoric presence in the vicinity of the site.

4.5.4 Ceramic Building Material

The ceramic building material recovered consists entirely of Romano-British brick and tile fragments. The majority of these are undiagnostic, but three *tegulae* and three flue tile fragments were identified. The remaining fragments have been dated to this period largely on the basis of fabric.

4.5.5 Fired Clay

Seven fragments of fired clay were recovered from layer **6089**. Five pieces have a visible surface and may be fragments of building material.

4.5.6 Pottery

With the exception of four medieval sherds (two unstratified, two from pit 6049) and two post-medieval sherds (both unstratified), and one prehistoric sherd, all the pottery is of Romano-British date.

4.5.7 The prehistoric sherd is an undiagnostic body sherd in a coarse flint-tempered fabric, probably of Late Bronze Age date. As the only sherd from colluvium **6078**, it provides valuable dating evidence for that context.

4.5.8 There is one sherd of samian, and a few sherds of Oxfordshire colour-coated ware; the remainder of the assemblage comprises coarsewares, including greywares and grog-tempered wares. On the basis of the Oxfordshire finewares, plus one drop-flange bowl of characteristic late Romano-British type, the assemblage can be dated broadly to the 3rd/4th century AD, although the samian would suggest the presence of at least some residual earlier material. The largest groups came from linear **6047** and from the buried topsoil (**6075**).

4.5.9 Stone

Six fragments of medium grained sandstone were recovered from the site, from a topsoil context, layer **6089** and linear **6047**, all associated with Romano-British pottery. The stone fragments are flat and range between 15mm and 20mm in thickness. It seems likely that they represent building material such as tiles.

4.5.10 Metalwork

One copper alloy object and five iron objects were recovered, two unstratified, one from a hill-wash deposit (**6067**), two from buried topsoil (**6075**) and one from a tree bowl (**6083**). The iron objects comprise two encrusted nail shanks, and three highly encrusted nails. All are likely to be of Romano-British date. The copper alloy item, from hill-wash deposit **6067**, is a small stud with a domed head and circular shank, which although not particularly diagnostic is most likely to be Romano-British in date.

4.5.11 Slag

The majority of the slag came from an unstratified context; the remainder is from Romano-British or natural features. This is all iron working slag, and with the absence of tap slags, it seems more likely that it represents smithing rather than smelting, although some of the pieces are quite dense. One fragment could possibly be part of a hearth base.

4.6 Bath Road

4.6.1 Two small collections of finds were made during the watching brief (Table 7). To the north of the A4 Bath Road, hearth **9000** produced 33 sherds of coarse flint-tempered pottery of Middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury type.

4.6.2 At Whittle Copse, quantities of burnt, unworked flint were recovered from what may be the remains of a burnt mound (**9089**).

4.7 Bagnor Road

4.7.1 A moderate quantity of Romano-British material, mainly pottery and ceramic building material, was recovered from this site (Table 5). The range of material types is limited, but both pottery and stone include continental imports.

4.7.2 Ceramic Building Material

The ceramic building material includes fragments of *tegulae*, *imbrices* and box flue tiles in a range of fabric types. The majority of the ceramic building material derived from the structure of grain drier **9104**, where they had presumably been reused.

4.7.3 Worked Flint

The worked flint constitutes a mixed assemblage. Much of the material comprises undiagnostic flakes and cores in locally derived raw material, some patinated and some unpatinated, and with varying degrees of edge damage; very few tools or retouched pieces are present. This material has a broad potential date range within the Neolithic or Bronze Age. There is, however, evidence for an earlier, probably Mesolithic component in the form of blades and blade cores, utilising both local and non-local raw material, which is comparable to the larger assemblage recovered from the nearby Lambourn Mesolithic site.

4.7.4 Burnt Flint

Burnt, unworked flint was also recovered. This material type is of uncertain date and origin; here it occurs mainly in the same contexts as the worked flint, but in nearly every case these contexts also contained Romano-British pottery. Nearly half of the burnt flint derived from contexts within the grain drier **9104**.

4.7.5 Pottery

With the exception of a single sherd of probable Late Iron Age date from ditch **9133**, all pottery from this site is of Romano-British date, and includes greywares, oxidised and grog-tempered coarsewares of various sources as well as Black Burnished ware from Dorset (BB1), and smaller quantities of finewares in the form of samian and Oxford whitewares and colour-coated wares. Two sherds of Nene Valley colour-coated wares were recognised, along with one sherd of roughcast Lyon ware. The date range of the assemblage spans the Romano-British period (late 1st to 4th century AD), with an emphasis on the later period (3rd/4th century AD).

4.7.6 Stone

The stone included both portable objects (whetstone and querns) and building stone (limestone roofing slabs). All the limestone tiles came from the structure of grain drier **9104**, where they may have been reused. The whetstone and querns (including greensand, quartz conglomerate and imported lava) derived

mainly from **9104** and the buried soil layer **9066/9067**, as well as a few other features.

4.7.7 Metalwork

Metalwork comprised iron (119), copper alloy (seven) and lead objects (two). Most of these (88 objects) were recovered during a metal detector survey over the buried soil **9066**, consisting mainly of iron nails. The presence among this group of a modern cartridge case, and the other post-medieval artefacts noted in the field, indicates that these objects are likely to be of relatively recent origin, although one Romano-British coin (4th century AD) is present.

4.7.8 Objects from other contexts again consist mainly of iron nails, with one copper alloy spoon bowl, from grain drier **9104**, and four copper alloy coins from various contexts (all 4th century AD issues).

4.7.9 Other Finds

Other finds comprise one fragment of a shale armlet, from grain drier **9104**, and four pieces of ironworking slag, from **9104** and ditch **9036**.

4.8 Hills Pightle

4.8.1 A moderate quantity of artefacts was recovered (see Table 6). Pottery is the only closely datable find, and would indicate a medieval date for the finds assemblage.

4.8.2 Ceramic Building Material

The majority of the ceramic building material recovered is of medieval date, with a few residual (and possibly re-used) Romano-British pieces. Most was unstratified. The medieval material consists largely of tiles with an average thickness of 15mm. Two have surviving peg holes, and four show the remains of a lead glaze on the upper surface.

4.8.3 Worked and Burnt Flint

A small assemblage of gravel and chalk flint was recovered from the site, half of which was unstratified and the other half residual in medieval features. The assemblage comprises cores, blade fragments and undiagnostic flakes. The majority of the assemblage is highly patinated and edge damaged; the raw material is a mixture of chalk- and gravel-derived flint.

4.8.4 In addition, a moderate quantity of burnt, unworked flint was recovered, mostly from a lens of burnt material within the upper fill of pit **7523**. This material type is undatable, although frequently associated with prehistoric activity; in this instance all burnt flint derived from medieval features.

4.8.5 Stone

All of the stone recovered consists of burnt and unworked sarsen. This was largely unstratified, with two pieces associated with the burnt flint in pit **7523** (see above).

4.8.6 Pottery

The entire pottery assemblage is of medieval date. Most sherds derived from the topsoil, and this context contained most of the diagnostic pieces. Again, flint- and flint-/calcareous-tempered fabrics are most common, in jar and dish/bowl forms. Sandy wares are less common, and are frequently glazed; vessel forms include bowls, jugs and one hollow-handled skillet or dripping dish. A date range in the 13th century is likely.

4.8.7 Iron

Four highly encrusted iron objects were recovered, one from an unstratified context, the others from pit **7502**, ditch **7515** and pit **7523**. All are likely to be of medieval date. One nail was identified.

4.8.8 Animal Bone

A small amount of fragmentary animal bone, all from domestic mammals, was recovered from several medieval contexts.

4.9 Swilly Copse

4.9.1 During the watching brief a small quantity of very abraded, grog-tempered pottery was recovered from a pit or posthole (**9038**); the pottery is undiagnostic but is likely to be of Early to Middle Bronze Age date. This may be added to the complete Middle Bronze Age Globular urn found nearby during the Stage 2 evaluation.

4.10 Curridge Road

4.10.1 *Worked Flint*

The Stage 3 fieldwalking at Curridge Road resulted in the recovery of a total of 315 pieces of worked flint. The raw material is variable but generally consistent with the use of locally occurring river gravel deposits. A minority show their origins to be from a chalk source. The objects are generally in poor condition and show signs of heavy damage and crushing consistent with plough-damage.

4.10.2 Waste flakes represent the largest category in the assemblage with 249 complete flakes and 34 broken pieces. These are of irregular shape and thickness and nearly all retain some traces of cortex. The rest of the assemblage comprise 25 cores, of which 11 were fragmentary, four scrapers, two retouched flakes and a hammerstone. Individually the pieces are undiagnostic as to date, but as with the Stage 1 assemblage they are most likely to be of late Neolithic/Bronze Age date.

4.10.3 Other categories of finds were notable for their absence. Although a thorough search was made for more pottery of medieval date, and indeed for any pottery, none was recovered. One sherd of modern flower pot and one fragment of modern roof tile were found and discarded.

5.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A total of 36 bulk samples were taken during the Stage 3 fieldwork. A list of all samples taken is presented by site as Table 9.

5.1.2 Bulk samples of between 0.5 and 10 litres were taken for palaeoenvironmental evidence from sealed and dated deposits such as specific features (pits, corn drier, hearths, etc.) or buried soils. The samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5mm mesh and the residues fractionated into 5.6mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (<5.6mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded.

5.1.3 The flots were scanned under a x10-x30 stereo-binocular microscope and the presence of charred remains was quantified, in order to present information about preservation and to determine the potential of the charred plant remains for analysis.

5.1.4 In general all six sites produced about average flot sizes (60ml is the norm from a 10 litre sample). The results are summarised below by site and tabulated as Table 10.

5.1.5 A 70 litre sample was taken from the possible 'oyster bed' at Elmore Plantation. The sample was sieved very gently through mesh sizes 9.5mm, 4mm and 2mm for artefact retrieval, and the flot (0.5mm) was also retrieved to recover a number of identifiable and examinable specimens, and to recover any other species of molluscs within this bed. A 1000g sub-sample was processed for molluscs following standard processing procedures for mollusc analysis, with the flots and residues retained on a 0.5 mm mesh sieve, in an attempt to recover small fresh and brackish water species.

5.1.6 Soil monoliths were taken from the buried soil and colluvium profile recorded at Elmore plantation, and from a sedimentary sequence and possible palaeochannel thought to be of broadly Mesolithic date which were exposed during excavations for a balancing pond in the Kennet valley, north of the river.

5.1.7 Bulk samples were also taken from the palaeochannel; sub samples of these were taken for the retrieval of waterlogged plant remains. The sub samples were processed using standard waterlogged sample processing methods, with the flots retained on a 0.25mm mesh and the residues fractionated into 5.6mm, 2mm, 1mm, 0.5mm and 0.25mm fractions and stored in industrial methylated spirits. The coarse fractions (>5.6mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded.

5.1.8 Environmental evidence from the excavation of the Lambourn valley Mesolithic site is discussed in the YAT assessment report.

5.2 Great Pen Wood

5.2.1 Charred plant remains and charcoals

One sample was taken from a potential Romano-British hearth **6043**. The sample produced large quantities of recent rootlets, and apart from two fragments of charcoals larger than 5.6mm was devoid of charred plant remains, although a few smaller comminuted charcoal fragments existed. In view of the paucity of charred remains and charcoals, it is unlikely that the feature was a hearth deposit.

5.3 Enborne Street

5.3.1 Charred plant remains and charcoals

Two samples from a hearth (**7004**) and a pit (**7071**) both produced few grains and charred weed seeds. Charcoals representative of woody species and roundwood twiggy material, which can be identified, were present in both.

5.4 Kennet Valley

5.4.1 During the watching brief, sediments exposed in the Kennet valley north of the river in excavations for a balancing pond were examined, sketched and described. The balancing pond was stripped to about 1.4m to clean, cream alluvial silts or gravels. The exposed section revealed a shallow peat sequence with localised infilled channels, and a possible palaeochannel thought to be of broadly Mesolithic date. Undisturbed soil samples were taken through the entire exposed sequence using plastic monolith 'tins' to facilitate more detailed sampling for pollen if appropriate, and to enable more detailed interpretative description of the sedimentary units.

5.4.2 Two bulk samples were taken from the possible palaeochannel and processed for palaeoenvironmental evidence. The samples contained high numbers of uncharred weed seeds, which can be indicative of stratigraphic movement, but few charred weed seeds and only a small quantity of charcoal.

5.4.3 Two sub samples of 1 litre each were taken from the bulk samples for the retrieval of waterlogged plant remains. These contained plant matter and uncharred weed seeds.

5.5 Elmore Plantation

5.5.1 *Charred plant remains and charcoals*

A small suite of four samples was taken. The two stratified Late Bronze Age (**6078**) and Romano-British (**6075**) buried soil horizons produced very sparse remains. The Romano-British beam slot (**6047**) also produced little, although some charcoal was present. The fragments were not, however, large enough to suggest that these represent the original beam.

5.5.2 *Marine shells*

The flot and coarse residue fraction from the mollusc sample were scanned but no molluscs were observed. The flot contained sparse uncharred plant matter but no charred remains were recorded. The coarse fraction of the bulk sample was sorted and found to contain only oyster shell. No artefacts or other shell fragments were recovered.

5.5.3 The oysters

The shells were scanned and the following comments can be made:-

- The shells were very fragmented and in poor condition
- The shells were markedly elongated
- The shells were generally thick indicating age and lack of room for growth
- The shells were generally heavily infested - rotten backs- by a boring sponge like organism - ? *Cliona celata*
- Some shells showed evidence of clumping and had fragments attached, indicative of a confined oyster bed
- There was no evidence of cultch or any smaller shells
- These shells appear to represent a 'natural' population rather than a 'farmed' one

5.5.4 One shell fragment examined does not appear to be the common flat or native marine oyster, *Ostrea edulis*. It is more likely to be a freshwater oyster rather than the introduced Portuguese oyster, *Crasostrea angulata* (the other main marine oyster species found off the coast of the British Isles). This specimen will need to be checked against reference literature and material.

5.5.5 Soils and sediments

The south facing section of the deposits was recorded in the field to contain two stratified buried soils separated by colluvium. Bulk samples for charred remains from each buried soil horizon were processed and assessed. The entire sequence was sampled in two overlapping monolith tins to facilitate more detailed description. Excavation and field interpretation strongly suggest that the sequence, although of natural deposits, is an indirect result of the associated human activity.

5.6 Bath Road

5.6.1 *Charred plant remains and charcoals*

The Bronze Age samples from the hearth contained very high quantities of charcoal, but only incidental charred grain and weed seeds. The samples confirm the presence of Bronze Age domestic and settlement activity.

5.7 Bagnor Road

5.7.1 *Charred plant remains and charcoals*

A relatively large number of Romano-British samples from a range of features are all rich to very rich in charred remains and indicate the presence of crop processing, probably associated with wider settlement activity. The remains

6.0 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The project has generated a good range of data from a wide chronological period, spanning the Mesolithic, the Late Neolithic, Bronze Age, Late Iron Age, Romano-British, medieval, and post-medieval periods (i.e. 8500BC to present). Within this sequence the only major periods not represented are the Early-Middle Iron Age (700-100 BC, although this may be represented within the colluvial deposits recorded at Elmore Plantation) and the Saxon/early Medieval (410-1066 AD). Table 11 summarises the chronological evidence from each site and their relative importance.

