



making sense of heritage

SVEP, Airman's Corner Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire

Archaeological Watching Brief



Wiltshire Council Application Reference Number: 14/12106/FUL
Ref: 107321.03
December 2015



**SVEP, Airman's Corner
Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Prepared for:

English Heritage Trust
Properties and Outreach Group
29 Queen Square
BRISTOL
BS1 4ND

Prepared by:

Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
SALISBURY
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

www.wessexarch.co.uk

December 2015

WA Ref: 107321.03

Wiltshire Council Application Reference Number: 14/12106/FUL



Quality Assurance

Project code	107321	Accession code		Client ref.	
Planning Application Ref.	14/12106/FUL	Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)	409950 143000		

Version	Status*	Prepared by	Checked and approved by	Approver's signature	Date
v01	E	LH	AIM		22 nd Dec 2015

* E = External Draft; F = Final

DISCLAIMER

THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT WAS DESIGNED AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF A REPORT TO AN INDIVIDUAL CLIENT AND WAS PREPARED SOLELY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THAT CLIENT. THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT DOES NOT NECESSARILY STAND ON ITS OWN AND IS NOT INTENDED TO NOR SHOULD IT BE RELIED UPON BY ANY THIRD PARTY. TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY WILL NOT BE LIABLE BY REASON OF BREACH OF CONTRACT NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE (WHETHER DIRECT/INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL) OCCASIONED TO ANY PERSON ACTING OR OMITTING TO ACT OR REFRAINING FROM ACTING IN RELIANCE UPON THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT ARISING FROM OR CONNECTED WITH ANY ERROR OR OMISSION IN THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THE REPORT. LOSS OR DAMAGE AS REFERRED TO ABOVE SHALL BE DEEMED TO INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, ANY LOSS OF PROFITS OR ANTICIPATED PROFITS DAMAGE TO REPUTATION OR GOODWILL LOSS OF BUSINESS OR ANTICIPATED BUSINESS DAMAGES COSTS EXPENSES INCURRED OR PAYABLE TO ANY THIRD PARTY (IN ALL CASES WHETHER DIRECT INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL) OR ANY OTHER DIRECT INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS OR DAMAGE.



SVEP, Airman's Corner, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

Contents

Summary.....	iii
Acknowledgements.....	iv
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Project background.....	1
1.2 Scope of document.....	1
1.3 Site location, topography and geology	2
1.4 Development proposals and impact.....	2
2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	3
2.1 Archaeological appraisal	3
2.2 Previous archaeological work.....	3
3 AIMS	4
3.1 Research framework.....	4
3.2 Watching brief	5
4 METHODOLOGY	5
4.1 Introduction	5
4.2 Monitoring arrangements.....	5
4.3 Fieldwork.....	5
4.4 Recording.....	6
4.5 Health and Safety	6
5 RESULTS	6
5.1 Introduction	6
5.2 Coach park, turning circle and access road.....	6
5.3 Surface drainage	7
5.4 Interceptor tank and soakaway	7
6 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING.....	7
6.1 Finds	7
6.2 Environmental samples	7
7 CONCLUSIONS	8
8 STORAGE AND CURATION.....	8
8.1 Museum	8
8.2 Preparation of archive	8
8.3 OASIS	9
8.4 Security copy	9
8.5 Copyright.....	9
REFERENCES.....	10
APPENDIX 1: OASIS SUMMARY	12
OASIS ID: wessexar1-235402	12



Figure

Figure 1: Proposed development and watching brief area

Photographs

Front cover: Surface of the chalk exposed at eastern end of access road during topsoil strip, viewed from the west

Back cover: Temporary gravel surface for coach park, viewed from the northeast

Plate 1: Reduced topsoil area, viewed from the south.

Plate 2: Topsoil strip in coach turning circle, viewed from the north-east.

Plate 3: North-east facing section tree-throw hole 14001.

Plate 4: Modern soakaway pits at western end of access road, viewed from the south.

Plate 5: Modern linear feature 14004, viewed from the south.

Plate 6: Part of surface water drainage system through coach park, viewed from the south.

Plate 7: Modern soakaway pits in easement for south drain, viewed from the east.

Plate 8: Inspection pit for soakaway, viewed from the east.

Plate 9: Topsoil strip in area of petrol interceptor tank and soakaway, viewed from the west.



SVEP, Airman's Corner Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

Summary

This document, prepared on behalf of the English Heritage Trust, presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken during initial groundworks for an extension to the existing coach park on land at Airman's Corner, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire, centred on NGR 409950 143000.

