



Sunnybank,  
Itchen Abbas,  
Nr Winchester, Hampshire  
Archaeological Evaluation Report



**Sunnybank, Itchen Abbas, Nr Winchester, Hampshire.**

**Archaeological Evaluation Report**

**WINCM: AY 435**

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## Sunnybank, Itchen Abbas, Nr Winchester, Hampshire.

### Archaeological Evaluation Report

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## **Sunnybank, Itchen Abbas, Nr Winchester, Hampshire.**

### **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

#### **Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by F. Swinscoe, executor for the estate of Miss J Edmonds, through their agent Turley Associates, to carry out an archaeological evaluation at Sunnybank, Itchen Abbas, nr Winchester Hants, (NGR 453640 132920) in connection with proposals to develop the Site for housing. The evaluation aimed to establish the potential for the Site to contain evidence of a Late Roman and Anglo-Saxon cemetery that is known to exist immediately to the north. Advice in this regard was provided by the Historic Environment Officer of Winchester City Council. The evaluation was carried out between 15<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2010.

Four trenches were opened and revealed archaeological features of Bronze Age, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon date. A substantial feature interpreted as a possible Bronze Age pond barrow nearly 30m in diameter was revealed by all four trenches. This feature was partially investigated in order to characterise its form and deposits within it. Three north-south aligned inhumation graves, one containing a cremation vessel, and all almost certainly of Romano-British date, were found close to the western side of the barrow, in Trench 1. Also in Trench 1 three cut features were found inside the western edge of the barrow, all filled with coarse chalk rubble; these were not fully investigated, although there is a possibility that these are funerary in nature, given their location. A post hole was also recorded close to these features. One definite and two possible inhumation graves all probably aligned east west were found close to the southern side of the barrow, in Trench 2.

Close to the western end of Trench 1 was a pit that, on the basis of biological remains sampled from its secondary fill, is interpreted as a cess pit. Its tertiary fill contained a sherd of Romano-British pottery.

The results of the evaluation demonstrate that there are well preserved and significant archaeological remains on the Site that include human remains and a probable Bronze Age pond barrow. The results should be viewed in the context of previous archaeological discoveries to the north of the Site that include a penannular ditch of Neolithic date and an extensive cemetery containing burials of Late Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon date. Taken together, these monuments represent a long-lived funerary and ritual landscape that appears to survive largely intact.

Given the significance of the funerary remains that have been identified within the Site it is recommended that further advice is sought from the Historic Environment Officer at Winchester City Council in order to determine the future treatment of the remains. The remains are likely to be viewed as highly significant and could constrain any development proposals that are brought forward.

It is further recommended that another stage of evaluation trenching is carried out to determine the archaeological potential of the eastern portion of the Site, should development proposals be brought forward. Evidence from Trench 3 and from north of the Site possibly indicates that the eastern extent of the Site has lower archaeological potential.

## **Sunnybank, Itchen Abbas, Nr Winchester, Hampshire.**

### **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

#### **Acknowledgements**

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank F. Swinscoe and their agents Turley Associates, who commissioned the work. Wessex Archaeology would also like to acknowledge the advice of Tracey Matthews, Historic Environment Officer (HEO), advisor to Winchester City Council and Dr Nick Stoodley, Department of Archaeology, University of Winchester.

The field project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Paul McCulloch. The fieldwork was directed by Dave Reay, assisted by Rob Scott, Mark Stewart and Ben Cullen. The report was prepared by Dave Reay. The illustrations were prepared by Elizabeth James, the finds were assessed by Lorraine Mephram and the environmental samples were processed by Nicki Mulhall and assessed by Dr Ruth Pelling.

## Sunnybank, Itchen Abbas, Nr Winchester, Hampshire.

### Archaeological Evaluation Report

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

##### 1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by F. Swinscoe, executor for the estate of Miss J Edmonds, through their agent Turley Associates, to carry out an archaeological evaluation at Sunnybank, Itchen Abbas, nr Winchester Hants, (NGR 453640 132920), hereafter 'the Site' (**Figure 1**), in connection with proposals to develop the Site for housing.

1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was intended to inform the development proposals, and the potential for the Site to contain part of a Late Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon cemetery that is known to exist immediately to the north. Advice in this regard was provided by the Historic Environment Officer (HEO), advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) Winchester City Council, concerning the archaeological implications of the Site's proposed development.

1.1.3 The advice of the HEO included a recommendation that any planning application that is submitted to the LPA for the proposed development is accompanied by a Written Scheme of Investigation providing for an archaeological excavation at the Site and subsequent post-excavation assessment and publication of the results of the excavation. Given the clear potential for the Site to contain graves within the Late Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon cemetery, the archaeological evaluation was intended to inform a Written Scheme of Investigation and the HEO in the event a planning application is submitted.

1.1.4 The archaeological evaluation that was undertaken is in keeping with current planning guidance PPS 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (Dept CLG, 2010).

1.1.5 This report sets out the results for the evaluation. It has been prepared in accordance with standards and guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists and '*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*' (MoRPHE), English Heritage (2006).

1.1.6 The archaeological evaluation was carried out between 15<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2010.

##### 1.2 The Site

1.2.1 The Site (**Figure 1**), an area of some 0.5 ha, is comprised of the house 'Sunnybank' and, to the north-west, a higher, rectangular open area measuring 120m by 25m in which the evaluation was undertaken. The B3047 road lies to the south of the Site and Little Hayes Lane runs to the east of the Site. To the north lie the playing field of Itchen Abbas Primary



School and a meadow. The latter, thought to contain the greater part of the known Late Roman and Anglo-Saxon cemetery, lies south of, and was excluded from, a housing development built in the 1990's, in order to preserve the cemetery.

- 1.2.2 The Site lies at c. 60m above Ordnance Datum on a raised spur of free draining Upper Cretaceous Chalk overlooking the flood plain of the River Itchen to the south. The Site was largely open and grassed to the west, with denser scrub, sapling and tree cover to the east.

### 1.3 Archaeological Background

- 1.3.1 The Site is some 7km east of the City of Winchester, within the historic village of Itchen Abbas, which lies on the northern side of the River Itchen valley. The Site lies in an area of known archaeological and historic monuments, sites and findspots dating from the Prehistoric to the medieval and post-medieval periods. The following sections provide a summary of information relevant to the Site contained in the Historic Environment Record held by Winchester City Council's HEO.

- 1.3.2 Evidence for use of the Itchen Valley landscape by early farmers in the Neolithic period (4,000 – 2,400 BC) is relatively sparse but includes a penannular ditch discovered in 1994 during a watching brief carried out to the north of the Site during house building close to Little Hayes Lane. This discovery demonstrates the long use of the area of the Site and may be taken to indicate that features of a similar date could survive in the vicinity.

- 1.3.3 The 1994 watching brief also recorded features of probably Bronze Age date (2,400 – 700 BC), a period which is otherwise represented in the landscape by funerary monuments, notably a group of barrows recorded on a chalk ridge 4.5km to the north-east. Later Bronze Age settlement has been recorded to the west at Winnall Down and it is considered that the Itchen Valley was by this time and into the Iron Age (700 BC – AD 43) settled and farmed relatively intensely. The Iron Age Hillfort at St Catherine's Hill near Winchester and the Iron Age enclosure at Oram's Arbour in Winchester represent a focus of economic, social and political organisation in the Itchen Valley that is otherwise represented by widespread evidence of settlement. However, close to the Site Iron Age finds are sparse and include a gold Stater of Verica from close to Avington House and Iron Age pottery near Yavington Farm.

- 1.3.4 The main focus of Romano-British (AD 43 – 410) activity in the area was the town of *Venta Belgarum* at Winchester. A number of Roman *villas* are recorded within or close to the Itchen Valley and some appear to have developed from earlier Iron Age farmsteads, such as at Kingsworthy to the west of the Site.

- 1.3.5 The cemetery to the north of the Site, as previously understood, appears to have been in use from the Late Romano-British period. At least one burial typical of the period has so far been identified. The later use of the cemetery in the early Anglo-Saxon period has also been demonstrated. An account of the earliest discovery and subsequent investigations of, or close to, the cemetery is provided below (**Figure 2**).