6.1.2 Individually the data sets from each site are of varying degrees of archaeological potential and significance. The only site regarded as of potential national importance was the Lambourn valley Mesolithic site, the most important *in situ* remains of which were preserved by the re-positioning of a balancing pond. However, the part of the site excavated by YAT proved to consist of derived Mesolithic material, with some Neolithic/Bronze Age material; the only archaeological features recorded were of post-Mesolithic date. The excavated deposits are therefore considered to be of only regional importance. At the request of the Highways Agency, an independent opinion regarding the potential of the data recovered from the excavation and the proposals for further analysis put forward by YAT, was obtained from Dr J J Wymer. The YAT assessment presents a statement of potential in two parts, intended to address 'on-site' and 'off-site' objectives: it is not intended to repeat these here. Statements of potential for structural/stratigraphic, artefactual and environmental data sets from the site, prepared by Wessex Archaeology in the light of Dr Wymer's comments, are set out below.

6.1.3 Other sites which are regarded as of regional interest are the Romano-British villa complex at Enborne Road, which has also been preserved; the medieval ceramic production sites at Enborne Street and Wheatlands Road; and the Late Iron Age and Romano-British site at Bagnor Road. The data sets from the other sites are generally small and of only local interest.

6.1.4 The road scheme offers an opportunity to examine a number of transects across the various zones of the landscape (as identified in 1.2.1 above), the way in which the pattern of settlement and the character of landuse relate to the topographical and geological diversity, and the changing nature of these patterns through time as various factors or influences -external pressures, economic base, environmental change etc.- impact on them.

6.1.5 This section sets out the potential which it is considered that each dataset has for further analysis. The section presents the statements of potential by site in chronological order for each category of data (stratigraphic/structural, artefactual and environmental).

6.2 Structural and Stratigraphic Data

6.2.1 The earliest site identified was the Lambourn valley Mesolithic site. Part of this was excavated by York Archaeological Trust in the area of Stage 2 evaluation Trench 294, and part preserved *in situ* in the area of Trench 297. A brief description of the deposits recorded in Trench 297, their location, the artefacts recovered from them and possible parallels may assist in placing the excavated remains in context, and could provide useful information for future researchers; however, further analysis is not proposed.

6.2.2 The area of the site around Trench 294 excavated by YAT was composed stratigraphically of a series of successive natural deposits and features, with only a small number of archaeological layers and features post-dating the Mesolithic. No *in situ* Mesolithic deposits were encountered. A description of the stratigraphy from the YAT excavations should be compiled to establish the position of the site in relation to the underlying Quaternary and Holocene deposits and allow comparison with other Mesolithic sites in the Lambourn and Kennet valleys. The potential of the structural data relating to the small number of archaeological layers and features of post-Mesolithic date is low.

6.2.3 The late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age remains found on the Curridge Road fieldwalking site and the few severely truncated features found during the evaluations and watching brief are of low potential. They do, however, indicate probable settlement activity of this date in the general area. A brief description of the artefact distribution and how this relates to the features recorded, together with a comparison with other sites of a similar date in the local area may provide useful information for future researchers.

6.2.4 A small number of Bronze Age features were recorded to the north of the A4 Bath Road and at Swilly Copse. These appear to represent domestic activity (hearths, post holes, a possible burnt mound etc.) but, as no recognisable structures were found and the artefactual and environmental evidence is limited, these are of low potential. Brief descriptions of these features, their location, the artefactual and environmental data and comparisons with sites of a similar date in the local area, both on the chalk downland and other topographic/geological zones, may provide useful information for future researchers.

6.2.5 A single short length of ditch on the Bagnor Road site was the only feature recorded which could be dated to the Late Iron Age. No other evidence of Iron Age activity was found along the entire route. This was on a similar alignment to a number of Romano-British ditches, some of which could be dated to the early Romano-British period. Evidence of early Romano-British activity was also found at the Enborne Road site and at Elmore Plantation. The understanding of the immediate pre-conquest and post-conquest period is highlighted as being of particular importance in English Heritage's *'Exploring Our Past'*, a discussion document for directions in future archaeological research.

6.2.6 Although the evidence of Late Iron Age and early Romano-British occupation is limited to a small number of features and deposits, the apparently widespread nature of this, and its proximity to the supposed location of the roadside station of *Spinis*, is of particular interest.

6.2.7 Features and deposits of later Romano-British date (3rd and 4th centuries) were found on four sites along the route. The site at Great Pen Wood, sited on the low plateau towards the south of the route, appears to have been severely truncated and the nature of the activities which the site represents is uncertain. The site on the valley side at Elmore Plantation has also produced a moderate quantity of stratified Romano-British material, most of which appears to date from the 3rd/4th century. The presence of a small quantity of ceramic building material suggests the existence of a substantial building in the vicinity of the site; however, no features or deposits which could relate to such a building were identified within the road corridor. The features and deposits excavated would seem to represent part of a small farmstead. The evidence for iron working on the site is interesting. These sites are of low potential; however, brief descriptions of the features, their location, the dating evidence recovered from them and possible parallels could provide useful information for future researchers.

6.2.8 The features and deposits found at Enborne Road during the Stage 1 and Stage 2 evaluations appear to represent part of a substantial villa extending over a large area (over 6500m² within the roadline) on the valley bottom gravels. These have now been preserved *in situ* below the road embankment. Descriptions of the features and deposits recorded within the evaluation trenches, interpretations of their functions and their relationship with the cropmarks identified on aerial photographs, together with comparisons with excavated sites within the region, could provide an interpretation of the function, status and layout of the site.

6.2.9 The remains of a 3rd-4th century farmstead found at Bagnor Road comprise several pits and a well preserved 'T' shaped corn drier. A description of the features, in particular the construction of the corn drier and the probable methods used in its operation, and a comparison with other sites of a similar date in the local area may provide useful information for future researchers. It would also be useful to compare the evidence of agricultural activity with that recovered from the 1st-2nd century features and deposits.

6.2.10 Three sites of 12th-13th century date were found on the route. The site at Hills Pightle lies on the chalk downland zone in the base of a dry valley. This appears to be a small domestic or agricultural site. The other two sites at Enborne Street and Wheatlands Lane, both sited on the low plateau towards the south of the route, probably represent the remains of a dispersed ceramic production centre which manufactured domestic pottery and roof tiles. The features appear to represent clamp kilns, levigation (clay puddling) features and possibly clay extraction pits. As one of only three known pottery production sites of this date excavated in Berkshire, and the only one to also produce tiles, this site is certainly of regional importance. A description of the features, their location

and the artefacts recovered from them could potentially provide invaluable information relating to the nature and organisation of pottery and tile production at this period. Documentary research and comparisons with similar material (possibly petrological analysis of examples of pottery from this site and others in the region) may help to identify the markets that this industry supplied.

6.2.11 Post-medieval and modern/industrial features recorded during the Stage 3 works included an earthwork bank at Hills Pightle and elements of the railway. These historic landscape features have little potential for further analysis beyond a limited amount of documentary research to allow them to be placed in context in preparing a note for inclusion in the final publication.

6.3 Artefactual Data

6.3.1 *Introduction*

The potential of the artefactual data from each site is discussed below, and these statements are based on the complete artefactual assemblages, i.e. including material from Evaluation Stages 1 and 2. While each site assemblage is presented here individually, it is not intended that each should be considered in isolation but rather related wherever possible to material from other sites within the project, as well as other sites in the region.

6.3.2 Lambourn Valley

The potential of the struck flint assemblage from the YAT excavations at the Lambourn valley site is reduced by the absence of any *in situ* occupation layers. Potential exists for the assemblage to contribute towards the interpretation of the Mesolithic occupation in relation to the range and character of activities undertaken at the site. The potential for relative dating of periods or episodes of site activities is uncertain owing to the absence of a quantification of microliths recovered. The lack of *in situ* deposits means that there would appear to be little or no potential for the identification and interpretation of the spatial organisation of the site during the Mesolithic occupation, and therefore for the characterisation of post-depositional processes responsible for the modification of that spatial pattern. However, the preparation of simple distribution plots of the artefact types would clarify this.

Comparison of the struck flint assemblage with known Mesolithic and Neolithic sites in the Lambourn and Kennet valleys has potential for the establishment of the position of the site within regional settlement and landuse systems.

A description of the artefacts in order to allow correlation with other Mesolithic assemblages in the adjacent Kennet valley has been recommended by Dr Wymer.

The burnt flint and stone assemblages possess very little potential for the interpretation of Mesolithic and later site activities. The potential of the worked stone artefacts is also small, but they will help characterise the range of

activities undertaken during the Mesolithic occupation. Descriptions of the assemblages should be prepared.

The potential of the prehistoric pottery assemblages and the remaining artefactual materials is low, but these artefacts may be of use to help characterise and provide a date range for the post-Mesolithic occupation or utilisation of the site. The prehistoric pottery should be described.

6.3.3 Curridge Road

The small assemblage of worked flint from Curridge Road is insufficiently diagnostic for anything other than broad characterisation as a ploughzone assemblage of Late Neolithic to Bronze Age date. Apart from a scatter of medieval pottery, other finds are notable by their absence. This assemblage is of very limited archaeological potential.

6.3.4 Swilly Copse

A single complete Middle Bronze Age Globular urn, found during the Stage 2 evaluation, was apparently isolated, although grog-tempered sherds found during the watching brief may represent a contemporary deposit. No human remains were associated with the Globular urn. Such vessels are commonly found on Middle Bronze Age sites and a number are known from Berkshire. Beyond an indication of Middle Bronze Age activity on the site, this find has limited potential.

6.3.5 Great Pen Wood

The small quantity of artefacts recovered from this site has a low archaeological potential; their value is purely as dating evidence for the few features excavated.

6.3.6 Enborne Road

Artefacts from this site were recovered during the Stage 1 evaluation; the site will be preserved *in situ* without further archaeological investigation. The features excavated on this site relate to a probable Romano-British villa, and the artefacts recovered represent a small assemblage, mainly of late Romano-British date (3rd/4th century AD), although earlier material (1st/2nd century) is also present. This small quantity of material, representing as it does only a very small proportion of the total artefactual assemblage from the site, can provide only a limited amount of information, mainly chronological.

6.3.7 Elmore Plantation

A single sherd of prehistoric pottery provides valuable dating evidence for the colluvium on this site. Otherwise, the site has produced a moderate quantity of Romano-British material, most of which appears to date from the 3rd/4th century, although residual earlier (1st/2nd century) material is present in smaller quantities. The presence of a small quantity of ceramic brick and tile indicates the existence of a substantial building on or near the site. This assemblage would seem to represent a small farmstead. The evidence for iron working on site is interesting.

6.3.8 Bagnor Road

The material assemblage from this site is limited in the range of types represented and may be characterised as typical of a small rural settlement spanning the Romano-British period. The well preserved collection of pottery, however, will provide a chronological sequence for activity on the site, supported by the coin evidence, and may also be related to other assemblages in the area to augment our understanding of local and regional ceramic production and distribution. Ceramic and stone building material relate largely to the construction of the grain drier. Other finds such as a shale bracelet, stone querns and whetstones, and metal objects, can provide limited functional evidence, and the quern stones may also be sourced to illustrate regional and international trading links.

6.3.9 Hills Pightle

The date range of the pottery from Hills Pightle indicates that it is more or less contemporary with the Wheatlands Lane and Enborne Street sites. The condition and nature of deposition of the pottery, however, is markedly different; here there are generally small quantities of pottery, in relatively good condition, from a number of features. This would seem to represent a normal domestic assemblage. The pottery acts as a chronological indicator, and also provides a useful comparison with the other two medieval sites. Other finds have limited potential, although the large deposit of burnt flint from a single pit is interesting.

6.3.10 Enborne Street

Of all the sites, this site has the highest potential in terms of artefactual evidence. The large assemblage of pottery and ceramic building material appears to relate to a medieval production centre dating to the 13th century. If this is the case, this is one of only three pottery kilns so far excavated in Berkshire, and the only known kiln to be producing the flint-tempered and flint-tempered/calcareous wares identified on sites across north Hampshire, west Berkshire and north-east Wiltshire. As such, it would almost certainly have been supplying Newbury and Kintbury, and possibly also the manorial site at Faccombe Netherton, just over the Hampshire border (Fairbrother 1990). It can potentially provide invaluable information relating to the nature and organisation of pottery production at this period, particularly given the possible evidence of different potting-related activities on the site, and is of regional significance.

The potential evidence for tile production on the same site can be tied in with documentary evidence for the later medieval period in this area (e.g. Hare 1991), and is of similar significance given the previous lack of excavated sites to support the documentary data, and the early date of this site.

6.3.11 Wheatlands Lane

The quantity of artefacts recovered from this site is not great, but the similarities with the medieval pottery and tile assemblage from Enborne Street (see above) must be noted: quantities of visually homogeneous pottery in poor condition, dumped into a number of linear features, together with a smaller

quantity of tile. This again seems to represent waste material relating to pottery and possibly tile production, probably in the 13th century. The two sites of Wheatlands Lane and Enborne Street should be considered together as part of what may have been a larger pottery production complex in this area, the significance of which is discussed further above.

6.4 Environmental Data

6.4.1 Kennet Valley

Careful description of the monoliths taken during the watching brief, following full sedimentary and pedogenic notation (Hodgson 1976), may enable a fuller interpretation of the nature of the sediment sequence. Together with relative OD, this may enable stratigraphic correlation with other recorded and excavated sedimentary facies within the Kennet valley. The waterlogged remains and charcoal from the bulk samples are of low potential due to the absence of direct evidence of Mesolithic activity in the vicinity.

6.4.2 Lambourn Valley

'The sample of carbonised plant macrofossils was found to contain substantial modern contamination with recovered charcoal fragments too small to allow positive species identification. The remaining categories of ecofactual data (molluscs and animal bone) are too fragmentary and few in number to warrant further study. These data have little or no potential for determining the environmental context of the site during the Mesolithic' (YAT 1996 B7.1). No further analysis is proposed.

'Soil field data have indicated that the soils containing struck flint and other prehistoric artefacts represent ancient colluvial deposits (ploughsoil and occupation) and ancient subsoils. Completion of the soil micromorphological analysis has a high potential for determining the character of the local environment and the post-depositional processes responsible for deposit modification' (ibid.). It is not clear from the YAT assessment report whether the necessary samples have been prepared (i.e. resin-impregnated, air dried and thin-section slides manufactured) to enable micromorphological analysis to be concluded within the timescale proposed for the post-excavation and publication programme. Although this will be discussed with YAT, no further analysis has been allowed for in preparing the proposals in section 8 below.

It is not clear from the YAT assessment report where samples taken for chronometric dating were selected from. It is therefore not possible to assess the potential of these samples. Although this will be discussed with YAT, no further analysis has been allowed for in preparing the proposals in section 8 below.

