

Sevor Farm, South Marston Swindon, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report



Ref: 88290.03 January 2013





Archaeological Evaluation Report

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January 2013

Report Ref: 88290.03



Quality Assurance

Project Code	88290	Accession Code		Client Ref.	
Planning Application Ref.		Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)	364095 143569		

Version	Status*	Prepared by	Checked and Approved By	Approver's Signature	Date
1	I	SF	DDR	De Rosa.	25/01/2013
File:	X:/Projed	cts/88290/Report/Re	portdraft		
2	F	DDR	REG	ldo Son	30/01/2013
File:	X:/Projed	cts/88290/Report/Re	portfinal		
File:					
File:					
File:					

^{*} I= Internal Draft; E= External Draft; F= Final

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by AEE Renewables UK 24 Limited (The Client) to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Sevor Farm, South Marston, Swindon centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 364095 143569

The Client is proposing to submit a planning application for the construction of a Solar Farm across the c.24 hectare Site. The current proposed Site lies between two other solar farm sites at Roves Farm to the north east and South Marston to the west. The archaeological trial trench evaluation along with a previously undertaken geophysical survey forms part of an archaeological assessment of the site, which will be submitted in support of the planning application to determine the requirement for further archaeological mitigation possibly in the form of preservation by record or for preservation *in situ* of revealed archaeological remains.

The evaluation has been successful in characterising the archaeological nature of the Site and in showing that there is overall a high potential for the survival and presence of significant archaeological features and deposits across the Site. Three areas of high archaeological potential have been identified as a result of the trial trench evaluation; Area 1 is centred on Trench 3, Area 2 centred on Trenches 13, 14 and 17-19 and Area 3 centred upon Trench 15.

The evaluation established the accuracy of the geophysical survey and, areas that indicated high concentrations of archaeology did correspondingly. However in these areas of high archaeological potential more archaeological features were present than expected. The only notable exception to the results expected was a concentration of archaeological features centre around Trenches 17-19 and the lack of features within Trench 24. Trench 24 was shown within the geophysical survey to contain a large ring ditch however no evidence of this feature was found upon excavation, although an undated ditch was found within the trench. The evaluation was able to establish that there was the potential for significant Romano-British remains present, with almost all the finds recovered dating to the this period.

Area 1 centred upon Trench 3 revealed the presence of two large parallel boundary ditches running in an east to west direction, and a possible sub rectangular enclosure towards the northern end of the trench dating to the Romano-British period. The trench also produced a number of pits potentially of similar date to the surrounding features.

Within Area 2 what appears to be a large Romano-British occupation spread was found running throughout trenches 13 and 14, The occupation spread included a deposit of stone within it, which could be remnants of an insitu wall, and a quantity of Romano-British pottery and ceramic building material, including box flue tile, which may suggest that there is a high status Roman building, such as a villa within the near vicinity. The northern end of Trench 13 also showed potential evidence of a ring gully with internal postholes. To the south, within Trenches 17 to 19 a high concentration of potential pits was uncovered as well as boundary ditches and a further possible ring gully with internal post holes within trench 18.



The evaluation established a concentration of Romano-British archaeological features within Trench 15 (Area 3), and confirmed the presence of a possible ring ditch as highlighted by the geophysics. The ring ditch contained a significant quantity of Romano-British finds, within its uppermost fill. A series of ditches were also present within the trench that may form part of a field system or occupation features associated with the ring ditch. A potential Romano-British occupation spread was found within the southern end of the trench, although this could also be the uppermost fill of a ditch as indicated on the geophysical survey, which has become ill defined as a result of intensive modern day ploughing.

A number of isolated periphery archaeological features were located outside of these three core areas and the archaeological potential for these areas seems low, including the presence of any archaeological features within the footprint of the former Marston Farm building within Trench 26. A potential second ring ditch within the footprint of Trench 24 could not be identified during excavation.

In light of the pottery evidence, the archaeological features revealed seem to date predominantly to the 2nd - 4th centuries AD. Apart from one undiagnostic Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery sherd from a gully within Trench 5 there is no other evidence for archaeological features that predate the Romano-British period. This indicates that the Romano-British activity that developed at the Site was not a continuation of an early period. However, based on evidence from other work carried out in the vicinity of the Site it could have developed out of Iron Age settlement and activity in the wider area.

The evidence from the Site may be an indication of the development of the Romano-British rural hinterland from the second century onwards in association with the development of the Roman town of Durocornovium (Wanborough) to the south. The evidence of box flue tiles may also indicate that a high status Romano-British building, such as a villa may be present somewhere within the vicinity of the Site and that the archaeological features uncovered relate to farming and settlement associated with a Roman villa farming landscape.

The evidence from the evaluation also suggests there was no continuation of occupation or settlement after the post-Romano-British period and since then up to the modern day period the Site has most probably remained as open fields in agricultural use



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Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Ralph Döring of AEE Renewables UK 24 Limited for commissioning the archaeological evaluation. The help and advice of Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger of the Wiltshire County Archaeological Service is also gratefully acknowledged.

The evaluation fieldwork was directed by Simon Flaherty assisted by Tom Wells, Ben Cullen and Andy Sole. The illustrations were prepared by Kenneth Lymer and the finds were assessed by Lorraine Mepham. This report was compiled by Simon Flaherty and Damian De Rosa. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Damian De Rosa.



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Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by AEE Renewables UK 24 Limited (The Client) to undertake an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Sevor Farm, South Marston, Swindon centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 364095 143569 (hereafter referred to as the Site; see **Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The Client is proposing to submit a planning application for the construction of a Solar Farm across the *c*.24 hectare Site. The current proposed Site lies between two other solar farm sites at Roves Farm to the north east and South Marston to the west.
- 1.1.3 This archaeological trial trench evaluation along with a previously undertaken geophysical survey (ASL 2012b) forms part of an archaeological assessment of the Site, which will be submitted in support of the planning application.
- 1.1.4 The geophysical survey of the Site was undertaken by Archaeological Surveys Ltd (ASL 2012b) in October 2012. The results of the survey were very positive and located four zones of high archaeological potential covering c.6ha within the c.24ha Site (Figure 1), which correlated and enhanced the results of the work previously undertaken at the two other solar farm sites. In the northern part of the Site, positive linear, rectilinear and discrete anomalies are a continuation of an enclosure complex located immediately to the west at South Marston. In the centre of the Site, cut features cross between two fields forming one site which contains at least one ring ditch with a 13.5m diameter. In the south-western part of the Site there is evidence for possible industrial activity and also ditches, enclosures and pits. Additionally, in the south-eastern part of the Site, further ditches, enclosures and pits were located in association with a ring ditch, c.18m in diameter.
- 1.1.5 Prior to the commencement of the evaluation a written scheme of investigation (WA 2012b) setting out the methods by which the evaluation would be undertaken was prepared. The preparation of the WSI and the scope of work set out in the document followed consultation with Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger of the Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service (WCAS), who act as the archaeological advisor on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

2 THE SITE

2.1 Location, topography and geology

2.1.1 The Site is located on c.24 hectares of arable farmland divided into four separate fields. It lies to the north of Nightingale Lane, and immediately to the east of South Marston,



- Swindon (**Figure 1**). The Site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 419792, 188238.
- 2.1.2 The Site lies on a south facing slope, which falls from c.105m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the north to c.90m aOD in the south.
- 2.1.3 The underlying solid geology across the centre of the Site has been identified as limestone of the Stanford Formation with the north western corner and south eastern corner identified as sandstone, siltstone and mudstone from the Hazelbury Bryan Formation and Kingston Formation. The south western corner of the Site is mudstone from the Ampthill Clay Formation and Kimmeridge Clay Formation (BGS, 2012).
- 2.1.4 The overlying soil across the centre of the survey area is from the Sherborne association, which are brown rendzinas. Across the remainder of the Site the soils are from the Burlesdon association which are stagnogleyic argillic brown earths (Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (HER) lists a number of archaeological sites and findspots in the immediate vicinity of the Site. The evidence contained in the HER along with an extensive programme of geophysical survey across the Site itself and neighbouring sites has indicated an archaeologically rich area with a high potential for the remains of Iron Age and Romano-British settlement and occupation that could be either agricultural and/or industrial in nature

3.2 Early prehistoric

3.2.1 There is no evidence of early prehistoric human activity within the Site. In the wider landscape, a number of Neolithic flint blades and an axe have been recovered in the Sevenhampton area (Swindon Borough Council 2006). An undated round barrow (HER SU18NE602), which might be of prehistoric date, has been identified in a field c.500m to the north-west of the Site.

3.3 Iron Age and Roman

- 3.3.1 The Site is located c.3km to the north-east of the northwest-southeast aligned Roman road, Ermin Street, linking Corinium (Cirencester) with Calleva Atrebatum (Silchester). The Roman town of Durocornovium (Wanborough) was located at the junction of Ermin Street with the north-south aligned road from Cunetio (Mildenhall), approximately 3.5km to the south of the Site. The archaeological data suggests that the town was established in the 1st century AD and abandoned during the 4th century AD. It was a roadside settlement, which developed as a result of trade and was located within the administrative area of Corinium (Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service 2004a). The datable material recovered on and in the vicinity of the Site is broadly contemporary with Durocornovium, which indicates that the Site fell within the rural hinterland of the town.
- 3.3.2 Just to the east of the Site, the HER lists an undated pit alignment north west of Nightingale Farm (HER SU28NW611). Within the southern part of the Site undated earthworks (HER SU18NE606) in the form of parallel lines, a rectangular parchmark and linear and circular vegetation marks resembling settlement have been indicated on aerial photographs. These have been further identified in the results of the geophysical survey of the Site (AS 2012b). A ring ditch (HER SU18NE612) previously identified on the HER



(HER SU18NE612) through aerial photography would appear to have been confirmed in the geophysical survey (AS 2012b) within the centre of the Site (**Figure 1 - Trench 15**). During the course of the Site geophysical survey (AS 2012b) Romano-British pottery, tile and a large fragment of Roman box flue tile were observed in the southern end of Area 1 (AS 2012b).

- 3.3.3 Just to the north of the Site and to the south of Marston Copse aerial photography has identified an enclosure with internal features (HER SU18NE617) and an oval enclosure (HER SU28NW601) and other associated features. Abraded sherds of Iron Age pottery have also been recorded in this area (HER SU18NE201).
- 3.3.4 Previous geophysical survey carried out at Roves Farm (AS 2010 and 2011a) to the north-east of the Site located a number of enclosures, ditches, pits, trackways and ring ditches that appear to relate to Iron Age and Romano-British settlement (AS 2010 and 2011a). The enclosure (HER SU28NW602) measured c. 77m x 94m with a single entrance located in the centre of the western side. A number of ring gullies, or curvilinear features, have been recorded and these most likely represent former roundhouses. Evidence for pits or hearths has also been identified within the enclosure. Collection of surface finds was undertaken during the survey and these included sherds of Savernake Roman pottery and coarse fabrics of Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British date. The recovery of pottery supported the geophysical data in indicating a small defended farming settlement of late prehistoric date extending through into the Romano-British period.
- 3.3.5 Oxford Archaeology (OA 2011a) conducted an archaeological evaluation at Roves Farm, The evaluation concentrated on defining the limits of a settlement observed in the geophysical survey (AS 2010 and 2011a). A droveway/trackway investigated as the boundary to the area of occupation produced both later prehistoric and Romano-British artefactual evidence as did a smaller enclosure investigated to the north of the site. Evidence for the later occupation was centred on a system of medieval ridge and furrow which covers the site, and a large stone-lined drain aligned east west.
- 3.3.6 A geophysical survey was also undertaken on the proposed route of a cable trench for a solar farm at South Marston to the west of the Site (AS 2011b) and this revealed widespread archaeological features probably representing prehistoric and Romano-British occupation.
- 3.3.7 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken to monitor the excavation of the cable trench during the installation of the solar farm at South Marston (OA 2011b). The geophysical survey of the site (AS 2011b) had indicated distinct concentrations of anomalies interpreted as potential archaeological features between areas apparently devoid of archaeological remains. The route of the cable trench traversed one of the concentrations of anomalies, interpreted as potential prehistoric or early Romano-British settlement. The trench, revealed six features, which were interpreted as ditches and pits. Pottery recovered from two features dated to the mid to late Iron Age. Trenches excavated outside the potential settlement, were devoid of significant archaeological remains, confirming the interpretation of the geophysical results in these areas.
- 3.3.8 The HER also records to the west of the Site and to the north of Nightingale Farm that Romano-British pottery fragments, dated to 2nd -4thcentury were found in an area of pits (HER SU28NW304). Such evidence indicates that there was a continuation of occupation from the Late Iron Age through to the Later Romano-British period.