*The Late Roman and Anglo-Saxon cemetery*

- 1.3.6 The cemetery was discovered in 1984 by workmen installing a gas main alongside the eastern boundary of the primary school playing field to the north of the Site. Machinery forming the gas main trench was halted and was found to be entangled by an iron object subsequently identified as a sword by staff of the Winchester Museums Service.
- 1.3.7 A limited investigation of the gas main trench identified that the sword had come from a grave which was then entirely excavated and found to also contain other grave goods datable to the mid/late 5th century AD, including an iron socketed spearhead, iron knife, bronze chape and two bronze belt fittings. A further nineteen graves were identified along the gas main trench, but not investigated. All the graves appeared to be aligned east-west
- 1.3.8 Winchester Museums Service staff returned to the playing field in 1986 and, in a targeted excavation close to the previous discovery, investigated two graves. One, aligned north-south, contained a burial accompanied by grave goods of typically late Roman date, including a coin and hobnails, while the other, aligned east-west, had been plough damaged and contained a burial which appeared to have been tightly bound but otherwise contained no datable finds.
- 1.3.9 In 1991 a proposal to develop the Little Hayes estate for the Makins Will Trust led to an archaeological evaluation of the paddock immediately east of the school playing field and north of the Site. Over 60 graves and a small number of cremation burials were recorded, but none excavated. The graves were arranged in discernible rows and at least one was contained within a circular enclosure. The cremations were also identified as lying within small enclosures.
- 1.3.10 The evaluation demonstrated that the cemetery extended east of the initial gas main discoveries and it was possible to estimate both its northern and eastern limits. Graves were recorded close to the southern boundary of the paddock and it was presumed that the cemetery extended further south (i.e. toward Sunnybank). Subsequent Geophysical survey of the paddock carried out in 1992 did not elucidate further the extent or content of the cemetery.
- 1.3.11 The proposed development of the Little Hayes estate was eventually consented, but excluded the extent of the cemetery within the paddock, effectively protecting it. However, given the close proximity of the consented development area to the cemetery, two areas were the subject of open area excavation flanking the northern and eastern limits of the cemetery. No graves were found although a penannular enclosure of apparently Neolithic date and a scatter of features of possible late Bronze Age date were found to the east of the cemetery.
- 1.3.12 In 1994, a requirement to install a septic tank within the protected area of the former paddock led to the discovery of a single grave, which was excavated by the Winchester Museums Service. The grave contained the burial of an infant accompanied by a globular vessel thought to date to the period 425-475 AD.
- 1.3.13 In 2001 the proposed construction of a classroom building within the primary school, to the north of the gas main discoveries and west of the paddock evaluation, led to an evaluation carried out by Southern Archaeological

Services. The evaluation was restricted to the excavation of six test pits on the positions of proposed pad foundations. Although no graves were found, it was not then possible to conclude that the area of the classroom lies beyond the north-western extent of the cemetery, although this seems possible.

1.3.14 In 2008 Hampshire County Council commissioned Wessex Archaeology (WA 2008) to conduct a watching brief during installation of a multi-use games area within the primary school playing field. Located west of the gas main discoveries, the watching brief recorded no graves in an area of stripped chalk, although other features including pits and a post hole, all undated, were found. The apparent absence of graves may suggest that the western extent of the cemetery lies between the area watched and the previous gas main discoveries.

1.3.15 From all of the investigations to date, it may be observed that:

- Remains of Neolithic and Bronze Age date recorded in the paddock north of the Site may indicate funerary and ritual activity and provide a context and focus for contemporary and later use of the Site;
- The late Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon cemetery appears to cover an area of c. 0.4ha and its western, northern and eastern limits are reasonably well defined;
- The cemetery is extensive and well preserved having apparently suffered relatively little impact;
- The cemetery contains cremation and inhumation burials, some of which appear to be associated with mortuary structures/monuments;
- The cemetery displays organisation, with graves apparently in rows and of common alignment and the fifth century infant found in 1994 suggested this to be west-east, although there are variations. The single late Romano-British burial so far identified was aligned north-south. Dated graves are few but include burials typical of the late Romano-British and early Anglo-Saxon periods;
- The cemetery appears to have been in use in the late Romano-British and early Anglo-Saxon periods and this may be reflected in its internal organisation, which may be indicative of distinct phases of use.

1.3.16 The cemetery is well preserved and an important archaeological monument. It can be compared with other cemeteries in the Itchen Valley containing burials of Late Roman and/or Anglo-Saxon date such as those at Lankhills in Winchester (Clarke, 1979), Winnall (Meaney and Hawkes, 1970) and Kingsworthy (Hawkes and Grainger, 2003) Although only a few graves within the cemetery have been fully investigated it's chronological development would appear to span the period of transition between the late Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon periods.

## 2 AIMS

### 2.1 Archaeological Evaluation

2.1.1 The aim of the evaluation was to determine the location, extent, character, condition and potential significance of archaeological remains on the Site that may be threatened by the proposed development. The results of the evaluation are set out in this report, which aims to:

- Assess existing and proposed impacts on the archaeological potential of the Site;
- Inform decisions concerning the future treatment of the Site's archaeological potential in light of development proposals;
- Consider the results of the evaluation in light of the archaeological potential of the Site to contribute to current local, regional and wider archaeological research objectives.

## 3 METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Trial trenches

3.1.1 The evaluation comprised of the excavation of four trial trenches which were arranged to establish, primarily, the presence and extent of graves and other archaeological features present within the Site (**Figure 1**). The trenches were opened in numeric order; their precise location had to be adjusted due to tree cover along the northern boundary of the site, and other ground conditions. Trench 1 measured 40.35m x 1.5m, Trench 2 was 17.5m x 1.5m, Trench 3 was 18.72m x 1.5m, and Trench 4 measured 18.79m x 1.5m.

3.1.2 The trenches were excavated using a mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation continued in spits through the overburden down to the uppermost archaeological features or natural deposits, whichever was highest.

3.1.3 Where archaeological features were encountered, in particular graves and cremations, investigation was limited to their definition.

3.1.4 Archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system and under the **WINCM Site Code AY 435**. Deposits and features were planned at an appropriate scale of 1:20, or 1:10 for burials, on drawing film. A representative section of each trench was drawn at 1:10.

3.1.5 All trenches and archaeological features revealed were mapped using a Leica Viva series robotic Total Station Theodolite in order to provide an accurate plan record of the evaluation. All survey data was recorded using the OSGB36 British National Grid coordinate system. During fieldwork, digital plans were produced using AutoCAD

- 3.1.6 A full photographic record was created using colour transparency, monochrome negative photographs (35 mm) and digital images were taken (including a scale) as appropriate. A number of general site photographs were also taken to give an overview of the Site and the progress of the evaluation.
- 3.1.7 Due to the identification of exceptional and potentially highly complex archaeological deposits associated with “pond barrow” **128**, sample excavation was designed to be minimally intrusive. The limited excavation was, however, sufficient to resolve the principal aims of the evaluation. The advice of the HEO was sought in order to resolve suitable investigative sampling strategies to investigate this feature.
- 3.1.8 Human burials that were found were not fully excavated or removed at this stage, but were sufficiently exposed to allow observation of grave cut, burial position and stratigraphic relationships. The *in situ* burials were protected during backfilling of the trenches, using geo-textile membrane. Human remains were treated in accordance with best practice and current guidance of the Institute for Archaeologists.
- 3.1.9 The spoil from the trenches and archaeological features was scanned for artefacts using a metal detector.
- 3.1.10 Following all investigation and recording, the trenches were backfilled. Where necessary and in accordance with advice obtained from the HEO, the significant areas within the bases of the trenches were lined with a geo-textile membrane to aid subsequent works as may be carried out and to protect the integrity of archaeological features and burials that were revealed. The trenches were backfilled with care to avoid compaction of the archaeological features.
- 3.1.11 All interventions were located in relation to the Ordnance Survey national grid, and all archaeological features have been related to Ordnance Survey Datum. This will allow for the subsequent comparison of development proposals as may be brought forward and archaeological remains (impact assessment) and thereby contribute to meeting the aims of the evaluation.

## **4 RESULTS**

### **4.1 Introduction**

- 4.1.1 The following sections provide a summary of the results of the evaluation, based on the Site archive. Archaeological features were found in all four trenches and context descriptions relating to these are provided by trench in **Appendix 1**.

