GLSW/01

LAND OFF ST GEORGE'S ROAD, SEMINGTON, WILTSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

commissioned by Archaeology Collective

August 2017

HEADLAND ARCHAEOLOGY

REGISTERED ORGANISATION CIfA

LAND OFF ST GEORGE'S ROAD, SEMINGTON, WILTSHIRE

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project info

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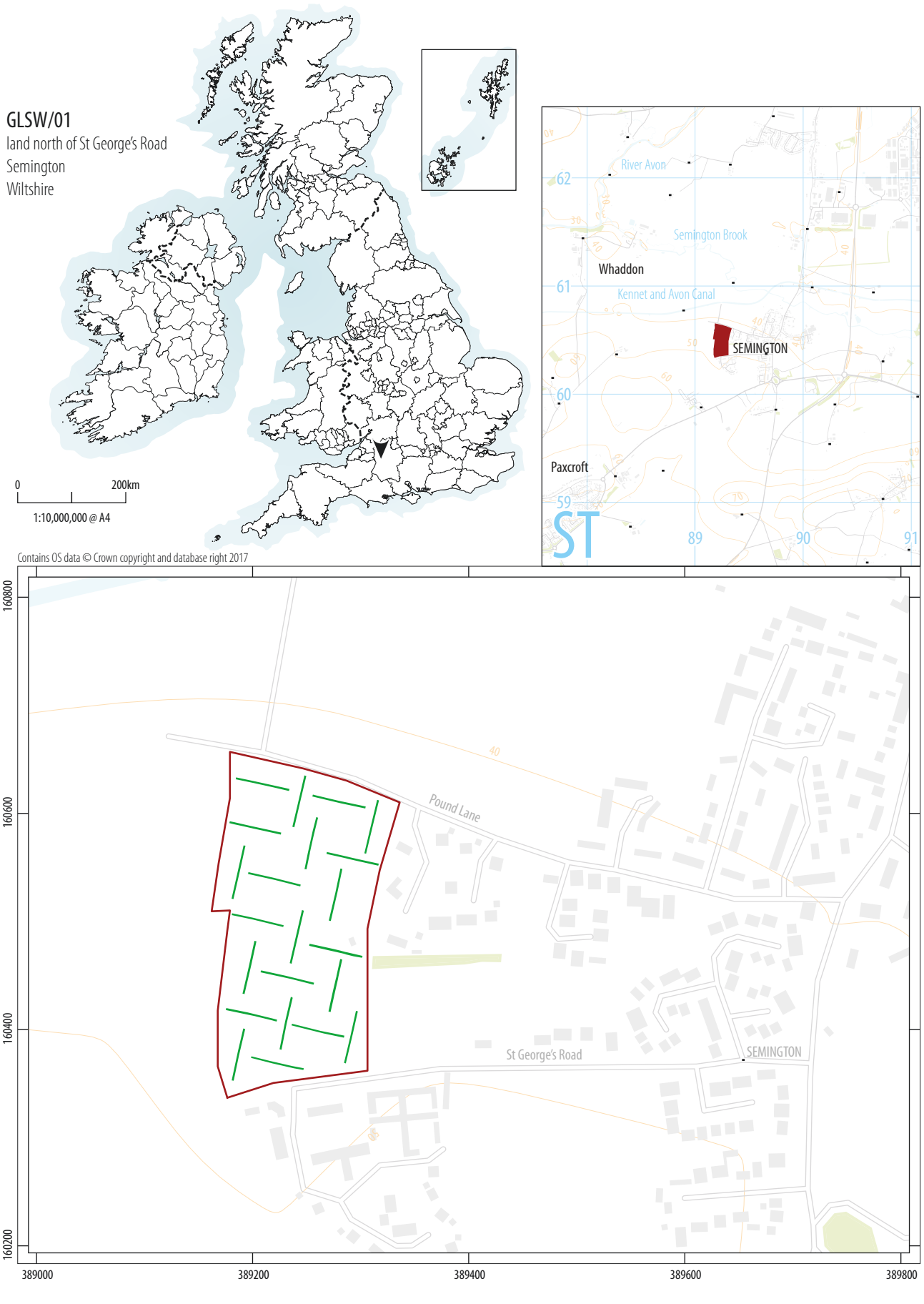
PROJECT SUMMARY

Archaeological field evaluation, via trial trenching, was undertaken by Headland Archaeology on Land off St George's Road, Semington, Wiltshire. The investigation identified probable structural remains of Iron Age date with associated ditches and a possible midden deposit. Features and recovered finds (pottery, burnt bone and lithics) suggested domestic occupation on the site and possible phases of archaeological remains. A trackway or hollow-way was also recorded with further undated ditches. Evidence of post-medieval ridge and furrow agriculture was also identified.

CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

LIST OF TABLES



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ILLUS 1 Site location

LAND OFF ST GEORGE'S ROAD, SEMINGTON, WILTSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

1 INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological site investigation on land off St. George's Road, Semington, Wiltshire, undertaken between the 3rd and 11th May 2017.

1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Archaeology Collective commissioned Headland Archaeology to undertake an archaeological evaluation on an area of land to the north of St George's Road in Semington, Wiltshire. The site is currently the subject of a planning appeal for residential development of the site. The archaeological advisor to the planning authority has indicated that an archaeological evaluation would be required in order to support determination of the planning appeal.

A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced by Headland Archaeology (Craddock-Bennett 2017) and approved by the Archaeological advisor to Wiltshire County Council. All works were undertaken in accordance with this document.

1.2 SITE LOCATION, DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

The proposed development area is located at NGR 389250,160500 and currently comprises a single arable field, with an area of approximately 4.5ha (Illus 1). It is bounded to the north by Pound Lane, to the south by St George's Road and residential development, to the east by St George's School and a field including a tennis court. To the south and west are open fields.

The field slopes gradually from approximately 48m AOD at the south to around 40m AOD at its northern extent, levelling off to slightly undulating but more level ground some 100m from its northern boundary with Pound Lane. Partially surviving low earthworks of former Ridge and Furrow agriculture are visible in the northern half of the field.

The site was previously two fields, with the central east-west boundary being removed in the modern period. Within the site is a Type FW3/28a anti-tank gun emplacement, and reference to an anti-tank ditch, now infilled, along the western boundary.

The underlying solid geology within the site comprises limestones of the Cornbrash Formation, a sedimentary rock formed c. 161-168 million years ago in the Jurassic Period. No superficial drift deposits are recorded across the site (NERC 2017).

1.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

There is no evidence for prehistoric activity within the site. Features observed as cropmarks within the wider study area have been tentatively dated to the prehistoric period. Evidence of Bronze Age occupation has been found in Trowbridge, c. 4km to the south-west. Pits of Bronze Age date have been identified to the south-east of the site (R Foster pers comm). About 1km to the SW of the site the remains of an early Iron Age enclosure settlement known as 'Paxcroft enclosures' has been investigated by Historic England (John Lord pers com).

Historically, the settlement of Semington was situated within the ancient parish of Steeple Ashton. The early medieval manor was held by King Edgar in AD964 and granted in AD967 to Romsey Abbey, which held it at the time of the Domesday Survey of 1086. Romsey Abbey continued to hold the manor until its dissolution in 1539. Settlement during the early medieval period at Semington was identified during archaeological investigations carried out to the south of High Street approximately 430m east of the site.

The immediate surroundings of the site appear to have been utilised for agriculture in the medieval period. Ridge and furrow remains were observed on aerial photographs to the south of the site. No such remains were observed on aerial photographs within the site itself.

The site is most likely to have been in agricultural use throughout the post-medieval period and is first depicted in detail by the 1839 Tithe map of Semington Chapelry in Steeple Ashton. A field boundary bisecting the site on a NW-SE alignment is shown on this map.

Twentieth century maps of the site indicate that it retained an agricultural character, with the middle field boundary not being removed until the 1970s.

The site contains a structure and earthwork relating to WWII home defence. A Type 28a pillbox survives within the eastern part of the site and an infilled anti-tank ditch runs along the western boundary of the site.

A Heritage Desk-Based Assessment of the site was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in May 2016 (Bennetto 2016). This concluded that there was limited potential for the presence of currently unknown buried archaeological remains of significance within the site.

Geophysical survey of the site (Davies 2017) indicated the presence of a possible enclosure in the South-west of the site, with further agricultural remains in the form of potential Ridge and Furrow agriculture and disturbance possibly related to WWII defences also present.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the investigation were detailed in the WSI.

In general, the purpose of the evaluation was to provide sufficient evidence for confident prediction of the impact of the development proposal by establishing the extent, nature and importance of any heritage assets within the affected area (following the National Planning Policy Framework).