3.4 Medieval and post medieval

- 3.4.1 South Marston is not recorded in Domesday (1086), but is thought nonetheless to have Saxon origins (Archer 1978, Hopkins 1926) and to have been located within the Saxon administrative area of Highworth. South Marston is first mentioned as *Merston* in 1204. The name Marston is thought to have derived from Old English phrase meaning 'village by a marsh' (Ekwall 1947), and the settlement is thought to have developed around the church of St Mary Magdalen, which is of 13th century date.
- 3.4.2 Evidence for medieval activity within the area indicates settlement, agrarian and funerary activity. Multiple medieval house platforms and trackways are visible on aerial photographs as earthworks and cropmarks, to the south-east of South Marston. These remains are thought to represent the remains of a deserted medieval village.
- 3.4.3 Evidence for medieval farming in the form of ridge and farrow would appear to have been identified by the geophysical survey in the northern half of the Site (AS 2012 and **Figure 1**). Further evidence of ridge and furrow has also been previously identified at Roves Farm to the east of the Site (WA 2011) and at South Marston School (SU18NE553) and Priory Farm (SU18NE620) to the west of the Site. An undated field system has also been identified to the east of Nightingale Farm (HER SU28NW605) in the form of lynchets and is also likely to date to the medieval period.
- 3.4.4 During the post medieval period the Site would have remained within the agrarian landscape. During this period a number of farmhouses were being built across the wider area and this may have included the former Marston Farm/Old Farm, which was identified in a further geophysical survey (AS, 2012a) undertaken over the proposed cable route between Roves Farm and South Marston Farm, within the northern part of the Site. There is the possibility that the farm could be medieval in origin as other farmsteads dating to this period are recorded on the HER at Burton Grove Farm (HER SU18NE465) to the north—west of the Site and at Roves Farm (HER SU28NW453) to the east.
- 3.4.5 The now completely demolished Marston Farm referred to by 1925 as Old Farm was mapped up until about 1960 as a number of separate buildings and an orchard. By 1970 just a single building remained, probably a simple barn. By 1993, on the 1:10000 mapping the building appears to have gone, although it is still mapped on the current 1:25000 series.

3.5 Geophysical survey

- 3.5.1 The geophysical survey (**Figure 1**) was undertaken across four survey areas and recorded a high potential for archaeological remains across c.6ha of the c.24ha Site.
- 3.5.2 Within Areas 1 and 2 in the northern half of the Site probable ditches, pits, a ring ditch and enclosures were identified. At the northern edge of the Site in Area 2, linear, rectilinear and discrete anomalies would seem to be a continuation of an enclosure complex identified immediately to the west during a previous geophysical survey.
- 3.5.3 Magnetic debris and positive linear anomalies identified in Area 2 most probably relate to the former location of Marston Farm/Old Farm. The last remnants of any buildings, based on map evidence, associated with the farm appear to have been removed in the late 20th century. The debris probably indicates the presence of brick, tile and ferrous objects.



- 3.5.4 In the southern part of the Site, Area 3 contains positive linear, rectilinear and discrete anomalies that appear to relate to ditches, enclosures and pits. The high magnitude of the anomalies could possibly indicate former industrial activity.
- 3.5.5 Within Area 4, in the south-eastern part of the Site, positive linear, rectilinear and discrete anomalies were located. There is evidence for a ring ditch with an 18m diameter which appears to contain internal features. Former ridge and furrow is likely to have resulted in some truncation and disturbance of archaeological features.

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 Archaeological Field Evaluation

- 4.1.1 The general aims of the archaeological field evaluation were:
 - Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be threatened by development;
 - Identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, condition and depth of any surviving remains within the Site;
 - Assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits;
 - The production of a report which will present the project information in sufficient detail to allow interpretation without recourse to the project archive. This will facilitate judgements on the status of the archaeological resource and allow the formulation of an appropriate response ('a mitigation strategy') to the impact of the proposed development on any surviving archaeological deposits, if required.
- 4.1.2 Specific aims of the field evaluation were:
 - To target through the excavation of 5 no 50m x 1.8m trenches the results of the geophysical survey to determine the nature, date and importance of the potential archaeological features/responses that have been identified;
 - To target with a 1% sample of c.18ha the archaeological potential of areas of the Site that the geophysical survey has identified as archaeologically blank;
 - To identify whether features/responses are of archaeological or natural geological origin;
 - To undertake minimal archaeological sampling of features in order not to compromise the delicate nature of the potential archaeology and the nature of the proposed development. However, sampling of a sufficient number of features would be undertaken to be able to characterise their nature and date where possible, so that recommendations for further archaeological mitigation and/or changes in the design of the development to protect the archaeological remains in situ could be made.
 - By targeting the results of the geophysical survey and undertaking a 1% sample of the blank areas the aim will be to tie down specific areas of the Site, in order to determine recommendations for further archaeological mitigation and/or for preservation in situ of archaeological remains.



5 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The following methodology was proposed in order to meet the aims and objectives of the fieldwork. All works were carried out in accordance with the approved WSI (WA 2012b) and relevant guidance given in the 'Institute of Field Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (revised 2008).

5.2 Evaluation strategy

- 5.2.1 In consultation with WCAS, acting on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, it was agreed that a 1% sample by trial trenching of the c.18ha of identified blank archaeological areas would be undertaken, equating to the excavation of 20 no 50m x 2m trial trenches.
- 5.2.2 In addition 5 no 50m x 2m trial trenches would be excavated to target a number of the identified geophysical anomalies.
- 5.2.3 Trenches 3, 10, 13, 15 and 24 were targeted on anomalies identified in the geophysical survey for the following reasons with a principle aim in all cases being to date and categorise the features.
 - Trench 3 was targeted on two parallel ditches and possible enclosure. These
 features would appear to be a continuation of features identified in a geophysical
 survey to the west;
 - Trench 10 has been targeted on potential remains of ridge and furrow;
 - Trench 14 has been targeted to identify the nature of a complex of anomalies that may possibly form an enclosure;
 - Trenches 15 and 24 were both targeted on potential ring ditches and possible internal features
- 5.2.4 A single 20m x 1.8m trial trench (trench 26) was excavated at the location of a strong geophysical anomaly that was interpreted as the location of the former Marston Farm, which is thought to have been demolished in the 1970s.

5.3 Fieldwork

- 5.3.1 Prior to machine excavation, trench locations were scanned by Wessex Archaeology using a cable tracing device (CAT). No below ground services were detected.
- 5.3.2 All overburden (topsoil and subsoil) was carefully removed by mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or natural geology, whichever was encountered first.
- 5.3.3 All machine work was under constant archaeological supervision and ceased immediately where the first significant archaeological horizon or natural geology was encountered.
- 5.3.4 Stripped material was visually examined for archaeological material and a metal detector used to enhance artefact recovery.
- 5.3.5 Each trench was cleaned by hand where appropriate and planned prior to any hand-excavation. All pre-modern stratified deposits that were excavated were undertaken by hand. A representative section, not less than 1m in length, of deposits through each trench from ground surface to the top of the natural geology was recorded.



- 5.3.6 A sample of each feature type revealed was excavated and recorded. The selection of features for excavation was determined on the basis of their form, fill, and stratigraphic relationship and in order to ensure a reasonable coverage of features and deposits within each trench and provide the best opportunity for the recovery of dating evidence.
- 5.3.7 Due to weather conditions a number of the trenches became waterlogged following there excavation and not all features could be sample excavated. However, all archaeological features had as a minimum their location surveyed and surface finds collected where present.

5.4 Recording

- 5.4.1 All recording was undertaken using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording sheets and recording system. Details of Wessex Archaeology's recording system are available on request.
- 5.4.2 A complete drawn record of excavated and archaeological features and deposits was compiled. This included both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections). The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels was calculated and plans/sections annotated with OD heights.
- 5.4.3 Trench locations and all recorded archaeological features revealed were surveyed using a GPS and tied in to the Ordnance Survey.
- 5.4.4 A photographic record was maintained using a digital camera.

5.5 Monitoring

5.5.1 The trenches were monitored by WCAS acting on behalf of the Local Planning Authority and the Client on 11th January 2013.

5.6 Reinstatement

5.6.1 Once the trenches had been completed to the satisfaction of WCAS they were backfilled using the excavated material. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The results provided below present a summary of the information derived from the trial trench evaluation. Detailed trench summaries containing a brief description of all of the features uncovered are provided in **Appendix 1.**
- 6.1.2 A total of 25 no 50m x 1.8m trenches were excavated. Five of the trenches (Trenches 3, 10, 14, 15 and 24) were targeted on geophysical anomalies. The remaining twenty trenches were located within areas in which the geophysical survey had not identified any anomalies. A single 20m x 1.8m contingency trench was excavated to investigate the location of the former farmhouse.
- 6.1.3 The results are presented in trench number order for those trenches which contained archaeological features and or deposits only. Numbers in bold are deposit and feature context numbers and contain a trench number prefix.



6.1.4 No archaeological features and/or deposits were identified in Trenches 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 25.

6.2 Soil Profile

- 6.2.1 The soil profile varied considerably across the site; the topsoil comprised of mid grey brown silty clay that varied in thickness from 0.16m -0.4m. The southern end of the site within Trenches 23, 24, and 25 comprised of a silty clay subsoil varying in thickness from 0.10m-0.22m and in colour dark red brown light grey brown. This subsoil sealed a thick grey brown orange brown silty clay colluvium that varied in thickness from 0.18m 0.40m. The light yellow grey silty clay natural was encountered from a depth of 0.7m.
- 6.2.2 The central area of the site, centred on Trenches 18 and 19 established the topsoil generally sealed the light yellow brown silty clay natural, the natural was encountered between 0.25m-0.52m. Some of the trenches had intermittent light-mid grey brown silty clay sub soils, between 0.22m-0.35m thick.
- 6.2.3 The north and east fields within the site comprised of the same mid grey brown silty clay top soil which varied between 0.22m-0.0.40m in thickness. This sealed an intermittent mid grey brown silty clay subsoil that varied between 0.12m-0.30m thick. This sealed a light grey brown silty loam Cornbrash Limestone and was encountered at depths between 0.27m- 0.4m.