### **4.2 Archaeological features**

- 4.2.1 A large, circular cut feature was present in all four trenches excavated on the Site, represented by cuts **105, 205, 303** and **407** (group number **128**). It has a diameter of 27m, and from the analysis of the survey data, may be slightly sub-circular in form (**Figure 1 & Plates 1-3**). A single, hand excavated slot was dug through the south western portion of this feature in Trench 1, and Trench 2 was machine excavated to a maximum depth of

0.85m through the overburden and fills of this feature, to rapidly assess its character beneath its homogenous, sterile upper fills. Feature **128** contained a large, homogenous, sterile tertiary fill in all trenches (**110**, **202**, **304** and **408** respectively) that probably derived from colluvial in-wash of material into the feature, or alternatively, it may have originated from bank material being gradually ploughed in over time. Romano-British pottery and ceramic building material (CBM), a single sherd of Saxon pottery, and prehistoric flint flakes were recovered from this deposit (context **110**). In Trench 2, sealed by this horizon was **203**, a possible buried soil (or other topsoil-derived fill), and in the north end of the trench, a charcoal rich deposit **204** was observed extending 0.73m from the northern limit of excavation. The sides of feature **128** were exposed in the intervention in Trench 1, and in the southern portion of Trench 2. The sides were shallow, straight, and in Trench 2 appeared to slope down northward toward a deeper central area 4.8m from the southern end of the trench.

- 4.2.2 In the limited areas where the sides of feature **128** were exposed in Trenches 1 and 2, at least 7 cut features were evident beneath the fills of **128**. These features have been recorded as being cut by **128**, but it is more likely that they are contemporary with, or later than the construction of **128**, with the upper fills of **128** sealing these features. In the southern end of Trench 2 (**Figure 1 & Plate 2**) were two sub-rectangular features (**210** and **212**, both unexcavated) filled with redeposited chalk rubble, both extended beyond the western limit of the trench. On the same alignment as these features, and immediately to the east, was sub-rectangular grave **206** containing **SK209**, and grave fills **207** and **208**. This feature was left unexcavated, as it was clearly a burial. **SK209** was aligned west to east (with the head to the west), and from the thickness of the skull fragments and tooth wear evident on the three lower incisors, appeared to be an adult. A darker grave fill **207** surrounded **SK209**, with chalk-rich grave fill **208** occupying the edges of the feature; this could indicate the presence of a coffin.
- 4.2.3 In the intervention excavated in Trench 1 (**Figure 1 & Plate 3**), three cut features (**106**, **111** and **113**) of uncertain form and function were present, which all contained backfill deposits of redeposited chalk rubble. The base of these features was not reached due to health and safety constraints. A single, sub-circular post-hole **108** measuring 0.30m wide, containing slumped packing material **109** was excavated to a depth of 0.26m(+). All of these features were very difficult to see in plan, as they all contained fills derived from redeposited chalk. The only finds retrieved from these features were an iron nail SF1 from fill **107** of cut **106**, and an iron hobnail SF2 from fill **109** of post-hole **108**.
- 4.2.4 A series of features were exposed to the south west of "pond barrow" **105** (**GRP128**), within Trench 1, and two of these were investigated. Grave **115** (**Plate 4**), was sub-rectangular in plan, aligned north to south and measured 0.90m wide, 0.40m(+) deep, and extended beyond the northern edge of Trench 1. It contained **SK117** which was only partially exposed during excavation, but it appeared supine, with the feet to the south; the burial was probably of an adult and the presence of four nails below the feet area suggest that it was coffined.
- 4.2.5 To the south west of grave **115** was sub-rectangular pit **121** (**Plate 5**), aligned north west to south east, which measured 1.41m wide, 0.96m deep

and extended beyond the southern limit of the trench. It had very steep sides with a small step 0.15m from the base, which was flat and well defined. The feature contained primary fill **127**, probably derived from weathering of the sides. A secondary and very friable fill **123**, was sampled (Sample 2) for environmental remains and appears to be derived from human cess (see below, Section 6). This deposit was sealed by a final backfill deposit **122**, which also contained cess (Sample 1). It seems likely that this feature was a cess pit of Romano-British date, as a single sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered from the lower portion of fill **122**.

- 4.2.6 Two unexcavated features were present between grave **115** and “pond barrow” **105 (GRP128)**. Feature **118 (Plate 6)** was sub-rectangular in plan, and extended beyond the northern limit of the trench. It was aligned north to south and was very similar in form and fill to grave **115**. It is interpreted as a grave. An apparently complete grog tempered Romano-British pottery vessel SF3 (context **120**) was visible in the surface of this feature (**Plate 6**) and its fill contained burnt bone. This vessel and associated fill is interpreted as either a cremation burial inserted into the earlier grave **118**, or may have been placed as grave goods in grave **118**. Feature **125**, located to the south east of **118**, extended only 0.39m into the trench beyond the southern limit of the trench, and measured 0.85m wide. Its location, form, and possible north to south orientation suggest that this feature may also be a grave.
- 4.2.7 Five tree throws were present in Trenches 1, 3 and 4, three of which were half sectioned, one was rapidly assessed, and one was left unexcavated. No finds were recovered from these features, and they all contained fills derived from the displacement of the natural chalk by the tree roots, as the trees fell over.
- 4.2.8 Four small circular to sub-circular features were present to the east of “pond barrow” **303 (GRP128)**, in Trench 3, which were either areas of root disturbance or possibly post-holes. None of these features were excavated; the western two appear to be of modern date.

## **5 FINDS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 Finds were recovered in very small quantities during the evaluation, including material of prehistoric, Romano-British, Saxon and post-medieval date. The likelihood is that the Romano-British and Saxon artefacts originally derived from the cemetery to the north of the Site; some did come from grave fills, although apart from probable coffin nails none could be definitively identified as grave goods. Object 3, context 120 (small sample of pottery taken from complete vessel) is either a cremation inserted into probable inhumation grave **118**, or forms part of the grave goods within grave **118**. This vessel was almost certainly deposited within a funerary context, although it is not possible to prove, as the vessel and related feature deposits were not investigated.
- 5.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are given in **Appendix 2**.

## 5.2 Pottery

- 5.2.1 Pottery provides the primary dating evidence for the Site. The small assemblage includes sherds of Romano-British, Saxon and post-medieval date.
- 5.2.2 The majority (15 sherds) are of Romano-British date. These comprise four sherds of coarse greyware, six Black Burnished ware, one coarse oxidised ware, and two grog-tempered wares. Apart from the Black Burnished ware (from south-east Dorset), these wares are of unknown source(s), although probably at least relatively local to the Site. Potential sources include the New Forest (Hampshire) and Alice Holt (Hampshire/Surrey border) production centres. Identifiable vessel forms comprise one everted rim jar in coarse greyware, and one straight-sided 'dog dish' in Black Burnished ware; neither form is particularly closely datable. Romano-British sherds came from contexts **110**, **120** and **122**.
- 5.2.3 One very small body sherd in an organic-tempered ware, from context **110**, is of early/mid Saxon date (AD 5th to 8th century).
- 5.2.4 The sherd from topsoil **301** is a post-medieval glazed redware.

## 5.3 Metalwork

- 5.3.1 The eight iron objects recovered are all nails (one example from context **109** is small, and could be a tack or hobnail). All are heavily corroded; three fragments from grave **118 SK117** could represent a single nail. These fragments, and the other three nails from the grave, are identified as coffin nails and were positioned at the southern (feet end) of probable grave **118**.

## 5.4 Animal Bone

- 5.4.1 Amongst the faunal remains are identifiable bones of cattle and sheep/goat, representing butchery/kitchen waste; one fragment from context **301** has cut marks.

## 5.5 Other Finds

- 5.5.1 Other finds include burnt, unworked flint (unknown date and origin); ceramic building material (Romano-British tile fragment from **110**, post-medieval brick fragment from **308**); worked flint (prehistoric waste flakes); and stone (graphite rod; probable grinding wheel fragment, both modern and from topsoil).

## 6 PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 Bulk samples were taken from features within evaluation Trench 1 to evaluate the presence and preservation of palaeo-environmental remains and assist in the identification of the feature type. Two bulk samples were taken from feature **121**. The possibility that the feature was a grave was



raised on Site given its proximity to the Late Roman and Early Saxon cemetery although no body was identified. The samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals.