The primary objectives were identified as follows:

- determine the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains within the proposed development site;
- determine the character, date, extent and distribution of any archaeological deposits and their potential significance;
- determine levels of disturbance to any archaeological deposits from plough damage or from any other agricultural/industrial practices or later building activities;
- investigate and record all deposits and features of archaeological interest within the areas to be disturbed by the proposed development;
- determine the likely impact on archaeological deposits from the proposed development; and
- disseminate the results of the fieldwork through an appropriate level of reporting.

The local and regional research contexts are provided by the Archaeological Research Framework for the South-West. Any evidence retrieved during the works will be analysed in light of the objectives contained in these frameworks.

The results of the evaluation will be used to describe the significance of heritage assets potentially affected by the development, allowing the planning authority to make an informed assessment of any potential impacts on the historic environment in line with Paragraph 128 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

The resulting archive (finds and records) will be organised and deposited with Wiltshire Museums Service to facilitate access for future research and interpretation for public benefit.

3 METHOD

The fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the above mentioned WSI and method statement and in accordance with the following documents:

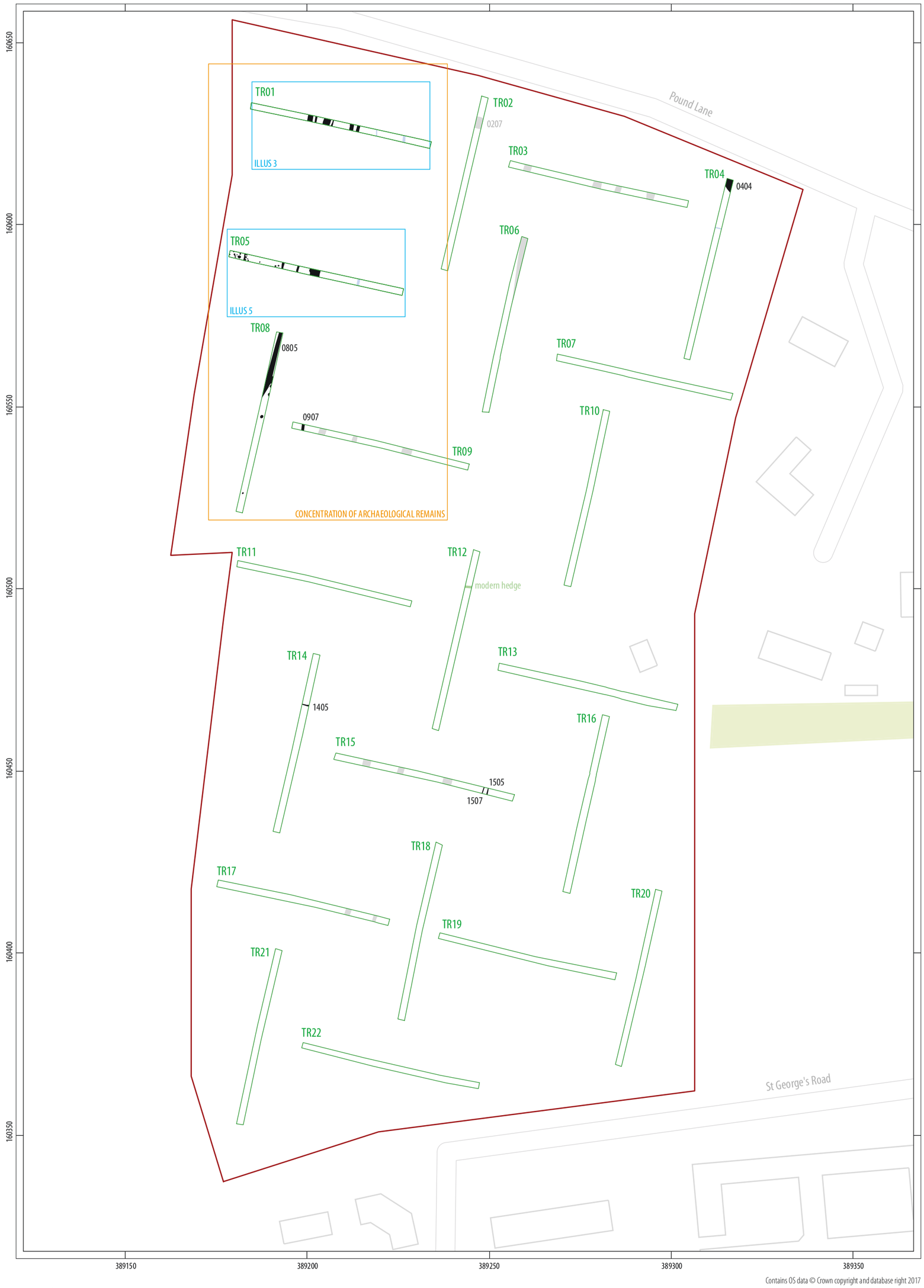
- *Code of Conduct* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014)
- *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014a)

Twenty two trenches (each measuring 50m x 1.8m) were excavated to provide a 5% representative sample of the site. Prior to excavation, utility plans were consulted and a cable avoidance tool was used to check for the presence of potential buried services. Trenches were excavated using a 14.5t, 360°, tracked, mechanical excavator, fitted with a bladed bucket, to depths where archaeological features were identified or geological deposits encountered. Test sondages were mechanically excavated where and if appropriate to check the stratigraphic sequence.

Exposed archaeological remains were recorded on Headland Archaeology Evaluation Trench sheets and a representative sample of features identified were subsequently excavated by hand to determine form, function and retrieve dateable material. Following a site meeting with the Archaeological Advisor, minimal intervention and essentially characterisation, primarily in plan, of the exposed remains was agreed.

Drawings of significant archaeological remains and the general stratigraphy of the site were produced at a scale of 1:10 where appropriate or digitally surveyed.

All recording followed standard archaeological guidelines as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA). The recorded contexts were assigned unique numbers and recording was undertaken on Headland Archaeology pro forma trench and context record sheets. Digital and black and white photographs were taken of all trenches and identified features, with a graduated metric scale clearly visible. An overall site plan of the trenches and recorded features was digitally produced. Digital surveying was undertaken using a Trimble dGPS system.



ILLUS 2 Site plan

4 RESULTS

4.1 GENERAL STRATIGRAPHY

A trench location plan is presented in Illus 2, full context descriptions are supplied in Appendix 1, and specialist assessments of the finds and environmental assemblages are presented in Appendices 2 and 3.

The earliest deposits encountered during the evaluation were represented by variable geological deposition across the site. To the south, generally towards the crest of a gradual slope, periglacial deposits were identified in Trenches 13, 16, 18, 19, 20 and 22. This took the form of generally east-west banding of limestone brash and clays (eg (1603)). A machine sondage in Trench 16 revealed this to be formed by uplifting of the underlying clays, effectively in a wave-like pattern and deriving from a process such as gelifluction or solifluction. This was generally encountered between 0.30 to 0.45m below the present ground surface.

Lying west and north of this, limestone brash (eg 1203) was identified in Trenches 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17 and 21, at generally around 0.30 to 0.40m depth.

In the north-west of the site, Trenches 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9 revealed a sequence of sandy clay alluvial deposits (eg 0203, 0204), overlying alluvial gravels and sandy clay (eg 0205) which was identified between 0.55 and 0.90m below the present ground surface. Alluvial deposits such as (0204) were noted to contain charcoal fragments, pottery and animal bone.

Sealing geological deposits was a variably thick subsoil, between 0.10 and 0.35m. This was more denuded and shallower in the south and north-east of the site. Pottery dating to the Iron Age was recovered from subsoil within Trenches 13, 16 and 18. A single sherd of 13th – 16th century pottery was recovered in Trench 14 and a sherd of Roman date from subsoil in Trench 3.

Overlying the subsoil was a 0.20 to 0.25m thick deposit of topsoil. This was observed to contain more recent material such as post-medieval glazed pottery and ceramic building material fragments which were not retained.

4.2 TRENCHES CONTAINING ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS

A density of archaeological features and potential archaeological features was recorded within four trenches (1, 5, 8, 9) located in the north-west corner of the site (Illus 2).

Trench 1

Within Trench 1 a series of north-south aligned linear features were identified (Illus 3). Three of these [0112, 0114, 0116] were recorded in plan only, with the probable upper fills, varying significantly from surrounding geological deposits, indicating the likelihood that these were ditches or archaeological features.

Features [0112] and [0114] were likely to be associated and were partially overlain by a gravel deposit (0110) which appeared to be levelling or infilling of the ground specifically between the two ditches. This was mirrored in Trench 5 and is discussed further below.

Lying between [0112] and [0114] an approximately 2m wide ditch [0109] was investigated (Illus 4). The ditch contained two fills (0117, 0118) which evidenced seasonal gleying and gradual sedimentation, before gravels were identified within a small sondage, suggesting the feature was at least 0.55m deep. No dateable material was retrieved from the feature.

