



The Old Vicarage, Anchor Road, Calne

Archaeological Investigation by Strip, Map and Sample Excavation



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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the Client to undertake an archaeological investigation to monitor ground works for the construction of a proposed new swimming pool located within the north-east corner of the garden of The Old Vicarage, Anchor Road, Calne, the monitored area measured an area c. 75 m², centred on NGR 400034 171000.

The investigation was carried out as a condition of planning permission granted by Wiltshire Council under planning reference 18/07094/FUL.

The investigation confirmed the presence of two substantial north to south orientated ditches, which based on artefactual evidence could date to the medieval period, although were still extant and being infilled in the post medieval period during landscaping within the grounds of the vicarage. The ditches may be part of a boundary demarcating the site of a medieval monastic lodge, which is thought to have been located within the grounds of the current vicarage. Although no further evidence of in situ human burials indicating the extension of a medieval cemetery were identified during the investigation, as had been recorded in 2002 during construction of a garage within the vicarage grounds to the west, a small amount of disturbed human bone along with animal bone was recovered from the fill of one of the recorded ditches. These remains are likely to have been displaced from the possible cemetery in the west possibly during later landscaping works within the grounds of the vicarage.

Although the ditches are possibly boundaries demarcating the eastern extent of the medieval monastic lodge, no evidence of medieval buildings or building remains predating the current 18th and 19th century vicarage were encountered. Although the overriding evidence would point to the ditches being medieval in date, the presence of a single sherd of post medieval pottery within the fill of one of the ditches could indicate that these ditches could be later events associated with landscaping of the vicarage gardens, and may also explain the presence of disturbed human remains where material from the western part of the site have been displaced to the eastern side of the garden.

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The fieldwork was directed by Steven Froud, with the assistance of Cordeilia Laycock. This report was written by Steven Froud and edited by Damian De Rosa. The graphics for this report were prepared by Kenneth Lymer. The project was managed by Damian De Rosa on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.



The Old Vicarage, Anchor Road, Calne

Archaeological investigation by strip, map and sample excavation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the Client to undertake an archaeological investigation by strip, map and sample excavation during the construction of a proposed new swimming pool footprint, with a potential if required to also monitor associated works including a terrace, pool house and related works located within the north-east corner of the garden of the Old Vicarage, Anchor Road, Calne (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 The final monitored works measured an area c. 75 m², comprising of the swimming pool footprint and a surrounding swimming pool wall, centred on NGR 400034 171000 (Figure. 1). As the groundworks for the associated works could be clearly demonstrated to lie within what was seen to be made ground during excavation of the swimming pool footprint, it was agreed in consultation with Wiltshire Council Archaeology (WCA), the archaeological planning advisor to Wiltshire Council, the local planning authority (LPA) that these associated works would not require archaeological monitoring.

1.1.3 The investigation was carried out as a condition of planning permission, granted by Wiltshire Council (18/07094/FUL) which was granted on 28 September 2018, subject to conditions. The following conditions relate to archaeology.

Condition 3

No development shall commence within the area indicated at The Old Vicarage until:

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

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

1.1.4 The archaeological condition was attached to the approved planning application following consultation by Wiltshire Council with their archaeological planning advisor at WCA. The advice provided stated that based on matters considered that “Archaeology. Burials have been found in the near vicinity”; “A condition to secure programme of archaeological monitoring was required”.

1.1.5 Further consultation by Wessex Archaeology on behalf of the client with WCA confirmed that the archaeological monitoring given the archaeological potential of the site, particularly in regard of the possibility of human burials being present should comprise of archaeological supervision of ground reduction within the footprint of the development by a programme of strip, map and record investigation. This would ensure that should any archaeology be present within the development footprint it would be dealt with prior to the installation of the proposed swimming pool and associated works.



- 1.1.6 No archaeological investigations had previously been undertaken on the immediate location of the Site in relation to the proposed development. However, in 2002 during groundworks associated with construction of a new garage within the grounds of the Old Vicarage to the south west, six in situ graves with human remains and three partial disturbed human remains were recorded during a rescue investigation within a small area, and were interpreted as being medieval in origin (McMahon 2002). The disturbed burials were reburied along with the other burials which were left in situ.
- 1.1.7 The archaeological investigation was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed (Wessex Archaeology 2019). Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger of WCA approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), and a copy was submitted to the LPA by the client prior to the commencement of the fieldwork.
- 1.1.8 The archaeological investigation was undertaken between 1 April and 5 April 2019.

1.2 Scope of the report

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the results of the investigation, to interpret the results within their local or regional context (or otherwise), and to assess their potential to address the aims outlined in the WSI, thereby making available information about the archaeological resource (a preservation by record).

1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The archaeological investigation was located within the grounds of a Grade II listed Old Vicarage, and confined within an area designated for a new swimming pool. The Site is within mature gardens, which have been subject to extensive landscaping to create a number of terraces in the early or mid-19th century (McMahon 2002), on a flat piece of ground to the north-east of the house.
- 1.3.2 Existing ground levels in the location of the proposed development are c. 73.35 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). This compares with the location of the burials revealed in 2002, which sits at a height of c. 69.50 m in the south-west corner of the Old Vicarage plot.
- 1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as Stanford Formation – Limestone of the Corallian Group. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 157 to 164 million years ago in the Jurassic period forming a part of the 'Corallian Ridge' between the rivers Thames and Ock (Vale of White Horse); approximately Swindon to Oxford. Amongst previous names for this bedrock is listed as 'Calne freestone and coral rag' (British Geological Survey online viewer). The underlying geology was confirmed during the current archaeological investigation.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 There is a paucity of evidence for prehistoric settlement in Calne. However, from the Romano-British period onwards there appears to have been continuous settlement in and around Calne. Three Roman villas have been found within the vicinity of Calne.
- 2.1.2 By the late Anglo-Saxon period Calne belonged to the King, with a villa regia around which grew the settlement. By Domesday the manor was divided between the King and the Church, with a substantial population.



2.1.3 In the 16th century Calne was well known as a cloth making centre, which was well located on the main London to Bristol road. The town expanded again in the 19th century, before the population stabilised, closure of the Harris factory in 1983 (employing over 2000 people) affected the town, and the area around the former location of the factory has been fully regenerated (<https://history.wiltshire.gov.uk>).