6.3 Results

Trench 1

6.3.1 Trench 1 (**Figures 1** and **2**) was located at the north end of the site. The trench revealed a single north east –south west aligned shallow ditch terminus **102**. The ditch terminus ran for 0.82m within the trench, was 1.28m and was 0.12m deep. This was located within the west end of the trench and the ditch terminated at its north eastern side. The ditch did not contain any finds and was undated. The ditch had not been indicated on the geophysical survey.

Trench 2

6.3.2 Trench 2 (**Figures 1** and **2**) contained a single feature, possibly a pit or gully terminus. The feature ran for 0.94m within the trench, it was 0.44m wide and 0.13m deep. The feature did not contain any finds and remains undated. The feature had not been indicated by the geophysical survey.

- 6.3.3 Trench 3 (**Figures 1**, **2** and **Plate 1**) was placed to investigate a number of anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. This included two possible east west ditches and a further east-west aligned ditch that may form part of a small sub rectangular enclosure. An east-west ditch **306** (**Figure 2 Section 2** and **Plate 2**), measuring 2.10m x 2.50m x 0.48m, was identified at the southern end of Trench 3. The ditch did not contain any finds and remains undated. A second parallel ditch, **308**, located to the north, running on the same alignment was unexcavated but nine sherds of pottery of Romano-British date were recovered from the top of the feature. The respective alignment of both ditches suggests that they were in use at the same time and of similar date.
- 6.3.4 To the north of ditch **308** two gullies converged running in a north east -south west direction and north west south east direction. An intervention was placed where the features met to form a single gully (**310**) (**Figure 2 Section 1**). This feature broadly corresponds with a geophysical anomaly that may form part of a small sub rectangular



- enclosure (**Figure 1**). The fill (**309**) of the gully (**310**) contained four sherds of pottery dating to the Romano-British period.
- 6.3.5 A pit (**305**) (**Figure 2**), was fully exposed within the trench this had a diameter of 1m and was shallow at 0.10m deep. It contained a single sherd of pottery of Romano-British date, although it is possible this was residual.
- 6.3.6 Six other features were partially revealed within the trench (**Figure 2**). This included five possible pits (**322**, **320**, **318**, **316** and **312**) and a possible ditch terminus **314**. The possible pits vary in diameter from 0.64m-1.17m. The possible north eastern ditch terminus measured 2.90m x 0.9m. These features remained unexcavated and although they did not contain any surface finds they could tentatively be dated as Romano-British, by association with the excavated features from this trench.

6.3.7 Trench 5 (**Figures 1** and **2**) revealed a single small elliptical possible gully which was located at its north-east end. The gully ran for 0.66m within the trench. It was 0.36m wide and 0.14m deep. It was unclear whether it was terminating at its southern end or had been truncated away. It was the earliest dated feature on site as it contained a single piece of possible Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery, however due to the shallow and ephemeral nature of this feature it may be residual.

Trench 9

6.3.8 A single pit (902) was revealed at the north east end of the trench. The pit measured 0.65m x 1.24m, but could not be excavated due to water ingress within the trench. No finds were recovered from the surface of the pit (902).

Trench 11

- 6.3.9 Trench 11 (**Figure 1**) contained two ditches (**1104** and**1106**), a possible ditch terminus (**1108**) and a tree throw (**1110**). None of these features had been identified as geophysical anomalies.
- 6.3.10 Ditches **1104** and **1106** were aligned in a north east to south east direction. Ditch **1104** was 2.14m wide and 0.38m deep with straight sides and a flat base. It was truncated by a smaller ditch (**1106**) that was only 0.50m wide and 0.20m deep. No archaeological or dateable material was recovered from either feature. It is likely these ditches were used for drainage purposes.
- 6.3.11 The possible ditch terminus **1108** was located to the north of ditches **1104** and **1106**. It ran in an east to west direction for 1.57m terminating at its eastern end, and was 0.68m wide.
- 6.3.12 A tree throw **1110** was located towards the southern end of Trench 11. It was irregularly shaped and measure 2.60m x 1.50m. It was not fully exposed and continued under the eastern baulk of the trench.

Trench 12

6.3.13 Trench 12 (**Figure 1**) was located on the eastern edge of the site. It contained a single pit, **1203**, within the centre of the trench. The pit (**1203**) was a small sub circular feature measuring 0.46m in diameter and was only 0.05m deep. It contained a very charcoal rich deposit (**1204**), and contained no dateable archaeological finds. As there was no evidence of insitu burning it is possible that the feature could be the remnants of a rubbish pit.



- 6.3.14 Trench 13 (**Figures 1** and **3**) was located over an area of high archaeological potential with a series of anomalies highlighted within the geophysical survey. Due to flooding none of the features could be investigated, although there positions could be surveyed and surface finds collected.
- 6.3.15 The southern end of the trench comprised of a large Romano-British occupation layer 1319 and 1321 (Plate 3) which was divided in two within the trench by a concentration of stones 1320, that ran on an east to west alignment. Spread 1319 and 1321 consisted of dark grey brown black silty clay containing burnt charcoal waste. Layer 1319 contained twenty eight sherds of Roman pottery and included sherds of Spanish Dressel amphorae that dated from the 1st to 3rd century and a single sherd of central Gaulish samian dating to the 2nd century. The spread contained ceramic building material (CBM) including tegula, one possible imbrex tile and box flue tile of Romano-British date. The concentration of building material suggests there could be a Romano British building within the near vicinity. The occupation layer 1319 appeared to be 0.1-0 0.15m in depth and ran for 24.18m within the trench. It was then divided by the stone spread 1320 and continued as layer 1321 for a further 5.13m and beyond the southern limit of the trench.
- 6.3.16 Layer **1320** was a stone layer within the Romano-British occupation layers (**1319**, **1321**). It was approximately 1.2m wide and ran in an east to west direction across the line of the trench. It was unclear whether **1320** was a stone backfill layer within another feature or possibly in situ wall collapse. However, there was no evidence of any mortar bonding within the stone. The stones appeared to be sarsen and were on average 0.30m in diameter, with no obvious signs of working or tool marks.
- 6.3.17 At the north end of the trench was a curvilinear gully (1317), running in a roughly east to west direction that was approximately 0.4m wide. A further curvilinear gully, 1309 was located 7.20m to the north, and may represent the return of gully 1317 to form a ring ditch. Gully 1309 contained four pieces of Roman pottery one of which was a piece of Spanish Dressel amphorae dating to the 1st- 3rd century AD, and Roman C.B.M.
- 6.3.18 Two postholes (1315, 1313) were located within the area defined by curvilinear gullies 1309 and 1317. Both postholes were sub circular, and posthole 1315 had a diameter of 0.31m while posthole 1313 was 0.45m in diameter. Although the postholes were undated it is possible they relate to internal structural features associated with the possible ring ditch formed by ditches 1317 and 1309.
- 6.3.19 A further two postholes (1305, 1307) were located to the north of gully 1309. These may be associated with the other features within the trench. Both postholes were sub circular and 1307 had a diameter of 0.3m and 1305 was 0.25m in diameter. No datable archaeological material was recovered from either posthole.
- An irregular shaped ditch **1311** ran in an east to west direction within curvilinear gullies **1309** and **1317**. The ditch was 1.20m wide. It contained a number of roughly hewn unworked stones (*c*.0.25m diameter), which may have been used as building material. The feature contained a single sherd of Roman pottery and C.B.M and can provisionally be assigned to this period. The ditch (**1311**) appears to correspond to an L shaped anomaly highlighted within the geophysics.
- 6.3.21 The final feature within the trench was a curvilinear gully **1303** (**Figure 2**) running into the trench from its north-eastern corner for a length of 1.14m, and was 0.25m wide. It contained a single piece of New Forest parchment ware mortarium dating to the 3rd 4th century.



6.3.22 The archaeological features revealed in trench 13 appear to broadly correspond with the geophysical survey and proved there was an even higher density of archaeology than anticipated. It is possible that the Romano-British occupation layer (1319 and 1321) within the southern end of the trench may mask some of the features that were highlighted within the geophysical survey. All finds from within this trench seem to date to the Romano-British period and it can be tentatively suggested that it is most likely that all the features from within the trench most likely date to that period.

Trench 14

6.3.23 Trench 14 (**Figure 3**) contained a Romano-British occupation layer **1403**, which was a continuation from that found within the southern end of Trench 13 (**1319**, **1321**). It ran for the full length of the trench and measured 50m x 2.10mx 0.10m deep. It was not as finds rich as layers **1319** and **1321** but did contain eight sherds of Romano-British coarsewares that are not closely dateable and a piece of Roman C.B.M.

- 6.3.24 Trench 15 (**Figure 4**, **Plates 6 to 9**) was centred over an area of highlighted by the geophysical survey as having a high archaeological potential; including a ring ditch and two further ditches. One of the ditches ran east to west, to the north of the ring ditch and the second ditch running north east south west at the southern end of the trench, possibly acting as field boundaries. The trench revealed more archaeology than had been highlighted by the geophysics including a number of ditches and gullies (1531, 1518, 1523, 1524, 1521, 1520, 1527, 1510 and 1529), two post holes (1525, 1515) and part of a possible occupation spread (1504).
- 6.3.25 The possible ring ditch appeared to correspond with ditch **1510** (**Figure 4 Section 4** and **Plate 9**) that was aligned north-west to south-east, It had moderately sloped convex sides with a concave base and measured 1.7m wide and 0.68m deep. It contained five fills; the uppermost fill (**1505**) was a thin, 0.14m thick, dark grey brown silty clay and contained frequent charcoal flecks. It contained a number of pieces of Romano-British material including two pottery sherds from a South Gaulish form 18R platter, dating to the later 1st century AD. This fill may represent a deliberate infilling of the top of the ditch. The rest of the fills from within ditch (**1511-1514**) were very sterile and did not contain any finds.
- 6.3.26 The possible return of the curvilinear ditch (1510) could not be clearly defined due to is a concentration of archaeological activity containing multiple intercut ditches (1518, 1523, 1524) and a posthole (1525) (Figure 4 and Plate 7). These were not excavated during the evaluation due to the complexity of the features, and which may therefore be better understood through later archaeological mitigation. The southern edge of the features appeared to contain a curvilinear gully 1524 that ran in a south east north-west direction and was 0.7m wide. It contained nineteen pieces of C.B.M and thirty five sherds of Romano-British including a large piece of grog tempered, thick walled storage jar. The fill contained occasional charcoal flecks and a large number of moderately flat, large unworked stones. These appeared to be laid flat on top of the deposit though they did not appear to be structural.
- 6.3.27 A possible posthole **1525** was located upon the southern side gully and had a diameter of 0.50m, no finds were found from within the fill and this feature remains undated.
- 6.3.28 A possible ditch terminus (1523) was located directly to the north of gully 1524 and ran in an east to west alignment and measured 2.00m x 1.00m. It contained a very dark brown grey clay silt fill (1519), which may represent a dumping layer. Gully (1524) truncates a possible earlier ditch (1518), which runs on the same alignment as ditch 1523 and they may possibly be a single feature. No datable material was present.