The watching brief follows on from a previous geophysical survey undertaken as part of the Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project (SEIP), and subsequent archaeological evaluations.

The groundworks offered limited opportunity to observe and record any buried archaeological remains that might have been present. Topsoil was retained *in situ* over much of the west side of the site, and at a reduced level within the new coach park, turning circle and access road. The main areas of impact were trenches for the surface water drainage system, petrol interceptor tank and soakaway.

Features identified and recorded include three tree-throw holes, modern soakaway pits and a modern linear feature. The results are consistent with the findings of the evaluation and suggest that the area is devoid of buried archaeology remains.



SVEP, Airman's Corner Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology is grateful to the English Heritage Trust for commissioning the archaeological watching brief and, in particular, to David Brown (Senior National Project Manager) and Dr Heather Sebire (Property Curator for the West of England). Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Clare King (Assistant County Archaeologist, Wiltshire Council), and Phil Reece, Kevin O'Hagan and staff from Alun Griffiths.

The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Andrew Manning. The fieldwork was carried out by Lorraine Higbee and Ben Cullen. This report was written by Lorraine Higbee and edited by Andrew Powell and Alistair Barclay. The illustrations are by Rob Goller.



SVEP, Airman's Corner Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire

Archaeological Watching Brief

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 This document, prepared for the English Heritage Trust, presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken during initial groundworks on land at Airman's Corner, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire (**Figure 1**). The site, centred on NGR 409950 143000, lies within the Stonehenge area of the *Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site* (WHS).

1.1.2 As part of the Stonehenge Visitor Enhancement Project (SVEP), a planning application (14/12106/FUL) was submitted to Wiltshire Council in January 2015 for an extension to the existing coach park at the site. Consultation with the Archaeological Working Group (AWG), comprising representatives of Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service (WCAS), Historic England, English Heritage Trust and The National Trust, established that an archaeological field evaluation (additional to earlier investigations) was required within the site to inform the planning application. This was carried out in January 2015 (Wessex Archaeology 2015a)

1.1.3 In April 2015, full planning permission was granted with the following archaeological condition:

(Condition 2)

No development shall commence within the area indicated (proposed development site) until:

- A written programme of archaeological investigation, which should include on-site work and off-site work such as the analysis, publishing and archiving of the results, has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority; and*
- The approved programme of archaeological work has been carried out in accordance with the approved details.*

REASON: To enable the recording of any matters of archaeological interest.

Further Recommendations: The work should be conducted by a professionally recognised archaeological contractor in accordance with a written scheme of investigation approved by this office and there will be a financial implication for the applicant.

1.1.4 In order to fulfil this condition an archaeological watching brief was undertaken between the 8th July and 20th August 2015.

1.2 Scope of document

1.2.1 Prior to the start of the watching brief a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced setting out the fieldwork methodology (Wessex Archaeology 2015b). The WSI complied with current best practice and to the guidance outlined in *Management of*

Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE, English Heritage 2006) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA 2014a).

1.2.2 The works associated with the SEIP followed the strategy and methodologies set out in the SEIP Evaluation Strategy (Wessex Archaeology 2009b), and the same general approach was applied to the SVEP watching brief. In summary, the SVEP strategy considered three principal areas of archaeological interest, comprising:

- the artefact content of the topsoil as an indicator of past activity;
- the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains;
- the geoarchaeological potential.

1.2.3 All survey work was undertaken in accordance with the *Construction Principles (Archaeology)* as set out in Appendix D of the *Updated Planning Statement* (Chris Blandford Associates 2014).

1.3 Site location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The site comprises land to the north-east of the existing roundabout at Airman's Corner, which links the A360, the B3086 and the existing Stonehenge visitor facilities to the south (**Figure 1**).

1.3.2 The ground within the site slopes generally southwards, from a high of 103 m OD in the north-east to a low point of 98 m OD in the south. It forms the northern edge of a dry valley that extends through the Stonehenge visitor facilities and runs south-west to the Till valley. At the start of fieldwork the site comprised an area of arable farmland. The underlying geology is Upper Chalk (Geological Survey of England and Wales 1967).

1.4 Development proposals and impact

1.4.1 The development proposals include the construction of an extension to the existing coach parking facilities, providing an additional 26 parking bays (each measuring 15 m x 4 m) with vehicle and pedestrian access. Other works include a surface water drainage system, and a new petrol interceptor tank and soakaway (**Figure 1**).

1.4.2 The construction works were carried under a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), which set out the accountabilities, responsibilities and procedures for the effective protection of the environment, including archaeology, during construction (Chris Blandford Associates 2014; Appendix D: Construction Principles).

