



Land North of Oliver's Road Middlezoy, Somerset

Archaeological Evaluation



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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Kier Infrastructure, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 2.5 ha parcel of land located to the north of Oliver's Road, Middlezoy, Somerset, TA7 0PH, centred on NGR 337659, 134365.

The evaluation comprised twenty-one trenches measuring between 20 m and 27.4 m in length, representing a 4.8% sample of the overall area, which were targeted on the results of a preceding geophysical survey. A contingency of 1.2% was provided should significant archaeological remains be identified but was not utilised.

Six of the twenty-one excavated trial trenches (Trenches 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and 11) contained archaeological features and deposits, indicating archaeological remains are present across the site, with a slight concentration in the northwest and northeast areas.

The uncovered features comprised ditches, a pit and dumps of rubble/demolition material, and represent post-medieval and modern activity, though several features remain of uncertain date. The majority of the features related to the hamlet of Longacre, recorded as existing within the boundaries of the site from at least the beginning of the 17th century until the mid-20th century.

There is also some evidence of earlier activity in the vicinity as indicated by small quantities of worked flint of tentative Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date, found in otherwise undated features.

Modern made ground deposits were also revealed in 18 trenches and relate to the expansion of the adjacent Westonzoyland Airfield during the second world war.

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Land North of Oliver's Road, Middlezoy EVA

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Kier Infrastructure, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 2.5 ha parcel of land located to the north of Oliver's Road, Middlezoy, Somerset, TA7 0PH, centred on NGR 337659, 134365 (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 The proposed development comprises an area to be used as a stockpile to support the improvement works for the Wessex Reservoirs Scheme which will be reinstated following completion of the Scheme.
- 1.1.3 The Wessex Reservoirs Scheme comprises improvement works across four reservoirs in Somerset: Curry Moor, West Moor, Southlake, and Gooseum respectively. All four reservoirs were subject to recent inspections which resulted in a series of flood alleviation recommendations referred to as Measures to be taken in the Interests Of Safety (MIOS). The measures must be carried out by law within the timeframes prescribed in the Inspection Report. These include but are not exclusive to the raising and widening of existing embankments, the building of new embankments, bunds or spillways, the excavation of rhynes, the creation of ecological structures and the installation of associated infrastructure such as compounds, turning circles, and accesses (Atkins 2023).
- 1.1.4 A planning application has been applied for, with pre-application advice sought under ref. Sedgemoor: 99/23/00044/ Land to The North Of, Olivers Road, Middlezoy, Bridgwater.
- 1.1.5 Following discussion between the key stakeholders (Atkins Heritage, the Senior Historic Environment Officer, South West Heritage Trust (SWHT), the Lead Heritage Advisor to National Environmental Assessment and Sustainability (NEAS), the Environment Agency and Kier Infrastructure) a dynamic package of works has been devised to assess the potential for archaeological features and deposits within the Site. The first set of works within this package was a programme of geophysical survey, specifically magnetometry, followed by archaeological trial trenching which will help inform any subsequent stages of mitigation against any damage caused by the proposed works (Atkins 2023).
- 1.1.6 All works were undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed in order to undertake the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2023a). The Senior Historic Environment Officer (SHEO) for South West Heritage Trust, approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 1.1.7 The evaluation comprising 21 trial trenches (4.8 % sample) was undertaken between 03 April and 28 April 2023. A contingency of 1.2% was provided should significant archaeological remains be identified but was not utilised.



1.2 Scope of the report

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed description of the results of the evaluation, to interpret the results within a local, regional or wider archaeological context and assess whether the aims of the evaluation have been met.
- 1.2.2 The presented results will provide further information on the archaeological resource that may be impacted by the development and facilitate an informed decision with regard to the requirement for, and methods of, any further archaeological mitigation.

1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The evaluation area is located 1 km north of the village of Middlezoy and 6.1 km to the east of Bridgwater, in the county of Somerset.
- 1.3.2 The evaluation area comprises 2.17 ha of agricultural land, currently utilised for arable farming. The site is bounded by continuing arable field and woodland to the north, a farm and access track to the east, and further trackways and agricultural land to the south. To the west the site is bounded by Westonzoyland Airfield and further agricultural land.
- 1.3.3 The site is on a slight incline sloping from between 9-10 above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at the western edge to approximately 7 m aOD at the north-eastern edge.
- 1.3.4 The solid geology is mapped as Mudstone and halite-stone of the Mercia Mudstone Group with overlying superficial geological deposits of sand and gravel of the Burtle Formation (British Geological Survey 2023).
- 1.3.5 The soils underlying the site are likely to consist of light sand-rich, and medium sandy-loam layered river terrace sands and gravels.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was assessed in a prior Specification for Geophysical Survey and Archaeological Evaluation (Atkins 2023), which considered the recorded historic environment resource in the immediate environs of the proposed development. The Specification used information from the Somerset County Council Historic Environment Record (HER). A summary of the results is presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the Somerset Historic Environment Record (HER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development

- 2.2.1 A geophysical survey was conducted by Wessex Archaeology in February 2023 at the Site (Wessex Archaeology 2023b). The detailed gradiometer survey has demonstrated the presence of a number of anomalies relating to the post-medieval hamlet of Langacre including roadways, ditches, field boundaries, buildings and drains. These features correspond with features identified on historical OS mapping. Many of these features are represented as strong magnetic disturbance indicating disturbed ground and spread of demolition or infilling material.



- 2.2.2 Several less well-defined areas of magnetic disturbance have been identified across the site and correspond with areas of buildings and associated boundaries, and orchards recorded on historical OS mapping.
- 2.2.3 One possible archaeological feature has been identified in the centre of the site. It is similar in morphology, orientation and magnetic signal to other previously mapped field boundaries and is considered likely to be an unmapped field boundary.
- 2.2.4 Amorphous areas of strong dipolar magnetic anomalies have been detected throughout much of the site. These have been interpreted as increased magnetic response as they likely indicate a spread of highly magnetic material, such as rubble. This interpretation is further strengthened by the fact that they are located surrounding features of the former hamlet of Langacre and likely reflect the demolished remains of roads and buildings.
- 2.2.5 Numerous magnetic trends have been identified in the north and south of the site. These are likely to relate to agricultural activity and drainage features.

2.3 Other investigations in the immediate vicinity

- 2.3.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken in 2003 and discovered a substantial Mesolithic flint assemblage 900 m to the south-east of the site.

2.4 Archaeological and historical context

- 2.4.1 There are no designated heritage assets within the site or within 1 km of its boundary.
- 2.4.2 The site is situated within the Somerset levels which is a historic wetland separated by ridges and islands. Westonzoyland itself is an area known to have been a raised island within the levels and is classed as an Area of High Archaeological Potential (AHAP). As the only dry areas across Somerset between periodic estuarine inundation, along with their wet/dry margins, these ridges and islands were used extensively from the prehistoric to post-medieval periods, becoming concentrations for archaeological remains. Some areas between these ridges and islands also contain deposits of peat which are the remains of buried land surfaces inhabited when these areas were less wet. Peat is especially good at preserving organic matter and two thirds of all prehistoric trackways recorded within the UK are located in Somerset.
- 2.4.3 To the south of the site, close to the access trackway which joins to Oliver's Road, are cropmarks showing natural variations, ditches, pits, enclosures, and ring ditches which may be prehistoric and/or Roman in date (SOMHER 10579). Linear banks and ditches (SOMHER 11908) visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs are recorded over Westonzoyland airfield 500 m to the west of the site. Cropmarks showing three double ditched trackways, dated as either Prehistoric or medieval are located 100 m to the north of site (SOMHER 18916).
- 2.4.4 At 1 km and more distance from the site to the north, north-west, north-east, and west of the site are various areas of extensive but fragmentary landscape remains including field systems, trackways, and settlements (SOMHER 11250). These have been assigned dates between the Bronze Age and medieval periods.
- 2.4.5 Three flint scrapers (SOMHER 11763) were found 500 m to the south-east of the site.
- 2.4.6 The Hamlet of Langacre, dating to 1609 or earlier, is recorded as within the site (centred on ST 3768 3436) and survives as visible cropmarks showing enclosures, field boundaries,

possible stack stands and housing plots (SOMHER 44994). The hamlet is visible on the 1887 OS mapping (25 inch, Somerset LX11.2) however has disappeared by the 1962 OS mapping (1:10,000, ST33SE) and it is recorded as having been removed by the airfield during the Second World War. Map regression shows significant change within the site itself during the post-medieval period. The site changes from multiple differing sized fields with various buildings and two north-south orientated roads as shown in the 1840 pre-Somerset Enclosures map, to the one larger field as it is today.