To the east of this two further linear cuts [0106] and [0107] were interpreted as ditches and measured 1.29m and 1.44m wide respectively. Test investigations revealed these to be at least 0.24 and 0.19m deep but neither could be confidently ascertained as fully based. The fills of both ditches displayed evidence of gleying and fluctuating water levels with water table ingress occurring. No dateable material was retrieved from either ditch.

Archaeological remains in the trench were encountered at approximately 0.60m below ground level.

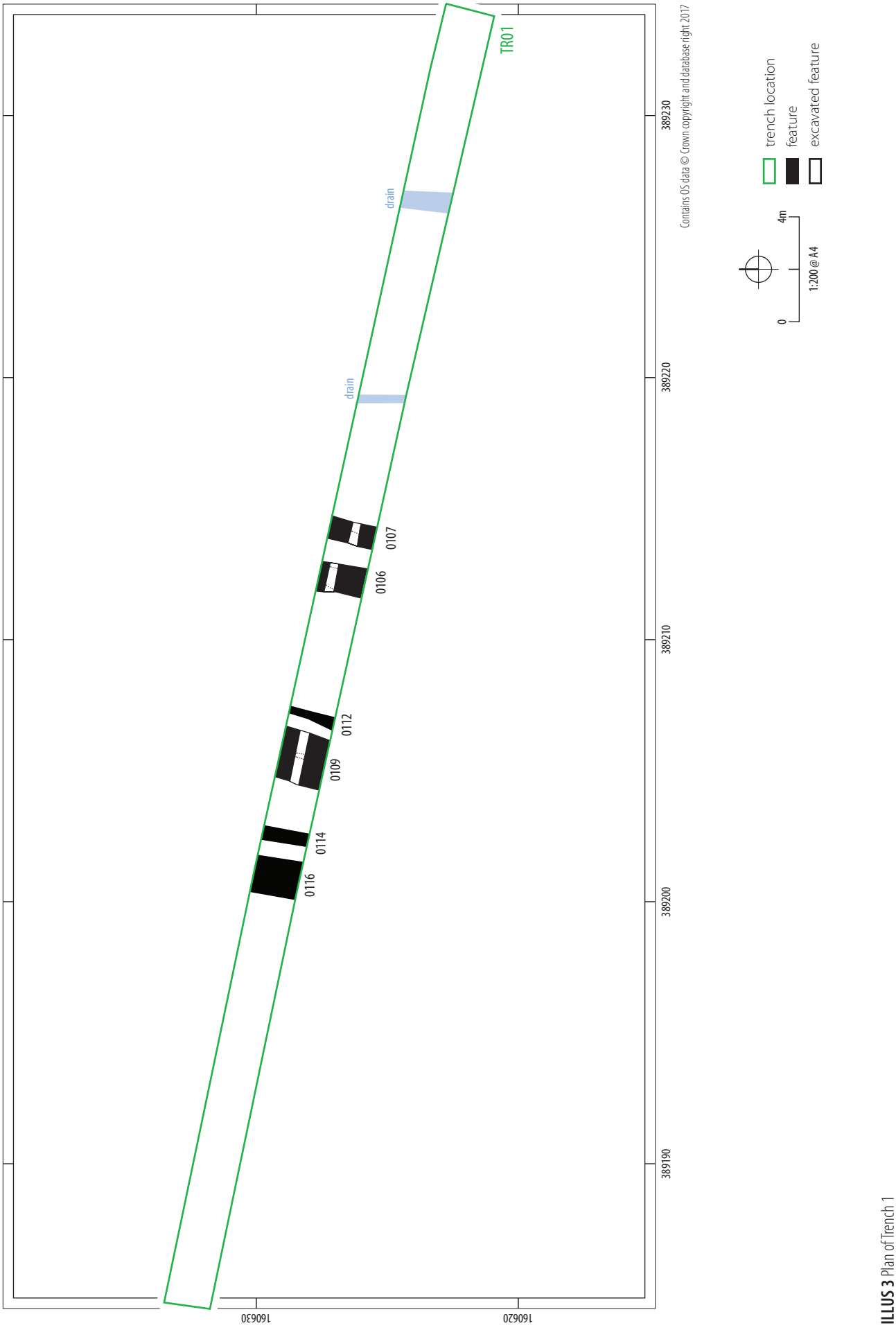
Trench 5 (Illus 5)

Towards the western end of the trench, two parallel north-south aligned linear features [0505] and [0517] were recorded. Investigation revealed these to be ditches measuring 0.69 wide by 0.18 deep and 0.57m wide by 0.19m deep respectively. The two ditches were spaced 3.6m apart and between the two ditches, partially overlying the western ditch [0505], was a gravel deposit (0520), possibly deriving from disturbed bank material, and a larger gravel levelling or infilling deposit (0519) (Illus 5A). On either side of the two ditches the subsoil was observed to slope down towards the cuts and a series of deposits (0523, 0524, 0525), contrasting with geological deposits identified in the trench, lay between the two ditch cuts and were recorded in plan. From initial investigation it is suggested that the two ditches represent drainage cuts either side of a trackway or hollow-way which had been deliberately infilled and levelled. The same sequence was identified in Trench 1 and a low earthwork between the two trenches was visible along the line of what appeared to be the ditches reappearing in Trench 1. Pottery dating to the medieval period was recovered from linear [0505] along with a small piece of plastic. The plastic would appear to be intrusive but may also relate to the period when a hollow relating to the trackway was infilled.

Approximately 10m west of the possible trackway, a cluster of features located at the extreme western end of the trench were identified (Table 1) and are likely to represent probable structural remains (Illus 6).

TABLE 1 Contexts relating to probable structural remains

CUT	RELATED FILL	L (M)	W(M)	INTERPRETATION
0535	0536	0.22	0.22	Probable post-hole
0537	0538	0.30	0.30	Stone packed post-hole
0539	0540	0.45	0.37	Stone-packed post-hole
0541	0542	0.28	0.26	Probable post-hole
0543	0544	0.34	0.32	Probable post-hole



ILLUS 3 Plan of Trench 1

ILLUS 4 General view of ditch [0109]

CUT	RELATED FILL	L (M)	W(M)	INTERPRETATION
0545	0546	0.68	0.6	Possible hearth or pit
0547	0548	0.38	0.38	Stone packed post-hole
0549	0550	0.25	0.25	Stone packed post-hole
0551	0552	0.3	0.3	Stone packed post-hole
0553	0554	0.2	0.2	Probable post-hole
0555	0556	0.24	0.24	Probable post-hole
0557	0558	0.24	0.24	Probable post-hole
0564	0565	0.29	0.29	Probable post-hole

With the exception of a possible hearth or pit [0545], these were recorded in plan only. Several of the features displayed clear evidence of stone packing and are likely to represent structural post-holes.

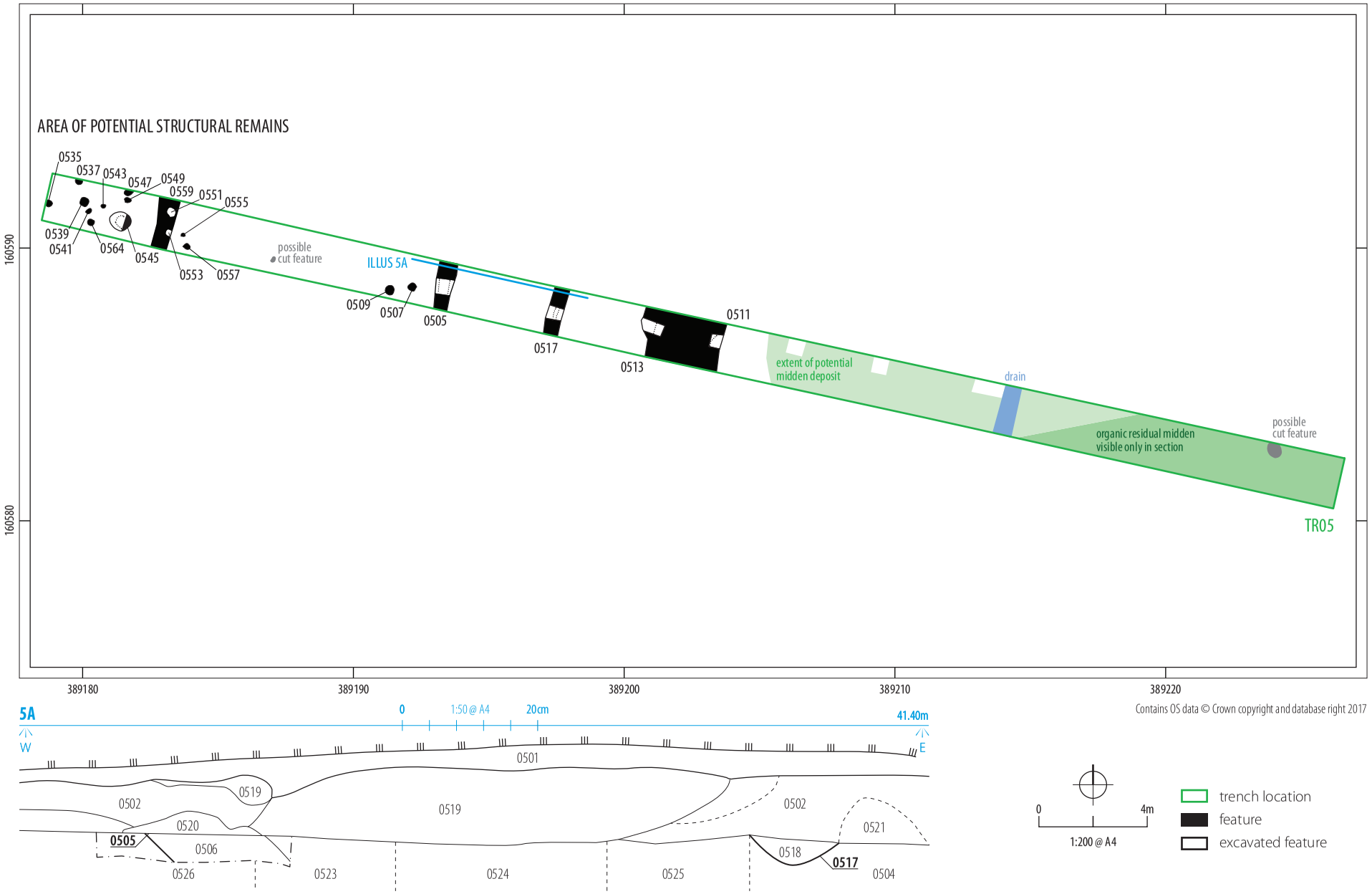
The possible hearth or pit [0545] was half-sectioned and found to be 0.10m deep. An environmental sample taken from the fill contained both burnt and unburnt bone and a single grain of bread wheat. Pottery dated to the Iron Age and a worked bone object were also recovered from the fill.