6.4.3 Swilly Copse

The lack of material in this sample means that there is no potential for further analysis.

6.4.4 Bath Road

Although the charred plant remains confirm the presence of Bronze Age domestic and settlement activity and will provide some indication of the nature of the Bronze Age farming economy, the lack of excavated features to accompany them detracts from analysis here, as better information from excavated sites are known in the county. No further work is proposed.

6.4.5 Elmore Plantation

No analysis can be usefully conducted of the charred remains from Elmore Plantation. The colluvial sequence recognised on this site appears to represent a period of approximately 1500-2000 years, covering the Late Bronze Age to Romano-British period and later; the undisturbed *in situ* soil samples provide an ideal opportunity to describe the deposits accurately following standard pedological notation (Hodgson 1976), which will enable field interpretation to be confirmed and allow a detailed picture of the sediment history of the site to be obtained.

6.4.6 Great Pen Wood

No analysis can be usefully conducted of the charred remains from Elmore Plantation.

6.4.7 Bagnor Road

The group of samples from Romano-British features is cohesive and the remains good. Selective analysis of both charred plant remains and charcoals from these samples has the potential to enhance our understanding of the environmental and farming economy of the local area.

6.4.8 Enborne Street

The identification of woody species and presence of roundwood twiggy material may help to confirm the field interpretation of the structure as a kiln (i.e. strong selection of woody species). Analysis of charred plant remains from the pits will provide some indication of the farming economy, nature of cereals and possibly when harvested (summer or winter sown crops) and whether from local soils.

6.4.9 Hills Pightle

The samples from this site show good preservation of charred plant remains and have the potential to aid in determining the function of the pits, the nature of the arable economy and discern whether the remains were grown locally or traded from market. The assemblage from the ditch is likely to be more general, less specific and less biased, and may therefore provide a broader picture of agricultural activity around the site for comparison with the assemblages from the pits.

Charcoals are also present in all samples, and selective analysis may provide a comparison with the woody species utilised on the broadly contemporary site at Enborne Street.

Although *Vertigo moulinsiana* was identified among the land snails from Hills Pightle, suggesting a marshy environment, extraction, identification and analysis of the land snail assemblages will not significantly enhance our understanding of the use of the medieval landscape.

6.4.10 Undated features

Although charcoal was present in all samples, the lack of dating evidence and the limited context for these features means that there is no potential for further analysis.

SECTION B - PROPOSALS FOR POST-EXCAVATION AND PUBLICATION

7.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

7.1 Project Aims

7.1.1 The project aims for the off-site phase are as follows:-

- to carry out an agreed programme of post-excavation analysis and reporting following the procedures set out in MAP2 (*English Heritage 1991, the Management of Archaeological Projects*).

- to produce an integrated and synthesised report on the findings, and an interpretation and discussion of them, for dissemination as an academic publication which would also be accessible to the public in both content and availability.

- to ensure the long term curation of the data recovered and its dissemination in a form appropriate to its significance and academic value.

7.2 Report Objectives

7.2.1 Within the report, description and discussion will centre on:

- describing in as succinct and cost-effective a manner as possible the archaeological features and deposits recorded and the artefactual and palaeoenvironmental materials

- correlating the stratigraphic, artefactual and palaeoenvironmental data in order to address and interpret the overall development and chronological sequence of past activity on the various sites

- assessing the range of activities taking place on the various sites and their importance within the local and regional archaeological landscape

- integrating the archaeological evidence from the project, by period, and assessing the significance of the activities within the individual topographic/geological zones and how these interrelate within the local archaeological landscape.

8.0 ANALYSIS AND REPORTING PROPOSALS

In section 8, the proposed report structure (8.1) is followed by a description of the work necessary to achieve an appropriate report (8.2 to 8.4). Archive preparation is set out in section 9. The tasks are set out in section 10, detailed by resource and time required.

8.1 Report structure

8.1.1 It is proposed that the final report of the evaluation, excavation and watching brief will be an expanded and fully integrated report presenting the results of all archaeological works undertaken along the bypass route, including both those works undertaken by Wessex Archaeology and the excavation of the Lambourn valley site undertaken by the York Archaeological Trust, in a single volume publication. The results of the desk based study will be included in summary and the evaluation, the excavations and watching brief in detail where necessary. The efficacy of the evaluation methods will also be examined.

8.1.2 The following proposed structure outline estimates the number of words for each section/sub-section, together with illustrations. Expansion of the sub-sections will be considered as necessary to include a suitable depth of description and synthesis. Each period section will include structural data and descriptive sections on artefacts and environmental data as appropriate.

a) Introduction

Project Background
This section will briefly detail the reasons why the project was undertaken, and when the various stages of work were undertaken.
Estimated length: 500 words

Geology, Topography and Land-Use
This would describe the geological sequence, related to specific heights, encountered within the road corridor. It would also describe and discuss the landscape and land-use, providing a background within which to set the archaeological remains and processes detailed below.
Estimated length: 1000 words

Archaeological Background
This section would summarise the findings of the desk based study and expand on details pertinent to the subsequent results.
Estimated length: 2000 words

b) Methodology

Evaluation Methodology
This would detail the methods employed during the various stages of the evaluation and the reasons for their use. It would also briefly summarise the

results of the evaluation and discuss the efficacy of the evaluation strategy in the light of subsequent findings.
Estimated length: 2000 words

Excavation Methodology
This would briefly summarise the objectives of the excavations and the methods employed.
Estimated length: 500 words

c) Results

Prehistoric
This section would detail, in chronological order, the prehistoric features and deposits recorded during the evaluation and subsequent excavations and watching brief. This would include a brief description of the *in situ* Mesolithic deposits encountered during the second phase of evaluation at the Lambourn Valley site, and a more detailed description of the deposits excavated and recorded by YAT, placing the deposits in their local and regional context. Descriptions of the results of fieldwalking and excavations undertaken at Bath Road, Curridge Road and Swilly Copse would also be included. This section would also describe the colluvial sequence encountered at Elmore Plantation and comment on the residual nature of prehistoric artefacts recovered during various phases of work.
Estimated length: 7500 words

Romano-British
This would describe the features and deposits encountered during the evaluation on the possible villa site at Enborne Road and briefly describe the mitigation strategy employed to preserve this site. It would also describe the features and deposits of Romano-British date recorded at Great Pen Wood, Elmore Plantation and Bagnor Road during the evaluation, subsequent excavations and watching brief.
Estimated length: 5500 words

Medieval
This section would describe the possible structures, features and deposits excavated at Enborne Street, Wheatlands Lane and Hills Pightle during both the evaluation and subsequent excavations. The regional context of the possible dispersed ceramic production centre at Enborne Street/Wheatlands Lane will be discussed.
Estimated length: 4500 words

Post-Medieval
This section would describe the linear earthwork which crossed the road corridor to the east of Hills Pightle. It would also describe any significant post-medieval features or deposits encountered during the various stages of evaluation and excavation.
Estimated length: 1500 words

d) Discussion

The various sites will be considered chronologically against the background of the known development of the landscape and contemporary sites in the vicinity. The evidence of settlement and industry of the prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval periods will be summarised, and contemporary local, regional or national parallels cited and discussed. This will centre mainly on a consideration of the structural, artefactual and environmental evidence.
Estimated length: 4500 words

e) Illustrations

The following list describes the provisional illustrations for the publication report; the order of figures may be revised.

1 Site location - Map of bypass route showing location of sites referred to in text.

2 Curridge Road - Finds Distribution

3 Elmore Plantation - Section through colluvial deposits

4 Elmore Plantation - all features site plan

5 Bagnor Road - all features plan

6 Plan of corn drier

7 Section through corn drier and representative sections through pits and ditches.

8 Great Pen Wood - all features plan

9 Enborne Road - Evaluation trench location plan showing all features

10 Enborne Street - all features plan including evaluation trench locations

11 Enborne Street- plan of possible kiln structure

12 Wheatlands Lane - all features plan including evaluation trench locations

13 Enborne Street/ Wheatlands Lane - representative sections through pits and ditches

14 Hills Pightle - all features plan including evaluation trench locations

15 Finds Illustrations

Line illustrations will be supplemented by photographs. It is anticipated that there may be approximately 30 photographs throughout the volume.

8.2 Stratigraphic/structural analysis

8.2.1 No further analysis of stratigraphic/structural evidence is proposed for the majority of the sites, descriptions having already been prepared during the assessment phase (Data Level 3). These descriptions will, with the texts produced by analysis of the finds and environmental evidence, form the basis of the publication text. It is considered that only the Lambourn Valley Mesolithic site and the Enborne Street/Wheatlands Lane medieval ceramic production site(s) warrant additional analysis.

8.2.2 Lambourn Valley: The stratigraphic matrix will be checked and phased. Correlations with recorded stratigraphic sequences for the area will then be undertaken. Natural and archaeological features will be described and quantified. An interpretative text and illustrations will be prepared (Data Level 4).

8.2.3 Enborne Street/Wheatlands Lane: The features located will be described and documentary research will be undertaken to seek comparisons with other sites and identify the markets supplied by the production centre (Data Level 4).

8.2.4 Documentary research will also be undertaken in order to compile background information to allow the post-medieval earthwork to the east of Hills Pightle and the elements of the railway recorded during the watching brief to be placed in context in the publication text (Data Level 4).

8.3 The Finds

8.3.1 Most analyses will be undertaken in-house by Wessex Archaeology, with external specialists consulted where necessary. Throughout the following section, reference is made to the guidelines for processing and analysis of finds set out in *Data Levels Guidelines* (Wessex Archaeology Guideline No. 2, 1994), and full use will be made of all Wessex Archaeology guidelines for the analysis of various artefact categories. A summary of *Data Levels Guidelines* is included here as **Appendix 3**, and copies of all guidelines will be supplied on request.

8.3.2 Proposed analyses are outlined below by site (from south to north along the route), although it is anticipated that finds from all sites will be analysed as part of a single programme.

8.3.3 Great Pen Wood

No further analysis is recommended for the small quantity of artefacts from this site. A brief text statement will summarise the quantity, range and date of material recovered (Data Level 3).

8.3.4 Enborne Street and Wheatlands Lane

It is recommended that analysis of the finds from Enborne Street and Wheatlands Lane is conducted together, given the similarity in the material assemblages from these two sites.

Pottery: The medieval assemblage will be subjected to full fabric and form analysis (Data Level 4). Details of manufacture, surface treatment, decoration and any evidence of firing faults will also be recorded. The text will describe the range of fabrics and vessel forms present and will identify those which probably relate to on-site manufacture. These will be discussed in their local and regional context, with a consideration of date range, organisation of production, and potential distribution. The contribution of this site to an understanding of medieval pottery production in west Berkshire will also be considered. A series of samples (a maximum of eight) will be taken for thin-section analysis from this assemblage, from Newbury itself, and from one or more other sites to south and west, in an attempt to define the limits of distribution. Other non-local fabric types will be discussed in terms of their chronological, economic and functional evidence. A series of vessels, representing the range of vessel forms found (and possibly manufactured) on the site, will be illustrated.

Ceramic Building Material: Detailed fabric analysis will not be carried out on the ceramic building material, but broad fabric groups will be defined. The presence of glaze, peg holes and any other distinguishing features will be recorded. The text will describe the assemblage, and will discuss the evidence for on-site production in its local and regional context, and its possible relation to the putative pottery production which was taking place here (Data Level 4). Prior to deposition of the archive, a selection may be made of this material for discard, retaining a representative sample only.

Other Finds: None of the other finds categories are large enough to warrant further analysis. Text will briefly summarise the quantities and range of material present (Data Level 3).

8.3.5 Enborne Road

Detailed analysis is not proposed for the finds from this site; rather a summary description and discussion using information already recorded (see Wessex Archaeology 1993). A small selection of artefacts may be illustrated.

8.3.6 Elmore Plantation

Pottery: The small Romano-British assemblage does not warrant full fabric and form analysis, but broad fabric groups will be defined which will be related as far as possible to potential sources (Data Level 3). The assemblage will be described and discussed in its local and regional context.

Slag: The small quantity of ironworking slag will be characterised and discussed in terms of the potential industrial activity taking place on site (Data Level 4).

Other Finds: Further analysis is not proposed for other categories of finds; these will be briefly described and discussed in terms of potential chronological and functional implications (Data Level 3).

8.3.7 Bath Road

No further analysis is recommended for the small quantity of artefacts from these findspots. A brief text statement will summarise the quantity, range and date of material recovered (Data Level 3).

8.3.8 Bagnor Road

Pottery: Fabric and form analysis will be carried out on the pottery, although detailed subdivision of coarsewares, particularly the greywares, is not proposed. The assemblage will be described and discussed in its local and regional context, with reference to potential sources, the ceramic sequence through the Romano-British period, and potential functional implications (Data Level 4). A small selection of vessels may be illustrated.

Ceramic and Stone Building Material: The range and quantities of the various types present will be stated, and their structural implications discussed (Data Level 3).

Stone Objects: Quernstones and whetstone will be briefly described and discussed in terms of their potential sources and functional implications (Data Level 4).

Metalwork: Much of the metalwork, deriving from a probable post-medieval soil layer, does not warrant further analysis, and it is recommended that apart from the Romano-British coin, this material is discarded prior to deposition of the archive. As for the remaining objects, iron nails and other structural items will be quantified by context and very briefly discussed (Data Level 3). The coins will be identified. The spoon bowl will be submitted for cleaning and stabilisation, and the identification of the possible white metal coating; it will then be briefly described and discussed, citing relevant parallels to support dating (Data level 4). This object will be illustrated.

Other Finds: Other finds do not warrant further analysis, but quantities and range will be briefly summarised (Data Level 3).

8.3.9 Lambourn valley

Struck flint: The struck flint will be subjected to detailed typological and technological characterisation as a basis for inferences about the character, range and date of on-site activities. Artefacts will be classified on the basis of the stages in stone tool manufacture, use and rejuvenation. Individual contexts will be sampled to provide attribute (metric) data. The data will be quantified and comparisons made between selected contexts to identify differences in artefact content, technological characteristics and post-depositional modification. The distribution of the artefacts will be plotted (Data Level 4). A selection of the struck flint will be illustrated.

A comparison with known Mesolithic sites for the Lambourn and Kennet valleys will be carried out and used as a basis for establishing the site's position within regional settlement and landuse systems. Assemblage and site characteristics for the Lambourn and Kennet valleys will be quantified and compared to those for the site to delineate different types of functional settlements for the region.

The YAT assessment report proposes the use of temporally sensitive stylistic and technological elements to establish the relative dates of episodes or periods of site activity. However, the feasibility of this cannot be judged owing to the absence of a quantification in the report of microliths recovered; consequently, no further analysis is proposed.

The YAT assessment report also proposes the characterisation of core reduction sequences and the extent of post-depositional spatial displacement by refitting. It is considered that the absence of *in situ* deposits means that this exercise is of little value.