- 2.4.7 The site is within the recorded extent of Wetonzoyland Airfield. This is the remains of a military airfield with buildings originating in 1926. It was expanded in WWII and decommissioned in 1958 (SOMHER 11275). A compound for the airfield (SOMHER 16508) is recorded 280 m to the south of the site. Metal detecting undertaken near to the site has produced items associated with military activity.
- 2.4.8 Cropmarks showing undated enclosures and frost polygons have been recorded in the north-west corner of the site (SOMHER 10578).

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General aims

3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023a) and in compliance with the ClfA *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2020a), were to:

- provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
- inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

3.2 General objectives

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were to:

- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

3.3 Site-specific objectives

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site and the regional research framework (SWARF), the site-specific objectives defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023a) were to:

- test the results of the geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2023b);



- clarify the depth of archaeological remains and the nature of overlying deposits to inform compaction impact modelling;
- examine evidence for the post-medieval hamlet of Langacre (recorded on historical OS mapping);
- examine evidence for remains of other buildings and associated boundaries, and orchards (recorded on historical OS mapping);
- assess the potential for the recovery of artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023a) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2020a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the approximate positions proposed in the WSI (Fig. 1).

4.2.2 The evaluation trenches were located to target specific archaeological features, potential archaeological features, and blank areas, as indicated in the table below:

Trench	Geophysical Survey Target	Notes
1	Former field boundaries. Potential NE-SW aligned ditch terminus at NW end of trench and ENE-WSW aligned ditch at SE end of trench.	Property boundaries shown on historic mapping. Potentially bisects a yard area or garden shown on historic mapping.
2	East-west aligned historic landscape feature.	Field and property boundaries shown on historic mapping.
3	North-south and east-west aligned historic landscape feature.	Field boundaries and unidentified rectangular structure shown on historic mapping and visible on 1946 aerial photographs.
4	North-south and east-west aligned historic landscape feature.	Field boundary shown on historic mapping.
5	Ferrous anomaly.	Ferrous anomalies are presumed to be modern in provenance.
6	Areas of increased magnetic response and ferrous anomalies.	Areas of increased magnetic response are areas dominated by indistinct anomalies which may have some archaeological potential.



Trench	Geophysical Survey Target	Notes
7	Possible archaeology – east-west aligned linear feature in central portion of trench. Areas of increased magnetic response and ferrous anomalies.	The linear feature is not shown on historic mapping.
8	Historic landscape feature.	Field boundary shown on historic mapping.
9	NE–SW aligned historic landscape feature and area of increased magnetic response.	Field boundary shown on historic mapping. Within an orchard shown on historic mapping.
10	NE–SW aligned historic landscape feature and area of increased magnetic response.	Field boundary shown on historic mapping. Within an orchard shown on historic mapping.
11	NW-SE aligned former field boundary, historic landscape feature and area of increased magnetic response.	Unidentified rectangular building and property boundary shown on historic mapping.
12	Area of increased magnetic response.	Field boundary shown on historic mapping. Within an orchard shown on historic mapping.
13	Area of increased magnetic response.	Field boundary shown on historic mapping. Within an orchard shown on historic mapping.
14	Areas of increased magnetic response.	Within an orchard shown on historic mapping.
15	Areas of increased magnetic response and ferrous anomaly.	Field boundary shown on historic mapping (not identified by geophysical survey). Partly within an orchard shown on historic mapping.
16	Areas of increased magnetic response and ferrous anomaly.	Field boundary shown on historic mapping (not identified by geophysical survey). Partly within an orchard shown on historic mapping.
17	North–south and east-west aligned historic landscape feature. Areas of increased magnetic response.	Field boundary shown on historic mapping. Partly within an orchard shown on historic mapping.
18	East-west aligned historic landscape feature - terminus. Areas of increased magnetic response.	Field boundary shown on historic mapping.
19	Areas of increased magnetic response and ferrous anomaly.	
20	Blank area.	



Trench	Geophysical Survey Target	Notes
21	Ferrous anomaly.	

- 4.2.3 Twenty-one trial trenches, measuring between 20 m and 27.4 m in length and 2 m wide, were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.
- 4.2.4 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.
- 4.2.5 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained.
- 4.2.6 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the key stakeholders were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken. Photographs were also taken of all areas, including access routes, to provide a record of conditions on completion of the evaluation.

Recording

- 4.2.7 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.
- 4.2.8 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.9 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

- 4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023a). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2020b), *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011), and ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2: Appraisal).



4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The Senior Historic Environment Officer monitored the evaluation on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with Atkins Heritage, the Lead Heritage Advisor for NEAS, the client and the Senior Historic Environment Officer.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Six of the twenty-one excavated trial trenches (Trenches 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and 11) contained archaeological features and deposits, indicating archaeological remains are present across the site, with a slight concentration in the northwest and northeast areas (Figures 3 & 4).
- 5.1.2 The uncovered features comprised ditches, a pit and dumps of rubble/demolition material, and represent post-medieval and modern activity, though several features remain of uncertain date. There is also some evidence of earlier activity in the vicinity as indicated by small quantities of worked flint of tentative Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date, found in otherwise undated features.
- 5.1.3 Modern made ground deposits were revealed in 18 trenches (Trenches 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21). The made ground sealed a buried topsoil in Trench 13.
- 5.1.4 The following section presents the results of the evaluation with archaeological features and deposits discussed by trench.
- 5.1.5 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (Appendix 1). Figure 1 shows all archaeological features recorded within the trenches, together with the preceding geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2023b). Figure 2 shows all archaeological features recorded within the trenches, together with historic mapping. Figures 3 and 4 provides detail of the concentration of features in the northwest and northeast parts of the site.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The natural substrate consisting mid yellowish brown sandy clay was encountered in Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, and 21. The natural substrate was not encountered in the remaining trenches due to the depth of overburden being in excess of 1.2m.
- 5.2.2 Subsoil sealed the natural deposits in Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7, consisting of mid greyish brown sandy loam and measuring between 0.18 m and 0.48 m in thickness. Subsoil was absent from the remaining 15 trenches.
- 5.2.3 Topsoil was revealed in all 21 trenches and consisted of dark greyish brown sandy loam averaging 0.3 m in thickness across the site. A buried topsoil was also revealed in Trench 13, sealed by modern deposits.
- 5.2.4 Modern made ground deposits were revealed in Trenches 2, 4, 5, 7 and 8-21 and potentially relate to landscaping associated with the adjacent airfield in the middle 20th century. The depth below ground level (bgl) and thickness of the made ground deposits are recorded in Appendix 1.

5.3 Trenches 1, 2 and 3

5.3.1 Trenches 1, 2 and 3 were targeted on a number of geophysical anomalies interpreted as former field boundaries and historic landscape features (Figure 3). Historic mapping indicated the trenches potentially bisect field and property boundaries, a yard area or garden, and an unidentified rectangular structure (Figure 2), which was also visible on 1946 aerial photographs.

Trench 1

5.3.2 Trench 1 revealed an NNE–SSW aligned ditch 107 in the central portion, and a pit 103 towards the north-west end of the trench. Neither feature corresponded with the geophysical anomalies on which the trench was targeted (Figure 3). Although on a slightly differing alignment, ditch 107 does correlate well with a north–south boundary shown on the historic mapping (Figure 2).

5.3.3 Sub-circular pit 103 had moderate, concave sides and a concave base measuring 0.44 m in width and 0.21 m in depth (Figure 5, Section 1). The pit contained a series of silty clay and sandy clay fills (fills 104, 105 and 106) from which was recovered a semi-complete sheep/goat burial and residual worked flint. Although the pit remains undated it most likely relates to the post-medieval/modern use of the site due to the 'fresh' appearance and the relative robusticity of the animal bones with the flint representing a 'background' of prehistoric activity.

5.3.4 Ditch 107 was also undated, aligned broadly NNE–SSW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. The ditch measured 1.70 m in width and 0.76 m in depth, containing an artefactually sterile dark brown-grey clayey silt fill, 108 (Figure 5, Section 2).

Trench 2

5.3.5 Trench 2 revealed two ditches, 205 and 210, a modern surface or trackway 207, made ground deposits 208 and 209, and a deliberate rubble dump 204 into the top of infilled ditch 210 (Figure 3). The rubble dump appears to have an associated cut 203, suggesting it may be a deliberate construction, perhaps a rudimentary surface. The identified features correlate with an east–west aligned historic landscape feature revealed by the geophysical survey and the ditches correspond with a field and a property boundary shown on historic mapping (Figure 2).

5.3.6 Ditch 205 was revealed in the centre of Trench 2, was aligned east–west with steep sloping concave sides and a concave base. The ditch measured 1.5 m wide and 0.69 m deep and contained mid grey, brown silty sand fill 206 from which was recovered post-medieval and modern pottery in addition to an iron object and glass fragments (Figure 5, Section 4). The ditch corresponds with a field boundary shown on historic mapping (Figure 2).