- 6.3.29 At a distance of 1.20m to the south of gully **1524** was a further gully **1521** (**Figure 4 Section 3** and **Plate 8**). This ran in an east-west direction within the trench and measured 2.10m x 0.70m x 0.24m. It contained nineteen sherds of Romano-British coarseware forms that are not closely dateable. But which supports the Romano-British date for other features from within the trench.
- 6.3.30 Ditch **1520** ran north east -south west within the centre of Trench 15 (**Figure 4**). It was 1.30m wide with concave sides and was shallow at 0.09m deep, and with a flat base. It contained a single fill **1507** with a single piece of Romano-British pottery. The ditch was probably used as a field boundary or for drainage purposes.
- 6.3.31 Gully **1527** was located to the south of ditch **1520** and ran on approximately the same alignment (**Figure 4**). It measured 2.10m long within the trench and was 0.26m wide. No finds were recovered from the feature but due to the similar alignment it may be associated with ditch **1520**.
- 6.3.32 Running east- west in the north of the trench was a possible ditch (**1530**) this corresponds approximately to a possible field boundary anomaly highlighted within the geophysical survey (**Figure 1**). It was 1.90m wide and was undated.
- 6.3.33 To the south of ditch **1530** a curvilinear gully terminus **1508** ran in an east to west direction terminating at its western end. It ran for 0.64m within the trench and was 0.4m wide, flat bottomed and shallow (0.05m). It contained a single piece of Romano-British pottery. The curving nature of the feature suggests it may have been a drip gully.
- 6.3.34 The southern end of the trench contained an east to west aligned ditch **1528** (**Figure 4**). The feature ran across the width of the trench and was 1.04m wide. It was aligned with an anomaly that was highlighted on the results of the geophysical survey and most likely represents a field boundary or drainage ditch. No archaeological evidence was found within the feature and it remains undated, although by association is likely to be Romano-British in date.
- 6.3.35 The final feature within Trench 15 was a possible spread or occupation layer **1504** (**Figure 4**). It measured 2.10m x 4.48m within the trench. It contained a number of large stones and charcoal flecking and two pieces of Romano-British pottery. It was roughly on the same alignment as spreads **1319**, **1321** and **1404** and may represent a continuation of a Romano-British occupation layer.

6.3.36 Trench 16 (**Figure 1**) contained a possible gully or old hedgerow boundary **1604**; the feature ran for 7m in length and was 0.86m wide. This was irregularly shaped, shallow, 0.06m, with concave sides and a flat base. Although it contained a piece of Romano-British pottery it is likely this was residual as it is truncated by and follows the same alignment of a field drain (**1606**) and is therefore likely to be post-medieval in date.

Trench 17

6.3.37 Trench 17 (**Figure 3**) contained two possible gullies **1703** and **1705**. Due to water ingress neither of these features could be excavated. Ditch **1703** ran in a north west to south east direction within the northern end of the trench for a distance of 2m and was 0.5m wide. Trench **1705** was located towards the southern end of the trench and ran in a north west north-south east south direction and ran for 3.85m within the trench with a width of 0.5m. Gully **1705** contained a single piece of Romano-British pottery. The scarcity of features within this trench suggests this area maybe within the periphery of the main settlement area.



- 6.3.38 Trench 18 (**Figure 3**, **Plate 4**) revealed eight possible pit features as well as a ditch, curvilinear gully and two postholes. Unfortunately due to flooding none of the features were able to be tested through excavation.
- 6.3.39 The pits within the trench (1803, 1805, 1807, 1809, 1811, 1813, 1815 and 1825), varied in diameter from 0.45m 3.71m and were predominantly located in the centre and northwest end of the trench. All these features contained similar sterile light-mid grey brown silty clay and were undated. A particularly large feature 1811 which measured 3.71m in diameter may represent a water hole instead of a pit.
- 6.3.40 Ditch **1819** (**Figure 3** and **Plate 4**) ran in a northeast to southwest direction for 11.94m within the south west corner of the trench, it was 0.97m wide and may represent a drainage ditch. The feature was undated and the fill was sterile like the other features within the trench. It was not seen to continue into Trench 17 to the west and must therefore either terminate just beyond the limit of Trench 18 or turn on a north to south alignment.
- 6.3.41 Ditch **1819** joined with curvilinear gully **1817** however the relationship between the two features was not clear within plan. The gully (**1817**) is located within the south west end of Trench 18 and runs in a north west south east direction; it ran for 2.17m and was 0.24m wide. The feature did not contain any finds and remains undated, although it could tentatively be suggested that it was a drip gully.
- 6.3.42 Two postholes (1821 and 1823) (Plate 5) may have formed part of an internal structure within the curvilinear gully 1817. They were situated 0.12m apart. Posthole 1821 was located to the north west of 1823 and they had diameters of 0.25m and 0.35m respectively. Neither of the postholes contained any archaeological finds and was undated.

- 6.3.43 Trench 19 was targeted upon an area that the geophysics had suggested was an area of low potential for archaeological features. However, excavation of the trench revealed a ditch terminus 1904, a pit 1902 (Plate 5) and a number of features that due to their irregular shape and ephemeral nature may have been tree throws (1906, 1907, 1908, 1909).
- 6.3.44 Ditch terminus **1904** ran in a north-south direction and terminated at its southern end. The feature measured 4m in length and was 1.5m wide and relatively shallow, 0.23m deep. It had moderately sloped sides with a concave base. The fill was quite sterile and did not contain any dating evidence.
- 6.3.45 At a distance of 1.10m to the south of ditch terminus **1904** was pit **1902**, this was sub oval, relatively shallow (0.21m) and measured 1.20m x 0.72m. The pit contained a single piece of Romano-British pottery; however this was quite abraded and may have been residual. The fill of pit **1902** was very similar to that of ditch terminus **1904** and was suggestive of a similar formation process and therefore possibly contemporary.
- 6.3.46 Four more features were identified within the centre of the trench (1906, 1907, 1908, 1909) these were quite ephemeral and irregularly shaped, they ranged in diameter from 0.89m to 2.92m suggesting they may have been tree throws, although they could be intercutting pits or in the case of 1908 a possible gully terminus. Further excavation would clarify this, however due to flooding they were unable to be investigated further. No surface finds were present from within these features and they remain undated.



6.3.47 Trench 24 was placed over an area identified as having a high archaeological potential within the geophysical survey. It was expected to reveal a large possible field boundary and a ring ditch with some possible internal features. The trench only revealed a single west north west—east south east ditch **2404**. The ditch measured 1.20m in width and was at least 0.48m deep but was not fully excavated due to the high water table; it had straight moderate sloping sides. The fill was sterile with no dating evidence present. This ditch corresponded closely with a possible large field boundary shown by the geophysics (**Figure 1**).

- 6.3.48 Trench 26 was placed over an area of high magnetic debris highlighted within the geophysical survey; this was the site of the former Marston Farm building and was placed to test the presence or absence of any earlier features. The trench exposed a single ditch **2606** and two associated postholes (**2604**, **2608**).
- 6.3.49 Ditch **2606** ran in a north east –south west direction for a distance of 5.75m and was 0.81m wide. The ditch contained a number of pieces of modern C.B.M (which were not retained) indicating that the ditch was most likely modern and associated with the former farm building.
- 6.3.50 To the west of the ditch was posthole **2604**; this measured 0.40m in diameter. It contained a single piece of post-medieval pottery and is likely to have been associated with the previous farm building. A second posthole, **2608**, was located to the east of ditch **2606**, and although this did not contain any finds its close proximity to the other features within the trench and its similar fill suggests it was post-medieval in date.



7 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 Finds were recovered from 11 of the trial trenches excavated (Trenches 3, 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19), and comprise a small assemblage apparently dating almost exclusively to the Romano-British period. The assemblage includes structural material as well as domestic refuse.
- 7.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are presented in **Table 1**.

7.2 Pottery

7.2.1 Pottery was the most commonly occurring finds type, and provides the primary dating evidence for the Site but, given the scarcity here of chronologically distinctive ware types and vessel forms, only a small proportion of the assemblage can be closely dated within the Romano-British period. Although the bulk of the assemblage is Romano-British, there are also a few sherds of later prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval date.

Prehistoric

7.2.2 One sherd from Trench 5 (context **503**) has been dated as later prehistoric, although undiagnostic. This sherd is in a coarse fabric tempered with crushed shelly limestone. In the absence of diagnostic features, the sherd can only be tentatively dated on fabric grounds, and may be Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age. The sherd is heavily abraded and it likely to be redeposited in this context.

Romano-British

- 7.2.3 Coarsewares predominate, and these include sandy greywares and oxidised wares, as well as grog-tempered wares, the latter used primary for thick-walled storage jars (a large part of one of these came from context **1503**); while the sandy wares supplied jars of smaller sizes, as well as bowls/dishes. None of these forms are closely datable. Also amongst the coarsewares are sherds of south-east Dorset Black Burnished ware (BB1), occurring here in jar and straight-sided 'dog dish' forms, none likely to date prior to the 2nd century AD.
- 7.2.4 Finewares are represented by two sherds from a South Gaulish form 18R platter, dating to the later 1st century AD (context **1505**); one sherd of Central Gaulish samian, probably from a platter form (18/31R or 31) of 2nd century AD date (context **1319**); one sherd of Oxfordshire colour coated ware from the same context (later 3rd or 4th century AD); and a sherd from a New Forest parchment ware mortarium (context **1304**), also belonging to the late 3rd or 4th century AD.
- 7.2.5 There are also seven sherds of Spanish Dressel 20 amphorae (contexts **1310** and **1319**), with a date range of 1st to 3rd centuries AD.
- 7.2.6 Sherds of Romano-British pottery were found in all 11 of the trenches to produce finds, although just under half of the total (66 sherds) came from a single trench (Trench 15).

Medieval and Post-Medieval

7.2.7 Two sherds are of medieval date, one from Trench 4 (topsoil **400**) and one from Trench 12 (context **1205**). Both are of the same type – a coarseware containing mixed flint and calcareous inclusions, and belonging to a widespread ceramic tradition of 'Kennet Valley-type wares', extending in distribution across north-east Wiltshire and west Berkshire.



These wares have a lengthy currency, but these sherds are most likely to date to the 11th or 12th century.

7.2.8 One post-medieval sherd was recovered, from Trench 16 (context **1605**); this is a coarse redware with internal glaze, not closely datable within the period.

7.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

7.3.1 Although only nine pieces of CBM can be assigned to specific brick/tile types (six fragments of box flue tile, two *tegulae*, and one possible *imbrex*), all of the CBM can be dated with reasonable certainty as Romano-British on the grounds of fabric – all pieces are in relatively soft-fired, fine- to medium-grained sandy fabrics. Most pieces came from Trenches 13 and 15, with one found in Trench 14.

7.4 Other Finds

7.4.1 Other finds comprise small quantities of animal bone (including cattle, horse and sheep/goat); iron (six nails; two strip fragments); fired clay (undiagnostic fragments of uncertain origin) and building stone (sandstone and limestone roofing slabs). None of these finds are chronologically distinctive, although all are assumed to be Romano-British on the basis of associated finds.

