

# Palmers Farm, Ryde Isle of Wight

Archaeological Evaluation



Isle of Wight County Council Planning Ref: TCP/29905/F, P/00741/18
Accession Number: IWCMS:2019.9794
Ref: 212820.0
May 2019



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## **Document Information**

Document title Palmers Farm, Ryde, Isle of Wight

Document subtitle Archaeological Evaluation

Document reference 212820.04

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Site location Palmers Farm, Brocks Copse Road, Wootto n Bridge, Ryde, PO33

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County Isle of Wight

National grid reference (NGR) 453740 092800 (SZ 53740 92800)

Planning authority Isle of Wight County Council
Planning reference TCP/29905/F, P/00741/18
Museum name Isle of Wight Heritage Service

Museum accession code IWCMS:2019.9794

WA project code 212820

Dates of fieldwork 21/01/2019 – 01/02/2019

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#### **Quality Assurance**

Issue number & date		Status	Author	Approved by
1	20/02/2019	Internal Draft	AZ	JMK
2	13/03/2019	External Draft	JMK	DDR
3	03/05/2019	Final	JMK	DDR



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#### **Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Mr Peter Rogers ('the client') to carry out an archaeological evaluation with associated geoarchaeological test pitting, on a parcel of land measuring 4.6 ha, located at Palmers Farm, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 4NP, centred on NGR 453740 092800.

The evaluation and associated geoarchaeological test pitting were requested by the Senior Archaeologist of the Archaeology and Historic Environment Services of the Isle of Wight Council prior to the granting of planning permission for a residential development of up to 40 dwellings with means of access and associated infrastructure (Planning application references TCP/29905/F, P/00741/18).

A total of 29 evaluation trenches and 10 geoarchaeological test pits were excavated across two fields. The archaeological evaluation provided evidence for prehistoric and medieval activity, mainly focused in the northern portion of the proposed development area (Field 2). A small amount of undated activity was present in the southern field (Field 1).

The prehistoric archaeological remains took the form of ditches and a cluster of postholes and pits confined to trench 14, with pottery evidence dating them to the late prehistoric (Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age). The ditches are likely to form part of a wider field system and the pits and postholes could be evidence of occupation. Medieval archaeological remains were also found in the lower part of Field 2, in trenches 12 and 15. In the northern part of the site medieval artefact were recovered from trenches 22 and 23. The archaeology took the form of ditches of varying dimensions and orientations, some of which were visible in more than one trench. These are likely to be part of a large field system or a number of smaller systems. The ditch present within trench 23, closely matches the alignment of the existing hedge line and therefore likely represents a more recent field boundary.

The archaeological features in Field 1 consisted of postholes, pits, ditches and gullies, all of which were undated.

The geoarchaeological test pitting evaluation has demonstrated that Pleistocene marine, fluvial and solifluction deposits are present across the site. No lithic remains and minimal palaeoenvironmental remains was recovered, and the geoarchaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential of these deposits within the area of proposed impact is generally low. However, OSL dating of the marine sands would achieve a key regional research priority (Hey and Hinds 2014) to establish a robust chrono-stratigraphic framework for Pleistocene deposits, enabling more refined assessment/interpretation of the archaeological and geoarchaeological potential of Pleistocene sites/deposits.

#### **Acknowledgements**

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Mr Peter Rogers ('the client'), for commissioning the archaeological evaluation and associated geoarchaeological test pitting. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of Rosie Langley and Dr Rebecca Loader, who monitored the project for Isle of Wight County Council, and to Arthur the machine driver for his cooperation and help on site.

The fieldwork was directed by Alistair Zochowski, with the assistance of Jamie Porter, Laura Breeds and Elena Calabria. The geoarchaeological test pitting was directed by Dr Andy Shaw, with assistance from Dudley Stansiforth and Marion Plumer. This report was written by Alistair Zochowski with contributions from Dr Andy Shaw, Inés López-Dóriga and Lorraine Mepham, and edited by Jon Kaines. The project was managed by Jon Kaines on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.



## Palmers Farm, Isle of Wight

## **Archaeological Evaluation**

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Mr Peter Rogers of Palmers Farm ('the client'), to undertake an archaeological evaluation and geoarchaeological test pitting of a 4.6 ha parcel of land located at Palmers Farm, Isle of Wight, PO33 4NP centred on NGR 453740 092800 (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 A planning application (TCP/29905/F, P/00741/18) has been submitted to the Isle of Wight Council for to 40 dwellings with access and associated infrastructure. A decision is still pending.
- 1.1.3 The Senior Archaeologist for the Archaeology and Historic Environment Service of the Isle of Wight Council recommended the programme of archaeological trial trenching be carried out prior to determination.
- 1.1.4 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 2019). The Senior Archaeologist for the Archaeology and Historic Environment Service for the Isle of Wight Council approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 1.1.5 The evaluation consisted of 29 trial trenches (6% sample) and 10 geoarchaeological test pits. A contingency for a further 18 trenches (4%) was available should there be insufficient evidence to make an informed decision regarding date, nature and extent and potential on the archaeological deposits from the proposed development.
- 1.1.6 The fieldwork was carried out between the 21st of January and the 1st of February 2019.

#### 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 proposed 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 area evaluated is located on an irregular shaped piece of land, bounded by agricultural land to the north and west, Palmers Farm and woodlands to the east and farm buildings to the south.



- 1.3.2 Existing ground levels show Palmers Farm, on the southern border sitting on the crest of the gravel ridge approximately 50 metres above Ordnance Datum (aOD) with the site sloping down to 15 metres aOD.
- 1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as comprising clay, silt and sand of the Hamstead Member (British Geological Survey online viewer). These were laid down in a shallow-marine environment during the late Eocene and early Oligocene (37.8-27.8 mya). This is overlain by Pleistocene deposits ascribed to Wootton Gravel Complex Member.
- 1.3.4 Data from three boreholes located c. 600m south of the evaluation area indicates that here the Wotton Gravel Complex Member consists of approximately 4.00 m of sands and gravels overlying a sand unit. The sands and gravels may represent fluvial deposits, whilst the underlying sand may be marine/estuarine in origin (see *Section 2.2.2*).

#### 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### 2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was assessed for an adjacent site in a desk-based assessment (Past Wight Heritage Consultancy 2015), which considered the recorded historic environment resource within a 0.5 km study area, which included this site. A summary of the results is presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the Isle of Wight Historic Environment Record (HER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included, together with additional information about the archaeology of the area.
- 2.1.2 A more detailed summary of the Palaeolithic potential for the Site has been requested by the Senior Archaeologist for the Archaeology and Historic Environment Service of the Isle of Wight Council. Accordingly, a summary has been prepared by the Senior Geoarchaeologist at Wessex Archaeology and is included below. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

## 2.2 Palaeolithic geoarchaeological context

- 2.2.1 The Pleistocene deposits underlying the evaluation area are associated with the Wootton Gravel Complex Member (WGCM). This is a polygenic unit which may include fluvial, marine and/or estuarine deposits.
- 2.2.2 The fluvial deposits are associated with the Solent River Formation (Allen and Gibbard 1993, Westaway et al 2006, Ashton and Hosfield 2010, Briant et al 2012). The modern Solent is a sea channel separating the Isle of Wight from southern England but for most of its history it was a major river system that drained the Hampshire basin and the surrounding Chalklands. Its catchment area included large parts of Hampshire, Dorset, South Wiltshire and the Isle of Wight. Following extensive coastal erosion and eustatic Holocene sea level rise, all that is visible terrestrially today of Solent River system is the upper reaches of the Solent itself, now the River Frome, and its tributary rivers, including the Stour, Avon, Test, Itchen and Medina.
- 2.2.3 The remnant fluvial deposits of the Solent River Formation, along with overlying Head/brickearth, have produced many thousands of Lower and Middle Palaeolithic artefacts that provide evidence for human occupation of the region during the Middle Pleistocene and Upper Pleistocene (Roe 1968, Wessex Archaeology 1993, Ashton and Hosfield 2010, Davis 2013).



- 2.2.4 Fluvial deposits associated with the WGCM relate to the Solent River Formation. These deposits are not mapped as separate terrace formations and may reflect multiple periods of aggradation, they are generally less well understood in comparison to the rest of the Solent River system. Consequently, correlation between the WGCM and terrace sequences in the wider Solent region is not currently possible.
- 2.2.5 One possible chronological indicator for some of WGCM deposits may be provided by an associated sand unit, thought to be marine deposited (Hopkinson and Farrant 2015). Interbedded within the WGCM, these sands may equate to organic rich estuarine deposits of the Steyne Wood Clay found near Bembridge School (Preece et al. 1990). The Steyne Wood Clay is thought to be broadly contemporary with Goodwood-Slindon Raised Beach in Sussex, which is well dated to MIS 13 (528-474 kya). At locales such as those at Boxgrove (Roberts and Parfitt 1999) and the Valdoe Quarry (Pope 2009) marine deposits are overlain by silts laid down under low energy conditions in a lagoon/tidal flat environment. The latter containing temporary landsurfaces that are associated with high resolution *in situ* Lower Palaeolithic archaeology and palaeoenvironmental datasets.
- 2.2.6 The marine sand unit within the WGCM has been identified near the evaluation area (Hopson and Farrant 2015). Data from three boreholes located c. 600m south of the evaluation area (BGS online viewer) indicates that the Wotton Gravel Complex Member here consists of approximately 4.00 m of sands and gravels overlying a sand unit. This suggests that within the evaluation area the basal part of the WGCM may consist of marine sands that may be broadly contemporary with the Steyne Wood Clay, overlain by sands and gravels, at least some of which are likely to be fluvial in origin.
- 2.2.7 The broad potential of such Pleistocene deposits on the Isle of Wight to preserve Palaeolithic archaeology is indicated by abraded Lower Palaeolithic artefacts from Priory Bay, suggested to derive from marine deposits broadly contemporary with the Steyne Wood Clay (Wenban-Smith et al 2009).
- 2.2.8 More specifically, Palaeolithic artefacts have been recovered from gravels associated with the WGCM deposits in an area extending from Cowes to Bembridge, with the richest concentrations in the Bembridge area (Wenban-Smith and Loader, 2007, 9). Additionally, a Palaeolithic artefact (IWHER 968) was recovered from a gravel pit exploiting WGCM deposits c.600 m south of the current evaluation.
- 2.2.9 Consequently, the WGCM deposits within the current evaluation area have the potential to preserve Lower and/or Middle Palaeolithic archaeology and associated geoarchaeological datasets.

#### 2.3 Summary of the possible geoarchaeological potential

- 2.3.1 The geoarchaeological potential of the site can be summarized as follows:
  - previous GI works have identified sands of likely marine origin overlain by clay rich gravels. These deposits can be equated to the Wootton Gravel Complex Member (WGCM);
  - the WCGM is complex and polygenic deposits which, in places, has been demonstrated to be associated with Lower Palaeolithic archaeology, which includes both reworked and minimally disturbed material;



 the WGCM deposits within the current evaluation area may have the potential to preserve Lower Palaeolithic archaeology and associated geoarchaeological datasets.

### 2.4 Archaeological and historical context

Neolithic and Bronze Age (4000 – 800 BC)

- 2.4.1 The development site lies within an area of known archaeological remains and these are recorded on the Isle of Wight Historic Environment Record. Previous rapid field walking has identified prehistoric flint tools and debitage (IWHER 2209) present across the development site which may relate to buried archaeological deposits. The significance of the site is therefore unknown. To the north east and north west of the development site fieldwalking has identified other prehistoric flint scatters (IWHER 2174) and burnt flint scatters (IWHER 2212 and 2213).
- 2.4.2 A Bronze Age Ring Ditch lies less than 200 metres to the northwest of the site (IWHER 3944).

Iron Age (800 BC - 43 AD)

2.4.3 A known Iron Age earthwork boundary (IWHER 901) runs north to south across the Island within 300 metres to the north-west of the site. Known as the "Motkin Boundary", the earthwork was first identified from aerial photographs and runs almost due south across Isle of Wight from King's Quay, roughly up Palmer's Brook to St Lawrence on the south coast. Consisting of sections of bank and ditch, excavations at Standen Heath have provided two date ranges of its use by OSL dating (1026 – 209 BC and 639 – 1114 AD) (SLR Consulting, 2012).

Roman (43 – 410 AD)

- 2.4.4 Some Roman activity in the vicinity of the site is recorded approximately 400 metres to the east of the site (IWHER 960). A Roman coin of Lucius Aelius, (76 to 138 AD) an adopted son of Hadrian, and Roman pottery was ploughed up from "a field in Wootton" in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Unfortunately the exact location was not recorded and it is now thought that the location recorded in the HER map is incorrect.
- 2.4.5 A Roman brooch has been recovered by metal detecting to the north of the site.

Anglo-Saxon (410 – 1066 AD)

- 2.4.6 The Motkin Boundary (HER 901) 300 metres to the north-west of the site was in use at Standen Heath was in use between 639-1114 AD (Saxon and Medieval). It is suggested that the Motkin Boundary forms one of a number of boundaries on the island which run from north to south which emerged during the 7th/8th century AD following invasion by the Gewissae of Wessex.
- 2.4.7 Wootton is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 AD as "Odetone" meaning King's Land but no further details are given. This suggests that the previous Saxon settlement had existed and was of considerable importance.
- 2.4.8 King's Quay was also mentioned as being held by the King in the Domesday Book of 1086 AD. This suggests that the settlement there in the Medieval period may have had Saxon antecedents.



Medieval (1066 - 1500 AD)

- 2.4.9 A scatter of medieval pottery (IWHER 2211), and occupation debris including medieval and post medieval pottery (IWHER 2126) have also been noted during field walking to the north west of the development site. Both sites include pottery of 13<sup>th</sup> century date.
- 2.4.10 The development site lies within the area of the former 'Wootton Park', a medieval deer park which stretched from Kings Quay to Wootton Creek and is documented during the 15<sup>th</sup> century (IWHER 959, IWHLC 608). To the east of the development site is the postulated core of the medieval settlement (IWHLC 1610). Wootton is recorded as a Domesday settlement (*Odetone*) (IWHER 5228), a manorial settlement which may have been centred around the present day Wootton Manor Farm (IWHER 958). St Edmund's Church (IWHER 961) originated in the 12<sup>th</sup> century as a manorial chapel. The deserted medieval settlement of 'Soflet' (IWHER2067), also recorded in the Domesday survey, is associated with the inlet at King's Quay to the north of the development site.

#### Post Medieval

2.4.11 Three 16th Century farmsteads are recorded to the south and east of the site. Palmers Farm lies the closest to the site at 100 metres to the south-east and it is highly likely that the site was used as fields by the farmstead at Palmers' Farm during this period. Wootton Manor Farm lies 500 metres to the east and Westwood Farm at 150 metres to the south. The Isle of Wight Historic Environment Record records five 18th Century buildings within the 500 metres radius search area of the site.

#### 3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

#### 3.1 General aims

- 3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2019) and in compliance with the ClfA's *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), were:
  - To provide information about the archaeological potential of the site;
  - 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;
  - To establish the broad presence/absence, nature and distribution of Pleistocene deposits across the evaluation area and where necessary, to correlate these as a deposit model;
  - To develop a preliminary assessment of the possible Palaeolithic potential of the evaluation area;
  - To inform either the scope and nature of any further Pleistocene geoarchaeological 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;
- 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.
- To determine the presence or absence of deposits with Pleistocene geoarchaeological potential, within the specified area;
- To establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character and date of any such deposits;
- To establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the potential of any such deposits to preserve archaeological and/or palaeoenvironmental remains;
- To place the results of the evaluation within wider historical and Palaeolithic geoarchaeological context; and
- To make available information about the Palaeolithic geoarchaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation

#### 3.3 Site-specific objectives

- 3.3.1 These general aims are situated within the context of national and regional research themes and priorities. At the regional level, the site is located within the Solent-Thames region. Research themes and priorities for all archaeological periods for the region have been set out in the Solent-Thames Research Framework (Hey and Hind 2014).
- 3.3.2 Palaeolithic regional research themes that relate to the evaluation area are:
  - Establish the patterns of occupation and settlement through the Lower/Middle Palaeolithic;
  - The integration, correlation and chronostratigraphic attribution of Plateau and Terrace gravels;
  - What is the correct interpretation of the dissected strip of Plateau gravel/marine beach deposits mapped between Cowes and Bembridge, and is there an important buried landscape comprising a raised beach or fluvial staircase preserved beneath the ground surface in this area?;
  - The patterns of technological/typological change through the Palaeolithic, and their contrast/ similarities with adjacent mainland areas such as the Test Valley, Bournemouth and West Sussex, and
  - To discover faunal/palaeo-environmental remains in fluvial deposits.
- 3.3.3 Later period site-specific research themes that relate to the evaluation area are:
  - To identify and investigate if both late Mesolithic and early Neolithic material is present, especially if these can be linked to environmental and datable sequences



- To identify and investigate large-scale land divisions such as the Motkin Boundary which are not well understood. In particular, further information would be valuable regarding the frequency and form taken by the boundaries above ground and period of uses:
- To identify, date and investigate middens and burnt mounds to clarify date and uses;
- To investigate evidence for the medieval deer farming and the deer park; including potentially deer leaps and traps; and rabbit warrens.