2.1.4 The following section reviews and gives an overview of Sites listed on the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record HER which are relevant to the potential archaeology for the Site. A summary of the results is presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the HER and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

2.2 Previous investigations related to the development

Rescue recording (2002)

2.2.1 The County Archaeology Service were contacted following the discovery of human remains on the spoil heaps during groundworks for a new garage within the south west corner of the Old Vicarage plot of land.

2.2.2 The area monitored measured 16 x 7 m and a total of six *in situ* burials were noted along with the partial disinterred remains of three skeletons (ST97SE554 - McMahon 2002). The stratigraphic sequence observed was 0.5 m of garden soil overlying 0.25 m of made ground, believed to relate to 19th century landscaping, beneath this the grave cuts were visible. The graves were all aligned east – west and had a maximum depth of 0.28 m suggesting prior truncation, presumably from the previous landscaping works. The natural was exposed at 1.05 m below the ground surface.

2.2.3 The burials may be medieval in date as the report from 2002 noted that the site is known to have been the location of a monastic lodge or retreat since the 13th century and has documented associations with St Edmund (SU07SW468) so the burials could be interpreted as belonging to the medieval period and be associated with this building.

2.2.4 The report did not rule out that the remains could also possibly date to the 16/17th centuries as an extension to a known cemetery containing plague victims located to the south of the Vicarage (SU07SW525).

2.2.5 A large drystone well, c 1.2 m diameter was also noted in the report, and it was believed to be post-medieval or later in date as it sealed a layer of yellowish-brown silty clay loam.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Medieval (1066 - 1500)

2.3.1 The land now occupied by The Vicarage, may be the location of the ancient rectory, in existence since at least 1234, when St. Edmund of Canterbury is known to been residing there at the time of his selection for the Archbishopric of Canterbury (HER SU07SW468)

2.3.2 The partial remains from an undated but probably medieval Christian burial were exposed and recorded in Church Street (HER ST97SE553) to the west of the Old Vicarage during pavement renewal outside the church of St Mary. The HER also notes that excavation in 1989 to the north east of St Mary revealed redeposited ground containing an assortment of human bones (ST97SE552).

2.3.3 A castle named Cerne dating to 1139 may be located within the town (HER ST97SE462).



2.3.4 Coleman's Farm, a demolished 19th century farmstead of regular courtyard plan is located less than 100 m to the north-east of the Site, the farmstead is believed to have medieval origins (HER SU07SW459 and MW166704).

Post-medieval (1500 – 1800)

2.3.5 The Old Vicarage is a Grade II listed building (NHLE 1247332), and possibly stands on the location of a monastic lodge or retreat which may have occupied the site in the medieval period. Prior to the current building a manor house dating from c. 1600 (post reformation period) occupied the site, which became dilapidated and required massive refurbishment to make way for the current building in 1775. This was extended in the early 19th century around 1815 (Jonathan Soar – pers. comm).

2.3.6 A triangular piece of ground opposite the vicarage at Colne is traditionally the burial place of 16th/ 17th century plague victims. In about 1834 the ground was found to contain a large number of human skeletons in unconnected and confused heaps (HER SU075SW525).

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

3.1.1 The aims of the watching brief, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2019) and as defined in the ClfA's *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014a), were:

- To examine the archaeological resource within a given area or site within a framework of defined research objectives;
- To seek a better understanding of the resource;
- To compile a lasting record of the resource; and
- To analyse and interpret the results of the excavation, and disseminate them.

3.2 Specific aims and objectives

3.2.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site based on previous investigation within the immediate vicinity, specific aims and objectives of the work, also defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2019), were:

- To better define the nature, extent, character and chronology of the archaeology present on Site with particular reference to the results of the rescue investigation in 2002;
- To ascertain if further human burials could be identified which might help to date the burials identified in 2002 and define the extent of the cemetery and spread of human remains;
- To see if any evidence of the medieval ecclesiastical buildings could be identified as well as earlier phases of the existing Old Vicarage;
- To determine whether buried soils or occupation horizons are preserved on the Site;
- To determine the levels of truncation as well as build of material through landscaping that may be present on the site as a result of alterations to the Old Vicarage during the 18th and 19th centuries as well as in more recent times;

- To better understand the role that topography may play in the location of burials and/or location of earlier buildings that may be present as the current site sits c. 3.5 metres above the level at which burials were recorded in 2002.

3.3 Research objectives

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site and the regional research framework (Webster 2007), the research objectives of the excavation are to:

- Improve our understanding of medieval and later urbanism;
- Use the excavation of medieval and post-medieval burials to study wider population and social issues.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methodology 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

General

- 4.2.1 The excavation comprised of ground reduction, investigation and recording of the footprint of the swimming pool area (**Figures 1 and 2**), surrounding swimming pool wall and walkway, until it was agreed that the archaeological potential had been exhausted. The area of the proposed terrace (patio, pergola and pool house area) was not monitored in agreement with WCA due to the deposit sequences revealed during the pool excavations, which show a significant depth of made ground toward the east end of the swimming pool area (**Figure 3**). The depth of impact of the associated works lies wholly within made ground.
- 4.2.1 The watching archaeologist monitored all mechanical excavations within the specified area, starting initially with the removal of the swimming pool wall footing trench around the outside of the proposed swimming pool footprint, using a 0.45 m wide toothless bucket (**Plate 3**). Following the laying of concrete 0.25 m thick in the base of the footing trench, a process of strip, map and recording of the remaining ground was undertaken within the swimming pool footprint area, the ground being reduced down to the depth of the archaeological horizon (**Plates 4 and 5**).
- 4.2.2 The surfaces of two archaeological features, both ditches, were identified and initially cleaned and partially excavated by hand for sealed context artefact recovery. Due to the size of the features and following discussion with the County Archaeologist of WCA, it was agreed to carefully machine dig a 1 m wide slot across both ditches using a toothless bucket. Both ditch slots and sections were then hand cleaned and recorded.
- 4.2.3 Spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Where found, artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained. Artefacts from features of modern date (19th century or later), not usually retained, were recorded on site and also retained for the client.