1.4.3 The construction methods were designed to cause minimal impact; hence the topsoil was retained *in situ* over much of the west side of the site, protected beneath a geotextile membrane, with the ground built-up from existing levels. In other areas of the site, notably the northern access road, and the parking bays and turning circle at the east, the topsoil was removed by machine to a depth of 0.15 m, and levels raised using a base of interlocking geogrid, gravel and paving (see **Back cover**).

1.4.4 Pipes trenches for a surface water drainage system were also required along the southern edge of the watching brief area, through the coach park and along the southern edge of the northern access road.



- 1.4.5 The development proposals also included a new petrol interceptor tank, soakaway and access manhole in the south-east corner of the site.
- 1.4.6 A temporary contractors compound was situated immediately north of the main access road, outside the watching brief area, and was built up from existing levels.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Archaeological appraisal

- 2.1.1 The archaeological potential of the site was considered in a Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) produced by the then English Heritage to inform option selection (Leary 2008) associated with the original SEIP proposals. The DBA considered five sites within and close to the WHS. The results of the DBA in respect to the Airman's Corner option (Area Y) are summarised below.
- 2.1.2 There are no Scheduled Monuments within the site, but its location on the western periphery of the WHS and its proximity to major barrow groups to the north-east and south-east indicate a high potential for prehistoric activity.
- 2.1.3 The only Bronze Age activity recorded in Area Y was an isolated round barrow (SMR No. SU04SE633) visible as a mound and mapped from aerial photographs. Two ring ditches and an amorphous feature, and three other circular features are visible as cropmarks to the south; the latter were originally recorded as probable ring ditches and attributed to the Bronze Age, but are almost certainly fungus rings.
- 2.1.4 A substantial field system (SMR No. SU04SE682) covers an area of 65 hectares on Winterbourne Stoke Down to the west of the site, although in the vicinity of the site it is now mostly destroyed by ploughing. It is thought to be later prehistoric in date, although possibly related to Romano-British settlements to the west (SMR Nos. SU04SE686 and SU04SE685), suggesting that at least some phases may be later in date. A linear ditch (SMR No. SU14SW956) recorded as a cropmark to the west of the site is probably associated with this field system. A further (largely flattened) field system (SMR No. SU14SW982) extends to the east of the site. It is likely that both field systems extend across the site and, therefore, the potential to recover remains associated with field systems is high.

2.2 Previous archaeological work

- 2.2.1 Extensive geophysical surveys were undertaken in the vicinity of Airman's Corner in connection with earlier Stonehenge visitors' centre proposals in 1991 and 1993 (Bartlett Clark for Timothy Darvill Archaeological Consultants), and in 2002 (GSB Prospection for Wessex Archaeology), and in relation to proposals to improve the A303 (T) through the WHS (Geophysical Surveys of Bradford for John Samuels Archaeological Consultants 1993).
- 2.2.2 In 2009, an area of approximately 3 ha south-east of Airman's Corner was subject to geophysical survey by the English Heritage archaeometry team. The survey confirmed the location of former 19th century agricultural buildings recorded by historic mapping, and suggested a wider scatter of possibly much earlier pit-type anomalies across the downs. A large ferrous anomaly may be related to the aviation accident commemorated by the Airman's Cross memorial (Linford and Martin 2009).

- 2.2.3 In the same year a further 24.6 ha was subject to geophysical survey in relation to the SEIP works (Wessex Archaeology 2009a). This identified an apparent complex of post-pits which formed an approximate circle of 25 m diameter some 100 m to the east of an upstanding Scheduled bowl barrow (SMR No. SU04SE633). The barrow and the pit circle appear to form a continuation of the linear barrow cemetery associated with the Lesser Cursus. Elsewhere within the survey area, a profusion of discrete circular and sub-circular anomalies are consistent with the responses from possible pits, with some evidence for localised clustering. Numerous linear and curvilinear trends may be of anthropogenic origin, and while all the survey areas show some traces of ploughing trends, the north-eastern quadrant (the contain the present site) was most affected by these responses.
- 2.2.4 From 2011 a watching brief was undertaken during the decommissioning of the B3086 and other groundworks associated with the SEIP works (Wessex Archaeology 2011; 2012a; *in prep.*). No archaeological features or finds were recorded.
- 2.2.5 In 2012 an archaeological evaluation, comprising four evaluation trenches (Trenches 6–9) and six test pits (TPs 63–88), was undertaken within the existing coach park to the immediate south of the site in relation to the SEIP proposals (Wessex Archaeology 2012b). With the exception of a single sherd of Romano-British pottery and four pieces of worked flint retrieved during the test pitting, no cultural material or archaeological features were recorded; two tree-throw holes were excavated (in Trenches 6 and 8).
- 2.2.6 In 2015, in advance of submission of the present planning application, and based on the results of the geophysical surveys, a further evaluation was undertaken within the proposed development area, comprising ten (30 m by 1.8m) trenches and ten 1m² hand-dug test pits (Wessex Archaeology 2015a). No features or deposits of archaeological significance were identified, although a small number of modern post-holes and ditches were uncovered. A number of tree-throw holes and natural geological features were also uncovered and investigated, although no associated archaeological finds were recovered. A small assemblage of worked flint (one core, 21 worked flakes and two broken flakes) was recovered from seven of the test pits, but was fairly evenly spread across them with no significant concentration being evident; this appears to represent a typical low-level background scatter of later Neolithic–Bronze Age (3000–1100 BC) material.