#### 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 2019) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

## 4.2 Fieldwork methods for the archaeological evaluation

General

- 4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using GPS, in the positions as those proposed in the WSI, though trench 14 had to be slightly moved from its original positions because of on-site obstacles of trees and located services (**Figure1**).
- 4.2.2 Prior to fieldwork commencing the client provided information regarding the presence of any below/above-ground services, and any ecological, environmental or other constraints.
- 4.2.3 Before excavation began, the evaluation area was walked over and visually inspected to identify, where possible, the location of any below/above-ground services. All trench and test pit locations were scanned before and during excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) and Genny to verify the absence of any live underground services
- 4.2.4 29 trial trenches, each measuring 50 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.
- 4.2.5 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.
- 4.2.6 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, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.
- 4.2.7 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and the Isle of Wight county archaeologist 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

- 4.2.8 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.
- 4.2.9 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.
- 4.2.10 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 2019). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (ClfA 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 Methods for the geoarchaeological test pits

- 4.4.1 The test pit locations were set out within the ends of archaeological evaluation trenches in the positions proposed in the WSI, except for **TP 34** which was repositioned in agreement with the Senior Archaeologist for the Archaeology and Historic Environment Service of the Isle of Wight Council to avoid impacting on archaeological features (**Figure 1**).
- 4.4.2 Test pits positions were located through real time kinematic (RTK) survey using a Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service. All survey data was 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.
- 4.4.3 The test pits were excavated using a mechanical excavator, as per the trial trenches, with a toothless bucket. Machine excavation was carried out under the constant supervision and instruction of a recognised Palaeolithic specialist with experience of recording and interpreting Pleistocene sediments, who recorded and numbered the sequence of sedimentary units as excavation progressed following standard descriptive practices. The textural characteristics (grain-size, consolidation, colour, material and sedimentary structures) of sedimentary units were recorded, and the shape and nature of their lithostratigraphic contacts (dip, conformity and overall geometry). Machine excavation proceeded in level spits of approximately 50-100 mm, respecting the interface between sedimentary units, until either the solid geology was exposed, or further excavation becomes impractical.



- 4.4.4 Test pits were entered whilst within safely accessible depths (maximum of 1.2 m) to record the upper stratigraphy. After excavation had progressed beyond this depth, recording took place from a safe distance from the edge of excavation without entering the test pit.
- 4.4.5 All test-pits were excavated, sampled, recorded and immediately 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.

## 4.5 Geoarchaeological Sampling

- 4.5.1 The deposits excavated from each spit were assessed for the presence of artefacts and ecofacts; where necessary, spoil from spits was set aside and investigated by hand using archaeological trowels.
- 4.5.2 To assess whether artefacts and/or ecofacts were present within clast dominated deposits (i.e. gravels) samples were taken at appropriate intervals (usually 100l every 20 cm), in stratigraphic succession (**Table 1**). Where possible, these were sieved on site through a 10-mm. In some instances, the deposits were too clayey to sieve, and these were carefully investigated by hand (using archaeological trowels) for any geoarchaeological evidence.

 Table 1
 Number of litres of sampled by stratigraphic context

Stratigraphic unit	Litres
Phase I: Marine sands	200
Phase II: Fluvial sands and gravels	2500
Phase III: Solifluction deposits	300

4.5.3 The potential for deposits to preserve paleoenvironmental evidence was assessed for each sediment unit by the monitoring geoarchaeological specialist. Bulk sediment samples of suitable deposits were taken for palaeoenvironmental assessment (**Table 2**)

 Table 2
 Samples taken for palaeoenvironmental assessment

Sample number	Context number	Depth (m bgl)	Stratigraphic unit	Sample Size (litres)	Purpose
3	3004	3.10	Phase I: Marine sands	0.5	Paleoenvironmental assessment – micropalaeontology
14	3304	0.90	Phase I: Marine sands	0.5	Paleoenvironmental assessment – micropalaeontology
17	3604	1.10	Phase I: Marine sands	0.5	Paleoenvironmental assessment – micropalaeontology
22	3703	1.35	Phase II: Fluvial sands and gravels	40	Paleoenvironmental assessment – molluscs and vertebrates
28	3804	1.30	Phase II: Fluvial sands and gravels	20	Paleoenvironmental assessment – molluscs and vertebrates



33	3405	1.80	Phase II: Fluvial sands and gravels	20	Paleoenvironmental assessment – molluscs and vertebrates
34	3406	2.70	Phase I: Marine sands	0.5	Paleoenvironmental assessment – micropalaeontology

- 4.5.4 Sampling strategies, including for the recovery, processing and assessment of environmental samples, were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2018). The treatment of environmental remains was in general accordance with Wessex Archaeology's in-house guidance, which adheres to the principles outlined in Historic England's guidance (English Heritage 2011 and Historic England 2015b). 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).
- 4.5.5 Consideration was given to the suitability of any sediment units for optically stimulated luminescence dating (OSL). Deposits with accessible deposits suitable for OSL dating were encountered in two test pits and two OSL samples were taken (**Table 3**). Samples for OSL dating were taken following Wessex Archaeology's in-house guidance, which adheres to the principles outlined in Historic England's Luminescence Dating: Guidelines on using luminescence dating in archaeology (English Heritage 2008).

 Table 3
 OSL samples taken

Sample number	Context number	Depth (m bgl)	Stratigraphic unit
15	3304	0.90	Phase I: Marine sands
18	3604	1.10	Phase I: Marine sands

#### 4.6 Geoarchaeological Recording

- 4.6.1 A representative section from each test pit was drawn at a scale of 1:20 and photographed in colour (digital) once excavation has reached its full depth, and at appropriate stages during excavation if features of interest are revealed. Other sections were drawn and/or photographed as appropriate.
- 4.6.2 Accompanying geoarchaeological descriptions and interpretations were recorded (see **Appendix 2**).
- 4.6.3 A full photographic record was made using a digital camera. This recorded both the detail and the general context of the principal lithological and stratigraphic features, and the evaluation area as a whole. 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.

#### 4.7 Monitoring

4.7.1 The Senior Archaeologist and the Archaeological Officer for the Archaeology and Historic Environment Service of the Isle of Wight Council monitored the archaeological evaluation and subsequent geoarchaeological test pitting on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with both the client and the Historic Environment Service of the Isle of Wight Council.



#### 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

#### 5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The archaeological evaluation trenches excavated at Palmers Farm, Ryde, Isle of Wight were spread over two fields. These are referred to as fields 1 and 2 respectively. The results from the archaeological evaluation will be described by field below and then summarised section 8.
- 5.1.2 Of the 29 trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, indicating archaeological remains are present across the site, with a slight concentration in the south western corner of field 2. (**Figure 1**).
- 5.1.3 The uncovered features comprising ditches, gullies, pits and postholes represent two main periods of activity: Prehistoric (including both Bronze Age and Iron Age activity) and Medieval, though several features remain of uncertain date. There is also evidence for post medieval activity in the form of numerous field drains across the site as a whole.
- 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, **Figure 2** provides detail of the concentration of features found within trenches 11 15, located in the southern corner of field 2.

#### 5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The soil sequence viewed within the excavated trenches varied across the two fields evaluated as part of the archaeological mitigation works carried out at Palmers Farm, Ryde, Isle of Wight.
- 5.2.2 The natural underlying geology in field 1 comprised sands and gravels ranging in colour from yellow orange to grey. These were overlain by a mid-greyish brown sandy gravel subsoil and finally by the modern-day mid brown silty clay topsoil.
- 5.2.3 In field 2 the natural geology comprised a mixture of yellow orange to grey sands and gravels, with trenches 12, 16, 17, 18, 20 23 having a yellow orange clay natural. Overlying the natural deposits was a patchy light grey brown silty clay subsoil, and the finally the modern-day topsoil.

#### 5.3 Field 1

- 5.3.1 Field 1 was located toward the south of the site and contained trenches 1-10. Trenches 1, 4, 7 and 10 were either blank or contained natural tree throws. Archaeological features were observed in trenches 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9, although no dateable artefacts were recovered (**Figure 1**).
- 5.3.2 Trench 2 contained a solitary sub circular pit 203, located toward the north eastern end. This pit measured 1.14 m in length, 0.74m in width and had a depth of 0.27 m. It was filled with a single deposit of mid greyish brown silty clay from which no artefactual evidence was recovered (**Plate 1**).
- 5.3.3 Running on a roughly north to south alignment and situated on the western end of trench 3, ditch 303 measured 1.16 m in width and had an excavated depth of 0.36m. It cuts earlier possible pit or tree throw 304. This pit or tree throw was sub oval in shape with length 0.60m, width 0.69 m and a depth of 0.09 m. No finds were recovered from either feature.



- 5.3.4 Trench 5 was located towards the eastern edge of field 1. At the north eastern end of the trench was a ditch 504. This ditch ran on a north east south west alignment and had a width of 0.78 m and a depth of 0.48 m (**Plate 2**). It was filled with a series of silty clay fills which all represented natural silting events occurring after the ditch had gone out of use. The ditch does not continue into any of the surrounding trenches.
- 5.3.5 Trench 6 contained two possible postholes 603 and 605 and a shallow ditch 607 (**Plate 3**). These features were located within the south western end of the trench. The two post holes were both sub circular in shape and had similar dimensions. No finds were recovered from either of the silty clay fills 604 and 606 respectively. Ditch 607, located to the south west of the two postholes, measured 0.50 m in width and 0.17 m in depth. It was filled with a single deposit of mid grey of silty clay. The ditch appears to form a corner, possibly part of a small enclosure, but does not continue into trench 4.
- 5.3.6 A ditch terminus 803, was discovered towards the southern end of trench 8. It measured 1.05 m in length, 0.55 m in width and was 0.36 m at its deepest. It was filled with a single deposit of mid brown grey sandy silt, derived from natural silting of the ditch after it went out of use (**Plate 4**). Again, it did not continue into adjacent trenches.
- 5.3.7 Trench 9 contained an east to west orientated ditch. The ditch, 907, measured 0.70m in width and was excavated to a depth of 0.42 m, however, it was not bottomed due to the high level of the water table (**Plate 5**). The sides were vertical in shape and no finds were recovered from its single fill consisting of a dark brown silty clay.

#### 5.4 Field 2

- 5.4.1 Field 2 was located to the north of the site and contained trenches 11 29. Archaeology was observed within trenches 11- 15, 19, 21 24 and 26. Trenches 16 18, 20 and 25, 27 29 were blank or contained natural tree throws. These trenches can be seen in **Figure 1**, with a detailed view of trenches 11- 15 represented in **Figure 2**.
- Trench 11 contained a small shallow pit 1103 situated toward the west end and two parallel ditches 1105 and 1107 located toward the eastern end. Pit 1103 was roughly circular in shape, had a diameter of 0.51m and a depth of 0.12m. It was filled with a single dark brown black silty clay that had occasional flecks of charcoal present, although not enough to suggest deliberate dumping of fire debris. No finds were recovered from this fill and the pit has been interpreted as a possible rubbish pit.
- 5.4.3 Ditches 1105 and 1107 ran on similar north east south west alignments. They had similar dimensions and depths, roughly 1.5 m in width and between 0.3 m and 0.56 m deep. They were filled with a single fill of mid to dark brown silty clay, resulting from natural silting after the ditches went out of use. It is likely that they form part of a field system of an uncertain date (**Plate 6**).
- Trench 12 contained a series of ditches that all ran on a north west south east alignment (**Figure 3, Plate 7**). These ditches all appear to form part of a medieval field system as most of them produced medieval pottery (see Section 8 below). Ditches 1216 (**Plate 8**) and 1218 (**Plate 9**) both truncate an earlier slightly curvilinear shallow gully 1208. This gully runs on a different alignment to the medieval ditches and as no finds from it were recovered it can only be interpreted at this stage as pre-dating the medieval ditches.
- 5.4.5 Trench 13 also contained a series of ditches, one of which, 1303, appears to the continuation of ditch 1205. However there appears to be a re-cut 1306 (**Plate 10**) present in the intervention that does not appear in 1205. The other ditches in trench 13 ran on



- differing alignments and may represent part of a field system, or internal divisions within in a larger system.
- 5.4.6 Trench 14 contained a number of small pits and postholes toward its south west end (**Figure 4, Plate 11**) and two small ditches 1432 and 1434 that ran on a north west south east alignment and south south west north north east alignment respectively. Another ditch 1436 was present 3 m to the southwest of the posthole cluster.
- 5.4.7 The ditches all had similar dimensions, with the average width being 0.40 m and depth being 0.08 m. The single fills were again similar and consisted of a mid-greyish brown silty clay resulting from natural silting after the ditches had gone out of use. Pottery was recovered from the fill of ditch slot 1432 dated to the prehistoric period. These ditches most likely form part of a field system as they are too shallow to be boundary or enclosure ditches.
- 5.4.8 The pits and postholes were all sub circular in shape and varied in depth with 1425 being the deepest at 0.39 m and 1417 the shallowest at 0.07 m. They were all filled with deposits consisting of dark grey black silty clay indicating natural silting after the posts had either been removed or had rotted away (**Figure 4**, **Plates 12 & 13**). A soil sample was taken from the fill of posthole 1404, due to the presence of prehistoric pottery within it, but it added no further evidence (see Section 8 below). Finds of prehistoric pottery (Late Bronze Age or later) were recovered from the fill of posthole1406 and burnt flint was found in postholes 1421 and 1425.
- 5.4.9 No definite structure can be discerned from the pits and postholes recorded, however more may exist beyond the confines of the evaluation trench.
- 5.4.10 Trench 15 had two natural root bowls at either end, a ditch (1504 and 1508) and a land drain. The northwest to southeast aligned ditch (1504 and 1508) ran for 18m within the trench and was 0.4m wide. It was investigated in two places and shown to have a depth of 0.13 m in slot 1504 and 0.09 m in slot 1508. It was filled with a single deposit of mid greyish brown silty clay, resultant from natural silting after the ditch had gone out of use. Medieval pottery was recovered from both excavated slots. Three conjoined sherds of residual Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from the surface of the ditch close to slot 1508, but are a further indication of Late Prehistoric activity in this part of the Site as shown in Trench 14.
- 5.4.11 Trench 19 was located at the northern most limit of the site (**Figure 1**). A large ditch was observed at the western end of the trench. This ditch was 1.9 m in width and had a depth of 0.60 m. It ran on a roughly north south alignment and had a single fill of dark brown silty clay. The ditch was subsequently utilised for the insertion of a ceramic field drain (**Plate 14**) which suggests a post medieval origin No finds were recovered.
- 5.4.12 Trench 21 contained two ditches 2104 and 2106 that ran roughly east west, which both had a width of roughly 1 m and a depth that ranged from 0.25 m to 0.44 m. Both ditches were filled with a single deposit of mottled yellow brown silty clay that indicates natural silting after the ditches had gone out of use. Another ditch 2106 truncated an earlier shallow gully 2112. This gully ran on a north south alignment and was shallow in nature. It was also filled with a single fill of mottled yellow brown clay. No finds were recovered.
- 5.4.13 Trench 22 situated to the east of trench 21 contained the continuation of ditches 2104 and 2106, However, these ditches 2204 and 2206 had become slightly narrower with an average width of 0.60 m and also appeared to have been truncated slightly due to their average



- depth being 0.15 m. Again, both ditches were filled with a single deposit of mottled yellow grey silty clay. Pottery dating to the late medieval period was recovered from fill 2205.
- 5.4.14 Trench 23 was located toward the north east of the field. Running almost the entire length of the trench was a shallow ditch. Two interventions were excavated in this ditch (2303) that had a width of 0.80 m and a depth of 0.27 m, it was filled with a single fill of dark brown silty clay 2304, from which medieval pottery and a single piece of tile were recovered. Intervention 2305 showed that the ditch had a width of 0.55 m at this particular point and a depth of 0.21 m. Again, it was filled with a single deposit of dark brown silty clay, no finds however were recovered from this particular intervention. The ditch follows the orientation of the current hedge line very closely and is likely to be an earlier field boundary.
- 5.4.15 Trench 24 was located just to the south of trench 23. Located at the western end of the trench were a group of four postholes (2403, 2405, 2407 and 2409). The postholes were all roughly circular and all had U-shaped profiles. They ranged in depth from 0.17 m in 2409 to 0.25 m deep in 2403. They all had a single fill consisting of a dark grey silty clay, resultant from natural infilling after the post either rotted away or being deliberately removed, no finds were recovered from any of the postholes and therefore no date can be provided for the group. (**Plate 15**).
- 5.4.16 Trench 26 contained an undated ditch, likely to relate to the medieval or post medieval field system.

#### 6 GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL TEST PITTING

#### 6.1 Stratigraphic evidence

- 6.1.1 The specific lithologies and stratigraphic succession encountered in each test pit are outlined in **Appendix 2**
- 6.1.2 The Quaternary deposits form a consistent sequence of marine sands and gravels, overlain by gravels in a sandy clay matrix. The latter can be subdivided into Pleistocene cryoturbated fluvial gravels and Pleistocene solifluction gravels.
- 6.1.3 The generalised stratigraphic sequence encountered is listed, and the deposits described below:
  - Phase H: Hamstead Member
  - Phase I: Marine sands
  - Phase II: Fluvial sands and gravels
  - Phase III: Solifluction deposits
  - Phase TS: Top soil/ sub soil

#### Phase H: Hamstead Member

6.1.4 These Palaeogene deposits were found to unconformably underlie *Phase I: Marine Sands* in **TP 33** and **TP 36** towards the north-west margins of the evaluation area, where the Pleistocene deposits thin out (**Plate 16**). They consist of orange and light bluish grey mottled clay and brown clay, the latter containing visible organic fragments. These clays are fissured and exhibit fine laminations.

#### Phase I: Marine sands



6.1.5 Present in all test pits, this consists of orange to light bluish grey fine-medium sand, which in places exhibits mottling and clayey sand lenses (**Plate 16**). Occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded flint clasts are occasionally observed. In **TP 36** a thin gravel horizon was identified in the base of the unit. The lithological characteristics of the deposit, including the presence of sub-rounded flint clasts, indicates this aggraded during a marine transgression.

#### Phase II: Fluvial sands and gravels

6.1.6 Identified in **TP31**, **TP 32**, **TP 34**, **TP 35**, **TP 38** and possibly **TP 30**, this consists of fine to coarse sub-angular, clast supported flint in clayey sand matrix. It unconformably overlies the *Phase I: Marine sands*. The unit varies from ~1.00m to ~1.80m in thickness (**Plate 17**). Some size sorting of the gravel is apparent and fluvial bedding structures are discernible. However, the deposit has been cryoturbated through repeated freezing and thawing under periglacial conditions. *unconformably overlie the Phase I: Marine sands*.