Recording

- 4.2.4 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.
- 4.2.5 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.
- 4.2.6 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 have 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 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The County Archaeologist at WCA, on behalf of the LPA, monitored the investigation with a site monitoring meeting on 4 April 2019, and was updated on the progress of the work by email correspondence by Wessex Archaeology on behalf of the Client.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The following sections provide a summary of the results of the archaeological watching brief.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 Existing ground level lies at a height of c. 73.20m aOD. The stratigraphic sequence for the Site consisted of 0.10 m of topsoil (100), which increases to a depth of 0.23 m at the west end of the monitored area, where the ground level has been artificially raised to create a low bank that runs south-east to north-west and demarcates the edge of flat ground to the north-east of the house. This overlay 0.10m of subsoil (112), which sits above a layer of 0.20 m of made ground (101, 108 and 110), that drops away sharply at the east end of the monitored area, and continues below the depth of groundworks. Below this is a thin 0.10 m layer of a remnant buried soil horizon (102).. The buried soil horizon sealed the two identified ditches (104 and 106), which were cut directly into the top of the natural geology (103) at a depth of c. 0.80m (72.40m aOD) below existing ground level (**Figure 3 – Section 1**).



- 5.2.2 The topsoil (101) consists of dark greyish brown silty loam with rare inclusions of small limestone fragments, frequent rooting and some occasional tree or shrub disturbance. The subsoil (112) consists of mid-yellowish brown silty clay loam, comprising of sparse inclusions of small limestone fragments and occasional rooting. The made ground (101, and 108) and an area of truncation in the south west corner of the excavation area filled with made ground deposit 110 (**Figures 2 and 3**), comprises of a redeposited material of silty clay loam with frequent small to moderate limestone fragments and contains a mix of 19th century artefacts, such as glass bottles, pottery, tile and brick, and is likely to be associated with Victorian or later landscaping.
- 5.2.3 Below made ground 101, 108 and cut by truncation deposit 110, a buried soil horizon (102) comprises of a medium grey silty clay loam with sparse small to moderate limestone fragments. The underlying natural geology (103) is of a degraded tabular light yellow limestone or cornbrash, with occasional patches of mottled yellowish grey clay.
- 5.3 Archaeological features**
- 5.3.1 Two ditches (104 and 106), both aligned north-south, were identified during the investigation within the monitored area, approximately 1.20 m apart (**Figures 1 to 3**). A 1 m wide slot was excavated across both features following discussion with the County Archaeologist of the Wiltshire County Archaeological Service, using a toothless 4.5 m toothless bucket, and then hand cleaned to be recorded.
- 5.3.2 The western ditch (104) (**Figures 1 to 3 and Plates 1 and 5**) was recorded to be approximately 0.75 m deep (c. 71.75 m aOD at base) from the stripped level within the monitored area, and 2.3 m wide, with straight, slightly irregular sloping sides and a flat base. The ditch contained three deposits of material. The lower fill (113) is comprised of a rubbly mid grey silty clay material with inclusions of small to moderate limestone fragments from which medieval pottery was recovered. The middle fill, (111) is comprised of a dark greyish brown silty clay loam, organic in appearance, with rare inclusions of small limestone fragments. Medieval pottery was also recovered from this fill, but a single sherd of post medieval Verwood type earthenware suggest this fill was possibly being deposited at a later date, although there is a possibility that the single sherd could be intrusive as a result of the machine excavation of the slot. The Upper-most fill (105) is comprised of light yellowish brown, sandy silty clay with frequent inclusions of moderate to large limestone fragments and occasional boulders, and appears to continue centrally along the length of the ditch. The limestone would not appear to be structural in nature and could possibly be in use to consolidate the ground due to the soft fills of the ditch below.
- 5.3.3 The eastern ditch (106) (**Figures 1 to 3 and Plates 2 and 5**) runs parallel with ditch (104) and was recorded to be approximately 0.96 m deep (c. 71.52 m aOD at base), and 2.3 m wide with straight sloping sides and a flat base. The ditch contained two deposits of material, interpreted as one event of redeposited backfill. The lower fill (114) is comprised of a rubbly mid grey silty clay material with inclusions of small to moderate limestone fragments. No dateable material was recovered from this fill. The Upper-most fill (107) is comprised of a dark greyish brown silty clay loam, organic in appearance, with rare inclusions of small limestone fragments (**Plate 5 and Figure 4**). Pottery of medieval date ranging from 12th to 14th century date was recovered from this fill (107) along with disturbed remains of human bone and a large amount of animal bone.
- 5.3.4 Both ditches widen slightly towards the north side of the monitored area, and are sealed by the layer of buried soil 102, which sits under the later made ground associated with Victorian landscaping. No dating evidence was found associated with the buried soil during

monitoring of the works, but may represent the former ground surface prior to the notable and obvious raising of the current ground surface during landscaping.

6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered, ranging in date from Romano-British to post-medieval. All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in **Table 1**.

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

Context	Animal Bone	CBM	Pottery	Other Finds
100		7/449	6/97	2 glass; 1 iron
101	3/118	19/1911	7/211	3 glass; 1 shell; 1 stone
107	112/2760	1/70	59/719	1 shell; 3 slag; 13 human bone
110		4/491	1/2	
111	19/460		7/135	1 slag
113	1/2		2/3	
Total	148/3340	31/2921	82/1167	

CBM = ceramic building material

6.2 Pottery

6.2.1 The small pottery assemblage amounts to 82 sherds (weighing 1167 g). This includes material of Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval/modern date. The condition is fair to good; levels of surface and edge abrasion are relatively low. Mean sherd weight is 14.2 g.

6.2.2 The assemblage has been quantified (sherd count and weight) by ware type within each context. Detailed fabric analysis has not been undertaken, but medieval wares have been characterised by dominant inclusion type(s), while post-medieval/modern wares are assigned to known types. A breakdown of the pottery assemblage by context is given in **Table 2**.