It is apparent from the YAT assessment report that only those artefact samples sieved at 8mm have been sorted and quantified. The report proposes that the 2mm and 4mm samples be similarly processed. It is considered that this should have been completed during the assessment phase. The sorting and scanning of outstanding 2mm and 4mm dry-sieved artefact samples is not considered worthwhile in the context of the proposals for analysis set out above.

Burnt flint: The burnt flint will be listed and quantified by context, and any significant patterns identified will be discussed in relation to associated finds and post-depositional processes (Data Level 3).

Worked Stone: The prehistoric sandstone rubber will be described. Comments on its role in on-site activities , and any implications for production and exchange networks will also be presented (Data Level 4). Brief descriptions of the three sandstone hones will also be prepared (Data Level 3).

Prehistoric pottery: The prehistoric pottery will be quantified and described. It is understood that only quantification by period will possible, due to the fragmentary state of the earlier prehistoric assemblage; no fabric and form analysis will be undertaken (Data Level 3).

8.3.10 Hills Pightle

Pottery: The pottery assemblage will be subjected to full fabric and form analysis (Data Level 4). Details of manufacture, surface treatment and decoration will also be recorded. The pottery will be discussed in its local context, particularly with regard to the contemporary assemblages from Enborne Street and Wheatlands Lane (see above), and the comparisons with the contemporary urban assemblage from Newbury. A small selection of vessels may be illustrated.

Other Finds: Further analysis is not proposed for other categories of finds, given the small quantities involved and the unstratified context of a large proportion. These finds will be briefly described and discussed in terms of their potential chronological and functional implications (Data Level 3).

8.3.11 Swilly Copse

No further analysis of the Middle Bronze Age globular urn is proposed. A text statement will briefly describe the vessel, using information already recorded (see Wessex Archaeology 1993), and discuss it in relation to other known findspots of this date in Berkshire. The vessel may be illustrated. The text will also mention the possibly related sherds found during the watching brief.

8.3.12 Curridge Road

No further analysis of the surface collection from Curridge Road is proposed. The quantity and range of material recovered will be briefly summarised (Data Level 3).

8.4 The Environmental Evidence

8.4.1 Proposed analyses are outlined below by site (from south to north along the route).

8.4.2 Enborne St.

Charred plant remains: Analysis of the charred plant remains is proposed in order to augment the artefactual information from this early ceramic production site, and have the potential to determine firing material (i.e. tinder) as well as providing some indication of the local accompanying rural economy. General background information can be gained from analysis of both samples.

Charcoals: The identification of charcoals from this site (greater than 2mm) will aid in determination of specific selection of species for firing on this early ceramic production site. It is proposed that both samples be extracted and identified.

8.4.3 Kennet Valley

Soils/sediments: No analysis of the peat and sediment sequences sampled during the watching brief is proposed, but the sedimentary sequence will be described and reported upon in context.

8.4.4 Elmore Plantation.

Marine shells: No analysis is proposed, but the assessment report will be formalised in publication.

Soils/sediments: No analysis is proposed, but the deposits will be described and reported upon in context.

8.4.5 Bagnor Road

Charred plant remains: It is proposed that a selection of five samples be extracted and analysed for plant remains.

Charcoals: It is proposed that a selection of three samples be extracted and analysed for charcoal.

8.4.6 Hills Pightle

Charred plant remains: The charred plant remains from the pits may aid in determining both pit function, and the nature of the medieval farming economy. All four samples, one from each of the pits and the ditch, are proposed for analysis.

Charcoals: Analysis of charcoal from two pits is proposed in order to provide a comparison with the woody species utilised on the broadly contemporary site at Enborne Street.

Land Snails: No analysis is proposed, but a note on the presence of the rare *V. moulinsiana* and its significance will be included in the publication text.

9.0 STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

9.1.1 The recipient museum is:

Newbury Museum
The Wharf
NEWBURY
Berkshire

Curator: A. Higgott

The museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive as part of the overall archive relating to the Newbury Bypass.

9.2 Conservation

9.2.1 There were no immediate conservation requirements in the field. All metal objects have been X-radiographed as part of the assessment stage. One copper alloy object has been selected for cleaning and stabilisation, which will be carried out by the Salisbury Conservation Centre. No other metal objects are considered to warrant further conservation treatment.

9.2.2 It is understood that there are no conservation requirements in respect of metal objects recovered from the Lambourn valley excavation. This will be clarified with YAT.

9.3 Storage

9.3.1 The finds are currently held in 48 cardboard or airtight plastic boxes. The complete site archive, which will include records, plans, photos, artefacts, ecofacts and sieved residues, will be prepared to comply with the museum's guidelines, and in general following the guidelines set out in *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive* (SMA 1995).

9.3.2 The finds from the YAT excavation are currently held at the offices of Southern Archaeology (Chichester) Ltd. The YAT assessment report does not contain a quantification of the number of boxes of finds. It is assumed that all archive materials have been prepared to a similar standard to the Wessex Archaeology archive i.e. Data Level 3; however, it is noted that a proportion of samples taken for finds retrieval have apparently not been processed, and the YAT proposals refer to certain categories of artefactual data, such as burnt flint and worked stone, having been processed only to Data Level 2.

9.4 Discard Policy

9.4.1 Wessex Archaeology, in consultation with recipient museums, follows the guidelines set out in *Retention, Selection and Dispersal of Archaeological*

Collections (SMA 1993), which makes recommendations for the dispersal of selected artefacts categories which, it is considered, may not warrant further analysis. In this instance, burnt, unworked flint has been discarded following quantification, and consultation with the recipient museum may result in further artefacts, particularly those from unstratified contexts, being targeted for discard.

9.4.2 A discard policy in respect of the YAT Lambourn valley excavation will also be formulated in consultation with the recipient museum, in accordance with the above guidelines.

9.5 Security Copy

9.5.1 Following the Museum's guidelines, a security copy of the paper records, in the form of microfilm, will be prepared on completion of the project. The master jackets and one diazo copy will be submitted to the National Archaeological Record (RCHME), a second diazo copy will be deposited with the archive, and a third copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology.

SECTION C - POST-EXCAVATION PROGRAMME

10.0 RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING

10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 Section 10 sets out the resources and programme required to achieve the desired level of publication. In preparing these proposals, it has been assumed that the archive from the YAT excavation of the Lambourn valley Mesolithic site has been fully processed to the same standard as that from the works undertaken by Wessex Archaeology, i.e. Data Level 3 (see 9.3.2 above): this will need to be confirmed with YAT. The proposed resources and programme allow for liaison with YAT and for the collection of material, but **do not allow** for any work necessary to ensure that the standard of the overall archive is consistent - for example the processing of outstanding artefact samples - or for deposition costs in respect of the YAT archive.

10.1.2 In addition, it should be noted that the proposed resources and programme **do not allow** for certain analyses proposed by YAT where the information contained in the YAT report is insufficient to allow the feasibility and/or value of the YAT proposals to be assessed: these are discussed in sections 6.4.1 (soil micromorphological analysis and chronometric dating) and 8.3.9 (relative dating using microliths) above.

10.2 Named project team

10.2.1 The team consists primarily of internal Wessex Archaeology staff, with a limited input by a small number of external consultants. The project will be managed by Chris Moore, who will be responsible to Sue Davies, Deputy Director of Wessex Archaeology. The number of days allocated to team members are shown below.

Name	Organisation	Sub-Projects/ Summary tasks	Days
Michael J Allen	Wessex Archaeology	2,15	3.5
Phil Andrews	Wessex Archaeology	8	1
Vaughan Birbeck	Wessex Archaeology	4,15	33.25
Sue Davies	Wessex Archaeology	Project monitoring	6
Rowena Gale	Freelance	4,10,11	3
Julie Gardiner	Wessex Archaeology	17	4
Rachel Griffin	Wessex Archaeology	17	1.75
Phil Harding	Wessex Archaeology	5	45
Pat Hinton	Freelance	4,10,11	5.5
Emma Loader	Wessex Archaeology	4,6,7,8,9,10,11,18	26
Lorraine Mepham	Wessex Archaeology	2,4,11,18	25.5
Chris Moore	Wessex Archaeology	2,4,5,15,17,management	20
Rachel Seager-Smith	Wessex Archaeology	8,10	12
Elaine Wakefield	Wessex Archaeology	15	1
David Williams	Southampton University	4	1

Sarah F Wyles	Wessex Archaeology	4,10,11	5
John Wymer	External referee	5	2
To be confirmed	Salisbury Conservation Lab	2	0.25
To be confirmed	Wessex Archaeology illustrator(s)	4,5,7,10,11,12,13,15,17	25.5

10.3 Management Structure

10.3.1 Wessex Archaeology operates a project management system. The team is headed by the Project Manager, in this case Chris Moore, who assumes ultimate responsibility for the implementation and execution of the Project Specification, and the achievement of performance targets, be they academic, budgetary, or scheduled.

10.3.2 The Project Manager may delegate specific aspects of the project to other key staff, who both supervise others and have a direct input into the compilation of the report. They may also undertake direct liaison with external consultants and specialists who are contributing to the publication report, and the museum named as the recipient of the project archive. The Project Manager will have a major input into the writing of the publication report. He will define and control the scope and form of the post-excavation programme.

10.4 Performance Monitoring and Quality Standards

10.4.1 The Project Manager is assisted by the Reports Manager, who will help to ensure that the report meets internal quality standards as defined in Wessex Archaeology's guidelines, copies of which are held by English Heritage; copies of all guidelines will be supplied to the Highways Agency on request. The overall progress will be monitored internally by the Deputy Director.

10.4.2 Communication between all team members is essential, and will be facilitated by project meetings at key points during the project (see Section **10.10**).

10.4.3 In addition to the internal team structure monitoring and checking, quality standards will be maintained by external academic advisers. They will appraise the academic quality of the report prior to the submission of a draft publication text to the Highways Agency and English Heritage.

10.5 List of Tasks

10.5.1 The project has been broken down into a series of sub-projects and summary tasks, which are set out below in the task list for the master programme at Section 10.6. Analysis of the medieval ceramic production site at Enborne Street/Wheatlands Lane and the Lambourn valley Mesolithic site are presented as sub-projects 4 and 5, and the synthesis of the report text as sub-project 15. Each sub-project has its own task sheet, Sections 10.7, 10.8, and 10.9. A summary Gantt chart for the master programme is presented at Section 10.10. In addition to the tasks outlined on the task sheets there is time allocated to

general project monitoring and management. As these tasks are on-going and are not allocated to any specific days they do not appear in the task sheets.

10.5.2 All sub-projects are shown in bold and milestones in italics, in the task sheets and on the Gantt charts.

10.5.3 Abbreviations used

CC	Wessex Archaeology Computer Co-ordinator
DD	Wessex Archaeology Deputy Director
EC	External Consultant
EM	Wessex Archaeology Environmental Manager
ET	Wessex Archaeology Environmental Technician
FM	Wessex Archaeology Finds Manager
PI	Wessex Archaeology Project Illustrator
PM	Wessex Archaeology Project Manager
PO	Wessex Archaeology Project Officer
PP	Wessex Archaeology Project Photographer
PS	Wessex Archaeology Project Supervisor
RM	Wessex Archaeology Reports Manager
SCL	Salisbury Conservation Lab

10.5.4 Management tasks

The management and monitoring allocations are as follows:

Project Monitoring	On-going monitoring	DD	Susan Davies	2 days
	Chairing project meetings	DD	Susan Davies	3 days
	Review publication draft	DD	Susan Davies	1 day
Project Management	Advice and co-ordination	PM	Chris Moore	3 days
	Problem solving	PM	Chris Moore	3 days
	Organise project meetings	PM	Chris Moore	1 day

10.6 Task list for master programme

No.	Task Name	Resource Name	Grade	Days
1	*Begin project*			
2	Project Set-up			10.75
2.1	Liaise with YAT - management	CW Moore	PM	2
2.2	Liaise with YAT - structural analysis	V Birbeck	PO	2
2.3	Liaise with YAT - artefact analysis	LN Mepham	FM	2
2.4	Collect YAT archive	E Loader	PS	2
2.5	Prepare Briefs for structural & stratigraphic analysis	CW Moore	PM	1
2.6	Prepare Briefs for artefactual analysis	LN Mepham	FM	0.5
2.7	Prepare Briefs for environmental analysis	MJ Allen	EM	0.5
2.8	Liaise with environmental specialists	MJ Allen	EM	0.5
2.9	Metalwork conservation	SCL	-	0.25
3	*End of Phase 1*			
4	**Analysis of Enborne St/Wheatlands Lane**			55.5
5	**Analysis of Lambourn Valley**			65.75
6	Analysis of Great Pen Wood			0.25
6.1	Prepare artefact description	E Loader	PS	0.25
7	Analysis of Enborne Road			3
7.1	Prepare artefact summary	E Loader	PS	1
7.2	Structural illustrations		PI	1
7.3	Artefact illustrations		PI	1
8	Analysis of Elmore Plantation			5.5
8.1	Prepare pottery description	R Seager-Smith	PO	2
8.2	Characterise slag	P Andrews	PO	1
8.3	Prepare summary of other artefacts	E Loader	PS	1
8.4	Prepare marine shells report note	SF Wyles	ET	0.5
8.5	Prepare soils/sediments description	MJ Allen	EM	1
9	Analysis of Bath Road			0.25
9.1	Prepare artefact description	E Loader	PS	0.25
10	Analysis of Bagnor Road			20.25
10.1	Pottery analysis	R Seager-Smith	PO	10
10.2	Prepare ceramic/stone building material discussion	E Loader	PS	2
10.3	Stone object analysis	E Loader	PS	0.5
10.4	Prepare metal objects description	E Loader	PS	0.25
10.5	Charcoal extraction	SF Wyles	ET	2
10.6	Charcoal identification	R Gale	EC	1
10.7	Plant remains identification	P Hinton	EC	2.5
10.8	Structural illustrations		PI	1
10.9	Artefact illustrations		PI	1
11	Analysis of Hills Pightle			10
11.1	Pottery analysis	LN Mepham	FM	2
11.2	Prepare description of other artefacts	ELoader	PS	1
11.3	Charcoal extraction	SF Wyles	ET	1.5
11.4	Charcoal identification	R Gale	EC	1
11.5	Prepare land snails report note	MJ Allen	EM	0.5
11.6	Plant remains identification	P Hinton	EC	2
11.7	Structural illustrations		PI	1
11.8	Artefact illustrations		PI	1
12	Analysis of Swilly Copse			0.5
12.1	Illustration of Globular Urn		PI	0.5
13	Analysis of Curridge Road			0.25
13.1	Prepare illustration		PI	0.25

Task list for master programme (continued)

14	*End of Phase 2*			
15	**Prepare Synthesis**			23
16	*End of Phase 3*			
17	Prepare publication text			10.75
17.1	Academic editing	JP Gardiner	RM	2
17.2	Copy editing	RJ Griffin	CC	1
17.3	Text revisions	CW Moore	PM	2
17.4	Illustration revisions		PI	1
17.5	External refereeing		EC	2
17.6	Final revisions	JP Gardiner	RM	2
17.7	Print and bind	RJ Griffin	CC	0.5
17.8	Arrange securicor delivery	RJ Griffin	CC	0.25
18	Archive finalisation and deposition			3
18.1	Archive ordering	E Loader	PS	2
18.2	Checking	LN Mepham	FM	0.5
18.3	Deposition at Newbury Museum	E Loader	PS	0.5
19	*End of Project*			

