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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Pegasus Group, on behalf of Gladman Developments Ltd ('the client'), to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 12.63 hectare parcel of land located at the southern side of Chippenham Road, Lyneham, Wiltshire, SN15 4PA, centred on Ordnance Survey NGR 401777 179230 (SU 01777 79230) (**Fig. 1**).

The evaluation comprised 32 trial trenches (2.5 % sample) of which 18 contained archaeological features and/or deposits, with a slight concentration in the eastern half of site.

The evaluation revealed the continued use of the site for agricultural purposes from the medieval period onwards. What appeared to be ploughed out ridge and furrow was present in a number of the trenches, with a small number of probable drainage or boundary ditches present, one of which produced medieval pottery along with domesticated farm animal bone. Evidence for post medieval activity was sparse, suggesting little change to the medieval system until the modern period, when more intensive farming methods led to the loss of the medieval field systems and the intrusion of structural foundations in one area of the field. Where present the medieval pottery tended to be small and heavily abraided, indicating it had been subjected to ploughing and soil disturbance, likely originating from manuring of the fields.

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Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Rosey Meara, Pegasus Group Principle Heritage Consultant, for commissioning the archaeological evaluation on behalf of Gladman Developments Ltd. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, Wiltshire Council County Archaeologist, who monitored the project for Wiltshire Council, and to Smiths (Gloucester) Ltd for their cooperation and help on site.



Land at Chippenham Road, Lyneham Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Pegasus Group, on behalf of Gladman Developments Ltd ('the client'), to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 12.63 ha parcel of land located at the southern side of Chippenham Road, Lyneham, Wiltshire, SN15 4PA ('the site'), centred on Ordnance Survey NGR 401777 179230 (SU 01777 79230) (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 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 2017). Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, Wiltshire Council County Archaeologist, approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation comprising 32 trial trenches (2.5 % sample) was undertaken from Monday 17 July 2017 to Friday 21 July 2017.

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 future development of the site and facilitate an informed decision regarding the requirement for, and methods of, any further archaeological mitigation.

1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The evaluation area is located directly to the south of Chippenham Road B4069 on the east side of Lyneham, Wiltshire. The site is bounded by outbuildings belonging to Barrow Green Farm, the B4069, and existing residential development to the north; The Green, B4069 and residential development to the east; the MoD Lyneham buildings to the south and southwest; and the MoD airfield (formerly the RAF Lyneham) and further MoD Lyneham buildings to the west. It is approximately 12.63 ha in area and is situated across three agricultural plots subdivided by intermittent hedgerows. It also includes buildings at Green Farm, located on an area of hard standing.
- 1.3.2 The existing ground level of the site was roughly even, sloping gently from the west at 133.58 m aOD, to the east at 128.46 m aOD.
- 1.3.3 The underlying bedrock geology throughout the Site is mapped by the British Geological Survey (2017) as the Stanford Formation. It comprises a limestone sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 156 to 161 million years ago in the Jurassic Period and reflects a local environment previously dominated by shallow carbonate seas.



2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

The archaeological and historical background to the Site is drawn from the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (WHER), and summarised from the WSI prepared by Wessex Archaeology (2017).

2.2 Previous investigations

Archaeological Excavation (2015)

- 2.2.1 An archaeological excavation on land immediately adjacent to the site (Wessex Archaeology 2015) revealed Bronze Age pottery in an area of small-scale quarrying and a concentration of features consistent with a small, probably Middle Iron Age settlement as well as residual sherds in later features, suggesting that other Iron Age features once existed further to the south-east.
- 2.2.2 Romano-British ditches provided the earliest evidence for division of the landscape, with associated agricultural and domestic features including an enclosure and various pits. One of the two wells probably had its origins in the early Romano-British period. Land divisions were extensively remodelled in the mid Romano-British period when a rectilinear field system was superimposed over the existing layout. There was also evidence for ironworking in the mid and later phases, although the presence of two grain dryers indicated that farming remained important.
- 2.2.3 Earlier quarrying activity appeared to have continued throughout the later period, whilst the mid-late Romano-British community chose to bury several individuals in graves across the area.
- 2.2.4 No building remains were identified, but several spreads of dark, finds-rich material were preserved which are likely to reflect settlement in the vicinity. Late Romano-British finds include a number of coins, and in two adjoining shallow, elongated pits were a rare cache of at least five pewter plates and a copper alloy calyx-shaped mount, perhaps from a ceremonial staff.
- 2.2.5 The remains of a medieval post-mill, an early form of windmill, comprised a cross-shaped foundation trench and a surrounding penannular ditch with a broad causeway, situated on the highest part of the site.
 - Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (2017)
- 2.2.6 A Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (Pegasus Group 2017) established the area within the bounds of the site was substantially remodelled in the 1930s when RAF Lyneham was laid out. Prehistoric features are known around the periphery of the site, as well as Romano-British settlement and a medieval moated site on adjacent land. Previous archaeological work within the perimeter fence of RAF Lyneham has shown below-ground survival of archaeological deposits to be good (WA 2015).
 - Geophysical survey (2017)
- 2.2.7 A geophysical survey on the site (Magnitude Surveys 2017) revealed several anomalies across the site, including a possible structure (Figure 1, 3a) which may relate to a WWII structure. Several spreads of ferrous material were also noted, as well as agricultural trends (ploughing) and potential field drains.



2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Prehistoric and Romano-British (10,000 BC-AD 410)

- 2.3.1 Two potential prehistoric sites are recorded to the north of the site. One is a possible bowl barrow, located *c*. 85m north of the site boundary, which is the most likely source of the place name Barrow End Farm (WHER Unique ID MWI 9008). An undated ring ditch, visible in aerial photography, is also recorded on the HER, and may represent the remains of a prehistoric or Romano-British round house (MWI 64352).
- 2.3.2 Pits of possible prehistoric origin were recorded during trial trench evaluation to the east of the site (EWI 8392). Associated finds included a worked flint blade of Mesolithic/Neolithic date and a fragment of prehistoric pottery (probably Iron Age), although these may have been residual. Environmental evidence included a single grain of hulled wheat from a charcoal rich deposit, considered likely to be of a prehistoric or Roman origin.
- 2.3.3 Two sherds of Romano-British grey ware pottery are also recorded on the WHER as having been found to the south-east of the site, in the historic centre of Lyneham (MWI 8978).

Medieval (AD 410–1500)

- 2.3.4 The site is located within the Parish of Lyneham, and most likely formed part of the agricultural hinterland to the settlement of this name in the medieval period. The medieval centre of Lyneham, containing the 14th-century Church of St Michael (MWI 8989), is located approximately 225 m to the south-east of the site.
- 2.3.5 Pound Farm (MWI 66902), to the east, is believed to be a farmstead with medieval origins. It is recorded on the HER that it was the 'home of John De La Punde [in] AD 1268'. A moated site at Lyneham Court (MWI 8985), later a 19th century farmstead (MWI 66803), is depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map published in 1883 to the south-west of the site. The farmstead and historic buildings were demolished in order to construct the airfield.
- 2.3.6 The remnants of a possible medieval kiln are also recorded near to the site, to the south-east on Farthing Lane (MWI 8984). Numerous 14th-century pottery sherds, kiln ash and iron slag was recorded here during house construction in the 1950s, but no kiln structure was reported. Artefacts found in the area include unglazed medieval pottery sherds recorded in a field to the east of the site (MWI 63785). There are no early medieval or medieval finds or features recorded within the boundary of the site itself.