#### Phase III: Solifluction deposits

6.1.7 The youngest Quaternary deposit consists of a poorly sorted, structureless, fine to coarse sub-angular and angular flint gravel in an orangish brown, slightly sand clay matrix that is between 0.4 and 0.8 m thick; however, in **TP 39** it reaches 1.40m thick (**Plate 18**). It tends to be matrix supported; in places it consists of a gravelly clay. It is characteristic of a cold-climate Pleistocene slope deposits formed through solifluction processes (alternate freeze-thawing). It overlies and truncates *Phase I* and *II* units. The deposit contains sub-angular, fluvially derived clasts reworked from *Phase II* fluvial deposits.

#### 6.2 Artefactual evidence

6.2.1 No artefacts were recovered during the test pitting evaluation

#### 6.3 Palaeoenvironment assessment

Introduction

- 6.3.1 Four bulk samples were taken from deposits across the evaluation areas to assess the potential of deposits to preserve palaeoenvironmental indicators. The results are presented in **Appendix 3.**
- 6.3.2 Following the methodology outlined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2019), different sized bulk samples were processed by different methods, dependent on the nature of the deposits and the type of paleoenvironmental indicators being assessed for. The following groups of samples were processed and assessed:
  - One large bulk samples (40l) taken from the *Phase II: Pleistocene fluvial sands* and gravels to assess for the presence of molluscs and vertebrates.
  - Three small bulk samples (0.5l) from the *Phase I: Marine sands* were assessed for the presence of key micro-paleontological environment indicators (ostracods, foraminifera, earthworm granules, slug plates).

#### Methods

6.3.3 The large bulk sample taken to assess for the presence of molluscs and vertebrates were processed by wet sieving on a 0.5 mm mesh, with residues fractioned into 4 mm, 2 mm, 1 mm and 0.5 mm fractions. The coarse fractions (>4 mm) were sorted by eye and discarded. The finer residue fractions were assessed with the help of magnification, using a stereo incident light microscopy at magnifications of up to x40 for the identification of environmental remains, such as fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, molluscs, and insects.



- 6.3.4 Small bulk samples taken to asses for the presence of key micro-paleontological environment indicators (ostracods, foraminifera, earthworm granules, slug plates) were processed by wet sieving on 500 µm, 250 µm, 125 µm and 63 µm sieves. A riffle box was used to split large residue fractions into smaller subsamples when appropriate.
- 6.3.5 Fine residue fractions were scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy (Leica MS5 microscope) at magnifications of up to x40 for the identification of palaeoenvironmental remains. Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (e.g. *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains, such as earthworm eggs and insects, which would not be preserved unless anoxic conditions prevailed on site. The preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains, as well as the presence/absence of other environmental remains such as terrestrial and aquatic molluscs, animal bone and insects (in cases of anoxic conditions for their preservation), was recorded. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa were noted.

#### Results

6.3.6 No paleoenvironmental was identified in the samples assessed, other than traces of wood charcoal; these are intrusive.

#### Conclusions

- 6.3.7 The absence of significant environmental evidence in the samples assessed suggests they have no potential for further work and as such they are recommended for discard.
- 6.3.8 Based on the results of this assessment, the potential of *Phase I* and *Phase II* deposits within the evaluation area is regarded to be low.

#### 6.4 Scientific dating potential

- 6.4.1 Consideration was given to the suitability of sediment units for optically stimulated luminescence dating (OSL) and/or other scientific dating methods (such as ESR or AAR).
- 6.4.2 The lithology of the deposits forming the *Phase I: Marine sands* are suitable for OSL dating. As these deposits were accessible in **TP 33** and **TP 36** single OSL samples was taken from exposures in each of these test pits.

#### 7 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

#### 7.1 Finds

- 7.1.1 A very small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation, consisting largely of pottery. The assemblage ranges in date from prehistoric to medieval. Finds derived from six of the trenches excavated (Trenches 3, 12, 14, 15, 22 and 23), and all were recovered from cut features (ditches and postholes).
- 7.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in Table 4.

**Table 4** All finds by context

		Pot	ttery	Other Finds
Context	Feature	No.	Wt. (g)	
306	Ditch 303			1 flint; 2 burnt flint



1204	Ditch 1203	1	1	
1205	Ditch 1203	2	3	1 burnt flint
1207	Ditch 1206	1	2	
1215	Ditch 1214	3	9	
1217	Ditch 1216	2	6	
1221	Ditch 1218	14	193	
1225	Ditch 1224	2	9	
1405	Posthole 1404	4	3	
1407	Posthole 1406	1	1	1 flint
1409	Posthole 1408	1	1	
1410	Posthole 1406	8	9	
1416	Posthole 1415	3	6	
1426	Posthole 1425			1 burnt flint
1433	Ditch 1432	1	1	
1437	Ditch 1436			3 burnt flint
1505	Ditch 1504	1	11	
TR15	Ditch 1508	3	17	
1509	Ditch 1508	2	5	
2205	Ditch 2204	2	56	
2304	Ditch 2303	5	16	1 ceramic roof tile
Total	Total	56	349	

#### 7.2 Pottery

- 7.2.1 The pottery assemblage, which totals 56 sherds (349 g) provides the primary evidence for the Site, although this has been somewhat hampered by the poor condition of the assemblage. Material of prehistoric and medieval date is included; the harder-fired medieval sherds have survived in slightly better condition, although still subject to surface and edge abrasion. Softer-fired prehistoric sherds are more heavily abraded, in some cases actively laminating, and this has prevented any close dating in most cases. Mean sherd weight overall is 6.2 g; this drops to 1.8 g for prehistoric pottery and rises to 8.9 g for medieval sherds. The poor condition, and the small quantities of pottery involved (only one feature produced more than ten sherds, and the rest yielded five sherds or fewer), mean that the dating evidence provided for individual features should be treated with caution any or all of these sherds could have been redeposited.
- 7.2.2 The pottery has been recorded by ware type, which has been at the level of dominant inclusion type (e.g. flint-tempered, shell-tempered). Medieval wares have been cross-referenced, where possible, with the type series for Carisbrooke Castle (Mepham 2000), but there is not a straight correlation. Pottery by context is presented in Table 5.



**Table 5** Pottery by context

Context	Ware type	No.	Wt. (g)	Comments	Date
1204	Sandy ware	1	1		MED
1205	Sandy ware	2	3		MED
1207	Sandy ware	1	2		MED
1215	Sandy ware	3	9		MED
1217	Sandy ware	1	3		MED
1217	Shelly ware	1	3		MED
1221	Sandy ware	13	150	1 jug rim + handle stump (coarse fabric variant)	MED
1221	Fine sandy ware	1	43	jug rod handle, glazed	MED
1225	Sandy ware	2	9		MED
1405	Flint-tempered	4	3	small crumbs	LPRE
1407	?Shelly ware	1	1	tiny crumb, some voids	LPRE
1409	Flint-tempered	1	1	small crumb	LPRE
1410	?Shelly ware	8	9	badly laminating, some voids	LPRE
1416	?grog-tempered	3	6	tiny sherds	LPRE
1433	?Shelly ware	1	1	tiny sherd	LPRE
1505	Sandy ware	2	5		MED
TR15	Flint-tempered	3	17	conjoining, from 'gritty base'	LPRE
1509	Sandy ware	2	5		MED
2205	Fine sandy ware	2	56	1 with traces of internal glaze	MED
2304	Sandy ware	5	16		MED

LPRE = late prehistoric; MED = medieval

#### Prehistoric

- 7.2.3 Twenty-one sherds have been dated as prehistoric. These constituted all the sherds from Trench 14, and three sherds from Trench 15. The sherds from Trench 15 (ditch 1506), which conjoin, are in slightly better condition; these are in a sparsely flint-tempered fabric and appear to form the base of a vessel, with a gritty underside. Although undiagnostic, this can be dated on fabric grounds to the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age.
- 7.2.4 Sherds from Trench 14 are not so clearly identifiable, consisting mainly of small crumbs. Five sherds are probably also flint-tempered, ten show voids which may represent leached-out shell inclusions, and one may be grog-tempered. None are diagnostic, and most are badly abraded. A broad later prehistoric date has been assigned (Late Bronze Age or later).

#### Medieval

- 7.2.5 The remaining 35 sherds are medieval. All but one are in sandy fabrics; the exception is a sherd in a sandy/shelly ware from ditch 1216, which is close to (but not identical to) Carisbrooke fabric \$400.
- 7.2.6 Amongst the sandy wares, one sherd (from the largest feature group, from ditch 1218) is a jug rod handle in a relatively fine sandy glazed fabric, and two sherds from ditch 2204 are also in fine fabrics. There is no direct parallel for these at Carisbrooke, but a 14th- or 15th-century date can be suggested. Other sandy fabrics are coarser, with macroscopically



visible quartz grains; none are glazed. One other sherd from ditch 1218 is diagnostic – this is a jug rim with handle stump. These sandy coarsewares seem to fall within the range of Carisbrooke fabric Q404, moderately coarse, and with a presumed (but unknown) source on the island, and a date range spanning most of the medieval period from late 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century. The almost total absence of shelly wares, which are concentrated within the early part of the medieval sequence at Carisbrooke, suggest a date range of 13<sup>th</sup> century or later.

#### 7.3 Other finds

7.3.1 Other finds occurred in very small quantities; they comprised one fragment from a medieval roof (peg) tile; seven pieces of burnt, two pieces of worked flint (waste flakes, not chronologically distinctive), and seven pieces of burnt, unworked flint (unknown date and origin)

#### 8 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

#### 8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 One macrofossil bulk sediment sample and three microenvironmental samples were taken from natural deposits of Mid Pleistocene chronology and were processed for the recovery and assessment of the environmental evidence.

#### 8.2 Aims and Methods

- 8.2.1 The purpose of this assessment is to determine the potential of the environmental remains preserved at the site to address project aims and to provide data valuable for wider research frameworks.
- 8.2.2 The size of the macrofossil wet-sieving bulk sample was 40 litres and the three microenvironmental samples were each 1 litre in volume. The macrofossil sample was processed by wet sieving on a 0.5 mm mesh and then dried; the residue was fractioned into 4 mm and 0.5 mm fractions and then the coarse fraction (>4 mm) was sorted by eye and discarded. The microenvironmental small bulk samples were processed by wet sieving on 500 μm, 250 μm, 125 μm and 63 μm sieves A riffle box was used to split large fine residue fractions into smaller subsamples when appropriate. The fine residue fractions were scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy (Leica MS5 microscope) at magnifications of up to x40 for the identification of environmental remains. The preservation and nature of the environmental remains was recorded.

#### 8.3 Results

8.3.1 The fine residues from the sediment samples were of variable volumes and had no environmental evidence, other than traces of wood charcoal (Table 1).

			Sampl Residu	Residu		Charred plant remains		Inv	ertebrates		
Sample Code	Sampl e no.	Contex t no.	e volum e (I)	Mesh size	e volume (ml)	Sub- sample	Wood charcoal	Charred Other	Insect s	Molluscs + Crustacean s	Vertebrate s
212820_14_330				63-		125μ - 25%, 63μ					
4 212820_17_360	14	3304	1	500μ 63-	695.5	- 50% 125μ -	Trace	-	-	-	-
4 212820_22_320	17	3604	1	500μ	570 ca.	25% 6.25%	Trace	-	-	-	-
3	22	3203	40	500μ	8000	(500ml)	-	-	-	-	-

**Table 6** Assessment of the environmental evidence



212820_34_340				63-		125μ -					
6	34	3406	1	500μ	406	25%	Trace	-	-	-	-

#### 8.4 Conclusions

8.4.1 The absence of significant environmental evidence in the deposits suggests they have no potential for further work and as such they are recommended for discard.

#### 9 DISCUSSION AND ASSESSMENT OF GEOACHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

- 9.1.1 The geoarchaeological test pitting evaluation has demonstrated that Pleistocene marine, fluvial and solifluction deposits are present across the site.
- 9.1.2 The earliest Pleistocene deposits present (*Phase I: Marine Sands*) consist of fine to medium fluvial sands with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded flint clasts; a basal gravel horizon encountered in **TP 36** may also form part of these marine deposits. These marine sands form part of the Wootton Gravel Complex Member (WGCM). Marine units have been identified within topographically lower occurrences of the WGCM east of Cowes (Hopson and Farrant 2015, 107). The presence within the evaluation area confirms suggestions that such deposits are also present within the WGCM at higher elevations to the west (Hopson and Farrant 2015, 108). These deposits may relate to a single period of aggradation, or multiple phases of marine transgression.
- 9.1.3 These *Phase I* sands are essentially undated. However, based on altitude, the marine deposits within the WGMC have been suggested to broadly correlate with the Steyne Wood Clay and with Goodwood-Slindon Raised Beach in Sussex, both dated to MIS 13 (528-474 kya). This correlation is extremely tentative, however. Establishing a chronological framework and correct interpretation for these deposits is a key regional research priority (Hey and Hind 2014; see section 3.3.2).
- 9.1.4 Deposits with OSL dating potential were identified within the *Phase I: Marine sands* during these investigations and samples taken. The potential of the unit to preserve archaeological evidence was assessed. No evidence was identified and the deposit across the evaluation consists of marine sands; no stabilisation horizons were identified, and the upper part of these deposit is truncated by the overlying *Phase II* (fluvial) and *Phase III* (solifluction) deposits. The potential to preserve palaeoenvironmental datasets has been shown to be low. Based on this evaluation, the broad geoarchaeological potential of these deposits in the evaluation area is considered to be low. However, the sands do have dating potential and establishing an age for them will contribute to addressing key regional research questions.
- 9.1.5 Stratigraphically, the *Phase I* deposits are overlain by *Phase II: Fluvial sands and gravels*. These are also attributable to the WGCM. Found sporadically across the evaluation area, these are relative thin and have been extensive cryoturbated, with material from different stratigraphic horizons within the deposit mixed through periglacial processes (freezing and thawing).
- 9.1.6 The fluvial deposits of the WGCM belong to the Solent River Formation. The age of these deposits is poorly constrained, but those found at a lower elevation at Priory Bay (~29m aOD) have been broadly dated to between MIS 11 and MIS 9 (424-300 kya). The base of the *Phase 1: Fluvial sands and gravels* in the current evaluation area are at ~42m-~44m aOD. This higher elevation suggests that they predate the dated deposits at Priory Bay.



- 9.1.7 The WGCM have been shown to have broad potential to preserve reworked and minimally disturbed Lower Palaeolithic artefacts (see section 2.2); a Palaeolithic artefact (IWHER 968) was recovered from a gravel pit exploiting WGCM deposits c.600m south of the current evaluation. The geoarchaeological, dating and palaeoenvironmental potential of the deposits in the evaluation area has been assessed. No archaeological evidence was identified, and no contexts were present that could preserve minimally disturbed evidence. The potential to preserve palaeoenvironmental datasets has been shown to be low, and no datable deposits or evidence were identified. Based on the results of this evaluation, the geoarchaeological potential of the *Phase II: Fluvial sand gravels* in the evaluation area is considered to be low.
- 9.1.8 Gravels and gravelly clays deposited through solifluction processes have been identified overlying and truncating WGCM deposits across the site. These are an unmapped continuation of Pleistocene Head deposits mapped by the BGS immediately west of the site, and are infilling cols situated on the margins of a south-west north-east orientated valley. These sediments were deposited down-slope through solifluction processes (alternate freeze-thawing), potentially during several cold climate phases after the deposition of the WGCM.
- 9.1.9 Head deposits are often not of direct geoarchaeological significance but may contain eroded and redeposited artefacts and seal underlying stratigraphy in the form of stabilisation horizons and buried former Pleistocene land surfaces containing archaeology and palaeoenvironmental remains. The geoarchaeological potential of these solifluction deposits was assessed. No evidence was recovered and no stabilisation horizons or buried former land surfaces were identified. Based on the results of this evaluation, the geoarchaeological potential of the *Phase III: Solifluction deposits* in the evaluation is considered to be low.

#### Recommendations

- 9.1.10 The results of the geoarchaeological test pitting evaluation indicate that the potential of the Pleistocene deposits to preserve geoarchaeological, palaeoenvironmental and dating evidence is generally low, insofar as the area of proposed impact is concerned.
- 9.1.11 This is not to say that the deposits as a whole may not contain significant material. This is particularly the case for the Wootton Gravel Complex Member (WGCM) which has been shown to have the potential to preserve regionally and nationally important evidence.
- 9.1.12 Notably, the *Phase I: Marine Sands* do, however, have broad potential for OSL dating. As establishing a chronological framework and correct interpretation for these deposits is a key regional research priority (Hey and Hind 2014), to mitigate against impact of these deposits, the two OSL samples taken during these investigations could be processed. As a caveat it should be noted that if, as has been tentatively suggested, these deposits do date to MIS 13 they may be at or beyond the limit of the current applicability of this technique. It is therefore recommended that, initially, one of these samples is processed to assess whether age estimates can be established.