5.3.7 Ditch 210 was revealed approximately 4 m to the north of ditch 205. The ditch was aligned ENE–WSW with steep, concave sides and an irregular undulating base and measured 4.10 m in width and 0.90 m in depth. The ditch contained a primary fill 212, consisting silty sand with rare to occasional sub-angular stones, charcoal and degraded wood. This was overlain by a secondary fill 211, of mid brownish, yellowish red silty gravel. Both fills were artefactually sterile, and the ditch remains undated, however the ditch corresponds with a property boundary shown on historic mapping and is most probably post-medieval in date (Figure 2).

5.3.8 The upper portion of ditch 210 had been truncated to a depth of 0.9 m by a cut of uncertain function (Figure 4, Section 3). The cut, 203, which was also similarly aligned had been

infilled with building rubble 204, including red brick and iron objects and may have acted as a rudimentary surface (Figure 6).

- 5.3.9 Located between ditches 205 and 210, a probable trackway or road, 207, constructed of a base layer of hardcore with a capping of tarmac was revealed in the centre of the trench (Figure 3, Figure 5, Section 3 & Figure 7). Its location and alignment, respecting both adjacent ditches suggest its use is broadly contemporary with that of the ditches and correlates with a trackway illustrated on the 1904 historic mapping (Figure 2). The surface was observed to slightly overlap the fills along the northern side of ditch 205 (Figure 5, section 4) suggesting the ditch was at least partly infilled by the time of its construction.
- 5.3.10 Two modern made ground layers 208 and 209 were revealed below the topsoil 200 (Figure 5, Sections 3 & 4). The stratigraphically earlier of the two deposits, 209, butted the tarmac trackway after the decommissioning of ditch 205. The upper deposit, 208, sealed all the features discussed above. Both layers potentially relate to landscaping associated with the adjacent airfield in the middle 20th century.

Trench 3

- 5.3.11 Trench 3 revealed three ditches 302, 304 and 306, all aligned broadly north–south. Two of the three identified ditches (304 and 306) correlate with field and property boundaries shown on historic mapping. The unidentified rectangular structure shown on historic mapping and visible on 1946 aerial photographs at the western extent of the trench was not observed (Figure 2).
- 5.3.12 Ditch 302 was revealed in the western half of the trench (Figure 3). The ditch had moderate, concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.85 m in width and 0.74 m in depth (Figure 5, Section 5). The ditch contained an artefactually sterile mid yellowish grey sandy clay fill, 303, and remains undated.
- 5.3.13 Ditch 304 was revealed in the central part of the trench and correlates approximately with a former field boundary identified by the geophysical survey (Figure 3). The ditch had moderate, concave sides and an irregular undulating base, and measured 2.04 m in width and 0.16 m in depth. It contained a series of artefactually sterile clayey silt and sandy clay fills (305, 310 and 311), the uppermost of which, 311, has been interpreted as a deliberate backfilling.
- 5.3.14 Ditch 306 was revealed approximately 3 m to the east of ditch 304 and was similarly north–south aligned (Figure 3). The ditch had moderate, concave sides and a flat base, measuring 3.15 m in width and 1.19 m in depth (Figure 5, Section 6). It contained three silty clay and clayey silt fills 307, 309 and 308, containing a plethora of finds including post-medieval and modern pottery, ceramic building material, a partial sheep/goat burial and fragments of glass.

5.4 Trenches 6 and 7

- 5.4.1 Trenches 6 and 7 were targeted on several geophysical anomalies interpreted as areas of increased magnetic response, ferrous anomalies, and possible archaeology – an east-west aligned linear feature in central portion of Trench 7 (Figure 3). No features are shown on historic mapping, the trenches being located within an open field (Figure 2).

Trench 6

- 5.4.2 Trench 6 revealed two undated ditches 603 and 605. Neither ditch correlated with the geophysical anomalies which were revealed to represent subtle changes in the natural geology (Figure 3).

5.4.3 Ditch 603 was aligned NW–SE with steep, concave sides and a flat base measuring 1.80 m in width and 0.39 m in depth (Figure 5, Section 7). The ditch was cut through the subsoil and contained a single pale greyish brown clayey silt 604 from which was recovered a residual worked flint (representing a 'background' of prehistoric activity). However, the ditch remains undated.

5.4.4 Ditch 605 was revealed at the southern end of Trench 6. The ditch was aligned north–south, terminating 3.5 m from the southern end of the trench (Figure 3), had shallow, concave sides and a flat base, measuring 1.05 m in width and 0.10 m in depth. The ditch contained a single artefactually sterile pale greyish brown clayey silt fill 606 and remains undated.

Trench 7

5.4.5 A single undated east-west aligned ditch 704 was revealed in Trench 7. The ditch did not correlate with the geophysical anomalies which were revealed to represent subtle changes in the natural geology (Figure 3).

5.4.6 Ditch 704 had moderate, concave sides and a sloping base, measuring 1.65 m in width and 0.11 m in depth. It contained a greyish brown sandy silt fill 705 (Figure 5, Section 8) from which was recovered three fragments of residual worked flint (representing a 'background' of prehistoric activity) and therefore the ditch remains undated.

5.4.7 The similarity between the form and fills of ditches 605 and 704 potentially suggest they may be contemporary, perhaps forming part of a contemporary field system or enclosure. However, both remain undated, although the lack of correlation between these ditches and the historic mapping may suggest they form an earlier phase of enclosure or field system (i.e., predating the post-medieval).

5.5 Trench 11

5.5.1 Trench 11 was targeted on a number of geophysical anomalies interpreted as a former field boundary, a historic landscape feature and an area of increased magnetic response (Figure 4). Historic mapping indicated the trench bisected an unidentified rectangular building and property boundary (Figure 2).

Trench 11

5.5.2 Trench 11 revealed a NE–SW aligned ditch 1105/1108/1110, a made ground deposit 1101, a deliberate rubble dump 1104 cut into the top of an infilled ditch 1103, and modern disturbance 1112, 1114 and 1116 (Figure 3). The unidentified rectangular structure shown on historic mapping was not observed (although the rubble dumping noted within the trench may derive from its demolition).

5.5.3 Ditch 1105/1108/1110 was revealed in the central portion of Trench 11. The ditch was aligned NE–SW with shallow, concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.58 m in width and 0.09 m in depth (Figure 5, Section 9). The ditch contained a mid-greyish brown silty clay fill from which was recovered modern artefacts including pottery, ceramic building material, glass and clay pipe.

5.5.4 The northern end of modern ditch 1105/1108/1110 was truncated by a NW–SE aligned linear cut 1103, filled with modern rubble 1104 (Figures 4 & 8). Although not confirmed on-site it is postulated that cut 1103 truncates an earlier ditch on the same alignment that correlates with an east–west aligned former field boundary revealed by the geophysical survey (Figure 4).



5.5.5 Modern disturbance including wheel ruts and dumped materials were also revealed in the southern half of the trench, with all the features discussed above being sealed by 0.18 m thick modern made ground 1101.

6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The evaluation produced a small assemblage of finds. With the exception of a handful of prehistoric worked flints, the assemblage is of post-medieval/modern date, with a clear focus on the 19th–20th century. These finds are considered to derive from the hamlet of Longacre, recorded as existing within the boundaries of the site from at least the beginning of the 17th century until the mid-20th century.

6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in Table 1. Finds were recovered from several cut features (mostly ditches) and one rubble surface.

Table 1 All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

Context	Description	Animal Bone	CBM	Glass	Pottery	Other Finds
105	Pit/PH 103	118/131				1 flint
204	Cut 203		1/2991			1 metal
206	Ditch 205			3/92	5/51	3 glass; 1 metal
307	Ditch 306	15/56	7/2769		16/216	
308	Ditch 306		2/2510	1/11	9/228	
309	Ditch 306		1/14	1/1	1/47	
604	Ditch 603					1 flint
705	Ditch 704					3 flint
1104	Rubble surface		2/4905	5/902	15/384	2 clay pipe; 8 metal
1109	Ditch 1108			8/337		1 metal
Totals		133/187	13/13189	18/1343	46/926	

CBM = Ceramic Building Material

6.2 Worked Flint

6.2.1 Five pieces of worked flint were recovered from three trenches of the evaluation (1, 6 and 7). These were found in pit 103 and ditches 603 and 704, features which are otherwise undated. The raw material is a translucent/semi-translucent grey-brown or yellow-brown flint with thin, abraded cortex typical of derivation from a secondary source. This is most likely to include gravel associated with the river Parrett to the west, or surface exposures of terrace deposits immediately local to the site, but it is possible that sources further afield were utilised.

6.2.2 No diagnostic retouched examples were found, and any technological traits which might otherwise be gauged are rendered unreliable by the small size of the assemblage. All pieces are small flakes, four of which are broken, and the mode of hammer is indeterminate. The fact that they are, as a group, characterised by thin profiles and small butts perhaps implies that a Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date is more likely, but this must remain a very tentative suggestion. Strictly, all that can be said is that they represent a 'background' of prehistoric activity.



6.3 Other Finds

- 6.3.1 All other finds are of post-medieval/modern date. The pottery provides the best dating evidence – the assemblage includes red earthenwares (including one trailed slipware) as well as tinglazed earthenware, white saltglaze, feldspathic-glazed stoneware and a range of refined wares (creamware, pearlware, whiteware, yellow ware and bone china). This range of ware types suggests a date range from 17th or 18th century through to the 20th century (the hamlet of Longacre is recorded as having been removed during the Second World War), but the earlier sherds in this sequence all occurred residually in 19th-/20th-century contexts. The glass (vessel, window and probable lampshade) is all of 19th-/20th-century date and includes a complete bottle (probably condiment) and several jam jars. The metalwork (all iron) includes a sheet metal handled vessel, nails and a couple of probable binding strips.
- 6.3.2 The ceramic building material (CBM) consists entirely of brick, including several complete or near complete examples. All are handmade, including an airbrick with irregular perforations, and the others are all unfrogged. One has been severely overfired and is distorted in shape, but has nevertheless been (re)used, as shown by the traces of mortar on a broken edge. Manufacture and dimensions suggest a date range for all of the bricks in the 18th or early 19th century.
- 6.3.3 Two sheep/goat burials were found. One came from the secondary, upper fill of undated pit 103 and the other from modern ditch 306. The remains from pit 103 are semi-complete and those from ditch 306 are partial, comprising long bones from the fore- and hindquarters. Both animals are young lambs, aged less than ten months old. The 'fresh' appearance and the relative robusticity of the bones is consistent with a modern date for these burials.

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Summary

- 7.1.1 The evaluation identified a limited number of archaeological features within the site, with features revealed in six of the twenty-one excavated trial trenches, indicating archaeological remains are present across the site, with a slight concentration in the northwest and northeast areas (Figures 3 & 4).
- 7.1.2 The uncovered features which comprised ditches, a pit and dumps of rubble/demolition material, represented post-medieval and modern activity, though several features remain of uncertain date. There is also some evidence of earlier activity in the vicinity as indicated by small quantities of worked flint of tentative Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date, found in otherwise undated features. Worked flint in pit 107 and ditch 603 are demonstrably residual due to artefactual evidence (the robusticity of the animal bone in pit 107) or position in the stratigraphic sequence (ditch 603 cuts the subsoil). It seems probable that the worked flint recovered from ditch 704 is also be residual, but indicative of background prehistoric activity within the site.
- 7.1.3 Modern made ground was also encountered in the majority of trenches and relate to landscaping during the expansion of the adjacent Westonzoyland Airfield.

7.2 Discussion

- 7.2.1 The evaluation has established that there is a reasonably high potential for archaeology to survive, of both agricultural and settlement origin and post-medieval and modern date.

- 7.2.2 The results of the evaluation correlated well with the geophysical survey in the northwest and northeast areas. However, the historic landscape features in the central part of the site (Figure 1) were not observed, suggesting perhaps they lay buried beneath the modern made ground observed in these trenches.
- 7.2.3 The majority of the ditches, a pit and several dumps of rubble/demolition material relate to the hamlet of Longacre, recorded as existing within the boundaries of the site from at least the beginning of the 17th century until the mid-20th century. The ditches represent both field and property boundaries, in use during the lifetime of the settlement. The rubble dumps were derived from the demolition of the buildings illustrated on historic mapping and probably occurred during the airfield expansion in the 1940's.
- 7.2.4 The ditches in Trenches 6 and 7 remain undated, and there is lack of correlation between these ditches and the historic mapping. This may suggest they form an earlier phase of enclosure or field system, perhaps predating the post-medieval period.
- 7.2.5 Eighteen of the twenty-one trenches revealed modern made ground deposits, these almost certainly relate to the expansion of the adjacent Westonzoyland Airfield during the Second World War. Pers. Comm. with the current farmer/landowner, whose family occupied the land during the Second World War, stated they (his family) remember that the British Military originally attempted to expand the airfield, but failed, and the USAF engineers were engaged to do it instead. This involved bulldozing the area flat on which the airfield now sits and pushing all the spoil onto the evaluation area, hence the considerable depth of made ground revealed by the evaluation.
- 7.2.6 The current farmer also recounted a tale of an USAF pilot taking off from the runway that points directly towards the evaluation area, and almost immediately crashing down into the trees behind the barn to the east of site, where a tree is still growing sideways as a result. Local farmers rushed to assist the pilot, who was alive and conscious, but covered in blood. His superior arrived shortly after, and the locals offered to take him to a hospital. His superior declined, saying that he was their best pilot and that if he was taken to an infirmary, he may lose his nerve and never fly again. The pilot was sent up in another aeroplane some 20 minutes later.
- 7.2.7 The farmer also recounted local tales of the USAF burying equipment on the site at the end of the war, including several motorbikes. If true, the location has yet to be identified.

8 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury and Bristol. Somerset Heritage Centre has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code **TTNCM 9/2023**. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

8.2 Preparation of the archive

Physical archive

- 8.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, and artefacts, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Somerset Heritage Centre, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2020c; SMA 1995).

8.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 1 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type
- 1 files/document cases of paper records

Digital archive

8.2.3 The digital archive generated by the project, which comprises born-digital data (e.g., site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata.

8.3 Selection strategy

8.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during the course of an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities, i.e., the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving Museum.

8.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClifA's *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.

8.3.3 In this instance, given the relatively low level of finds recovery, the selection process has been deferred until after the fieldwork stage was completed. Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. These proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (museum, local authority). The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.

8.3.4 Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

Finds

8.3.5 Given the small size of the assemblage, its nature and date range (commonly occurring and well documented types of relatively recent date), further research potential is considered to be negligible, and retention of the finds for long-term curation is not recommended, with the possible exception of the worked flints.

Documentary records

8.3.6 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (written scheme of investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.



Digital data

- 8.3.7 The digital data comprise site records (tablet-recorded on site) in spreadsheet format; finds records in spreadsheet format; survey data; photographs; reports. All will be deposited, although site photographs will be subject to selection to eliminate poor quality and duplicated images, and any others not considered directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.

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 OASIS

- 8.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (Appendix 2). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the Senior Historic Environment Officer on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

9 COPYRIGHT

9.1 Archive and report copyright

- 9.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.
- 9.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

9.2 Third party data copyright

- 9.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g., Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Trench summaries

Trench No 1		Length 25.40 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.58 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
100		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy loam	0.00–0.30
101		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown sandy loam	0.30–0.56
102		Natural	Mid yellowish brown sandy clay	0.56+
103	104, 105, 106	Pit	Sub-circular pit aligned east-west with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.50 m. Width: 0.44 m. Depth: 0.21 m.	0.56
104	103	Fill	Mid grey friable sandy clay with rare sub-angular stones	0.56
105	103	Fill	Mid brown grey with yellow hue firm but friable silty clay with occasional sub-angular stones	0.56
106	103	Fill	Dark brown, grey friable clayey silt with rare sub-angular stones	0.56
107	108	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NNE-SSW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.85 m. Width: 1.70 m. Depth: 0.76 m.	0.56
108	107	Fill	Dark brown, grey clayey silt with rare sub-angular stones	0.56

Trench No 2		Length 24.30 m	Width 1.92 m	Depth 0.73 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
200		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy loam	0.00–0.28
201		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy loam	0.28–0.68
202		Natural	Mid greyish brown clay	0.68+
203	204	Linear cut of uncertain function	Linear cut aligned east-west with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 1.72 m. Depth: 0.90 m. Cut into top of infilled ditch 210 – possibly modern.	0.68+
204	203	Deliberate dump	Mid grey, brown silty sand	0.28+
205	206	Ditch	Ditch aligned east-west with steep sloping concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 1.5m. Depth: 0.69m	0.28+
206	205	Fill	Mid dark brown sandy silt with occasional small s / a stones	0.28+
207		Surface	Grey hardcore, with tarmac	0.23
208		Made ground	Mid brown, yellow silty sand	
209		Made ground	Dark brown sandy silt with occasional small s / a stones	



Trench No 2		Length 24.30 m	Width 1.92 m	Depth 0.73 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
210	211, 212	Ditch	Ditch aligned ENE / WSW with steep, concave sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 4.10 m. Depth: 0.90 m.	0.28+
211	210	Fill	Mid brownish yellowish red loose silty gravel with abundant gravels	0.28+
212	210	Fill	Mid grey friable silty sand with rare to occasional sub-angular stones. rare charcoal and degraded wood	

Trench No 3		Length 25.30 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.82 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
300		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy loam	0.00– 0.42
301		Natural	Mid reddish-brown clay	0.42+
302	303	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.87 m. Width: 0.85 m. Depth: 0.74 m.	0.42+
303	302	Fill	Mid yellowish grey sandy clay with small gravels concentrated towards base of feature	0.42+
304	305, 310, 311	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: >1.90 m. Width: 2.04 m. Depth: 0.16 m.	0.42+
305	304	Fill	Mid yellow brown firm sandy clay with frequent sub-angular stones	
306	307, 308, 309	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned north-south with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 1.90 m. Width: 3.15 m. Depth: 1.19 m.	0.42+
307	306	Deliberate backfill	Dark grey silty clay with occasional small s / a stones	0.42+
308	306	Fill	Dark brown, black humic sandy clay with very occasional small s / a stones	
309	306	Fill	Light grey silty clay with very occasional small s / a stones	
310	304	Fill	Mid to dark grey with yellow brown firm clayey silt with occasional sub-angular stones	
311	304	Deliberate backfill	Mixed pink and grey with yellow firm silty clay with rare sub-angular stones	0.42+



Trench No 4		Length 25.70 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 1.20 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
400		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy loam	0.00–0.33
401		Made ground	Mid yellowish brown sandy loam	0.33–0.64
402		Subsoil	Dark reddish brown sandy loam	0.64–0.98
403		Natural	Mid reddish brown sandy clay	0.98+

Trench No 5		Length 25.70 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.25 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
500		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy loam ground	0.00–0.30
501		Made ground	Mid yellowish brown sandy loam ground with yellowish red lens.	0.30–0.62
502		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown sandy loam	0.62–0.90
503		Natural	Med reddish brown sandy clay	0.90+

Trench No 6		Length 25.80 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.98 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
600		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy loam with tarmac lens	0.00–0.43
601		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown sandy loam	0.43–0.91
602		Natural	Mid brown sandy clay	0.91+
603	604	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW-SE with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Width: 1.80 m. Depth: 0.39 m.	0.43+
604	603	Fill	Pale greyish brown clayey silt with rare small pebbles, mostly flint nodules	0.43+
605	606	Ditch terminal	Linear ditch terminal aligned north-south with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >3 m. Width: 1.05 m. Depth: 0.10 m.	0.43+
606	605	Fill	Pale greyish brown clayey silt with very rare small flint nodules	0.43+

Trench No 7		Length 27.40 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.24 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
700		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy loam	0.00–0.28
701		Made ground	Mid greyish brown sandy loam with yellowish sandy lens and tarmac lens	0.28–0.82
702		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy loam	0.82–1.00
703		Natural	Mid greyish brown clay	1.00+



Trench No 7		Length 27.40 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.24 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
704	705	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned East-West with moderate, concave sides and a sloping base. Length: >2 m. Width: 1.65 m. Depth: 0.11 m.	1.00+
705	704	Fill	Mid greyish brown sandy silt with rare small pebbles	1.00+

Trench No 8		Length 26.90 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.25 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
800		Topsoil	Greyish brown sandy silt	0.30
801		Made ground	Mid yellowish-brown sand	0.30–0.60
802		Made ground	Pale reddish brown silty sand	0.60–1.20+
803		Made ground	Yellowish brown sand	1.20+
804		Natural	Dark greyish brown sandy silt, rare stone inclusions	1.20+

Trench No 9		Length 20.80 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.12 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
900		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy loam	0.00–0.23
901		Made ground	Light yellowish brown sandy loam	0.23–0.95
902		Made ground	Dark greyish black / brown sandy loam	0.95+

Trench No 10		Length 20 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.25 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1000		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy clay loam.	0.00–0.20.
1001		Made ground	Remade sand. Mixed light to mid yellowish greys.	0.20–0.70.
1002		Made ground	Mixed mid to very dark greyish brown and black. Sandy silt. Modern brick and tile, tarmac etc.	0.70–1.20+

Trench No 11		Length 26.40 m	Width 2.05 m	Depth 0.65 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1100		Topsoil	Greyish brown sandy silt	0.00–0.24
1101		Made ground	Mid to very dark greyish brown and black. Sandy silt. Contained brick, stone and rubble	0.24–0.42
1102		Natural	Reddish brown silty clay	0.42+
1103	1104	Cut for rubble surface/dump	Linear cut for rubble surface aligned east-west with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 3.10 m. Depth: 0.36 m.	0.40



Trench No 11		Length 26.40 m	Width 2.05 m	Depth 0.65 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1104	1103	Rubble surface/dump	Greyish brown rubble infill with rubble, brick and stone	0.40
1105	1106	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW/SE with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.58 m. Depth: 0.09 m.	0.42+
1106	1105	Fill	Mid brownish grey sandy loam with common small to medium gravel inclusions	0.42+
1107		Layer/feature?	Dark greyish brown	0.50
1108	1109	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE/SW with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >5.00 m. Width: 0.60 m. Depth: 0.18 m.	0.50
1109	1108	Fill	Mid grey, brown silty clay with silt clay	0.50
1110	1111	Ditch terminal	Linear ditch terminal aligned NW/SE with irregular, irregular sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: >0.50 m. Width: 0.50 m. Depth: 0.07 m.	0.42+
1111	1110	Fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare stone inclusions	0.42+
1112	1113	Modern Wheel rut	Linear wheel rut aligned east-west with shallow, concave sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: 1.00 m. Width: 0.30 m. Depth: 0.08 m.	
1113	1112	Fill	Dark grey silty clay with silt and clay	
1114	1115	Modern Disturbance	Sub-circular disturbance with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.24 m. Depth: 0.08 m.	
1115	1114	Fill	Dark grey silty clay with silt clay	
1116	1117	Cut for rubble dump	Incomplete cut for rubble dump aligned east-west with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.45 m. Depth: 0.21 m. Visible in baulk section only.	
1117	1116	Deliberate dump	Dark grey gritty silty clay with silt clay grits. Visible in baulk section only.	

Trench No 12		Length 27 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.12 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1200		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy loam	0.00–0.31
1201		Made ground	Mid brownish yellow sand	0.31–0.56



1202		Made ground	Mid reddish brown sandy loam layer	0.56–0.86
1203		Made ground	Dark brown / black tarmac	0.86–1.12
1204		Natural	Reddish brown sandy clay	1.12

Trench No 13		Length 25 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.20 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1300		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy silt. Likely redeposited after made ground laid down.	0.00 – 0.30
1301		Made ground	Mixed layers of redeposited natural sand (Burtle beds) from airfield to the west, with demolition rubble layers.	0.30 – 0.80
1302		Buried soil	Mid to dark brown sandy silt.	0.80 – 1.20

Trench No 14		Length 25 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.20 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1400		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy silt. Likely redeposited after made ground laid down.	0.00–0.20
1401		Made ground	Mixed light-yellow brown and very dark grey, brown sandy clay silt	0.20–1.20

Trench No 15		Length 25 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.20 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1500		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy silt. Likely redeposited after made ground laid.	0.00 – 0.30
1501		Made ground	Mixed light-yellow brown and very dark grey, brown sandy clay silt	0.30 – 1.20

Trench No 16		Length 25 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.20 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1600		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy silt. Likely redeposited after made ground laid down.	0.00–0.24
1601		Made ground	Various mixed sands of light brown to dark brown	0.24–2.20
1602		Made ground	Very dark greyish brown sandy clay silt	2.20+

Trench No 17		Length 25 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.20 m
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Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1700		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy silt. Likely redeposited post made ground.	0 – 0.30
1701		Made ground	Mixed layers of sand (redeposited Burtle beds) and demolition rubble.	0.30 – 2.60

Trench No 18		Length 25 m	Width 2 m	Depth Unknown
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1800		Topsoil	Mid reddish brown, silty clay, grass topped some rooting. Most probably redeposited	0.00–0.30
1801		Made ground	Mixed light-yellow brown and very dark grey brown sandy clay silt	0.30–1.20

Trench No 19		Length 25 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.20 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1900		Topsoil	Mid reddish brown, silty clay	0.00–0.25
1901		Made ground	Mixed sand from light brown to dark brown	0.25–1.20

Trench No 20		Length 25 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.20 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2000		Topsoil	Reddish brown, silty clay, grass topped, some rooting. Most probably redeposited after made ground	0.00–0.30
2001		Made ground	Mixed sand from light brown to dark brown	0.30–1.20

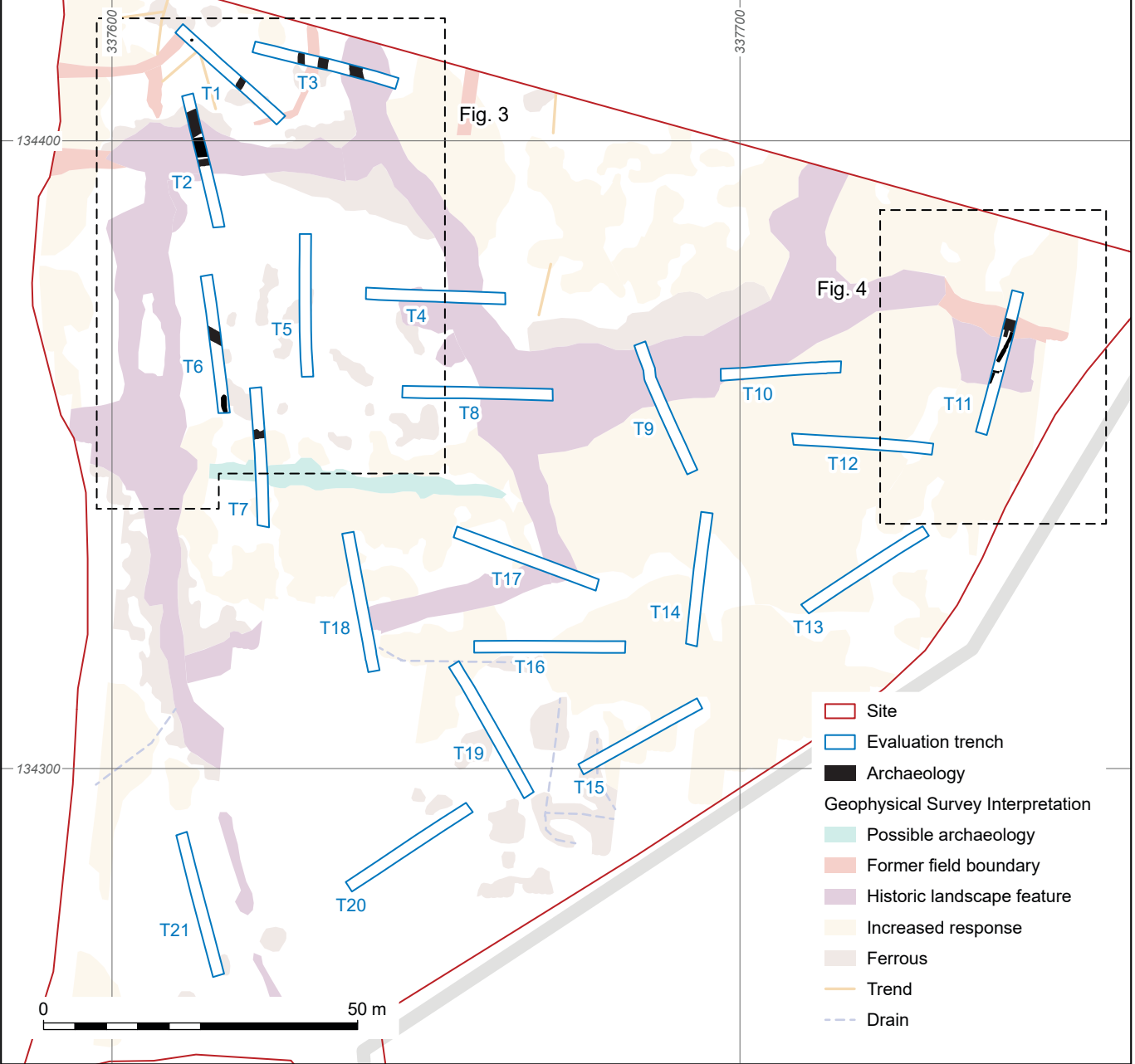
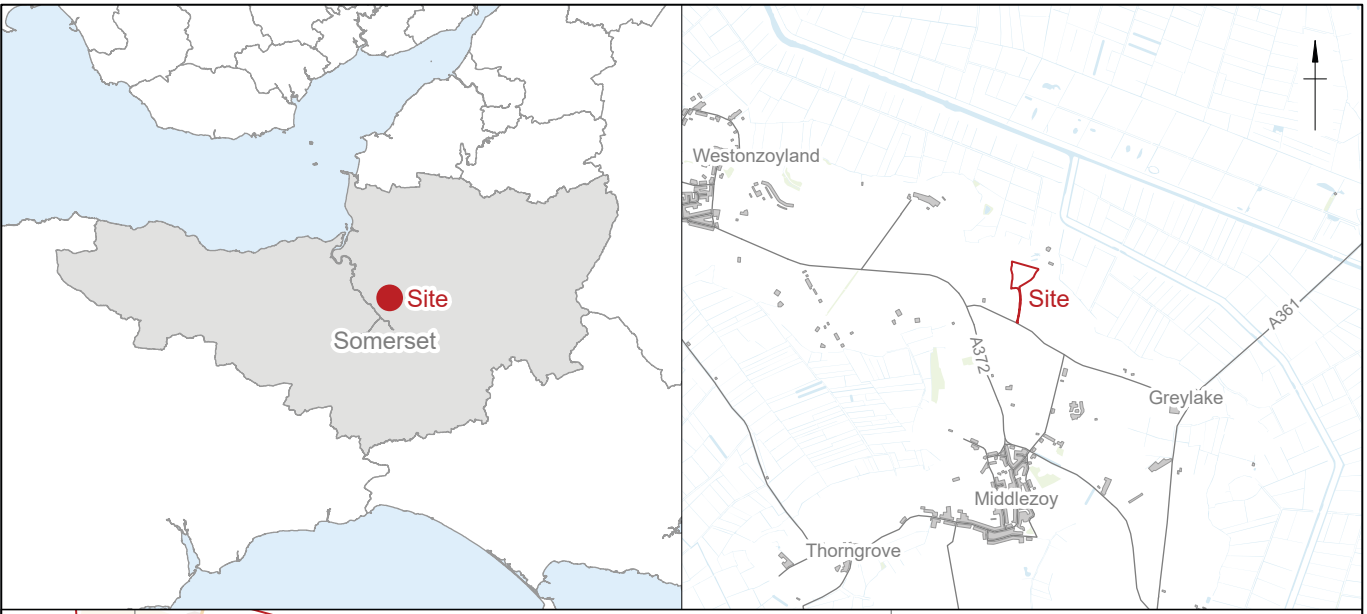
Trench No 21		Length 25 m	Width 2 m	Depth 1.20 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2100		Topsoil	Mid reddish brown, silty clay. Grass topped with rooting. Most probably redeposited after made ground was laid	0.00–0.30
2101		Made ground	Mixed sand from light brown to dark brown	0.30–0.80
2102		Natural	Burtle bed. Sand and bedrock. Mudstone at north end	0.80–1.20



Appendix 2 OASIS summary

Summary for wessexar1-516115

OASIS ID (UID)	wessexar1-516115
Project Name	Land North of Oliver's Road, Middlezoy, Somerset. Archaeological Evaluation
Sitename	Land North of Oliver's Road, Middlezoy, Somerset
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	276582
Planning Id	99/23/00044
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Wessex Archaeology
Project Dates	03-Apr-2023 - 28-Apr-2023
Location	Land North of Oliver's Road, Middlezoy, Somerset NGR : ST 37659 34365 LL : 51.10517845283847, -2.891807270616948 12 Fig : 337659,134365
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Somerset District : Sedgemoor Parish : Middlezoy
Project Methodology	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Kier Infrastructure, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 2.5 ha parcel of land located to the north of Oliver's Road, Middlezoy, Somerset, TA7 0PH, centred on NGR 337659, 134365. The evaluation comprised twenty-one trenches measuring between 20 m and 27.4 m in length, representing a 4.8% sample of the overall area, which were targeted on the results of a preceding geophysical survey.
Project Results	Six of the twenty-one excavated trial trenches (Trenches 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and 11) contained archaeological features and deposits, indicating archaeological remains are present across the site, with a slight concentration in the northwest and northeast areas. The uncovered features comprised ditches, a pit and dumps of rubble/demolition material, and represent post-medieval and modern activity, though several features remain of uncertain date. The majority of the features related to the hamlet of Longacre, recorded as existing within the boundaries of the site from at least the beginning of the 17th century until the mid-20th century. There is also some evidence of earlier activity in the vicinity as indicated by small quantities of worked flint of tentative Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date, found residually in later features. Modern made ground deposits were also revealed in 18 trenches and relate to the expansion of the adjacent Wetonzoyland Airfield during the second world war.
Keywords	Boundary Ditch - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Ditch - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Demolition Debris - 20TH CENTURY - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Rubbish Pit - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	
HER	Somerset HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Ray, Holt
HER Identifiers	HER Event No - 47809
Archives	Digital Archive - to be deposited with Archaeology Data Service Archive; Physical Archive - to be deposited with Somerset Museum Service;

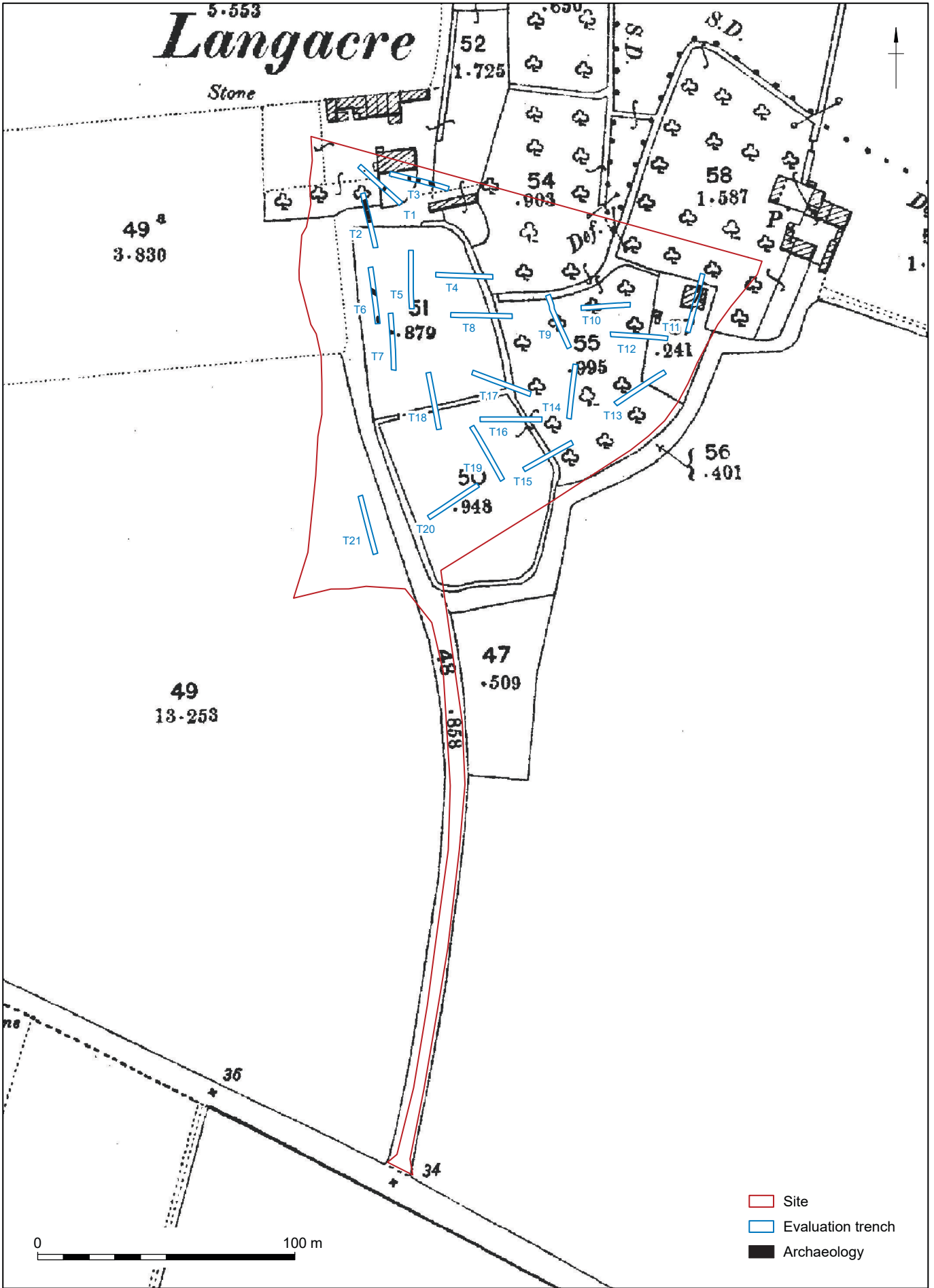


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Figure 1: Trench location and archaeological results





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Figure 2: Trench location with 1904 Ordnance Survey map



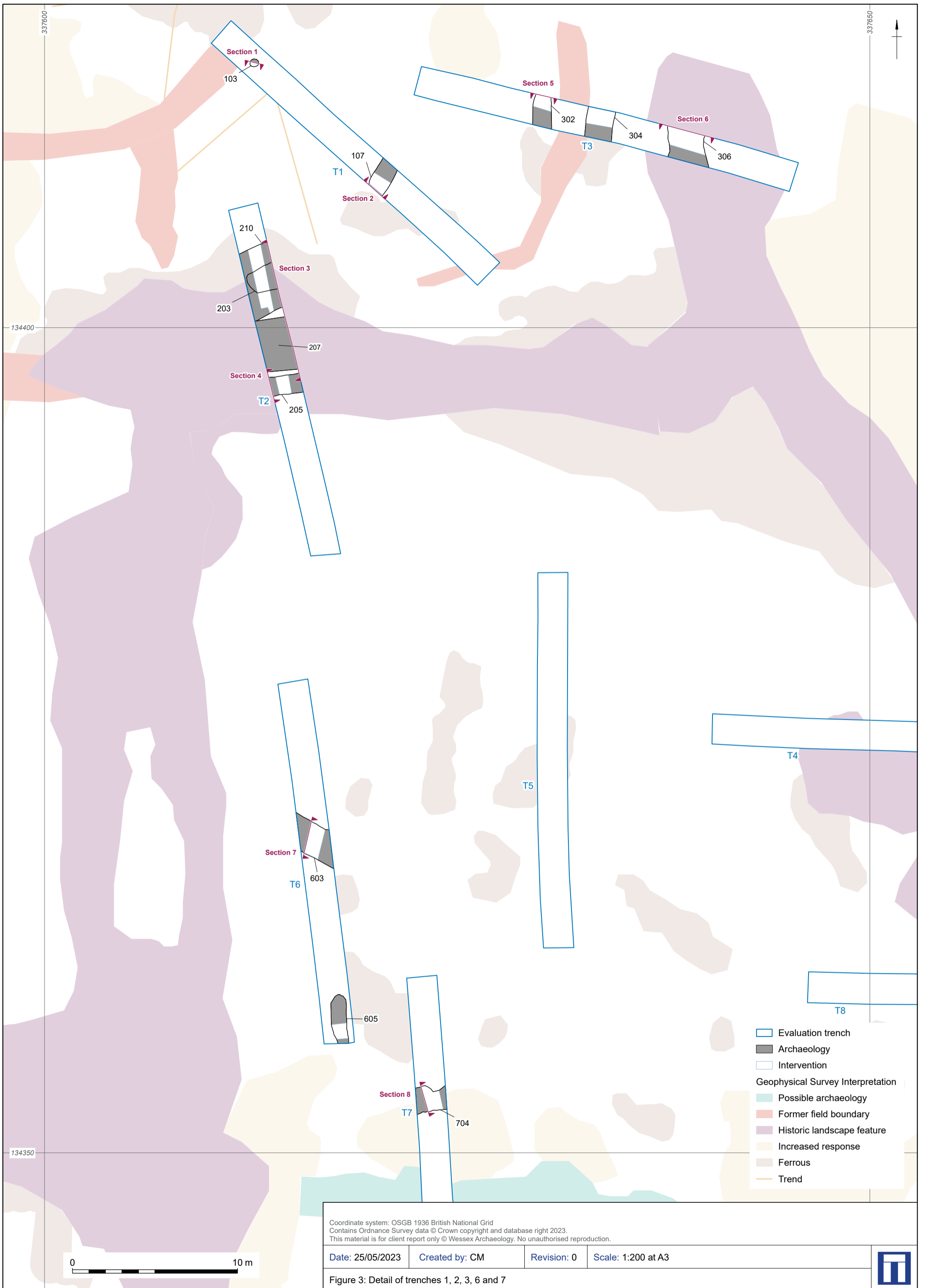
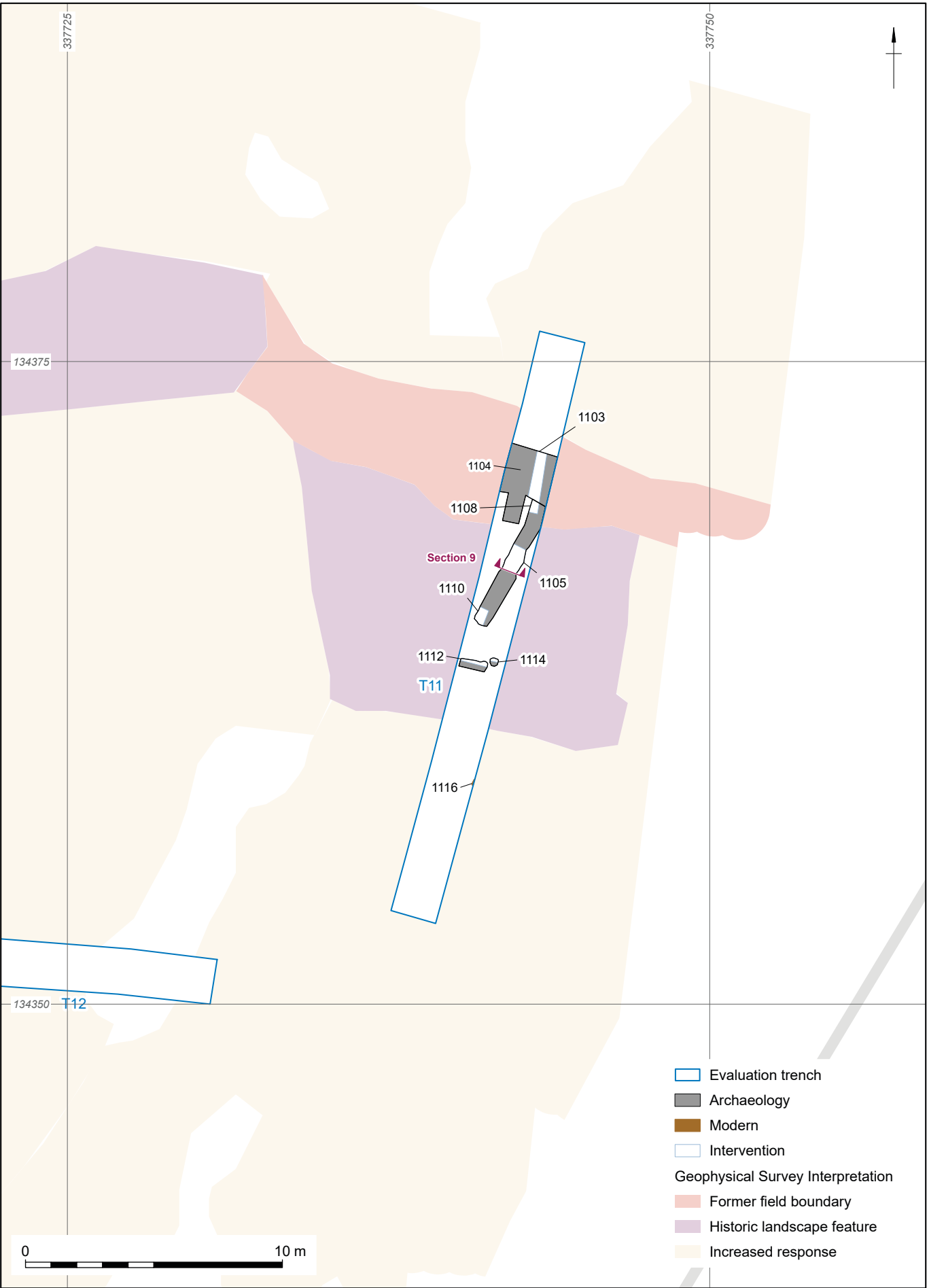