Cut by probable post-holes [0551] and [0553] a 0.60m wide linear feature [0559] was recorded in plan. Given the potential for stratigraphic relationships this was not excavated and may have represented an earlier ditch.

Further probable post-holes [0507] and [0509] were recorded east of the possible structural remains and may have been associated with activity in the area. Two further potential archaeological features were also noted and surveyed in plan.

To the east of the potential structural remains and trackway a north-south aligned linear feature was identified. Two sondages were placed on either edge [0511] and [0513]. Neither reached the base of the feature but aided an interpretation that it represented a reasonably substantial ditch, greater than 0.35m deep and measuring 3.07m wide. Dateable material retrieved from the fill (0512) suggested it was of an Iron Age date and contemporary with the structural remains.

Some 2m to the east of the ditch, a spread of material was noted extending approximately 12m eastward in plan. The deposit appeared to contain a former organic content, oxidising gradually on exposure. Three sondages were placed within the deposit to characterise its nature (Illus 7). These revealed it to be of variable depth, between 0.09 and 0.25m thick and to contain animal bone, burnt bone, lithics and pottery which dated to the Iron Age. No specific cut was identified and an initial interpretation of a midden deposit is suggested. However, the full extent of the deposit was not ascertained and on examination of the trench section, further east, a continuation of the layer, beyond the limit of the trench was observed though it appeared to contain less anthropogenic material and did not appear to oxidise to the same degree. It is possible that this represents a spreading of material through ploughing or



ILLUS 5 Plan of Trench 5 **A** Section drawing showing stratigraphy and levelling over possible trackway

ILLUS 6 General view of probable structural remains, Trench 5 looking east

ILLUS 7 View of sondage showing possible midden deposit (0532), looking north
ILLUS 8 South-west facing section through [0404]

other processes. An environmental sample taken from the deposit (0532) contained burnt mammal bone fragments and a single indeterminate cereal grain.

Archaeological remains within the trench were encountered between 0.45 and 0.60m below the present ground level.

Trench 8

Oriented broadly north-south, and 0.60m below ground level, a linear cut [0805] was partially exposed within the trench, extending approximately 18m, appearing to curve to the south-west. A sondage excavated into the feature revealed this to be at least 0.22m deep at which point gravels were encountered. Due to the limited exposure of the feature, whether this represented the base of a cut could not be fully determined. It was not clear whether the gravel deposit represented natural geology or a lower fill of the feature. It appeared likely that the feature represented a ditch measuring at least 1.30m wide. Pottery dated to the Iron Age was recovered from the excavated fill (0804).

Towards the south of the trench, four further potential archaeological features were identified and surveyed in plan, one of which appeared to have a potential relationship with [0805].

Trench 9

Located at the western end of Trench 9 a 0.85m wide linear feature [0907] was recorded in plan some 0.60m below ground level. Comparatively, the fill of the feature (0906) varied significantly from the fill of the ridge and furrow [0905] recorded to the east within the trench, suggesting that this may have been a further ditch cut associated with the concentration of remains in the vicinity.

4.3 TRENCHES CONTAINING AGRICULTURAL FIELD SYSTEMS

Trench 4

Partially exposed at the northern end of Trench 4, a cut feature [0404] was interpreted as a possible ditch (Illus 8). The limited exposure of the feature meant its full extent could not be ascertained. The western edge of the feature appeared to suggest a possible north-west/south-east alignment. A section through the feature indicated a depth of 0.50m cut onto limestone bedrock and a width greater than 2.50m. A minimum of four fills were identified which displayed evidence of probable tip lines and potential deliberate backfilling. This cannot be unequivocal due to the limited exposure of the feature. Two small sherds of pottery dating to the late 11th – 14th centuries were recovered from deposits [0405] and [0407].

An east-west aligned ditch [1405] (Illus 9) was recorded in Trench 14 measuring 0.43m wide and 0.10m deep. The ditch appeared to be heavily truncated, probably by later agriculture, with essentially only the base surviving. No dateable material was retrieved.

ILLUS 9 General view of linear [1405] looking east

Remnants of a north-south aligned Ridge and Furrow agricultural system were recorded in Trenches 3, 6, 9, 15 and 17 eg [0905]. Coal, cinders and ceramic building material fragments, together with blue and white transfer printed pottery from within the fills suggested a post-medieval date for the system. None of the material was retained. Two parallel ditch features in Trench 15 [1505, 1507] were on the same alignment and equally spaced from the ridge and furrow evident in the trench. Although undated, the feature are likely to relate to the same agricultural system.

Towards the northern end of Trench 2, a 3.2m wide linear feature [0207] was identified (Illus 2). On investigation this proved to be exceptionally shallow, a maximum of 0.10m deep and to have an irregular base of 3 narrow furrows, likely indicative of plough activity. Pottery dating to the medieval period, together with lithic debitage and iron working residue was recovered from the fill (0206).

The line of the former field boundary was identified in Trench 12.

4.4 TRENCHES CONTAINING NO ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS

No archaeological remains were identified in Trenches 7, 10, 11, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22.

Trenches 7 and 10 displayed evidence of more recent disturbance. Redeposited clays were specifically identified in the northern end of Trench 10. It is likely that this disturbance relates to activity associated with the construction and use of the WWII pill-box immediately to the south-east.

Trench 11 was observed to have a concrete hard standing exposed at its western extent and disturbance associated with modern pipes which may be related to the WWII defences in the vicinity.

5 DISCUSSION

A concentration of archaeological remains identified in the north-west of the site appear to indicate settlement in the area of early to middle Iron Age date. The focus of this was within Trench 5 where probable structural remains of the period were identified with potentially associated archaeological features and a likely trackway recorded (of later date) within the area defined by Trenches 1, 5, 8 and 9.

Packed post-holes recorded in Trench 5 appear associated and potentially indicate the presence of a round-house type structure. A small pit or possible hearth may further indicate a domestic function as do finds of burnt bone, animal bone and pottery and a probable midden deposit within the trench. The limited intervention into the midden deposit does not preclude the presence of further archaeological features sealed below this.

The full extent of the midden material was observed to lie beyond the limits of the trench, both to the north and east, with a density and concentration of the material within the area defined by the three sondages placed to characterise the deposit. It appeared to be less organic in nature further to the east and this may be due to the material being spread due to later agriculture, colluviation or alluvial action.

Not all of the recorded post-holes can be positively attested to relate to a single specific structure and the possibility of phasing of activity exists. A level of complexity and phasing is evidenced with post-holes cut into an earlier linear feature and a probable double ditched trackway of a later date and phase. The probable trackway also appears to overlie an earlier ditch within Trench 1. Deposits recorded within the area defined by the two ditches are likely to relate to infilling of the hollow created by the track and would require further investigation.

Ditches recorded in Trenches 1, 5 and 9 are possibly associated with the structural remains serving as drainage features and potentially defining boundaries of the site, though no formal enclosure of the structural remains can at this stage be attested.

Potential features, which were not investigated during the evaluation, were surveyed in plan and also indicate the possibility of a greater density of archaeological remains and probability of stratigraphic complexity being present on the site.