Post Medieval (1500 – 1900)

- 2.3.7 Settlement at Lyneham is depicted on the Andrews' and Dury's Map of Wiltshire dating to 1773. The site is located adjacent to the main road which runs through Lyneham. Lyneham Court (now demolished to make way for RAF Lyneham) is depicted south-west of the site. Buildings which may relate to Green Farm are also depicted.
- 2.3.8 The site is shown in detail on the Heneage Estate Map of 1821 which depicts the area of the site as being located across three large fields and the farmstead of Green Farm (MWI 66901) within the northern part of the site. The map shows a complex of buildings including the farmhouse with outbuildings to the south and east, and an area of garden to the west. Green Farm and the agricultural land surrounding it are recorded as being under the tenancy of John Hopkins.
- 2.3.9 By the time that the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map was published in 1886 several alterations in the field layouts are visible as well as additional buildings being shown at



Green Farm. Later mapping shows little change within the bounds of the site until RAF Lyneham was laid out in the 1930s.

Modern (1900 -)

- 2.3.10 RAF Lyneham was established in the late 1930s, and opened in 1940. Its construction required the demolition of several buildings to the south-west of the site, including Lyneham Court. It was focused to the south-west of the site, and originally included grass runways. The central hub, including the control tower and adjacent J Type Hangars, was located to the south of the site, along with the Guard Room and Barracks. A series of perimeter tracks and associated dispersed hangars are shown on a map of 1945 produced by Priddle (2003). It depicts that as well as the four main J-Type Hangars, there were two K-Type, eight LType, 30 Blister Hangars and 10 Robin Hangars.
- 2.3.11 Three of the Robin Hangars, are recorded within the bounds of the site, around Green Farm. They were accessed via tracks which largely respected field boundaries depicted on the 1923 Ordnance Survey mapping. Of the three hangars recorded at Green Farm, two appear to have been demolished but one building, which has the appearance of a Robin Hangar, is extant today.
- 2.3.12 More recently, Lyneham played a major role in the repatriation of the fallen from Afghanistan. Flying ceased in 2011 when operations were transferred to RAF Brize Norton. The site itself no longer sits within the operational part of RAF Lyneham, being separated from the airfield by a large security fence, however, it was originally within the extent of the WWII airfield (MWI 9002).
- 2.3.13 Modern mapping shows that the farmhouse at Green Farm appears to be a later replacement of the original one shown on earlier mapping (described above). The present building appears to date to the mid or later 20th-century

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Evaluation aims

- 3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017) and in compliance with the ClfA' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), were:
 - To identify and evaluate the archaeological potential of the site; and
 - To 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 Evaluation 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;
 - To establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;



- To place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- To make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

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 2017) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

- 4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using GPS, in the approximate positions as those proposed in the WSI (**Fig. 1**).
- 4.2.2 A total of thirty-two trenches, each measuring 50 m x 1.80 m were excavated, amounting to a 2.5% sample of the total area of the Site. Excavation of trenches was carried out using a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket, and under constant supervision by appropriately trained and experienced Wessex Archaeology personnel. Machining proceeding in discrete 0.20 m spits where feasible, ceasing at the upper surface of significant archaeological features/deposits where any were present, or otherwise at the upper limit of undisturbed natural deposits. Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits identified was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.
- 4.2.3 Spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Where found, artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained.
- 4.2.4 All trenches were completed to the satisfaction of the client and Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, Wiltshire Council County Archaeologist and 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.

Recording

- 4.2.5 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete drawn record of excavated features and deposits was made including both 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. The Ordnance Datum (OD: Newlyn) heights of all principal features were calculated, and levels added to plans and section drawings.
- 4.2.6 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 OSGM15 and OSTN15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.



4.2.7 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 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 Artefactual and environmental strategies

4.3.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of artefacts and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (CIfA 2014b) and Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (English Heritage 2011).

4.4 Monitoring

4.4.1 Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, Wiltshire Council County Archaeologist, on behalf of the LPA, monitored the watching brief. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with both the client and the Wiltshire Council County Archaeologist.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 18 of the 32 excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and/or deposits, with a slight concentration towards the eastern half of site (**Fig. 1**).
- 5.1.2 The uncovered features comprising ditches, gullies, pits and postholes represent three main periods of activity: Medieval, Post Medieval and modern, though several features remain of uncertain date. The activity recorded relates to agricultural use of the land rather than industrial or settlement activity.
- 5.1.3 The following section presents the results of the evaluation with archaeological features and deposits discussed by Trench.
- 5.1.4 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 results (REF).

5.2 Results

Trench 1

5.2.1 Located at the northern corner of the site, trench 1 contained four small irregular features. Natural limestone brash (104) was encountered at 0.50 m Below Ground Surface (BGS), over which was a natural subsoil deposit of light yellowish-grey loamy sand with abundant limestone fragments (103). Cutting through this was a shallow linear ditch, orientated southwest to north-east across the south-east end of the trench and approximately 1.90 m wide and 0.58 m in depth (109). The primary backfill of this, a dark greyish-brown loamy sand (111) contained limestone fragments and cattle bones, while the upper fill (110), a dark greyish-brown loamy sand, contained domesticated animal bones showing evidence of gnawing, with a small assemblage of medieval pot sherds, all characteristic of domestic rubbish dumping (**Plate 1**).



- 5.2.2 To the south of ditch 109, a narrow ditch oriented northeast to southwest (112) was found to contain a dark greyish-brown sandy loam, with inclusions of fragmentary limestone, modern, post medieval and medieval pottery, an iron nail and pieces of animal bone (113). The wide spread of pottery dates is likely due to long term manuring of the fields, the pottery from which has then been mixed during later plough action and becomes deposited into features by silting or bioturbation. To the north of 109, a third linear, 0.85 m wide was recorded (107) running parallel to 109. This was excavated to a depth of 0.80 m before water ingress stopped any further investigation. The fill (108) was a dark brownish-grey containing limestone fragments, a mix of medieval, post medieval and modern pottery, glass, iron fragments and animal bone, some of which displayed saw marks, indicating later post-medieval butchery, likely 19th century in date. A small irregular pit was also investigated at the northern end of the trench (105). This proved to be a modern feature, likely a deliberately dug pit to dump the waste plastic and glass that was found to be mixed throughout the fill (106).
- 5.2.3 A patchy deposit of yellow-brown loamy sand was recorded at the northern end of the trench (102), overlaying the subsoil 103. In other parts of the trench, including overlaying the described features, was a layer of dark greyish-brown sandy loam topsoil, 0.24 m deep. The baulk sections of the trench suggested general disturbance of the land, likely due to ploughing or rotivation of the land as well as activity from Green Farm and its gardens situated to the immediate south of trench 1, with mixing of topsoil and subsoil evident in places.