#### 10 CONCLUSIONS

### 10.1 Summary

10.1.1 The archaeological evaluation of the land at Palmers Farm, Ryde, Isle of Wight provided evidence for prehistoric and medieval activity, mainly focused in the northern portion of the



- proposed development area (Field 2). A small amount of undated activity was present in the southern field (Field 1).
- 10.1.2 The prehistoric archaeological remains took the form of ditches and a cluster of postholes and pits confined to trench 14, along with residual finds in trench 15, with pottery evidence dating them to the late prehistoric (Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age). The ditches may form part of a field system with the pits and postholes possibly being evidence of occupation dating to the Late Prehistoric period.
- 10.1.3 Medieval archaeological remains were also found in the lower part of Field 2, in trenches 12 and 15. In the northern part of the site medieval artefact were recovered from trenches 22 and 23. The archaeology took the form of ditches of varying dimensions and orientations, some of which were visible in more than one trench. These are likely to be part of a large field system or a number of smaller systems.
- 10.1.4 The ditch present within trench 23, closely matches the alignment of the existing hedge line and therefore likely represents a more recent field boundary.
- 10.1.5 The archaeological features in Field 1 consisted of postholes, pits, ditches and gullies, all of which were undated. Of interest was the ditch terminus in trench 8, which did not appear to relate to anything in the other trenches.
- 10.1.6 The map regression in the desk based assessment does not clearly relate any of the ditches found to post medieval boundaries. It is possible that some of the ditches in Trenches 11, 12 &13 might tie in with the boundaries shown in the 1866 Ordnance Survey map but the medieval dates in trench 12 suggest they went out of use earlier than that. On that basis the ditches are likely to be older than the mapping available.
- 10.1.7 The geoarchaeological test pitting evaluation has demonstrated that Pleistocene marine, fluvial and solifluction deposits are present across the site. No lithic remains and minimal palaeoenvironmental remains was recovered, and the geoarchaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential of these deposits within the area of proposed impact is generally low. However, OSL dating of the marine sands would achieve a key regional research priority (Hey and Hinds 2014) to establish a robust chrono-stratigraphic framework for Pleistocene deposits, enabling more refined assessment/interpretation of the archaeological and geoarchaeological potential of Pleistocene sites/deposits.

## 10.2 Conclusion

- 10.2.1 The archaeological evaluation and associated geoarchaeological test pitting carried out at Palmers Farm, Ryde, Isle of Wight successfully met the aims and objectives set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Wessex Archaeology 2019).
- 10.2.2 The archaeological evaluation demonstrated the existence of surviving archaeology dating to both the prehistoric and medieval periods within the proposed development area. Dated remains were found across the northern part of the development area, with a focus of activity in the south west corner of Field 2. The late prehistoric evidence seems to be contained to the southern part of Field 2, with no evidence of it in surrounding trenches.
- 10.2.3 The geoarchaeological test pitting highlighted that Pleistocene marine, fluvial and solifluction deposits are present across the site.
- 10.2.4 The results of the archaeological evaluation do not indicate any overriding archaeological constraints which are likely to prohibit approval of any future planning application for the



- site. Based on the results Wessex Archaeology considers the site to be of low to medium archaeological potential, which is of local significance.
- 10.2.5 It is suggested that any further archaeological mitigation (targeted excavation, watching brief, etc.), if required by the Local Planning Authority, could follow planning consent secured by an appropriately worded archaeological planning condition. The extent and nature of any further archaeological mitigation will be determined by the Local Planning Authority, advised by their archaeological planning advisor.

#### 11 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

#### 11.1 Museum

11.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Isle of Wight Heritage Service has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code IWCMS:2019.9794. 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.

## 11.2 Preparation of the archive

- 11.2.1 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 Isle of Wight Heritage Service, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; CIfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 11.2.2 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;

#### 11.3 Selection policy

11.3.1 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.

## 11.4 Security copy

11.4.1 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.

#### 11.5 **OASIS**

11.5.1 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.

#### 12 COPYRIGHT

## 12.1 Archive and report copyright

- 12.1.1 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.
- 12.1.2 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.

#### 12.2 Third party data copyright

12.2.1 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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## **APPENDICES**

# **Appendix 1 Trench summaries**

Trench 1	46.30m x 1.80 m x 0.95 m		NGR 453617.19, 92614.28 NGR 453651.86, 92584.54	42.62maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
0101	topsoil		Silty clay mid brown soil with clear horizon, mixed with sparse subrounded gravels and highly disturbed by rooting.	0.00/-0.24
0102	Subsoil		Mid greyish brown sandy silt soil fully mixed with fine and medium gravels.	0.24/-0.63
0103	Natural		mid orangish to grey sandy soil mixed with fine and medium gravels: alternated with pure sandy orangish patches and light grey patches (going from the highest to the lowest part of the trench).	0.63+
0104	Natural Feature		shrub bowl	
0105	Fill	0104	fill of shrub bowl	

Trench 2	48.32m x 1.80 m x 0.46 m		NGR 453653.82, 92595.34 NGR 453680.56, 92635.09	45.24maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
0201	topsoil		mid greyish brown silty clay loam. Moderately rooted with turf. Very common subangular and subrounded flint gravels 5-120mm diam. Clear interface with (202).	0.00/-0.30
0202	Natural		varying mid yellowish/greyish brown silty sand with abundant subangular and subrounded flint gravels, 5-130mm diam. Mixed levels of sorting along trench, becoming increasingly fine to the NNE.	0.30+
0203	Pit		sub-oval in plan, with concave base and concave sides with moderate slope. Clearly defined cut, with SW side slightly more severe than NE side. Pit feature of unknown date. Likely served as refuse dump.	0.27
0204	Secondary fill	0203	brown, friable fill of pit [203]. Gravel inclusions appear poorly sorted and with no archaeological components. Clear interface with natural greyish orange clays. fill formed by the gradual erosion of Pit sides. Localised soil deposits and potentially any	0.27

Trench 3	50.00m x 1.80 m x 0.57 m		NGR 453616.05, 92627.77 NGR 453663.64, 92629.53	44.41maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
0301	topsoil		mid greyish brown silty loam. Moderate subangular and subrounded gravels 5-80 mm. friable.	0.00/-0.33
0302	Subsoil		Sub-interface, mid yellowish brown silty loam. Common subrounded and subangular gravel, 5-80 mm. moderate compaction.	0.33/-0.57



0303	Ditch		WSW side almost vertical, ENE side moderate and undulates. Not fully excavated due to water table. likely a boundary ditch, however vertical sides would mean it would have to have filled in quickly, and yet other side undulates as if collapsed.	0.36
0304	Pit		Pit cut by later ditch [303]. No finds and no obvious date. Unsure on purpose, shallow but truncated.	0.09
0305	Natural Feature		excavated to trench edges. likely tree throw, edges and base undulate slightly. No finds.	0.09
0306	Secondary fill	0303	moderate compaction, gravel crumbled easily in section. secondary fill up on [303], unsure on time frame as one side of ditch undulates (indicating collapse) but other remains vertical which suggests fast filling. Comprised of gravel collapse of ditch edge	0.36
0307	Secondary fill	0304	moderate compaction. Pea grit at interface with natural, less throughout fill. filling up of possible Pit [304] from gravelly natural (likely collapse of upper edges of Pit) and topsoil erosion.	0.09
0308	Secondary fill	0305	moderate compaction, truncated, shallow. filling in of likely tree throw [305], collapsing gravel and topsoil mixed together.	0.07
0309	Natural		Light brownish yellow sandy gravel, abundant gravels (70-80%), moderate compaction.	0.57+

Trench 4	49.30m x 1.80 m x 0.70 m		NGR 453626.90, 92642.97 NGR 453677.01, 92643.44	44.20maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
0401	topsoil		silty clay mid brown soil with clear horizon with the natural. Mixed with sparse medium gravels, high rooting.	0.00/-0.43
0402	Natural		mid orangish to grey sandy soil fully mixed with medium and fine gravels. Randomly alternates patches with bright yellow sandy silt soil and few grey silty clay patches.	0.43+

Trench 5	48.40m x 1.80 m x 0.60 m		NGR 453683.92, 92646.51 NGR 453705.73, 92689.84	43.98maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
0501	topsoil		dark greyish brown sandy silt. Occasional subrounded and subangular flint gravel 5-50 mm diam. Moderately rooted with turf line. Diffuse interface with (502).	0.00/-0.28
0502	Subsoil		mid greyish brown clayey silt. Common subangular and subrounded flint gravel 5-80 mm diam. Sparse rooting with fairly clear interface with (503).	0.28/-0.46
0503	Natural		mid brownish yellow sandy clay. Abundant subangular and subrounded flint gravel 2-130 mm diam. Predominantly gravel deposit, with patches of increased sand/clay content throughout.	0.46+



0504	Ditch		linear ditch spanning NE-SW at northern extent of trench 5, with a concave base and sides with moderate slope. Clearly defined, especially where it cuts through clay patches in the natural. In trench edge it is possible to see the ditch cuts through the s	0.48
0505	Primary fill	0504	lowermost fill of ditch [504]. A paler, more friable, deposit with considerably less gravel content when compared to upper fills. initial deposition formed by rapid weathering of ditch sides.	0.48
0506	Secondary fill	0504	dark, very gravely fill of ditch [504]. Appears to be a combination of natural gravel and topsoil. high energy secondary deposit formed by the sustained erosion of ditch sides and localised soils.	0.16
0507	tertiary deposit	0504	visible in trench edge only, at level of subsoil. Mixed deposit of poorly sorted gravels and dark soils. final infill of ditch by ploughing of soils forming a mixed fill of gravel and sandy silt. No dating.	0.26

Trench 6	47.50m x 1.80 m x 0.60 m		NGR 453639.46, 92655.58 NGR 453681.71, 92677.27	43.72maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
0601	topsoil		silty clay mid brown soil with clear horizon with natural. Mixed with sparse medium gravels, high rooting.	0.00/-0.41
0602	Natural		mid brown to orangish sandy soil fully mixed with fine and medium gravels. Alternated with random patches of sandy silt bright brown soil and grey silty clay patches.	0.41+
0603	Posthole		posthole on middle part of trench. Maybe related with another similar feature at SW. undated.	0.11
0604	Fill	0603	single fill of posthole with a moderately soft soil in which are loose sparse gravels. It contained no finds, shows clear horizon. natural infilling process formation.	0.11
0605	Posthole		last posthole at SW of trench 6, possibly related with [603]. These 2 are the only similar features into the same trench with a possible alignment SW-NE. [605] cuts a gravelly natural and it contained no finds. Quite clear on plan. Undated.	0.15
0606	Fill	0605	single fill in posthole [605] with clear horizon and moderate compaction. Homogeneous and fully made with gravels. No finds. Formed due to a natural infilling process.	0.15
0607	Ditch		cut of a shallow ditch with straight sides on the SW end of the trench. Possibly part of a quadrangular/rectangular feature, its short side (NS oriented) is quite clear on plan, while the long one (ENE-WSW oriented - ending into the S edge of the trench).	
				0.17



0608	Secondary fill	0607	secondary fill with clear horizon and moderately compact. Fully mixed with gravels, it contained few charcoal flakes but no finds. fill formed due to a natural infilling process, maybe in a prolonged contact with water.	0.17	
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Trench 7	48.50m x 1.80 m x 0.78 m		NGR 453647.55, 92676.26 NGR 453682.73, 92709.87	42.59maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
0701	topsoil		silty clay mid brown soil with few rooting, mixed with sparse, poorly sorted, gravels.	0.00/-0.52
0702	Natural		mid brown to orangish sandy soil with very abundant fine and medium gravels. Alternated with random grey clayish patches or bright yellow sandy silt patches.	0.52+

Trench 8	47.23m x 1.80 m x 0.64 m		NGR 453691.37, 92689.06 NGR 453693.96, 92737.76	43.20maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
0801	topsoil		dark greyish brown silty loam. Occasional subrounded and subangular flint gravel 5-50 mm diam. Friable, moderately rooted. Clear interface with (502).	0.00/-0.28
0802	Natural		assorted subangular and subrounded flint gravels in a loose sandy matrix. Upper extent dark greyish brown in colour (topsoil leeching?), becoming a mid yellow brown at c.ca 450mm depth. 2-130mm diam gravel.	0.28+
0803	Ditch		linear feature, with flat base and straight sides with a steep slope. Appears to terminate within trench 8. excavation suggests it to be real, with fairly well defined sides and base. No archaeological components identified. probable ditch terminus	0.36
0804	Secondary fill	0803	grey, silty fill with high quantities of gravel throughout. Unsorted, ranging from fine to large and irregular. Compacted deposit. No archaeological components. Derived from the sustained erosion of ditch sides and localised soil deposits. High gravel con	0.36

=	49.10m x 1.80 NGR 453667.63, 92713.70 NGR 453692.13, 92756.47	41.04maOD		
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
0901	topsoil		silty clay mid brown soil, rich in rooting, mixed with sparse, poorly sorted, medium gravels.	0.00/-0.59
0902	Natural		mid brown to orangish sandy soil fully mixed with fine and medium gravels. Shows random patches of bright brown/yellow sandy silt soil and some light grey silty clay.	0.50
				0.59-



0903	Pit		sub circular pit with a slightly concave base, straight to concave sides with a moderate to shallow slope. Located on the SW half of the trench, is clearly visible on plan showing clear edges. It cuts a posthole [905] at NW. it contained 1 fill with no fi	0.2
0904	Secondary fill	0903	single fill in Pit [903], homogeneous with clear horizon and fairly compact. Shows few charcoal flakes but no finds. Formed due to a natural infilling deposition process.	0.2
0905	Posthole		circular posthole immediately at N of pit [903] with a concave base, straight sides and a moderate slope. It ends slightly into the NW edge of the trench. Visible in plan just after [903] cleaning, shows clear edges and is earlier than [903]. It contained	0.15
0906	Fill	0905	single fill in posthole [905], clear horizon and moderately soft soil. Show abundant gravels and rare cobbles, one of which fixed on its N corner (possible packing?). No finds.	0.15
0907	Ditch		ditch NS oriented on the N half of the trench, running across the all width. Quite clear on plan, shows straight and vertical sides but is not bottomed due to the presence of the water table. It contained 1 secondary fill with no finds. Possibly modern feature	0.42
0908	Secondary fill	0907	single fill in ditch [907], not 100% dug due to the water table presence. It shows a patch of bright yellow natural soil in the middle of deposit. Has clear horizon and a medium compaction. No finds. Formed due to a natural infilling process.	0.42

Trench 10	50.00 m x 1.80 m x 0.50 m		NGR 453707.12, 92728.78 NGR 453700.53, 92776.94	39.96maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
1001	topsoil		mid greyish brown silty loam, moderate subrounded and subangular gravels 5-50 mm	0.00/-0.33
1002	Subsoil		subsoil interface, mid yellowish brown silty sand. Common subangular and subrounded gravel 5-50 mm.	0.33/-0.50
1003	Natural		mid yellowish brown silty sand with abundant subangular and subrounded gravels 5-50 mm. also silty clay patches, light yellowish brown, with no inclusions.	0.50+
1004	Natural Feature		Tree throw, sub oval, undulating base with rooting.	
1005	Secondary fill	1004	secondary fill of tree throw, common subangular and subrounded gravel, 5-80 mm. clayey loam, mid greyish brown.	



Trench 11	50.50 m x 1.80 m x 0.70 m		NGR 453780.49, 92757.04 NGR 453816.64, 92722.77	93.13maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
1101	topsoil		dark brown black silty clay, numerous pebbles and occasional flints and inclusions.	0.00/-0.45
1102	Natural		mixed gravels, ranging in colour from orange red - orange brown. Occasional patches of sand.	0.45+
1103	Pit		roughly circular in plan, concave base, curved sides with a gentle slope. cut of shallow pit, situated towards NW end of trench 11. fill contains small amount of charcoal so could be a truncated rubbish pit.	0.12
1104	Secondary fill	1103	single (secondary fill) of shallow Pit [1103]. Occasional flecks of charcoal present, but not enough to suggest deliberate clumping of fire debris. No finds.	0.12
1105	Ditch		linear on plan, concave base, sloping sides, moderate to steep slope. cut of a linear ditch, running on a NE-SW alignment. Undated, but most likely a field boundary ditch.	0.52
1106	Secondary fill	1105	secondary fill of ditch, most likely originating from plough activity due to its similarity with the current topsoil. No dating recovered.	0.52
1107	Ditch		sides vary from steep curve on SE, to steep curve to shallow on NW. max depth 0.36 m, min. depth 0.07 m. cut of a fairly shallow ditch runs on NE-SW alignment. Similar to that of [1105], could form parallel field boundary. No dating.	0.36
1108	Secondary fill	1107	secondary fill of ditch [1107], most likely deposited via ploughing activity as fill is quite similar to topsoil. No finds.	0.36

Trench 12	49.70m x 1.80 m x 0.46 m		NGR 453821.42, 92734.81 NGR 453854.73, 92771.87	45.03maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
1201	topsoil		mid brown silty clay with occasional stones and flints as inclusions.	0.00/-0.46
1202	Natural		orange sand gravel clay mixed, changes to bright yellow clay as it goes deeper.	0.46+
1203	Ditch		linear on plan, concave base, curved sides with moderate slope. cut of ditch orientated NW-SE. presumed field boundary ditch, possibly medieval in date.	0.43
1204	Primary fill	1203	lowest fill of ditch [1203]. Material is redeposited natural, likely to have been deposited via water action causing edge material to slump into the ditch shortly after excavation, pottery revealed.	0.08
1205	Secondary fill	1203	upper secondary fill of ditch [1203], likely to have derived from material being ploughed into the ditch after it had gone out of use.	0.35



			depth ranges from 0.20 m at shallowest point to 0.36	
1206	Ditch		m at deepest. Linear on plan, undulating base, curved sides with a gentle to moderate slope. cut of ditch or possible furrow. Also viewed in trench 13.	0.20/-0.36
1207	Secondary fill	1206	depth ranges from 0.20 m to 0.36 m. secondary fill of ditch/furrow [1206]. Fill most likely derived from material being ploughed in after ditch/furrow went out of use. Pottery was recovered.	0.20/0.36
1208	Gully		linear on plan, concave base, curved sides with gentle slope. cut of gully terminus, same as [1210] and [1212]. Undated, presumed function to form a drainage gully.	0.1
1209	Secondary fill	1208	secondary fill of gully terminus [1208]. Fill appears to have been deposited by silting event after gully was out of use.	0.1
1210	Gully		linear on plan, concave base, curved sides with gentle slope. cut of slightly curvy linear (however not a ring ditch), possibly remnants of a prehistoric field system. No finds.	0.14
1211	Secondary fill	1210	single secondary fill of gully [1210]. Fill deposited via natural silting after gully had gone out of use. No finds.	0.14
1212	Gully		linear on plan, concave base, curved sides with gentle slope. Intervention length= excavated length. cut of gully, same gully as [1208] and [1210]. Same presumed function to act as part of a field system. Cut by later medieval ditch [1214].	0.1
1213	Secondary fill	1212	secondary fill of a shallow gully [1212], fill deposited via natural silting after gully had gone out of use. No finds.	0.1
1214	Ditch		linear on plan, flat base, curved sides with moderate slope. Length only excavated= 0.58 m; width varied from 0.27 m to 0.30 m. shallow cut of a field drainage ditch. Cuts earlier gully [1212].	0.2
1215	Secondary fill	1214	secondary fill of ditch [1214], derived from natural silting after ditch went out of use. Pottery was recovered.	0.2
1216	Ditch		linear on plan, concave base, curved sides with gentle slope. cut of ditch, most likely a field system ditch. Same ditch as [1214], [1216], [1222].	0.2
1217	Secondary fill	1216	single secondary fill of ditch [1216]. Fill derived from natural silting after ditch went out of use. Pottery recovered.	0.2
1218	Ditch		linear on plan, concave base, curved sides with gentle slope. cut of a NW-SE drainage ditch, has visible relationship with gully [1210] and [1218] cuts it.	0.64
1219	Primary fill	1218	primary fill of ditch [1218], material has been eroded from the edges of this ditch shortly after excavation.	0.04
1220	Secondary fill	1218	secondary fill resultant from natural silting after ditch went out of use. No finds.	0.15
1221	Secondary fill	1218	secondary fill of ditch [1218]. Fill resultant of natural silting after ditch went out of use. Medieval pottery recovered.	0.56
	1			0.50