The majority of the pottery recovered indicates a focus of activity in the early to middle Iron Age, with residual Romano-British and medieval pottery suggesting the potential for the presence of remains of this period also occurring on or within the vicinity of the site.

The double ditched trackway identified in Trenches 1 and 5 was visible as a shallow, parched earthwork in the field and extended towards Trench 8. The ditch identified in Trench 8 may be the eastern ditch of the trackway but this cannot be stated unequivocally at

evaluation stage. Pottery recovered from the Trench 8 ditch suggests an Iron Age date for the feature, however, the trackway itself appears to be later, containing both medieval pottery and modern plastic within its fill. Given the level of disturbance and levelling of the trackway dating of the feature cannot, presently, be taken as secure. It may have an association with the structural remains identified but equally may be a much later feature such as a medieval hollow-way. The levelling or infilling of the hollow created by the trackway may have been undertaken as part of the WWII anti-tank defence construction along the line of the western field boundary.

In the southern half of the site, only remains of ridge and furrow and a single truncated ditch [1405] were identified. The ditch possibly represents a former field boundary but was not visible in any other trenches in the area. A single sherd of pottery of medieval date was recovered from the same trench but no other dateable material was retrieved.

The partially exposed feature in Trench 4 remains somewhat enigmatic. Pottery recovered from two deposits within the feature cannot be conclusive as dateable evidence and the full extent or form of the feature remains unknown. The nature of the exposed remains is suggestive of a large, flat based boundary ditch, probably truncated with elements of gradual sedimentation and bank collapse or potential backfilling, in a relatively short period of time, causing the feature to fill. The base of the feature is the only area on the site where solid limestone bedrock was identified and the possibility of the feature being related to quarrying cannot be discounted.

Of interest are subsoil finds of prehistoric date in the south-east of the site from Trenches 13, 16 and 18. No features were identified within these trenches and it is possible that the material may have derived from archaeological remains previously identified to the south-east of the site or as a result of ploughing or colluvial action. The pottery did not appear particularly abraded however and the possibility of archaeological remains in the vicinity of these trenches cannot be precluded.

The investigation has also corroborated some aspects of the geophysical survey in that linear trends indicative of north-south aligned ridge and furrow agriculture were identified. East-west linear trends in the southern half of the survey area are likely to relate to periglacial geological banding identified in the area, with the exception of a shallow east-west linear in Trench 2, which may relate to an earlier phase of agricultural use of the land.

The potential enclosure identified in the south-west of the site by geophysical survey was not evidenced by the evaluation and it may be that responses relative to this relate to the topsoil or geological deposits.

The greyscale geophysical survey plot does show a north-east/south-west trend which correlates with the location of the probable trackway in Trenches 1 and 5. The variable underlying geological deposits are likely to have masked the archaeological remains identified within the north-west of the site.

6 CONCLUSION

Archaeological evaluation of land at St George's Lane, Semington has identified occupation of the site during the early to middle Iron Age with probable structural remains, midden deposit and associated ditches. A trackway, possibly of later date was also recorded. The probability of phases of archaeological activity was recorded and the likelihood of further associated remains highlighted. The concentration of archaeological remains appears to lie within the north-west area of the site.

Post-medieval agricultural activity was also identified and an element of disturbance, probably related to WWII defences in the area noted.

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8 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 TRENCH AND CONTEXT REGISTER

DBGL = Depth below ground level

TR01	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.8	0.70

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
0101	Topsoil – Soft to friable dark grey, slightly sandy, silty clay with occasional angular (flint) gravel and rare pottery and CBM inclusions.	0 - 0.25
0102	Subsoil – Firm, mid reddish brown, slightly silty, sandy clay with frequent sub angular limestone gravel and rare charcoal fragments.	0.20/25 – 0.35
0103	Colluvium	0.35 – 0.80
0104	Geological deposit – gravels / sandy clay	0.60 – 0.80 / LOE
0105	Fill of [0106]. Mid brownish grey, gravelly and slightly sandy, silty clay with rare charcoal flecks.	0.60
0106	Cut of N-S linear	0.60
0107	Linear cut	0.65
0108	Fill of [0107]. Light to mid-grey silty clay.	0.65
0109	Linear cut	0.60
0110	Gravel levelling deposit, with light yellowish brown sandy clay matrix.	0.60
0111	Fill of [0112]. Mid reddish brown, slightly silty sandy clay. Unexcavated.	0.60
0112	Linear cut N-S	0.60
0113	Fill of [0114]. Mid reddish brown, silty, sandy clay. Unexcavated.	0.60
0114	Linear cut N-S	0.60
0115	Fill of [0116]. Mid brownish grey, slightly silty, sandy clay.	0.70
0116	Possible linear cut N-S	0.70
0117	Primary fill of [0109]. Dark bluish grey, silty clay with ferrous staining.	0.60
0118	Upper, fill of [0109]. Yellowish, brown grey silty clay, with ferrous staining.	0.60

Summary: 6 linear features. (Including possible trackway)

TR02	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.80	0.70

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
0201	Topsoil – Soft to friable dark grey, slightly sandy, silty clay with occasional angular (flint) gravel, rare pottery and CBM inclusions.	0.0 – 0.25
0202	Subsoil – Firm, mid reddish brown, slightly silty, sandy clay with frequent sub angular limestone gravel and rare charcoal fragments.	0.2/0.25 – 0.50
0203	Alluvial deposit – Firm, mid reddish brown, slightly sandy clay with frequent stone and gravel and occasional bone and charcoal fragments. Ferrous stained and gleyed	0.45 – 0.80/0.90
0204	Alluvial deposit – Stiff, light brownish yellow, slightly silty clay with occasional gravel, animal bone and charcoal fragments.	0.80 – 0.90
0205	Alluvial gravel deposit – Predominantly angular flint gravel with light brownish yellow sandy clay matrix.	0.80/0.90 – LOE
0206	Fill of [0207] – Mid yellowish brown sandy clay, with gravels. Contains flint, pottery and slag. Residual subsoil in agricultural feature.	0.70+
0207	E-W aligned agricultural, likely plough scar remnants.	0.70+

Summary: Remains of plough scarring. No archaeological remains.

TR03	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.8	c. 0.60

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
0301	Topsoil – Soft to friable dark grey, slightly sandy, silty clay with occasional angular (flint) gravel and rare pottery and CBM inclusions.	0.0 – 0.25
0302	Subsoil – Firm, mid reddish brown, slightly silty, sandy clay with frequent sub angular limestone gravel and rare charcoal fragments.	0.25 – 0.50/0.60
0303	Alluvial deposit – Firm, mid reddish brown, slightly sandy clay with frequent stone and gravel and occasional bone and charcoal fragments. Ferrous stained and gleyed	0.60 – 0.70/0.85
0304	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.	0.50 – LOE
0305	N-S aligned linears from ridge and furrow system.	0.50 – 0.70
0306	Dark reddish brown, silty clay with occasional gravel and rare very small charcoal fragments.	0.60

Summary: N-S ridge and furrow. No archaeological remains.

TR04	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.80	0.40

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
0401	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and occasional charcoal.	0.0 – 0.12
0402	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments and occasional charcoal fragments.	0.12 – 0.21
0403	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.	0.21 – LOE
0404	Cut of NW-SE linear	0.38 – 0.80

0405	Primary fill of [0404]. Mid brown sandy clay.	0.38 – 0.78
0406	Fill of [0404]. Deliberate backfill of light yellow limestone gravel, within a small amount of silty clay. Contained pottery sherd.	0.38 – 0.79
0407	Fill of [0404]. Mid greyish brown silty clay and lenses of mid orangey brown silty clay and gravel.	0.38 – 0.80
0408	Upper fill of [0404]. Deliberate backfill of light orangey brown, gritty, sandy clay and limestone gravels. Contained pottery sherd.	0.38 – 0.74

Summary: 1 linear feature.