Table 2 Pottery by context

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt (g)	Comments	Date range
100	Redware	2	30	flowerpot	Post-med
100	Refined whiteware	4	67	1 plain kitchen bowl; 1 transfer-printed cup; 1 banded; 1 brown-glazed straight-sided jar	Modern
101	Redware	6	106	5 flowerpot; 1 glazed	Post-med
101	Sandy/calcareous ware	1	105	Body sherd	Medieval
107	Greyware	1	18	Everted rim	Roman
107	Sandy ware	10	65	Body sherds	Medieval
107	Fine micaceous ware	4	17	Body sherds	Medieval
107	oolitic ware	15	240	2 jar rims (thickened), 1 with vertical applied strip (rim diam 320mm)	Medieval



107	Sandy/calcareous ware	28	362	3 jar rims (thickened/internally bevelled)	Medieval
107	Flint-gritted ware	1	17	Body sherd	Medieval
110	oolitic ware	1	2	tiny rim	Medieval
111	Verwood-type earthenware	1	22	Body sherd, glazed	Post-med
111	Fine micaceous ware	2	18	Body sherds	Medieval
111	Oolitic ware	1	51	Jug strap handle	Medieval
111	Sandy ware	2	15	Body sherds	Medieval
111	Sandy/calcareous ware	1	29	jar rim (simple profile)	Medieval
113	Sandy/calcareous ware	2	3	Small body sherds	Medieval

Romano-British

- 6.2.3 There is one Romano-British sherd. This is a rim sherd from an everted rim jar in a sandy greyware of unknown source; it cannot be dated more closely within the period. The sherd was a residual find in ditch 106.

Medieval

- 6.2.4 The majority of the assemblage (68 sherds) is dated as medieval. All sherds are in coarseware fabrics, which have been broadly grouped by dominant inclusion type(s): sandy, sandy/calcareous, oolitic, flint-gritted and fine micaceous.
- 6.2.5 Oolitic wares are of Minety-type, probably deriving from this production site or the surrounding area; wasters found at Minety have been dated to the turn of the 14th/15th centuries, but it is apparent that similar oolitic wares were circulating earlier, identified for example at Bristol, Cirencester and Gloucester from at least the early 12th century (Ireland 1998, fabric F200, 104). Early handmade wares (including tripod pitchers) were augmented by wheelthrown jars from the 13th/14th century (Vince 1984). Sherds here are too small to determine manufacture definitively, although all seem to be handmade. There are two jar rims and one strap handle from a jug or pitcher.
- 6.2.6 The fine micaceous wares are comparable to wares recorded in Warminster from the 12th century and probably originating from the documented production centre at Crockerton, just outside the town (Smith 1997, 22, fabric H). There are no diagnostic sherds here.
- 6.2.7 Other wares (sandy, flint-gritted and sandy/calcareous, the latter including limestone fragments, some shelly) are of uncertain source(s), although these are assumed to be at least relatively local. Again, comparable wares are known from Warminster, but also from Bath, where sandy and sandy/calcareous wares are common (Vince 1979, fabrics A and B). Diagnostic sherds comprise four jar rims, with simple or slightly thickened rims.
- 6.2.8 A date range focusing on the 12th century can be suggested for the medieval pottery; there is a possibility that some sherds might be slightly earlier, and equally that some could be slightly later, although the absence of any glazed sandy wares suggests that a later date is less likely. The medieval sherds serve to date ditches 104 (fill 113) and 106 (fill 107, no finds from lower fill 114). One tiny sherd from made ground 110 is likely to have been redeposited in this context.

Post-medieval/modern

- 6.2.9 The remaining 13 sherds fall into this chronological range. They are divided between redwares (mostly from unglazed flowerpot) and refined whitewares (plain, banded and transfer-printed) representing both kitchen- and table-wares. The date range appears to focus on the 19th/20th centuries, with the possibility that two glazed redware sherds (one from the Verwood area of east Dorset) could be slightly earlier. Post-medieval/modern sherds came from topsoil 100, made ground 101 and the upper fill 111 of ditch 104.

6.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

- 6.3.1 This category includes fragments of roof tile, brick and one modern white-glazed wall tile. The roof tile includes both medieval and post-medieval examples, the former characterised by coarser, visibly sandy fabrics (nine examples); one fragment is glazed. The medieval tile appears to belong exclusively to flat peg tiles, although the glazed fragment could represent a ridge tile. Post-medieval tiles include five fragments (all from made ground 101) from curved pantiles.

6.4 Glass

- 6.4.1 Five pieces of glass were recovered. This comprises two fragments of window glass, two complete vessels, and part of a third. The partial vessel (made ground 101) is represented by the rim and neck, which can be identified coming from a green wine bottle of 'onion' form (c. 1680–1730). The two complete vessels came from topsoil; both are hexagonal green bottles of modern date (19th-/20th-century), vertically ribbed to indicate that the contents were poisonous. The window glass fragments (made ground 101) are also modern.

6.5 Human Bone

- 6.5.1 Fragments of human bone were recovered from the upper fill of ditch 106 together with other redeposited materials including a relatively substantial quantity of animal bone and medieval pottery.
- 6.5.2 The bone is slightly abraded and root-marked but is generally in good condition and is unlikely to have been subject to repeated episodes of disturbance and redeposition. Skeletal elements from all areas of the body are present, the fragments generally being fairly small and mostly featuring old breaks to dry bone. The remains represent those of a minimum of one relatively robust individual. One maxillary anterior tooth was lost *ante mortem*, and the retention of part of the tooth root suggests the tooth broke in response to trauma – either accidental or due to a deliberate blow to the face.
- 6.5.3 It is most likely that the remains derived from the small medieval (?monastic) cemetery known to lie some 50 m to the south-west of the find spot on the other side of the Vicarage (McMahon 2002). The finds from ditch 106 suggest at least one grave was disturbed during one of the episodes of landscaping known to have been undertaken on the property.

6.6 Animal Bone

- 6.6.1 A total of 148 fragments (or 3.412 kg) of animal bone came from medieval ditches 104 and 106, and a modern deposit of made ground 101. Once conjoins are accounted for the total count falls to 92 fragments (**Table 3**).



Table 3 Animal bone: number of identified specimens present (or NISP) by period

Species	Medieval	Post-medieval	Modern	Total
cattle	13	5	2	20
sheep/goat	14	5	1	20
pig	5	1	-	6
horse	4	-	-	4
red deer	1	1	-	2
domestic fowl	1	-	-	1
Total identified	38	12	3	53
Total unidentifiable	35	4	-	39
Overall total	73	16	3	92

6.6.2 The bones are well-preserved and generally survive as large easily identifiable elements. Gnaw marks are apparent of 14% of post-cranial elements. This is a relatively low number and suggests that the assemblage has not been significantly biased by the bone chewing habit of scavenging dogs, however some bones are likely to have been redeposited from surface detritus or midden heaps that were accessible to dogs.

6.6.3 A total of 73 fragments came from medieval ditch deposits. The identified bones are mostly from livestock, particularly sheep/goat and cattle, and include a range of skeletal elements. Bones from meat joints are in the majority and indicate a preference for legs of mutton and shoulders of beef and pork. A sheep horn core from ditch 106 had been sawn through the base, the evidence is indicative of a small-scale horn-working industry nearby. The other identified bones include several horse bones (scapula, radius, tibia and astragalus), a red deer femur and a domestic fowl tibiotarsus. The venison joint is a high-status food item and is likely to have been gifted to a hunt participant following the unmaking ritual (Sykes 2007).

6.6.4 A total of 16 bones came from the upper, post-medieval fill of ditch 104. The deposit includes residual material of medieval origin including pottery and animal bones. The identified bones are mostly from cattle and sheep/goat, and the range of elements is similar to medieval deposits. The other identified fragments include a pig tibia and red deer (right) humerus.

6.6.5 A cattle ulna and metacarpal, and sheep/goat metatarsal came from a modern deposit of made ground.

6.7 Other Finds

6.7.1 Other finds comprise four fragments of ironworking slag, a fragment of roofing slate, a large iron nail and two fragments of oyster shell. None of these finds are closely datable.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 No archaeological deposits suitable for environmental sampling were encountered during the works.



8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Summary

- 8.1.1 The watching brief confirmed the presence of two large medieval ditches, running north-south, the upper fills of which both contained pottery with a date range focusing on the 12th century, with only a few fragments of pottery associated with the lower fill of the eastern ditch 104.
- 8.1.2 No further human burials were identified that might have been able to date those identified previously in the rescue excavation in 2002, however fragments of human bone were recovered from the upper fill of ditch 106, remains most likely having derived from the small medieval (?monastic) cemetery known to lie some 50 m to the south-west of the Vicarage. The finds suggest at least one grave was disturbed during landscaping known to have been undertaken on the property.
- 8.1.3 No evidence of medieval ecclesiastical buildings or earlier phases of the existing Old Vicarage were encountered.

8.2 A date range focusing on the 12th century can be suggested

8.3 Discussion

- 8.3.1 There is no previous evidence to suggest that the organic settlement area within Calne extended to the north east as far as the Old Vicarage (McMahon 2004). It is likely that the Old Vicarage and the landscape surrounding it lay outside this area and was associated with a high-status Medieval building with ecclesiastical associations which once stood on this spot (McMahon 2002).
- 8.3.2 It is clear from the absence of in situ burials within the area monitored, that the extent of the burials found in 2002 are confined to lower ground at a height of c. 69.50 (aOD) to the southwest of the Old Rectory, compared to c. 73.35 m (aOD), the ground level of the monitored area to the north east. The presence of disturbed human remains within the upper fill of ditch 106 however, likely demonstrated s that material from the western side of the current vicarage and site of the possible medieval cemetery was being disturbed and used for backfilling the ditches and for possibly the landscaping of the grounds in the post medieval period.
- 8.3.3 From the layer of made ground with associated Victorian artefacts of 19th century tile, brick and ceramics, it appears that the present ground surface to the north east of the Old Vicarage level has been raised at the top of the slope within the area monitored, most likely modified by landscaping associated with the construction of the present building in the later 18th and early 19th centuries. The earlier ground level, it might be suggested, is represented by the horizon of buried soil (102).
- 8.3.4 Further evidence of landscaping at this time is represented by the increase in depth of topsoil at the west end of the monitored area, where the ground level has been artificially raised to create a low bank that runs south-east to north-west and demarks the edge of flat ground to the north east of the Old Vicarage before it drops away to the south west and creating an artificial terrace.
- 8.3.5 It is evident from the layer of made ground that the two ditches encountered crossing the monitored area, are possibly of an earlier medieval date. This is suggested by the presence of medieval pottery with a date range focusing on the 12th to 14th centuries found in the fills of both ditches, although a single sherd of post medieval Verwood type earthenware (if not



intrusive) suggests that at the very least that the ditches even if originally medieval in date were being infilled in the post medieval period. If the ditches can be interpreted as medieval in date they may represent some form of boundary, perhaps associated with an earlier building, possibly the ancient rectory or monastic lodge predating the current Old Vicarage, thought to have been in existence since at least 1234, and likely to have fallen out of use and been replaced during the reformation period in the 16th century.

- 8.3.6 Alternatively the ditches maybe wholly post medieval in date and associated with landscaping of the current 18th/19th Old Vicarage or its post reformation predecessor, which the current building is thought to have replaced. Unfortunately no further evidence was encountered to help with a definitive interpretation of the features.
- 8.3.7 No evidence of any buildings predating the current Old Vicarage could be identified and are more likely if present to lie beneath or have been wholly removed or replaced by the existing building. The investigation was also able to demonstrate that the in situ human remains recorded in 2002 on the western side of the Old Vicarage grounds do not extend to the east to within the bounds of the current site. However, the current investigation has been unable to identify the actual extent and limit of the cemetery, and there remains the potential that should any groundworks in the future be undertaken in the western part of the Old Vicarage grounds that in situ human remains could be revealed.

9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

- 9.1.1 The archive resulting from the watching brief is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. The Site falls within the collecting area of the Wiltshire Heritage Museum – Devizes, which is currently not accepting archaeological archives.
- 9.1.2 Every effort will be made to identify a suitable repository for the archive resulting from the fieldwork, and if this is not possible, Wessex Archaeology will initiate discussions with the local planning authority in an attempt to resolve the issue. If no suitable repository is identified, Wessex Archaeology will continue to store the archive, but may institute a charge to the client for ongoing storage beyond a set period.
- 9.1.3 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.

9.2 Preparation of the archive

- 9.2.1 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 the Wiltshire Heritage Museum - Devizes, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 9.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the site code 218320, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:
- 01 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts, ordered by material type;
 - 01 files/document cases of paper records and A3/A4 graphics;



9.3 Selection policy

- 9.3.1 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.

9.4 Security copy

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

9.5 OASIS

- 9.5.1 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.

10 COPYRIGHT

10.1 Archive and report copyright

- 10.1.1 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.
- 10.1.2 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.

10.2 Third party data copyright

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



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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Trench summary

Depth bgl = below ground level

Trench 1	12.9 m x 5 m		NGR 400034 171000	73.35 m (aOD)
<i>Context</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Fill of</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Depth bgl (m) or thickness of fill (m)</i>
100	Layer	-	Topsoil: Dark greyish brown silty loam with rare inclusions of small limestone, frequent rooting and some occasional tree or shrub disturbance.	0.10m (0.23 in the SW corner)
101	Layer	-	Made ground: Redeposited material of light greyish brown silty clay loam with frequent inclusions of small to moderate limestone and occasional tile and brick.	0.20 m – 0.40 m
102	Layer	-	Buried soil: A horizon of possible buried soil of medium grey silty clay loam with sparse small to moderate limestone fragments.	0.40 m – 0.50 m
103	layer	-	Natural: Degraded tabular light yellow limestone or cornbrash, with occasional patches of mottled light yellowish grey clay.	0.50 m +
104	Cut	-	Cut of a linear ditch, 2.3 m wide, with moderate sloping straight to slightly irregular sides and a flat base.	0.45 m - 0.75 m
105	Fill	104	Backfill: Redeposited material of light yellowish brown, sandy silty clay with frequent inclusions of moderate to large limestone and occasional boulders, and appears to continue centrally along the length of the ditch.	0.25 m thick
106	Cut	-	Cut of a linear ditch, 2.3 m wide, with moderately sloping straight sides and a flat base.	0.28 m – 1.14 m
107	Fill	106	Backfill: Redeposited material of a dark greyish brown silty clay loam, organic in appearance, with rare inclusions of small limestone fragments and rare charcoal.	0.57 m thick
108	Layer	-	Made ground: Redeposited material of light yellowish brown silty clay loam with frequent inclusions of small to moderate limestone and occasional tile and brick.	0.20 m – 0.40 m
109	<i>Number voided</i>			
110	Layer	-	Made ground: Redeposited material of light yellowish brown silty clay loam with frequent inclusions of small to moderate limestone and occasional tile and brick.	0.20 m +
111	Fill	104	Backfill: Redeposited material of a dark greyish brown silty clay loam, organic in appearance, with rare inclusions of small limestone fragments and rare charcoal.	0.30 m thick
112	Layer	-	Subsoil: Mid-yellowish brown silty clay loam, comprising of sparse inclusions of small limestone fragments and occasional rooting.	0.10 m – 0.20 m
113	Fill	104	Backfill: Redeposited rubbly mid grey silty clay material with inclusions of small to moderate limestone and rare charcoal.	0.45 m thick
114	Fill	106	Backfill: Redeposited rubbly mid grey silty clay material with inclusions of small to moderate limestone and rare charcoal.	0.40 m thick



Appendix 2 Oasis form

11 OASIS ID: wessexar1-349785

Project details

Project name	The Old Vicarage, Anchor Road, Calne Archaeological investigation by strip, map and sample excavation
Short description of the project	<p>Wessex Archaeology was commissioned to undertake an archaeological investigation to monitor ground works for the construction of a proposed new swimming pool. The investigation confirmed the presence of two substantial north to south orientated ditches, which based on artefactual evidence could date to the medieval period, although were still extant and being infilled in the post medieval period during landscaping within the grounds of the vicarage. The ditches may be part of a boundary demarcating the site of a medieval monastic lodge, which is thought to have been located within the grounds of the current vicarage. Although no further evidence of in situ human burials indicating the extension of a medieval cemetery were identified during the investigation, as had been recorded in 2002 during construction of a garage within the vicarage grounds to the west, a small amount of disturbed human bone along with animal bone was recovered from the fill of one of the recorded ditches. These remains are likely to have been displaced from the possible cemetery in the west possibly during later landscaping works within the grounds of the vicarage. Although the ditches are possibly boundaries demarcating the eastern extent of the medieval monastic lodge, no evidence of medieval buildings or building remains predating the current 18th and 19th century vicarage were encountered. Although the overriding evidence would point to the ditches being medieval in date, the presence of a single sherd of post medieval pottery within the fill of one of the ditches could indicate that these ditches could be later events associated with landscaping of the vicarage gardens, and may also explain the presence of disturbed human remains where material from the western part of the site have been displaced to the eastern side of the garden.</p>
Project dates	Start: 01-04-2019 End: 05-04-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	218320 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Listed Building
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	HUMAN BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Modern



Significant Finds	CBM Modern
Significant Finds	GLASS Modern
Investigation type	"Part Excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE NORTH WILTSHIRE CALNE The Old Vicarage, 1 Anchor Road, Calne
Postcode	SN11 8DR
Study area	75 Square metres
Site coordinates	400034 171000 400034 00 00 N 171000 00 00 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 72.4m Max: 72.45m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Wiltshire Council Archaeology
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Damian De Rosa
Project supervisor	Steven Froud
Type of sponsor/funding body	Private houseowner