1222	Ditch		linear on plan, concave base, curved sides with moderate slope. NW-SE ditch, same as [1214], [1216].	0.2
1223	Secondary fill	1222	secondary fill of ditch [1222]. Fill derived from natural silting. No finds.	0.2
1224	Ditch		linear on plan, undulating base, curved sides with gentle slope. cut of a shallow ditch or furrow. Runs on a NW-SE alignment.	0.12
1225	Secondary fill	1224	single secondary fill, deposited via natural silting after ditch/furrow went out of use. Medieval pottery recovered.	0.12
1226	Gully		linear on plan, flat base, curved sides with gentle slope. shallow and heavily truncated gully. Runs on NW-SE alignment. Unsure function or date.	0.08
1227	Secondary fill	1226	single secondary fill of shallow gully [1226], fill resultant from natural silting after ditch/gully went out of use.	0.08

Trench 13	47.60m x 1.80 m x 0.52 m		NGR 453794.28, 92757.83 NGR 453838.36, 92779.11	43.89maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
1301	topsoil		mid greyish brown clayey silty loam. Moderately rooted with turf line, common subangular and subrounded flint gravel 10-80 mm diam. Sharp, undulating interface with (1302).	0.00/-0.32
1302	Natural		dark greyish to mid yellowish brown silty sand with abundant subangular and subrounded gravels 5-100 mm diam. Loose and poorly sorted, with patches of sand throughout.	0.32+
1303	Ditch		cut of linear ditch, with concave base, undulating sides with a gentle to moderate slope, located towards the western end of trench 13. originally thought to be a single ditch, excavation determined the presence of a later ditch, possible recut, [1306]. L	0.47
1304	Primary fill	1303	fine grained, loosely compacted basal fill of ditch [1303]. Low energy deposition with fine gravels throughout. No dating. Initial deposition caused by the rapid erosion/collapse of ditch sides, more than likely from upper soils.	0.17
1305	Secondary fill	1303	low-moderate energy deposit originating from the south-western edge of ditch. Fairly well sorted gravel inclusions. No dating. Derived from low-moderate weathering of ditch sides and localised soil deposits.	0.26
1306	Ditch		linear ditch that both cuts and follows the same alignment as ditch [1303]. Was not visible prior to excavation. A comparatively shallow ditch with concave profile. No dating material recovered. Likely forming part of larger field system.	0.32



1307	Secondary fill	1306	poorly sorted deposit comprised of mixed gravels in a sandy matrix. Moderately compacted, with sharp interface with (1302). Less clear with (1319) though gravel inclusions appear to follow line of cut. deposition caused by the erosion of unstable ditch side	0.32
1308	Ditch		linear ditch of moderate depth located towards the south-west end of trench 13, between ditches [1306] and [1313]. Whilst slightly machine truncated, ditch survives to a moderate depth with clearly defined profile.	0.32
1309	Secondary fill	1308	mixed gravel and soil deposit filling ditch [1308]. No finds/dating. secondary fill formed by the sustained erosion of ditch sides and localised soil deposits.	0.25
1310	Modern Feature		land drain	0.20
1311	Pipe	1310	ceramic pipe	
1312	Backfill	1310	<u> </u>	
1313	Ditch		cut of linear ditch, concave base and sides with a moderate slope, fairly shallow though slightly truncated by machine. undated ,likely part of field system. No finds recovered from fill. Same alignment as [1308], [1306], [1313]. Possible that are vaguely	0.16
1314	Secondary fill	1313	shallow (truncated) fill of ditch [1313]. Gravel-rich deposit with little remarkable characteristics. Fairly clear interface with natural. secondary fill formed by the sustained erosion of ditch sides and local soil deposits. No dating.	0.16
1315	Ditch		linear ditch located near to the centre of trench 13. fairly uniform, though appears to narrow slightly towards NNE. No finds/dating evidence from fill. Slightly machine truncated, appears 100-150 mm deeper in trench edge. Likely forming part of field sys	0.11
1316	Secondary fill	1315	dark, silty deposit with frequent small gravel inclusions throughout. Fairly friable, with clear interface with (1302). Machine truncated. basal fill of ditch [1315]. Could equally be a primary fill given position though this cannot be discerned.	0.11
1317	Ditch		linear ditch, concave in base and sides, heavily (machine) truncated at north-eastern end of trench. Clearly defined cut despite lack of depth. ESE extent appears to taper away almost absolutely. Likely part of field system. Undated, with no finds identified	0.07
1318	Primary fill	1317	truncated remnant of fill of ditch [1317]. Soft and loose, with small gravel inclusions. Clear interface with natural. Basal fill, soft and soily, likely formed by initial collapse/stabilisation of upper ditch sides. No finds/dating.	0.07
1319	Secondary fill	1303	uppermost fill of ditch [1303], truncated by later ditch [1306]. Higher energy deposition, poorly sorted larger gravels with little silt composition. Erosion of ditch sides. Quantity of gravel and presence of archaeological components may suggest deliberate backfill	0.3
	1	_1		0.3



Trench 14	50.00m x 1.80 m x 0.63 m		NGR 453777.62, 92791.46 NGR 453825.41, 92791.64	41.78maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
1401	topsoil		mid greyish/yellowish brown silty loam. Rare subangular and subrounded gravels 2-10 mm.	0.00/-0.50
1402	Subsoil		mid yellowish brown clayey loam. Moderate subangular and subrounded gravels, 5-30 mm.	0.50/-0.63
1403	Natural		mid light yellowish brown silty gravel, 80/90%. Poorly sorted subangular and subrounded gravels 1-50 mm.	0.63+
1404	Posthole		extends on SE side, possibly just different natural (dug into natural hollow on that side). one of many postholes in area, possibly forming structure. Likely I.A. from pottery.	0.15
1405	Backfill	1404	likely remnant of packing in posthole [1404], due to blackish colour and gravely inclusions (some nodules large enough to be deliberate). This fill contained pottery.	0.15
1406	Posthole		cut undulates, with obvious post in NE half and a shallow shelf on SW. possibly just undulation in natural, as does not appear to be part of post removal - post still evident. one of many in area, possibly as part of structure. (1410) appears to be remnant	0.32
1407	Secondary fill	1406	more gravel towards base, mid brown clayey silty with common gravels. either silting up of natural depression that posthole [1406] was dug into, or was backfill in shallow slope as part of post construction.	0.27
1408	Posthole		subcircular on plan, concave base and sides with a moderate to steep slope. one of many in area forming possible structure. Likely I.A. from pot.	0.12
1409	Secondary fill	1408	very manganesey, has stained natural beneath, came out in lumps. believe to be secondary as opposed to backfill/packing, as very manganesey, derived from natural processes.	0.12
1410	Post	1406	charcoal rich with almost vertical horizon with fill (1407). Suggests post in situ. remnants of post left to rot in situ after disuse of presumable structure associated with cluster of postholes. Likely I.A. from pot.	
1411	Posthole		against trench edge so could see more of posthole in section going into (1402) and (1401). one of many in area possibly related to a structure. Likely I.A. from surrounding features.	0.32
1412	Post	1411	very charcoally fill, post in situ. remains of post left in situ after disuse of likely structure. Charcoally and few inclusions that could have got there through bioturbation.	0.74
1413	Posthole		very steep on N side, shallow on S side towards adjacent posthole [1415]. Possibly in line with postholes [1415], [1417], [1419]. one of any in area and adjacent to posthole [1415]. Possibly related to a structure. Post likely removed as only packing fill	
1414	Backfill	1413	gravel more on base and S slope. likely packing for post, now removed (no charcoal or post pipe).	0.16
	_1	I	1 ' ' '	0.10



1415	Posthole		posthole with packing and post pipe. Possibly in line with [1413], [1417], [1419]. one of many in area and adjacent to posthole [1413]. Possibly related to structure. Unlike [1413], post likely left in situ. Likely I.A. from pot.	
1416	Post	1415	sharp, near vertical horizon with (1430). likely post pipe from post left in situ after disuse of possible structure.	0.19
1417	Posthole		shallower than other postholes in area. Possibly in line with postholes [1419], [1413], [1415]. one of many in area but shallower than others. Probably I.A. from pot in surrounding postholes.	0.07
1418	Backfill	1417	mid greyish brown silty clay with poorly sorted gravels. likely the remnants of packing from a posthole.	0.07
1419	Posthole		possibly in line with postholes [1417], [1415], 1413]. one of many in area, likely I.A. from pot in other postholes, possibly part of a structure.	0.2
1420	Backfill	1419	sole fill of [1419]. packing remnant in posthole [1419].	0.2
1421	Posthole		some possible rooting on WNW side. one of many postholes in area, possibly part of a structure. Flint and pottery from other features suggest I.A. date.	0.32
1422	Backfill	1421	sole fill of [1421]. packing remnant in posthole [1421].	0.32
1423	Posthole		adjacent to [1425], vague/no relationship. one of many in area, possibly related to structure. Likely I.A. from finds in other postholes.	0.22
1424	Backfill	1423	mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate gravels. remnants of packing in posthole [1423].	0.32
1425	Posthole		deepest of all postholes in area, adjacent to posthole [1423]. one of many in area, possible part of structure. Likely I.A. judging from flint in (1426) and pot in other postholes.	0.39
1426	Backfill	1425	mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate gravels. packing remnants of posthole [1425].	0.39
1427	Posthole		2 fills (1428) and (1429). one of many in area, probably related to structure and I.A. in date. Slightly farther away from other postholes at W end of cluster.	0.23
1428	Backfill	1427	bottom fill of posthole [1427]. remnants of packing in posthole capped by (1429).	0.23
1429	Backfill	1427	soft loose silty fill above packing in posthole [1427]. possibly the remnant of a post, however sits above packing (1428). Definitely an organic fill but unsure on its origins. No finds.	
1430	Backfill	1415	either side of post (1416) in section. packing for posthole [1415].	0.06
1431	Backfill	1411	mid greyish brown silty clay with sparse gravels. packing for posthole [1411].	0.14
1432	Ditch		relatively wide, linear on plan with concave base and sides with shallow slope. drainage or boundary shallow ditch. Unsure on date, possibly medieval pottery.	0.09
1433	Secondary fill	1432	sole fill in ditch [1432]. filling up of ditch through erosional and waterlogging processes.	0.09
1434	Ditch		linear on plan, U shaped profile, straight sides with a shallow slope. drainage or boundary ditch. Unknown date as no finds.	0.09
			I	0.00



1435	Secondary fill	1434	mid greyish brown silty clay, with moderate gravels and pea grit. filling up of ditch after disuse. Erosional and waterlogging processes.	0.08
1436	Ditch		linear on plan, concave to undulating base, concave sides with shallow slope. narrow ditching, likely drainage. Possible prehistoric with burnt flint in (1437).	0.05
1437	Secondary fill	1436	mid greyish brown silty clay with moderate gravels. filling up of ditch through erosion and waterlogging.	0.05

Trench 15	50.00m x 1.80 m x 0.67 m		NGR 453798.65, 92824.08 NGR 453841.00, 92798.28	43.16maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
1501	topsoil		mid greyish brown silty loam. Sparse subangular and subrounded gravels 5-30 mm. moderate compaction.	0.00/-0.42
1502	Subsoil		mid light greyish/yellowish brown silty clay. Moderate subangular and subrounded gravel 5-50 mm. changeable colour throughout trench, gravelly in patches.	0.42/-0.67
1503	Natural		variable, largely mid yellowish brown mottled gravel (silty). Abundant, 70-80% subangular and subrounded gravel 5-50 mm. occasional light greyish white clayey silt patches.	0.67+
1504	Ditch		1/2 slot in NE/SW ditch running through tr. 15. same as [1508]. drainage/boundary ditch, unsure date but possibly medieval (?).	0.13
1505	Secondary fill	1504	sole fill of ditch slot [1504]. Same as (1509). likely filling up of ditch after disuse, erosion of clay and gravelly subsoil and natural and waterlogging of ditch.	0.13
1506	Ditch		linear ditch runs across all width of trench. c.ca 0.30 - 0.40 m wide.	
1507	Secondary fill	1506	mid greyish brown clayey silt.	
1508	Ditch		2nd of ditch slot in NE/SW ditch running through tr.15. same as [1504]. drainage/boundary ditch, small bit of pottery could be medieval.	0.09
1509	Secondary fill	1508	sole fill of ditch slot [1508]. Same as (1505). filled via erosion processes and waterlogging of ditch.	0.09
1510	Natural Feature		shrub bowl.	
1511	Fill	1510	fill of shrub bowl	



Trench 16	51.00m x 1.80 m x 0.60 m		NGR 453867.33, 92778.57 NGR 453852.63, 92826.56	45.24maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
1601	topsoil		mid dark brown silty loam. Bioturbation: worms and rooting. Sparse subangular and subrounded flint inclusions (3-7%) <10-40 mm, poorly sorted. Clear horizon with subsoil (1602).	
				0.00/-0.40
1602	Subsoil		light yellowish brown, silty loam, no bioturbation. Sparse subangular flint inclusions (3-7%) <10-30 mm. presence of flint/gravel patches within subsoil across the trench (flint nodules rare 1%, <30-70 mm. clear horizon with (1601) and natural (1603).	
				0.40/-0.60
1603	Natural		light greyish brown, silty loam with clear horizon with subsoil (1602). Presence of rare flint nodules (1-3%) <30-60mm. Subangular and subrounded of inclusion patches of abundant gravel (70%) <10-30 mm not everywhere in the trench.	0.60+

Trench 17	49.60m x 1.80 m x 0.45 m		NGR 453813.49, 92831.61 NGR 453859.40, 92850.17	41.85maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
1701	topsoil		mid dark brown silty clay. Occasional flints and numerous gravel inclusions.	0.00/-0.35
1702	Subsoil		yellow grey silty clay, occasional flints as inclusions.	0.35/-0.45
1703	Natural		mixed yellow orange and grey gravelly with occasional patches of yellow orange clay.	0.45+

Trench 18	50.00m x 1.80 m x 0.90 m		NGR 453830.09, 92861.43 NGR 453856.69, 92903.42	39.63maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
1801	topsoil		silty clay loam mid brown soil mixed with sparse, poorly sorted, fine and medium gravels.	0.00/-0.45
1802	Modern overburden		black modern deposit made of a sandy silty loam soil mixed with tarmac fragments and common medium gravels.	0.45/-0.90
1803	Natural		50% made of a bright yellow sandy silty soil and 50% of silty clay pale grey soil fully mixed with fine and medium gravels and occasional cobbles.	0.90+



Trench 19	49.40m x 1.80 m x 0.50 m		NGR 453866.24, 92893.68 NGR 453914.51, 92884.53	39.91maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
1901	topsoil		dark brown silty clay, occasional stones as inclusions.	0.00/-0.35
1902	Subsoil		patchy greyish yellow clay, occasional stones, not present throughout the entire trench, mainly at W end.	0.35/-0.45
1903	Natural		mixed gravels and clay ranging in colour from yellow orange to grey. Occasional patches of orange sand present as well.	0.45+
1904	Ditch		W side very steep, E side gradual slope from gentle to moderate. cut of a roughly NNE-SSW aligned field boundary ditch, has a post med field drain at the base. No dating.	0.6
1905	Secondary fill	1904	dark brown silty clay, frequent stones and flints. single secondary fill of post medieval field boundary ditch. Fill deposited shortly after the field drain was installed. No finds.	0.6

Trench 20	48.90m x 1.80 m x 0.70 m		NGR 453851.87, 92872.47 NGR 453900.66, 92872.43	41.99maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
2001	topsoil		mid brown silty clay loam soil with rare fine and medium gravels.	0.00/-0.70
2002	Natural		mainly bright orangish silty clay soil, fairly clean, alternated with mid brown gravelly patches and light grey silty clay patches, fairly clean as well.	0.70+
2003	Gully		SSW-NNE oriented gully running across the all trench width, c.ca in the middle. Clearly visible in plan, it contained 1 fill with few charcoals and no finds. Possible drainage feature.	0.16
2004	Secondary fill	2003	single fill in gully [2003]. Clear horizon and a very soft compaction. Shows very few charcoal flakes but no finds. Formed due to a natural infilling process.	0.16
2005	Natural Feature		tree throw	
2006	Fill	2005	fill of tree throw	
2007	Natural Feature		tree throw	
2008	Fill	2007	fill of tree throw	
2009	Modern Feature		modern field drain	
2010	Fill	2009	fill of modern field drain	