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

	Animal				
Context	Bone	СВМ	Iron	Pottery	Other Finds
0305				1/3	
0309			1/5	9/50	
0311				4/52	
0400				1/7	
0503				1/6	
1205				1/8	
1300				4/34	
1304				1/52	
1310		2/170		4/79	
1312		1/139		1/4	1 stone
1319	1/55	13/932	1/7	28/1467	
1321			1/21		
1403	1/23	1/55		8/44	2 fired clay
1501		1/48		1/2	1 slag
1503		18/2410		35/1606	
1504				2/28	
1505		3/511	1/10	10/93	
1506	5/47		3/29	15/78	1 fired clay; 7 stone
1507		3/34		2/10	-
1509				1/5	
1519			1/5		
1605				1/14	
1706	4/84			1/5	
1821	1/33			2/6	
1903				1/5	
TOTALS	12/242	42/4299	8/77	134/3658	



8 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 Due to the waterlogged ground conditions and the good dating evidence that was recovered from archaeological features it was agreed with WCAS at the Site monitoring meeting that environmental samples would not be required to be taken at this stage of evaluation work.

9 DISCUSSION

9.1 Discussion and conclusions

- 9.1.1 The evaluation has been successful in characterising the archaeological nature of the Site and in showing that there is overall a high potential for the survival and presence of significant archaeological features and deposits across the Site. Three areas of high archaeological potential have been identified as a result of the trial trench evaluation; Area 1 is centred on Trench 3, Area 2 centred on Trenches 13, 14 and 17-19 and Area 3 centred upon Trench 15. The evaluation was able to establish that there was the potential for significant Romano-British remains present, with almost all the finds recovered dating to the this period.
- 9.1.2 The evaluation has also been able to establish the accuracy of the geophysical survey and, areas indicated to contain high concentrations of archaeology did correspondingly. However in these areas of high archaeological potential more archaeological features were present than expected. The only notable exception to the results expected was a concentration of archaeological features centre around Trenches 17-19 and the lack of features within Trench 24. Trench 24 was shown within the geophysical survey to contain a large ring ditch however no evidence of this feature was found upon excavation, although an undated ditch was found within the trench.
- 9.1.3 Area 1 centred upon Trench 3 was shown to have a high archaeological potential and confirmed the geophysical results establishing the presence of two large parallel boundary ditches running in an east to west direction, and a possible sub rectangular enclosure towards the northern end of the trench dating to the Romano-British period. The trench also produced a number of pits potentially of similar date to the surrounding features. These features appear to be a continuation of anomalies that are present in fields to the east at South Marston Farm, outside the boundary of the Site.
- 9.1.4 Within Area 2 what appears to be a large Romano-British occupation spread was found running throughout trenches 13 and 14, The occupation spread included a deposit of stone within it, which could be remnants of an insitu wall, and a quantity of Romano-British pottery and C.B.M, including box flue tile, which may suggest that there is a high status Roman building, such as a villa within the near vicinity. The northern end of Trench 13 also showed potential evidence of a ring gully with internal postholes. To the south, within Trenches 17 to 19 a high concentration of potential pits was uncovered as well as boundary ditches and a further possible ring gully with internal post holes within trench 18. Due to flooding only a few of these features could be archaeologically investigated, however a quantity of Romano-British pottery recovered from the surface of the unexcavated features, indicates that associated activity continues into this part of the Site.
- 9.1.5 The evaluation established a concentration of Romano-British archaeological features within Trench 15 (Area 3), and confirmed the presence of a possible ring ditch as highlighted by the geophysics. The ring ditch contained a significant quantity of Romano-British finds, within its uppermost fill. A series of ditches were also present within the



trench that may form part of a field system or occupation features associated with the ring ditch. A potential Romano-British occupation spread was found within the southern end of the trench, although this could also be the uppermost fill of a ditch as indicated on the geophysical survey, which has become ill defined as a result of intensive modern day ploughing.

- 9.1.6 A number of isolated periphery features were located outside of these three core areas and the archaeological potential for these areas seems low, including the presence of any archaeological features within the blueprint of the former Farm building around Trench 26. A potential second ring ditch within the footprint of Trench 24 could not be identified during excavation.
- 9.1.7 In light of the pottery evidence, the archaeological features revealed seem to date predominantly to the 2nd 4th centuries AD. Apart from one undiagnostic Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery sherd from a gully within Trench 5 there is no other evidence for archaeological features that pre-date the Romano-British period. This indicates that the Romano-British activity that developed at the Site was not a continuation of an early period. However, based on evidence from other work carried out in the vicinity of the Site it could have developed out of Iron Age settlement and activity in the wider area.
- 9.1.8 The evidence from the Site may be an indication of the development of the Romano-British rural hinterland from the second century onwards in association with the development of the Roman town of Durocornovium (Wanborough) to the south. The evidence of box flue tiles may also indicate that a high status Romano-British building, such as a villa may be present somewhere within the vicinity of the Site and that the archaeological features uncovered relate to farming and settlement associated with a Roman villa farming landscape.
- 9.1.9 The evidence from the evaluation also suggests there was no continuation of occupation or settlement after the post-Romano-British period and since then up to the modern day period the Site has most probably remained as open fields in agricultural use.

10 STORAGE AND CURATION

10.1 Museum

10.1.1 It is proposed in principle that, subject to the wishes of the landowner and/or client, the entire archive (including the finds) will be deposited with Swindon Museum and Art Gallery. Provision has been made for the cost of long term storage in the post-fieldwork costs.

10.2 Archive contents

- 10.2.1 The project archive, consisting of one A4 ring binder, with context sheets, section plans, photo registers, and day book entries, is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology at Old Sarum, Salisbury, Wiltshire, under Wessex Archaeology project number 88290.
- 10.2.2 The archive will be prepared for long-term storage in accordance with the specific guidelines of the receiving museum, as well as nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; Richards and Robinson 2000; SMA 1995; Walker 1990).



10.3 Discard Policy

- 10.3.1 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, no discard is anticipated; the whole material archive should be retained for long-term curation.
- 10.3.2 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.

10.4 Copyright

10.4.1 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 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-profit making, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003

10.5 Security Copy

10.5.1 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 Monuments Record Centre (Swindon); a second diazo copy will be deposited with the paper records at the Museum, and a third diazo copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology. Alternatively, the security copy may be in the form of a pdf file.

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12 APPENDICES

12.1 Appendix 1:Trench Summary Tables

Trench 1	Dimensions :	50m x 2.	1m x 0.30m	Top of trench maOD		102.31m E 103.64m W
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
100	Layer - Topsoil		Mid- dark gre	ey brown silty clay.		0.00 - 0.27m
101	Layer - Natural		Light grey br	own yellow slightly silty	clay.	0.27m+
102	Cut - Ditch		terminated to result of trun sides and sli measured 1. and 0.12m in	ned shallow ditch. Possible SW, although may be a cation. Shallow concave ghtly concave base, 28m wide by 0.82m+ lored depth. Undated possiblery or enclosure ditch.	a : ng	0.27m+
103	Fill (of 103)		sole fill of dit	ow slightly silty clay forn ch. Probable secondary gradual natural silting.		0.27m+

Trench 2	Dimensions :	50m x 2.	.1m x 0.7m	Top of trench maOD		102.09m NE 102.28m SW
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
200	Layer - Topsoil		Mid- dark gre rare stones <	ey brown silty clay loam 30mm.	with	0.00 - 0.30m
201	Layer - Subsoil		0 0	ey brown silty clay with tones <40mm.		0.30 - 0.60m
202	Layer - Natural		Light grey br stones <50m	own silty clay with comn ım.	non	0.60m+
203	Cut - Pit?		terminus run south. Mode and a flattish	ed pit or possible ditch ning under edge of trend rately sloped straight sid base, measured 0.94m 8m in width by 0.13m in	es + in	0.60m+
204	Fill (of 203)		stones formi	wn silty clay with occasion ong sole fill of possible pit condary fill derived from ral silting.		0.60m+

Trench 3	Dimensions :	50m x 2.1m x 0.38m	Top of trench maOD	103.01m 102.04m	
Context	Category	Description		Depth B0	GL
301	Layer - Topsoil	Mid grey bro stones <30n	own silty clay with occasionm.	onal 0.00 - 0.2	:5m
302	Layer - Subsoil		ellow silty clay. Deposit routhern end of trench.	0.25 -0.38	3m
303	Layer - Natural	Slightly silty	Slightly silty brown yellow clay.		
304	Cut - Pit		low concave sides and fl ured 1m in diameter by 0		



305	Fill (of 304)	Mid- dark grey brown silty clay with rare stones <40mm. Possible secondary fill derived from gradual natural silting.	0.38m+
306	Cut - Ditch	E-W aligned ditch with straight, moderately sloped sides and concave base. Measuring 2.1m+ in length by 2.5m in width by 0.48m in depth. Possible undated field boundary.	0.38m+
307	Fill (of 306)	Mid grey brown silty clay with very rare stones <20mm. Sole fill of ditch. Probable secondary fill derived from gradual natural silting.	0.38m+
308	Cut - Ditch	Large unexcavated, E-W aligned ditch. Measuring 2.1m+ in length by 4m in width.	0.38m+
309	Fill (of 308)	Mid grey brown silty clay with rare poorly sorted stones <90mm. Unexcavated upper fill of ditch. Possible secondary fill.	0.38m+
310	Cut – Ditch	E-W aligned small ditch or gully. Moderately shallow convex sides and a concave base. Measured 2.1m+ in length by 0.52m in width by 0.2m in depth.	0.38m+
311	Fill (of 310)	Mid grey brown silty clay forming sole fill of ditch. Probable secondary fill derived from gradual natural silting.	0.38m+
312	Cut - Pit?	Unexcavated feature. Possible pit or tree throw. Continues under eastern edge of trench. Measured 1.17m by 0.3m+.	0.38m+
313	Fill (of 312)	Mid grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature. Possible secondary fill.	0.38m+
314	Cut - Ditch	Unexcavated feature. Possible NNE-SSW aligned ditch terminating to north, and intercut with ditch [308] to south. Measured 2.9m in length by 0.9m in width.	0.38m+
315	Fill (of 314)	Mid grey brown silty clay with occasional stones <30mm. Unexcavated upper fill of feature. Possible secondary fill.	0.38m+
316	Cut - Pit?	Unexcavated feature. Possible pit or tree throw. Continues under eastern edge of trench. Measured 1.74m by 0.6m+.	0.38m+
317	Fill (of 316)	Mid grey brown silty clay with very rare stones <70mm. Unexcavated upper fill of feature. Possible secondary fill.	0.38m+
318	Cut - Pit?	Unexcavated feature. Possible pit or tree throw. Continues under eastern edge of trench. Measured 1.6m by 0.9m+.	0.38m+
319	Fill (of 318)	Mid grey brown silty clay with very rare stone <70mm. Unexcavated upper fill of feature. Possible secondary fill.	0.38m+



320	Cut - Posthole	Unexcavated feature. Sub-circular in plan, running under eastern edge of trench. Measured 0.65m by 0.45m+.	0.38m+
321	Fill (of 320)	Mid grey brown silty clay with very rare stone <40mm. Unexcavated upper fill of feature. Possible secondary fill.	0.38m+
322	Cut - Posthole	Unexcavated feature. Unexcavated feature. Sub-circular in plan, running under eastern edge of trench. Measured 0.64m by 0.58m+.	0.38m+
323	Fill (of 322)	Mid grey brown silty clay with very rare stone <40mm. Unexcavated upper fill of feature. Possible secondary fill.	0.38m+

Trench 4	Dimensions :	50m x 2.1m x 0.48	Top of trench maOD	101.29m E 102.07m W
Context	Category	Descript	on	Depth BGL
400	Layer - Topsoil	•	grey brown silty clay loam al stones <40mm.	with 0.00 - 0.36m
401	Layer - Natural		brown silty clay with frequution of the commodity of the	ent 0.36m+