3 AIMS

3.1 Research framework

- 3.1.1 The watching brief results contribute to the following archaeological research priorities as identified in Aim 7 in the *Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Management Plan* (Simmonds and Thomas 2015). This aim is to 'encourage and promote sustainable research to improve understanding of the archaeological, historic and environmental value of the WHS necessary for its appropriate management' and to 'Maximise the public benefit of this research'.
- 3.1.2 The works also contribute to the research aims contained in *The Stonehenge World Heritage Site: an archaeological Research Framework* (Darvill 2005), which is due to be replaced in 2016 by *The Research Framework for the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site* (*in prep.*).



3.2 Watching brief

3.2.1 The aims of the archaeological watching brief were:

- To ensure that any unexpected archaeological features, deposits or finds impacted by the development are recorded and preserved by record;
- Identify, within the constraints of the watching brief, the date, character and condition of any surviving remains within the site;
- Produce a report which will present the results of the watching brief in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the site's archaeological potential.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The fieldwork methodology for the watching brief was detailed in the WSI and is summarised below.

4.2 Monitoring arrangements

4.2.1 The AWG, comprising representatives of WCAS, Historic England, English Heritage Trust and The National Trust were notified by Wessex Archaeology at least five working days prior to commencement of work on the site and reasonable access was arranged for regular site inspections to ensure that the archaeological investigation was progressing satisfactorily.

4.2.2 The AWG was informed about the progress of the watching brief throughout the construction period, and any variation to the WSI was agreed with it prior to being implemented. The scope of further investigation and recording of any archaeological features was determined on site in consultation with the AWG.

4.3 Fieldwork

4.3.1 Plant operated in defined haul routes and was not permitted to track across any stripped areas unless these had been declared clear of archaeological remains.

4.3.2 All excavation and ground disturbance, including the placing of imported or relocated fill or topsoil, the placing of geotextiles and other tasks, was carried out under constant archaeological supervision in order to avoid accidental damage to archaeological remains and to allow any archaeological remains encountered to be recorded to an appropriate level prior to their removal due to construction.

4.3.3 Archaeological investigation followed the agreed outline sampling strategy as set out in the WSI, which was subject to consultation with the AWG. Several tree-throw holes were identified during the watching brief; the sampling strategy required these to be recorded in plan and 10% to be excavated in half-section.

4.3.4 Appropriate strategies for the recovery of artefacts and environmental samples were devised and implemented by Wessex Archaeology's Finds and Environmental specialists and these are detailed in the WSI.



4.4 Recording

- 4.4.1 All recording was undertaken using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording sheets and recording system. A complete drawn record of excavated and archaeological features and deposits was compiled, including plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales. The site was surveyed by GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System), and included heights above Ordnance Datum (Newlyn).
- 4.4.2 A full digital photographic record was maintained during the watching brief. Digital images are subject to managed quality control and curation processes which will embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.5 Health and Safety

- 4.5.1 All work was carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974* and the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.
- 4.5.2 A copy of Wessex Archaeology's Health and Safety Policy and a Risk Assessment was supplied to the Client before fieldwork commenced. The Risk Assessment was read and understood by all staff attending the Site before any groundwork commenced.
- 4.5.3 The area was scanned by the groundwork contractors Alun Griffiths before and during excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) in order to verify the absence of any live underground services.