Trench 21	50.10m x 1.80 m x 0.50 m		NGR 453870.54, 92832.45 NGR 453911.90, 92858.59	43.71maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
2101	topsoil		mid dark brown silty clay, numerous stones and flints as inclusions.	0.00/-0.30
2102	Subsoil		mottled grey brown silty clay, frequent stones and flints.	0.30/-0.45



2103	Natural		yellow orange clay with occasional gravels as inclusions.	0.45+
2104	Ditch		linear on plan, undulating base, curved sides with gentle slope. cut of ditch, runs on E-W alignment similar to [2106]. Function presumed either drainage or field system. Undated.	0.15
2105	Secondary fill	2104	mottled yellow brown silty clay, very occasional stones and flints. single secondary fill of ditch [2104]. Fill derived from natural silting after ditch had gone out of use. No dating.	0.15
2106	Ditch		linear on plan, flat base, curved sides with moderate slope. cut of E-W aligned ditch, runs on similar alignment to [2104] so could form part of the same field system or drainage system. No finds.	0.3
2107	Secondary fill	2106	mottled grey brown silty clay, very occasional stones and flints. secondary fill of ditch [2106]. Fill resultant from natural silting after ditch had gone out of use. No finds.	0.3
2108	Ditch		linear on plan, flat base, curved sides with a moderate slope. cut of field system or drainage ditch, runs on an E-W alignment. Same ditch as [2106].	0.44
2109	Secondary fill	2108	mottled grey orange silty clay, very occasional stones and flints. secondary fill of ditch [2108]. Fill derived from natural silting after ditch went out of use. No finds.	0.44
2110	Gully		linear on plan, concave base, curved sides with gentle slope. cut of shallow drainage gully. Same as [2112]. Cut by later ditch [2108].	0.13
2111	Secondary fill	2110	mottled yellow brown silty clay, very occasional manganese flecking. single secondary fill of shallow gully [2110]. No finds, fill derived from natural silting. Truncated by later E-W aligned ditch [2108].	0.13
2112	Gully		linear on plan, flat base, curved sides with gentle slope. cut of shallow drainage gully, same as [2110]. Runs on N-S alignment. No finds.	0.12
2113	Secondary fill	2112	mottled yellow brown silty clay, very occasional stones and flints. single secondary fill of shallow drainage gully [2112]. Fill derived from natural silting after gully had gone out of use. No finds.	0.12

Trench 22	50.15m x 1.80 m x 0.62 m		NGR 453913.48, 92831.68 NGR 453936.97, 92875.75	45.04maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
2201	topsoil		mid dark brown silty loam. Rare subangular and subrounded flints inclusions (1%0 < 6-30mm. Rootings bioturbation. Diffuse horizon with subsoil (2202).	0.00/-0.29
2202	Subsoil		light brown silty loam with some patches of gravels. Very rare (<1%) flint inclusions in fill < 6-20 mm. clear horizon with natural (2203).	0.29/-0.62
2203	Natural		light yellowish brown, silty loam with big patches of subangular and subrounded flint gravel and flint nodules <40-60 mm. clear horizon with subsoil (2202).	0.62+



2204	Ditch		a distinct linear with pottery found. Concave base and sides with moderate slope. medieval field boundary ditch.	0.17
2205	Secondary fill	2204	a soft distinct fill with no inclusions. Clear horizon. a slow developing fill from silting up of ditch.	0.17
2206	Gully		located in middle of trench 22, in N end of field 2. bioturbation: rooting on the edges of the feature, very shallow. Filled with 1 secondary fill with no finds. Base and edges of gully gravelly (flint gravel). There was more gravel on its W part. Undated	0.1
2207	Secondary fill	2206	very loose compaction. No finds. More gravel located on the W side of the gully. secondary fill of an undated gully, probably formed by natural processes over the time (silting, surrounding area deposit/washed in).	0.1

Trench 23	49.20m x 1.80 m x 0.55 m		NGR 453960.12, 92865.60 NGR 454006.36, 92849.40	46.08maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
2301	topsoil		mid greyish brown silty clay 0.15cm: mixed with rare, poorly sorted, medium and fine gravels. Clear horizon with natural.	0.00/-0.45
2302	Natural		50% bright brown to yellow gravelly soil in a loose sandy matrix: 50% clay silt bright brown to light grey soil with very rare fine gravels.	0.45+
2303	Ditch		linear ditch N-S oriented, part of a rectangular feature which has its shorter side N-S oriented and its longer running all across 70% in length of the trench towards East. Quite shallow feature, partially cut into the gravelly natural	0.27
2304	Secondary fill	2303	single fill in ditch [2303] with a diffuse horizon and fairly compact. Highly disturbed by roots, is mixed with rare gravels (subangular and subrounded): it contained few pottery sherds and 1 tile (holed) fragment, possibly medieval.	0.27
2305	Ditch		shallow ditch W-E oriented (part of a rectangular shaped feature with [2303]). Starting from W end of the trench, running towards E, ending on the SE end side of the trench. Should be part of a medieval field system and it contained 1 secondary fill with	0.21
2306	Secondary fill	2305	single fill in ditch [2305] with clear horizon and good compaction, mixed with common gravels: it contained no finds. Moderately disturbed by rooting (as (2304). Formed due to a natural infilling process.	0.21
2307	Natural Feature		tree throw	
2308	Fill	2307	fill of tree throw	
2309	Natural Feature		shrub bowl	
2310	Fill	2309	fill of shrub bowl	



Trench 24	49.30m x 1.80 m x 0.70 m		NGR 453952.98, 92837.19 NGR 454002.78, 92837.27	46.84maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
2401	topsoil		mid greyish brown silty clay soil, with rare and fine medium gravels.	0.00/-0.47
2402	Natural		bright brown clay silt soil with very rare fine gravels, alternating with a dark brown to grey gravelly soil with a loose sandy matrix.	0.47+
2403	Posthole		very small oval posthole, with concave base, straight sides with a steep to vertical slope. It is in a group of 4 on the W end of the trench. It contained 1 fill with no finds.	0.25
2404	Fill	2403	single fill in posthole [2403], fairly soft with clear horizon. No finds.	0.25
2405	Posthole		sub circular posthole, with U shaped profile, straight sides and steep slope. It is in a group of 4, on the W end of the trench. Same NE-SW alignment with [2407] (at SW). 1 fill with no finds.	0.23
2406	Fill	2405	single fill in posthole [2405], fairly soft with clear horizon and no finds. Naturally formed.	0.23
2407	Posthole		3rd of 4 posthole on W end of the trench. Same NE-SW alignment with [2405] (at NE). 1 fill with no finds.	0.23
2408	Fill	2407	single fill in posthole [2407], fairly soft with clear horizon. No finds. Naturally formed.	0.23
2409	Posthole		4th of 4 postholes on W end of the trench, clear edges. 1 fill with no finds.	0.17
2410	Fill	2409	single fill in posthole [2409], clear horizon and fairly soft. No finds.	0.17

Trench 25	49.20m x 1.80 m x 0.58 m		NGR 453958.23, 92771.60 NGR 453981.70, 92814.98	48.21maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
2501	topsoil		mid greyish brown silty clay soil, mixed with rare medium and fine gravels. Diffuse horizon with natural.	0.00/-0.39
2502	Natural		50% mid to bright brown clay silt soil, very plastic, mixed with rare medium and fine gravels: 50% bright brown to grey silty gravelly soil.	0.39+
2503	Natural Feature		shrub bowl.	
2504	Fill	2503	fill of shrub bowl.	

Trench 26	49.10m x 1.80 m x 0.63 m		NGR 453935.39, 92767.83 NGR 453958.56, 92811.65	47.92maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
2601	topsoil		mid greyish brown silty clay soil, in which are loose very rare medium and fine gravels. Diffuse horizon with natural.	
				0.00/-0.47



2602	Natural		mid brown to grey gravelly soil alternating with patches of bright brown to orangish clay silt, very plastic, soil with very rare fine and medium gravels.	0.47+
2603	Ditch		N-S oriented ditch on the NE end of trench 26, it ends at S due the presence of the later water pipe and at N in the trench edge. Quite clear on plan, it contained 1 secondary fill with no finds. Undated and unclear function.	0.3
2604	Secondary fill	2603	single fill in ditch [2603]. Homogeneous with clear horizon, slightly disturbed by rooting and fairly soft. It contained no finds. Formed due to a natural infilling process, cut at S by the water pipe.	0.3

Trench 27	50.20m x 1.80 m x 0.68 m		NGR 453889.40, 92808.99 NGR 453937.23, 92825.57	45.66maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
2701	topsoil		mid greyish brown silty clay soil, mixed with very rare fine and medium gravels. Clear horizon with natural.	0.00/-0.51
2702	Natural		bright brown clay silt soil with very rare fine and medium gravels. Random patches of dark brown to grey gravelly soil with a loose sandy matrix.	0.51+

Trench 28	50.90m x 1.80 m x 0.62 m		NGR 453878.64, 92792.40 NGR 453929.51, 92792.05	45.75maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
2801	topsoil		mid greyish brown silty clay soil, mixed with very rare medium and fine gravels. Clear horizon with natural.	0.00/-0.41
2802	Natural		70% bright brown silty clay soil, mixed with very rare medium and fine gravels. Clear horizon with natural.	0.41+

Trench 29	50.00m x 1.80 m x 0.57 m		NGR 453902.67, 92770.06 NGR 453945.81, 92744.69	47.94maOD
Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl) (m)
2901	topsoil		mid brown silty clay soil, mixed with rare medium and fine gravels. Diffuse horizon with natural.	0.00/-0.41
2902	Natural		mid brown/orangish clay silt loam soil, very plastic, mixed with rare fine gravels: alternating with mid to bright brown gravelly soil.	0.41+



## Appendix 2 Geoarchaeological Test Pit Data

The stratigraphic succession encountered in each test pit are outlined below. Heights are given in metres above OD.

NGR coordinates and OD heights taken , depth bgl=below ground level

Site:		Palmers Farm, l Wight	Ryde, Isle of	Area:	-		Co	mments:	
Site co	de:	212820		Test Pit ID:	30				
			Length:	2.80 m					
Level (	top):	45.33 m aOD	Width:	1.90 m					
			Depth:	3.50 m					
Depth		Sediment descri	ption	Interpretation	Context	Samp	les	Lithic	Enviro
Mbg	mOD	·				<>		finds	remains
0.00-	45.33- 45.03	Medium brown sandy loam; frequent fine to coarse angular and sub-angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated  ABRUPT; SUB-HORIZONTAL		TOP SOIL	3001	-		-	-
0.30-	45.03- 44.63	Fine to very coarse sub- angular and angular flint gravel; dark greyish-brown sandy clay matrix; matrix supported; poorly sorted; structureless; moderately consolidated		CRYO. AND GELIF. GRAVELS	3002	-		-	-
0.70- 1.70	44.63- 43.63	Fine to very coa angular and ang gravel; dark red clayey medium matrix; clast sup sorted; moderat consolidated	gular flint dish-brown to coarse sand oported; poorly ely	? FLUVIAL SANDS AND GRAVELS		1 2		-	
1.70- +3.40	43.63- +41.93	Dark orange fine sand; light greet lenses; clast fre consolidated	nish yellow	MARINE SANDS	3004	3			



Site:		Palmers Farm, Wight	Ryde, Isle of	Area:	-		Co	mments:	
Site co	de:	212820		Test Pit ID:	31				
			Length:	2.80 m					
Level (	top):	44.59 m aOD	Width:	1.90 m					
			Depth:	3.10 m					
Depth		Sediment descri	ption	Interpretation	Context	Samp	les	Lithic	Enviro
Mbg	mOD					<>		finds	remains
0.00- 0.35	44.59- 44.24	Dark orangish-brown sandy clay loam; frequent fine to coarse sub-angular and angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated  ABRUPT; SUB-HORIZONTAL		TOP SOIL	3101	-		-	-
0.35- 0.70	44.24– 43.89	Fine to coarse sub-angular to angular flint gravel; dark reddish-brown fine to medium sandy clay matrix; matrix supported; poorly sorted; structureless; poorly consolidated		CRYO. AND GELIF. GRAVELS	3102	-		-	-
0.70- 2.50	43.89- 42.09	ABRUPT; SUB-HORIZONTAL Fine to coarse sub-angular flint gravel; dark reddish brown clayey medium to coarse sand matrix; orange sandy clay lenses; weak sub-horizontal bedding; clast supported; moderately sorted; poorly consolidated; basal contact dipping to north-west  SHARP; °45		FLUVIAL SANDS AND GRAVELS	3103	4 5 6 7 8		- - - -	- - - -
2.50- +3.10	42.09- +41.49	Dark orange find bluish-grey and clayey sand len mottles at uppe free; poorly con	e sand; light dark orange ses; Mn r contact; clast	MARINE SANDS	3104	-		-	-



Site:		Palmers Farm, Wight	Ryde, Isle of	Area:	-			mments:	t 2 35m
Site co	ode:	212820		Test Pit ID:	32		VV	ilei labie a	1 2.55111
			Length:	2.70 m					
Level	(top):	42.69 m aOD	Width:	1.90 m					
			Depth:	2.35 m					
Depth		Sediment descr	iption	Interpretation	Context	Samp	les	Lithic	Enviro
Mbg	mOD					<>		finds	remains
0.00- 0.30	42.69- 42.39	Dark greyish-brown clay loam; occasional fine to medium sub-angular and angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated		TOP SOIL	3201	-		-	-
0.30-	42.39-		-HORIZONTAL	CRYO. AND	3202				
0.80	41.89	angular to angulark greyish-broclay matrix; mai poorly sorted; s	Fine to very coarse sub- angular to angular flint gravel; dark greyish-brown fine sandy clay matrix; matrix supported; poorly sorted; structureless; moderately consolidated		3202			-	
			-HORIZONTAL						
0.80-	41.89- 40.89	Fine to very coarse sub- angular flint gravel; medium orangish-brown slightly clayey medium sand matrix; from ~1.56m becomes more clay rich; basal horizons weakly bedded, alternating between orange brown and light bluish grey in colour; clast supported; moderately sorted; poorly consolidated; basal contact dipping to west		FLUVIAL SANDS AND GRAVELS	3203	9 10 11 12 22	) <u>2</u>	- - -	- - -
1.05	10.55		-HORIZONTAL						
1.80- +2.35	40.89- +40.34	Dark orange fine sand and light bluish-grey fine sand with medium orange mottles; occasional fine to coarse subangular and sub-rounded flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated		MARINE SANDS	3204	-		-	-



Site:		Palmers Farm, Wight	Ryde, Isle of	Area:	-		Co	mments:	
Site co	de:	212820		Test Pit ID:	33				
			Length:	2.90 m					
Level (	(top):	41.18 m aOD	Width:	1.90 m					
			Depth:	2.70 m					
Depth		Sediment descri	ption	Interpretation	Context	Samp	les	Lithic	Enviro
Mbg	mOD					<>		finds	remains
0.00- 0.35	41.18- 40.83	loam; frequent is sub-angular and clasts; structure texture; rooted; consolidated	d angular flint eless; blocky		3301	-		-	-
0.35- 0.55	40.83- 40.63	Fine to coarse sangular flint grareddish-brown fandy clay matisupported; poor structureless; matical consolidated  ABRUPT; SUB	sub-angular to vel; dark ine to medium rix; matrix rly sorted; noderately	SUB SOIL	3302	-		-	-
0.55- 1.25	40.83- 39.93	Fine to very coa and sub-angula brownish-orang grey slightly sar clay matrix; ma poorly sorted; n consolidated	arse angular r flint gravel; e to light bluish ndy (medium) trix supported; noderately	CRYO. AND GELIF. GRAVELS	3303	13	3	-	-
1.25- 2.25	39.93- 38.93	Orange to light to medium sand Mn mottles; clastructureless; p consolidated	bluish-grey fine d; occasional st free; oorly	MARINE SANDS	3304	14 15 16	5	-	-
2.25- 2.70	38.93- +38.48	SHARP; SUB- Light greenish- sandy clay; clas structureless; w consolidated	grey slightly st free;	PALAEO- GENE SHALLOW MARINE/ ESTURINE DEPOSITS; HAMSTEAD MEMBER	3304	-		-	-



Site:		Palmers Farm, Wight	Ryde, Isle of	Area:	-		Co	mments:	
Site co	ode:	212820		Test Pit ID:	34				
			Length:	3.20 m					
Level (	(top):	45.78 m aOD	Width:	1.90 m					
			Depth:	3.10 m					
Depth		Sediment descri	ption	Interpretation	Context	ntext Samp		Lithic	Enviro
Mbg	mOD				<>			finds	remains
0.00- 0.30	45.78- 45.48	Greyish-brown silty clay loam; very occasional fine to medium sub-angular and angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated		TOP SOIL	3401	-		-	-
0.30- 0.40	45.48- 45.38	DIFF Orangish-brown loam; very occa medium sub-an angular flint clas structureless; po	n silty clay sional fine to gular and sts; porly	SUB SOIL	3402	-		-	-
0.40	45.38-	ABRUPT; SUB		CRYO. AND	3403				
0.40-	45.08	Fine to very coa angular to angu orangish-brown sandy clay mate supported; poor structureless; pe consolidated	lar flint gravel; fine to medium ix; matrix ly sorted;	GELIF.	3403	-		-	-
		ABRUPT; SUB							
0.70- 0.80	45.08- 44.98	Yellowish-orang occasional fine angular and ang clasts; structure moderately con-	to coarse sub- gular flint less;	CRYO. AND GELIF. SAND	3204	-		-	-
0.00	44.00	SHARP; SUB-		CDVC	0.405				
0.80- 1.80	44.98– 43.98	Fine to very coa angular flint gra reddish-brown of coarse sand ma sub-horizontally horizon between 1.20m; 1.20m of horizon; 1.80 coa with frequent very cobbles; clast s moderately sort consolidated	vel; dark clayey medium- atrix; weakly bedded; sand in 1.00m and oarse gravel barse gravel ery coarse flint upported; ed; poorly	CRYO. FLUVIAL SANDS AND GRAVELS	3405	29 30 31 32 33	) !	- - -	- - -
		SHARP; SUB-	HURIZUNTAL			<u> </u>			