10.7 Task list for Sub-Project 4: Analysis of Enborne Street/Wheatlands Lane

No.	Task Name	Resource Name	Grade	Days
1	Documentary research			3
1.1	Undertake research	V Birbeck	PO	2
1.2	Prepare text	V Birbeck	PO	1
2	Structural description			4.5
2.1	Prepare text	V Birbeck	PO	2
2.2	Check text	CW Moore	PM	0.5
2.3	Revise text	V Birbeck	PO	0.5
2.4	Prepare illustrations		PI	1
2.5	Check illustrations	V Birbeck	PO	0.25
2.6	Revise illustrations		PI	0.25
3	Pottery analysis			29
3.1	Undertake fabric/form analysis	LN Mepham	FM	12
3.2	Petrology	D Williams	EC	1
3.3	Prepare text	LN Mepham	FM	5.75
3.4	Prepare illustrations		PI	8
3.5	Check illustrations	LN Mepham	FM	0.25
3.6	Revise illustrations		PI	2
4	Analysis of ceramic building material			10
4.1	Prepare description	E Loader	PS	10
5	Other finds			1.5
5.1	Prepare summary text	E Loader	PS	1.5
6	Artefact report editing			1
6.1	Checking	CW Moore	PM	0.5
6.2	Revision	LN Mepham	FM	0.5
7	Environmental analysis			3
7.1	Charcoal/plant remains extraction	SF Wyles	ET	1
7.2	Charcoal identification	R Gale	EC	1
7.3	Plant remains identification	P Hinton	EC	1
8	Discussion	V Birbeck	PO	2
9	Editing	CW Moore	PM	1
10	Revisions	V Birbeck	PO	0.5

10.8 Task list for Sub-Project 5: Analysis of Lambourn Valley

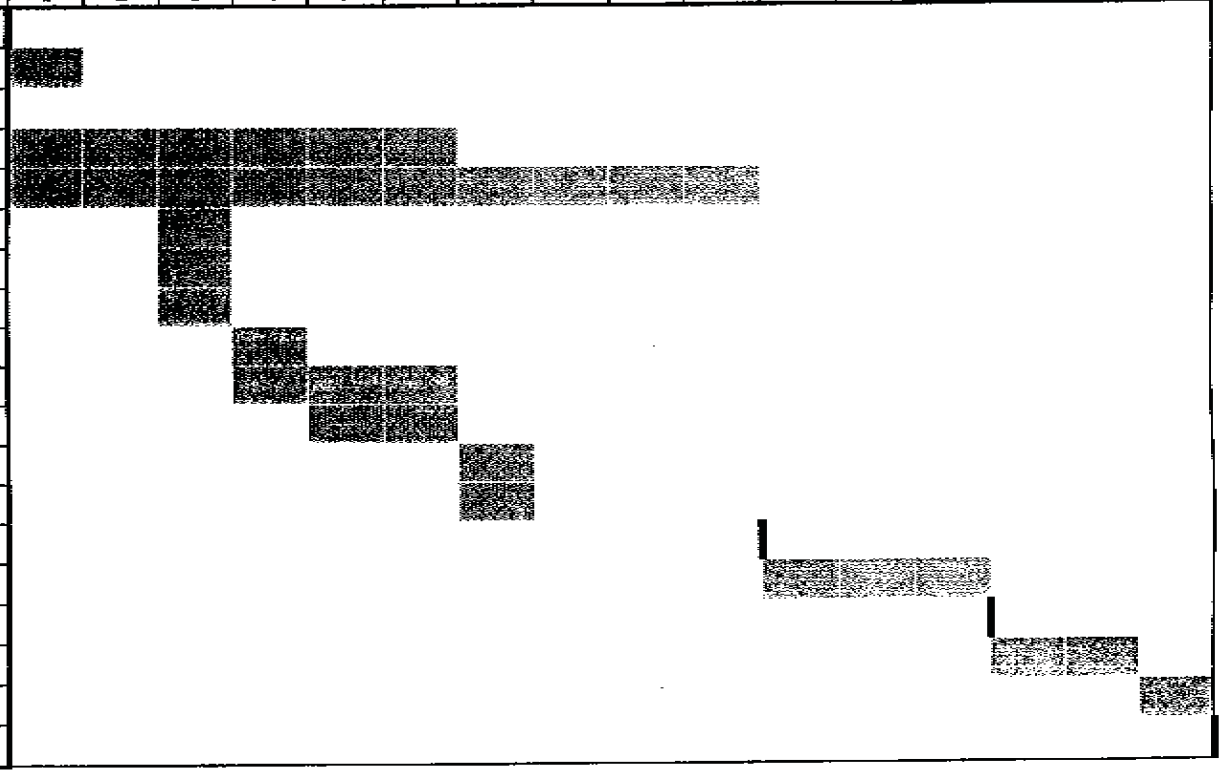
No.	Task Name	Resource Name	Grade	Days
1	Stratigraphic analysis			7
1.1	Checking of matrix	V Birbeck	PO	1.5
1.2	Phasing	V Birbeck	PO	1.5
1.3	Correlation with recorded sequences	V Birbeck	PO	1.5
1.4	Prepare descriptive text	V Birbeck	PO	1.5
1.5	Prepare illustrations		PI	1
2	Struck flint analysis			45
2.1	Typological/technological analysis	P Harding	PO	25
2.2	Quantitative analysis	P Harding	PO	5
2.3	Correlation with other Lambourn/Kennet assemblages	P Harding	PO	5
2.4	Prepare descriptive text	P Harding	PO	5
2.5	Prepare illustrations		PI	5
3	Analysis of burnt flint			2
3.1	Quantification	P Harding	PO	1
3.2	Prepare text	P Harding	PO	1
4	Analysis of other artefacts			2.5
4.1	Analysis of prehistoric pottery	E Loader	PS	2
4.2	Analysis of worked/burnt stone	E Loader	PS	0.5
5	Checking			6.25
5.1	Check all texts	CW Moore	PM	1
5.2	Check artefact texts	LN Mepham	FM	1
5.3	External refereeing	JJ Wymer	EC	1
5.4	Struck/burnt flint revisions	P Harding	PO	3
5.5	Other artefact revisions	E Loader	PS	0.25
5.6	Stratigraphic revisions	V Birbeck	PO	0.5
6	Synthesis			2
6.1	Edit and synthesise	CW Moore	PM	2
7	Archive finalisation			1
7.1	Prepare archive for deposition	E Loader	PS	1

10.9 Task list for Sub-Project 15: Prepare Synthesis

No.	Task Name	Resource Name	Grade	Days
1	Structural Descriptions (Tasks 6 - 13)			1
1.1	Collate structural descriptions	V Birbeck	PO	1
2	Write 'Introduction'			1.5
2.1	Prepare text	V Birbeck	PO	1
2.2	Prepare illustrations		PI	0.5
3	Write 'Prehistoric' section			3.5
3.1	Prepare text	V Birbeck	PO	3
3.2	Edit illustrations	V Birbeck	PO	0.5
4	Write 'Romano-British' section			3.5
4.1	Prepare text	V Birbeck	PO	3
4.2	Edit illustrations	V Birbeck	PO	0.5
5	Write 'Medieval' section			3
5.1	Prepare text	V Birbeck	PO	2.5
5.2	Edit illustrations	V Birbeck	PO	0.5
6	Write 'Post-Medieval' section			2.5
6.1	Documentary research	V Birbeck	PO	1
6.2	Prepare text	V Birbeck	PO	1.5
7	Write 'Discussion' section			6.5
7.1	Write environmental discussion	MJ Allen	EM	1
7.2	Write artefactual discussion	LN Mepham	FM	1
7.3	Check & edit all sections and discussions	CW Moore	PM	2.5
7.4	Prepare text	V Birbeck	PO	2
8	Publication photographs			1.5
8.1	Select photographs	CW Moore	PM	0.5
8.2	Develop photographs	E Wakefield	PP	1

10.10 Summary Gantt chart for master programme

Task no.	Task name	Wk 1	Wk 2	Wk 3	Wk 4	Wk 5	Wk 6	Wk 7	Wk 8	Wk 9	Wk 10	Wk 11	Wk 12	Wk 13	Wk 14	Wk 15	Wk 16
1	*Begin project*																
2	Project set-up																
3	*End of phase 1*																
4	**Analysis of Enborne Street/Wheatlands Lane**																
5	**Analysis of Lambourn valley**																
6	Analysis of Great Pen Wood																
7	Analysis of Enborne Road																
8	Analysis of Elmore Plantation																
9	Analysis of Bath Road																
10	Analysis of Bagnor Road																
11	Analysis of Hills Pightle																
12	Analysis of Swilly Copse																
13	Analysis of Curridge Road																
14	*End of phase 2*																
15	**Prepare synthesis**																
16	*End of phase 3*																
17	Prepare publication text																
18	Archive finalisation and deposition																
19	*End of project*																



10.11 Milestones and Project Team Meetings

10.11.1 An initial project team meeting would be held for all staff involved at the commencement of the project, when project briefs would be issued and discussed. Following the completion of Phases 2 and 3 further meetings will be held. An allowance for meeting time has been made within the time allocations.

10.12 Timetable

10.12.1 The Gantt chart at 10.10 above shows that a programme of 16 weeks is required from instruction to delivery of a publication text. **In order to complete this within financial year 1997/8, instruction will need to be received by 1 December 1997.** It is assumed that archive deposition will take place at a later date; provision has been made in the costing for the necessary deposition grant in respect of the Wessex Archaeology archive (see 10.1.1 above and).

10.13 Costs

10.13.1 The total cost of the project as defined in this document will be **£39,430 (excl. VAT).** All costs have been calculated for financial year 1997/8; any items occurring in financial year 1998/9 will need to be increased at a rate to be agreed once the start date has been decided. If no start date has been agreed by 1st December 1997, a new costing based on Wessex Archaeology's rates for 1998/9 will be submitted.

10.13.2 The costs cover all tasks as defined, completing the project up to the submission of a draft final typescript text. *Attention is drawn to the statements regarding the work proposed in respect of the Lambourn valley archive in sections 10.1.1 and 10.1.2 above.* **It is recommended that an allowance of £7,500 should be made for the typesetting, design and printing of a publication report in 1998/9, to be confirmed once the exact format and length of the report has been agreed.** A further allowance may also be necessary in respect of deposition of the archive from the Lambourn valley excavation.

11.0 TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACTS

Contracts entered into with Wessex Archaeology (the working name of the Trust for Wessex Archaeology Limited, Registered Charity No. 287786) are subject to the following conditions:

11.1 General Conditions

11.1.1 These terms and conditions relate to services in respect of the provision of archaeological fieldwork, reports, consultancy and any other commissioned work.

11.1.2 Wessex Archaeology will not commence work until a written order or signed agreement is received from the client.

11.1.3 Where relevant, unless Wessex Archaeology is instructed otherwise, the client will be responsible for arranging access to land and for checking the position of all services (water, sewage, electricity, gas, oil, telecommunications etc) prior to a project commencing.

11.1.4 Wessex Archaeology shall not be held responsible for any delay or failure in performing a contract resulting from circumstances beyond their reasonable control. Such circumstances would include without limitation, adverse weather conditions, fire, civil disturbance, terrorist activity, war etc.

11.1.5 All Wessex Archaeology reports are prepared and submitted on the basis that whilst they are founded on thorough survey and research, no responsibility is accepted for unavoidable errors or omissions.

11.1.6 Wessex Archaeology cannot be held responsible for any alteration modification or interpretation of its fieldwork results or reports made by the client or any third party.

11.2 Payment Terms

11.2.1 Invoices will be submitted at the end of each calendar month in respect of our costs to that date and/or at the end of each phase of work in respect of the balance of the total costs thereof. Invoices will be due for immediate settlement.

11.3 Copyright

11.3.1 The Trust for Wessex Archaeology Ltd shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it will provide an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

11.3.2 The Trust for Wessex Archaeology Ltd will assign copyright to the client upon written request but retains the right to be identified as the author of all project documentation and reports as defined in the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (Chapter IV, s.79).

11.4 Professional Standards

11.4.1 The Trust for Wessex Archaeology Ltd (Wessex Archaeology) is registered as an archaeological organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists. Wessex Archaeology fully endorses *The Code of Practice* and *The Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* of The Institute of Field Archaeologists.

11.4.2 All staff directly employed or sub-contracted by Wessex Archaeology will be of a standard approved by Wessex Archaeology, and (where relevant) will be employed in line with The Institute of Field Archaeologists Codes of Practice and will usually be members of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

11.4.3 Provision will be made for monitoring of Wessex Archaeology's work by the relevant curatorial bodies, unless otherwise instructed in writing by the client.

11.5 Health and Safety

11.5.1 Wessex Archaeology will ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with its company Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in *The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974*, and *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, and in accordance with the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (1991).

11.5.2 A copy of Wessex Archaeology's Company Health and Safety Policy is available on request. Wessex Archaeology will require access to the health and safety policy of all other contractors and operators present at the work place in compliance with *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*.

11.6 Insurance

11.6.1 Wessex Archaeology will not be liable to indemnify the client against any compensation or damages for or with respect to:

- Damage to crops, structures etc being on the site which is the unavoidable result of the site operations being carried out in accordance with the agreed scope of works (save in so far as permission to enter had not been given to Wessex Archaeology).
- The use or occupation of land (which has been provided by the client) for the purpose of carrying out site operations (including consequent losses of crops), or interference whether temporary or permanent with any right of way, light, air or water or other easement or quasi-easement which are the unavoidable

result of the site operations being carried out in accordance with the agreed scope of works.

- Damage to the site which is the unavoidable result of the site operations in accordance with the agreed scope of works.
- Injuries or damage to persons or property resulting from any act of neglect or breach of statutory duty done or committed by the client or his agents, servants or their contractors or for or in respect of any claims, demands, proceedings, damages, costs, charges and expenses in respect thereof or in relation thereto.
- Wessex Archaeology has both public liability and professional indemnity insurance. Full details of Wessex Archaeology's insurance cover will be supplied on request.

11.7 Arbitration

11.7.1 Any dispute or difference arising out of a contract or agreement in relation to these conditions shall be referred for arbitration by an arbitrator nominated by the President or Vice-President, or other authorised person of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

12.0 REFERENCES

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FIGURES

APPENDIX 1:

TABLES 1 - 11

Table 1: Great Pen Wood - all finds by context

Feature	Context	Burnt Flint	CBM	Fired Clay	R-B Pottery
	Stage 2	*2/43*			*7/25*
Unstrat.	6032		4/526	11/144	20/416
Pit 6034	6033		1/12	55/218	9/62
Pit 6038	6037				3/14
Pit 6040	6039				3/6
	TOTAL	**2/43**	**5/538**	**66/362**	**42/523**

Table 2: Enborne Street - all finds by context

Feature	Context	Burnt Flint	CBM	Clay Pipe	Fired Clay	Worked Flint	Medieval Pottery	Post-med Pottery	Slag	Stone	Cu alloy	Iron	Lead
	Stage 1	*5/59*	*85/2737*			*5/11*	*88/440*			*1/15*	*1*	*1*	
	Stage 2	*18/440*	*80/1942*			*3/16*	*437/4710*					*1*	
Linear 7001	7003		3/14				8/28					1	
Ditch 7001	8083		3/100				100/3566						
?Kiln 7004	7005	4/100	25/1210				48/381						
"	7006		1/68				3/4						
"	7007	1/16					7/52						
Ditch 7008	7009	1/88	3/22				4/12					2	
Ditch 7017	7011	1/26	1/32			3/12	75/1018						
Posthole 7012	7013						4/10						
Linear 7014	7015						1/4			1/46			
Pit Group 7061	7016	1/172	194/11435			1/2	528/5824			1/106			
Ditch 7017	7018		1/50				46/531						
Pit 7031	7019		8/520		1/28	1/16	267/3031					1	
Pit 7021	7020	4/404	304/24959				43/364			12/572		1	
"	7022		62/4555				6/57			9/710			
Pit 7024	7023		52/1491			3/24	168/1550						
Ditch 7010	7025		1/212				31/198					1	
Pit 7027	7026		7/614				1/10						
Pit 7024	7028	1/30					2/26						
Pit 7030	7029		53/4399				103/3113						
Pit 7031	7032		25/1339			1/23	438/6069					1	
Linear 7033	7034						1723/19503						
Ditch 7038	7036			1/4			14/176						
Gully 7040	7039		1/2				12/124						
Gully 7042	7041						3/16						
Pit 7030	7043		346/30690										
Gully 7045	7044						28/194						
Ditch 7051	7049						60/661						
"	7050						35/302						
?Kiln 7054	7053	1/6	5/148				110/1325						
Burnt material	7055		3/88		29/354		12/120						
Pit 7030	7056		10/280				100/431			1/90			
Ditch 7077	7058		29/3293					2/216				1	

Table 2 (continued)

Feature	Context	Burnt Flint	CBM	Clay Pipe	Fired Clay	Worked Flint	Medieval Pottery	Post-med Pottery	Slag	Stone	Cu alloy	Iron	Lead
Ditch 7091	7059	3/36	5/252				49/671						
Ditch 7090	7060		11/293				105/1670					1	
Ditch 7064	7062						14/132						
"	7063						2/10						
Ditch 7067	7065						13/228						
"	7068						12/80						
Pit 7070	7069					1/37	7/60						
Pit 7071	7072	2/118	3/412			1/2	21/188						
"	7073		17/1710			2/186	64/1074			2/112			
Pit 7093	7074		4/107				34/352						
Ditch 7081/7083	7079						26/440						
Ditch 7090	7086						4/52						
Subsoil	7089						1/10						
Linear 8080	8079						29/332						
Ditch 8096	8095		6/230				22/252		1/110				
Soil horizon?	8097						3/88						
Linear 8099	8098		15/418				17/228						
"	8111		3/16				1/4						
Subsoil Tr 729	8102		1/64				13/370					1	
-	U/S ES1	45/932	126/6628			2/60	944/10890			1/74		1	1
-	U/S ES2						2/20						
-	U/S ES4	1/168	4/259			1/12	57/730	1/2					
Watching brief	U/S		2/228				26/722						
	TOTAL	88/2595	1499/100817	1/4	30/382	24/401	5954/72319	3/218	1/110	28/125	1	13	1

Table 3: Wheatlands Lane - all finds by context

Feature	Context	Burnt Flint	CBM	Fired Clay	Worked Flint	Medieval Pottery	Post-med Pottery	Iron
	Stage 1	*1/11*	*93/1539*			*17/108*		*1*
	Stage 2		*99/1999*			*175/2475*		
Topsoil	6020	44/2480	21/1308	7/114	26/460	523/7364	3/120	
Subsoil	6014		39/2082			57/630		
Gully 6017	6016	4/19				146/1006		
Gully 6019	6018	9/40			1/4	259/2895		
"	6101					55/940		
Gully 6022	6021	3/32	1/20			138/1530		
Ditch 6024	6023			2/14	1/34	15/388		
Feature 6103	6102					6/140		
Watching brief	U/S		1/45			2/89		
	TOTAL	**61/2582**	**254/6993**	**9/128**	**28/498**	**1390/17565**	**3/120**	**1**

Table 4: Elmore Plantation - all finds by context

Feature	Context	Burnt Flint	CBM	Fired Clay	Worked Flint	Prehist. Pottery	R-B Pottery	Med. Pottery	P-med Pottery	Shell	Slag	Stone	Cu alloy	Iron
	Stage 1	*1/18*	*13/297*		*1/4*		*3/11*							
	Stage 2	*6/99*	*18/579*	*1/6*	*8/101*		*42/238*			*49/1845*	*70/650*			
Unstrat.	6041	1/6	22/1339		12/356		18/318	2/22	2/40		69/3813	4/430		2
Topsoil	6042		1/136		2/16									
Linear 6047	6046		1/28		1/10		25/366				2/78	1/346		
Pit 6049	6048							2/19						
Pit 6051	6050	1/26			3/6		7/34							
"	6053						1/40							
Posthole 6055	6054						8/32							
"	6056				1/12						1/40			
Hill-wash	6067				1/18		1/6						1	
Pit 6070	6069	1/4	2/4		1/1		1/12							
Subsoil	6074		1/24											
Buried topsoil	6075	4/90	21/760		8/64		31/228							2
Hill-wash	6077	30/258			14/64		5/16							
Colluvium	6078	14/218			9/60	1/2								
Gravel interface	6079	6/98			3/58									
Pit 6081	6080						7/56							
Tree bowl 6083	6082				1/16		3/10				2/112			1
Tree bowl 6085	6084						4/10				1/74			
Posthole 6088	6086						2/4				1/30			
Layer	6089	1/4		7/134	1/14		2/4				3/30	1/220		
Watching brief	U/S		2/34						1/26					
	TOTAL	**65/821**	**81/3201**	**8/140**	**66/800**	**1/2**	**160/1385**	**4/43**	**3/66**	**49/1845**	**149/4827**	**6/996**	**1**	**5**

Table 5: Bagnor Road- all finds by context

	Animal	Burnt Flint	CBM	Fired Clay	Worked Flint	Pottery	Shale	Shell	Slag	Stone	Metal
Ditch 9009	3/8	1/10	6/430			10/282					
Pit 9022		1/56			2/20						
Ditch 9028	36/516	11/559	9/398	1/2	14/150	461/8290				1/288	
Ditch 9036	13/21				1/38	25/300			1/76		
Ditch 9037	5/52	2/8	3/17		2/156	35/262					
Ditch re-cut 9064		1/39		3/45		32/317					
Buried soil	2/19	1/14	9/866	2/11	34/337	101/942				41/1390	87 Fe; 2 Pb; 3 Cu
Pit 9075	8/40		16/548	4/20	3/24	146/1778				4/53	11 Fe
Pit 9077					1/45	8/95					1 Fe
Pit 9080	7/23	3/67	3/41	33/346	14/133	89/1005				1/5910	10 Fe; 2 Cu
Post hole 9083						4/15					
Grain drier 9104	64/1515	50/1433	130/29348	19/135	14/147	317/6396	1	2/28	3/42	15/7288	7 Fe; 2 Cu
Pit 9106		29/443	2/386		10/117						
Hearth 9107						1/3					1 Fe
Pit 9109					1/3						
Pit 9117		6/200		1/4	14/450						
Post hole 9119					1/8						
Ditch 9133	2/65	1/22			3/76	1/14					
Pit 9164			5/147		1/1	20/214				1/27	2 Fe
Ditch 9168	5/31	4/113	4/253		5/56	20/220				8/43	
TOTAL	**145/2290**	**110/2964**	**187/32434**	**63/563**	**120/1761**	**1270/20133**	**1**	**2/28**	**4/118**	**71/14999**	**119 Fe; 7 Cu; 2 Pb**

Table 6: Hills Pightle - all finds by context

Feature	Context	Animal Bone	Burnt Flint	CBM	Worked Flint	Glass	Medieval Pottery	Stone	Iron
	Stage 1		*3/249*	*8/128*		*1/8*	*13/33*		
	Stage 2	*9/68*		*41/1759*	*3/62*		*156/1167*	*3/92*	*9*
Unstrat.	6025	5/40		36/1910	11/116		232/2499	30/1476	1
Ditch 7529	6031	47/64			2/162		4/20		
"	7513	12/40	6/276	1/50			19/178		1
"	7514	8/4					3/50		
"	7517		11/936		3/36		5/16		
"	7528	1/16	4/282	1/112	1/8				
Pit 7501	7500	2/4					8/78		
Feature 7502	7503		1/136		1/12		7/26		
"	7516		1/34	1/24	1/3		12/64		1
"	7520	2/4					4/30		
"	7526		1/2				15/270		
Ditch 7507	7506	1/24	6/1095	3/404			16/143		
Natural Feature	7511		1/10		2/26		2/26		
Pit 7523	7521	11/86	227/21714				1/4		1
"	7522		17/1908				3/12	2/200	
Pit 7525	7524	5/16		1/2			1/14		
W/brief	U/S						2/116		
	TOTAL	**103/366**	**278/26642**	**92/4389**	**24/425**	**1/8**	**503/4746**	**35/1768**	**13**

Table 7: Miscellaneous small sites

Site	Feature	Burnt Flint	Pottery
Bath Road	Hearth 9000		33/225
Whittle Copse	?Burnt mound 9089	6388 g	
Swilly Copse	*Stage II*		*26/395*
"	Pit/post hole 9038	27 g	11/26

Table 8: Lambourn Valley - summary artefact quantification by material type (after YAT)

	Bulk finds	**Samples**	**Total**
Struck flint	11066	2880	13946
Burnt stone	14021	11695	25716
Pottery	329	218	547
Non-local stone	32	170	202
Worked stone	4		4
Glass	199	73	272
Ferrous	79	60	139
Copper alloy	4	3	7
Slag	48	235	283
Roman tile	5		5
P-med brick &tile	1437	1173	2610
Total			**43731**

Table 9: Catalogue of environmental samples by site

Sample	Context	Comment	Processed
GREAT PEN WOOD - Romano-British			
10000	6033		floated
ENBORNE STREET - 12th/13th cent			
10020	7007	env	floated
10021	7073	env/charcoal	floated
KENNET VALLEY - undated/?Mesolithic			
10042	9130	env	floated +waterlogged
10043	9136	env	floated +waterlogged
10049	9089	monolith	
ELMORE PLANTATION - undated, LBA and Romano-British			
10001	6046		floated
10002	6068		floated and artefact sieved
10003	-----	monolith	
10004	----	monolith	
10005	6075	env	floated
10006	6078	env	floated
BATH ROAD - Bronze Age			
10026	9001	artefacts	floated
10027	9002	artefacts and env	floated
BAGNOR ROAD - Romano-British			
10028	9016	env	floated
10031	9103	artefacts and env	floated
10044	9082	env	floated
10032	9093	env. (corndrier)	floated
10033	9118	env. (corndrier)	floated
10034	9121	env. (corndrier)	floated
10037	9099	env. (corndrier)	floated
10038	9131	env. (corndrier)	floated
10039	9114	env. (corndrier)	floated
10040	9121	env. (corndrier)	floated
10041	9134	env. (corndrier)	floated
10047	9150	env. (corndrier)	floated
10048	9149	env. (corndrier)	floated
HILLS PIGHTLE - 12th/13th cent - medieval			
10022	7506	env	floated
10023	7521	env	floated
10024	7522	env	floated
10025	7524	env	floated
SWILLY COPSE - Bronze Age			
10029	9039	bone and artefacts	floated
OTHER WATCHING BRIEF SAMPLES - undated			
10030	9089	artefacts	floated
10035	9126	env	floated
10036	9129		floated
OTHER SAMPLES			
10045	9144	mortar	FINDS
10046	9122	mortar	FINDS

Table 10: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

			Flot							Residue
Feature type/ no	Context	Sample	flot size ml	Grain	Chaff	Weed seeds uncharred	Weed seeds charred	Charcoal >5.6mm	Other	Charcoal >5.6mm
GREAT PEN WOOD - Romano-British										
hearth 6034	6033	10,000	60 (50)	-	-	-	-	C		-
ENBORNE STREET - 12th/13th cent										
hearth 7004	7007	10,020	20 (15)	C	-	-	C	A		1g
pit 7071	7073	10,021	75 (10)	C	-	-	C	A		5g
KENNET VALLEY - undated/?Mesolithic										
palaeo-channel	9130	10042	5 4	-	-	a	C	C	-	-
palaeo-channel	9136	10043	10 8	-	-	b	C	-	-	-
ELMORE PLANTATION - undated, LBA and Romano-British										
layer	6068	10,002	200 (5)	-	-	-	-	-		-
BA buried soil	6078	10,006	10 (5)	-	C	-	-	-		-
RB buried soil	6075	10,005	30 (20)	-	-	c	-	-		-
beamslot 6047	6046	10,001	50 (40)	-	-	c	C	C	shell B	2g
BATH ROAD - Bronze Age										
hearth 9000	9001	10026	80 26	C	-	b	C	A	-	100
hearth 9000	9002	10027	75 1.5	-	-	c	C	A*	-	250
BAGNOR ROAD - Romano-British										
ditch 9018	9016	10028	30 22	C	-	b	-	-	-	-
hearth 9107	9103	10031	40 30	-	-	a	-	A	-	7
pit 9080	9082	10044	100 25	A*	A	a	C(h)	C	mollusc (C)	-
corndrier										
9123/9104	9093	10032	25 20	A	C	b	-	C	smb (C)	3
9123/9104	9118	10033	50 10	A*	A	b	A	B	smb (C)	-
9123/9104	9121	10034	60 12	A*	A	c	A	C	mollusc (C)	-
9123/9104	9114	10039	50 40	C	C	c	-	C	smb (C) mollusc (C)	-
9123/9104	9121	10040	25 15	A*	A	c	B	B	-	-
9145/9104	9134	10041	50 25	A*	C	c	C	B	smb (C) mollusc (C)	-
9145/9104	9149	10048	15 8	A*	A	c	C	C	smb (A) p/beans (C)	2
9104	9099	10037	35 27	C	-	a	-	C	-	-
9104	9131	10038	40 36	-	-	b	-	-	smb (C) mollusc (C)	-
9104	9150	10047	40 10	A*	B	c	A	C	mollusc (C) p/beans (A)	-
HILLS PIGHTLE - 12/13th cent - medieval										
ditch 7507	7506	10,022	75 (50)	B	C	-	B	B	snails A	2g
pit 7523	7521	10,023	50 (15)	A	C	c	B	A*	snails A	1g
pit 7523	7522	10,024	30 (5)	A	-	c	C	B	snails A	-
pit 7525	7524	10,025	45 (5)	A	-	c	B	A	snails A	-
SWILLY COPSE - Bronze Age										
? crem'n 9038	9039	10029	80 72	-	-	b	C	-	-	-
OTHER WATCHING BRIEF SAMPLES - undated										
spread	9089	10030	40 0.5	C	-	c	-	A	mollusc (C)	2
pit 9117	9126	10035	40 6	-	-	c	-	A	-	-
scoop 9128	9129	10036	40 8	-	-	b	-	A	-	5

KEY: A** = exceptional, A* = 30+ items, A = ≥10 items, B = 9 - 5 items, C = < 5 items,
NOTE: [1]flot is total, but flot in brackets = ml of rooty material. [2]unburnt seed in lower case to distinguish from charred remains

Table 11: Chronological sequence of results

KEY

Site of national importance
Site of regional importance
Site of local importance
Not present

Site	Mesolithic	Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age	Middle-Late Bronze Age	Iron Age	Romano-British	Saxon	Medieval	Post-Medieval	Modern
Date Range	8500-4000 BC	4000-1500 BC	1500-700 BC	700BC-43AD	43-410 AD	410-1066 AD	1066-1499 AD	1500-1799 AD	1800AD-Present
Lambourn Mesolithic site									
Curridge Road									
Bath Road									
Swilly Copse									
Elmore Plantation									
Bagnor Road									
Enborne Road									
Great Pen Wood									
Hill's Pightle									
Enborne Street									
Wheatlands Road									
Watching Brief									

Trench 700 15m x 4m	Elmore Plantation	Ground Level 106m O.D.	SU 44940 67940
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark yellowish brown peaty silt loam topsoil.		6000
0.30-0.80m	Light grey silty clay subsoil with occasional gravel lenses.		6001
0.80m+	Natural orange/brown sandy clay.		6002

Trench 701 20m x 3m	Elmore Plantation	Ground Level 104.50m O.D.	SU 44940 67900
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark brown silty clay loam topsoil.		6003
0.30-0.80m	Light grey silty clay subsoil with occasional gravel lenses.		6004
0.80-1.30m	Natural orange/brown sandy clay.		6005
1.30m+	Natural bluish grey clay.		6006

Trench 702 28m x 3m	Elmore Plantation	Ground Level 102m O.D.	SU 44940 67880
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.25m	Dark yellowish brown peaty silt loam topsoil.		6007
0.25-0.55m	Orange brown sandy clay subsoil with localised grey mottling..		6008/6009
0.55-1.05m	Bluish grey sand natural.		6010
1.05-1.65m	Bluish grey clay natural.		6011
1.65m+	Light yellowish brown sand natural		6012

Trench 703 25m x 1.70m	Tot Hill	Ground Level 146.37m O.D.	SU 46035 60920
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8000
0.30m+	Brownish yellow silty clay natural.		8001

Trench 704 25m x 1.70m	Tot Hill	Ground Level 142.14m O.D.	SU 46200 61150
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.20m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8002
0.20m+	Brownish yellow silty clay natural.		8003

Trench 705 25m x 1.70m	Tot Hill	Ground Level 143.64m O.D.	SU 46060 61220
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.25m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8004
0.25m+	Brownish yellow silty clay natural.		8005

Trench 706 25m x 1.70m	Tot Hill	Ground Level 144.39m O.D.	SU 46030 61185
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.25m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8006
0.25m+	Brownish yellow silty clay natural.		8007

Trench 707 25m x 1.70m	Tot Hill	Ground Level 142.18m O.D.	SU 46110 61335
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.20m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8008
0.20m+	Brownish yellow silty clay natural.		8009

Trench 708 25m x 1.70m	Tot Hill	Ground Level 141.46m O.D.	SU 46110 61370
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.20m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8010
0.20m+	Yellowish brown silty clay natural.		8011

Trench 709 25m x 1.70m	Tot Hill	Ground Level 136.69m O.D.	SU 45895 62050
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.20m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8012
0.20m+	Greyish brown silty clay natural.		8013

Trench 710 25m x 1.70m	Tot Hill	Ground Level 134.41m O.D.	SU 45845 62130
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark greyish brown humic silty clay topsoil		8014
0.30m+	Grey sandy silt natural.		8015

Trench 711 25m x 1.70m	Tot Hill	Ground Level 132.31m O.D.	SU 45780 62200
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.20m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8016
0.20m+	Yellowish brown silty clay natural.		8017

Trench 712 20m x 20m	Swilly Copse	Ground Level 106m O.D.	SU 46840 70400
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8018
0.30-0.40m	Yellowish brown silty clay subsoil.		8019
Feature	Circular hearth, 0.75m in diameter and 0.23m deep with 'bowl' shaped profile. Filled with 8022 (primary fill with abundant charcoal & pottery) and 8021 (upper fill).		8021, 8022 & 8023
0.40m+	Yellowish brown silty clay natural with gravel lenses.		8020

Trench 713 25m x 1.70m	Swilly Copse	Ground Level 109m O.D.	SU 46695 70460
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.10m	Dark yellowish brown friable humic loam topsoil.		8024
0.10-0.20m	Pale grey silty clay loam subsoil.		8025
0.20m+	Yellowish brown silty clay natural with gravel lenses.		8026

Trench 714 25m x 1.70m	**Swilly Copse**	**Ground Level** **114m O.D.**	**SU 46670 70420**
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.20m	Dark greyish brown silty loam topsoil.		8027
Feature	Sub rectangular pit, 3.00m long & 1m+ wide. Lined with broken peg tiles.		8030 & 8031
0.20-0.30m	Dark greyish brown sandy clay subsoil		8028
0.30m+	Brownish yellow sandy clay natural.		8029

Trench 715 25m x 1.70m	**Swilly Copse**	**Ground Level** **116m O.D.**	**SU 46660 70410**
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.10m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8032
Feature	Modern land drain		8034 & 8035
Feature	Modern drainage ditch		8036 & 8037
0.10m+	Brownish yellow sandy clay natural.		8033

Trench 716 25m x 1.70m	**Swilly Copse**	**Ground Level** **118m O.D.**	**SU 46650 70385**
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.10m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8039
0.10-0.20m	Light brown silty clay subsoil.		8040
Feature	Modern drainage ditch		8041 & 8042
0.20m+	Brownish yellow sandy clay natural.		8043

Trench 717 25m x 1.70m	**Swilly Copse**	**Ground Level** **120.80m O.D.**	**SU 46635 70360**
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.20m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8044
0.20m+	Brownish yellow sandy clay natural.		8045

Trench 718 25m x 1.70m	**Curridge Road**	**Ground Level** **95.70m O.D.**	**SU 47130 70815**
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.25m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8046
0.25-0.50m	Yellowish brown firm silty clay subsoil.		8047
Feature	Shallow circular pit, 0.90m in diameter and 0.22m deep with two fills. Burnt flint recovered from basal fill.		8049, 8049 & 8051
0.50m+	Weathered chalk natural.		8050

Trench 719 20m x 20m	**Nazareth House Lodge**	**Ground Level** **118.10m O.D.**	**SU 44840 68150**
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Greyish brown sandy loam topsoil		8121
Feature	Probable tree throw - recorded in stage 2 eval. as ditch.		8053 &8054
0.30m+	Yellowish brown gravel natural.		8052

Trench 720 25m x 1.70m	Nazareth House Lodge	Ground Level 103.50m O.D.	SU 45130 68410
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.20m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8055
0.20-0.30m	Light greyish brown silty clay subsoil.		8056
0.30m+	Yellowish brown clay and gravel natural		8057/8058

Trench 721 25m x 1.70m	River Enborne Flood Plain	Ground Level 99.35m O.D.	SU 44235 63310
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.20m	Dark yellowish brown friable silty clay loam topsoil.		8059
0.20-0.30m	Greyish brown silty clay subsoil.		8060
0.30m+	Brownish yellow silty clay natural.		8061

Trench 722 25m x 1.70m	River Enborne Flood Plain	Ground Level 98.30m O.D.	SU 44280 63380
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark greyish brown silty loam topsoil.		8065
0.30-0.60m	Brown sandy silt subsoil.		8066
Feature	Ditch on N-S alignment, 1.50m wide and 0.50m deep with 'V' shaped profile. Burnt flint recovered from fill.		8067 & 8068
0.60m+	Brownish yellow silty clay natural.		-

Trench 723 25m x 1.70m	River Enborne Flood Plain	Ground Level 97m O.D.	SU 44275 63410
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.20m	Dark yellowish brown friable silty clay loam topsoil.		8062
0.20-0.50m	Yellowish brown silty clay subsoil.		8063
0.50m+	Brownish yellow silty clay natural.		8064

Trench 724 25m x 1.70m	River Enborne Flood Plain	Ground Level 95.74m O.D.	SU 44225 63440
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.15m	Dark greyish brown friable silty clay loam topsoil.		8069
0.15-0.40m	Dark brown silty clay subsoil.		8070
0.40m+	Brownish yellow silty clay and gravel natural.		8071

Trench 725 7m x 1.70m	Enborne Street	Ground Level 110.00m O.D.	SU 44320 64010
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.40m	Dark brown sandy loam topsoil.		8077
Feature	Large linear feature, 3.50m wide on E-W alignment. Not excavated		8079 & 8080
0.40m+	Yellowish brown sandy clay natural.		8078

Trench 726 13m x 1.70m	Enborne Street	Ground Level 110.00m O.D.	SU 44395 64060
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.35m	Dark brown sandy loam topsoil.		8072
Feature	Linear feature on E-W alignment. Not excavated		8075 & 8076
Feature	Linear feature on E-W alignment. Not excavated		8074
0.35m+	Brownish yellow silty clay and gravel natural.		8073

Trench 727 13m x 1.70m	Enborne Street	Ground Level 112m O.D.	SU 44350 64070
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark grey silty clay loam topsoil		8081
Feature	Shallow ditch on E-W alignment. Abundant pottery in fill.		8083 & 8084
0.30m+	Yellowish brown clay natural		8082

Trench 728 10m x 1.70m	Enborne Street	Ground Level 107.00m O.D.	SU 44330 63995
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark grey silty clay loam topsoil		8085
Feature	Linear feature on NW-SE alignment. Not excavated.		8088 & 8089
Feature	Modern land drain.		8090 & 8091
0.30m+	Yellowish brown clay natural		8086

Trench 729 165m x 1.70m	Enborne Street	Ground Level 106.00m O.D.	SU 44335 63970
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark grey silty clay loam topsoil		8101
Feature	Modern land drain. Cuts linear feature 8103		8104 &8105
Feature	Modern land drain.		8106 &8107
Feature	Linear feature on NW-SE alignment. Probably same as 8088 in Tr. 728. Not excavated		8103 & 8122
0.30-0.35m	Dark yellowish brown silty clay subsoil.		8102
0.35m+	Yellowish brown clay natural		-

Trench 730 21m x 1.70m	Enborne Street	Ground Level 106.50m O.D.	SU 44310 63970
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark grey silty clay loam topsoil		8092
0.30m+	Yellowish brown clay natural		8093

Trench 731 25m x 1.70m	Enborne Street	Ground Level 107.00m O.D.	SU 44370 64010
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark grey silty clay loam topsoil		8094
Feature	Modern land drain		8109 & 8110
Feature	Post-medieval or modern field boundary ditch on NW-SE alignment.		8095, 8096, 8108 & 8112
Feature	Large linear feature (later excavation proved this to be three parallel ditches of post-medieval date).		8097, 8098, 8099 & 8111
0.30m+	Yellowish brown clay natural		8100

Trench 732 25m x 1.70m	Skinners Green	Ground Level 92.40m O.D.	SU 44455 65350
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.25m	Dark greyish brown friable silty clay loam topsoil.		8113
0.25m+	Orange brown silty clay natural.		8114

Trench 733 25m x 1.70m	Skinners Green	Ground Level 85.50m O.D.	SU 44610 65820
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.25m	Dark greyish brown friable silty clay loam topsoil.		8115
0.25m+	Orange brown silty clay natural.		8116

Trench 734 25m x 1.70m	Castle Wood	Ground Level 102.00m O.D.	SU 45670 69535
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.25m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8117
0.25m+	Weathered chalk natural.		8118

Trench 735 25m x 1.70m	Castle Wood	Ground Level 120.00m O.D.	SU 45830 69670
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8119
0.30m+	Yellowish brown silty clay natural.		8120

Trench 736 25m x 1.70m	Castle Wood	Ground Level 114.00m O.D.	SU 45765 69750
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.30m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		8123
0.30m+	Weathered chalk natural.		8124

Trench 737 32m x 1.80m	Elmore Plantation	Ground Level 93.28m O.D.	SU 44960 67800
Depth	**Description**		**Context Number**
0-0.20m	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam topsoil.		6071
0.20-1.50m	Orange brown sandy clay subsoil.		6072
1.50-2.10m	Greenish grey sandy clay with abundant oyster shell inclusions. Sample 10002 taken.		6068
2.10m+	Weathered chalk natural.		6073

APPENDIX 3:

SUMMARY OF WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY *DATA LEVELS GUIDELINES*

Summary of *Data Levels Guidelines*

The creation of the *Data Levels Guidelines* formalises the kinds of processing and analysis which Wessex Archaeology has been conducting for the past fifteen years. It provides a structure for finds work. It is to be used as part of the finds assessment and report preparation procedures.

Data Level 1
Record presence; do not collect. This level can be used in field scanning only if experienced personnel are participating. It is a level of recording which could be used to enhance information about an area which has been well-documented archaeologically. Data Level 1 could comprise, for example, part of a rapid field scan to identify areas of potential for more detailed survey in an environmental assessment or evaluation. Information could be sketch-plotted and recorded on field or hectare sheets. In excavation or evaluation by excavation it is unlikely to be used except, for example, in the excavation of dumps of ceramic building materials from building demolition, or for modern finds in topsoil. Such occurrences must be noted on context records.

Data Level 2
This is the basic finds records: for bulk finds, this is the *Context Finds Record*; for objects, this includes the mandatory fields of the *Object Record*. This level is the minimum requirement in order to provide quantified data about each material type by context or by collection unit. For excavated artefacts, preparation of the *Finds Index by Category*, which lists and quantifies each material type by context and summarises the information, is necessary. This can be done by entering all the *Context Finds* and *Object Records* onto a computer database, or can be calculated manually. Include all material recovered from samples selected for artefact analysis, and artefacts recovered from environmental samples if required.

Data Level 3
This is the assessment level. The artefactual evidence collected during fieldwalking, or any stage of evaluation and excavation, is scanned, and the potential and suggested methodology for further analysis assessed. The assessment stage can be implemented at two levels. The general dating and quantification information from Data Level 3 can be used to assist in the preparation of client reports, and provide information for SMR work. Spot-date for general chronological range of the material and scan to assess the nature and quality of the material, using the *Spot-Dating and Scanning* form, or those specifically targeted for particular materials such as the *Ceramic Building Material and Stone Scanning* form. The scan may include an assessment as to whether the material is representative of primary deposition or mainly redeposited material, activity areas, or evidence for a building. Give the reasons for date range, such as specific types of pottery or metalwork. At this stage, no further analysis is proposed.