Trench 4

5.2.4 Within trench 4, situated to the south-west of trench 1, natural limestone was encountered at 0.42 m BGS (403). Overlaying this was a natural subsoil deposit of light yellowish-grey loamy sand with abundant limestone fragments (402), 0.10 m deep. In the southern half of the trench, a linear feature orientated south-west to north-east. This was found to be 1.90 m wide and 0.38 m deep with irregular slightly concave sides and base and is thought to be a possible continuation of ditch 109 in trench 1. The fill (405) was a mid greyish brown claysilt with abundant limestone fragments but contained no archaeological inclusions. Topsoil (401), a dark brown loam with limestone fragments, sealed the top of this ditch.

Trench 7

5.2.5 Further to the south-west, towards the western end of Trench 7, a shallow linear ditch was identified (704), orientated roughly north to south. This cut through the natural limestone (703) located at 0.31 m BGS and the mid brownish yellow limestone rich subsoil (702) at 0.23 m BGS. The linear was recorded as 0.90 m wide and 0.32 m deep, with a backfill composed of mid brown clay-silt with abundant limestone and no datable finds (**Plate 2**). The ditch was sealed by a layer of dark brown sandy loam topsoil (701). Ditch 704 coincided with a linear feature shown on the geophysics plot, suggesting it would run in a general north – south direction, primarily towards the south.

Trench 9

5.2.6 At the very western edge of the site, trench 9 was orientated north – south over a linear feature also shown on the geophysics. This linear ditch cut through natural limestone (903) at 0.30 m BGS, and through the mid yellow brown clay silt with abundant limestone fragments (902) at 0.16 m BGS. Aligned roughly east to west across the centre of Trench 9, this ditch had a moderately sloping side to the north and a more gently sloping side at its southern edge, both leading to a concave base, with a full depth of 0.56 m (904). The earliest fill of this ditch (905) was a fairly loose mid yellowish brown sandy-clay, containing frequent small limestone fragments, and a single sherd of post-medieval glazed ware. This



appears to have been a gradual accumulation, washing in from the gently sloping southern side of the ditch.

5.2.7 Overlaying this was a 0.06 m deep fill (906), which derived from disturbance in the natural limestone surface to the northern side of the ditch, possibly through bioturbation such as burrowing or later modern plough action. Above this, the upper fill was a loose, slightly yellowish mid brown clay-silt with occasional limestone fragments, similar to 902 but less stony (907). This is likely to represent the last gradual filling of the ditch, with more modern plough action causing disturbance to the upper deposits (**Plate 3**). Sealing the top of the ditch was a topsoil layer, 0.16 m deep and consisting of a dark brown sandy loam (901). It is possible that 904 represents the remains of a medieval plough furrow, which has been ploughed off in the modern period.

Trench 11

5.2.8 Near the centre of trench 11, southeast of trench 9, was a single possible posthole. This cut through both the limestone natural (1103), first exposed at 0.34 m BGS and the overlaying subsoil (1102), seen at 0.22 m BGS. The small sub-circular cut was 0.29 m in diameter, with a depth of 0.14 m into natural (1104) and was filled by a primary deposit of brownish-red silty-clay, 0.09 m thick, which may indicate signs of heat damage (**Plate 4**). The upper fill consisted of dark brown silty-clay containing common carbonised wood fragments and pieces of animal horn and a cattle tibia (1106). Both fills of this feature were sampled, however due to the small quantity recoverable and the isolated nature of the feature the decision was made not to process the samples further.

Trench 13

Trench 13 was situated southwest of trench 11, and had natural limestone at 0.21 m BGS. Cutting through this limestone was one fairly well defined linear which was interpreted as the remains of a plough furrow (1304), and two more indistinct shallow scoops which may have been the very base of other furrows. The spread of re-deposited natural limestone (1305) over a primary silting suggests modern ploughing from the west, flattening earlier furrow ridges and pushing remains eastwards into the silted furrow itself.

Trench 15

- 5.2.10 At the far south-west of the site, trench 15 contained two ditch remnants and a pit. Here, natural limestone and clay (1503) was located at 0.40 m BGS, with mid yellowish brown clay-loam (1502) overlaying it at 0.23 m BGS. Cutting through this at the eastern end of the trench was a linear feature orientated north-east to south-west, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (504). Filled with a mid-greyish brown silty clay loam containing only small fragments of limestone (505), this feature appeared to end within the trench at a rounded terminal, however the edges were indistinct and it was uncertain whether this may have been the remains of a furrow (or soft ground below a subsequently ploughed away furrow) or a naturally occurring feature.
- 5.2.11 In the centre of the trench, a small sub-circular pit was exposed, cutting through the natural limestone. This had a diameter of 0.80 m and was 0.19m deep and was filled by a primary greyish clay and small limestone flecks deposit (1507), caused by bioturbation between the natural and upper fills and an upper fill (1508) which appeared to be naturally formed rather than dumped, though it did contain a single fragment of unidentified iron.



5.2.12 At the western end of trench 15 a shallow linear was found to cut the natural limestone in a northwest to southeast direction (1509). This was similar in form to 1504 to the east and may have been a remnant furrow or very shallow ditch as it was filled by a single mid brown sandy-loam (1510), which contained a small assemblage of medieval pottery (**Plate 5**). Overlaying the features was a layer of dark brown sandy-loam topsoil, 0.23 m thick (501).

Trench 16

- 5.2.13 To the east of trench 15 in trench 16, natural limestone and yellowish clay was reached at 0.40 m BGS (1603). This was overlain by a slightly yellowish brown sandy clay-loam subsoil, 0.25m deep (1602), which was cut by an irregularly sided pit, 1.30 m x 0.50 m and 0.80 m deep (1604). Located partially beyond the southern baulk at the western end of the trench, the fill of this pit was a dark brown silty-clay containing small limestone fragments but no dateable finds and its purpose is unclear. The fill was topped by what appears to be a dump of redeposited natural yellowish sandy-clay and it may be that the feature was opened and backfilled within a short space of time (**Plate 6**).
- 5.2.14 To the west of the pit, a small possible posthole was recorded, which ran beyond the southern baulk and was only just visible within the trench boundaries (1606). This was too small to identify further however at less than 0.14 m depth through natural and 0.21 m width and more likely to have been a natural hollow or stone throw, filled by natural silting (1607). Overlaying the features was a layer of dark brown sandy-loam topsoil, 0.15 m thick (1601).

Trench 17

5.2.15 Located in the field directly east of Green Farm, trench 17 was situated at the western side of the field, central to the the site as a whole. Within this trench, natural limestone brash and sandy clay was exposed at 0.43 m BGS (1701). This was overlain by an orange-brown sandy-loam, 0.25 m deep (1702). Cutting through this were two very shallow features identified as plough furrows, orientated northeast to southwest (1706 and 1708), of which only 1706 was excavated. Both were recorded as 0.43 m deep and approximately 0.90 m wide and contained only a bioturbated mix of natural and subsoil (1707 and 1709) with no dating evidence. A narrow 0.45 m wide linear ditch was also excavated, located at the northern end of the trench. This ditch was oriented roughly north – south and was found to be slightly curving towards the west at its northern end (1704). Only 0.07 m deep where excavated, it is unclear whether this may have been a natural feature rather than a man made one, as the fill appeared to be the same as the subsoil and contained no dating evidence.