TR05	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.80	0.60

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
0501	Topsoil – Soft to friable dark grey, slightly sandy, silty clay with occasional angular (flint) gravel and rare pottery and CBM inclusions.	0.0 -0.25
0502	Subsoil – Firm, mid reddish brown, slightly silty, sandy clay with frequent sub angular limestone gravel and rare charcoal fragments.	0.25-0.40
0503	VOID, not used.	
0504	Alluvial gravel deposit – Predominantly angular flint gravel with light brownish yellow sandy clay matrix.	0.56 – 0.78
0505	Cut of N-S linear ditch	0.52 – 0.67
0506	Fill of [0505]. Mid orangey brown, sandy clay. Contained possible struck flint; pottery and plastic.	0.52 – 0.67
0507	Cut of post-hole	0.55+
0508	Fill of [0507]. Mid grey deposit. Unexcavated.	0.55+
0509	Cut of post-hole	0.55+
0510	Fill of [0509] Mid grey deposit. Unexcavated.	0.55+
0511	Cut of ditch	0.60 - 0.82
0512	Fill of [0511]. Light orangey brown, silty clay. Contained abundant pottery and occasional struck flint.	0.60 - 0.82
0513	Cut of linear	0.58 – 0.94
0514	Fill of [0513]. Mid yellowish grey, silty clay. Contained animal bone and tooth, pottery and charcoal.	0.60
0515	Fill of [0513]. Yellowish grey brown, silty clay. Contained occasional charcoal, flint and pottery and animal bone.	0.60
0516	Fill of [0513]. Brownish grey, silty clay. Contained occasional charcoal and pottery.	0.60
0517	Cut of N-S linear	0.60 – 0.79 min.
0518	Fill of [0517]. Mid brown coarse, sandy clay.	0.60 – 0.79
0519	Stoney levelling deposit within a mid-brown sandy clay matrix	0.16 – 0.70
0520	Possible truncated bank deposit of sub-rounded limestone ≤0.06m.	0.39 – 0.52
0521	Possible stoney deposit within mid to light orangey brown sandy clay subsoil.	0.33 – 0.68
0522	Organic rich deposit. Mid orangey brown, silty, sandy clay.	0.46 – 0.76
0523	Moderately stoney deposit within a light yellowish brown, sandy, gritty clay matrix.	0.63+
0524	Very stoney deposit within a light yellowish brown, sandy, gritty clay matrix.	0.70+
0525	Moderately stoney deposit within a light yellowish brown, sandy, gritty clay matrix.	0.70+
0526	Geological gravel deposit (possibly river gravels) within a mid-brown sandy clay matrix.	0.60
0527	Cut of sondage	0.60- 0.91
0528	Lower deposit in [0527]. Brownish, yellow grey silty clay.	0.45
0529	Upper deposit in [0527]. Dark greyish blue organic rich deposit with charcoal, flint bone and pottery. Same as (0532), (0562)	0.55
0530	Cut of sondage	0.66 – 0.97
0531	Lower deposit in [0530]. Brownish yellow, grey silty clay.	0.75
0532	Upper deposit in [0530]. Dark greyish blue organic rich deposit with charcoal, flint bone and pottery. Same as (0529), (0562)	0.55
0533	VOID	
0534	VOID	
0535	Cut of post-hole	0.62+
0536	Fill of [0535] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.62+
0537	Cut of post-hole	0.62+
0538	Fill of [0537] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.62+
0539	Cut of post-hole	0.62+
0540	Fill of [0539] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.62+
0541	Cut of post-hole	0.62+
0542	Fill of [0541] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.62+
0543	Cut of post-hole	0.63+
0544	Fill of [0543] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.63+
0545	Cut of probable hearth	0.65 – 0.75
0546	Fill of [0545]. Burnt deposit; mid to dark grey, fine sandy, silty clay. Contained charcoal flecks, heat affected stone, and pottery.	0.65 – 0.75
0547	Cut of post-hole	0.65+
0548	Fill of [0547] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.65+
0549	Cut of post-hole	0.65+
0550	Fill of [0549] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.65+
0551	Cut of post-hole	0.44+
0552	Fill of [0551] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.44+
0553	Cut of post-hole	0.44+
0554	Fill of [0553] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.44+
0555	Cut of post-hole	0.43+
0556	Fill of [0555] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.43+

0557	Cut of post-hole	0.43+
0558	Fill of [0557] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.43+
0559	Cut of N-S linear	0.44+
0560	Fill of [0559] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.44+
0561	Cut of sondage	0.58 – 0.68
0562	Lower deposit in [0561]. Brownish, yellow grey silty clay.	0.7
0563	Upper deposit in [0561]. Dark greyish blue organic rich deposit with charcoal, flint bone and pottery. Same as (0529), (0532).	0.5
0564	Cut of post-hole	0.62+
0565	Fill of [0564] – Mid grey deposit, unexcavated	0.62+

Summary: Concentration of post-holes at west end of trench probably associated with prehistoric structure. Two N-S linears flanking possible trackway. Possible N-S linears possibly associated with probable midden deposit.

TR06	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.80	0.70/0.80
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL(M)
0601	Topsoil – Soft to friable dark grey, slightly sandy, silty clay with occasional angular (flint) gravel and rare pottery and CBM inclusions.			0.0 – 0.25/0.30
0602	Subsoil – Firm, mid reddish brown, slightly silty, sandy clay with frequent sub angular limestone gravel and rare charcoal fragments.			0.25 – 0.60
0603	Alluvial deposit – Firm, mid reddish brown, slightly sandy clay with frequent stone and gravel and occasional bone and charcoal fragments. Ferrous stained and greyed			0.60 – 0.70
0604	Alluvial deposit – Stiff, light brownish yellow, slightly silty clay with occasional gravel, animal bone and charcoal fragments.			0.70 – LOE
0605	N-S aligned linears from ridge and furrow system.			0.60+
0606	Mid reddish brown, slightly sandy, silty clay. Not excavated.			0.60+

Summary: N-S ridge and furrow system. NO archaeological remains.

TR07	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.80	0.40
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL(M)
0701	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.			0.0 – 0.15/0.20
0702	Sub Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.			0.15 – 0.45
0703	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.			0.30 – 0.35
0704	Colluvial / alluvial deposit – Firm, mid reddish brown, slightly sandy clay with frequent stone and gravel and occasional bone and charcoal fragments. Ferrous stained and greyed			0.45 – 0.70 (LOE)

Summary: No archaeological remains.

TR08	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.80	0.60
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL(M)
0801	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.			0.0 – 0.25
0802	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.			0.25 – 0.60
0803	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.			0.60 – LOE
0804	Fill of [0805]. Mid greyish brown, slightly silty, sandy clay with occasional charcoal; ferrous staining and occasional manganese flecks. Contained pottery.			0.60+
0805	Cut of NE-SW linear			0.60+

Summary: 1 NE-SW linear feature

TR09	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	52	1.8	0.60
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL(M)
0901	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.			0.0 – 0.22/0.25
0902	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.			0.22 – 0.40
0903	Colluvial deposit - Mid reddish brown, slightly sandy, silty clay			0.40 – 0.60
0904	Alluvial deposit - Mid yellowish brown mix of gravels and sandy clay			0.60 – LOE
0905	Ridge and furrow system			0.60 – LOE
0906	Fill of [0907]. Mid greyish brown, slightly sandy clay. Unexcavated.			0.60+
0907	Cut of N-S linear.			0.60+

Summary: One possible linear ditch: Ridge and furrow system.

TR10	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.80	0.45
CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION			DBGL(M)
1001	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.			0.0 – 0.25
1002	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.			0.25 – 0.45

1003	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.	0.45 – LOE

Summary: Disturbance at north end likely associated with pill box. No archaeological remains.

TR11	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.80	0.55

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
1101	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.	0.0 – 0.25
1102	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.	0.25 – 0.55
1103	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.	0.55 - LOE

Summary: Hard stand and, timber posts and ceramic service pipe at far west of trench – modern; possibly associated with WWII pill box. No archaeological remains.

TR12	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	51.50	1.80	0.40

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
1201	Topsoil – Loose, dark brown loam with occasional small limestone inclusions	0.0 – 0.15
1202	Subsoil – Friable, mid brown sandy clay, with frequent limestone inclusions ≤0.07m	0.15 – 0.37
1203	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.	0.37 - LOE

Summary: No archaeological remains. Former hedge line at 12m from end of trench.

TR13	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	51	1.80	0.48

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
1301	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.	0.0 – 0.20
1302	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.	0.20 – 0.38
1303	Geological deposit from periglacial process – Mid brownish red silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments.	0.38 – LOE

Summary: No archaeological remains – although residual pottery within (1303) c.18-30m from east end of trench.

TR14	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50	1.8	0.30

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
1401	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.	0.0 – 0.20
1402	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.	0.20 – 0.30
1403	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.	0.30 – LOE
1404	Fill of [1405]. Mid greyish brown, slightly silty, sandy clay with rare charcoal fragments.	0.30 – 0.40
1405	Cut of E-W linear	0.30 – 0.40

Summary: 1 heavily truncated linear

TR15	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.80	0.25

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
1501	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.	0.0 – 0.20
1502	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.	0.20 – 0.30
1503	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.	0.25/0.30 – LOE
1504	Fill of [1505]. Mid greyish brown, silty clay.	0.25
1505	Cut of N-S linear	0.25
1506	Fill of [1507]. Mid brown, silty clay.	0.25
1507	Cut of N-S linear	0.25
1508	Remnant fill of ridge and furrow. Mid brown silty clay, with rare charcoal flecks.	0.25 – 0.30
1509	3 x N-S linear cuts from ridge and furrow	0.30

Summary: Ridge and furrow and probable plough scar.