## **6.2 Charred and Mineralised Plant Remains**

6.2.1 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot was retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the presence of charred remains quantified (Appendix 3) to record the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

6.2.2 The flots were of moderate size. Sample 1 was taken from the backfill (context **122**) of feature **121**. The deposit was clearly disturbed and contained large quantities of molluscs, modern rootlets and occasional fish and/or eel vertebrae. Charcoal flecks were noted and two possible charred grass seeds. The secondary fill of the feature (context **123**) was of different character. The sample (Sample 2) from it was largely composed of mineralised sediment and concretions which included calcium phosphate replaced mineralised fragments of bran and occasional indeterminate seeds. Such material is typical of human faeces and therefore frequently found in cess pits although it is possible that such material has derived from the gut contents of a buried body. The sample also contained frequent fragments of mammal bone, fish bone and occasional other small bone. The presence of well preserved fish and/or eel vertebrae is possibly less consistent with gut content and more likely the result of general food waste.

## **6.3 Wood Charcoal**

6.3.1 Occasional, highly fragmented wood charcoal was noted in both flots.

## **6.4 Insect remains**

6.4.1 A fragment of mineralised arthropod (millipede type) was noted in the secondary fill (context **123**). There was no evidence of flies pupae or other characteristic remains of cess pits.

## **6.5 Small animal and fish bones**

6.5.1 During the processing of bulk soil samples for the recovery of charred plant remains and charcoals, small animal bones were noted, and recorded (**Appendix 3**), in the flots. These included those of birds/small mammals/anurans (frogs, toads)/fish.

## **6.6 Potential and recommendations**

### **Charred and mineralised plant remains**

6.6.1 There is no potential for further analysis on the material noted in the samples. The presence of mineralised remains does raise the possibility that similar material may be present on the Site. The deposits did not assist in the identification of feature **121** as a grave and the assemblage is perhaps more typical of a cesspit or rubbish pit. As mineralised material tends to

include dietary evidence not normally preserved by charred remains alone, it is a highly useful source of information.

- 6.6.2 Bulk samples should be taken in the event of further archaeological excavations being carried out at the Site. Samples should be taken, where permitting, from phased features, especially any arising and related to settlement activities and/or structures as well as from funerary features. Samples from the gut area of skeletons should be taken for the recovery of mineralised material. Generally samples should be taken covering as wide a range of feature types, and phases as possible. Where available deposits permit, sample size should be of 20 to 30 litres and from individual, secure contexts.

Wood charcoal

- 6.6.3 There is no potential for the analysis of the charcoal in the samples and the few fragments noted are likely to have derived from background scatters of fire waste that has become incorporated in the backfill of feature 121 rather than representing any deliberate burning.

Insect remains

- 6.6.4 There is no potential to identify the mineralised insect remains from the evaluation samples. However, there is the potential for similar material on the Site. Where mineralised insect remains occur they can assist in the identification of feature types, particularly where typical cess pit assemblages occur.

Small animal and fish bones

- 6.6.5 The likelihood of small animal and fish bones being recovered from features within the Site is high. It is possible that the recovered bone derives from domestic food waste, in which case they can be taken to indicate settlement activity nearby.

## **7 DISCUSSION**

### **7.1 Introduction**

- 7.1.1 The results of the evaluation demonstrate that there are well preserved and significant archaeological remains on the Site that include human remains and a probable Bronze Age pond barrow. The results should be viewed in the context of previous archaeological discoveries to the north of the Site that include a penannular ditch of Neolithic date and an extensive cemetery containing burials of Late Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon date. Taken together, these monuments represent a long-lived funerary and ritual landscape that appears to survive largely intact.

### **7.2 The 'Pond Barrow', Feature 128**

- 7.2.1 The precise dating of this feature is open to interpretation, but it certainly appears to be a funerary monument, given the presence of grave **206/SK209** within its circumference. It is likely to be either a Bronze Age (2400 – 700 BC) pond barrow, that has been re-used in later periods, or alternatively a very unusual Romano-British or Saxon funerary monument or structure. Given its form, the former interpretation seems most plausible. Prehistoric, Romano-British and Saxon finds were recovered from its tertiary fill **110**. Iron

nails were recovered from the chalk rubble fills of features **106** and **108** that were visible in the sides / base of **128** after the removal of tertiary fill **110**, which suggests a Romano-British or Saxon date for these features. The stratigraphic relationships between **105**, the cut of **128**, and these features is uncertain, but it is most likely that these features were contemporary with or later than the construction of **128**.

- 7.2.2 If feature **128** is correctly interpreted as a Bronze Age pond barrow, then cut features **106** and **108** are later intrusions. Tertiary fill **110** may then be interpreted as having formed at a later date, and possibly represents colluvial inundation, or the ploughing of an external bank into the feature.
- 7.2.3 Pond barrows are a very rare enigmatic monument type that are thought to date to the Early to Middle Bronze Age (2400 – 1100BC). They are generally characterised by a well formed circular, sometimes slightly oval central depression excavated into the natural geology, the upcast of which is formed into an external bank surrounding the feature. The external banks are often not preserved, due to ploughing and later land use. They range in size from 5m to 30m in diameter, and have a fairly restricted geographical distribution predominantly in Wiltshire and Dorset, with further examples known from the southern counties of England. Investigations of the interior of these monuments have generally revealed one or more pits or shafts of varying sizes, the deepest excavated example being Wilsford Shaft, Wiltshire, which was over 30m deep (Ashbee et al 1989). Human burials and cremations are found at pond barrows, but only in relatively small quantities compared with other types of barrow monument. Pond barrows have been interpreted as ceremonial foci for mortuary practices and rituals, and their internal areas can reveal a complex array of features. Very few of these monuments have been excavated to modern standards, but there appears to be quite a significant variability present, particularly within their internal organisation. Pond barrows are often associated with contemporary Bronze Age barrow cemeteries (Darvill 1989; Lawson 2007, 246; Ashbee et al 1989; Barrett et al 1991, 128ff; Green 2000, 98f).
- 7.2.4 Feature **128** shares many affinities with pond barrows, including fairly gradually sloping sides, with the suggestion of a deeper, central area or feature present in Trench 2. No external bank was present, but this may be due to later ploughing on the Site. In the south western side of Trench 1 a very restricted area was present between the edge of the “pond barrow” cut **105** and the graves / cut features that lie only 2.5m away. This suggests a few possibilities; that these features may have been dug through the bank, that there was little of the bank material left at the time these features were dug, or that there was no external bank. The pond barrow at Down Farm, Dorset, showed little evidence for an external bank surviving due to plough truncation of the monument, and also had cut features immediately outside the internal “pond” (Barrett et al 1991: 128ff). What is also of interest is that the internal feature fills, all primarily comprised redeposited chalk rubble, similar to the features dug within **128**.
- 7.2.5 Due to the limited information yielded by the evaluation, feature **128** cannot definitively be identified as a pond barrow monument, especially due to the presence of potentially later features and the artefactual material previously discussed. It remains entirely possible that it was a Romano-British or Saxon funerary monument; as such it would be unusual and would have no immediate parallels.

- 7.2.6 During the evaluation it was clear that the monument is complex and of potential great significance. Consequentially, it was agreed with the Historic Environment Officer that further investigation could compromise its integrity, and be detrimental to its future preservation and / or investigation.
- 7.2.7 If this monument is indeed a Bronze Age pond barrow, it represents further evidence for funerary practice in this period in the landscape comparable with, for instance, the barrow cemetery recorded 4.5km to the north east. It occupies a classic position, being just below the brow of the promontory on which the Site is located, overlooking the Itchen valley floor. It could potentially be associated with the much closer activity represented by the Neolithic penannular enclosure, potentially of ritual significance, and Late Bronze Age features identified in the 1994 watching brief areas to the north of the Site (**Figure 2**).
- 7.2.8 There is widespread evidence that prehistoric barrows were used as focal points for later cemeteries, particularly in the Anglo-Saxon period (Williams 1997; 2006), with the barrows themselves used for burials, such as at Swallowcliffe, Wiltshire (Williams 2006, 27ff). An Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Winterbourne Gunner, Wiltshire is known to have developed around a pond barrow (Stoodley, pers. Comm.).

### **7.3 Graves and Other Features**

- 7.3.1 The features to the south west of **128** in Trench 1 are also of significance. The known cemetery to the north of the Site is fairly unusual as it demonstrates possible continuity of use from the Romano-British to the Anglo-Saxon periods. Grave **115 (SK117)** may be of Romano-British date, as it is aligned north to south, similar to the only excavated grave of this period from the known cemetery, where the later Anglo-Saxon graves were aligned east to west. This grave's association with the probable north to south aligned grave **118**, containing or cut by Romano-British vessel / cremation burial **120**, immediately to the east also supports a Romano-British date for this burial. These results do show that the known cemetery extends at least into the western portion of the Site. The presence of Romano-British cess / rubbish pit **121** was surprising, given the apparent funerary focus of the Site, but it could well be associated with the funerary activity, or alternatively be indicative of settlement nearby.
- 7.3.2 The results of the evaluation provide evidence of significant archaeological features over much of the Site. There is a suggestion that there may be less archaeological potential in the eastern portion of the Site, given the relative lack of features in the eastern end of Trench 3. However, further work would be needed to prove this conclusively.

### **7.4 Recommendations**

- 7.4.1 Given the significance of the funerary remains that have been identified within the Site it is recommended that further advice is sought from the Historic Environment Officer at Winchester City Council in order to determine the future treatment of the remains. The remains are likely to be viewed as highly significant and could constrain any development proposals that are brought forward.

- 7.4.2 It is further recommended that another stage of evaluation trenching is carried out to determine the archaeological potential of the eastern portion of the Site, should development proposals be brought forward. Evidence from Trench 3 and from north of the Site possibly indicates that the eastern extent of the Site has lower archaeological potential.

## **8 ARCHIVE**

- 8.1.1 Following completion of the evaluation the Site archive will be prepared to the relevant standards set out in 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (MoRPHE), English Heritage (2006), and required by the Winchester Museums Service. It is anticipated that the archive will be deposited with the latter, but at present it is held at the Salisbury office of Wessex Archaeology under the site code WINCM:AY435 (Wessex Archaeology project code 74950).

## **9 COPYRIGHT**

### **9.1 Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988**

- 9.1.1 The Trust for Wessex Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. Excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of the report by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the specification. Any document produced to meet planning requirements may be copied for planning purposes by the Local Planning Authority.
- 9.1.2 A licence will also be granted to the Winchester HEO (which includes the Winchester City UAD/Historic Environment Record), for the use of all documents arising from this project in all matters relating directly to the project, as well as for bona fide research purposes.

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## Appendix 1: Trench Summaries

TRENCH 1		Type:	Machine Excavated
Dimensions: 40.35m x 1.50m		Max. depth: 0.31m	
		Ground level: 56.86 mAOD	
context	description		depth (bgl)
101	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark brownish grey silt loam, with frequent sub-angular chalk inclusions, poorly sorted, up to 30mm, frequent angular to sub-angular flint, up to 100mm.	0-0.31m
102	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk bedrock.	0.31m+
103	<i>Cut</i>	Cut of tree throw at eastern end of trench, with irregular edges and base.	0.31m
104	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of tree throw <b>103</b> , mid to light grey sandy silt matrix, with 90% large chalk nodules, deriving from displacement of natural chalk as tree fell over.	0.31m
<b>105</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Cut of large sub-circular feature measuring 21.95m wide, with a shallow, straight side where investigated in intervention on the west side of the feature. In this area, 4 cut features were visible in the base of the cut after the removal of tertiary fill 110, which have been recorded as being cut by 105, but are likely to be contemporary with, or later than the construction of 105. Feature likely to be a pond barrow or other funerary structure.</b>	<b>0.48m</b>
106	<i>Cut</i>	<b>Cut of sub-circular(?) feature visible in the base of “pond barrow” 105, with straight, steep to vertical sides, base not reached due to health and safety. Function of feature uncertain.</b>	<b>0.70m(+)</b>
107	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of feature 106, mid to light brownish grey silty clay matrix, with 90% loose chalk rubble. Fe nail SF1 recovered from this fill. Deposit likely to represent a backfilling event.	0.70m(+)
108	<i>Cut</i>	<b>Cut of post-hole visible in the base of “pond barrow” 105. Feature circular in plan with straight, vertical sides, base not reached.</b>	<b>0.26m(+)</b>
109	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of post-hole <b>108</b> comprising of light brown sandy silty clay, with common chalk, and rare large flint nodules, up to 150mm, interpreted as collapsed packing material. Hobnail SF2 recovered from this fill.	0.26m(+)
110	<i>Fill</i>	Tertiary fill of “pond barrow” <b>105</b> , mid to light brownish grey silty clay loam, with common small to medium sub-rounded chalk, and occasional sub-rounded flint nodules, up to 50mm. Deposit is likely to derive from colluvial in-wash of material into hollow, or alternatively may be bank material that has been ploughed into feature.	0.48m
111	<i>Cut</i>	<b>Cut of sub-circular (?) feature visible in the base of “pond barrow” 105, with straight steep to vertical sides, base not reached due to health and safety. Function of feature uncertain.</b>	<b>0.67m(+)</b>
112	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of feature <b>111</b> , mid to light grey silty clay matrix, with 90% sub-rounded chalk rubble, very friable and loose in character. Deposit likely to derive from a backfilling event.	0.67m(+)
113	<i>Cut</i>	<b>Cut feature visible in base of “pond barrow” 105, only the west edge of this feature established within the intervention, which was straight and steep, base not reached due to health and safety.</b>	<b>0.60m(+)</b>
114	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of cut feature <b>113</b> , Light greyish brown silty clay matrix, 80% sub-angular chalk up to 100mm, poorly sorted, 5% sub-angular to rounded flints, up to 150mm, chalk rubble is very blocky and loose, suggesting that the feature was backfilled shortly after being dug. Deposit is likely to be a backfilling event.	0.60m(+)
115	<i>Cut</i>	<b>Cut of grave immediately to west of “pond barrow” 105, aligned north – south, with steep, straight sides. Base of</b>	<b>0.40m(+)</b>

		<b>feature not reached, as SK117 left <i>in situ</i>.</b>	
116	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of grave <b>115</b> , mid to light greyish brown, silty clay with 40% sub-angular chalk, poorly sorted, up to 50mm. Deliberate backfill of grave deriving from redeposited chalk mixed with topsoil.	0.40m(+)
117	<i>Skeleton</i>	Partially exposed articulated burial within grave cut <b>115</b> , individual only partially exposed as was left <i>in situ</i> . It appears that the individual was supine, aligned north – south (head to north), within a coffin, as 4 coffin nails found below the feet area (SFs 5 – 8), and was probably an adult, as the epiphyses of the long bones were fused. Level of burial = 55.65mOD, 0.70m below present ground level.	0.05m(+)
<b>118</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Cut of unexcavated probable grave at the western end of Trench 1. A pottery vessel, SF3 120 with burnt bone visible on the surface of the fill was positioned within this feature, it has been recorded as a later cremation burial within cut 124 inserted into an earlier possible inhumation burial. Alternatively, it may be grave goods associated with an inhumation burial, only further investigation of this feature(s?) can resolve this.</b>	<b>U/x</b>
119	<i>Fill</i>	Unexcavated fill of probable grave <b>118</b> , light greyish brown silty clay, abundant small to large rounded chalk, rare sub-rounded flint nodules.	U/x
120	<i>Fill</i>	Possible cremation deposit contained by postulated cut <b>124</b> , light brown silty clay, with rare rounded small chalk and flint, burnt and unburnt bone present, contained within Romano-British grog tempered vessel SF3.	U/x
<b>121</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Cut of Romano-British, sub-rectangular pit, with very steep, straight sides, with small step in sides 0.15m up from base of feature, with flat base. Edges and base of feature clear and well defined. Feature extends beyond southern limit of trench. Fills suggest that this feature was a cess pit, or at least contained a sewerage derived component.</b>	<b>0.96m</b>
122	<i>Fill</i>	Upper fill of Romano-British cess pit <b>121</b> , mid greyish brown silty clay loam, with 30% poorly sorted sub-angular chalk up to 40mm, 5% sub-angular to rounded flints, up to 200mm. Deposit interpreted as a backfilling event, but environmental sample 1 has shown that deposit may contain a sewerage derived component, so may be a periodic use-related backfilling, rather than a single event.	0.80m
123	<i>Fill</i>	Lower fill of Romano-British cess pit <b>121</b> , friable mid orangey brown silty clay loam, with 5% poorly sorted sub-angular chalk, and rare charcoal flecking. Environmental sample 2 indicates that this fill probably derived at least in part from sewerage, suggesting that pit <b>121</b> is a cess pit.	0.16m
<b>124</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Hypothetical cut that may contain cremation deposit 120 and vessel SF3, if this is a later insertion, and not part of the grave goods for possible grave 118.</b>	<b>U/x</b>
<b>125</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Unexcavated cut feature partially exposed in the western end of Trench 1, appears to be sub-circular / sub-rectangular in plan, and it is possible that this feature is a grave.</b>	<b>U/x</b>
126	<i>Fill</i>	Unexcavated fill of cut <b>125</b> .	U/x
127	<i>Fill</i>	Primary fill of sub-rectangular pit <b>121</b> , deriving from initial weathering of the sides of the feature.	0.10m



TRENCH 2		Type:	Machine Excavated
Dimensions: 17.5m by 1.6m		Max. depth: 0.82mm	
		Ground level: 57.09 mAOD (NW)	
context	description		depth (bgl)
201	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark brownish grey silt loam, with frequent sub-angular chalk inclusions, poorly sorted, up to 30mm, frequent angular to sub-angular flint, up to 100mm.	0-0.37m
202	<i>Fill</i>	Tertiary fill of "pond barrow" <b>205</b> , light brown silty loam with fairly frequent angular to sub-angular flints, up to 100mm, fairly frequent sub-angular chalk fragments, up to 30mm. Deposit may have derived from external bank being ploughed into feature.	0.45m
203	<i>Fill</i>	Secondary(?) fill of "pond barrow" <b>205</b> , mid to dark brown silty loam with occasional angular to sub-angular flints, up to 100mm, and frequent chalk fragments up to 60mm. Deposit may have derived from gradual in-wash of topsoil into feature, or alternatively, it could represent a buried soil horizon.	0.10m(+)
204	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of "pond barrow" <b>205</b> , dark brownish grey silty loam, with moderately frequent angular – sub-angular flints, up to 50mm, and frequent chalk fragments, up to 50mm, frequent charcoal flecks, up to 10mm. Fill of <b>205</b> restricted to small area in the north west end of the trench, it is possible that this deposit is the fill of another feature, but this cannot be established without further excavation.	0.03m(+)
<b>205</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Cut of large sub-circular feature that filled the whole of trench, feature was machined deeper in this trench to investigate form and fill sequence. It appears that this feature has got a shallower outer area with a very shallow, straight side, then getting deeper towards the central area to the north. Three cuts were visible in the base / side of the cut where this was reached in the southern portion of the trench, which are likely to be contemporary with or later than the construction of this feature. This large cut feature is likely to be a pond barrow or other funerary monument / structure.</b>	<b>0.47m(+)</b>
<b>206</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Cut of sub-rectangular grave aligned east to west (head to west) visible in the shallower southern portion of the base / side of "pond barrow" 205. Feature not visible initially, but weathered out after two days.</b>	<b>U/x</b>
207	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of grave <b>206</b> , dark brown silty loam with occasional angular to sub-angular flints, up to 50mm, and frequent angular chalk fragments. Deposit represents darker area of fill surrounding SK209, which may indicate that individual was within a coffin.	U/x
208	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of grave <b>206</b> , mid to light brown silty loam, with abundant sub-angular chalk, up to 50mm. Chalk rich fill of grave around edges of feature.	U/x
209	<i>Skeleton</i>	Unexcavated inhumation within grave <b>206</b> , individual only partially exposed, skull slightly truncated by machining, thickness of skull fragments and tooth wear evident on 3 lower incisors indicate that the individual was probably an adult. Level of burial = 54.83mOD, c. 0.50m below present ground level.	U/x
<b>210</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Cut of unexcavated sub-rectangular feature visible in shallower, southern portion of "pond barrow" 205, feature quite vague and difficult to see as fill 211 is comprised of redeposited chalk rubble, but may potentially be a grave.</b>	<b>U/x</b>
211	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of sub-rectangular feature <b>210</b> , comprising of redeposited chalk rubble.	U/x
<b>212</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Cut of unexcavated sub-rectangular feature visible in the southern, shallower portion of "pond barrow" 205, feature quite vague and difficult to see as fill 213 is comprised of</b>	<b>U/x</b>

		<b>redeposited chalk rubble, but may potentially be a grave.</b>	
213	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of sub-rectangular feature <b>212</b> , comprising of redeposited chalk rubble.	U/x
214	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk bedrock, encountered in southern, shallower portion of trench only.	0.50m(+)

<b>TRENCH 3</b>			Type:	Machine Excavated
<b>Dimensions:</b> 18.72m by 1.6m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 0.25m	<b>Ground level:</b> 56.11 mOD	
<b>context</b>	<b>description</b>		<b>depth (bgl)</b>	
301	<i>Topsoil</i>	Mid greyish brown silty clay loam, moderate rounded chalk up to 50mm, sparse sub-rounded flint up to 80mm.	0-0.25m	
302	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk bedrock.	0.25m+	
<b>303</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of "pond barrow" feature extends 4.63m from west end of the trench.</b>	<b>U/x</b>	
304	<i>Fill</i>	Tertiary fill of "pond barrow" <b>303</b> , light brown silty clay, with moderate small rounded chalk and sparse medium nodular flint inclusions.	U/x	
<b>305</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of unexcavated circular post-hole, that appears to be of modern date.</b>	<b>U/x</b>	
306	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of post-hole <b>305</b> , light greyish brown silty clay, common small to medium rounded chalk, sparse sub-rounded flint, deposit very loose in character.	U/x	
<b>307</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of unexcavated circular post-hole, that appears to be of modern date, as fill contained modern CBM.</b>	<b>U/x</b>	
308	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of post-hole <b>307</b> , light greyish brown silty clay, with abundant medium rounded chalk, deposit very loose in character, modern CBM recovered from surface.	U/x	
<b>309</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of unexcavated circular feature immediately to W. of tree throw 311, feature probably a post hole or root disturbance.</b>	<b>U/x</b>	
310	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of circular feature <b>309</b> , light greyish brown silty clay with abundant small rounded chalk.	U/x	
<b>311</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of irregular, unexcavated feature measuring 2.54m x 1.54m( +), from surface observations, feature appears to be a tree throw.</b>	<b>U/x</b>	
312	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of possible tree throw <b>311</b> , mid greyish brown silty clay with abundant small to medium rounded chalk, moderate nodular flint.	U/x	
<b>313</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of sub-circular unexcavated feature at east end of trench, feature probably a post-hole or root disturbance.</b>	<b>U/x</b>	
314	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of <b>313</b> , Light greyish brown silty clay, moderate small rounded chalk.	U/x	
<b>315</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of sub-circular feature at east end of trench, feature rapidly mattock tested and appears to be a tree throw.</b>	<b>0.30m(+)</b>	
316	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of probable tree throw <b>315</b> , mid brown silty clay matrix, comprising of predominantly compact chalk rubble.	0.30m(+)	

<b>TRENCH 4</b>			Type:	Machine Excavated
<b>Dimensions:</b> 18.79m by 1.5m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 0.29m	<b>Ground level:</b> 55.62 mOD	
<b>context</b>	<b>description</b>		<b>depth (bgl)</b>	
401	<i>Topsoil</i>	Dark brownish grey silt loam, with frequent sub-angular chalk inclusions, poorly sorted, up to 30mm, frequent angular to sub-angular flint, up to 100mm.	0-0.29m	
402	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk bedrock	0.29m+	
<b>403</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of sub-circular tree throw, with shallow concave sides and concave base, edges and base of feature well defined.</b>	<b>0.22m</b>	
404	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of tree throw <b>403</b> , light brown silty clay matrix with 80% sub-angular chalk fragments, poorly sorted, up to 80mm, deriving	0.22m	

		from displacement of natural chalk as tree fell over.	
405	<i>Cut</i>	<b>Cut of sub-oval tree throw with irregular sides and irregular base, edges of feature clear and well defined.</b>	0.40m
406	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of tree throw <b>405</b> , light brown silty clay with 80% sub-angular chalk, poorly sorted, up to 80mm, deriving from displacement of natural chalk as tree fell over.	0.40m
407	<i>Cut</i>	<b>Cut of large, sub-circular “pond barrow” that extends 10.19m from east end of the trench, same as 105, 205 and 303, feature unexcavated in this trench, likely to be a pond barrow, or other funerary monument / structure.</b>	U/x
408	<i>Fill</i>	Tertiary fill of “pond barrow” <b>407</b> , same as 110, 202, and 304, deposit probably derived from erosion or ploughing of bank material into feature.	U/x

### Appendix 2: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

Context	Animal Bone	Burnt Flint	CBM	Worked Flint	Iron	Pottery	Stone
107					1/9		
109					1/1		
110	2/2	1/30	1/123	2/24		12/82	
117					6/21		
120						3/3	
122	24/117			2/28		1/9	
201							1/779
202	5/10						
301	4/143					1/15	1/5
304	3/10						
306	1/116						
308			1/16				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39/398</b>	<b>1/30</b>	<b>2/139</b>	<b>4/52</b>	<b>8/31</b>	<b>17/109</b>	<b>2/784</b>

### Appendix 3: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

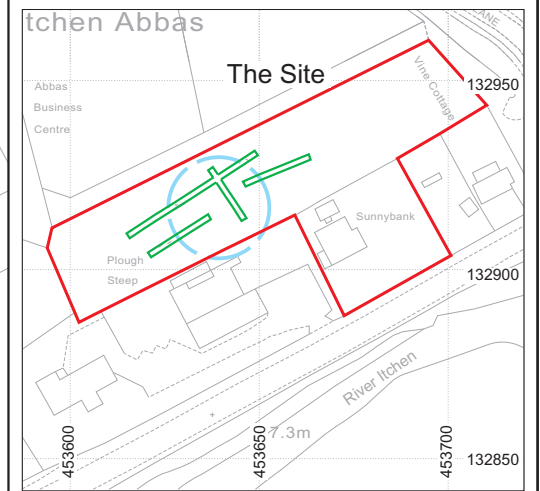
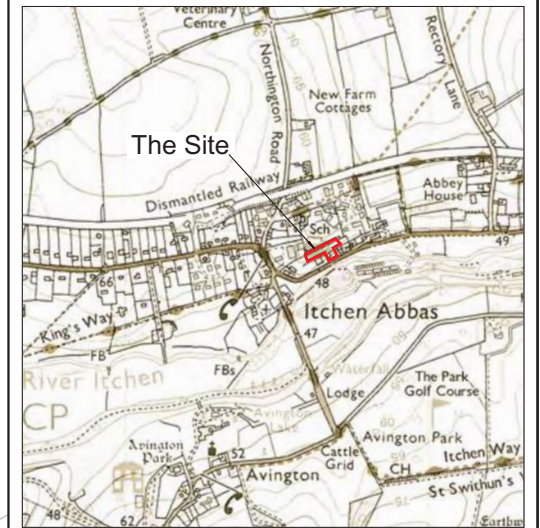
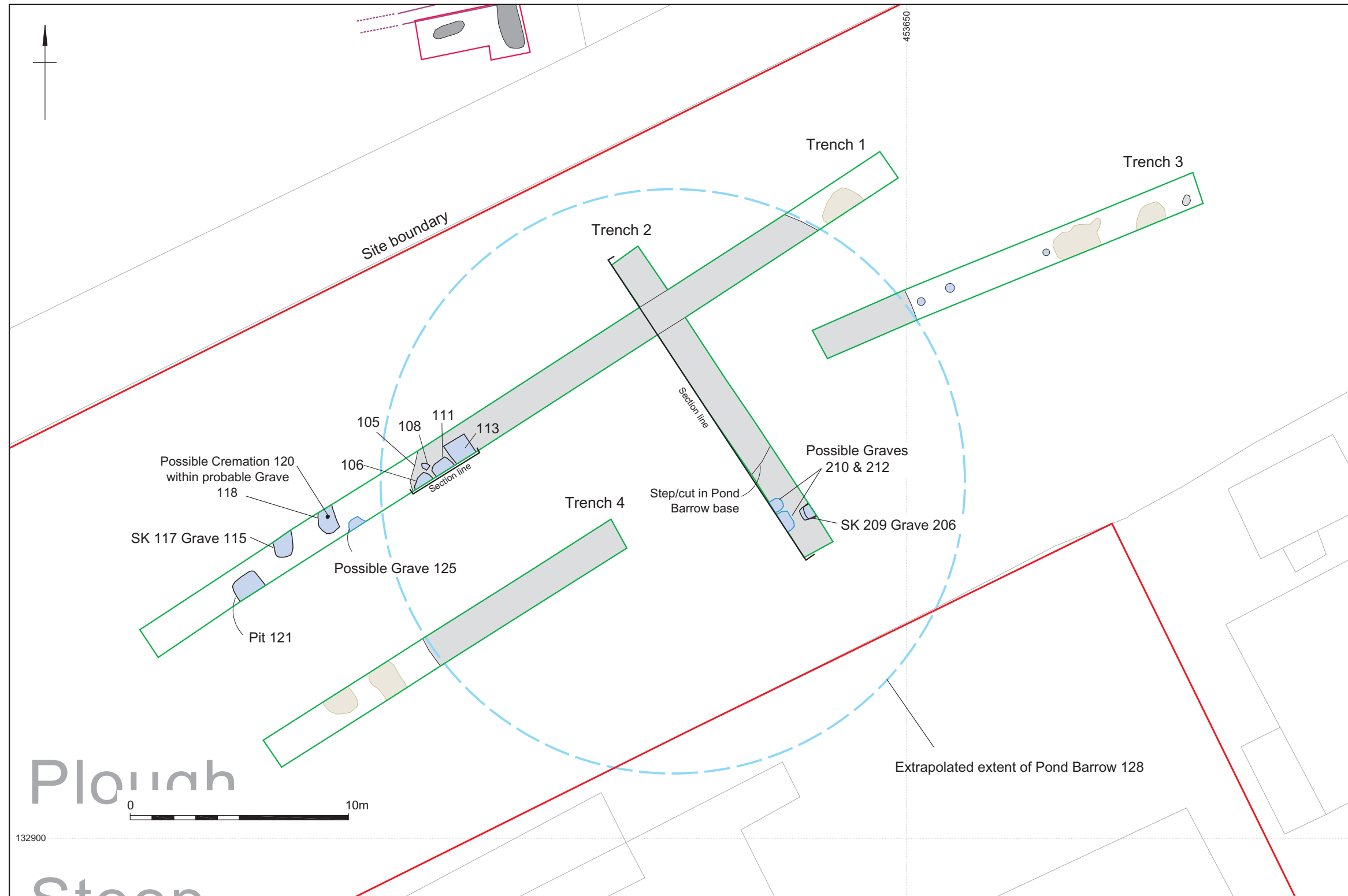
Samples				Flot								Analysis
Feature	Context	Sample	Litres	Flot (ml)	% roots	Grain	Chaff	Seeds	Charcoal >4/2mm	Mineralised	Other	
121	122	1	20	125	40	-	-	2 x lrg grass	<1/5		Moll A** Sab/f C	
121	123	2	20	250	5	-	-	-	5/10	Bran A Indet seed C	Sab/f A Bone frags A*	

Key:

A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5

sab/f = small animal/fish bones, Moll = molluscs

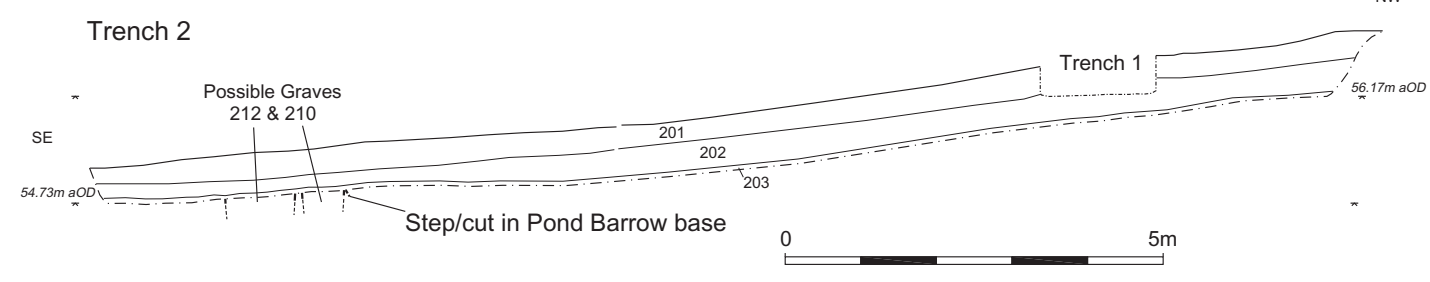
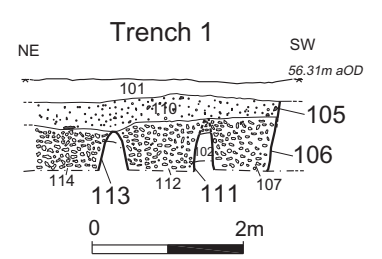
Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant, M = molluscs, C14 = radiocarbon



- Archaeological feature
- Possible grave
- Pond Barrow deposit
- Tree throw

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 Digital data reproduced from Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright 2010. All rights reserved. Reference Number: 100020449.  
 This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.