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The impact of the development on any buried archaeological remains was minimal with topsoil retained *in situ* over much of the west side of the site, and at a reduced level within the coach park, turning circle and access road. The main areas of impact were the trenches for the surface water drainage system, petrol interceptor tank and soakaway (**Figure 1**).
- 5.1.2 The depth of the overlying topsoil (approx. 0.2 m) was consistent across the site and comprised loose, mid to dark greyish brown silty clay. Directly below the topsoil was the natural Chalk bedrock, which was mostly weathered and blocky with visible periglacial striations.

5.2 Coach park, turning circle and access road

- 5.2.1 The topsoil was graded off this area to a depth of 0.15 m and stockpiled for landscaping and to build up present levels on the west side of the site (**Plate 1**). The surface of the Chalk was exposed in areas with less than 0.2 m of topsoil – for example at the eastern end of the access road (see **Front cover**).
- 5.2.2 A misunderstanding about finish levels at the start of the groundworks resulted in the complete removal of topsoil from the turning circle (**Plate 2**). This revealed three tree-throw holes in the surface of the Chalk. All were recorded in plan and one was half sectioned and recorded.
- 5.2.3 Tree-throw hole **14001** was sub-oval in plan and had steep, concave sides and a slightly irregular concave base pitted by root holes. It measured 1.6 m by 1.1 m, and was 0.33 m

deep, and was filled with a loose mid-brown silty clay loam (**14000**) with inclusions of frequent medium to large angular pieces of flint and rare small to medium chalk fragments (**Plate 3**).

- 5.2.4 Nine modern soakaway pits were revealed at the west end of the access road, where the landscaped verge and flowerbed were removed in order to merge the new road with the existing one (**Plate 4**). The soakaway pits varied in size from 1.2 m² to 1.8 m² and were approx. 0.85 m deep. They contained a lower fill of purple-grey stone chippings and an upper fill of mid-brown silty clay containing moderate fragments of brick and stone. A similar arrangement of soakaway pits was revealed in the easement for the drain along the southern edge of the site (see below).
- 5.2.5 A modern linear feature (**14004**) was also observed in this area (**Plate 5**). The approximately north/south orientated feature was only 0.1 m deep and contained a loose fill of stone and chalk rubble mixed with topsoil containing modern brick fragments. The feature ran parallel with a cable trench and is thought to be associated with the construction of the A360.
- 5.2.6 No further archaeological or natural features were identified in the reduced topsoil area, and no finds were recovered from a walkover scan after machining or from the resulting spoil.

5.3 Surface drainage

- 5.3.1 The trenches for the surface water drainage system which ran along the south side of the access road, through the coach park and turning circle, and into a main drain along the southern edge of the site were between 0.15–0.30 m wide and excavated to a depth of 0.5–1 m (**Plate 6**).
- 5.3.2 A large number of modern soakaway pits were revealed in the easement for the south drain (**Plate 7**). These features were the same as those revealed at the western end of the access road. One (12706) was investigated during the evaluation (in Trench 127) and was interpreted as a modern ditch.

5.4 Interceptor tank and soakaway

- 5.4.1 Prior to the excavation of the interceptor tank, soakaway and access manhole in the south-east corner of the site, a 3 m deep inspection pit was dug in the general area to establish the rate of water filtration through the Chalk (**Plate 8**). A periglacial feature was seen in the north-facing section.
- 5.4.2 This area was later stripped of topsoil and inspected for archaeological features, deposits and finds, before it was reduced down to 1.5 m (**Plate 9**). No archaeological remains were identified.

6 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

6.1 Finds

- 6.1.1 No archaeological finds were recovered during the course of the watching brief, with the exception of modern brick, which was noted and discarded.

6.2 Environmental samples

- 6.2.1 No archaeological features or deposits were recorded during the course of the work. Accordingly, no environmental sampling was undertaken.



7 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1.1 The nature of the groundworks, in particular the retention of topsoil *in situ*, offered limited opportunity to observe and record any buried archaeological remains that might have been present.
- 7.1.2 The features identified and recorded during the watching brief include three-tree throw holes, modern soakaway pits and a modern linear feature. No evidence for archaeological features, deposits or finds were observed during the course of the watching brief.
- 7.1.3 The results are consistent with the findings from the earlier evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2015a) and suggest that the area impacted as part of the development only contains a relatively low potential for significant archaeology.
- 7.1.4 The previous test pit and trenched evaluation had recovered a relatively small quantity of worked flint (24 items of worked flint) which was recovered during topsoil sieving and which was broadly spread throughout the site with no evident concentration or patterning to the recovered material. No worked flint was observed during the stripping during the watching brief.
- 7.1.5 The results of both the initial evaluation and subsequent watching brief are similar to, and corroborate the previous results from the 2009 trial trench and test pit evaluation which was undertaken immediately to the west and south of the Site.
- 7.1.6 As noted in the conclusion of the 2015 evaluation report- with the exception of the Scheduled Bowl barrow and adjacent pit/timber circle monuments, which lie less than 100m from the development area- the majority of the 2009 works did not identify any significant clusters of archaeological features, either immediately focused on the immediate environs around the monuments or within the wider area.
- 7.1.7 As in the 2015 evaluation, the survival of the small number of natural features identified within the main area of the watching brief demonstrates that the impact from agricultural practice has not been sufficiently heavy to have completely removed any archaeological traces. Accordingly, what was observed appears to be a true reflection of the distribution of the archaeological resource. In short, the significance of the results of the 2009 and 2015 trial trenching and 2015 watching brief, together with the distribution of material observed from topsoil sieving, is that there is no evidence for concentrated activity in the areas close to, or associated with, the known monuments.