Trench 5	Dimensions :	50m x 2	.1m x 0.48m	Top of trench maOD		100.52m E 101.19m W
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
500	Layer - Topsoil		Mid- dark gre common stor	ey brown silty clay loam nes <50mm.	with	0.00 - 0.40m
501	Layer - Natural		Light grey brown silty clay with frequent stones <100mm. Brash.		0.40m +	
502	Cut - Gully		N-S aligned shallow, poorly defined gully. Slightly curvilinear shape in plan, with concave, moderately shallow sides and a concave base. Measured 0.68m+ in length, by 0.36m in width by 0.14m in depth. Possibly terminated to south, though may have been truncated away. Possible remnant of field boundary or enclosure ditch, or may be a drip gully.			0.40m +
503	Fill (of 502)		Mid grey brown silty clay with common stones <40mm. Formed sole fill of gully. Probable secondary fill derived from gradual natural silting.			0.40m +

Trench 6	Dimensions :	50m x 2.1m x 0.50m		Top of trench maOD		99.45m NW 99.17m SE
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
600	Layer - Topsoil		Mid- dark gre common sto	ey brown silty clay loamnes <30mm.	with	0.00 - 0.40m
601	Layer - Natural		Light grey br stones <100	own silty clay with abund mm. Brash.	dant	0.40m+



Trench 7	Dimensions :	50m x 2.1m x 0.41m	Top of trench maOD	95.91m N 95.11m S
Context	Category	Description		Depth BGL
700	Layer - Topsoil		wn silty clay loam with tones <30mm.	0.00 - 0.31m
701	Layer - Natural	Light grey br stones <80m	own silty clay with occas nm.	sional 0.31m+

Trench 8	Dimensions :	50m x 2.1m x 0.40m		Top of trench maOD		96.11m E 95.78m W
Context	Category	D	Description			Depth BGL
800	Layer - Topsoil			ey brown silty clay loam v nes <30mm.	with	0.00 - 0.38m
801	Layer - Natural		ight grey brotones <100	own silty clay with abund mm. Brash.	dant	0.38m+

Trench 9	Dimensions :	50m x 2.	.1m x 0.55m	Top of trench maOD		96.20m NE 95.42m SW
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
900	Layer - Topsoil			Mid- dark grey brown silty clay loam with common stones <30mm.		0.00 - 0.45m
901	Layer - Natural			Light grey brown silty clay with abundant stones <50mm. Brash.		0.45m+
902	Cut - Pit?		Possible pit or ditch terminus. Unexcavated due to trench flooding. Continued under south east edge of trench. Measured 0.65m+ in length by 1.24m in width.			0.45m+
903	Fill (of 902)		Mid- dark grey brown silty clay with occasional stones <30mm. Unexcavated upper fill of possible pit.		0.45m+	

Trench 10	Dimensions :	50m x 2.	.1m x 0.52m	Top of trench maOD		100.20m N 99.06m S
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
1000	Layer - Topsoil			ghtly reddish brown silty casional stones <40mm		0.00 - 0.40m
1001	Layer - Subsoil		Mid red brown silty clay loam with occasional stones <50mm.			0.40 - 0.52m
1002	Layer - Natural		Light grey br stones <200	own silty clay with abund mm. Brash.	dant	0.52m+

Trench 11	Dimensions :	50m x 2.1m x 0.50m	Top of trench maOD		96.38m N 95.83m S
Context	Category	Description	1		Depth BGL
1101	Layer - Topsoil		Mid grey brown silty clay with common stone <40mm.		
1102	Layer - Subsoil		Mid yellow red brown silty clay loam with common stone <40mm.		0.32 - 0.48m
1103	Layer - Natural	Light grey b stones <200	rown silty clay with abund Imm. Brash.	dant	0.48m+



1104	Cut - Ditch	E-W aligned ditch with moderately sloped concave sides and a flattish base. Measured 2.1m+ in length by 2.14m in width by 0.38m in depth. Possible drainage ditch or field boundary.	0.48m+
1105	Fill (of 1104)	Mid grey and light brown clay with light grey silty clay. Occasional stones <30mm. Sole fill of ditch, probable secondary fill.	0.48m+
1106	Cut - Gully	NE-SW aligned gully with moderate to steep concave sides and concave base. Measured 2.2m+ by 0.5m by 0.2m. Undated.	0.48m+
1107	Fill (of 1106)	Mid grey brown silty clay with rare stones <30mm. Sole fill of gully. Probable secondary fill.	0.48m+
1108	Cut - Gully?	Unexcavated gully. E-W aligned, appeared to terminate to east. Measured 1.57m+ by 0.68m.	0.48m+
1109	Fill (of 1108)	Mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small stones. Unexcavated upper fill of gully. Possible secondary fill.	0.48m+
1110	Cut - Tree Throw	Unexcavated feature. Irregularly shaped in plan. Measured 2.6m by 1.5m+.	0.48m+
1111	Fill (of 1110)	Mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small stones. Mixed appearance. Unexcavated upper fill of tree throw.	

Trench 12	Dimensions :	50m x 2	.1m x 0.45m	Top of trench maOD		97.15m NW 96.99m SE
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
1200	Layer - Topsoil			ghtly reddish brown silty equent stones <40mm.	clay	0.00 - 0.22m
1201	Layer - Subsoil		Mid red brow frequent stor	vn silty clay loam with nes <30mm.		0.22 - 0.32m
1202	Layer - Natural		0 0 ,	Light grey brown silty clay loam with abundant stone <100mm. Brash.		0.32m+
1203	Cut - Pit		Very shallow sub-circular cut measuring 0.46m in diameter by 0.05m in depth. Concave, shallow sloped sides and a flattish base. Contained a single fill composed of burnt material. No evidence of in-situ burning. Possible undated		0.32m+	
1204	Fill (of 1203)		rubbish pit. Very dark grey brown to black silty clay with a slightly mixed appearance. Very diffuse interface with underlying natural. Sole fill of shallow pit, likely representing a deliberate dump of burnt waste material.		0.32m+	



Trench 13	Dimensions :	50m x 2	.1m x 0.47m	Top of trench		93.38m N 92.48m S
Context	Category		Description		Depth BGL	
1300	Layer - Topsoil			ey brown silty clay loam.		0.00 - 0.23m
1301	Layer - Subsoil		Light- mid gr	Light- mid grey brown slightly silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and rare		0.23 - 0.45
1302	Layer - Natural		stones <30m		е	0.45m+
1303	Cut - Gully			ned gully, terminating to Measured 1.25m+ by 0.2 d feature.	25m.	0.45m+
1304	Fill (of 1303)			ey brown silty clay. Prob I. Unexcavated.	able	0.45m+
1305	Cut - Posthole			cut measuring 0.25m in excavated feature.		0.45m+
1306	Fill (of 1305)			ey brown silty clay. Prob I. Unexcavated.	able	0.45m+
1307	Cut - Posthole		Sub-circular cut measuring 0.35m in diameter. Unexcavated feature.		0.45m+	
1308	Fill (of 1307)		Light-mid grey brown silty clay. Probable secondary fill. Unexcavated.		0.45m+	
1309	Cut - Gully		ENE-WSW aligned curvilinear gully. Measured 2.1m+ by 0.25m. Unexcavated feature.		0.45m+	
1310	Fill (of 1309)		Mid grey brown silty clay. Probable secondary fill. Unexcavated.		0.45m+	
1311	Cut - Ditch?			, irregularly shaped linea sured 2.1m+ by 1.2m. d feature.	ar	0.45m+
1312	Fill (of 1311)		common larg			0.45m+
1313	Cut - Posthole			cut measuring 0.45m in excavated feature.		0.45m+
1314	Fill (of 1313)			ey brown silty clay. Prob I. Unexcavated.	able	0.45m+
1315	Cut - Posthole			cut measuring 0.25m in excavated feature.		0.45m+
1316	Fill (of 1315)		Light-mid grey brown silty clay. Probable secondary fill. Unexcavated.		able	0.45m+
1317	Cut - Gully		ENE-WSW aligned curvilinear gully. Measured 2.1m+ by 0.4m. Unexcavated feature.		0.45m+	
1318	Fill (of 1317)			wn silty clay. Probable I. Unexcavated.		0.45m+



1319	Layer - Occupation Deposit	Very dark grey brown to black silty clay. Mixed appearance. Common charcoal flecks. Incorporated CBM and pottery. Likely composed of burnt and/or organic waste material accumulated from occupation. Extensive layer measuring 23m+ in length and 2.1m+ in width. A thickness of circa 0.1m- 0.15m was suggested by tearing of deposit during machining. Unexcavated due to complexity of archaeology.	0.45m+
1320	Wall?	Possible E-W aligned wall. Consisted of a well defined, 1.2m wide concentration of stone running across the width of the trench. May have been partially disturbed by ploughing or insertion of field drain to west. No mortar observed. Stones appeared to be un-worked, light blue grey or grey, fine grained, possible sarsen, of various, poorly sorted sizes up to circa 0.3m diameter. Unexcavated due to complexity of archaeology.	0.45m+
1321	Layer - Occupation Deposit	Dark grey brown gritty clay silt. Similar to (1319) though somewhat lighter and more grey, with a grittier texture. Likely composed of burnt and/or organic waste material accumulated from occupation. Measured 2.1m+ by 4.8m+. Unexcavated due to complexity of archaeology.	0.45m+

Trench 14	Dimensions :	50m x 2	1m x 0.52m Top of trench maOD		94.36m N 93.36m S
Context	Category		Description		Depth BGL
1400	Layer - Topsoil		Mid- dark gre	ey brown silty clay loam.	0.00 - 0.26m
1401	Layer - Subsoil			ey brown silty clay with harcoal flecks.	0.26 - 0.42m
1402	Layer - Natural		Light grey yellow clay with rare stones <30mm.		0.52m+
1403	Layer - Occupat Deposit	Very with a layer Very and i appe overl Unex 0.1m depo		ey brown to black silty classified the charcoal flecks. Extensite throughout base of treato (1319). Somewhat this ent, with a mixed and diffuse interfaces will underlying deposits. It does not although, a thickness of served during tearing of the december of the control of th	sive nch. n ith 0.42 - 0.52m of c.



Trench 15	Dimensions :	50m x 2	.1m x 0.50m	Top of trench maOD		95.21m N 94.63m S
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
1501	Layer - Topsoil		Mid grey brown silty clay with occasional stones <60mm.		0.00 - 0.32m	
1502	Layer - Natural		Light yellow	brown to yellow silty clay	у.	0.41m+
1503	Fill (of 1524)		occasional c appearance. and pottery a flat, un-work laid flat on to not appear to due to comp	ey brown clay silt with harcoal flecks. Mixed Contained common CB and several moderately led stones. The stones was of the deposit, though to be structural. Unexcav lexity of archaeology.	large /ere did	
1504	Layer - Occupati Deposit	ayer - Occupation Deposit		own silt clay loam with nes <200mm. Occasion ks. Mixed appearance. er of accumulated occup umped waste incorporationlition rubble. Unexcav	ation ting	
1505	Fill (of 1510)		Dark grey br mottled, mixe stones <100 flecks. Possi slumped into			
1506	Fill (of 1521)		Dark grey br mottles. Occ <180mm. Pr			
1507	Fill (of 1520)		Mid- dark ora with sparse s secondary fil			
1508	Cut - Gully		_	ned possible curvilinear quasured 0.64m+ by 0.4m		
1509	Fill (of 1508)		stones <30m	wn silty clay with occasi nm. Probable secondary	fill.	
1510	Cut - Ditch		Convex, mod	ed moderately large ditor derately sloped sides an e. Possible enclosure di	d a	
1511	Fill (of 1510)		Light grey ye deposited na deliberate ba			
1512	Fill (of 1510)		Light blue grey slightly silty clay. Slight gleyed appearance. Common snail shells, very rare charcoal flecks and occasional stones <30mm. Possible largely waterlain secondary or alluvial fill.			
1513	Fill (of 1510)			ellow slightly silty clay. V <40mm and charcoal fle		



1514	Fill (of 1510)	Light grey yellow slightly silty clay. Very rare stones <40mm and charcoal flecks. Primary fill.	
1515	Cut - Posthole	Small sub-oval well defined posthole with concave moderately sloped sides and concave base. Measured 0.6m by 0.3m by 0.11m.	
1516	Fill (of 1515)	Mid-light grey clay. Probable secondary fill.	
1517	Fill (of 1525)	Dark grey brown silty clay loam. Possible secondary fill.	
1518	Layer - Occupation Deposit	Mid grey brown silty clay with occasional stones <50mm. Possible layer associated with occupation, though may be a fill of a cut feature. Unexcavated due to complexity of archaeology.	
1519	Fill (of 1523)	Very dark grey brown clay silt. Possible dump layer forming unexcavated upper fill of ditch.	
1520	Cut - Ditch	NE-SW aligned broad shallow ditch. Moderately sloped concave sides and flat base. Measured 2m+ by 1.3m by 0.09m. Possible enclosure or drainage ditch.	
1521	Cut - Ditch	E-W aligned ditch with concave moderately sloped sides and a concave base. Measured 0.9m+ by 0.7m by 0.24m. Possible enclosure or drainage ditch.	
1522	Layer - Subsoil	Light-mid grey brown silt clay loam. Intermittent deposit.	0.32 - 0.41m
1523	Cut - Ditch	E-W aligned possible ditch terminating to east. Measured 2m+ by 1m. Unexcavated due to complexity of archaeology.	
1524	Cut – Linear Feature	Unexcavated curvilinear feature measuring 2.1m+ by 0.7m.	
1525	Cut - Posthole	Unexcavated possible sub-circular posthole intercut with [1524]. Measured 0.5m in diameter.	
1526	Fill (of 1527)	Mid brown silty clay with occasional stones <30mm. Possible secondary fill. Unexcavated.	
1527	Cut - Ditch	E-W aligned ditch or gully measuring 2.1m+ by 0.26m. Unexcavated.	
1528	Fill (of 1529)	Mid grey yellow silty clay with occasional stones <30mm. Possible secondary fill. Unexcavated.	
1529	Cut - Ditch	E-W aligned ditch measuring 2.1m+ by 1.04m. Unexcavated.	
1530	Fill (of 1531)	Light grey brown silty clay with occasional stones <70mm. Possible secondary fill. Unexcavated.	



1531 Cut - Ditch	E-W aligned ditch measuring 2.1m+ by		
1551	Cut - Ditch	1.9m. Unexcavated.	

Trench 16	Dimensions :	50m x 2.	.1m x 0.50m	Top of trench maOD		96.47m NE 96.02m SW
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
1601	Layer - Topsoil		Mid greyish I stones <40m	orown silty clay with freq nm.	uent	0.00 - 0.30m
1602	Layer - Subsoil			Mid yellow red brown silty clay loam with common stones <40mm.		
1603	Layer - Natural		Light grey brown silty clay with abundant stones <200mm.			0.46m+
1604	Cut - Ditch		E-W aligned shallow ditch or possible hedgerow. Slightly irregular and shallow concave sides and a flattish base. Measured 1m+ in length by 0.86m in width by 0.06m in depth.			0.5-0.56m
1605	Fill (of 1604)		Mid grey brown silty clay with occasional stones <30mm. Probable secondary fill derived from gradual natural silting.			0.5-0.56m
1606	Land Drain		Land drain ruditch [1604].	unning along the length o	of	0.5m+

Trench 17	Dimensions :	50m x 2	.1m x 0.60m	Top of trench maOD		92.62m N 92.24m S
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
1700	Layer - Topsoil		Mid- dark gre	ey brown silty clay loam.		0.00 - 0.25m
1701	Layer - Subsoil		Light- mid gr	ey brown silty clay.		0.25 - 0.52m
1702	Layer - Natural		Light yellow interface with	brown silty clay. Diffuse n natural.		0.52m+
1703	Cut - Ditch		WNW-ESE aligned ditch measuring 2m+ in length by 0.5m in width. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.			0.52m+
1704	Fill (of 1703)		Light-mid grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of ditch. Probable secondary fill derived from gradual natural silting.		able	0.52m+
1705	Cut - Ditch		NW-SE aligned ditch measuring length by 0.5m in width. Unexcardue to trench flooding.			0.52m+
1706	Fill (of 1705)		Light-mid grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of ditch. Probable secondary fill derived from gradual natural silting.		0.52m+	

Trench 18	Dimensions :	50m x 2.1m x 0.60m		Top of trench maOD	93.59m NE 92.70m SW
Context	Category		Description		Depth BGL
1800	Layer - Topsoil		Mid- dark gre	ey brown silty clay loam.	0.00 - 0.24m
1801	Layer - Subsoil		Light- mid gr	ey brown silty clay.	0.24 - 0.58m
1802	Layer - Natural		Light grey ye	ellow slightly silty clay.	0.58m+



1803	Cut - Pit?	Possible sub-circular pit or tree throw running under baulk. Measured 1.94m by 1.02m+. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+
1804	Fill (of 1803)	Light grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+
1805	Cut	Possible pit, tree throw or ditch terminus. Aligned N-S, runs under baulk to southeast. Measured 1.14m by 0.56m. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+
1806	Fill (of 1805)	Light grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+
1807	Cut - Pit?	Possible sub-circular pit or tree throw running under baulk to north-west. Measured 2.37m by 0.96m. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+
1808	Fill (of 1807)	Light grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+
1809	Cut - Pit?	Possible sub-oval pit or tree throw running under baulk to south-east. Measured 3.24m by 1.15m+. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+
1810	Fill (of 1809)	Light grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+
1811	Cut - Pit	Large sub-circular feature running under north-west edge of trench. Measured 3.71m by 1.9m+. Possible large pit, waterhole or quarry pit. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+
1812	Fill (of 1811)	Light-mid grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+
1813	Cut - Pit?	Possible NW-SE pit or ditch terminus running under baulk. Measured 0.45m by 0.46m+. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+
1814	Fill (of 1813)	Light-mid grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+
1815	Cut - Pit?	Possible sub-circular pit continuing under north west edge of trench. Measured 1.49m by 0.6m+. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+
1816	Fill (of 1815)	Light-mid grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+
1817	Cut - Gully	Curvilinear gully aligned from north-west to south. Measured 2.17m by 0.24m. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+
1818	Fill (of 1817)	Mid grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+
1819	Cut - Ditch	E-W aligned ditch. Measured 11.94m+ by 0.97m. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+



1820	Fill (of 1819)	Light-mid grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+
1821	Cut Posthole	Small sub-circular feature. Measured 0.25m in diameter. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+
1822	Fill (of 1821)	Mid grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+
1823	Cut Posthole	Small sub-circular feature. Measured 0.35m in diameter. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+
1824	Fill (of 1823)	Mid grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+
1825	Cut	Irregularly shaped feature aligned NE-SW. Possible pit or tree throw, measured 2.58m by 1.03m. Unexcavated due to trench flooding.	0.58m+
1826	Fill (of 1825)	Light-mid grey brown silty clay. Unexcavated upper fill of feature.	0.58m+

Trench 19	Dimensions :	50m x 2	.1m x 0.41m	Top of trench maOD		93.60m NW 94.57m SE
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
1900	Layer - Topsoil		Mid grey bro	wn silt clay loam.		0.00 - 0.24m
1901	Layer - Natural		with topsoil.	ellow clay. Diffuse interfa		0.24m+
1902	Cut - Pit		concave side 1.2m in leng 0.21m in dep	Small sub-oval pit. Moderately shallow concave sides and flat base. Measured 1.2m in length by 0.74m in width by 0.21m in depth.		
1903	Fill (of 1902)			wn silty clay forming solo ble secondary fill derived ral silting.		0.24m+
1904	Cut - Ditch		Shallow N-S aligned ditch with straight moderately sloped sides and a concave base. Possible undated field boundary or enclosure ditch.			0.24m+
1905	Fill (of 1904)		Dark orange brown silty clay with rare stones <40mm. Sole fill of ditch. Probable secondary fill derived from gradual natural silting.			0.24m+
1906	Cut		a tree throw, intercutting p	larly shaped feature prol but could possibly bits. It measured 2.62m of the trench. Unexcavate ingress.	<	0.24m+
1907	Cut		Cut of irregularly shaped feature. It was possibly a tree throw or pit. It measured 2.25m (exposed) x 1.85m. It was not fully exposed and disappeared under the north east baulk of the trench. Feature not excavated due to water ingress.			0.24m+



1908	Cut	Cut of possible irregularly shaped gully or tree throw, the feature was only partially exposed and disappeared under the south west baulk of the trench. It measured 0.92m (exposed) x 0.69m. Feature not excavated due to water ingress.	0.24m+
1909	Cut	Cut of Irregularly shaped tree throw or pit. The feature was only partially exposed and disappeared under the north east section of the baulk. It measured 2.63m x 1.70m (exposed). The feature was not excavated due to water ingress.	0.24m+
1910	Fill (of 1906)	Mid grey brown silty clay no inclusions and no finds.	0.24m+
1911	Fill (of 1907)	Mid grey brown silty clay no inclusions and no finds.	0.24m+
1912	Fill (of 1908)	Mid grey brown silty clay no inclusions and no finds.	0.24m+
1913	Fill (of 1909)	Mid grey brown silty clay no inclusions and no finds.	0.24m+

Trench 20	Dimensions :	50m x 2.1m x 0.36m		Top of trench maOD		95.37m NE 94.24m SW
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
2000	Layer - Topsoil		Mid grey bro	wn silt clay loam.		0.00 - 0.22m
2001	Layer - Natural		Light grey ye with topsoil.	ellow clay. Diffuse interfa	ce	0.22m+

Trench 21	Dimensions :	50m x 2.1m x 0.4m		Top of trench maOD	95.75m N 95.53m S	
Context	Category	Description				Depth BGL
2100	Layer - Topsoil		Mid grey brown silty clay loam.			0.00 - 0.18m
2101	Layer - Subsoil		patches and	ellow clay with rare grey of yellow brown silty clay fuse interface with topsoi	•	0.18m+

Trench 22	Dimensions :	45m x 2.1n	n x 0.62m	Top of trench maOD		96.15m NE 96.10m SW
Context	Category	D	escription			Depth BGL
2200	Layer - Topsoil	M	lid grey bro	wn silty clay loam.		0.00 - 0.25m
2201	Layer - Subsoil?	fo P	Light- mid grey brown clay. Present only for 7m at north-eastern end of trench. Possibly represents the formation of a blough headland at field margin.			0.25 - 0.6m
2202	Layer - Natural	d: di	Light grey yellow clay with occasional darker greyish yellow patches. Deposit directly overlain by topsoil across most of the length of the trench.		0.6m+	