Trench 18

5.2.16 Situated to the northeast of trench 17, trench 18 contained natural limestone brash at 0.40 m BGS (1803) and a light yellow loamy sand subsoil at 0.27 m BGS (1802). Cutting through the trench on parallel north-east to south-west alignments, were three shallow linear features identified as old plough furrows (1804, 1806 and 1808). The greyish brown sandy loam fill of these features was the same across all three furrows, with the exception of 1805, the fill of 1806, which contained a single sherd of medieval pottery. The only other noted disturbance in the trench was an irregular feature thought to be a tree throw (1810).

Trench 20

5.2.17 Situated at the eastern side of the field, trench 20 contained two shallow parallel features (2008 and 2004). Natural limestone brash (2003) was encountered at 0.40 m BGS, overlain by a greyish brown silty-loam subsoil (2002). Both features truncated this and were evident by the loose mid greyish brown silty loam (2009 and 2005), very similar to the subsoil they



truncated (**Plate 7**). No dating evidence was recovered and it is felt that these shallow linears represent the remains of ploughed off furrows, or the softer ground where furrows had once been. A suspected tree throw at the southern end of the trench produced a single small sherd of post-medieval pottery (2007). Dark grey-brown sandy loam topsoil (2001) overlay the features.

Trenches 21 and 22

- 5.2.18 Located in the southwest corner of the field, close to the centre of the site, trenches 21 and 22 were located over a rectilinear feature highlighted by the geophysical survey. In both trenches, natural limestone brash and yellow sand (2101 and 2201) was encountered, at 0.41 m BGS in trench 21 and at 0.34 m BGS in trench 22, overlain by orange-brown sandy-loam subsoil (2102 and 2202) at 0.21m BGS. Cutting through this in both trenches was a large steep sided cut, which had been filled with a ring of poured concrete (2110 and 2204) to form a square footing, probably for a farm building as the concrete appears later 20th century in date. This can be seen at the southern end of trench 21 and in the centre of trench 22. Overlaying the footings and filling the upper part of the cut was a dump of mixed modern demolition rubble and redeposited soils (2111 and 2205).
- 5.2.19 Within trench 21, three small irregularly shaped features (2106, 2107 and 2108) were also located at the northern end of the trench, subsequently identified as tree throws or natural hollows. A plough furrow was also noted in the northern half. No dating evidence was found within trench 21 or trench 22, although trench 22 did produce a sheep/goat radius from the made ground over the concrete footing. All features, including the made ground, were covered by a layer of dark greyish brown sandy loam topsoil (2101 and 2201).

Trench 23

- 5.2.20 To the east of the previous trenches, in the southern edge of the field, trench 23 contained four small features, all clustered at the south western end of the trench, with natural brash at 0.30 m BGS (2303), and grey-brown loamy subsoil (2302) at 0.13 m BGS. The eastern most of these (2304) was a shallow irregular sided circular cut, filled by a mid-brownish grey clay-silt (2305). This contained no finds and was interpreted as a probable rooting bowl or animal disturbance. To the east of this were a further two shallow features (2308 and 2306) both of which were also interpreted as natural disturbance.
- 5.2.21 At the southern end of the trench however, and running beyond the southern baulk, was a small pit, 0.60m wide, with gently sloping sides to a break of slope which then becomes steep to a concave base (2310). The primary fill was a mid yellow-grey clay-silt, suggestive of natural silting (2311) and was 0.03 m deep. Overlaying this was a thin 0.02 m thick layer of carbonised wood, possibly suggestive of a single use fire (2312). Above this layer was was a backfill of light yellow-brown silty-clay, similar to the surrounding soils which had evidence for heat discolouration through the lower part of the deposit (2313). This would suggest the pit was dug for a one-use fire, then smothered / backfilled immediately while the burnt wood fuel was still warm (**Plate 9**). No dating evidence was recovered.
- 5.2.22 The line of a ditch which was seen only in section was located in the centre of the trench and aligned north-west to south-east. With gently sloping sides and a flatter base (2314), this appeared to be similar to the plough furrows noted in the northern half of the field, although on a different alignment. It was filled by a naturally deposited mid greyish yellow-brown clay-silt (2315) containing limestone fragments but no dateable inclusions. A layer of dark grey-brown silty-loam topsoil, 0.13 m thick, covered the trench and sealed any features below (2301).



Trench 26

5.2.23 Trench 26 was located in the triangular shaped paddock to the south of the previous trenches, in the south eastern half of the site. Natural limestone and yellow clay (2603) was exposed at 0.30 m BGS, with a mid greyish-brown course sandy brash subsoil above (2602) at 0.17 m BGS. At the north-western end of the trench, a north-west to south-east aligned ditch was excavated, cutting through the subsoil and being cut in turn by a modern service pipe. This ditch (2604) had moderately sloping sides to a concave base, 0.32 m deep at the base of the trench and was filled by a mid greyish silty-loam containing small limestone flecks but no dating evidence (2605). This is thought to have been a probable drainage ditch (**Plate 10**), which was sealed by a layer of dark brown silty-loam topsoil (2601), 0.17 m thick.

Trench 30

Towards the south eastern corner of the Site in Trench 30, two contemporary ditches (3004) and (3006), orientated roughly north-west to south-east and north-east to south-west, respectively, intersected at a near-right angle. Both ditches appeared to cut through a light brown loamy sand subsoil (3002) at 0.18 m BGS, to the natural light yellowish-orange brown sandy clay (3003) below which begun at 0.36 m BGS. Both were too shallow to be able to say which was the earlier but given the similarity in fills; a mid brown silty-clay (3005 and 3007), it is likely the linears were contemporary and had silted up over time (**Plate 11**). They were sealed by a layer of mid brown sandy-loam topsoil (3001), 0.18m thick.

Trench 31

5.2.24 Laying just to the east of trench 30, trench 31 contained only a modern limestone rubble trackway. Within the trench, natural yellowish-red clay and brash was exposed at 0.40 m BGS (3105), with a layer of reddish brown loamy-clay subsoil (3104) overlaying it (**Plate 12**). Over the subsoil was a layer of large limestone blocks (3103) forming the base of the trackway or hardstanding at 0.30 m BGS, with a layer of smaller scale limestone rubble (3102) at 0.23 m BGS. Overlaying this was the redeposited mixed limestone and topsoil made ground (3101) to a depth of 0.19m.

Trench 32

5.2.25 Further east again and at the very south-east corner of the site, trench 32 was found to have natural orange-yellow clay (3203) at 0.29 m BGS, overlain by a deposit of mid orange-brown clay silt subsoil (3202) at 0.17 m BGS. Cutting through this were two closely-spaced, parallel linear ditches, aligned east to west with a slight curve and situated at the southern end of the trench (**Plate 13**). The southern most of the two (3204) was 0.18 m deep from the base of the trench and 0.64 m wide. The ditch to its northern side was found to be 0.13 m deep from base of trench and 0.73 m wide (3206). Both were filled by a mid orange-grey silty clay containing infrequent limestone fragments, manganese flecks and iron panning (3205 and 3207). A very small amount of highly fragmented and abraded medieval pottery was recovered from the fill 3207. Both features were sealed by the layer of mid brown clay-loam topsoil (3201).

Trenches 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 19, 24, 25, 27, 28, and 29

5.2.26 No archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were present in any of the remaining evaluation trenches, which displayed only natural limestone and clays, subsoils and topsoil, although a small amount of medieval and post medieval pottery was collected from the topsoil across the area of the site.