8 STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

8.2 Preparation of archive

- 8.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the local museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014b; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).



8.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site code 107321, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises:

- one file of A4 paper records and an A3 graphic.

8.3 OASIS

8.3.1 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> has been initiated for the watching brief.

8.4 Security copy

8.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

8.5 Copyright

8.5.1 Wessex Archaeology shall retain full copyright of the commissioned report, 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 or Design (Wessex Archaeology 2015b).

REFERENCES

- ADS, 2013, *Caring for Digital Data in Archaeology: a guide to good practice*. Archaeology Data Service & Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice
- Geological Survey of England and Wales, 1967, Sheet 282, *Devizes*, 1:63,360, Drift
- Brown, D.H., 2011, *Archaeological Archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*. Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition)
- Chandler, J. 2002, Documentary, cartographic and other historical sources, in Mott MacDonald 2002, *A303 Stonehenge: Historic Landscape Survey*
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014a, *Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014b, *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- Chris Blandford Associates, 2014, Stonehenge Visitor Enhancement Project: Temporary Coach Park Planning Application, Updated Planning Statement, Dec 2014
- Darvill, T., 2005, *Stonehenge World Heritage Site: an archaeological research framework*. English Heritage and Bournemouth University
- English Heritage, 2002, *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*. Swindon, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines
- English Heritage, 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*
- Leary, J., 2008, *Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project: an archaeological desk-based assessment of Areas V, W, X, Y and Z*. English Heritage
- Linford, N. and Martin, L., 2009, *Airman's Corner, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire: report on geophysical survey February-March 2009*. English Heritage Research Department Report Series no. 23-2009
- McOmish, D., Field, D. and Brown, G., 2002, *The Field Archaeology of the Salisbury Plain Training Area*. English Heritage
- Simmonds, S. and Thomas, B., 2015, *Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site Management Plan*. Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Steering Committees
- Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA), 1993, *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections*. Society of Museum Archaeologists
- Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA), 1995, *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive*. Society of Museum Archaeologists
- Watkinson, D and Neal, V (eds.), 1998, *First Aid for Finds*



- Wessex Archaeology 2009a, *Airman's Corner, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire: detailed gradiometer survey*. Unpubl. WA report 71420.01
- Wessex Archaeology 2009b, *Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project: archaeological evaluation strategy*. Unpubl. WA report 71650.02
- Wessex Archaeology, 2011, *Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Projects, A344 Works, Stonehenge, Wiltshire: archaeological watching brief report*. WA unpubl. rep. 76860.01
- Wessex Archaeology, 2012a, *Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project, Site Investigation Works, Airman's Corner, Wiltshire: archaeological mitigation report*. Unpubl. WA report 76861.03
- Wessex Archaeology 2012b, *Land at Airman's Corner, Wiltshire: archaeological evaluation report*. Unpubl. WA report 71651.02
- Wessex Archaeology 2015a, *SVEP, Airman's Corner, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire: archaeological evaluation report*. Unpubl. WA report 107320.02
- Wessex Archaeology 2015b, *SVEP, Airman's Corner, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire: written scheme of investigation for an archaeological watching brief*. Unpubl. WA report 107320.01