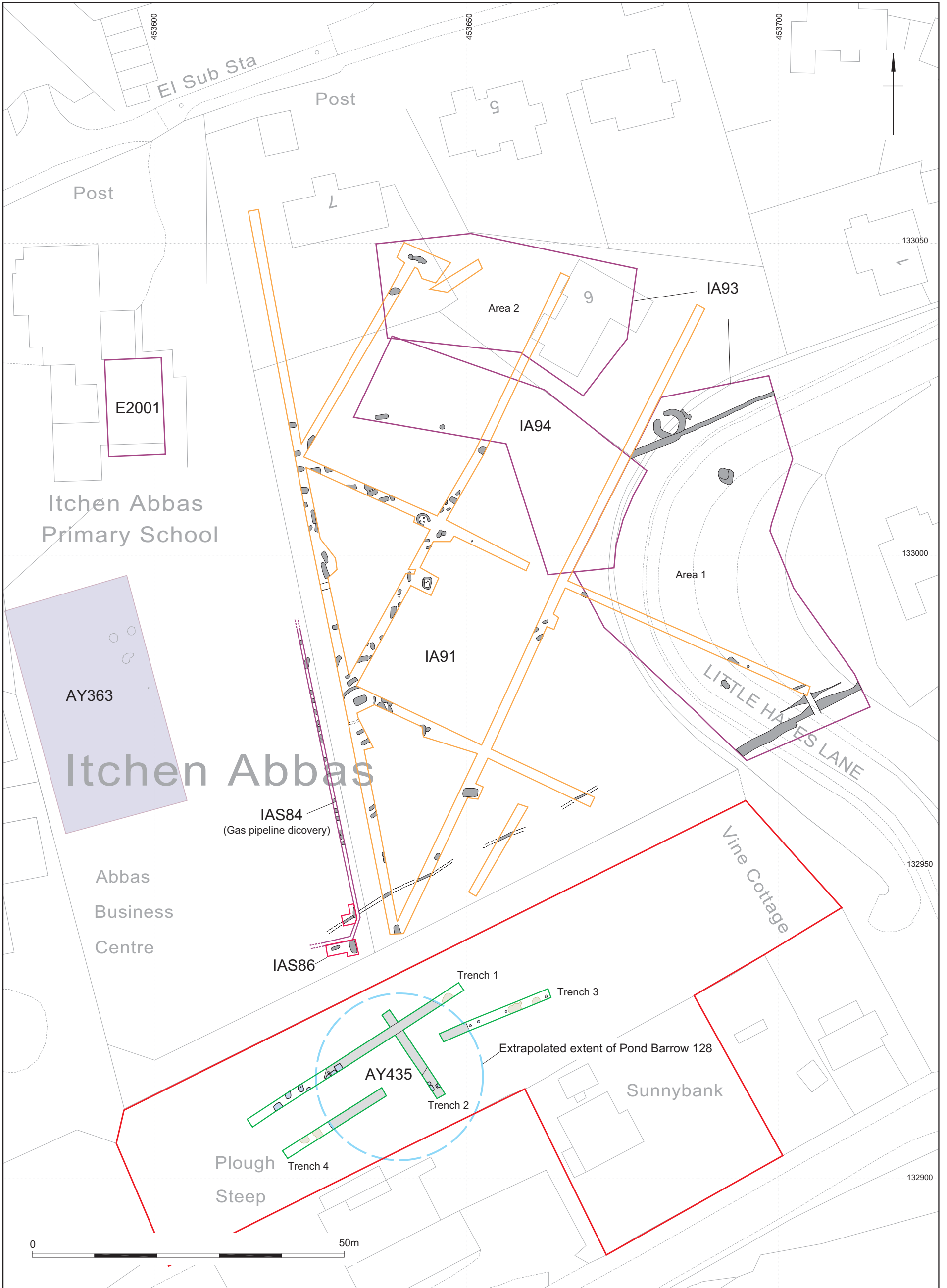
Sections of Pond Barrow 128:









Revision Number:	0
Illustrator:	LJC/SEJ
Date:	16/07/10
Scale:	Main plan = 1:200 @ A3 Sections = 1:100
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\74950\D.. O..
\\Report Figs\Eval\10_07_16\74950.dwg	

Site and trench location plan and sections

Figure 1



 Evaluation trench	 Excavation trench	Digital data reproduced from Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright 2010. All rights reserved. Reference Number: 100020449. This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.	
 1991 Evaluation trench	 MUGA watching brief	Date: 21/09/10	Revision Number: 1
 Watching brief		Scale: 1:600 @ A3	Illustrator: SEJ
		Path: Y:\PROJECTS\174950\Drawing Office\Report Figs\Eval\10_07_16\174950.dwg	

Location of the site of previous archaeological investigations

Figure 2



Plate 1: Pond Barrow 128, Trench 4, viewed from the north-east



Plate 2: Pond Barrow 128, Trench 2, viewed from the south-east



Plate 3: North-west facing section showing Pond Barrow cut 105 (Grp 128) and features 106, 108, 111 & 113



Plate 4: Skeleton 117 within Grave 115



Plate 5: North-west facing section of cess/rubbish pit 121

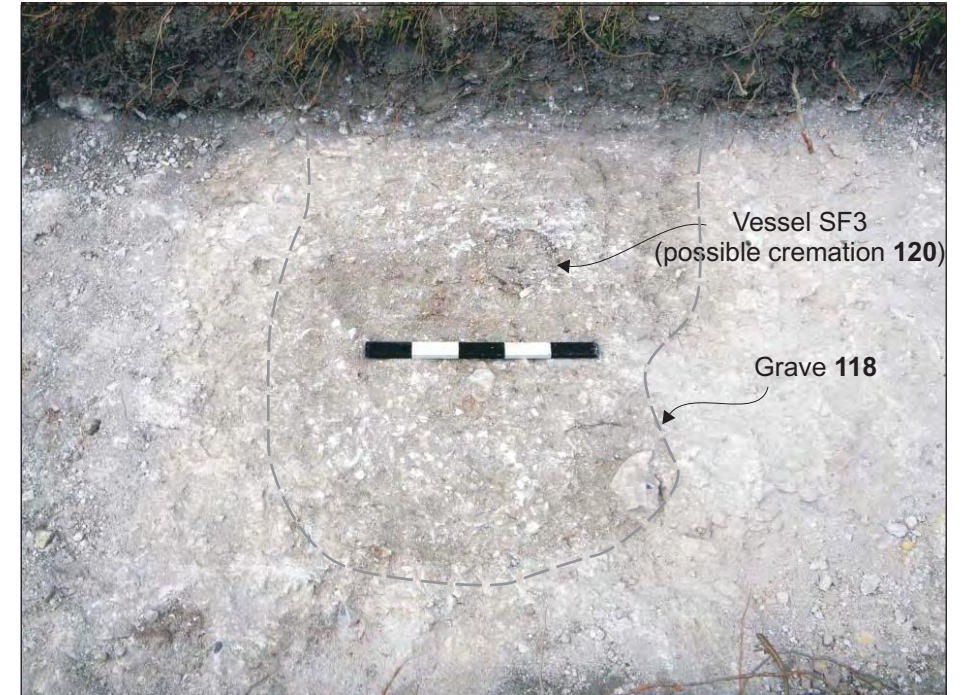


Plate 6: Possible Grave 118 and possible Cremation 120/vessel SF3



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