Figure 3: Detail of trenches 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7

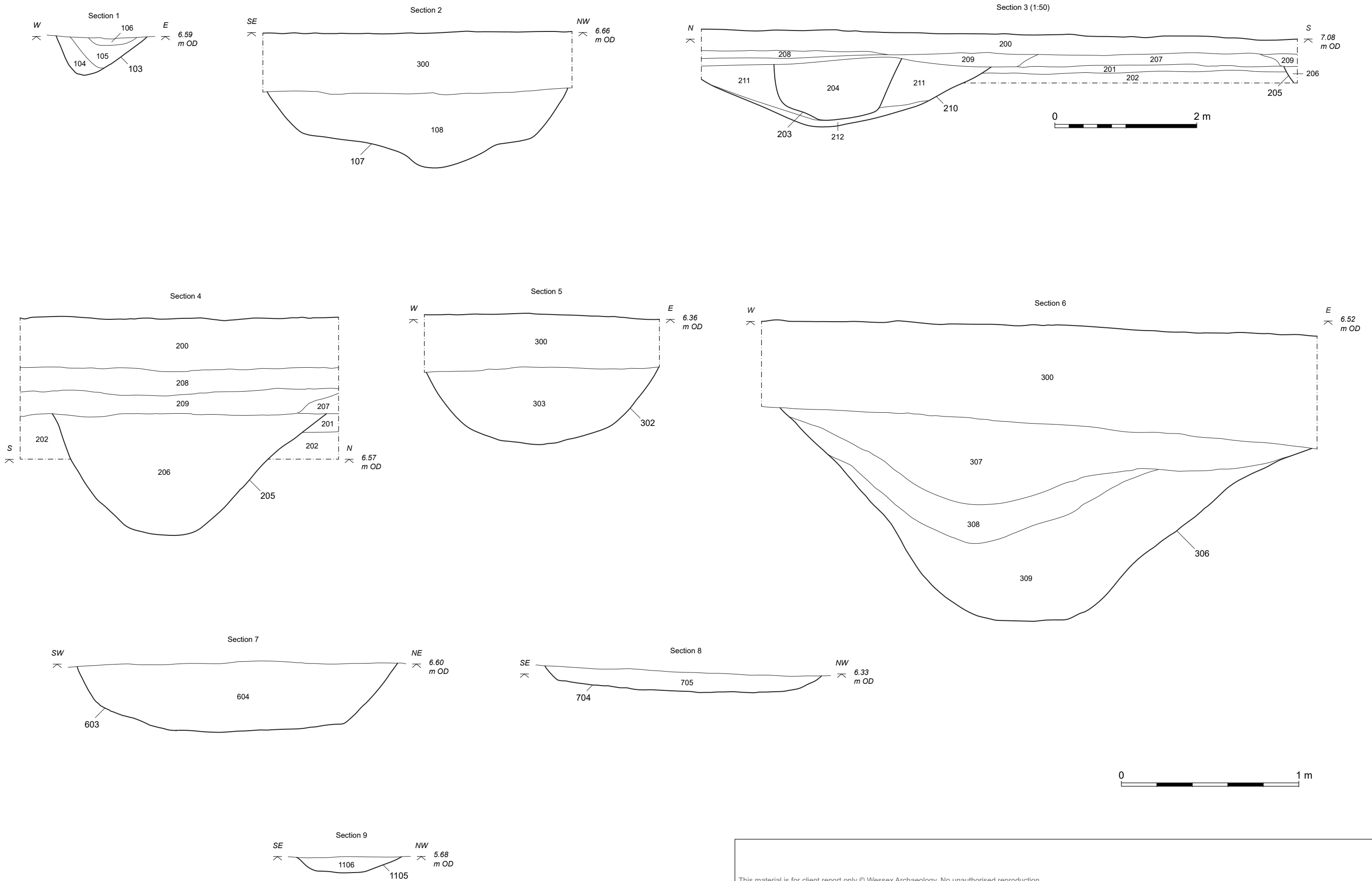


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Figure 4: Detail of trench 11





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Figure 5: Sections





Figure 6: Rubble dump 204, looking south, 1 m scale



Figure 7: Trackway 207, looking east, 2 m scale



Figure 8: Rubble surface or dump 1104, looking SW, 2 m scale

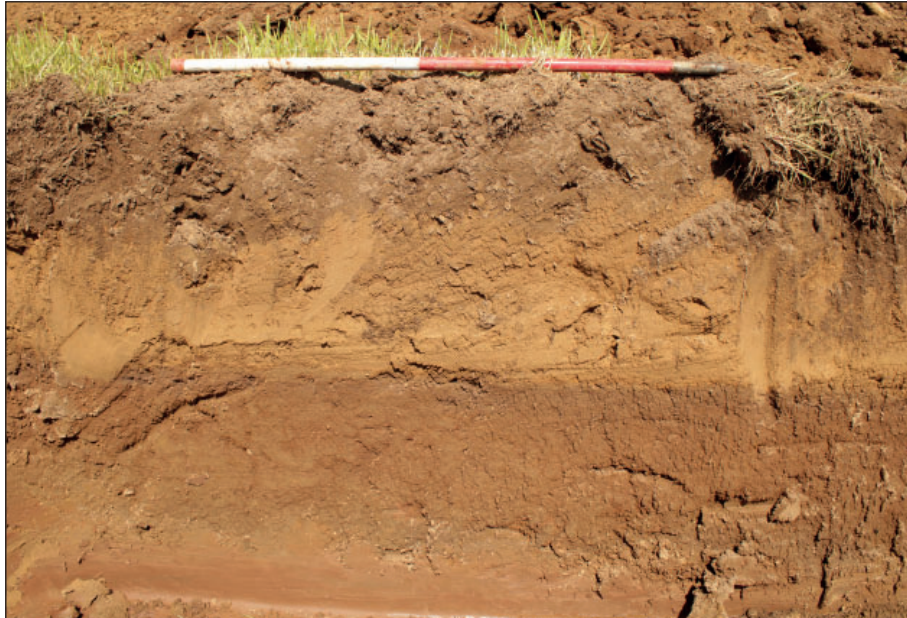


Figure 9: Trench 4 representative section, looking NW, 1 m scale



Figure 10: Trench 8 representative section, looking south, 2 m scale



Figure 11: Trench 12 representative section, looking south, 1 m scale



Figure 12: Trench 17 representative section, looking NE, 2 m scale



Figure 13: Trench 21 representative section, looking ENE, 1 m scale



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