APPENDIX 1: OASIS SUMMARY

OASIS ID: wessexar1-235402

Project details

Project name	SVEP, Airman's Corner, Wiltshire
Short description of the project	This document, prepared on behalf of the English Heritage Trust, presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken during initial groundworks for an extension to the existing coach park on land at Airman's Corner, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire, centred on NGR 409950 143000. The watching brief follows on from a previous geophysical survey undertaken as part of the Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project (SEIP), and subsequent archaeological evaluations. The groundworks offered limited opportunity to observe and record any buried archaeological remains that might have been present. Topsoil was retained in situ over much of the west side of the site, and at a reduced level within the new coach park, turning circle and access road. The main areas of impact were trenches for the surface water drainage system, petrol interceptor tank and soakaway. Features identified and recorded include three tree-throw holes, modern soakaway pits and a modern linear feature. The results are consistent with the findings of the evaluation and suggest that the area is devoid of buried archaeology remains.
Project dates	Start: 08-07-2015 End: 20-08-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	107321 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	107320 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	World Heritage Site
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Grant application (eg. management plan)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE SALISBURY WINTERBOURNE STOKE Stonehenge
Postcode	SP3 4DX
Study area	1 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 09813 43790 51.192727989855 -1.85955703544 51 11 33 N 001 51 34 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 98m Max: 103m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	English Heritage



Project design originator	WessexArchaeology
Project director/manager	A Manning
Project supervisor	Lorrain Higbee
Type of sponsor/funding body	English Heritage
Name of sponsor/funding body	English Heritage

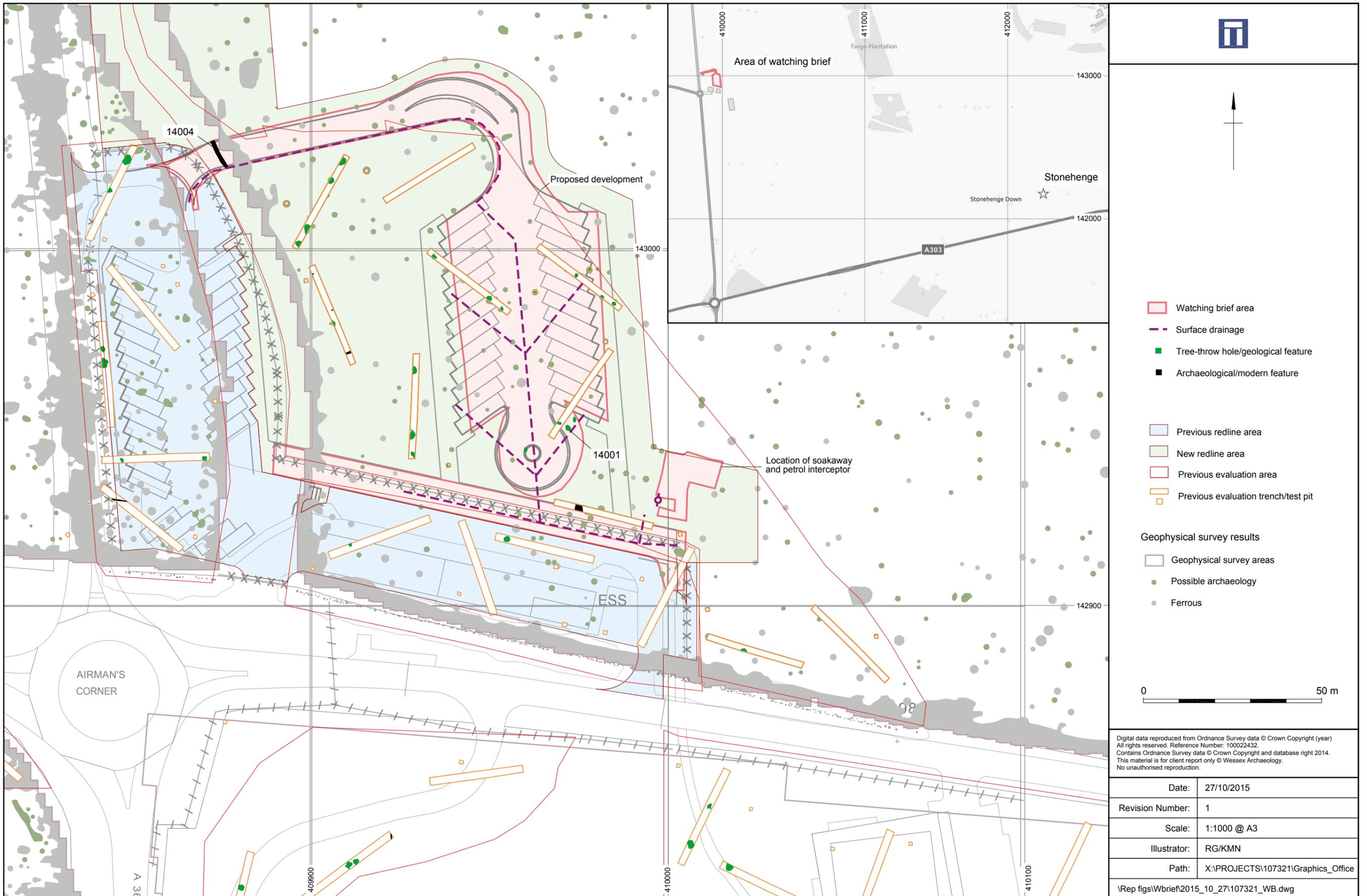
Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Salisbury and South Wilts Museum
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Notebook - Excavation", "Research", "General Notes", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	SVEP, Airman's Corner, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Higbee, L
Other bibliographic details	107321.03
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	WessexArchaeology
Place of issue or publication	Salisbury
Description	Standard soft back A4 illustrated watching brief report c. 20 pages