6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 A small quantity of finds was recovered during the evaluation, deriving from contexts in 13 of the trenches excavated, from feature fills and topsoil contexts. The assemblage includes material of medieval and post-medieval/modern date.
- 6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in Table 1.

6.2 Pottery

6.2.1 The pottery assemblage amounts to 63 sherds (1043 g), of which 19 are medieval and 44 post-medieval/modern. Condition ranges from fair to poor. The medieval sherds in particular have suffered relatively high levels of surface and edge abrasion; calcareous inclusions have often leached out, leaving voids. Mean sherd weight overall is 16.6 g, but this drops to 7.5 g for the medieval assemblage.

Medieval

- 6.2.2 The medieval assemblage is dominated by sherds in oolitic limestone-tempered fabrics (13 sherds), characteristic of the Minety industry. Little is known of this industry; no kilns have ever been located, and wasters found during trial excavations in 1971 were dated as 14th/15th century on typological grounds (Musty 1973). It is apparent, however, that oolitic limestone-tempered wares were in production before this date, although whether made in the Minety area or elsewhere is uncertain; 13th/14th century waster groups have been found at Lyneham and Wootton Bassett, although details of the fabrics and vessel forms are not recorded. Minety-type wares have been recorded, for example, in Chepstow, Bath and Bristol from the 12th century (Vince 1979, 31, fabric B), and also in Oxfordshire, where the ware is defined as 'North East Wiltshire ware' (OXBB), and dated as mid-12th to 16th century (Mellor 1994, 100). The sherds here are not particularly chronologically diagnostic; the only vessel forms present are jars, and a tentative date range of 12th/13th century is suggested.
- 6.2.3 Four sherds are in coarse flint/chalk-tempered fabrics. Three of these conjoin to form a jar rim. Both fabric and form are characteristic of the 'Kennet Valley' ceramic tradition which is distributed widely across north-east Wiltshire, west Berkshire and south Oxfordshire. This occurrence is on the edge of the Wiltshire distribution area. The flint-/chalk-tempered variant of Kennet Valley ware has a date range from 11th to 15th century (Mepham 2000, fabric E442), although its *floruit* was in the 12th and 13th centuries.
- 6.2.4 One sherd is in a medium-grained sandy fabric with an external olive-green glaze. This is of uncertain source, although one possibility is the production centre at Langley Burrell, dated as late 14th to 16th century (Vince 1984).
- 6.2.5 Medieval sherds were recovered from ditch 107 (Minety-type ware, residual with post-medieval sherds), ditch 109 (upper fill, Minety-type and Kennet Valley wares), ditch 112 (Minety-type and Kennet Valley wares, residual with post-medieval/modern sherds), Trench 12 topsoil (MInety-type, residual), ditch 1509 (Minety-type and sandy wares), plough furrow 1804 (Minety-type ware) and ditches 3204/3206 (Minety-type ware). The relatively poor condition of the medieval sherds, combined with the very small quantities involved (no



context yielded more than six sherds) means that undue confidence should not be placed on the pottery as firm dating evidence – the pottery is unlikely in these cases to represent primary refuse, but rather redeposited material.

Post-medieval/modern

- 6.2.6 The post-medieval/modern sherds include glazed redwares (broadly dated as post-medieval), English stoneware, creamware and refined whitewares. A date range of 17th century or later can be suggested.
- 6.2.7 Sherds came from ditch 112, ditch 904 and tree throw 2006, as well as topsoil in Trenches 1, 12 and 30.

6.3 Ceramic Building Material

6.3.1 The CBM (7 fragments) is all of post-medieval/modern date. It includes three brick fragments and a roof tile fragment, all broadly dated as post-medieval. There is also a curved fragment that probably belongs to a field drain (18th century or later), a stoneware drainpipe fragment and a glazed wall tile (both 19th/20th century).

6.4 Glass

6.4.1 Of the 14 fragments of glass recovered, one is window glass, and the remainder derive from bottles. All the glass is of relatively recent date, with none definitively dating prior to the 19th century. The bottles include one early 19th-century green wine bottle, a machine-made medicine bottle (early-mid-20th century), and a machine-made brown bottle with internal screw stopper.

6.5 Metalwork

6.5.1 All of the metalwork is of iron, and all objects appear to be of post-medieval (probably modern) date. They include three nails, a bolt, a chain link and a machine fastening clip. Two objects are unidentifiable.

6.6 Animal Bone

- 6.6.1 A total of 13 fragments (or 696 g) of animal bone came from medieval and post-medieval contexts in Trenches 1, 11 and 22. The bones are well preserved and gnaw marks were observed on the surfaces of a few of the bones, notable those from ditch 109.
- 6.6.2 The identified bones belong to domestic species. Most are from cattle and sheep/goat, a few from pig and one from a large horse. Animal bones were recovered from several contexts in Trench 1. The bones from ditch 107 include a cattle axis vertebrae and sheep/goat radius and tibia. Saw marks are visible on the shaft of the tibia and this suggests that the bones are relatively recent in date. The use of saws as butchery implements began in the late post-medieval period. The largest concentration of bones came from ditch 109 (upper fill) and includes part of a cattle tibia and vertebra, part of a pig skull, mandible and vertebra, a sheep/goat femur and the proximal end of a horse radius and ulna. Two cattle distal humeri and a rib fragment came from ditch 109 (primary fill). A pig vertebra came from ditch 112. The animal bones from Trenches 11 and 22 include a cattle tibia from posthole 1104 and a sheep/goat radius from demolition rubble.

6.7 Other Finds

6.7.1 Other finds comprise a small, undiagnostic fragment of fired clay of uncertain date and function (primary fill of ditch 904); a piece of plastic; and three 20th century items from demolition rubble spread 2111 (two fragments from an electrical insulator, and a rubber



internal screw stopper marked USHERS TROWBRIDGE, possibly from the brown glass bottle described above.

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

Context	Animal Bone	СВМ	Glass	Pottery	Other Finds
108	3/19	CDIVI	2/22	24/820	3 iron
			_,		3 11011
110	3/614			6/43	
111	3/014				
113				7/38	2 iron
801		2/187			
802			10/390		
905				1/1	1 fired clay; 1 iron
Tr 9 unstrat				1/16	
1001		1/7		12/29	
1106	6/18				
1201		1/29		2/42	
1508					1 iron
1510				5/35	
1805				1/11	
2007				1/5	
			1/49		1 iron; 2 other
2111		2/37			ceramic; 1 synthetic
2205	1/45	1/51	1/58		1 iron; 2 synthetic
3001				1/2	
3207				2/1	
Total	13/696	7/311	14/519	63/1043	



7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Summary

- 7.1.1 The evaluation of land at Chippenham Road revealed the site had been used for agricultural purposes since at least the medieval period, with the presence of boundary or drainage ditches as well as what was interpreted as the remains of ridge and furrow. A small number of these features contained abraided medieval pottery and animal bone, suggestive of small scale domestic rubbish dumping and manuring of the fields.
- 7.1.2 This finding agrees with the postulated idea of the site being part of the agricultural hinterland of the Parish of Lyneham during the medieval period, as well as largely corroborating the pattern of results suggested in the geophysical survey of the land.
- 7.1.3 Evidence for post medieval activity was sparse, with only a small amount of fairly abraided Post-medieval pottery, probably from continued manuring, suggesting little change to land use until the modern day when more intensive farming methods led to the loss of the medieval field systems. Later 20th century alterations to the land can also be seen in the construction of, and subsequent abandonment and demolition of, both a modern farm building and a trackway or area of hardstanding.
- 7.1.4 Below the disturbed topsoil the archaeology appears fairly well preserved, although largely lacking in dating evidence. The majority of features exposed were quite shallow however, having likely been truncated due to the later ploughing of the land, and only their lower halves or bases survived intact, cutting through subsoil (where visible in section) and into natural.

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 Bristol. Wiltshire Museum has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project. 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

- 8.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Wiltshire Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; CIfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 8.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the **site/accession code**, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:
 - 01 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type;
 - 01 files/document cases of paper records and A3/A4 graphics;

Selection policy

8.2.3 Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4). In accordance with these, and any specific guidance prepared by



the museum, a process of selection and retention will be followed so that only those artefacts or ecofacts that are considered to have potential for future study will be retained. The selection policy will be agreed with the museum, and is fully documented in the project archive.

8.3 Security copy

8.3.1 In line with current best practice (eg, 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.

8.4 OASIS

8.4.1 An OASIS online record (http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main) has been initiated, with key fields and a .pdf version of the final report submitted. 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 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. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
- 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 (eg, 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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10 APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1 Trench summaries

NGR coordinates and OD heights taken at centre of each trench; depth bgl = below ground level

Trench 1	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401696, 179422	130.74 m OD
Context	Interpretation Fill of		Description	Depth bgl (m)
101	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown silty loam with common	0.00-0.24
			inclusions of limestone fragments	
102	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid yellowish brown sandy loam with frequent	0.24-0.35
			inclusions of limestone fragments	
103	Subsoil		Subsoil: light yellowish sandy loam with abundant inclusions	0.35-0.50
			of limestone fragments	
104	Natural		Limestone bedrock and brash	0.50 +
105	Pit		Sub-rectangular pit	0.24-0.71
106	Pit Fill	104	Dark brown loamy sand with 20% inclusion of sub-angular	0.24-0.71
			stone and modern plastic and glass throughout	
107	Ditch		Linear ditch with steep sides	0.24-1.31+
108	Ditch Fill	107	Moderately well sorted with cobbles in upper part, and	0.24-1.31+
			smaller stones and grit at the bottom	
109	Ditch		Linear ditch	0.24-0.91
110	Ditch Fill	109	Dark greyish brown loamy sand with 20% inclusion of small	0.24-0.65
			sub-rounded limestone fragments and occasional medium	
			sub-rounded limestone fragments	
111	Ditch Fill	109	Dark greyish brown poorly sorted loamy sand with 30%	0.65-0.91
			inclusion of small sub-rounded limestone fragments and	
			occasional medium sub-rounded limestone fragments	

Trench 2	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401676, 179399	130.86 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
201	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.13
202	Subsoil		Subsoil: brown with a white hue, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.13-0.18
203	Natural		Limestone bedrock and clay	0.18m+

Trench 3	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401618, 179423	131.43 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
301	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown, poorly sorted loose loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.25
302	Subsoil		Subsoil: light brown clay, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.25-0.33
303	Subsoil		Subsoil:Light brown with a white hue with frequent limestone inclusions and medium to coarse gravels	0.33-0.54
304	Natural		Limestone bedrock and clay	0.54+



Trench 4	50 m x 1.8 m Interpretation Fill of		NGR: 401634, 179377	131.50 m OD Depth bgl (m)
Context			Description	
401	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.22
402	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown clay with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.22-0.29
403	Natural		Limestone bedrock and clay	0.29+
404	Ditch		Linear ditch	0.22-0.65
405	Ditch Fill	404	Mid-greyish brown silty clay with common inclusions of large limestone fragments	0.22-0.65

Trench 5	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401599, 179371	132.05 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
501	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.21
502	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown clay loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.21-0.38
503	Natural		Limestone bedrock and clay	0.38+

Trench 6	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401558, 179353	132.29 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
601	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.17
602	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown clay loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.17-0.28
603	Natural		Limestone bedrock and clay	0.28+

Trench 7	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401615, 179327	132.20 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
701	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.23
702	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown clay loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.23-0.31
703	Natural		Limestone bedrock and clay	0.31+
704	Ditch		Linear Ditch	0.23-0.47
705	Ditch Fill	705	Mid brown silty clay with common inclusions of large limestone fragments	0.23-0.47

Trench 8	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401613, 179285	132.58 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
801	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.20
802	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown clay loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.20-0.45
803	Natural		Limestone bedrock and clay	0.45+



Trench 9	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401566, 179270	133.52 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
901	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.16
902	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown clay loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.16-0.30
903	Natural		Limestone bedrock and clay	0.30+
904	Ditch		Linear Ditch	0.16-0.66
905	Ditch Fill	904	Mid Brown sandy clay with frequent, moderately sorted subangular gravels.	0.44-0.66
906	Ditch Fill	904	Mid brown with a white hue sandy loam and common fine gravel	0.38-0.44
907	Ditch Fill	904	White with a light brown hue sandy loam with frequent subangular gravels	0.16-0.38

Trench 10 50 m x 1.8 m			NGR: 401607, 179234	133.05 m OD	
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)	
1001	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.19	
1002	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown clay loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.19-0.26	
1003	Natural		Limestone bedrock and clay	0.26-0.33+	

Trench 11	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401654, 179228	132.21 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
1101	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions	0.00-0.22
			of limestone fragments	
1102	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown clay loam, with frequent inclusions of	0.22-0.28
			limestone fragments.	
1103	Natural		Limestone bedrock and clay	0.28-0.34+
1104	Posthole		Posthole	0.22-0.42
1105	Fill of posthole	1105	Reddish brown silty clay	0.33-0.42
1106	Fill of posthole	1105	Dark brown silty clay	0.22-0.33

Trench 12	Trench 12 50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401601, 179183	133.23 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
1201	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown clay loam with moderate gravel inclusions and rooting	0.00-0.20
1202	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown silty clay, with common gravel inclusions	0.20-0.32
1203	Natural		Pale brown silty clay with a grey hue and common limestone inclusions	0.32+

Trench 13	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401601, 179153	133.16 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
1301	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.23
1302	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown silty clay, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.23-0.35



1303	Natural		Limestone bedrock	0.35-0.56+
1304	Furrow		Cut of furrow	0.23-0.67
1305	Fill of Furrow	1304	Mid brown silty clay with poorly sorted limestone inclusions	0.23-0.67

Trench 14	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401671, 179178	132.16 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
1401	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.21
1402	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown clay loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.21-0.40
1403	Natural		Light brown loose clay with limestone bedrock	0.40+

Trench 15	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401668, 179122	132.36 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
1501	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loose loam with common inclusions	0.00-0.23
			of limestone fragments	
1502	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown clay loam, with frequent inclusions of	0.23-0.40
			limestone fragments.	
1503	Natural		Light brown loose clay with limestone bedrock	0.40+
1504	Ditch		Linear Ditch	0.23-0.51
1505	Fill of ditch	1504	Mid greyish brown silty clay loam with common large angular	0.23-0.51
			limestone inclusions	
1506	Pit		Post-medieval Pit	0.23-0.59
1507	Fill of pit	1506	Mid Brown silty clay with small common limestone inclusions	0.51-0.59
1508	Fill of Pit	1506	Dark brown silty clay with occasional small limestone	0.23-0.51
			inclusions	
1509	Ditch		Medieval ditch	0.23-0.49
1510	Fill of ditch	1509	Mid brown loose sandy loam, with common sub-rounded	0.23-0.49
			limestone gravel inclusions	

Trench 16	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401731, 179133	130.71 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
1601	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark brown loam clay with frequent inclusions of	0.00-0.15
			limestone fragments	
1602	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown sandy clay loam, with very frequent	0.15-0.40
			angular inclusions of limestone fragments.	
1603	Natural		Pale yellow clay with limestone bedrock	0.40-0.52+
1604	Pit		Pit	0.15-0.68
1605	Fill of pit	1604	Mid brown with a slight orange hue loamy clay with very	0.15-0.68
			frequent limestone fragments,	
1606	Posthole		Post hole	0.15-0.54
1607	Fill of posthole	1606	Mid brown with a slight orange hue loam clay with occasional	0.15-0.54
			small limestone fragments	

Trench 17	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401743, 179218	130.91 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
1701	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown sandy loam with common	0.00-0.15
			inclusions of limestone fragments	



1702	Subsoil		Subsoil: dark orangish brown sandy loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.15-0.40m
1703	Natural		Limestone bedrock with sand, gravel and cobbles.	0.40+
1704	Ditch		Linear Ditch	0.15-0.48
1705	Fill of Ditch	1704	Mid greyish brown sandy silt	0.15-0.48
1706	Furrow		Linear furrow	0.15-0.48
1707	Fill of Furrow	1706	Mid brown sandy silt.	0.15-0.48
1708	Furrow		Linear furrow	0.15 n/e
1709	Fill of furrow	1708	Unexcavated fill of furrow	0.15 n/e

Trench 18	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401765, 179277	130.55 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
1801	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown sandy loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.27
1802	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown clay loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.27-0.40
1803	Natural		Light brown loose clay with limestone bedrock	0.40+
1804	Furrow		Linear furrow	0.27-0.45
1805	Fill of furrow	1804	Mid greyish brown sandy silt	0.27-0.45
1806	Furrow		Unexcavated furrow	0.27 n/e
1807	Fill of furrow	1806	Unexcavated furrow	0.27 n/e
1808	Furrow		Furrow – shovel tested	0.27 n/e
1809	Fill of furrow	1808	Fill of furrow – shovel tested	0.27 n/e
1810	Tree throw		Tree throw	0.27-0.62
1811	Tree throw	1810	Mid yellowish grey sandy clay with frequent limestone inclusions	0.27-0.62

Trench 19	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401783, 179315	130.24 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
1901	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown loamy sand with common	0.00-0.30
			inclusions of limestone fragments	
1902	Subsoil		Subsoil: dark orangish brown sandy loam, with frequent	0.30-0.45
			inclusions of limestone fragments.	
1903	Natural		Light yellowish white limestone bedrock	0.45+

Trench 20	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401830, 179252	129.90 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
2001	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown sandy loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.20
2002	Subsoil		Subsoil: dark greyish brown silty loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.20-0.40
2003	Natural		Light yellowish white limestone bedrock	0.44+
2004	Ditch		Linear ditch	0.20-0.62
2005	Fill of ditch	2004	Mid greyish brown silty loam with moderate inclusions of small and medium stone fragments	0.20-0.62
2006	Tree throw		Irregular tree throw	0.20-0.57
2007	Fill of tree throw	2006	Mid yellowish grey sandy clay	0.20-0.57
2008	Ditch		Linear ditch	0.20-0.55
2009	Fill of ditch	2008	Dark orangish brown sandy loam with frequent sub-rounded limestone fragments.	0.20-0.55



Trench 21	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401794, 179193	130.37 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
2101	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown sandy loam with common	0.00-0.23
			inclusions of limestone fragments	
2102	Subsoil		Subsoil: dark orangish brown sandy loam, with frequent	0.23-0.41
			inclusions of limestone fragments.	
2103	Natural		Light yellowish white limestone bedrock	0.41+
2104	Shrub bowl		Irregularly shaped shrub bowl	0.20-0.36
2105	Fill of shrub	2104	Mid orangish brown sandy loam	0.20-0.36
	bowl			
2106	Pit		Sub-oval shaped pit	0.23-0.61
2107	Fill of pit	2106	Mid greyish brown silty clay with frequent stone inclusions in	0.23-0.61
			lower part.	
2108	Tree throw		Irregular oval tree throw	0.30-0.41
2109	Fill of tree	2108	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with rare stone inclusions	0.30-0.41
	throw			
2110	Concrete		Concrete slab	0.50 +
2111	Modern rubble		Modern demolition material spread	0.23-0.50

Trench 22	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401793, 179165	130.72 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
2201	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown loamy sand with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.21
2202	Subsoil		Subsoil: dark brown with a black hue clay silt, with sandy gravel patches and rare small limestone inclusions	0.21-0.34
2203	Natural		Variable natural; light grey silt with frequent limestone inclusions and mid grey brown silty loam with frequent limestone inclusions	0.34+
2204	Concrete		Concrete slab	0.53 +
2205	Modern rubble		Modern demolition material spread	0.21-0.53

Trench 23	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401853, 179200	129.74 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
2301	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown silty loam with common	0.00-0.13
			inclusions of limestone fragments	
2302	Subsoil		Subsoil: dark grey brown loamy silt, with frequent inclusions	0.13-0.30
			of limestone fragments.	
2303	Natural		Light grey clay sand with frequent limestone and gravel	0.30+
			patches	
2304	Tree throw		Oval shaped tree throw	0.30-0.41
2305	Fill of tree	2304	Mid brownish grey clay silt with moderate inclusions of stone	0.30-0.41
	throw		fragments	
2306	Animal		Animal disturbance	0.13-0.41
	disturbance			
2307	Animal		Animal disturbance	0.13-0.41
	disturbance			
2308	Animal		Animal disturbance	0.13-0.41
	disturbance			
2309	Animal		Animal disturbance	0.13-0.41
	disturbance			
2310	Pit		Pit cut	0.28-0.49



2311	Fill of pit	2310	Mid yellow grey clay silt with rare small to medium limestone	0.44-0.49
			inclusions	
2312	Fill of pit	2310	Dark greyish black, charcoal rich silt.	0.40-0.44
2313	Fill of pit	2310	Light yellowish brown clay silt with rare sub rounded	0.28-40
			limestone inclusions	
2314	Ditch		Narrow linear ditch	0.13-0.52
2315	Fill of ditch	2314	Mid greyish brown clay silt with rare inclusion of small stone	0.13-0.52
			fragments	

Trench 24	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401880, 179142	129.79 m OD	
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)	
2401	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown sandy loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.22	
2402	Subsoil		Subsoil: dark orangish brown sandy loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.22-0.40	
2403	Natural		Light yellowish white limestone gravel	0.40+	

Trench 25	Trench 25 50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401925, 179181	129.20 m OD	
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)	
2501	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown sandy loam with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.24	
2502	Subsoil		Subsoil: dark orangish brown sandy loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.24-0.34	
2503	Natural		Light yellowish white limestone gravel	0.34+	

Trench 26	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401965, 179216	128.72 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
2601	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown loamy sand with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.17
2602	Subsoil		Subsoil: dark orangish brown sandy loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.17-0.30
2603	Natural		Light yellowish white limestone bedrock	0.30-0.55+
2604	Ditch		Linear ditch	0.17-0.86
2605	Fill of ditch		Mid greyish brown clay loam with sparse inclusions of sub- rounded stones	0.17-0.86

Trench 27	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401981, 179163	128.63 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
2701	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: dark greyish brown loamy sand with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.32
2702	Subsoil		Subsoil: dark orangish brown loamy sand, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.32-0.46
2703	Natural		Light yellowish white limestone gravel	0.46+

Trench 28	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401847, 179078	130.38 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
2801	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: mid greyish brown loamy sand with common	0.00-0.15
			inclusions of limestone fragments	



2802	Subsoil	Subsoil: dark brown with reddish hue sandy loam, with	0.15-0.38m
		frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	
2803	Natural	Light yellowish white limestone bedrock	0.38-0.57+

Trench 29	9 50 m x 1.8 m		m x 1.8 m NGR: 401896, 179085	
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
2901	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: mid greyish brown loamy sand with sparse inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.16
2902	Subsoil		Subsoil: dark brown sandy loam, with frequent inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.16-0.46
2903	Natural		Light yellowish white limestone bedrock	0.46+

Trench 30	50 m x 1.8 m Interpretation Fill of		NGR: 401927, 179078	130.00 m OD
Context			Description	Depth bgl (m)
3001	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: mid brown with slight orange hue loamy sand with common inclusions of limestone fragments	0.00-0.18
3002	Subsoil		Subsoil: light brown loamy sand, with sparse inclusions of limestone fragments.	0.18-0.36
3003	Natural		Light brown yellowish orange sandy clay with moderate manganese flecking	0.36-0.47+
3004	Ditch		Linear ditch, heavily truncated	0.18-0.51
3005	Fill of ditch		Mid brown silty clay	0.18-0.51
3006	Ditch		Linear ditch	0.18-0.50
3007	Fill of ditch		Mid brown silty clay	0.18-0.50

Trench 31	rench 31 50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401958, 179099	129.66 m OD	
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)	
3101	Topsoil		Ploughsoil + made ground: dark greyish brown loamy sand with very frequent sub-angular limestone fragments	0.00-0.23	
3102	Trackway		Top of trackway: white sub-angular limestone rubble	0.23-0.30	
3103	Trackway		Base of trackway: large white limestone blocks	0.30-0.40	
3104	Subsoil		Subsoil: reddish loamy clay with no inclusions	0.40-0.49	
3104	Natural		Yellowish red clay with brash	0.49-0.55+	

Trench 32	50 m x 1.8 m		NGR: 401994, 179102	128.82 m OD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
3201	Topsoil		Ploughsoil: mid-dark brown clay loam with common inclusions of stone fragments	0.00-0.17
3202	Subsoil		Subsoil: mid brown with a red hue clay silt, with frequent inclusions of fine gravel.	0.17-0.29
3203	Natural		Orange clay	0.29+
3204	Ditch		Linear ditch	0.17-0.47
3205	Fill of ditch		Orange with a grey hue silt clay with rare coarse gravels	0.17-0.47
3206	Ditch		Medieval ditch	0.17-0.42
3207	Fill of ditch		Orange with a grey hue silty clay with rare sub-angular gravels	0.17-0.42

n/e - not excavated



10.2 Appendix 2 Oasis form

wessexar1-287338

Project details

Project name Land at Chippenham Road, Lyneham, Wiltshire

Short description of the project

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Pegasus Group, on behalf of Gladman Developments Ltd ('the client'), to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 12.63 hectare parcel of land located at the southern side of Chippenham Road, Lyneham, Wiltshire, SN15 4PA, centred on Ordnance Survey NGR 401777 179230 (SU 01777 79230) (Fig. 1). The evaluation comprised 32 trial trenches (2.5 % sample) of which 18 contained archaeological features and/or deposits, with a slight concentration in the eastern half of site. The evaluation revealed the continued use of the site for agricultural purposes from the medieval period onwards. What appeared to be ploughed out ridge and furrow was present in a number of the trenches, with a small number of probable drainage or boundary ditches present, one of which produced medieval pottery along with domesticated farm animal bone. Evidence for post medieval activity was sparse, suggesting little change to the medieval system until the modern period, when more intensive farming methods led to the loss of the medieval field systems and the intrusion of structural foundations in one area of the field. Where present the medieval pottery tended to be small and heavily abraded, indicating it had been subjected to ploughing and soil disturbance, likely originating from manuring of the fields.

Project dates Start: 17-07-2017 End: 21-07-2017

Any associated project reference codes

117080 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Current Land use Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined

Monument type DITCH Medieval

Monument type DITCH Post Medieval

Monument type STRUCTURE Modern

Project location

Country England

Site location WILTSHIRE NORTH WILTSHIRE LYNEHAM Land at Chippenham Road

Postcode SN15 4PB

Study area 12.63 Hectares

Site coordinates SU 01777 79230 51.511511983744 -1.974390602072 51 30 41 N 001 58 27

W Point

Project creators



Name of Organisation

Wessex Archaeology

Project brief originator

Wiltshire Council

Project design originator

Wessex Archaeology

Project director/manager

Bruce Eaton

Project supervisor

Jamie McCarthy

Type of

sponsor/funding

body

Developer

Name of sponsor/funding

body

Gladman Developments Ltd

Project bibliography 1

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Entered by Bruce Eaton (b.eaton@wessexarch.co.uk)

Entered on 4 August 2017





Plate 1: North-east facing section through ditch 109, trench 1, 0.5 m scale



Plate 2: North facing section through ditch 704, trench 7, 0.5 m scale

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Plate 3: West facing section through ditch 904, trench 9, 2 m scale



Plate 4: South facing section through posthole 1104, trench 11, 0.5 m scale

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Plate 5: South-east facing section through furrow 1509, trench 15, 0.3m scale



Plate 6: North-west facing section through pit 1604, trench 16, 1 m scale

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Plate 7: South-west facing section of furrow 2004, trench 20, 1 m scale



Plate 8: Trench 21 from the northern end, showing concrete layer 2110 with made ground overlaying it 2111, 1x1 m scale and 1x2 m scale

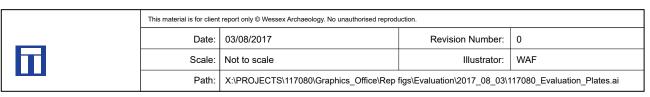




Plate 9: South-west facing section through pit 2310, trench 23, 0.5 m scale



Plate 10: North facing section through ditch 2604, trench 26, 0.5 m scale

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Plate 11: View of ditches 3004 and 3006, trench 30, looking east-north-east, 1 m scale



Plate 12: Representative south facing section of trench 31 showing limestone surface (3101 and 3102), 1m scale

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Plate 13: West-south-west section through ditches 3204 and 3206 in trench 32, 2 m scale

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