Site:		Palmers Farm, Wight	Ryde, Isle of	Area: -			Co	mments:	
Site co	de:	212820		Test Pit ID:	34				
			Length:						
Level (top): 45.78 m aOD Width:		1.90 m							
			Depth:	3.10 m					
Depth		Sediment description		Interpretation	Context	Samp	les		Enviro
Mbg	mOD					<>		finds	remains
1.80- +3.10	43.98- +42.68	Medium orange to light greenish-yellow fine sand; Mn mottles throughout; becomes more glauconitic with depth; very occasional fine to medium sub-angular flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated		MARINE SANDS	3406	34	ļ		



Site:		Palmers Farm, Wight	Ryde, Isle of	Area:	-		Со	mments:	
Site co	ode:	212820		Test Pit ID:	35				
			Length:	3.10 m					
Level	(top):	43.76 m aOD	Width:	1.90 m					
			Depth:	3.10 m					
Depth		Sediment descri	ption	Interpretation	Context	Samp	les	Lithic	Enviro
Mbg	mOD					<>		finds	remains
0.00- 0.30	43.76- 43.46	Dark greyish-brown clay loam; very occasional fine to medium angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated		TOP SOIL	3501	-		-	-
0.30- 0.50	43.46- 43.26	DIFFUSE  Dark orangish-brown to greyish brown slightly sandy clay loam; very occasional fine to coarse sub-angular and angular flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated		SUB SOIL	3502	-		-	-
0.50-	43.26-	ABRUPT; SUB Fine to very coa		CRYO. AND	3503	_		_	_
0.75	43.01	angular to	lar flint gravel; own medium to ay matrix; d; poorly eless; poorly	GELIF. GRAVELS	3303	-		-	-
0.75-	43.01-	DIFF		CRYO.	3504	35		_	_
2.20	41.56	Fine to coarse sub-angular to angular flint gravel – sub-angular component increases with depth; dark orangish-brown medium sandy clay matrix; matrix supported, becoming cast supported below 1.50m; poorly sorted; moderately consolidated		FLUVIAL SANDS AND GRAVELS; UPER HORIZONS MAY BE SOLIF. GRAVELS		36 37 38 39	5 7 8	- - - -	- - - -
2.20-	41.56-		HORIZONTAL to light	MARINE	3505	-			
+3.10	+40.66	Medium orange yellowish-grey r sand; clast free poorly consolida	nottled fine ; structureless;	SANDS	3505				



op):	212820 40.93 m aOD	Length:	Test Pit ID:	36				
	40.93 m aOD		3.00 m					
	40.93 m aOD	Width:	0.00					
mOD								
mOD		Depth:	2.35 m					
mOD	Sediment descri	ption	Interpretation	Context	Samp	les	Lithic	Enviro
					<>		finds	remains
40.93- 40.68	occasional fine angular flint clas structureless; bl rooted; poorly c	to medium sts; ocky texture; onsolidated	TOP SOIL	3601	-		-	-
40.68- 40.43	Orangish-brown brownish grey s occasional fine sub-angular and clasts; structure consolidated	to light andy clay silt; to very coarse d angular flint less; poorly	SUB SOIL	3602	3602 -		-	-
40 43-			CRYO AND	3603				
40.23	angular flint gra fine to medium matrix supporte	vel; light grey sand matrix; d; poorly	GELIF. GRAVELS	0000				
	SHARP; SUB-	HORIZONTAL						
40.23- 39.38	Greyish-green fine to medium sand; brown slightly silty sand filling recent root structures; very occasional medium subangular and sub-rounded flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated		MARINE SANDS	3604				
39.38- 39.23	Sub-angular to fine to medium sub-rounded clabut sub-angular dominate; mottle orange fine-medium; matrix; matrix si structureless; per consolidated	sub-rounded flint gravel – asts common, clasts ed light grey to dium sand upported; corly	MARINE OR FLUVIAL SANDS AND GRAVELS	3605	19	)	-	-
4 4 4 3	0.68 0.68- 0.43- 0.23- 9.38-	occasional fine angular flint class structureless; bl rooted; poorly complete to the sub-angular and clasts; structure consolidated  SHARP; SUB-0.23  Fine to coarse soangular flint graffine to medium matrix supportersorted; structure consolidated  SHARP; SUB-0.23  Greyish-green for sand; brown slig filling recent roovery occasional angular and subclasts; structure consolidated  SHARP; SUB-0.23  Greyish-green for sand; brown slig filling recent roovery occasional angular and subclasts; structure consolidated  SHARP; SUB-0.23  Sub-angular to some sub-rounded clabut sub-angular dominate; mottle orange fine-med matrix; matrix substructureless; poconsolidated	occasional fine to medium angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated  DIFFUSE  O.68- Orangish-brown to light brownish grey sandy clay silt; occasional fine to very coarse sub-angular and angular flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  O.43- Fine to coarse sub-angular to angular flint gravel; light grey fine to medium sand matrix; matrix supported; poorly sorted; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  O.23- Greyish-green fine to medium sand; brown slightly silty sand filling recent root structures; very occasional medium sub-angular and sub-rounded flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  9.38- Sub-angular to sub-rounded fine to medium flint gravel — sub-rounded clasts common, but sub-angular clasts dominate; mottled light grey to orange fine-medium sand matrix; matrix supported; structureless; poorly	0.68 occasional fine to medium angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated  DIFFUSE  0.68- Orangish-brown to light brownish grey sandy clay silt; occasional fine to very coarse sub-angular and angular flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  0.43- Fine to coarse sub-angular to angular flint gravel; light grey fine to medium sand matrix; matrix supported; poorly sorted; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  0.23- Greyish-green fine to medium sand; brown slightly silty sand filling recent root structures; very occasional medium sub-angular and sub-rounded flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  9.38- Sub-angular to sub-rounded fine to medium flint gravel – sub-rounded clasts common, but sub-angular clasts dominate; mottled light grey to orange fine-medium sand matrix; matrix supported; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  9.38- Sub-angular to sub-rounded fine to medium flint gravel – sub-rounded clasts common, but sub-angular clasts dominate; mottled light grey to orange fine-medium sand matrix; matrix supported; structureless; poorly consolidated	occasional fine to medium angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated  DIFFUSE  0.68- 0.43 Orangish-brown to light brownish grey sandy clay silt; occasional fine to very coarse sub-angular and angular flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  0.43- 0.23 Fine to coarse sub-angular to angular flint gravel; light grey fine to medium sand matrix; matrix supported; poorly sorted; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  0.23- Greyish-green fine to medium sand; brown slightly silty sand filling recent root structures; very occasional medium sub-angular and sub-rounded flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  9.38- Sub-angular to sub-rounded flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  9.38- Sub-angular to sub-rounded fine to medium flint gravel – sub-rounded clasts common, but sub-angular clasts dominate; mottled light grey to orange fine-medium sand matrix; matrix supported; structureless; poorly consolidated  9.40 MARINE OR FLUVIAL SANDS AND GRAVELS	occasional fine to medium angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated  DIFFUSE  0.68- 0.43	occasional fine to medium angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated  DIFFUSE  Orangish-brown to light brownish grey sandy clay silt; occasional fine to very coarse sub-angular and angular flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  Fine to coarse sub-angular to angular flint gravel; light grey fine to medium sand matrix; matrix supported; poorly sorted; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  O.23-  Greyish-green fine to medium sand; brown slightly silty sand filling recent root structures; very occasional medium sub-angular and sub-rounded flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  SUB-angular to sub-rounded flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  SUB-angular to sub-rounded fine to medium flint gravel – sub-rounded clasts common, but sub-angular clasts dominate; mottled light grey to orange fine-medium sand matrix; matrix supported; structureless; poorly consolidated  MARINE OR  SHARP SUB-HORIZONTAL  SUB-ANDS AND  GRAVELS  MARINE OR  FLUVIAL SANDS AND GRAVELS	occasional fine to medium angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated  DIFFUSE  0.68- 0.43 Orangish-brown to light brownish grey sandy clay silt; occasional fine to very coarse sub-angular and angular flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  0.23 Fine to coarse sub-angular to angular flint gravel; light grey fine to medium sand matrix; matrix supported; poorly sorted; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  0.23- Greyish-green fine to medium sand, brown slightly silty sand filling recent root structures; very occasional medium sub-angular and sub-rounded flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated  SHARP; SUB-HORIZONTAL  9.38- Sub-angular to sub-rounded fine to medium flint gravel sub-rounded clasts common, but sub-angular clasts dominate; mottled light grey to orange fine-medium sand matrix; matrix supported; structureless; poorly consolidated  MARINE OR FLUVIAL SANDS AND GRAVELS



Site:		Palmers Farm, Wight	Ryde, Isle of	Area:	-		Со	mments:	
Site co	ode:	212820		Test Pit ID:	36				
			Length:	3.00 m					
Level (	(top):	40.93 m aOD	Width:	1.90 m	m				
			Depth:	2.35 m	2.35 m				
Depth	Sediment description Interpretation Context Sam		Samp	les	Lithic	Enviro			
Mbg	mOD					<>		finds	remains
1.70- +2.35	39.23- +38.58	Orange and ligh mottled to brow laminations; fiss organic fragme consolidated	n clay; fine sured; visible	PALAEO- GENE SHALLOW MARINE/ ESTURINE DEPOSITS; HAMSTEAD MEMBER	3606	-		-	-



Site:		Palmers Farm, Wight	Ryde, Isle of	Area:	-		Co	mments:	cut	into
Site co	de:	212820		Test Pit ID:	37			03)	Cut	IIIO
			Length:	2.80 m			Wa	iter table at	2.10	m
Level (	top):	45.35 m aOD	Width:	1.90 m						
			Depth:	2.10 m						
Depth		Sediment descri	ption	Interpretation	Context	Samp	les	Lithic	Envi	_
Mbg	mOD					<>		finds	rema	iins
0.00-	45.35- 45.05	Dark greyish-brovery occasional sub-angular and clasts; structure texture; rooted; consolidated  ABRUPT; SUB	fine to medium d angular flint less; blocky poorly	TOP SOIL	3701	-		-	-	-
0.30- 0.60	45.05- 44.75	Dark orange silt clay; very occas medium sub-an angular flint clas structureless; m consolidated ABRUPT; SUB	y fine sandy sional fine to gular to sts; oderately	SUB SOIL	3702	-		-	-	-
0.60- 1.20	44.75- 44.15	Fine to very coa angular and ang gravel; dark ora slightly sandy (r coarse) clay ma supported; poor moderately con- contact dipping	rrse sub- gular flint ngish brown nedium to trix; matrix ly sorted; solidated; basal to north-east	CRYO. AND GELIF. GRAVELS	3703	20 21		-	-	
1.20- +2.10	44.15- +43.25	Medium orange lightly bluish gre to medium sand upper contact; v fine to coarse si	SHARP; °45  Medium orange fine sand and ghtly bluish grey mottled fine o medium sand; Mn mottles at apper contact; very occasional ine to coarse sub-rounded flint clasts; structureless; poorly consolidated		3704	-		-	-	-



Site:		Palmers Farm, Wight	Ryde, Isle of	Area:	-		Со	mments:	
Site co	de:	212820		Test Pit ID:	38				
			Length:	3.20 m					
Level (	top):	48.45 m aOD	Width:	1.90 m					
			Depth:	3.40 m					
Depth		Sediment descri	ption	Interpretation	Context	Samp	les	Lithic	Enviro
Mbg	mOD					<>		finds	remains
0.00- 0.30	48.45- 48.15	Dark orangish-b medium sandy l occasional fine angular and and clasts; structure texture; rooted; consolidated	oam; to coarse sub- gular flint less; blocky poorly	TOP SOIL	3801	-		-	-
0.30- 0.50	48.15- 47.95	Orangish-brown clay; very occas coarse sub-ang angular flint classtructureless; poconsolidated	n fine sandy sional fine to ular and sts; porly	SUB SOIL	3802	-		-	-
0.50- 0.80	47.95- 47.65	SHARP; SUB- Fine to very coa angular to angu dark orangish-b to coarse sandy matrix supporte sorted; structure consolidated	rse sub- lar flint gravel; rown medium clay matrix; d; poorly	CRYO. AND GELIF. GRAVELS	3803	-		-	-
0.80- 1.90	47.65- 46.55	DIFFUSE  Fine to very coarse subangular to angular flint gravel – to 1.35m fine to medium component dominates, from 1.55m coarse to very coarse component dominates; brownish-orange medium to coarse sandy clay matrix; clast supported, moderately sorted; weakly sub-horizontally bedded; moderately consolidated; basal contact dipping to north-east  SHARP; °20		CRYO. FLUVIAL SANDS AND GRAVELS	3804	23 24 25 26 27 28		- - - -	- - - -
1.90- +3.40	46.55- +45.05	Dark orange to grey medium sa structureless; po consolidated	light bluish and; clast free;	MARINE SANDS	3805	-		-	-



Site:		Palmers Farm,	Ryde, Isle of	Area:			Co	mments:	
Site.		Wight		Area.	-				
Site co	de:	212820		Test Pit ID:	39				
			Length:	2.90 m					
Level (	top):	48.11 m aOD <b>Width:</b>		1.90 m					
			Depth:	3.00 m					
Depth		Sediment descri	ption	Interpretation	Context	Samples		Lithic	Enviro
Mbg	mOD					<>		finds	remains
0.00- 0.40	48.11- 47.71	loam; very occasional fine to coarse sub-angular and angular flint clasts; structureless; blocky texture; rooted; poorly consolidated		TOP SOIL	3901	-		-	-
			DIFFUSE						
0.40-	47.71– 47.21	Dark orangish-b medium sandy occasional fine clasts; structure moderately cons	clay; very angular flint less;	SUB SOIL	3902	-		-	-
		DIFF	USE						
0.90- 2.30	47.21- 45.81	Medium orange to light bluish grey mottled fine to medium sandy gravelly clay; frequent fine to medium angular and sub-angular flint clasts; structureless; moderately consolidated		CRYO. AND GELIF. GRAVELS	3903	-		-	-
		SHARP; SUB-	HORIZONTAL						
2.30- +3.00	45.81- +45.11	Medium orange grey mottled fin- sand; clast free poorly consolida	to light bluish e to medium structureless;	MARINE SANDS	3904	-		-	-



## **Appendix 3: Palaeoenvironmental Data**

									Invertebr	ates	Vertebrates	
Sample code	Sample no.	Context no.	Stratigraphic unit	Sample volume (l)	Mesh size	Residue volume (ml)	Sub- sample	Wood charcoal	Insects	Molluscs + Crustaceans		Comments
212820_14_3304	14	3304	Phase I	1	63-500μ	695.5	125μ - 25%, 63μ - 50%	Trace	-	-	-	-
212820_17_3604	17	3604	Phase I	1	63-500μ	570	125μ - 25%	Trace	-	-	-	-
212820_22_3203	22	3203	Phase II	40	500μ	ca. 8000	6.25% (500ml)	-	-	-	-	-
212820_34_3406	34	3406	Phase I	1	63-500μ	406	125μ - 25%	Trace	-	-	-	-



## **Appendix 4 Oasis Entry**

## OASIS ID: wessexar1-345474

**Project details** 

Project name Palmers Farm, Isle of Wight, Archaeological Evaluation

Short description of the project

A total of 29 evaluation trenches and 10 geoarchaeological test pits were excavated across two fields. The archaeological evaluation provided evidence for prehistoric and medieval activity, mainly focused in the northern portion of the proposed development area (Field 2). A small amount of undated activity was present in the southern field (Field 1). The prehistoric archaeological was ditches and a cluster of postholes with pottery evidence from e late prehistoric. The medieval archaeological remains were more widespread across Field 2. consisting of ditches with medieval artefacts. The archaeological features in Field 1 consisted of postholes, pits, ditches and gullies, all of which were undated. The geoarchaeological test pitting evaluation has demonstrated that Pleistocene marine, fluvial and solifluction deposits are present across the site. No lithic remains and minimal palaeoenvironmental remains was recovered, and the geoarchaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential of these deposits within the area of proposed impact is generally low. However, OSL dating of the marine sands would achieve a key regional research priority (Hey and Hinds 2014) to establish a robust chrono-stratigraphic framework for Pleistocene deposits. enabling more refined assessment/interpretation of the archaeological and geoarchaeological potential of Pleistocene sites/deposits. The evaluation and geoarchaeological test pitting carried out at Palmers Farm, Ryde, Isle of Wright, successfully met the aims and objectives as laid out in the WSI. The evidence for prehistoric activity and the medieval field systems not only adds the corpus of local knowledge, but also to the history of the Isle of Wight as a whole.

Project dates Start: 21-01-2019 End: 01-02-2019

Previous/future

work

No / Not known

Any associated project reference

codes

P/00741/18 - Planning Application No.