Entered by	Andrew Manning (a.manning@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	22 December 2015



Proposed development and watching brief area

Figure 1



Plate 1: Reduced topsoil area, viewed from the south.



Plate 2: Topsoil strip in coach turning circle, viewed from the north-east.

	This material for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction			
	Date:	27/10/15	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	n/a	Illustrator:	RG
	Path:	X:\PROJECTS\107321\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\WBrief\107321_plates.ai		



Plate 3: North-east facing section tree-throw hole 14001.



Plate 4: Modern soakaway pits at western end of access road, viewed from the south.

	This material for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction			
	Date:	27/10/15	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	n/a	Illustrator:	RG
	Path:	X:\PROJECTS\107321\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\WBrief\107321_plates.ai		

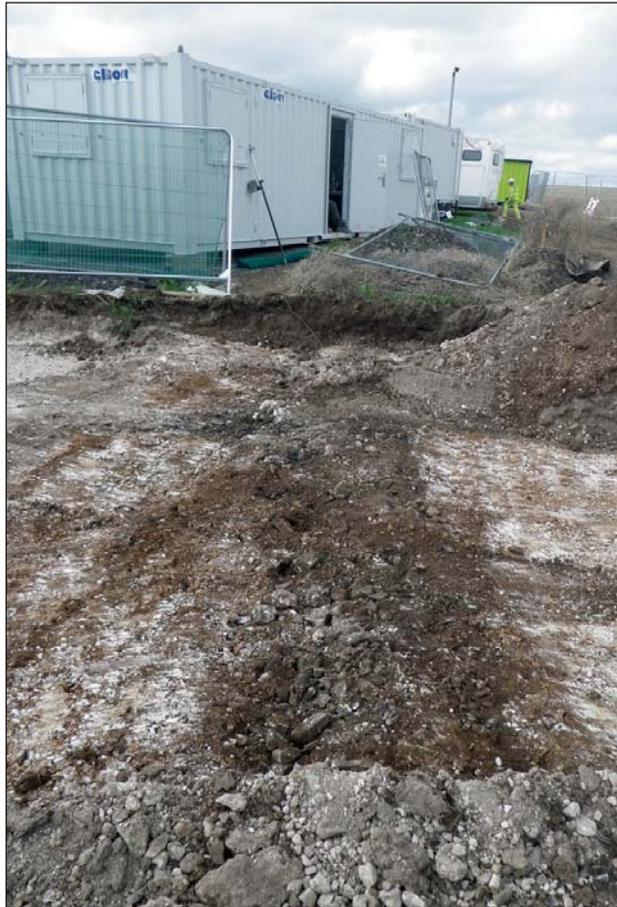


Plate 5: Modern linear feature 14004, viewed from the south.



Plate 6: Part of surface water drainage system through coach park, viewed from the south.

	This material for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction			
	Date:	27/10/15	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	n/a	Illustrator:	RG
	Path:	X:\PROJECTS\107321\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\WBrief\107321_plates.ai		



Plate 7: Modern soakaway pits in easement for south drain, viewed from the east.



Plate 8: Inspection pit for soakaway, viewed from the east.

	This material for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction			
	Date:	27/10/15	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	n/a	Illustrator:	RG
	Path:	X:\PROJECTS\107321\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\WBrief\107321_plates.ai		



Plate 9: Topsoil strip in area of petrol interceptor tank and soakaway, viewed from the west.

	This material for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction			
	Date:	27/10/15	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	n/a	Illustrator:	RG
	Path:	X:\PROJECTS\107321\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\WBrief\107321_plates.ai		



wessex archaeology



Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk



Wessex Archaeology Ltd is a company limited by guarantee registered in England, company number 1712772. It is also a Charity registered in England and Wales, number 287786; and in Scotland, Scottish Charity number SC042630. Our registered office is at Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB.