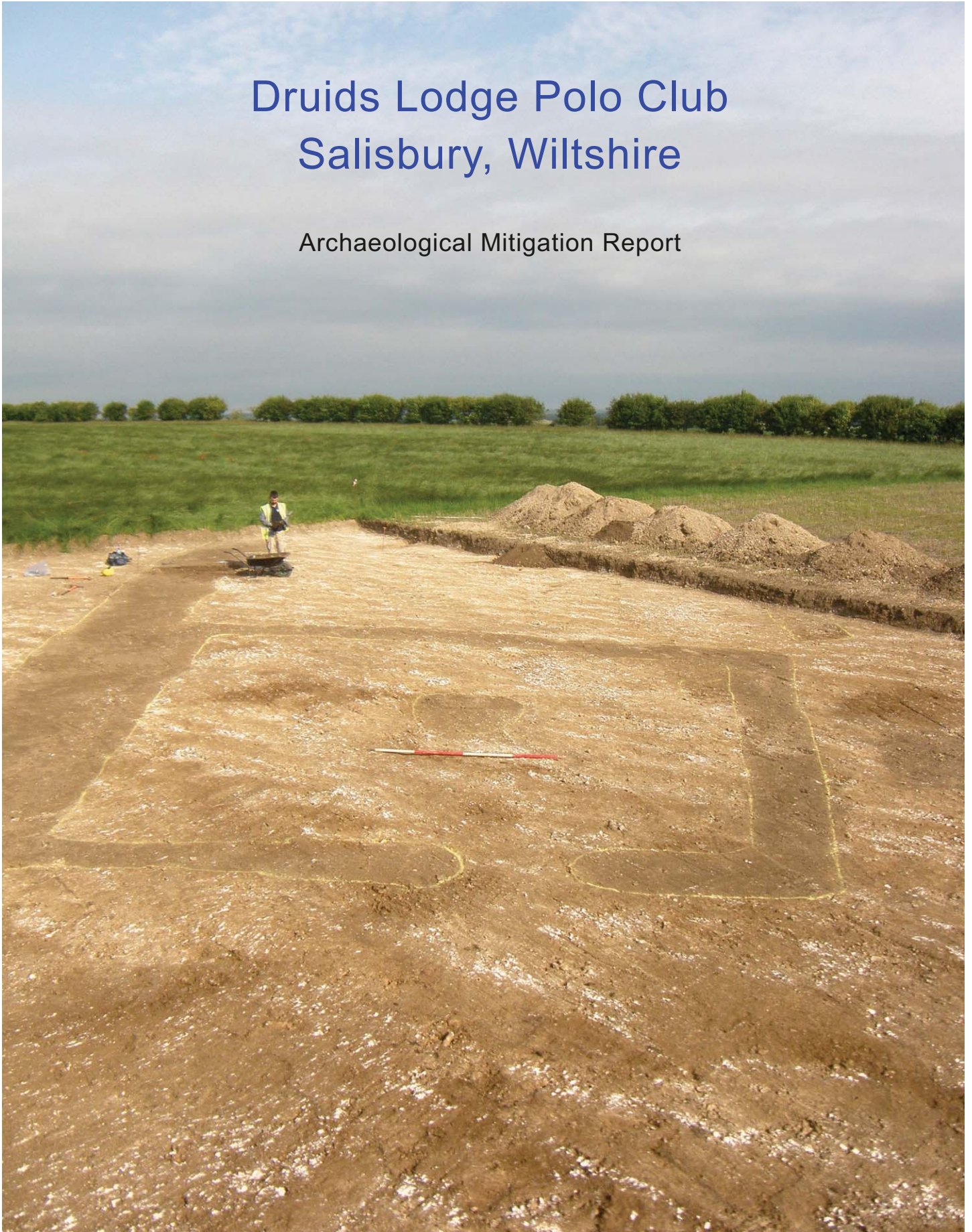




Druids Lodge Polo Club Salisbury, Wiltshire

Archaeological Mitigation Report





**DRUIDS LODGE POLO CLUB
SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE**

Archaeological Mitigation Report

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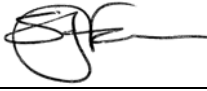

March 2012

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*** I= Internal Draft E= External Draft F= Final**

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**DRUIDS LODGE POLO CLUB
SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE****Archaeological Mitigation Report****Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Druids Lodge Polo Club to undertake an archaeological excavation and watching brief in advance of, and during, development on land at Druid's Lodge Polo Club, near Salisbury, Wiltshire, centred on NGR 409525 139260. The fieldwork was the final stage of a programme of archaeological investigation and was a condition of the planning permission granted for the construction of a new polo pitch on the site.

Two phases of geophysical survey were undertaken prior to the submission of the planning application which demonstrated the presence of archaeological remains across the development area. Two large enclosures with internal structures and features were mapped in the north-west and south-east corners of the site. In addition, a number of interconnecting trackways and features were identified. A subsequent archaeological evaluation was undertaken prior to the determination of the planning application and comprised the machine excavation of twenty trenches. The trenches were positioned largely within areas of proposed cut, and were targeted on the probable archaeological features highlighted by the previous geophysical surveys.

The evaluation provided evidence of activity on the site dating from the Early Bronze Age to the late Romano-British period. Two evaluation trenches targeted the large double ditched Iron Age enclosure to the south-east of the site, which contained a number of internal pits and postholes. The north-western enclosure was not excavated but trenches recorded in close proximity suggested a Romano-British date.

In consultation with the Assistant County Archaeologist at Wiltshire Council, the archaeological mitigation comprised three targeted areas of excavation and a watching brief. The excavation areas were targeted on concentrations of features identified during the earlier phases of fieldwork. Area 1 was excavated over a length of trackway and a later sub-square mortuary enclosure. A single burial, located at the centre of the enclosure was dated to the later Romano-British period. Area 2 targeted an area of intercutting trackways and linear features, which were dated to the Romano-British period and were related to the north-western enclosure. Area 3 was located in close proximity to the north-western enclosure, and investigated a complex area of intercutting pits and a linear ditch.

The watching brief undertaken during major ground reduction for the new polo pitch revealed three inhumation graves of prehistoric date, and a Romano-British urned cremation located to the east of Area 3.

The fieldwork demonstrated there was a good correlation between the geophysical results and the presence of archaeological remains on the site. The targeted excavation areas and watching brief have provided dating evidence and stratigraphic relationships between features observed in the geophysics survey and evaluation, and has added to the overall understanding of the archaeology of the Site.

DRUIDS LODGE POLO CLUB
SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE**Archaeological Mitigation Report****Acknowledgements**

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Giles and Tae Omerod of Druids Lodge Polo Club who commissioned the excavation and whose assistance in the successful undertaking of the project is gratefully acknowledged. The project was monitored on behalf of Wiltshire Council by Clare King, Assistant County Archaeologist.

The fieldwork was undertaken by John Powell, Neil Fitzpatrick, Ray Kennedy, Matthew Kendall and Phil Andrews.

This report was compiled by John Powell. Specialist reports were written by Lorraine Mepham, Phil Harding (flint), Nicholas Cooke (coins) and Lorrain Higbee (animal bone). The cremated human bone was assessed by Jacqueline McKinley, and the unburnt human bone was assessed by Kirsten Egging Dinwiddy. The environmental samples were processed by Moira Watson and were assessed by Sarah Wyles. The illustrations were prepared by Kenneth Lymer.

The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Sue Farr.

**DRUIDS LODGE POLO CLUB
SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE****Archaeological Mitigation Report****1 INTRODUCTION****1.1 Project Background**

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Druids Lodge Polo Club (the Client), to undertake an archaeological excavation and watching brief on land at Druids Lodge Polo Club, near Salisbury, Wiltshire (**Figure 1**), centred on NGR 409400 139300, (hereafter 'the Site').

1.1.2 Previous archaeological investigations, including two phases of geophysical survey (WA 2010a & 2010b) and an archaeological evaluation (WA2010c), identified significant and extensive prehistoric and Romano-British remains, including two large enclosures, within the Site.

1.1.3 Planning permission (S/2010/1944) was granted by Wiltshire Council for the construction of a polo pitch to the north-west of Druid's Lodge. The results of the previous archaeological surveys informed the location of the pitch to facilitate preservation *in situ* of the enclosures recorded.

1.1.4 On the recommendation of the Assistant County Archaeologist the condition attached to the consent stated:

No development shall commence within the area indicated (proposed development site) until:

A written programme of phased archaeological investigation and mitigation, 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 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

1.1.5 Following consultation with the Assistant County Archaeologist, and in line with PPS5 requirements, an archaeological excavation and watching brief were undertaken to ensure the archaeology within the development area was preserved by record.

1.2 Scope of Document

1.2.1 This document presents the results of the targeted excavation and watching brief within the development Site. It presents an assessment of the archaeological remains on the Site detailing their date, character, preservation, importance and distribution.

1.3 The Site, location and geology

- 1.3.1 The Site is situated to the west of the A360, to the north-west of Druids Lodge, some 10km north-west of Salisbury, Wiltshire and just beyond the southern boundary of the Stonehenge World Heritage Site.
- 1.3.2 The Site comprises approximately 50% arable land and 50% horse paddocks/polo pitch.
- 1.3.3 The Site slopes downwards from east to west between 137m to 129.3m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).
- 1.3.4 The British Geological Survey map for the area (1:50,000 Solid and Drift Series, sheet 298) indicates that the underlying geology of the Site consists of Upper Chalk.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Background

- 2.1.1 A brief search for archaeological and historical sites within a 500m radius ('the Study Area') of the Site via the online Wiltshire & Swindon Sites and Monuments Record (<http://localview.wiltshire.gov.uk/smr/InTheArea.aspx>) indicates the presence of 19 sites, predominantly of probable prehistoric date.
- 2.1.2 Although the Site lies outside and to the south of the Stonehenge World Heritage Site, it can be considered to form part of a wider prehistoric monumental landscape, the importance of which is recognised by the inscription in 1986 of some 2,000 hectares around Stonehenge.
- 2.1.3 There are no Scheduled Monuments within the Site.

2.2 Geophysical Survey

- 2.2.1 Two detailed gradiometer surveys, (WA 2010a & 2010b) detected numerous anomalies of definite, probable and possible archaeological potential within the Site. The surveys confirmed the locations of the enclosures (originally recorded from aerial photography) and provided further detail on their internal structures and features along with a number of intersecting trackways. Further features including a sub-annular anomaly are consistent with a ring ditch or ploughed out barrow, and numerous discrete anomalies were evident throughout the survey area.

2.3 Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.3.1 A total of 20 trenches each measuring 30m in length and 1.8m wide, were machine excavated under archaeological supervision (WA 2010c). The trenches were positioned largely within areas of greatest impact from the construction programme and were targeted on the probable features highlighted by the geophysical surveys.
- 2.3.2 The evaluation confirmed that archaeological features comprising two enclosures, pits, ditches and a possible trackway were present across the Site. The earliest evidence of activity dated to the Early Bronze Age largely found residually amongst later Romano-British pits. In two of the ditches,

however, no other datable finds were recovered suggesting a low level of prehistoric activity across the Site.

- 2.3.3 Two trenches were targeted on the enclosure in the south-east corner (now outside the proposed development area) and confirmed its Iron Age date. A substantial double ditched feature enclosing the settlement was recorded and partially excavated. One storage pit and several further pits and postholes indicative of settlement activity were recorded within the interior of the enclosure.
- 2.3.4 Archaeological remains encountered close to the enclosure, located outside and just to the north-west side of the Site, date mainly to the Romano-British period. Among the locally produced broadly datable fabrics were more diagnostic pieces dating from the 2nd to the 4th centuries AD. This evidence suggested the north-west enclosure may have been established by the population inhabiting the south-east enclosure during the later Iron Age who re-located to a new settlement higher up the slope at the start of the Romano-British period
- 2.3.5 The fieldwork demonstrated that there was a good correlation between the geophysical results and the presence of actual archaeological remains on the Site, providing both a clear picture and high confidence rating regarding the distribution of archaeological features across the proposed development area.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The fieldwork comprised two phases of work comprising an archaeological excavation and watching brief. The initial phase of work, consisted of the archaeological excavation of three areas (**Figure 1**) measuring 0.28ha in total.
- 3.1.2 The excavation was followed by a watching brief undertaken during topsoil and subsoil stripping and covered approximately 2ha of the north-western portion of the proposed polo pitch.

3.2 Excavation Areas

- 3.2.1 Archaeological excavation was targeted on concentrations of features identified during the earlier phases of fieldwork.

Area 1

- 3.2.2 Area 1 was located in the north-west corner of the Site and measured 0.08ha (**Figures 2, 3 and 4**). It was positioned directly over evaluation Trench 1, which had previously identified a number of ditches and a curvilinear feature, adjacent to a possible trackway. The relationship between the features could not be established within the confines of the evaluation trench.

Area 2

- 3.2.3 Area 2 measured 0.1ha and was not investigated during the archaeological evaluation (**Figures 5 and 6**). The results of the geophysical survey indicated a number of linear features that were likely to be present within

the excavation area, some of which are indicative of possible trackways running from the enclosure to the west.

Area 3

- 3.2.4 Area 3 covered an area measuring approximately 0.1ha and was positioned partially over evaluation Trench 6 and immediately to the east of the north-western enclosure (**Figures 7 and 8**). Trench 6 contained a ditch and a cluster of intercutting pits of Romano-British date. The pits were partially excavated during the evaluation and were shown to be similar in character, comprising shallow profiles and measuring between 0.2 and 0.3m in depth. They contained small amounts of domestic refuse type finds including pottery and animal bone. The full extent of the pits was not defined and a number remained unexcavated during the evaluation phase.

3.3 Watching Brief Area

- 3.3.1 The watching brief area (c. 2ha.) was defined by both the results of the earlier archaeological surveys and the proposed engineering design (**Figure 9**).
- 3.3.2 The dimensions and design required for the polo pitch were superimposed onto the existing Site topography, resulting in a design requiring movement of soils and subsoils to achieve a balance of cut and fill. During the earthmoving programme an archaeologist was present to monitor the ground reduction and record any archaeological features revealed.

4 AIMS

4.1 General aims

- 4.1.1 The aims of the archaeological excavation and watching brief were to:
- Define the nature, extent, character and chronology of the late prehistoric and Romano-British occupation within the areas of excavation.
 - Assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits.
 - Produce a report that will present the results of the archaeological mitigation in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to put the Site's archaeological potential in its wider context.

4.2 Specific

- 4.2.1 In addition the targeted excavation areas aimed to:
- Identify the relationship between the possible trackway and curvilinear feature in Area 1.
 - Establish the relationship between the trackway and linear ditches in Area 2.
 - Define the extent and function of the pits in Area 3.

5 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (IfA 2008) and where appropriate, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (IfA 2008) excepting where they are superseded by statements made below.

5.1.2 All works were undertaken in accordance with the standards set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation (WA 2011). All exposed archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete drawn and photographic record was maintained for the excavated features and deposits.

5.2 Excavation methodology

5.2.1 The excavation areas were laid out using Leica Viva GNSS in general accordance with the pattern given in **Figure 1**. The excavation area locations were tied in to the Ordnance Survey.

5.2.2 Topsoil and subsoil was removed using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket and under constant supervision by Wessex Archaeology. Machine excavation proceeded to a depth at which the top of archaeological levels, or the top of natural deposits, were exposed, whichever was the higher.

5.2.3 Once the level of archaeological deposits had been exposed by machine, cleaning of each excavation area was undertaken by hand where necessary. Appropriate sampling of all archaeological features identified in Area 1 and 3 was carried out by hand. Within Area 2, hand excavation was more circumspect; in consultation with the Assistant County Archaeologist, sections were machine excavated where considered appropriate.

5.3 Watching Brief methodology

5.3.1 The watching brief was maintained throughout initial stripping of the area indicated in **Figure 1**.

5.3.2 The fieldwork consisted of the monitoring of groundwork made beneath the present ground surfaces for the purposes of topsoil stripping and landscaping.

5.3.3 The topsoil and subsoil removal was undertaken by a Caterpillar 637 motor scraper (fitted with rubber tyres). Deposits were removed in layers to a depth of between 150mm to 425mm and stockpiled at adjacent ends of the stripped area.

6 RESULTS

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The excavation area, watching brief areas and the geophysical data are presented in **Figure 1**. Details of individually excavated contexts and features are retained in the project archive.

6.1.2 The excavation produced evidence for activity at the Site dating from the Early/Middle Neolithic to the late Romano-British period. Prehistoric activity was evident in the form of two pits, which contained flintwork of Early/Middle Neolithic date, and a small group of burials that may date from the late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age. The majority of the features recorded within the excavation were of Romano-British date and included trackways, ditches and pits. A late Romano-British burial was recorded in Area 1 within a sub-square enclosure.

6.1.3 The stratigraphic sequence was consistent across the Site. The topsoil (**3100**, **3180** and **3233**) comprised a grey-brown, silt-loam and was present to a depth of 0.28m. Subsoil (**3101** and **3234**) was recorded in Areas 1 and 2 above the natural chalk and comprised red-brown silty clay.

6.2 Area 1

6.2.1 Area 1 was located to the north-western corner of the Site, and measured c. 0.08ha (**Figures 2, 3, 4** and **Plate 2**). The area was targeted on evaluation Trench 1 and a trackway aligned north-west to south-east, which was clearly defined by the geophysics.

Romano-British AD 43-410

6.2.2 Trackway **3373** crossed the area and was aligned north-west to south-east. The earlier geophysical survey mapped the trackway continuing to the north-west for a further c. 77m and to the south-east the trackway continued into Area 2 (**Figures 1** and **2**). The trackway was defined by two parallel flanking ditches and was c. 4.6m wide. The southern ditch appeared to be of a single phase, however a possible re-cut was recorded within the northern ditch. Romano-British pottery was recovered from the trackway ditches and included a sherd of possible New Forest mortaria.

6.2.3 The southern flanking ditch (**3163**), c. 1.02m wide by 0.53m deep, had a steep sided V-shaped profile and contained two naturally derived deposits. Within the northern ditch, phases of ditch-digging were evident. The earlier phase, ditch **3371**, was visible to the north-western edge of Area 1. Ditch **3371** was 0.60m wide by 0.26m deep and with a shallow, flat bottomed profile and had been re-cut on its southern edge by a deeper more pronounced V-shaped ditch **3372**. A possible metallised surface, consisting of loose flint pebbles, was recorded along the north-eastern edge of the trackway, but it was unclear if this was a contemporary surface due to the truncated, shallow nature of the deposit.

6.2.4 Two isolated pits were excavated towards the south-western corner of Area 1 (**Figure 2**). Pits **3149** and **3154** contained Romano-British pottery and probably represent small rubbish/waste pits that were related to the large enclosed settlement to the west. Pit **3149** (**Figure 3**) was oval in plan and measured 1.03m long by 0.70m wide and 0.50m deep, it contained three deliberate backfills. Romano-British pottery was recovered from each layer and environmental samples produced cereal remains, which included barley, hulled wheat and emmer or spelt.

Late Romano-British AD 250-410

- 6.2.5 A sub-square mortuary enclosure **3374**, which measured 8.84m by 8.29m by 0.40m deep, was cut into the silted-up trackway (**Figure 2, Plate 3**). A single grave **3118** was located at the centre of the enclosure and contained an inhumation of late Romano-British date. These features had been partially excavated during the evaluation phase of work and the enclosure had been mapped as a curvilinear enclosure in the geophysical survey.
- 6.2.6 The mortuary enclosure ditch **3374** appeared to have been cut in one continuous circuit and had a consistent narrow U-shaped profile (**Figure 3**). Ditch **3374** was up to 0.87m wide and 0.40m in depth. The ditch had silted up naturally and contained both primary and secondary fills. An entrance was located on the south-eastern side of the enclosure and was formed by two termini that rose sharply to form rounded ends; the entrance measured 0.93m.
- 6.2.7 Grave **3118** (**Figure 3, Plates 4 and 5**) was located at the centre of the sub-square mortuary enclosure, almost directly opposite the entrance. The grave was rectangular in shape with steep, vertical sides and measured 2.5m long by 1.84m wide and 1.40m deep. A single inhumation burial **3153** was interred within the grave. The body was extended, laid on its back and slightly twisted over to its left side. The right arm was bent at the elbow across the pelvis and the head was laid on its left side. Grave goods included coffin nails (SFs 4–13 and 21–22), two copper alloy coins that were placed in the mouth (SF 14) and an iron knife (SF 7) which was placed close to the left knee.

Undated

- 6.2.8 Two undated possible pits, **3174** and **3171** were located within the mortuary enclosure (**3374**) but are thought to be unrelated to the enclosure.

6.3 Area 2

- 6.3.1 Area 2 measured c. 0.1ha and was located over an area of interconnecting trackway ditches and linear ditches that had been highlighted by the geophysical survey (**Figures 1 and 5**). With the agreement of the Assistant County Archaeologist machine excavated sections were cut across the linear ditches and trackways. Machine sections were cleaned by hand and then recorded. Discrete features and a ditch terminus were excavated by hand.

Iron Age 700 BC - AD43

- 6.3.2 An isolated, shallow, sub-circular pit **3364** (c. 0.86m diameter and 0.18m deep) contained a large assemblage of Iron Age pottery, which probably represents the deposition of a single vessel.
- 6.3.3 Three linear ditches aligned broadly north-west to south-east were recorded in Area 2 (**Figure 5**). These ditches had been cut by trackway **3410** and may provide evidence for an earlier field system. The ditches were defined by the geophysical survey to the north-west and south-east, and were recorded in evaluation Trenches 2 and 5. Pottery recovered from the ditch during the evaluation was dated to the Iron Age and these features have subsequently been assigned to that phase of activity.

- 6.3.4 Ditch **3378** located to the northern side of Area 2 (**Figure 5** and **Plate 6**) was recorded in two sections. The ditch had a steep V-shaped profile and was between 1.76m–1.33m wide and up to 0.76m deep; it cut through an earlier ditch **3379** on its south-western edge. The base of the ditch was filled with primary fills composed of eroded chalk and reddish-brown silt-clay-loam. The terminus of this ditch was not observed in plan but the ditch did not continue into sections excavated to the east.
- 6.3.5 Ditches **3380** and **3381** crossed the southern side of Area 2 for c. 17m; both ditches terminated within the area of trackway **3410** and appeared to be of an earlier phase (**Figure 3** and **Plate 7**). Ditch **3380** was the earliest in the sequence and was a fairly substantial feature with steep straight sides and a concave base. The ditch measured 0.80m wide and up to 0.85m deep. Ditch **3380** had been partially re-cut by ditch **3381** towards the north-west. Ditch **3381** had steep concave sides and a concave base; it was 1.73m wide and up to 0.49m deep and contained both primary and secondary fills. Both ditches were similar in profile to ditch **3378** to the north of trackway **3410** and they may be contemporary forming part of a wider landscape or boundary feature.
- Romano-British AD 43 - 410*
- 6.3.6 Two broadly parallel linear ditches defined trackway **3410** which was mapped for c. 33m within Area 2 (**Figure 5**). The ditches were cut into the natural chalk at either side of a shallow depression that was aligned east-west and continued to the west towards the enclosure to the west. It was unclear if the depression was derived through use of the trackway or if it was a natural coombe that had been utilised as a trackway.
- 6.3.7 Two ditches define the northern side of the trackway. The earliest ditch **3245** had a wide U-shaped profile with steeply sloping, concave sides and measured up to 0.82m wide and 0.30m deep. This ditch was re-cut by a smaller narrow U-shaped ditch **3243** that was 0.63m wide and 0.29m deep. Neither ditch was observed in sections cut to the eastern edge of Area 2. A curvilinear ditch **3408** defined the southern edge of the trackway. Ditch **3408** (**Plates 7** and **8**) measured up to 2.47m wide and 0.22m deep and had a wide, shallow profile and contained both primary and secondary fills. The upper fill, a light grey-brown silt loam, contained a large amount of coarse flint inclusions that may have been the remains of a trackway surface, which had eroded into the top of the ditch.
- 6.3.8 Towards the eastern edge of Area 2 trackway **3410** was less well defined. Within evaluation Trench 4, 18m to the east of Area 2, a 10.20m wide 0.25m deep depression was recorded and is thought to be a continuation of the trackway.

6.4 Area 3

- 6.4.1 Area 3 (0.1ha) was located immediately to the east of the north-western enclosure identified by the geophysical survey and was targeted on an area of intercutting pits and ditches recorded in evaluation Trench 6 (**Figure 1** and **7**).

Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age 2850–1600BC

- 6.4.2 A small, shallow sub-circular pit **3186** (0.60m diameter and 0.08m deep), located c. 1.7m to the north of ditch **3376**, contained an assemblage of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age worked flint and two joining pottery sherds of uncertain Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date. Together with the residual pottery from ditch **3376** and pit **3205**, these finds suggest a background of prehistoric activity within the area of ditches **3376** and **3377**.

Iron Age 700 BC-AD43

- 6.4.3 Two pits located towards the western half of Area 3 contained small quantities of Iron Age pottery and have tentatively been assigned to this phase of activity, however this material may be residual. An oval pit, **3177** (**Figure 7**) with moderate, concave sloping sides, measured 1.94m long by 1.49m wide and 0.32m deep and contained three sherds of Iron Age pottery. A further sherd of Iron Age pottery was recovered from the backfill of pit **3184**.

Romano-British AD43-410

- 6.4.4 Two linear ditches were recorded in Area 3 and were also observed during the watching brief (**Figure 7**). The ditches appeared to enclose the area of intercutting pits and were on the same alignment as other linear features, to the south, mapped during the geophysical survey (**Figure 1**). Ditch **3376** (**Plate 10**) was orientated east-west and was visible for a distance of some 15m; the western terminus rose gradually to form a rounded butt end. The ditch had moderately sloping, concave sides and a concave base. The ditch measured between 0.40m–0.92m wide and up to 0.34m deep, and it contained a single secondary fill. Ditch **3376** was cut by an area of intercutting pits to the west (pits **3205**, **3209**, **3211** and **3214**) and by ditch **3377** at its eastern end.
- 6.4.5 Ditch **3376** and pits **3205**, **3209**, **3211** and **3214** (**Plate 11**) contained a mixed pottery assemblage that included both Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery and Romano-British pottery. It is concluded that these features are of a Romano-British date and contain earlier residual pottery.
- 6.4.6 Ditch **3377** was cut into the eastern end of ditch **3376** and appeared to re-cut and extend the earlier ditch. Ditch **3377** was rectilinear in plan and ran east to west for c. 23m from the eastern baulk before turning to a north-south alignment where it cut ditch **3376** and terminated. Ditch **3377** (1.26m wide and 0.44m deep) had a wide V-shaped profile and contained a primary and secondary fill. The secondary fill contained a large amount of domestic refuse including mid to late 3rd century AD Romano-British pottery, CBM, a copper alloy coin and iron nails.
- 6.4.7 A large area of intercutting pits was recorded in the eastern half of Area 3 (**Figure 7** and **Plate 9**) c. 3m from ditch **3377**. The intercutting pits were concentrated over a wide area measuring approximately 18.5m by 12m. Two sections were excavated across the pits and in both sections a total of 22 pits were recorded which confirmed a complex sequence of intercutting contemporaneous rubbish pits. The pits were similar in character and a number of the pits contained clear dumps of domestic refuse. The pits may be related to the enclosed settlement immediately to the west of Area 3 and

probably represents an area of rubbish/waste disposal in close proximity to the settlement.

- 6.4.8 The artefacts and environmental evidence from the pit cluster indicate settlement waste was deposited within the pits. The assemblage contained 2nd to 3rd century AD Romano-British and residual Iron Age pottery, animal bone, burnt flint and quern stone fragments (pit **3263**). Hobnails, charred barley and hulled wheat were recovered from environmental sample 11 from pit **3283**.
- 6.4.9 Pit **3258** was the deepest feature in the group (0.73m deep) and contained three deposits, which included a deliberate backfill and a possible capping layer of crushed re-deposited chalk. The pottery assemblage from the pit contained Romano-British greywares and black burnished pottery, which was dated to between the 2nd to 3rd century AD.

6.5 Watching Brief

- 6.5.1 A watching brief was maintained during the removal of topsoil and subsoil from the Site (**Figure 1**). Due to the nature of the ground works archaeological visibility was reduced but it was possible to scan the stripped areas for archaeological features. Linear features were relatively well defined and generally showed a good correlation with geophysical anomalies. Continuations of trackways **3373** and **3410** were visible in plan (**Figure 1** and **Plate 14**).

Early/Middle Neolithic 400–2850BC

- 6.5.2 Two pits **3404** and **3390** contained large assemblages of Early/Middle Neolithic worked flint that possibly represents dumped flint knapping and domestic waste (**Figure 1** and **9**). The two pits were c. 72m apart but are considered to be contemporary and provide the earliest evidence of activity on the Site.
- 6.5.3 Pit **3404** was located immediately south of the watching brief area and was circular in plan. It measured c. 0.80m in diameter and 0.4m deep. Three sherds of probable Neolithic pottery were recovered from the very dark grey-brown backfill of the pit. Oval pit **3390** had moderate, concave sides, a concave base and measured 0.73m in length by 0.63m wide and 0.16m deep. From the backfill of pit **3390**, 87 pieces of Early/Middle Neolithic worked flint were recovered. Pit **3390** was located in close proximity to a group of inhumation burials, but it is unclear if the feature was associated with the graves.

Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age 1100–400BC

- 6.5.4 A group of three burials were located towards the southern edge of the watching brief area (**Figure 1**, **9** and **Plates 15**, **16** and **17**). The three graves were relatively shallow and had been partly truncated by the machine excavation. The three graves were located in a small area measuring c. 27 sq. m., were oval in plan and contained flexed inhumation burials.
- 6.5.5 Grave **3387**, measured 1.13m in length, 0.77m wide and 0.22m deep (**Plate 13**). The grave contained the remains of two individuals, burials **3385** and

3388. Pottery was recovered from the backfill of grave **3387** and has been dated to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. The close proximity of the graves suggests they are contemporary and form a small cemetery of possible Late Bronze Age date.

Iron Age 700BC–AD43

- 6.5.6 To the west, Iron Age pottery was collected from an east-west aligned linear ditch **3406**, this feature was recorded in plan only.

Romano-British AD43–410

- 6.5.7 Romano-British features excavated within the excavation areas (trackways **3373**, **3410** and ditch **3377**) continued in plan and corresponded well with the geophysical survey. Ditch **3377** (Area 3) continued from the western bank of Area 3 to the east for c. 7m before turning to run north-south for 17m where it terminated.
- 6.5.8 A single cremation grave **3397** was recorded c. 2m to the east of Area 3 (**Figure 7**) and contained an urned cremation of Romano-British date. The cremation urn was a black burnished jar of late 3rd to 4th century date.

7 FINDS

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 The excavation has produced a relatively small assemblage of finds of prehistoric to Romano-British date, in a very restricted range of material types. Only pottery and animal bone occurred in any significant quantity. Condition varies from fair to poor; ceramics in particular have suffered surface and edge abrasion. Despite this, two cross-context joins were recorded.
- 7.1.2 The assemblage includes human remains from three inhumation graves, two of possible late prehistoric date (one containing two individuals), one Romano-British, accompanied by grave goods, and one cremation grave (containing an urned burial).
- 7.1.3 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and totals are presented in **Table 1**.

7.2 Pottery

- 7.2.1 Pottery provides the only dating evidence from the Site. The assemblage includes sherds of later prehistoric and Romano-British date although there appears to be a relatively high level of reworking and residuality amongst the later prehistoric assemblage, as is evident by the occurrence of abraded sherds together with Romano-British material. Mean sherd weight overall is 13.2g, and when this is broken down by period, 7.8g for the prehistoric and 14.8g for the Romano-British sherds.
- 7.2.2 The assemblage has been quantified by ware type; totals are presented in **Table 2**.

Early Prehistoric

- 7.2.3 Three sherds from pit **3404** were associated with what appears to be an *in situ* group of Early/Middle Neolithic flintwork (see below). These sherds are small and undiagnostic, but contain sparse, poorly sorted and prominent flint inclusions, and as such would not be out of place within a Neolithic assemblage belonging to the plain bowl, carinated bowl or Peterborough ware traditions.
- 7.2.4 Two joining sherds from pit **3186** are in a grog-tempered fabric. This bears some resemblance to the Romano-British grog-tempered wares which are quite common within the assemblage (see below), but these sherds are in a softer-fired fabric which could alternatively be of Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date. The sherds are heavily abraded but appear to be plain; if they are earlier prehistoric there is no clue as to which ceramic tradition they belong.

Later Prehistoric

- 7.2.5 Other sherds in flint-tempered and also in sandy fabrics have been identified as later prehistoric, although the dating of these sherds is not always clear-cut. Certainly there are diagnostic sherds belonging to the plainware post-Deverel-Rimbury ceramic tradition of the Late Bronze Age, including two rim sherds, one with close-spaced finger impressions in a 'pie-crust' effect (from Romano-British ditch **3376**), and three shoulder sherds, one with a row of fingertip impressions (all from Romano-British pit **3205**). These are all in coarse flint-tempered fabrics. A possible lug handle from grave **3387** in a sandy fabric with rare flint inclusions also belongs to this ceramic tradition, and probably also a second vessel with a possibly lug/handle scar, in a sandy fabric (pit **3364**). However, fabrics with finer, better sorted flint inclusions, and also some of the sandy wares, could extend the date range into the Early or even Middle Iron Age, although there are no diagnostic forms to support this. There is no sign here of the distinctive Early Iron Age finewares recorded during the earlier evaluation of the Site (Wessex Archaeology 2010).
- 7.2.6 As already noted, the probable high level of residuality amongst the prehistoric pottery means that little confidence can be placed in the use of these sherds as firm dating evidence. Only in one or two instances do groups of same-vessel sherds suggest a more *in situ* context, e.g. in pit **3364** (23 sherds), but even in grave **3387** (21 sherds, of which 19 probably derive from a single vessel), there are still doubts as to the nature of the deposit, whether *in situ* or redeposited

Romano-British

- 7.2.7 Following the probable Middle Iron Age hiatus, there are no diagnostic Late Iron Age forms present either (such as bead rim vessels), and there is no reason to suppose that the Romano-British component includes any pre-conquest material.
- 7.2.8 Imported finewares are represented by three sherds of samian; a form 18 platter and a form 36 dish from pit **3154**, and a probable platter base (perhaps a form 18/31) from ditch **3377**. All these sherds are in relatively good, unabraded condition, although the rest of the assemblage is not particularly well preserved.

- 7.2.9 There are eight sherds of British finewares. These include three Oxfordshire and one New Forest colour coated wares, and one tiny sherd from a lead-glazed vessel. None of these sherds are diagnostic. The New Forest may also have supplied the only example of a mortarium from the Site (ditch **3373**), although this has been burnt and is now unrecognisable apart from a few (probably flint) trituration grits.
- 7.2.10 The majority of the assemblage, as might be expected, consists of coarsewares. These include the grog-tempered wares of the Savernake tradition, occurring exclusively in jar forms of various sizes; sandy greywares and oxidised wares, in jar and bowl forms, and south-east Dorset Black Burnished ware (BB1), again in jar and bowl forms. Few of these common vessel forms are closely datable, but the Black Burnished ware forms have proved more susceptible; there are at least two everted rim jars of late 2nd/3rd century AD form (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, type 2; pits **3149** and **3258/3283**), a flanged bowl with incipient dropped flange, early to mid-3rd century (type 25; ditch **3377**), and two everted rim jars of later 3rd/4th century form (type 3, pit **3356**, cremation grave **3397**). The presence of these forms, together with the samian (later 1st to early 2nd century AD), the lead-glazed ware (late 1st early 2nd century) and the British colour coated wares (late 3rd 4th century AD) indicates a date range spanning the Romano-British period, perhaps with an emphasis on the early Roman period as suggested by the high proportion of Savernake-type wares.

7.3 Ceramic Building Material

- 7.3.1 Only four pieces of ceramic building material were recovered, all of which were Romano-British in date; the fragment from context **3230** is from a tegula roof tile, while those from contexts **3135** and **3231** are undiagnostic flat fragments.

7.4 Worked Flint

- 7.4.1 A small assemblage of worked flint material (149 pieces) has been quantified (**Table 3**). The principal focus of interest lies with two groups of material that were collected from pits towards the southern end of the stripped area (pits **3390** and **3404**) and a third less diagnostic group also from a pit (**3186**). The two larger groups are distinctive in that they contain respectively 50% and 20% blades. Pit **3390** also contains a crested piece and a rejuvenation tablet, the former a diagnostic feature of blade production, but both artefacts are associated with well-maintained core control. Some of the blanks also demonstrate characteristics of soft hammer percussion. Retouched tools include an end scraper on a flake from pit **3390** and two blades with edge damage/use from pit **3404**. Both pits also include fragments of broken flakes that can be conjoined confirming that the assemblages are *in situ*, possibly representing dumped knapping and domestic waste. The consistently high blade elements and the associated technology present in these two relatively closely related pits suggest that they are probably of Early/Middle Neolithic date, although pit **3390** lies adjacent to an inhumation burial containing Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery (possibly residual). The character of the flint assemblage therefore does indicate that these two features are contemporary.

- 7.4.2 Isolated or small groups of pits, often discovered fortuitously, are frequently primary indicators of Early Neolithic activity or settlement. It is not perhaps unexpected that these pits should be located in this broad area given that long barrows are present in the general vicinity, most locally in Lake Wood approximately 1.5 km to the north-east of the Site.
- 7.4.3 The assemblage from pit **3186** contains insufficient material to be certain of its date, nevertheless all artefacts are characterised by areas of calcium carbonate concretion which suggests that they do form part of a group that was from a primary context. In addition the overall character of the flakes suggests that they are contemporary and probably no later than the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age.
- 7.4.4 The remainder of the material comprises small groups of residual waste flakes which were collected from ditches and pits of Iron Age and Romano-British date. Some of this component may also be related to the groups of material contained in the pits but, in view of the difficulty in dating small groups of isolated artefacts, may also represent later activity. The total included four scrapers and two flakes with miscellaneous retouch.

7.5 Burnt Flint

- 7.5.1 Burnt, unworked flint was recovered in small quantities, in contrast to the much higher quantities encountered during the earlier evaluation of the Site, when some 42.5kg was collected (Wessex Archaeology 2010). During the excavation 14 features produced burnt flint, but in only one case greater than 1kg (1663g from ditch **3377**).
- 7.5.2 Burnt, unworked flint is intrinsically undateable, although is often taken as an indicator of prehistoric activity. In this instance there was only a partial correlation between the distributions of worked flint and burnt flint, and the features where they were found together were mostly of Romano-British date.

7.6 Stone

- 7.6.1 Three quern fragments were recovered, two of quartz conglomerate (both from ditch **3377** and possibly from the same object), and one in greensand (pit **3263**). All are probably from rotary querns. A second fragment of greensand from inhumation grave **3387** could derive from another quern, but shows no obvious signs of working.

7.7 Metalwork

Coins

- 7.7.1 Two late Roman coins were recovered from the Site. Both are small denomination copper alloy issues. The earliest, from grave **3118**, is an irregular contemporary copy of an *antoninianus* of the late 3rd century AD, probably minted between AD270 and AD296. The engraving on this coin is very stylised, and the flan very irregular, and it is not possible to establish which issue is being copied. These are copies of 'official' coinage, possibly struck to compensate for gaps in supply of coinage to Britain and to supply sufficient small change for the province's needs. It is unclear whether these copies were officially sanctioned, if at all, but they are not uncommon as site

finds, and seem to have circulated in the same fashion as officially struck coins.

- 7.7.2 The second coin from ditch **3377** is a 4th century AD issue. Unfortunately, it is too corroded to be identified to a specific period.

Iron

- 7.7.3 Thirteen iron objects came from Romano-British inhumation grave **3118**. These comprise 11 coffin nails, a knife, and a short length of rod or wire bent around into a ring. The knife has a central plate-tang (to which bone plates would have been riveted to form the handle) and a wide blade, now damaged; the form does not appear to fall into any of the principal knife types as defined by Manning, although it is closest to his type 15, which he describes as the commonest type of Romano-British knife (1985, 115, figs. 28 and 29).
- 7.7.4 Five objects were recovered from Romano-British cremation grave **3398**, comprising one nail and four hobnails from footwear.
- 7.7.5 Other iron objects include two nails from ditch **3377**, and two from pit **3202**, and eight hobnails from pit **3283**. All these are assumed to be of Romano-British date on association with other datable finds.

7.8 Human Bone

Introduction

- 7.8.1 Human bone from six contexts was received for assessment comprising the remains of five inhumation burials (four probably Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and one late Romano-British) and a late Romano-British (probable) urned cremation burial. The prehistoric remains were found in close proximity to one another and may represent a small cemetery or part thereof. The furnished and coffined Romano-British inhumation burial was located in the centre of a small mortuary enclosure. The cremation grave was situated between the corner of a Romano-British enclosure ditch (**3377**) and a series of intercutting pits.

Methods

- 7.8.2 The bone was subject to a rapid scan to assess its condition, the age and sex of the individual, potential for indices and the presence of pathological lesions. Assessment of age and sex was based on standard methodologies (Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Scheuer and Black 2000). Non-grading for bone preservation followed McKinley (2004a, fig 6).

Quantity and provenance

- 7.8.3 A summary of the results is presented in **Table 4**. The Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age graves were fairly shallow with two surviving to a depth of <0.10m whilst grave **3887** was 0.22m deep. By contrast, the Romano-British grave was substantially deeper (1.40m). In all but the Romano-British inhumation burial, machine stripping had severely truncated the graves, causing disturbance and damage to the grave contents. Two inhumation burials were evident in grave **3387**, the later insertion disturbing the earlier burial. The prehistoric material is in poor condition and heavily fragmented, with poor skeletal recovery; the converse being the case with the bone from

the Romano-British inhumation burial. Grave depth appears to be the primary factor in bone preservation and skeletal recovery, with the shallower graves more prone to disruption of the grave environment (potentially accelerating degradation) and direct damage via agricultural activity and modern site stripping.

- 7.8.4 The cremation grave survived to a maximum depth of 0.10m, having been subject to severe horizontal truncation by the machine. Both fine-particle fuel ash and cremated bone were observed at the level of the machine strip and, consequently, an unknown quantity of bone will have been lost as a result of this disturbance. The cremated bone is visually in good condition and includes a moderate proportion of trabecular bone (generally subject to preferential loss in an aggressive burial environment).
- 7.8.5 A minimum of six individuals are represented. The unburnt assemblage comprises the remains of four prehistoric females and a Romano-British male; a single individual is represented amongst the cremated remains (**Table 4**).
- 7.8.6 Much of the cremated bone is poorly oxidised and bone fragment size is generally small (maximum fragment 45mm, majority <5mm). Numerous fragments of sheep bone were observed (*i.e.* pyre goods).
- 7.8.7 Pathological changes were identified in four of the unburnt individuals, most notably and extensively in the elderly male.

7.9 Animal Bone

Quantity and provenance

- 7.9.1 A total of 746 fragments (or 4.811kg) of animal bone were recovered from the excavation phase of fieldwork. An additional 194 fragments (or 1.541kg) were recovered from the evaluation phase and these are reported on separately (Wessex Archaeology 2010). Once conjoins are taken into account the overall fragment count for both stages of fieldwork is 651 (**Table 5**).
- 7.9.2 Most of the animal bone is from Romano-British ditches and pits, in particular pit **3205** and ditch **3377**. A small amount of bone was also recovered from contexts containing Iron Age pottery however this is likely to be residual, which suggests that at least some of the bone from these contexts is also residual.

Methods

- 7.9.3 The following information was recorded where applicable: species, skeletal element, preservation condition, fusion data, tooth ageing data, butchery marks, metrical data, gnawing, burning, surface condition, pathology and non-metric traits. This information was directly recorded into a relational database (in MS Access) and cross-referenced with relevant contextual information.

Results

- 7.9.4 Bone preservation is variable but generally consistent within individual contexts. The condition of bones from Iron Age contexts is generally good,

which suggests that it is unlikely to have been reworked from earlier deposits unlike the pottery with which it is associated.

- 7.9.5 Only 24% of fragments are identifiable to species and element. All of the identified bones are from domestic species. The following have been identified and are presented in order of abundance: horse, cattle, sheep/goat, dog and pig (see **Table 5**).
- 7.9.6 Bone was recovered from seven Iron Age contexts. Horse bones and teeth are common and the majority are from ditch fill **3107** (ditch **3372**), these include two scapula from separate individuals, two phalanges and a cervical vertebra. Cattle bones are also relatively numerous in the excavation assemblage. This contrasts with the results from the evaluation which suggested that sheep/goat was the most common livestock species.
- 7.9.7 Bone was recovered from 26 Romano-British contexts. Most (c. 54%) of the fragments are from ditches and the remainder from pits. Again horse bones and teeth are common with fairly large concentrations from pit **3205** and ditch **3377**. The horse bones from **3205** include the sacrum, cervical vertebrae and several loose teeth, while those from **3377** include the radius, atlas and axis vertebrae and a fragmented mandible.
- 7.9.8 In terms of livestock, cattle bones are slightly more numerous than sheep/goat, while pig is insignificant. Both cattle and sheep/goat are represented by a diverse range of body parts, which suggests that the bone waste accumulating at the Site originates from all phases in the carcass reduction sequence (i.e. primary butchery to consumption). There are no concentrations of particular elements from individual contexts to suggest that the waste from different processes was disposed of separately since all contexts include a mixture of bone waste.
- 7.9.9 Some of the sheep/goat mandibles from Romano-British contexts are complete and analysis of tooth wear indicates that five are from animals aged 3-4 years and three are from animals aged 4-6 years (mandibular wear stages F and G, after Payne 1973). The apparent emphasis on older animals suggests that secondary products (e.g. wool and milk) were more important than meat production however, the sample of data is extremely small so this statement should be treated with caution.
- 7.9.10 Seventeen dog bones were recovered from six separate contexts. These bones are from a minimum of two individuals, both of which are quite small, gracile animals.
- 7.9.11 Single bones from a small mammal and bird were noted in the assemblage from the evaluation.

7.10 Potential

- 7.10.1 The assemblage recovered from the Site is relatively small, within which only pottery and animal bone occurred in any significant quantity. Much of the prehistoric component of the assemblage appears to have been reworked and redeposited in later contexts. Romano-British artefacts (mainly pottery) were found in well-known types.

- 7.10.2 The potential of the finds assemblage to provide further information about the Site is therefore limited by quantity, range and provenance. Dating information has already been extracted from the pottery and coins and, to a lesser extent, from selected groups of worked flint. Further analysis is unlikely to enable any refinement of that dating. Amongst the faunal assemblage, the number of identified bones is extremely small and the quantity of detailed information available for further study (**Table 6**) is of limited analytical value.
- 7.10.3 Of some interest, however, are the two groups of Early/Middle Neolithic flintwork, and one of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date, all of which appear to be *in situ* within pit fills. Further detailed analysis of these groups is not considered necessary but some limited further discussion of the three groups within the context of the Site and the wider area would be worthwhile.
- 7.10.4 The possible LBA/EIA date of grave **3387** remains uncertain as the pottery was recovered from the upper backfill of the grave rather than as a specific grave good. The date of the other two prehistoric inhumation burials (**3383** and **3394**), both unaccompanied, are also uncertain. The demographic make-up of the unburnt prehistoric assemblage is interesting given its singular gender bias. Setting the remains in their temporal and spatial contexts, and populations, would allow more informed discussion, and thereby aid future research.
- 7.10.5 The late Romano-British date of the cremation burial is of import. Although growing numbers of cremation burials of this date are coming to light in rural settings, often as a result of radiocarbon dating of unurned and unaccompanied burials (e.g. Lovell 2005; McKinley 2003; 2010), their recorded presence remains relatively rare and this one from Druid's Lodge represents an important addition to that increasing corpus of examples. It has been suggested that the occasional persistence of this apparently non-normative rite into the late Romano-British period is indicative of conservatism within a small proportion of the population (Molleson 1993, 30). An alternative possibility, related to the origin/background of the deceased, has also been postulated (McKinley 2011). The tradition of including animal remains on the pyre is common within the Romano-British period, 3.5-47% of burials from a range of 10 cemeteries having been found to contain such material, with chicken forming a frequently recovered species (McKinley 2004b).
- 7.10.6 The Site lies on the western edge of the Stonehenge World Heritage Site, which encompasses part of a landscape rich in mortuary and 'ritual' archaeology. Recent extensive investigations c. 3.5 miles to the east (Boscombe Down, near Amesbury) revealed abundant archaeological remains of comparable date, and similar character (Wessex Archaeology 1995, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2003a&b, 2005a-c, 2007, 2008a&b, 2009).

8 PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 Six bulk samples were taken from a range of Iron Age/Romano-British features and were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals.

8.2 Charred Plant Remains

8.2.1 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10–x40 stereobinocular microscope and the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains recorded in **Table 7**. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

8.2.2 The flots varied in size with low to high numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement and therefore the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material was generally rather poorly preserved.

8.2.3 Charred plant remains were recorded in four of the samples. High numbers of cereal remains were recovered from pit **3149**, including grain fragments of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and grain and glume fragments of hulled wheat, emmer or spelt, (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*). The glumes mainly had an appearance of being those of spelt (*Triticum spelta*). The few weed seeds observed in the samples from pits **3149** and **3283** included those of oats/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp.), rye-grass/fescue (*Lolium/Festuca* sp.), field madder (*Sherardia arvensis*), bedstraw (*Galium* sp.), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.). These are species which are generally common within arable fields. The charred plant assemblages are indicative of settlement waste. These are similar to those recorded during the evaluation phase of the Site and again are in keeping with the date for the Site. They are generally comparable with other sites of a similar date in the area, such as Chemring (Pelling forthcoming) and those upon Salisbury Plain (Stevens 2006; Leivers and Stevens 2009).

8.3 Wood Charcoal

8.3.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 7**. Charcoal fragments of >4mm were only retrieved in small quantities from pit **3149** and **3283**.

8.4 Land and fresh/brackish water molluscs

8.4.1 Shells were recorded in the flots and their relative abundance noted (**Table 7**). Nomenclature is according to Kerney (1999). Such shells can be indicative of the local vegetative environment.

8.4.2 The molluscan assemblages observed in the samples were similar. The open-country species *Vallonia* spp., *Helicella itala*, *Pupilla muscorum* and

Vertigo pygmaea were present in all samples. The intermediate species *Trichia hispida* was also recorded in most of the samples. The assemblage from pit **3283** also included the intermediate species *Cepaea* spp. and *Cochlicopa* spp. and the shade-loving species *Aegopinella nitidula*. Pit **3149** contained the shade-loving species *Aegopinella nitidula* and *Oxychilus cellarius*. There was also a single specimen of the moving-water species *Bithynia tentaculata*.

- 8.4.3 The mollusc assemblages appear to reflect a general open environment, possibly with an indication of some arable activity in the vicinity, with some areas of shady habitats within or near the pits. The shell of *Bithynia tentaculata* may have been brought on to the Site along with water from the local source.

8.5 Potential

8.6 Charred plant remains

- 8.6.1 Although there is the potential for the analysis of the plant assemblages from pit **3149** to provide some information on the crop processing stages and possibly on the nature of the settlement activities, this would be an only limited potential due to the poor preservation of the charred material and general low numbers of weed seeds.

8.7 Wood charcoal

- 8.7.1 There is no potential for detailed analysis of the wood charcoal to provide information on the management and exploitation of the local woodland resource due to the paucity of remains recovered.

8.8 Land snails and fresh/brackish water molluscs

- 8.8.1 Analysis of the assemblages is unlikely to provide more detailed information on the local environment, as they are just from spot samples rather than sequences.

9 CONCLUSION

9.1 Introduction

- 9.1.1 The programme of archaeological work undertaken at Druids Lodge has provided information relating to the research aims and objectives of the project. In addition, the excavation has answered the specific questions relating to the targeted excavation areas (see above, Section 4.2). The excavations have provided stratigraphic, artefactual and environmental evidence for the activity on the Site from the Early/Middle Neolithic to the late Romano-British period.

9.2 Neolithic 4000-2400 BC

- 9.2.1 Environmental evidence for the Early/Middle Neolithic landscape of Stonehenge indicates the area was generally wooded, although clearance of some areas had occurred (Cleal *et al* 1995). Within the local area of the Site Early Neolithic features have been recorded, such as the Coneybury Anomaly (Richards 1990), the causewayed enclosure at Robin Hood's Ball and the long barrow within the Lake Wood group c. 1.5km to the north-east.

It is within this landscape that the two Early/Middle Neolithic pits from the Site can be placed.

- 9.2.2 The two small pits **3390** and **3404** dated to the Early/Middle Neolithic period, contained an assemblage of worked flint and pottery and represent the earliest features on the Site. Early Neolithic pits are known from the wider area and these features add to the data for this period. The two pits can be considered to be contemporary and indicate an episode of temporary occupation within the wooded Stonehenge landscape.

9.3 Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age 1100-400BC

- 9.3.1 Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery was recovered from several of the features in Area 3. The majority of this pottery was probably residual within later features but does indicate a background of later prehistoric activity. Given the number of intercutting features within Area 3 it is possible that some of the earliest (stratigraphic) features were of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date and were subsequently truncated during the Romano-British period.

- 9.3.2 The group of three graves excavated during the watching brief are of possible Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date. The graves were located in a small area, c. 27 sq. m., are of the same sex and probably part of a small contemporary cemetery. The graves have been provisionally dated from pottery recovered from one of the graves, **3387**. However there is some uncertainty in the validity of the pottery date, given that the material was recovered from the grave backfill/upper fill.

9.4 Iron Age 700BC-AD43

- 9.4.1 Evidence of Iron Age activity was limited to a small number of pits and linear ditches. In total only 16 contexts contained Iron Age pottery, eight of which have been dated to the Iron Age. The remainder of the pottery probably represents residual sherds within later features (small sherd count and sherd weight). Taken together with the results of the earlier evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2010), the results of the excavation suggest that Iron Age activity was focused around the south-eastern enclosure.

9.5 Romano-British AD43-410

- 9.5.1 Romano-British features comprised the majority of excavated features on the Site. The pottery from the Site spans the Romano-British period (AD43–410). The trackway excavated in Area 1 and Area 2 possibly originated in the Iron Age but continued in use throughout the Romano-British period. The intercutting pits targeted in Area 3 also spanned the Romano-British period and were probably enclosed by a contemporary ditch.

- 9.5.2 The trackway (Area 1 and Area 2) had silted up by the late Romano-British period when it was cut by a mortuary enclosure surrounding a late Romano-British burial dating to the late 3rd–4th century. During the same period a probable urned cremation burial was made in close proximity to the intercutting pits in Area 3.

- 9.5.3 The results of the excavation suggest that the enclosure located to the western edge of the Site may be of Romano-British date. The majority of the

excavated features spanned the Romano-British period 2nd–4th century AD, however, no features have been excavated within the western enclosure so this remains uncertain. The south-eastern enclosure sample excavated during the evaluation of the Site (Trenches 15 and 16) was dated to the Iron Age (700BC–43AD) and the earliest enclosure ditch contained early Iron Age pottery (700–400 BC, Wessex Archaeology 2010c).

9.5.4 The location of probable late prehistoric or Romano-British ‘*Celtic*’ fields c. 1km to the east of the Site, visible on aerial photographs, suggest a broader pattern of Iron Age to Romano-British settlement within the immediate area of the Site.

9.5.5 Within the wider area similar patterns of Iron Age followed by Romano-British settlement activity have been recorded. For example at High Post c. 5km to the east (Powell 2012), Butterfield Down, Amesbury (Rawlings and Fitzpatrick 1996) and at various sites across the Salisbury Plain Training Area (James 2010).

10 RECOMMENDATIONS

11 ARCHIVE

11.1 Oasis

11.1.1 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> has been initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form have been completed for submission to the SMR. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive).

12 STORAGE AND CURATION

12.1 Museum

12.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum. The museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project. Deposition of the finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

12.2 Preparation of Archive

12.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts and ecofacts, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Walker 1990; SMA 1995; Richards and Robinson 2000; Brown 2007).

12.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the site code (**73703**), and a full index has been prepared. The archive comprises the following:

- 10 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts & ecofacts, ordered by material type
- 03 files/document cases of paper records & A3/A4 graphics

- 00 files photographs
- 02 A1 graphics

12.3 Conservation

- 12.3.1 No immediate conservation requirements were noted in the field. Finds which have been identified as of unstable condition and therefore potentially in need of further conservation treatment comprise the metal objects.
- 12.3.2 Metal objects have been X-radiographed as part of the assessment phase, as a basic record and also to aid identification. On the basis of the X-rays, the range of objects present and their provenance on the Site, no objects are considered to warrant further conservation treatment.
- 12.3.3 The metalwork will be packed for long-term storage in stable conditions (airtight, with a drying agent).

12.4 Discard Policy

- 12.4.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in Selection, Retention and Dispersal (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. In this instance, burnt, unworked flint has already been discarded; any further discard is unlikely to take place.
- 12.4.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows the guidelines laid out in Wessex Archaeology's 'Archive and Dispersal Policy for Environmental Remains and Samples'. The archive policy conforms with nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2002) and is available upon request.

12.5 Copyright

- 12.5.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the Site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. The recipient museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms with the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003.
- 12.5.2 This report, and the archive generally, 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 we 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. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

12.6 Security Copy

- 12.6.1 In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a security copy of the paper records will be prepared, in the form of microfilm. The master jackets and one diazo copy of the microfilm will be submitted to the

National Archaeological Record (English Heritage), a second diazo copy will be deposited with the paper records, and a third diazo copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology.

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APPENDIX 1 - OASIS FORM
13.1 Druids Lodge Polo Club, Salisbury, Wiltshire - Wessex Archaeology
OASIS ID - wessexar1-121961
Versions

View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
<u>View 1</u>	1	Sue Farr	s.farr@wessexarch.co.uk	27 March 2012

Completed sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
Yes	No	Yes	Yes	1/1

Validated sections in current version

Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
No	No	No	No	0/1

File submission and form progress

Grey literature report submitted?	No	Grey literature report filename/s
Images submitted?	No	Image filename/s
Boundary file submitted?	No	Boundary filename
HER signed off?		NMR signed off?

APPENDIX 2 - TABLES
Table 1: Finds totals by material type

Material Type	Number	Weight (g)
Pottery	615	8133
<i>Prehistoric</i>	136	1066
<i>Romano-British</i>	479	7067
Ceramic Building Material	4	531
Burnt Flint	39	3459
Flint	150	1198
Stone	4	1849
Metalwork	32	-
<i>Copper Alloy</i>	2	-
<i>Iron</i>	30	-
Human Bone	4 inhumed individuals 1 cremated individual	-
Animal Bone	746	4811

Table 2: Pottery totals by ware type

Ware type	No. sherds	Wt. (g)
PREHISTORIC		
Flint-tempered ware	71	558
Sandy ware	65	508
<i>sub-total prehistoric</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>1066</i>
ROMANO-BRITISH		
Black Burnished ware	110	961
Greyware	229	2897
Grog-tempered ware	115	2942
Mortaria unassigned	1	11
New Forest colour coat	1	13
Oxidised ware	15	185
Oxon colour coat	3	2
RB glazed ware	1	1
Samian	3	55
<i>sub-total Romano-British</i>	<i>479</i>	<i>7067</i>
OVERALL TOTAL	615	8133

Table 3: Worked flint by feature

	Flake Cores	Blades	Broken Blades	Bladelets	Broken Bladelets	Flakes	Broken Flakes	Crested Pieces	Rejuv. Tablets	Scrapers	Axe Thinning	Debitage	Misc. Retouch	TOTAL
ditch 3372	1					1	1						1	4
ditch 3374						7	3		1					11
ditch 3376						2	1							3
ditch 3377						3	1			1				5
ditch 3378						1								1
ditch 3379						1								1
ditch 3380						1								1
ditch 3381							1							1
pit 3186		1	1			1	1							4
pit 3205						2			1					3
pit 3261			1										1	2
pit 3263						1								1
pit 3282						3	2							5
pit 3284						3				1				4
pit 3363						1								1
pit 3390		9	5	2	1	31	31	1	1	1	1	4		87
pit 3404	1	3		1	1	3	3							12
topsoil		1								2				3
TOTALS	2	14	7	3	2	61	44	1	3	5	1	4	2	149

Table 4: Human Bone Summary

Context	Cut	Deposit type	Date	Quantification	Age/sex	Pathology	Condition/comment
3153	3118	inh. burial	late RB	c. 99%	adult >60 yr. male	amtl; apical voids; calculus; caries; hypoplasia; periodontal disease; ivory osteoma – frontal; pnb – tibiae & fibulae; destructive lesion – l. orbit, 1 st MtT; ddd – C4-7, L1; Schmorl's nodes – 5Ts, 2Ls; oa – ribs, 9Ts (apj, incl eburnation), l. glenoid, l. elbow; distal ulnae; op – C1-2 (af), C3-6 (bsm), Cs (apj), Ts, Ls (bsm & apj), ribs, upper limbs & hands, lower limbs & feet; pitting – Ts (apjs), ribs, sternoclavicular joints; enth – mandible, S4-6, innominates, upper limbs & hands, lower limbs, calcanea; exos – l. tibia & fibula; mv –irregular tooth wear; wormian bones; deviated septum; incomplete fusion C1; 6 x S; ossified cartilage (ribs; manubrium, sternum; thyroid); odd l. scapula wing; suprascapula foramen	0-1; complete elements; green stain anterior mandible & maxilla; very marked muscle attachments; all indices
3382	3383	inh. burial	?LBA /EIA	c. 55%	adult >45 yr. female	calculus; crowding; hypoplasia; hypereruption; oa – 3 ribs; op – C1-2 (af), Ls (apjs); enth – l. humerus, l. radius, r. patella	3-5; heavily fragmented (old); substantial truncation by machine; a few bags of bits to sort; small teeth; few/no indices; 0.07m deep
3385	3387	inh. burial	LBA/ EIA	c. 45%	adult >35 yr. female	calculus; caries; hypercemetosis; sinusitis; oa – hips; pitting – r. tmj; enth – acromion process; mv - heavy palatal wear – maxillary incisors	2-5; heavily fragmented (old); truncation by machine & ?plough; few/no indices; misc. bags to sort;?mixing between skeletons 3385/3388; 0.22m deep
3388	3387	inh. burial	LBA/ EIA	c. 30% s. a. u.	adult c. 18-45 yr. female	calculus; caries; pitting – acromion process	3-5+; heavily fragmented (mostly old);); truncation by machine & ?plough; ?mixing between 3385/ 3388; no

							indices; 0.22m deep
3395	3394	inh. burial	?LBA /EIA	c. 20%	subadult/adult >16 yr. female		4-5+; heavily fragmented & scraps;); truncation by machine; no indices; small individual; 0.09m deep
3398	3397	urned crem. burial	late RB	80.8g	subadult/adult >16 yr.		Most poorly oxidised; disturbed during stripping; animal bone (sheep); No plans or <i>in situ</i> photos. ? 0.10m deep

Key: s. a. u. l. – skull, axial, upper limb, lower limb (where not all skeletal regions are represented); aml – ante mortem tooth loss; pnb – periosteal new bone; ddd – degenerative disc disease; C, T, L, S – cervical, thoracic, lumbar, sacral vertebrae; apj – articular process joint; bsm – body surface margin; oa – osteoarthritis; op – osteophytes; enth – enthesophytes/enthesopathy; exos – exostoses; MtT/MtC; tmj – temporo-mandibular joint; mv – morphological variation (includes activity-related)

Table 5: Number of identified animal bone specimens present (or NISP) by broad chronological period and fieldwork stage

Species	Evaluation		Excavation			Total
	Iron Age	Romano-British	Iron Age	Romano-British	Unphased	
cattle	6	3	7	26	2	44
sheep/goat	11	9	2	22		44
pig	1		1	1		3
horse	3	6	9	32	1	51
dog			1	17		18
Total identified	21	18	20	98	3	160
mammal	40	56	1	397	1	495
small mammal		1				1
bird		1				1
Total unidentified	40	58	1	397	1	497
Overall total	61	76	21	489	4	657

Table 6: Quantity of detailed information available from further analysis of animal bone by broad chronological period (data from both phases of fieldwork combined)

	Iron Age	Romano-British	Total
Age - fusion	19	17	36
Age - mandibles (2+ teeth)	1	8	9
Biometric	4	13	17
Butchery	2	9	11
Total	26	47	73

Table 7: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Samples				Flot								
Feature	Context	Sam ple	Vol. Ltrs	Flot (ml)	% roots	Charred Plant Remains				Charcoal >4/2mm	Other	Anal ysis
						Grain	Chaff	Other	Comments			
Iron Age/Romano-British												
Pits												
3149	3150	1	10	35	40	A*	A*	C	Barley and hulled wheat grain frags, hulled wheat glumes including those of spelt. <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Lolium/Festuca</i>	0/<1 ml	Moll-t (A*)	-
3149	3152	2	10	50	50	A	C	C	Barley and hulled wheat grain frags, hulled wheat glume bases, <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Sherardia arvensis</i> , <i>Galium</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i>	4/3 ml	Moll-t (A*), Moll-f (C)	-

Samples				Flot								
Feature	Context	Sam	Vol.	Flot	%	Charred Plant Remains				Charcoal	Other	Anal
3283	3292	11	10	110	3	B	C	C	Barley and hulled wheat grain frags, glume base, <i>Rumex</i>	2/8 ml	Burnt a. bone, Moll-t (A*)	-
3363	3362	12	10	15	40	-	-	-	-	0/1 ml	Moll-t (A)	-
Mortuary Enclosure Ditch												
3123	3125	13	20	30	40	C	C	-	Indet. grain frags, glume bases	0/<1 ml	Moll-t (A)	-
Urned Cremation Related Deposit												
3397	3398	34	1	5	15	-	-	-	-	0/1 ml	Butnt bone, Moll-t (B)	-

Key: A* = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5; Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs, Moll-f = freshwater molluscs;**

Table 8: Coin Index

SITE CODE: 73703

SITE NAME: Druid's Lodge

Context 153

Metal Cu Alloy

Diameter 17

Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor

Obverse condition Corroded

Obverse Bust r, cuirassed.

Mint Unknown

Notes Badly corroded C4 coin

Reece Periods:

Object 14

Denomination AE3

Weight 1.44

Reverse axis 12

Issue date C4

Reverse condition Corroded

Reverse Standing fig.

Officina:

References

Casey Period:

Context 224

Metal Cu Alloy

Diameter 16

Issuer Radiate copy

Obverse condition Slightly worn

Obverse Stylised radiate bust r, radiate objects in field.

Mint Unknown

Notes V stylised radiate copy, struck on an irregular flan

Reece Periods: 14 - AD 275 - 296

Object 15

Denomination Antoninianus

Weight 1.29

Reverse axis 12

Issue date AD 270 - 296

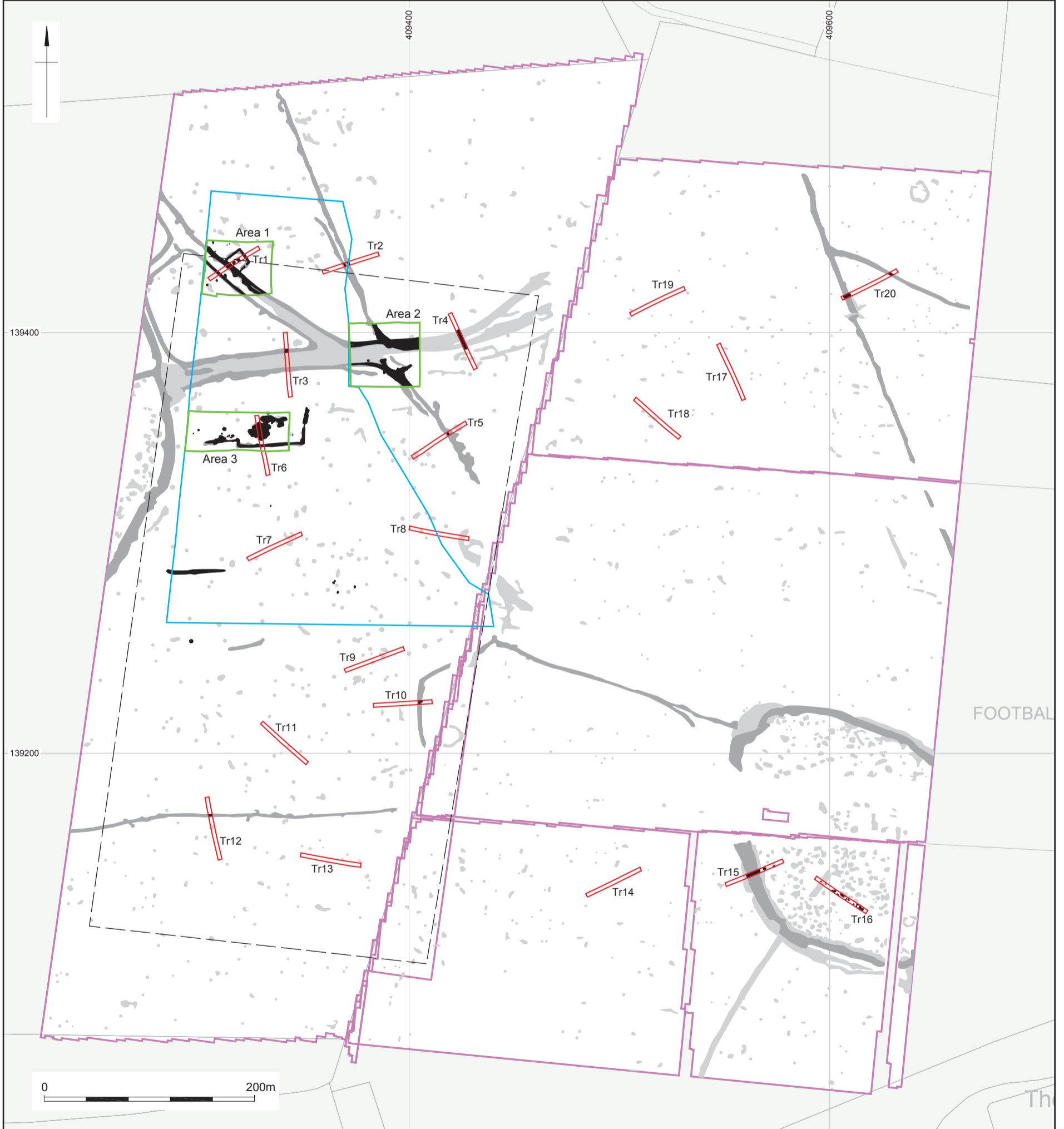
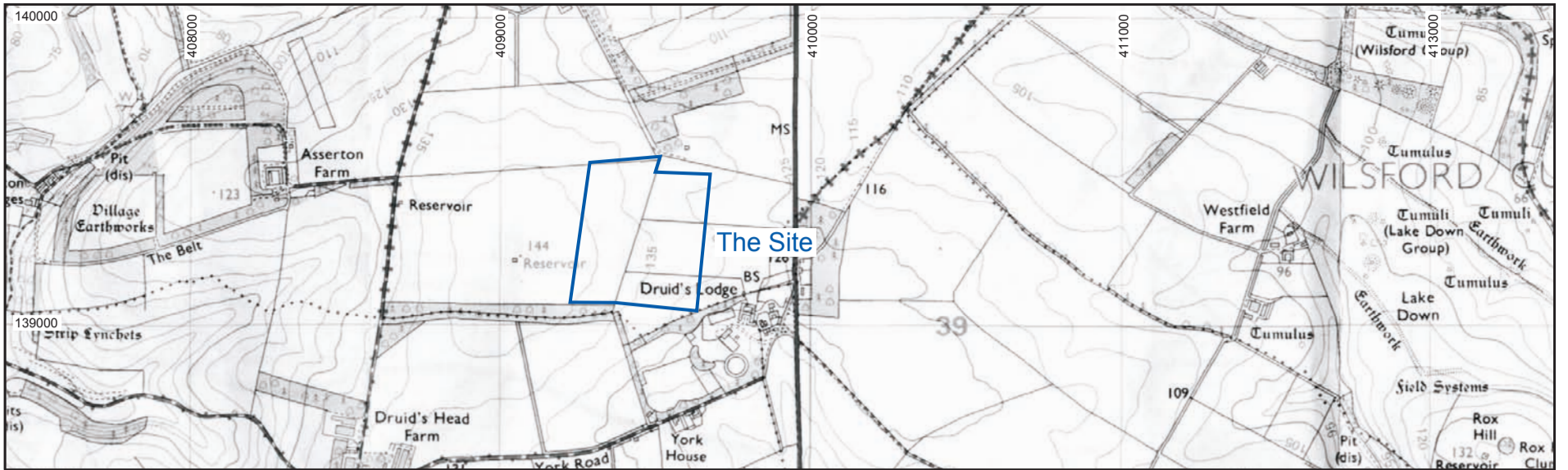
Reverse condition Slightly worn

Reverse V stylised fig I with staff, assorted

Officina:

References

Casey Period: 19 - AD 273 - 286



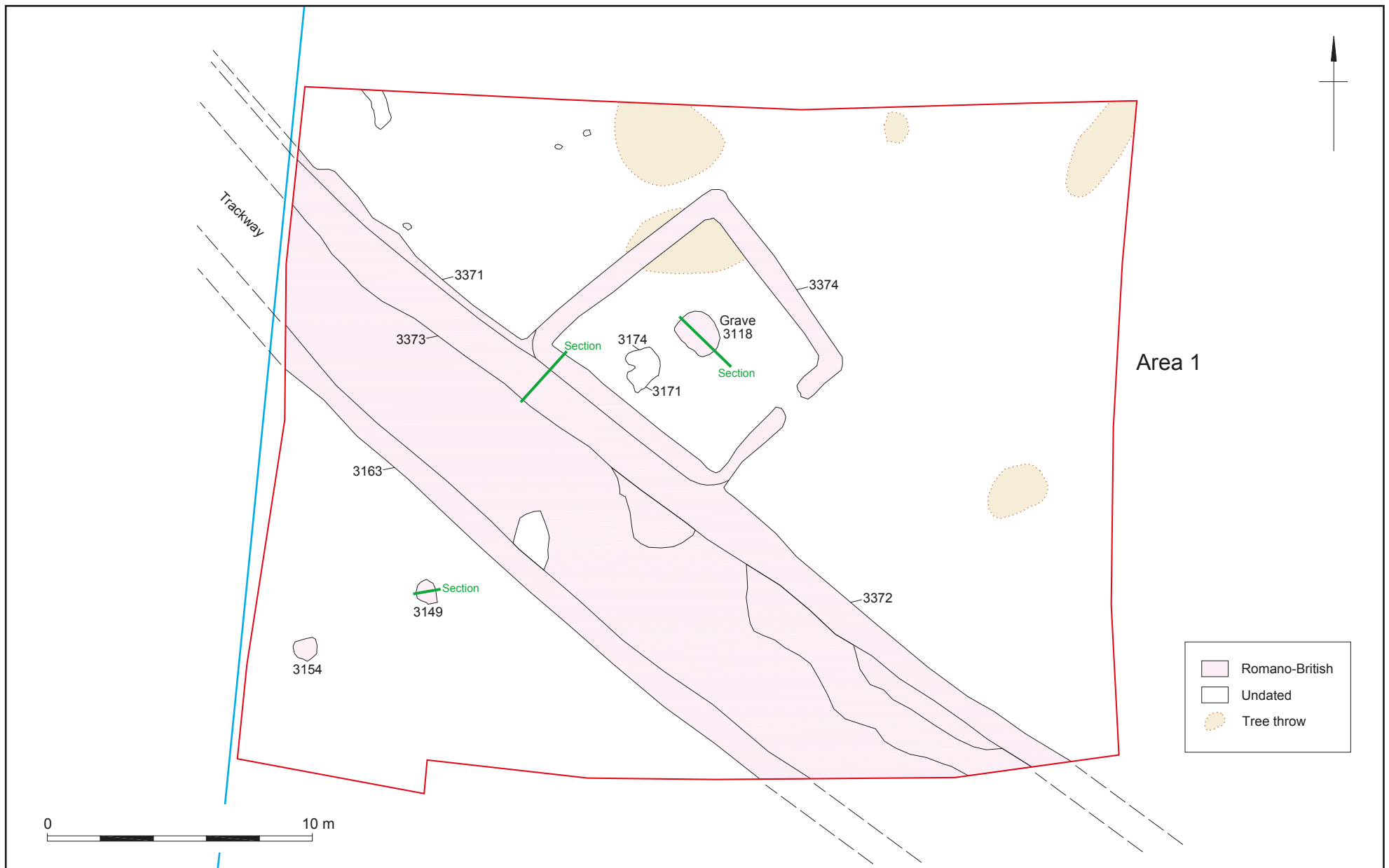
- The Site
- Proposed polo pitch
- Watching brief area
- Excavation area
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeology
- Area of geophysical survey
- Geophysical survey results**
- Archaeology
- Probable archaeology

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Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\173703\Drawing Office\Report Figs\mitigation\12_02\173703_mit_f1.dwg		

Site excavation areas and location plan

Figure 1



	Romano-British
	Undated
	Tree throw



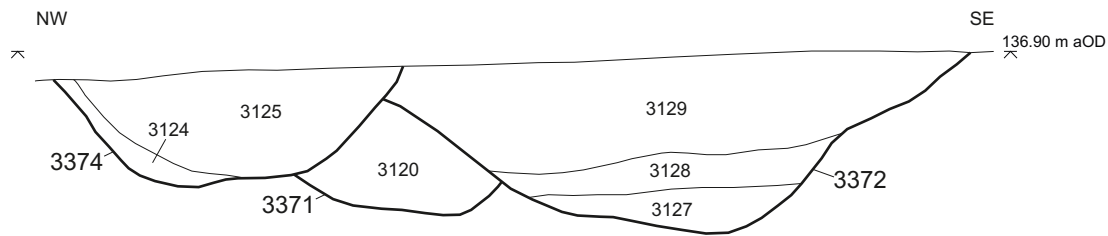
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- Excavation area
- Watching brief area

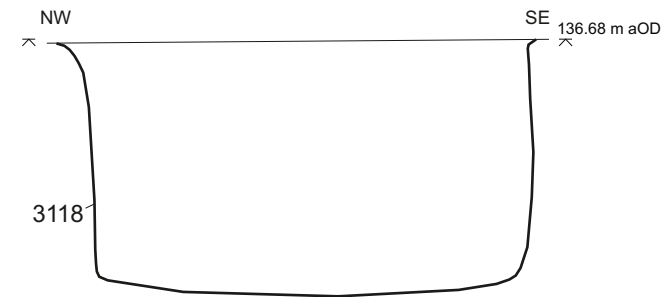
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Area 1: plan

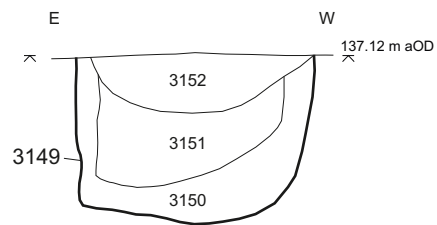
Figure 2



North-west facing section of trackway ditches 3371 and 3372 and mortuary enclosure ditch 3374



Grave 3118 section



Pit 3149 section



Plate 1: North facing section of pit 3149

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Plate 2: General view of Area 1, view from south-east



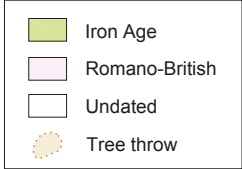
Plate 3: Pre-excavation view of mortuary enclosure 3374



Plate 4: Burial 3153



Plate 5: Post-excavation view of inhumation burial 3153



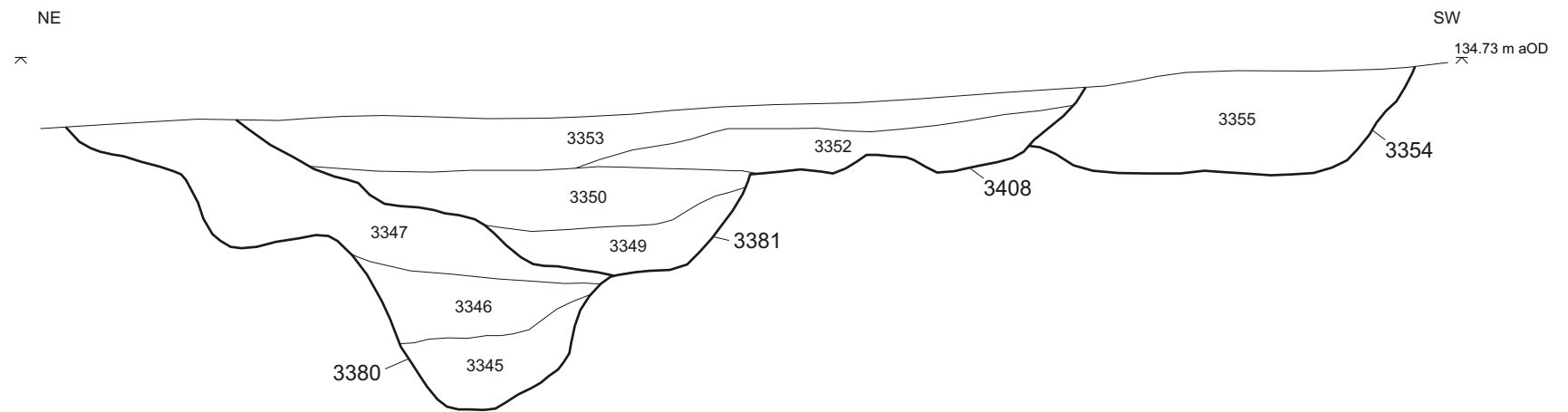
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- Excavation area
- Watching brief area

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Area 2: plan

Figure 5



North-west facing section of ditches 3380 and 3381, trackway 3408 and pit 3354



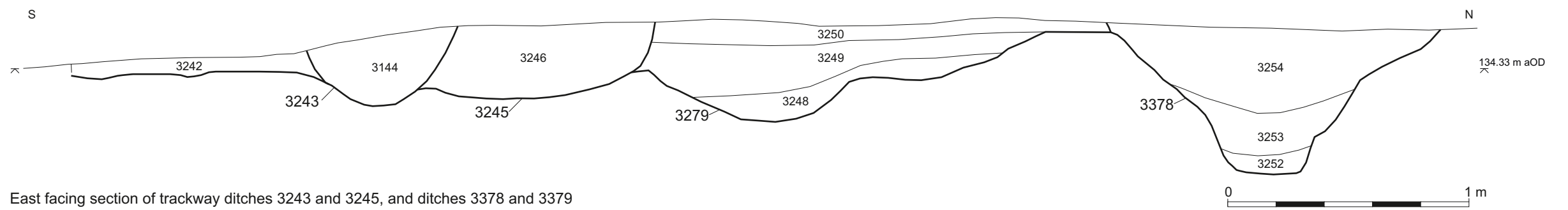
Plate 6: South-east facing section of ditch 3378



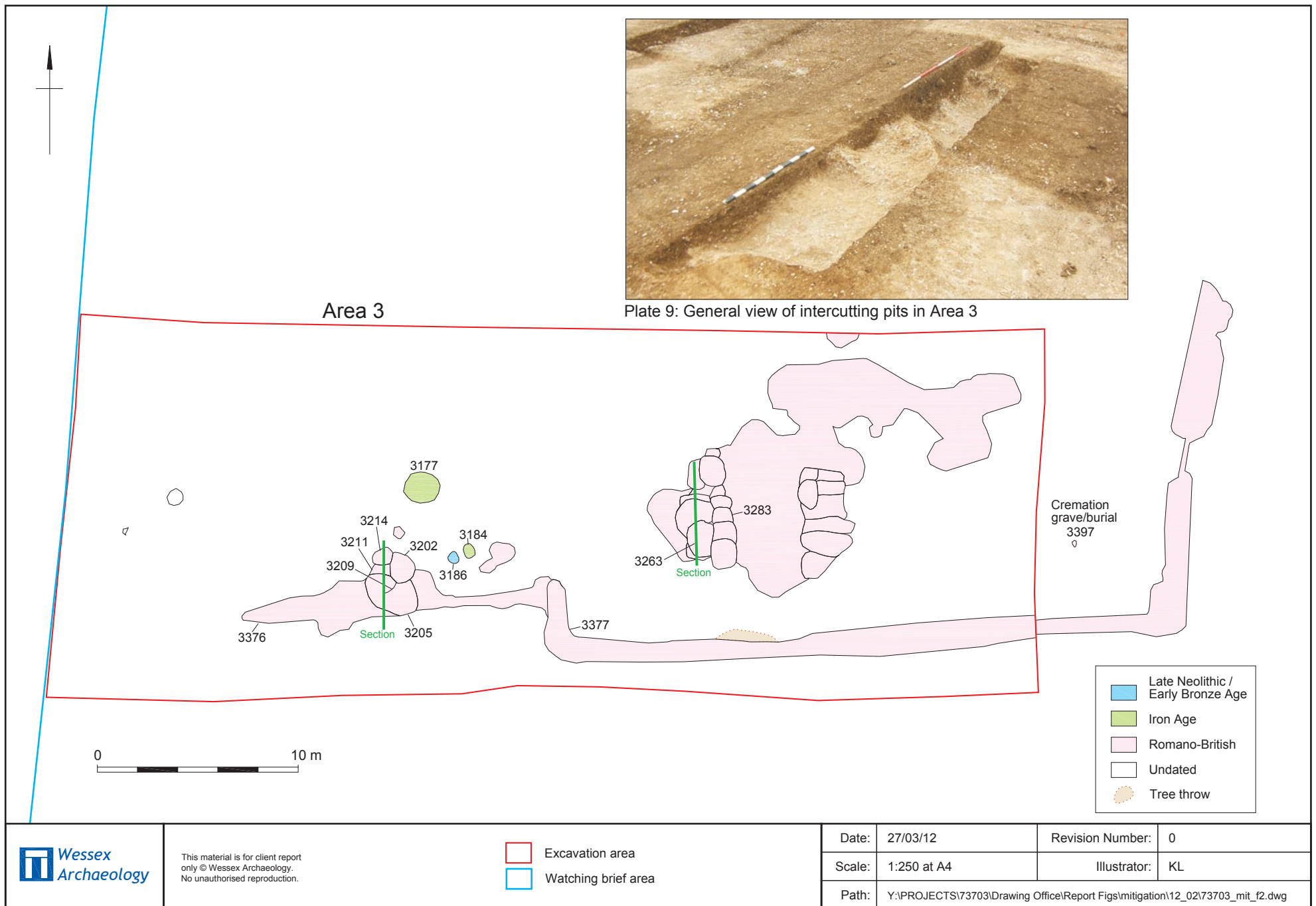
Plate 7: North-west facing section of ditches 3381, 3380 and 3408



Plate 8: South-east facing section of ditches 3408, 3380 and associated pits



East facing section of trackway ditches 3243 and 3245, and ditches 3378 and 3379



Area 3: plan and Plate 9

Figure 7

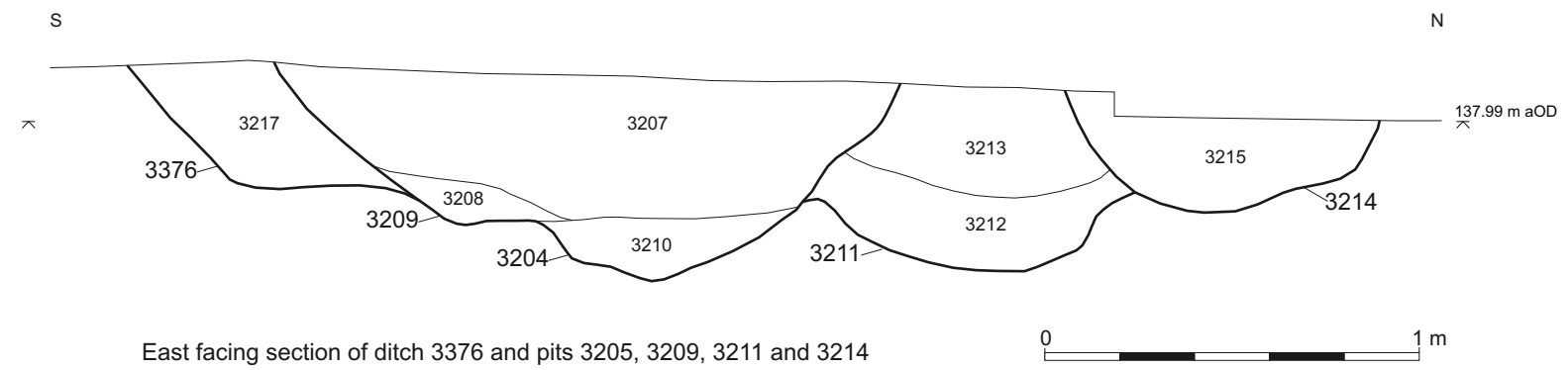


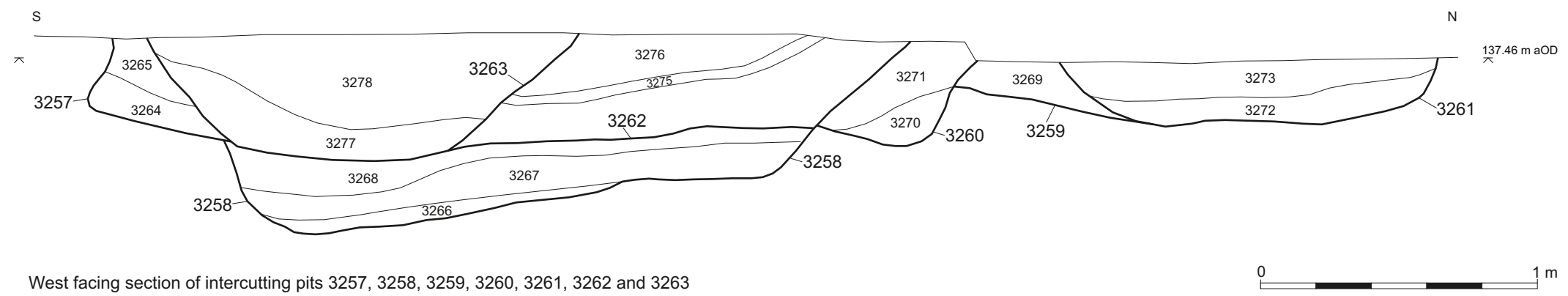
Plate 10: West facing section of ditch 3376

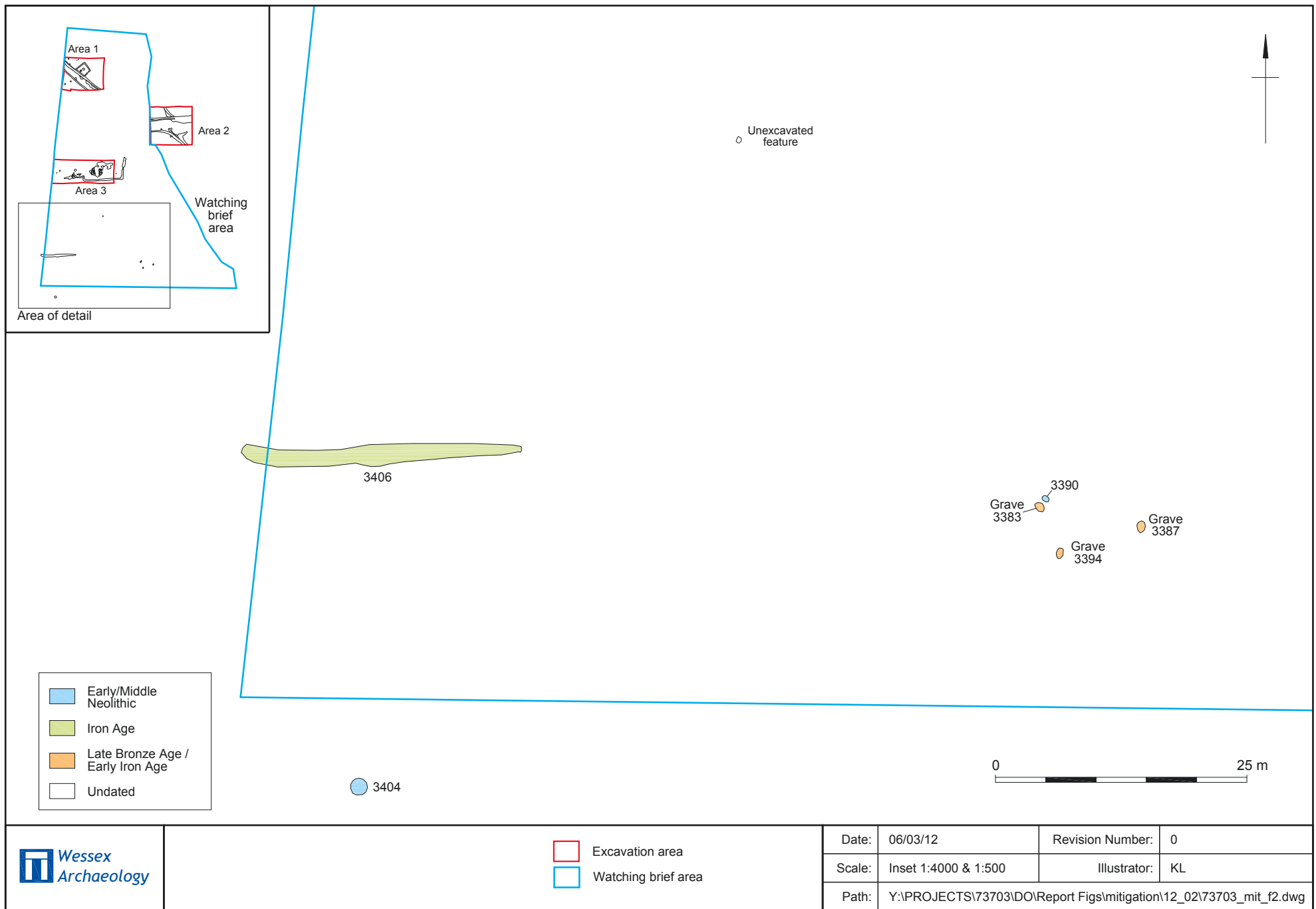


Plate 11: East facing section of ditch 3376 and pits 3205, 3209, 3211 and 3214



Plate 12: West facing section of pit 3258





Watching brief area

Figure 9



Plate 13: Post-excavation view of inhumation burials 3385 and 3388



Plate 14: Post-excavation view of inhumation burial 3382



Plate 15: Post-excavation view of inhumation burial 3395

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