Any associated project reference

codes

212820 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference

codes

IWCMS:2019.9794 - Museum accession ID

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation

Monument type DITCH Late Prehistoric

Monument type PITS Late Prehistoric

Monument type DITCHES Medieval

Monument type DITCHES, PITS Uncertain
Significant Finds POTTERY Late Prehistoric



Significant Finds **POTTERY Medieval** 

Methods & techniques "'Targeted Trenches"',"'Test Pits"

Development type Housing estate

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Position in the planning process After outline determination (eg. As a reserved matter)

**Project location** 

Country England

ISLE OF WIGHT ISLE OF WIGHT WOOTTON BRIDGE Palmers Farm, Ryde, Site location

Isle of Wight

8 Hectares

**PO33 4NP** Postcode

Site coordinates SZ 53740 92800 50.731755006385 -1.238446116618 50 43 54 N 001 14 18 W

**Point** 

Height OD / Depth Min: 15m Max: 50m

**Project creators** 

Name of Organisation

Study area

Wessex Archaeology

Project brief originator

Palmers farm

Project design originator

Wessex Archaeology

Project

director/manager

Jon Kaines

Project supervisor Alex Brown

Type of sponsor/funding

body

Commercial

Name of

sponsor/funding

body

Palmers Farm

**Project archives** 

Physical Archive recipient

Isle of Wight Heritage Service

Physical Archive

IWCMS:2019.9794

**Physical Contents** "Ceramics"

Digital Archive

recipient

Isle of Wight Heritage Service

Digital Archive ID IWCMS:2019.9794

**Digital Contents** "Ceramics"



Digital Media available

"Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"

Paper Archive

recipient

Isle of Wight Heritage Service

IWCMS:2019.9794 Paper Archive ID

Paper Media "Context

sheet","Diary","Drawing","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey " available

**Project** 

bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title Palmers Farm, Ryde, Isle of Wight: Archaeological Evaluation

Author(s)/Editor(s) Zochowski, A.

Other bibliographic Ref 212820

details

Date 2019

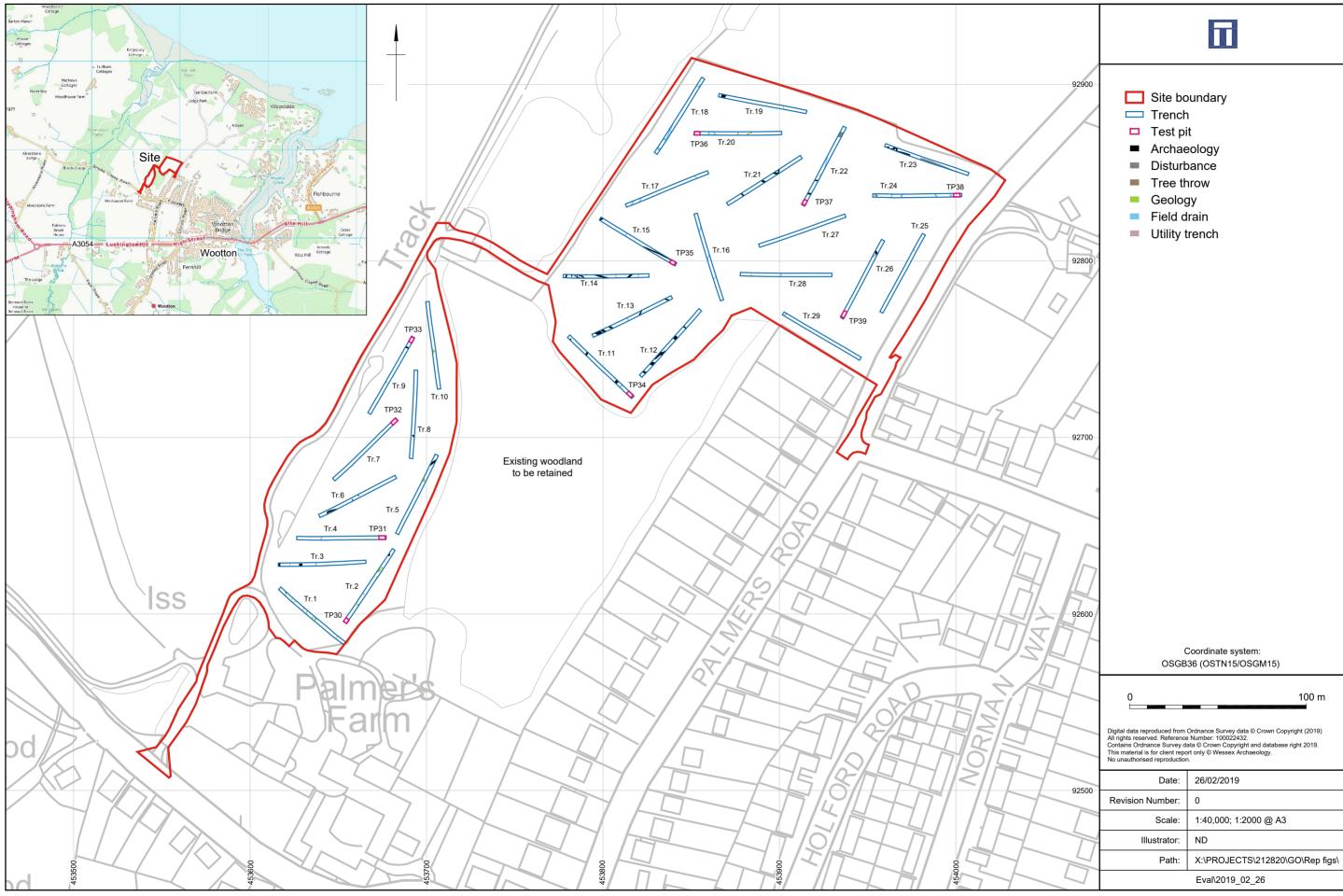
Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology

Place of issue or

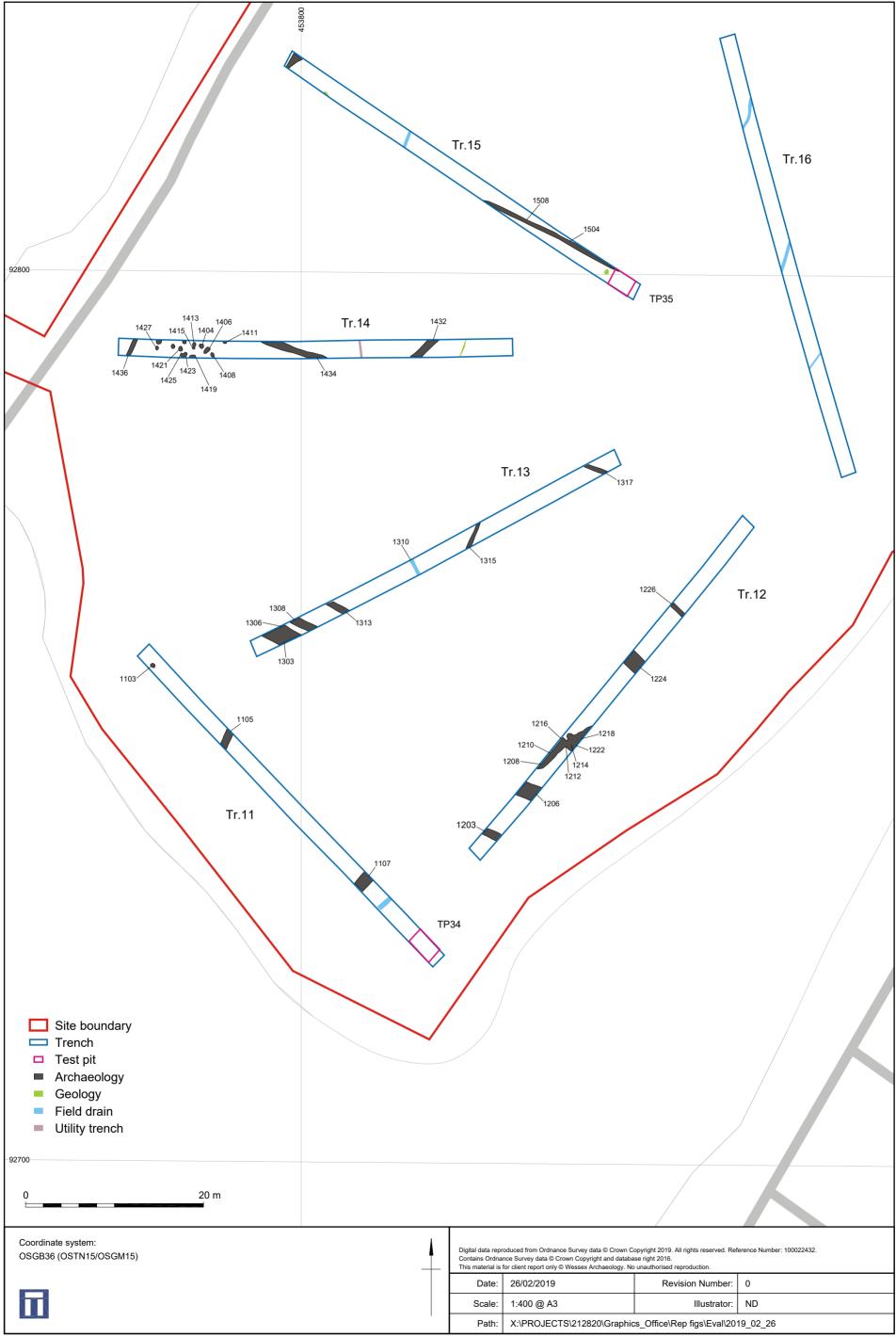
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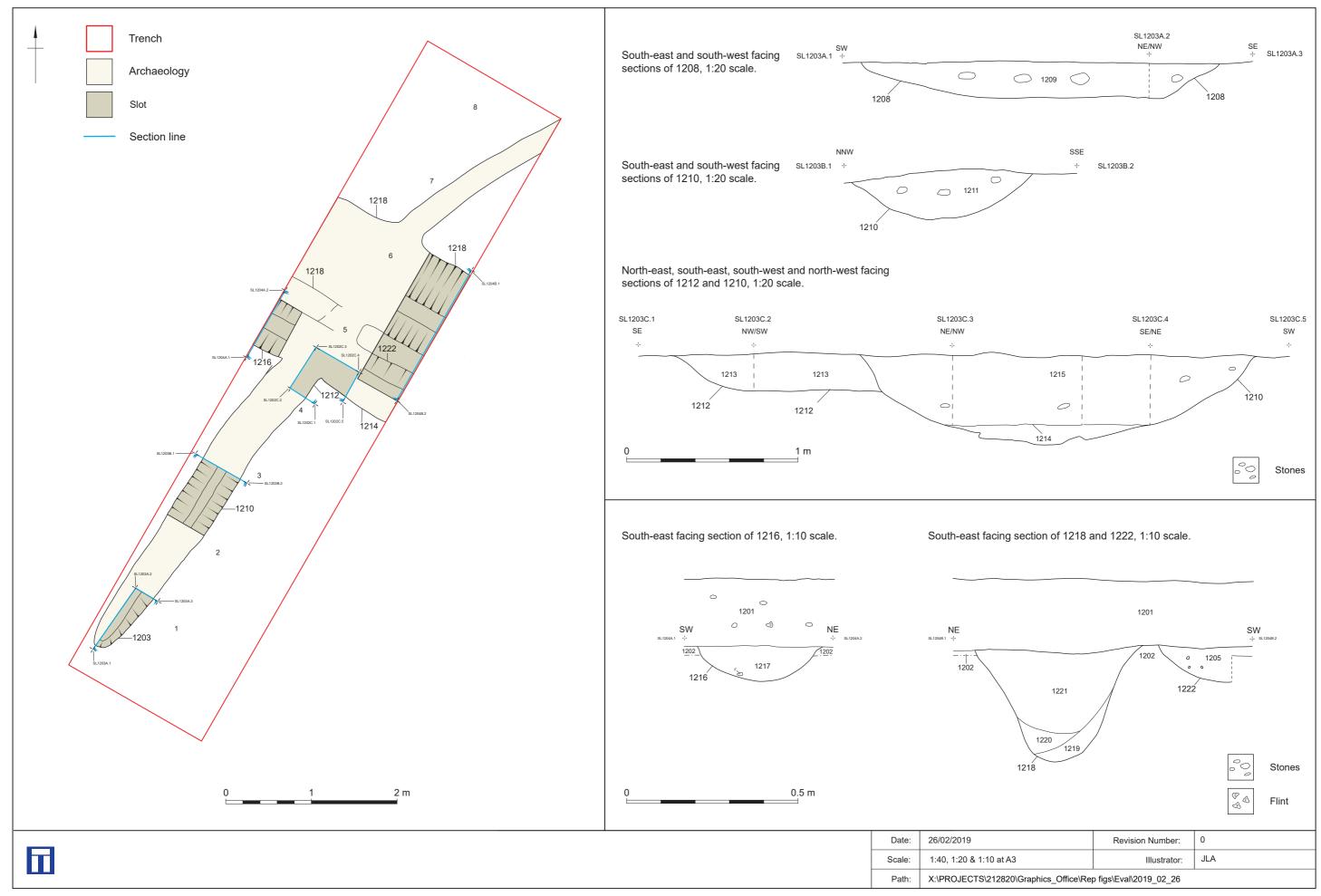
Salisbury

Description Grey lit plus summary in local journal



Site location and trench layout





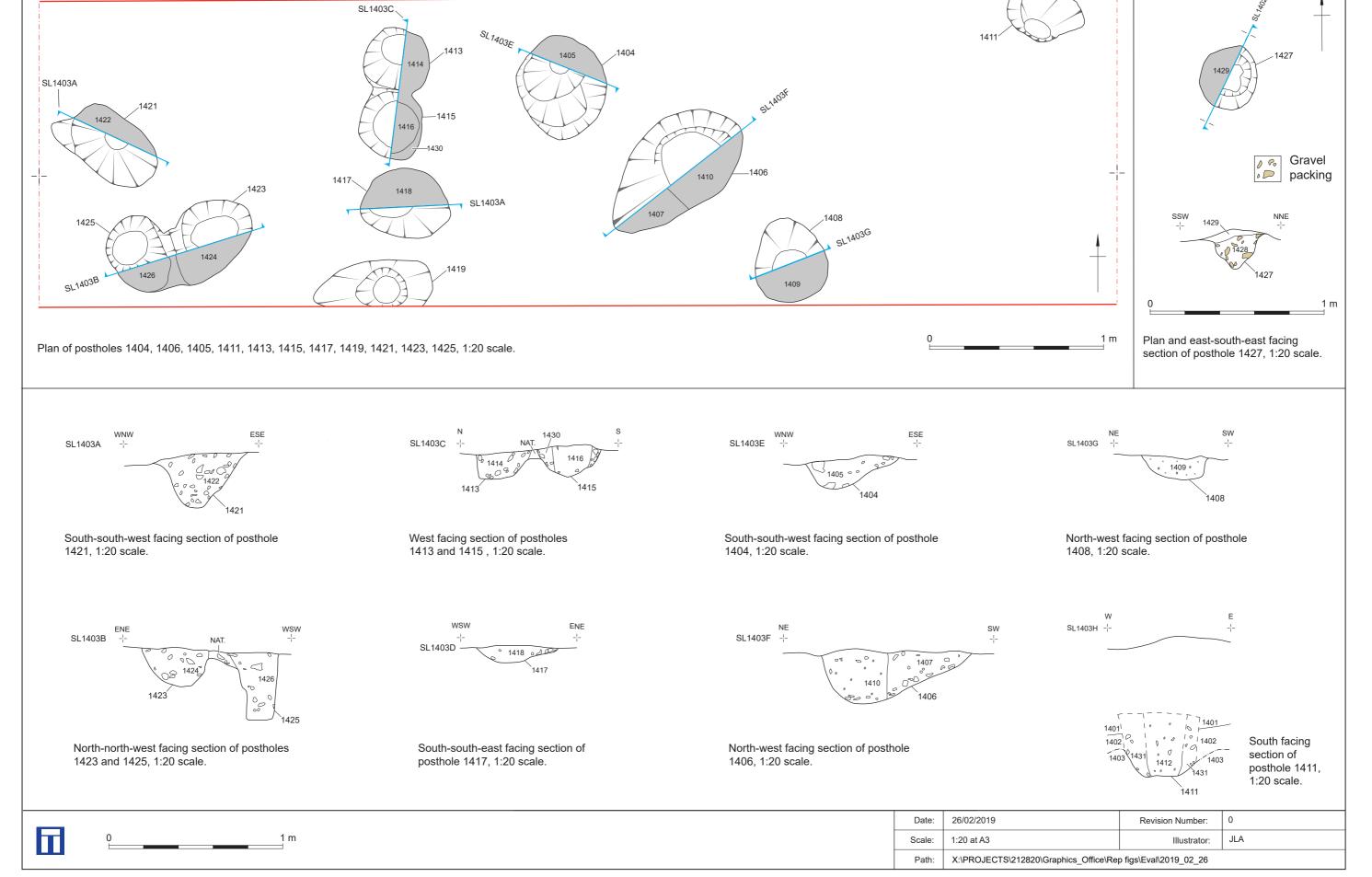




Plate 1: Pit 203, 0.5 m scale, looking south-east.



Plate 2: Ditch 504, 1 m scale, looking west-north-west.

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Plate 3: View of trench 6, 1 m and 2 m scale, looking north-east.



Plate 4: Ditch terminus 803, 0.4 m scale, looking north-east.

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Plate 5: Ditch 907, 1 m scale, looking south-east.



Plate 6: Ditch 1107, 1 m scale, looking south-west.

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Plate 7: Trench 12, 1 m and 2m scale, looking north-east.



Plate 8: Ditch 1216, 0.4 m scale, looking north-north-west.

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Plate 9: Ditches 1218 and 1216, 1 m scale, looking south-east.



Plate 10: Ditch 1306, 2 m scale, looking north-west.

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Plate 11: Trench 14, 1 m and 2m scale, looking west.



Plate 12: Post hole 1406, 0.4 m scale, looking west.

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Plate 13: Postholes 1423 and 1425, 0.4 m scale, looking north-west.



Plate 14: Ditch 1903, 2 m scale, looking south.

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Plate 15: Postholes 2403, 2405, 2407 and 2409. Looking north-west.



Plate 16: Test Pit 36, 2 m scale, south-east facing section; Phase I: Marine sands overlying the Hamstead Member and truncated by overlying Phase III: Solifluction deposits.

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Plate 17: Test Pit 32, 2 m scale, south-east facing section; Phase II: Fluvial sands and gravels overlying Phase I: Marine sands and truncated by overlying Phase III: Solifluction deposits.



Plate 18: Test Pit 38, 2 m scale, south-east facing section; Phase III: Solifluction deposits truncating and overlying Phase I: Marine sands.

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