

### Wiltshire Archaeological & Natural History Society 41 Long Street, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1NS

## Archaeology Field Group

# West Woods, Wiltshire: An Archaeological Survey



Report No. OS Grid Ref. Date Author 167.0304 SU150660 Dec. 2011 Lynn Amadio

#### **Contents**

Illustrations	
The team	
Acknowledgements	
Summary	1
1. Introduction	2
Background	2
Location	5
Landform	5
Geology	6
Vegetation	6
Previous fieldwork	6
Palaeolithic	6
Mesolithic	6
Neolithic	6
Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age	7
Iron Age	7
Romano-British	7
West Woods History	7
This report	7
2. Methodology	9
Desk based survey	9
Pace and compass	9
LiDAR	9
GPS	10
Discussion: Methodology	11
3. Compartment 'A'	12
Place names	12
History of this part of West Woods	12
Survey finds in Compartment 'A'	13
Summary	15
4. Compartment 'B'	19
Place names	19
History of this part of West Woods	19
Survey finds Compartment 'B'	19
Summary	20
5. Compartment 'C'	23
Place names	23
History of this part of West Woods	23
Survey finds in Compartment 'C'	23
Summary	26
6. Compartment 'D'	29
Place names	29
History of this part of West Woods	29
Survey finds compartment 'D'	29
Summary	30
7. Compartment 'F'	34
Survey finds compartment 'F'	34
Summary	35

8. Compartment 'G'	39
Place names	39
History of this part of the Woods	39
Survey finds compartment 'G'	39
Summary	42
9. Compartment 'H'	48
History of this part of West Woods	48
Survey finds compartment 'H'	48
Summary	49
10. Compartment 'I'	54
Place names	54
History of this part of the West Woods	54
Survey finds compartment 'I'	54
Summary	55
11. Compartment 'J'	58
Place names	58
History of this part of West Woods	58
Survey finds compartment 'J'	58
Summary	59
12. Compartment 'L'	62
Place names	62
History of this part of West Woods	62
Survey finds compartment 'L'	62
Summary	64
13. Compartment 'M'	67
History of this part of West Woods	67
Survey finds compartment 'M'	67
Summary	68
14. Compartment 'N'	70
History of this part of West Woods	70
Survey finds compartment 'N'	70
Summary	71
15. Summary	74
Settlement	74
Routeways and Droveways	74
Industry	75
Wood	75 7-7
Extraction and Quarrying	75 7-5
Sarsen	76 76
Clay	76 76
Chalk	76 77
Flint	77
Agriculture	77
Addendum fig. 54	79 70
Bibliography	79
Maps	80

### Illustrations

Fig.	1 Map of West Woods	2
_	2 HER Map of sites and find spots	2 3
Fig.	3 HER sites and find spots outside West Woods	4
Fig.	4 HER sites and find spots within West Woods	4
Fig.	5 Part of a map of Shaw Farm date 1734	12
Fig.	6 Survey results compartment 'A'	16
Fig.	7 Profile of Great Wood bank and ditch	17
Fig.	8 Profile of Upper Chichangles bank and ditch	17
Fig.	9 Part of 1784 map, West Overton Manor	17
Fig.	10 Series of extraction pits	18
Fig.	11 Enclosure (A024)	18
Fig.	12 Survey results compartment 'B'	21
Fig.	13 Survey results compartment 'C'	27
Fig.	14 Profiles of banks and ditches 'C'	28
_	15 Survey features compartment 'D'	32
Fig.	16 The Holloway	33
_	17 GPS survey of abraded holloway	33
Fig.	18 Survey map of compartment 'F'	36
	19 Flint feature	37
_	20 Woodworker's hut	37
Fig.	21 Charcoal maker's hut	37
Fig.	22 Woodworker's hut, Cumbria	38
Fig.	23 Woodworker's hut, Roudsea	38
Fig.	24 Profile of flint feature	38
Fig.	25 Survey map of compartment 'G'	42
Fig.	26 A Timber Bob	43
Fig.	27 A Timber Bob	43
Fig.	28 Causeway left in Stony Copse to aid extraction	44
Fig.	29 Concrete base associated with the Sarsen industr	ry44
Fig.	30 Explosive store	45
Fig.	31 Plan of the store (B. Clarke)	45
Fig.	32 The sarsen wall G041	46
Fig.	33 The sarsen wall G041	46
Fig.	34 The sarsen wall G041	47
Fig.	35 Survey map, finds compartment 'H'	50
Fig.	36 Plan of what Fowler calls a Brickkiln	51
Fig.	37 Fowler's Brickkiln	51
Fig.	38 Fowler's Brickkiln	52
Fig.	39 Brickkiln profiles	52
Fig.	40 Profiles of feature H008	53
Fig.	41 Results of Magnetic Susceptability survey	53
Fig.	42 Map of compartment 'I'	56
Fig.	43 Late eighteenth century map of East Overton,	
-	Lockeridge in Overton, Fyfield in Clatford	57
Fig.	44 Map of survey finds in compartment 'J'	60
_	45 Standing Sarsen stone	61
Fig.	46 Map of survey finds in compartment 'L'	65
Fig.	47 Preshute (Clatford) Tithe map (part) 1841	66

Fig. 48 L001, the parish boundary bank and ditch	66
Fig. 49 Survey map compartment 'M'	69
Fig. 50 Map of survey features in compartment 'N	V' 72
Fig. 51 The large pond	73
Fig. 52 Modern archaeology in the making	73
Fig. 53 Holloways in SE corner of West Woods	74
Fig. 54 Stone crusher bases	78

#### The team

The main survey team is Lynn Amadio, Brian Clarke (Technical Support), Stella Maddock (DBS), Hilary Dunscombe, Sara Morgan, Mike Williams, Mike McQueen and Judith Roseaman; and also other members of WANHS AFG.

#### Acknowledgements

Invaluable help came from Ben Lennon who gave us a hard copy of the LiDAR. Thanks are also due to Chris Sorensen of the Forestry Commission and Dick Greenaway.

Wiltshire and Swindon Record Office kindly allowed the reproduction of a number of maps from their archive.

A huge debt of gratitude it owed to Brian Clarke, Hilary Dunscombe, Stella Maddock, Sara Morgan and Mike Williams for their support and especially for their comments on the report.

#### **Abbreviations**

AFG - Archaeological Field Group AONB - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty HER - Historic Environment Record WANHS - Wiltshire Archaeology and Natural History Society WSRO - Wiltshire and Swindon Record Office