TR16	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	51.50	1.80	0.50

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
1601	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.	0.0 -0.20
1602	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.	0.20 – 0.35

1603	Geological deposit from periglacial process – Mid brownish red silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments.	0.35 – 1.00
1604	Geological deposit from periglacial process – Very light blue grey, gritty clay with occasional limestone.	1.00 – 1.09

Summary: No archaeological remains. Residual prehistoric pottery in subsoil.

TR17	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	50	1.80	0.30

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
1701	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.	0.0 – 0.20
1702	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.	0.20 – 0.30
1703	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.	0.30 – LOE
1704	Fill of [1705]	0.30
1705	N-S Linear – probable furrow.	0.30

Summary: Remnant ridge and furrow – No archaeological remains.

TR18	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	51.20	1.80	0.40

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
1801	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.	0.0 – 0.20
1802	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.	0.20 – 0.30
1803	Geological deposit from periglacial process – Mid brownish red silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments. / Geological deposit from periglacial process – Very light blue grey, gritty clay with occasional limestone.	0.30 - LOE

Summary: Prehistoric pot; animal bone and clay pipe stem in subsoil. No archaeological remains

TR19	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	51.30	1.80	0.49

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
1901	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.	0.0 – 0.22
1902	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.	0.22 – 0.45
1903	Geological deposit from periglacial process – Mid brownish red silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments.	0.45 – LOE

Summary: Glass and cinders in topsoil. No archaeological remains.

TR20	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50.50	1.80	0.44

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
2001	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.	0.0 – 0.15
2002	Subsoil – Stiff to loose, mid brown clay with moderate limestone inclusions ≤0.06m.	0.15 – 0.35
2003	Banded periglacial geology	0.35 - LOE

Summary: Green glazed pot and CBM c.10m from north end of trench in subsoil. No archaeological remains.

TR21	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	N-S	50.00	1.80	0.30

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
2101	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.	0.0 – 0.20
2102	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.	0.20 – 0.30/0.38
2103	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.	0.30/0.38 - LOE

Summary: No archaeological remains.

TR22	ORIENTATION	L (M)	W (M)	AV. D (M)
	E-W	51.00	1.80	0.47

CONTEXT	DESCRIPTION	DBGL(M)
2201	Topsoil – Dark brownish grey, gritty, silty clay, with frequent sub-angular limestone fragments and, occasional charcoal.	0.0 – 0.17/0.20
2202	Subsoil – Mid reddish brown, gritty, silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments, and occasional charcoal fragments.	0.20 – 0.30
2203	Geological deposit from periglacial process – Mid brownish red silty clay with frequent angular and sub-angular limestone fragments.	0.30 – LOE
2204	Geological deposit – Plastic, light/mid brown sandy clay with abundant limestone inclusions ≤0.12m. Patches of more consolidated limestone in places.	0.30 – LOE

Summary: Modern glass in subsoil. No archaeological remains.

APPENDIX 2 FINDS ASSESSMENT

The finds assemblage numbered 84 sherds (380g) of pottery, six lithics, a worked bone object and 110g of industrial waste. These were found in nine separate trenches. Periods represented include the Iron Age, Roman and medieval periods. The finds are summarised by feature in Table 1 and a complete catalogue is given at the end.

Prehistoric pottery

The prehistoric assemblage numbered 78 sherds (297g). It is entirely comprised of plain bodysherds, making refined dating impossible, although the occurrence of fabric types (Table 2), with the predominance of shelly wares and the paucity of sandy wares, suggests a pattern more typical of the early to middle part of the period rather than middle to late Iron Age (Timby 2001, 22). All the sherds of IAF1 were small and in very poor condition, with all the calcareous inclusions leached out. This appears to be due to the soil conditions.

TR	CONTEXT	POTTERY (PH)		POTTERY (ROM)		POTTERY (MEDI)		LITHICS	BONE OBJ	IND. WASTE	DATING
		Count	Wgt (g)	Count	Wgt (g)	Count	Wgt (g)	Count	Count	Wgt (g)	
02	0203	1	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	IA
02	0207	–	–	–	–	1	37	2	–	110	L11th–L14th?
03	0302	–	–	1	5	–	–	–	–	–	Rom
04	0404	–	–	–	–	2	7	–	–	–	M14th
05	0505	–	–	–	–	1	16	–	–	–	13th–16th
05	0511	24	95	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	IA
05	0545	2	12	–	–	–	–	–	1	<0.5	IA
05	0527	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	IA
05	0530	35	100	–	–	–	–	–	–	<0.5	IA
05	0561	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	IA
08	0805	3	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	IA
08	0802	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	PH
13	1302	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	PH
14	1402	–	–	–	–	1	18	–	–	–	13th–16th
16	1602	1	11	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	IA
18	1802	9	67	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	IA
	Total	78	297	1	5	5	78	6	1	110	

TABLE A2.1 Summary of finds assemblage by feature with spot dating

The majority of the prehistoric pottery came from Trench 05, with sondage to layer [0530] and ditch [0511] having the heaviest concentrations of pottery.

FABRIC CODE	FABRIC	DESCRIPTION	DATING	SHERDS	WGT
IAF1	Sparse Shell	Fine sandy groundmass, with few visible inclusions other than sparse to moderate shell fragments up to 2mm	IA	67	216g
IAF2	Calcitic	Moderate to dense sub-angular calcite up to 2mm	IA	9	67g
IAF3	Sandy	Moderate to dense sub-angular quartz up to 0.5mm, rare red iron and angular flint up to 1mm	IA	2	14g
Total				78	297g

TABLE A2.2 Prehistoric pottery type series (Timby 2001, 22)

Romano-British pottery

A single sherd of Romano-British pottery (5g) was collected (Table 3). This was found in subsoil [0302]. The sherd is somewhat abraded, and may be residual.

FABRIC CODE	FABRIC	DATING	SHERDS	WGT
RB1	Sandy Greyware	Rom	1	5g

TABLE A2.3 Romano-British pottery type series

Medieval pottery

The assemblage numbered five sherds (78g). All of the fabrics are well-known in the region (Table 4). The sherd of NAB from plough furrow [0207] (0206) is from the rim and handle of a jug, making it a somewhat unusual vessel form in this fabric. The sherd of LAV from ditch [0505] (0506) is from the rim of a jar, but is heavily abraded, and is likely to be residual. The other sherd of this type is from an internally-glazed bowl.

FABRIC CODE	FABRIC	DATING	REFERENCE	SHERDS	WGT
LAV	Laverstock ware	13th-16th	(Musty et al 1969)	2	34
NAB	Newbury'A/B' ware	L11th -L14th	(Mepham 1997, 51-2)	2	39
NCW	Newbury'C' ware	L12th - M14th	(Mepham 1997, 52-4)	1	5
Total				5g	78g

TABLE A2.4 Medieval pottery type series

Bone object

A single small bone find was recovered from hearth [0545] (0546). It is the broken tip from a pointed object with some wear polish visible on the tip. It might be part of a pin beater, a type of weaving tool, or similar object. It cannot be closely dated, but could be consistent with the Iron Age dating of two small pottery sherds from the same context.

Lithics

A small group of six prehistoric lithics were retrieved, all showing light abrasion. They were retrieved from plough furrow [0207] (0206), ditch [0511] (0512), sondage to layer [0561] (0563) and subsoil [0802] and [1302]. Several of these lithics are clearly not in the original context of deposition and the light abrasion was likely caused during their displacement.

The lithics comprise three pieces of debitage and three tools. The tools are atypical, including a piercer, edge retouched piece and probable scraper. None indicate clear dating by themselves and the assemblage was spread out so cannot be considered as a single entity. However, several aspects when considered together may suggest a date from the middle Bronze Age. These aspects include retouch of a frost-shattered flake, hard hammer percussion, multi-directional cores and atypical tool forms suggest.

Industrial waste

A small amount of industrial waste (110g) was collected. This included iron slag from plough furrow [0207] (0206) and magnetised gravel from layer [0530] (0532) and hearth [0545] (0546). The slag is a possible plano-convex hearth cake from a possible iron working furnace, its small size and density suggests smithing. It cannot be closely dated and it is unlikely to be in situ, being recovered from a plough furrow. The magnetised gravel may relate to burning in the vicinity but contained no visible magnetic components.

Discussion

The earliest finds are likely to be the lithics which may date from the middle Bronze Age but they are low in quantity and spread across mostly residual features. The majority of the assemblage is Iron Age in date and was concentrated around Trench 5. The paucity of sandy wares amongst the pottery assemblage may be indicative of the early to middle part of this period (Timby 2001, 22). The type of activity the Iron Age pottery represents is likeliest to be domestic especially when coupled with the bone object recovered from hearth [0545] (0546). The magnetised gravel found in hearth [0545] (0546) and sondage to layer [0530] (0531) point towards some form of burning, which could also be related to domestic activity during this period.

The Roman and medieval periods were also represented, albeit in very few sherds of pottery which is most likely to be residual.