Project archives

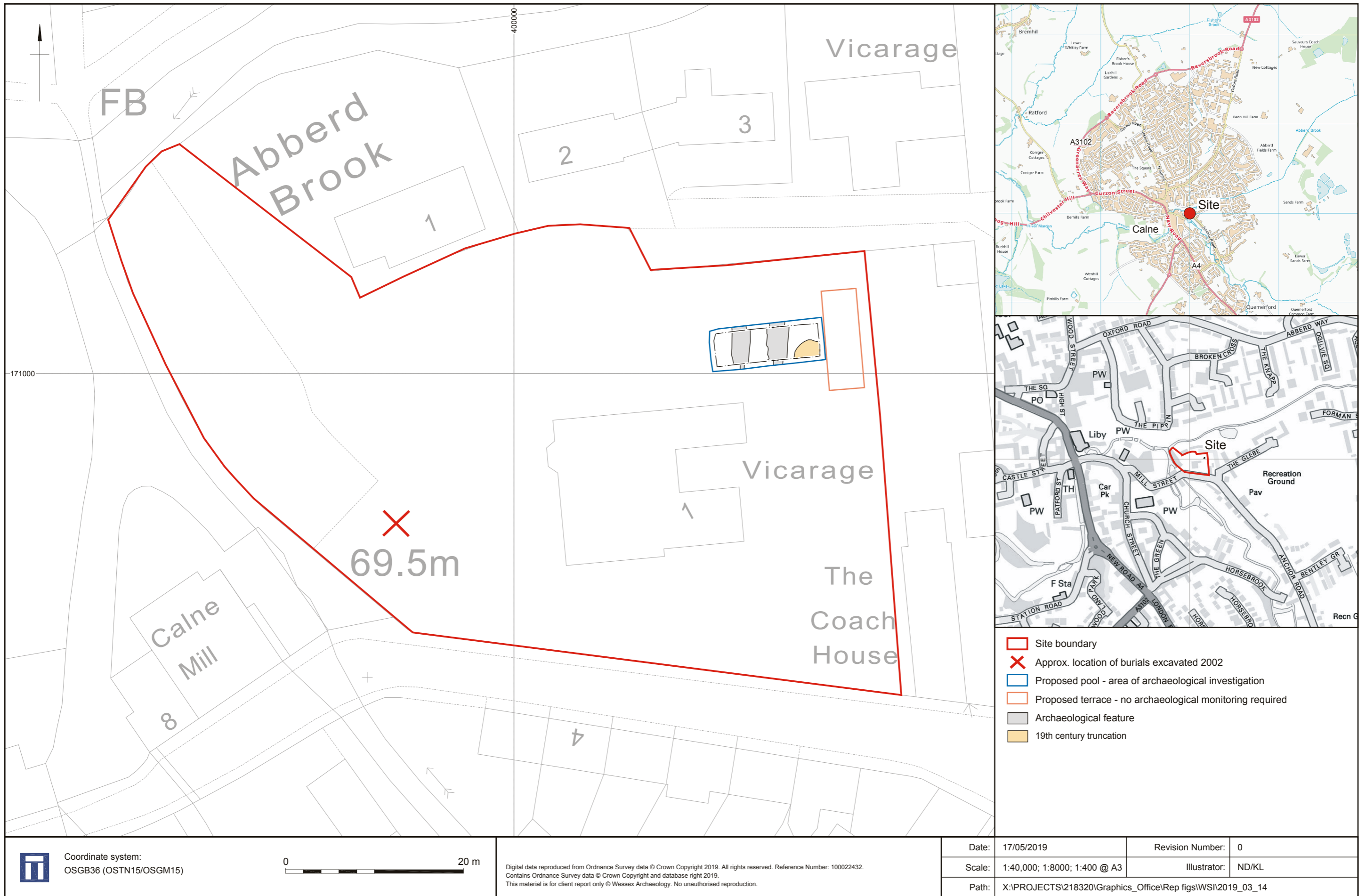
Physical Archive recipient	Wiltshire Museum Devizes
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Human Bones"
Digital Archive recipient	ADS
Digital Media available	"Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Wiltshire Museum Devizes
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Plan", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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Title	The Old Vicarage, Anchor Road, Calne Archaeological investigation by strip, map and sample excavation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Froud, S.
Other bibliographic details	218320.03
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Salisbury
Description	WA standard A4 text report with figures and plates



Site location plan and area of investigation

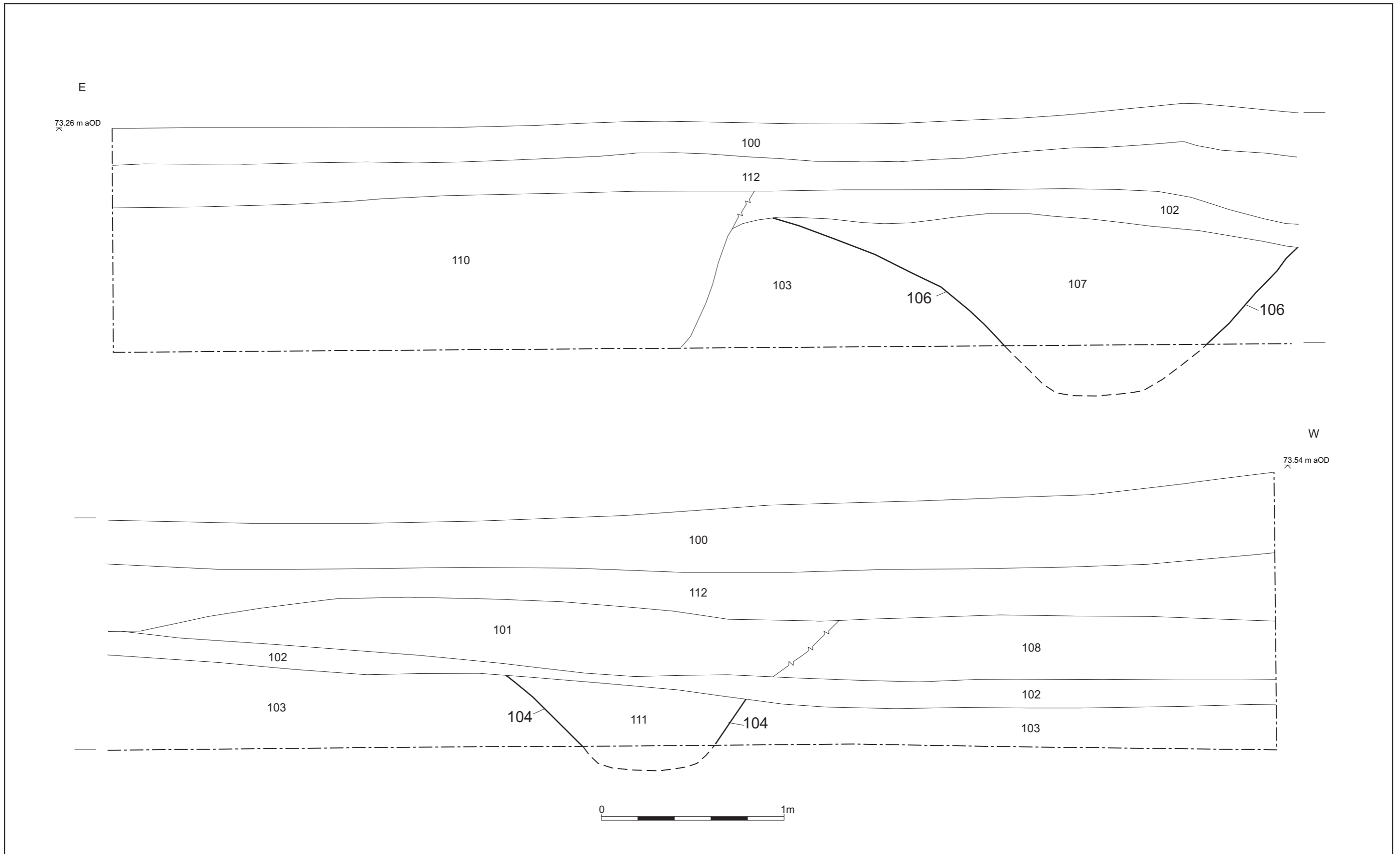
Figure 1



 <p>Coordinate system: OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15) Digital data reproduced from Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright 2019. All rights reserved. Reference Number: 100022432. This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.</p>	Date:	17/05/2019	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	1:100 at A4	Illustrator:	KL
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Excavation area showing archaeological features

Figure 2

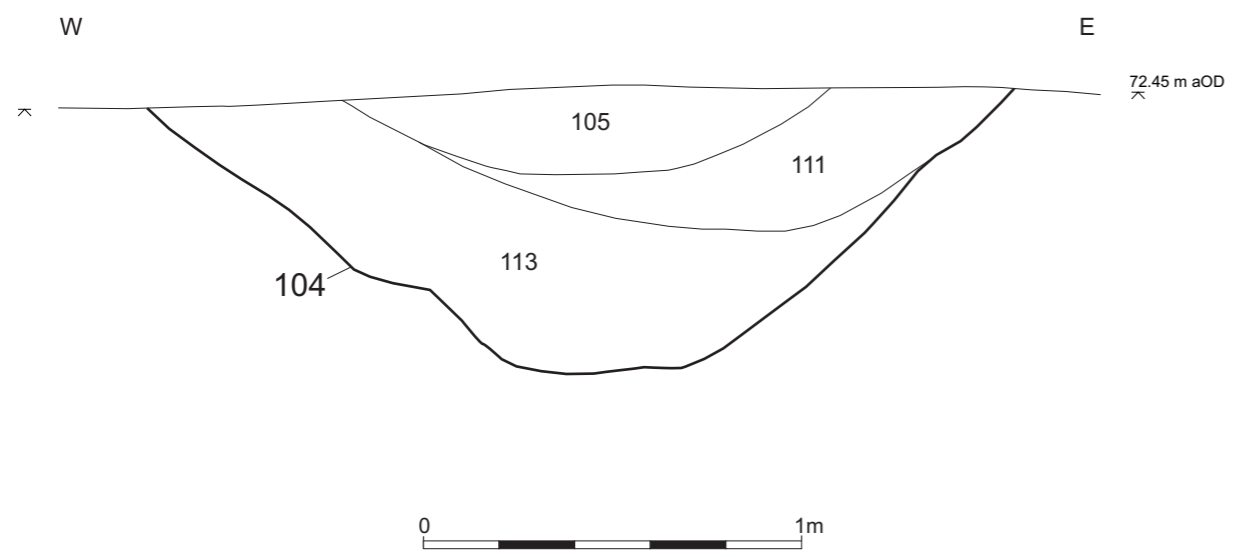


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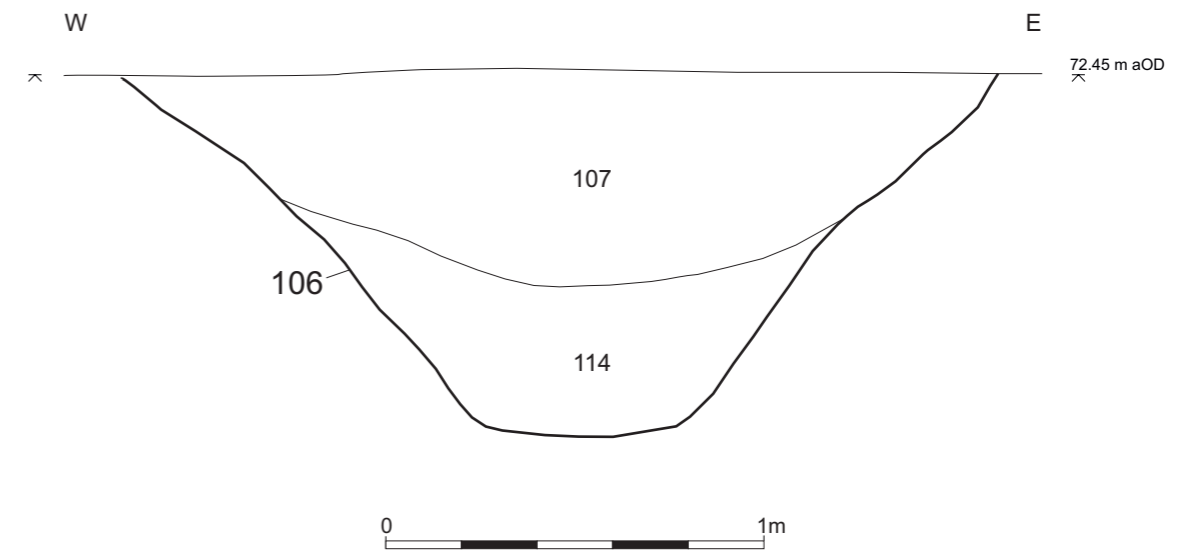
Date:	25/04/2019	Revision Number:	0
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Section 1 – North facing section of the south side of the area monitored

Figure 3



Section 2: South facing section of ditch 104



Section 3: South facing section of ditch 106



Plate 1: South facing section of ditch 104



Plate 2: South facing section of ditch 106



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Plate 3: Excavation of the swimming pool exterior wall footing trench. Photo from the north-east



Plate 4: Working shot showing excavation of the swimming pool interior down to the archaeological horizon. Photo taken from the north-east



Plate 5: The monitored area down to the depth of the archaeological horizon showing ditch 104 (in the foreground), and ditch 106. The North facing Section 1 is on the right of the image. Scale 2 metres

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