Data Level 3 may also be used in the preparation of detailed research designs for post-excavation work, a process which is formalised as the 'assessment of potential for analysis' in the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991). In addition to the scanning procedure outlined above, the assessment should also

include a statement of the archaeological potential of the material, and an outline of the proposed analysis. Determine whether a selection of the material type is necessary or if the full collection is to be analysed. Prepare a series of questions to be asked of the material type, and the analytical methods to be implemented. An indication of the range and quantity of material to be illustrated should also be given.

Data Level 4

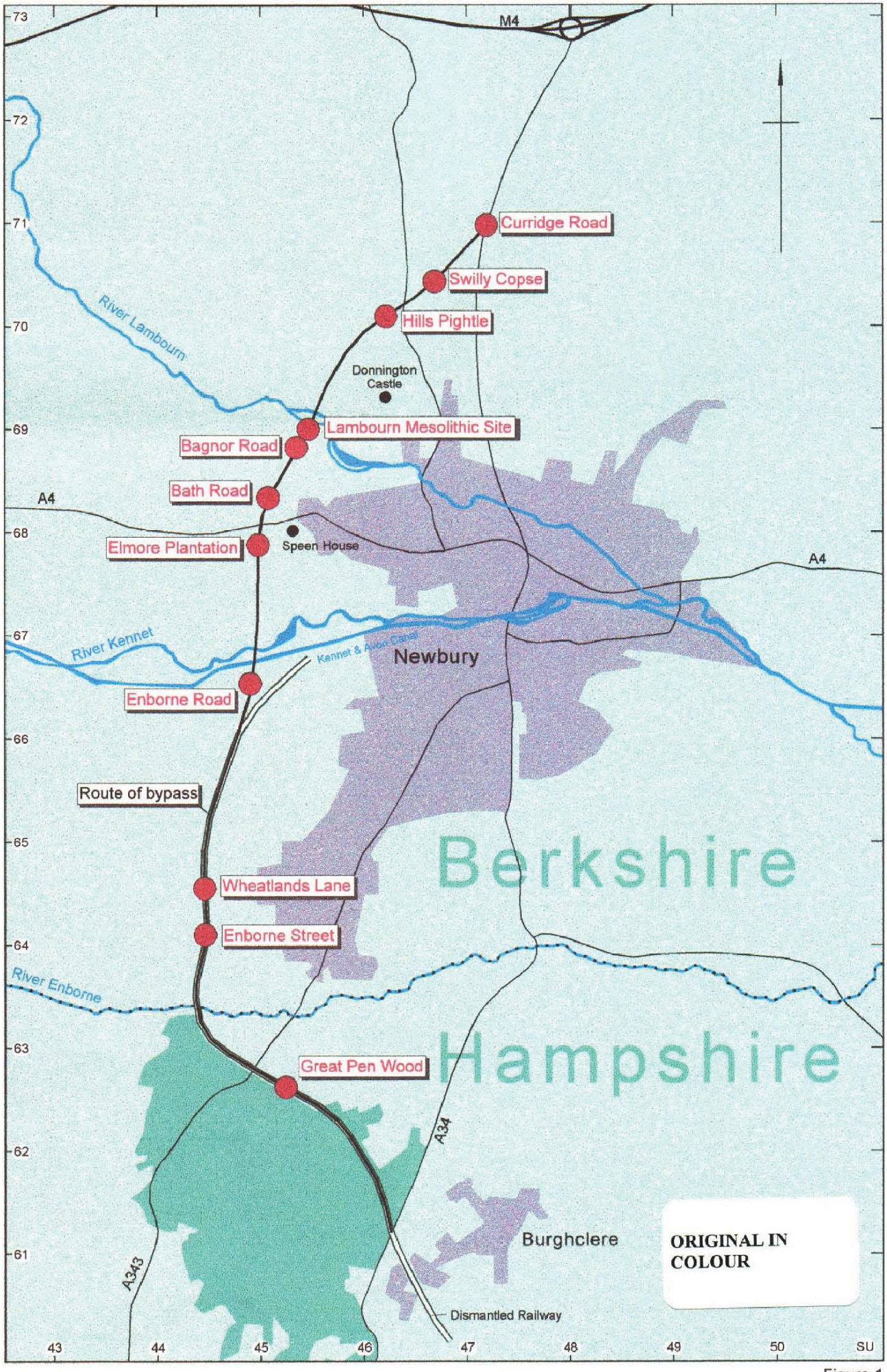
This is the first analytical stage, and is the level of analysis employed for standard assemblages where no specialised research is to be undertaken (eg, for pottery, this is basic fabric and form analysis; for ceramic building materials, recording of the general diagnostic pieces; for lithic material, the recording of metrical and technological data). For selected material types and certain deposits, this stage of work is enough to provide a great deal of information from a limited amount of work. This is the level of analysis traditionally achieved in most excavation reports.

Data Level 5

This is the second analytical stage, and includes the more detailed research which may be undertaken on selected material types if the nature of the assemblage (and the project budget) allows it. It is generally only undertaken on large assemblages, ie, those where the return of information justifies a more labour-intensive approach than *Data Level 4*. It might include, for example, the detailed recording of an assemblage of decorated floor tiles, in order to investigate production groups; or an in-depth spatial analysis of pottery sherds individually recorded within an occupation deposit.

Data Level 6

This consists of *scientific and other detailed research*, as well as *regional analyses* with support sought from outside bodies such as the period societies, universities, English Heritage and the Ancient Monuments Laboratory, the British Museum, the Oxford Research Laboratory for the History of Art and Archaeology, the British Academy (Research Grants and Fund for Applied Science in Archaeology), and the Science and Engineering Research Council.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Swilly Copse
Hills Pightle
River Lambourn
Donnington Castle
Lambourn Mesolithic Site
Bagnor Road
Bath Road
A4
Elmore Plantation
Speen House
A4
River Kennet
Kennet & Avon Canal
Newbury
Enborne Road
Route of bypass
Berkshire
Wheatlands Lane
Enborne Street
River Enborne
Great Pen Wood
Hampshire
A34
A343
Burghclere
Dismantled Railway
ORIGINAL IN COLOUR
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72
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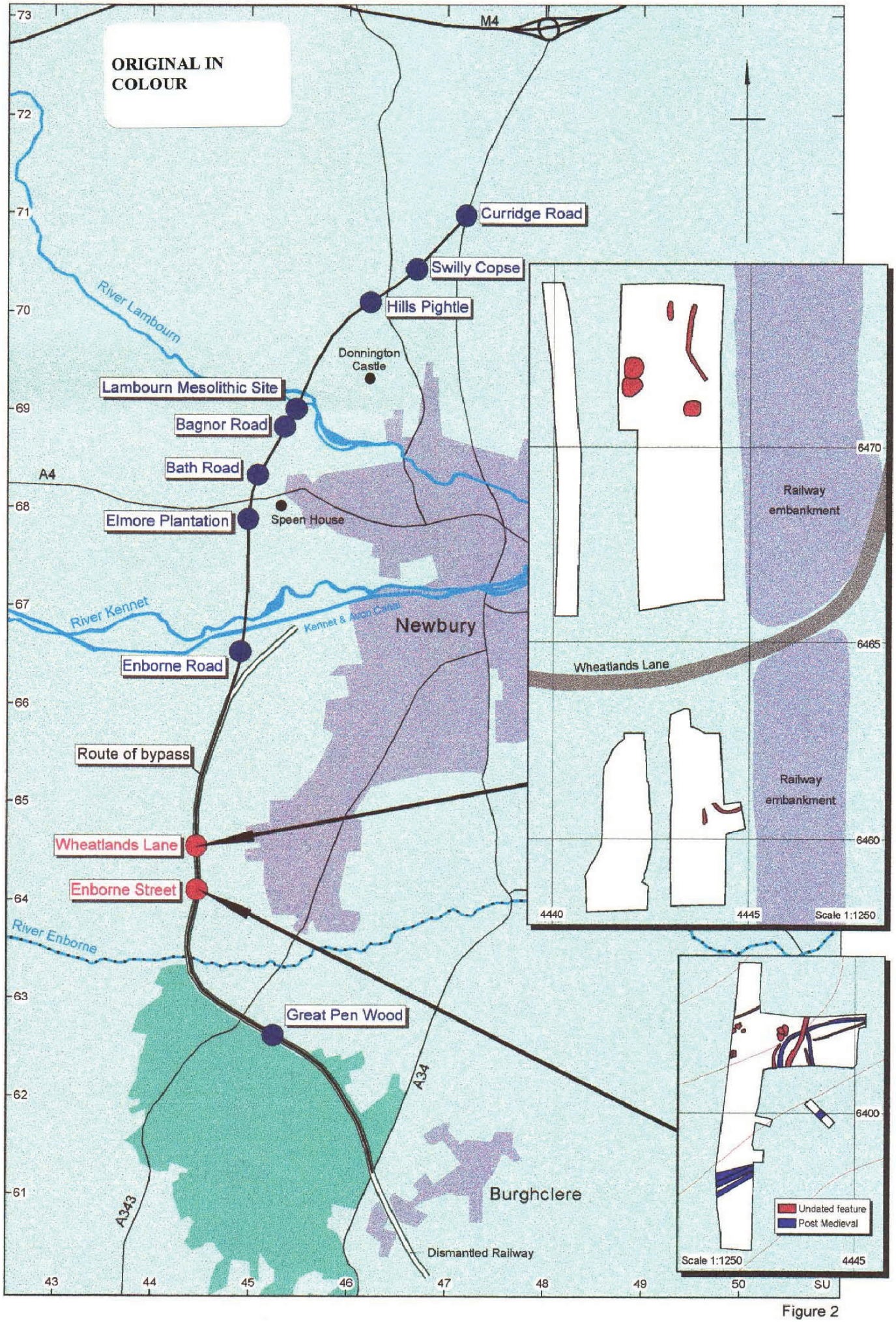
Figure 1


ORIGINAL IN COLOUR
M4
Curridge Road
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Donnington Castle
River Lambourn
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Newbury
Enborne Road
Route of bypass
Wheatlands Lane
Enborne Street
River Enborne
Great Pen Wood
A34
A343
Burghclere
Dismantled Railway
Railway embankment
Wheatlands Lane
Railway embankment
6470
6465
6460
4440
4445
Scale 1:1250
6400
Undated feature
Post Medieval
Scale 1:1250
4445
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Figure 2

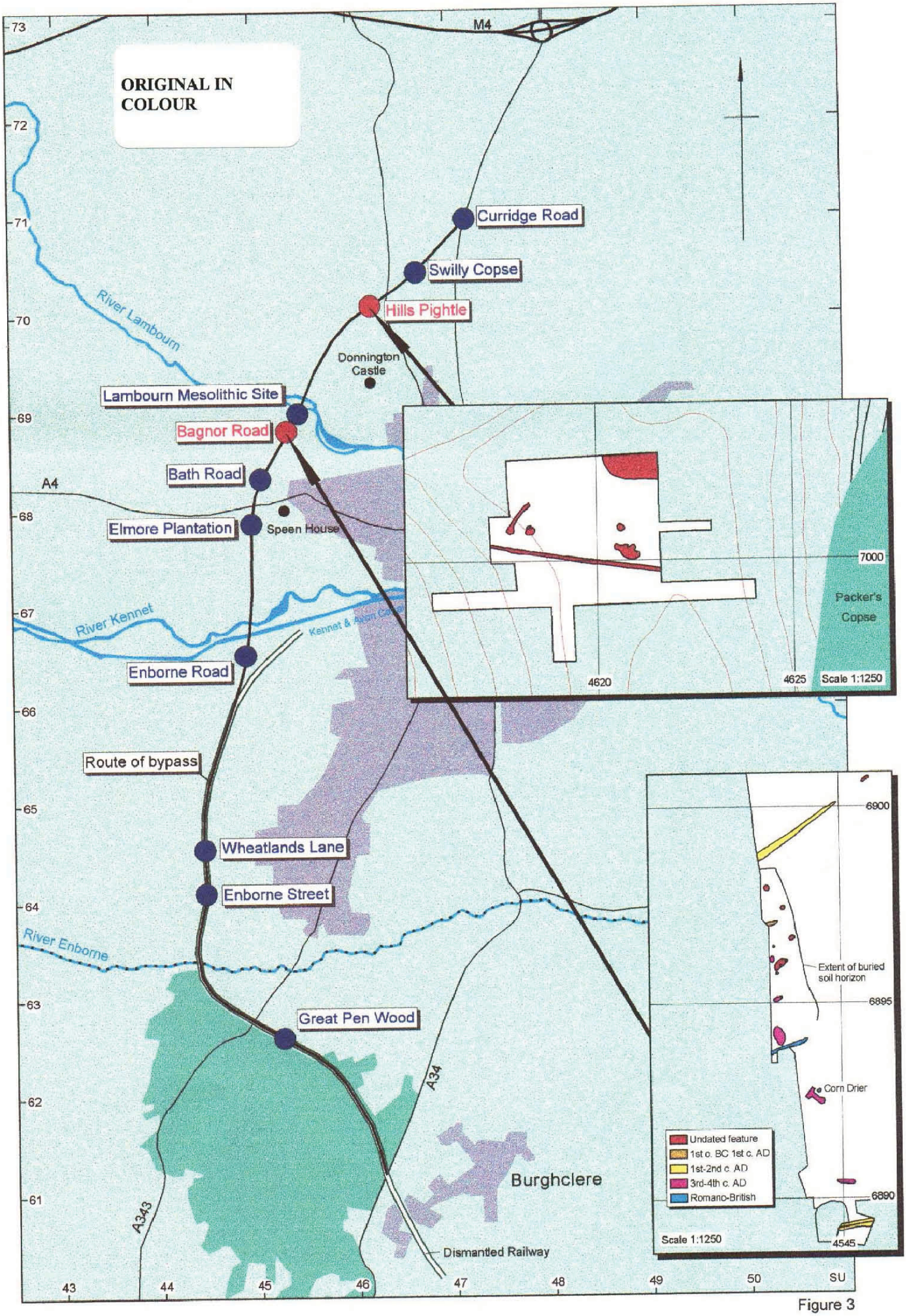
ORIGINAL IN COLOUR
M4
Curridge Road
Swilly Copse
Hills Pightle
Donnington Castle
Lambourn Mesolithic Site
Bagnor Road
Bath Road
A4
Elmore Plantation
Speen House
River Lambourn
River Kennet
Kennet & Avon Canal
Enborne Road
Route of bypass
Wheatlands Lane
Enborne Street
River Enborne
Great Pen Wood
A34
A343
Burghclere
Dismantled Railway
7000
Packer's Copse
4620
4625
Scale 1:1250
6900
Extent of buried soil horizon
6895
Corn Drier
Undated feature
1st c. BC 1st c. AD
1st-2nd c. AD
3rd-4th c. AD
Romano-British
6890
4545
Scale 1:1250
73
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Figure 3