Archive recommendations

The assemblage is small and of little archaeological value. The prehistoric finds are the most interesting, though the small assemblage is very limiting for further analysis. Should further fieldwork be undertaken in the area or further dating evidence be forthcoming, then the assemblage should be re-evaluated. As it stands, it is of very little further value.

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Appendix 2.1 Finds catalogue

TR	CONTEXT	SAMPLE	QTY	WGT (G)	MATERIAL	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	SPOT DATE	PERIOD
02	0203	–	1	3	Pottery (PH)	IAF3	Sandy	IA	IA
02	0206	–	–	110	Industrial Waste	fe slag	possible plano-convex hearth cake, small and dense	–	–
02	0206	–	2	7	Lithics	debitage and tool	distal end of an abraded flake and a frost shattered piece which has been fashioned into a piercer by alternating retouch to either end of a point	–	–
02	0206	–	1	37	Pottery (Medi)	NAB	Newbury A/B Ware	L11th–L14th	Medi
03	0302	–	1	5	Pottery (Rom)	RB1	Sandy Greyware	RB	Rom
04	0405	–	1	2	Pottery (Medi)	NAB	Newbury A/B Ware	L11th–L14th	Medi
04	0407	–	1	5	Pottery (Medi)	NCW	Newbury C Ware	L12th–M14th	Medi
05	0506	–	1	16	Pottery (Medi)	LAV	Laverstock Ware	13th–16th	Medi
05	0512	–	1	2	Lithics	debitage	inner, hard hammer flake		
05	0512	–	24	95	Pottery (PH)	IAF1	Sparse shell	IA	IA
05	0528	–	2	2	Pottery (PH)	IAF1	Sparse shell	IA	IA
05	0531	–	9	26	Pottery (PH)	IAF1	Sparse shell	IA	IA
05	0532	1	–	0	Industrial Waste	mag res	magnetic residues which appear to be magnetic gravel	–	–
05	0532	–	26	74	Pottery (PH)	IAF1	Sparse shell	IA	IA
05	0546	2	1	0	Bone Object	Point	Part of a flat pointed object, Lentoid section, tapers to a rounded point. Some wear polish visible on tip. Width 11+, thickness 2, length 25+. Possibly a pin beater or similar tool.	?	IA?
05	0546	2	–	0	Industrial Waste	mag res	magnetic residues which appear to be magnetic gravel	–	–
05	0546	–	2	12	Pottery (PH)	IAF1	Sparse shell	IA	IA
05	0563	–	1	22	Lithics	debitage	large very thick flake from multi-directional core	–	–
05	0563	–	1	1	Pottery (PH)	IAF1	Sparse shell	IA	IA
08	0802	–	1	4	Lithics	tool	flake with miscellaneous edger retouch. Possible platform trimming flake missing distal and proximal ends	–	–
08	0804	–	3	6	Pottery (PH)	IAF1	Sparse shell	IA	IA
13	1302	–	1	3	Lithics	tool	edge retouched inner hard hammer flake. Some sporadic flakes removed from the lateral edges and abrupt retouch across entire distal edge, half indirect and the other half is inverse. Likely used as a scraper	–	–
14	1402	–	1	18	Pottery (Medi)	LAV	Laverstock Ware	13th–16th	Medi
16	1602	–	1	11	Pottery (PH)	IAF3	Sandy	IA	IA
18	1802	–	9	67	Pottery (PH)	IAF2	Calcitic	IA	IA

APPENDIX 3 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Introduction

Two samples, ranging in size from 10 to 20 litres, were recovered during an archaeological field evaluation, via trial trenching on land off St George's Road, Semington, Wiltshire. In addition to the bulk samples four contexts were also sampled for hand collected biological remains. The investigation identified probable structural remains of Iron Age date with associated ditches and a possible midden deposit. The aims of the assessment were to assess the presence, preservation and abundance of any environmental remains and to determine the potential of the material in indicating the character and significance of the deposit.

Method

Bulk samples were subjected to flotation in a Siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in a 250 µm sieve and once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope. Any material remaining in the flotation tank (retent) was wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh and air-dried. All samples were scanned using a stereomicroscope at magnifications of x10 and up to x100. Identifications, where provided, were confirmed using modern reference material and seed atlases including Cappers et al. (2006) and Zohary et al. (2012) nomenclature for wild taxa follows Stace (1997).

Faunal remains were examined under low magnification and, as far as possible, identified to species and skeletal element, using modern reference material and with reference to Schmid 1972), and Hillson (1992). Measurements are taken as per von den Dreisch (1976). Ageing criteria were recorded using various methods outlined in Amorosi (1989). Fragments were recorded together with their weight and level of preservation and included any signs of butchery or modification.

Results

The results are presented in Tables 1 (Retent results) 2 (Flot results) and 3 (Hand collected bone). Material sufficient for AMS (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry) radiocarbon dating is shown in the tables.

Charred plant remains

A single grain of bread/club wheat (Triticum cf aestivo-compactum) was recovered from possible hearth/pit [0545] and a single cereal indeterminate grain was present in midden/dump deposit (0532). Both grains exhibited very poor levels of preservation.

The grains may be sufficient for AMS radiocarbon dating but given their poor preservation they would be dated at risk.

Wood Charcoal

Rectilinear charcoal fragments were abundant in possible hearth/pit [0545] and common in midden/dump deposit (0532) (Tables 1 and 2). Both contexts produced fragments sufficient for AMS radiocarbon dating.

Faunal remains

A total of 26 unburnt bone fragments and 138 burnt bone fragments were recovered from 6 contexts from 5 features (Tables 1 and 3). These features included; sondage [0561], linear [0513], sondage [0527], possible hearth/pit [0545] and midden/dump deposit (0532).

The faunal remains were highly fragmented and their preservation ranged from moderate to poor. Apart from a tooth and long bone fragments no other identifiable elements were noted. It was not possible to categorise the assemblage beyond; very small, medium, medium/large and large indeterminate mammal.

Discussion

The presence of 2 cereal grains does not offer any significant information relating to site economy other than possible crop choices. Once incorporated into negative features charred remains tend to survive well but, as in this case, their inclusion is often incidental and the materials have no direct relationship to the features themselves.

It was not possible to determine with certainty the presence of domesticates in the faunal assemblage. Aside from suggesting the presence of animals the assemblage does not offer any detailed information pertaining to site economy.

The paucity of remains precludes any further analysis.

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TABLE A3.1 Retent sample table

TR	CONTEXT	SAMPLE	SAMPLE VOL (L)	CERAMIC	STONE		BONE/ SHELL OBJECT	BURNT BONE	UNBURNT BONE	CHARCOAL		MATERIAL SUFFICIENT FOR AMS	COMMENTS
				Pottery	Lithics	Mag res	Bone object	Mammal	Mammal	Qty	Max size (mm)		
05	0532	001	20	+++	++	+++		+++		++	5	Burnt bone ++	126 indet burnt mammal bone fragments, 14.8g
05	0546	002	10	+	++	+++	+	++	++	++	5	Burnt bone ++, unburnt bone ++	12 indet burnt mammal bone fragments, 0.8g, 13 indet unburnt mammal bone fragments, 6.1g

Key: + = rare (0–5), ++ = occasional (6–15), +++ = common (15–50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)

NB charcoal over 10mm is sufficient for identification and AMS dating

TABLE A3.2 Flot sample table

TR	CONTEXT	SAMPLE	FLOT VOL (ML)	WHEAT	INDET. CEREAL	CHARCOAL		MATERIAL SUFFICIENT FOR AMS	COMMENTS
						Qty	Max size (mm)		
05	0532	001	100		+	+++	10	Y	Uncharred root fragments ++++, insect remains ++, worm eggs +, charred cereal indet/large grass seed + (very poor preservation)
05	0547	002	50	+		++++	19	Y	Uncharred root fragmenys +++, charred bread wheat + (very poor preservation)

Key: + = rare (0–5), ++ = occasional (6–15), +++ = common (15–50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)

NB charcoal over 10mm is sufficient for identification and AMS dating

TABLE A3.3 Hand collected animal bone

TR	CONTEXT	CONDITION	WGT	NO. OF FRAGMENTS	LARGE MAMMAL (eg cow/horse)	VERY SMALL ANIMAL (eg bird/ amphibian/ mouse)	COMMENTS (fragmentation, diversity cutmarks and other observations re bone type
05	0514	Moderate	5.6g	6	–	–	1 Indet medium size mammal tooth (3.9g), 5 indet bone fragments (1.7g)
05	0515	Poor	5.7g	1	–	–	1Indet large- medium size mammal long bone fragment
05	0563	Poor	5.7g	1	1	–	Large - medium size mammal
05	0528	Moderate	11.7g	5	–	1	4 indet long bone fragments (medium or large mammal) (3.9g), 1 indet bird long bone fragments (7.8g)
	Total		28.7g	13	1	1	

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