Trench 23	Dimensions :	50m x 2.	.1m x 0.8m	Top of trench maOD		92.05m NW 92.44m SE
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
2300	Layer - Topsoil		Mid- dark grey brown silty clay loam.		0.00 - 0.25m	
2301	Layer - Subsoil		Mid- light grey brown silty clay.		0.25 - 0.35m	
2302	Layer - Colluvium		Light grey brown silty clay with occasional stone <20mm. Very diffuse interfaces with overlying and underlying deposits.		0.35 - 0.7m	
2303	Layer - Natural		Light grey yellow silty clay with occasional blue grey and yellow patches.		0.7m+	

Trench 24	Dimensions :	50m x 2.	.1m x 0.96m	Top of trench maOD		96.23m N 94.95m S
Context	Category		Description		Depth BGL	
2400	Layer - Topsoil		Mid grey brown silty clay loam.		0.00 - 0.16m	
2401	Layer - Subsoil		Dark red brown silty clay with rare stones <40mm. Diffuse interfaces with overlying and underlying deposits.		0.16 - 0.38m	
2402	Layer - Colluvium		Mid orange brown silty clay with rare stones <40mm. Diffuse interfaces with overlying and underlying deposits.		0.38 - 0.78m	
2403	Layer - Natural		Light yellow brown silty clay with rare stones <50mm.		0.78m+	
2404	Cut - Ditch		E-W aligned ditch with straight moderately sloped sides. Measured 2m in length by 1.2m in width by 0.48m+ in depth. Not fully excavated due to flooding of trench. Undated possible field boundary or enclosure ditch.		0.78 - 1.26m	
2405	Fill (of 2404)		uppermost e	wn silty clay forming xcavated fill of ditch. condary fill derived from ral silting.		0.78 - 1.26m

Trench 25	Dimensions :	50m x 2	.1m x 0.85m	Top of trench maOD		96.44m NE 96.32m SW
Context	Category		Description			Depth BGL
2500	Layer - Topsoil		Mid grey brown silty clay loam.		0.00 - 0.22m	
2501	Layer - Subsoil		Light- mid yellow brown silty clay loam.		m.	0.22 - 0.54m
2502	Layer - Colluvium		Light yellow brown silty clay loam.		0.54 - 0.72m	
2503	Layer - Natural		Light grey yellow clay with occasional light yellow silty clay patches.		0.72m+	

Trench 26	Dimensions :	20m x 2.1m x 0.60m	Top of trench maOD	97.75m E 97.62m W
Context	Category	Description		Depth BGL
2601	Layer - Topsoil	Dark grey br stone <40mr	own silty clay with occas ท.	ional 0.00 - 0.36m
2602	Layer - Subsoil	Mid brown s	ilty clay.	0.36 - 0.50m



2603	Layer - Natural	Light yellow brown and mid- light grey brown silty clay with common stones <150mm.	0.50m+
2604	Cut - Posthole	Modern posthole measuring 0.4m in diameter. Unexcavated.	0.50m+
2605	Fill (of 2604)	Dark grey brown silty clay.	0.50m+
2606	Cut - Ditch	NE-SW aligned modern ditch measuring 5.58m in length. Unexcavated.	0.50m+
2607	Fill (of 2606)	Mid- dark grey brown silty clay.	0.50m+
2608	Cut - Posthole	Modern posthole measuring 0.37m in diameter. Unexcavated.	0.50m+
2609	Fill (of 2608)	Dark grey brown silty clay.	0.50m+



12.2 Appendix 2: OASIS form

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: **England**

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: wessexar1-141899

Project details

Project name Sevor Farm. South Marston, Swindon, Wiltshire

of the project

Short description Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by AEE Renewables UK 24 Limited (The Client) to undertake a trial trench evaluation on land at Sevor Farm, on land proposed for the construction of a Solar Farm. The evaluation identified a high potential for the survival and presence of archaeological features and deposits dating to the Romano-British period. Three areas of high archaeological potential were identifed; . Area 1 revealed the presence of two large parallel boundary ditches running in an east to west direction, and a possible sub rectangular enclosure towards the northern end of the trench dating to the Romano-British period, along with a number of pits potentially of similar date to the surrounding features. Area 2 revealed a Romano-British occupation spread with possible remnants of an insitu wall, and a quantity of Romano-British pottery and ceramic building material, including box flue tile, which may suggest that there is a high status Roman building, such as a villa within the near vicinity. There was also potential evidence of a ring gully with internal postholes. Within Trenches 17 to 19 a high concentration of potential pits was uncovered as well as boundary ditches and a further possible ring gully with internal post holes within trench 18. A concentration of Romano-British archaeological features were seen in Trench 15 (Area 3), and confirmed the presence of a possible ring ditch . The ring ditch contained a significant quantity of Romano-British finds. A series of ditches were also present within the trench that may form part of a field system or occupation features associated with the ring ditch. A potential Romano-British occupation spread was found within the southern end of the trench.

Start: 07-01-2013 End: 18-01-2013 Project dates

Previous/future

work

Yes / Not known

88290 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference

codes

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land

Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m

use

Monument type **DITCH Roman** Monument type PIT Roman

Monument type **OCCUPATION LAYER Roman** Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds POTTERY Early Iron Age

Significant Finds CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Roman

Significant Finds POTTERY Post Medieval Development Solar Farm Development

type

National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF Prompt

Position in the planning process Pre-application

Project location

Country England

Site location WILTSHIRE SWINDON SOUTH MARSTON SEvor Farm, South Marston,

Swindon, Wiltshire

Postcode SN3 4SL

Study area 24.00 Hectares Lat/Long Datum 364095, 143569

(other)

Height OD /

Min: 95.00m Max: 102.00m

Depth

Project creators

Name of Wessex Archaeology Organisation

Project brief originator

Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design originator

Wessex Archaeology

Project director/manager

Damian De Rosa

Project supervisor Simon Flaherty

Developer

Type of

sponsor/funding

body

Name of sponsor/funding

body

AEE Renewables UK 24 Limited

Project archives

recipient

Physical Archive SWINDON MUSEUM

"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Metal" Physical

Contents

Digital Archive

Wiltshire HER

recipient Digital Media

available

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

SWINDON MUSEUM

Paper Archive recipient

Paper Media available

"Context sheet", "Diary", "Drawing", "Notebook - Excavation', 'Research', 'General

Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title Sevor Farm, South Marston, Swindon, Wiltshire

Author(s)/Editor

(s)

Flaherty, S

Author(s)/Editor

(s)

De Rosa, D

Other

88290.03

bibliographic details

2013 Date

Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology

publication

Place of issue or Unpublished

Description

Standard Wessex Archaeology report in A4 format with 4 no A3 figures with

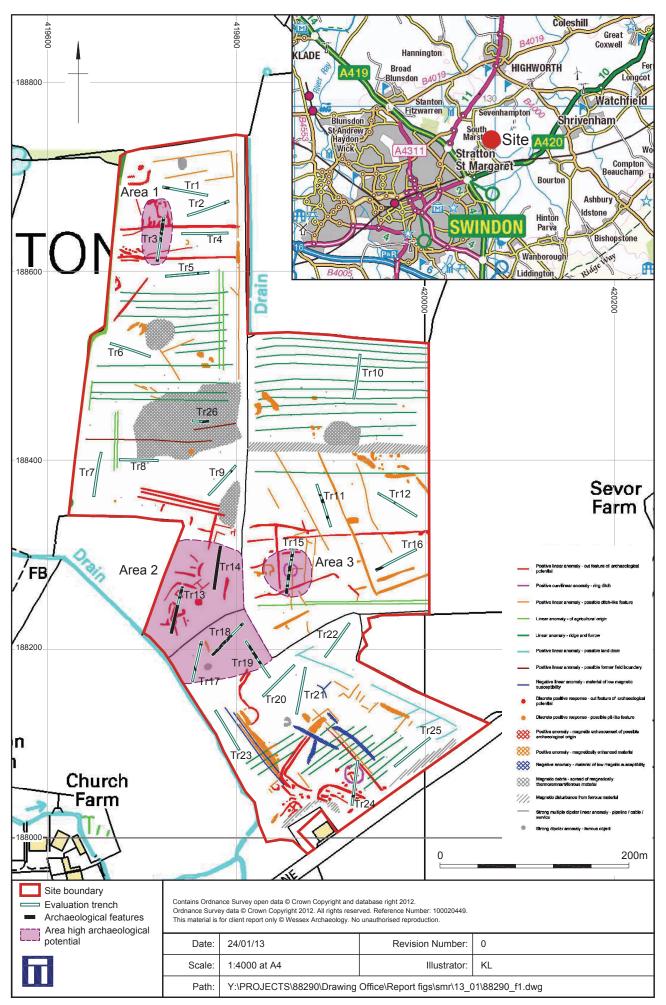
trench location, detail sections and plates

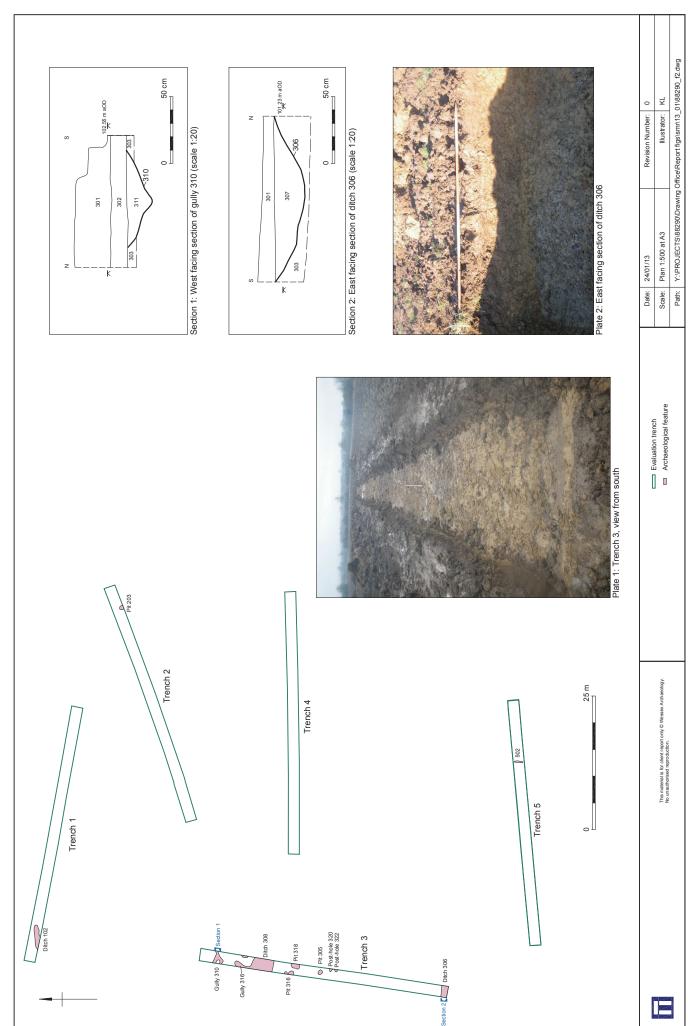
Entered by Damian De Rosa (d.derosa@wessexarch.co.uk)

Entered on 25 January 2013

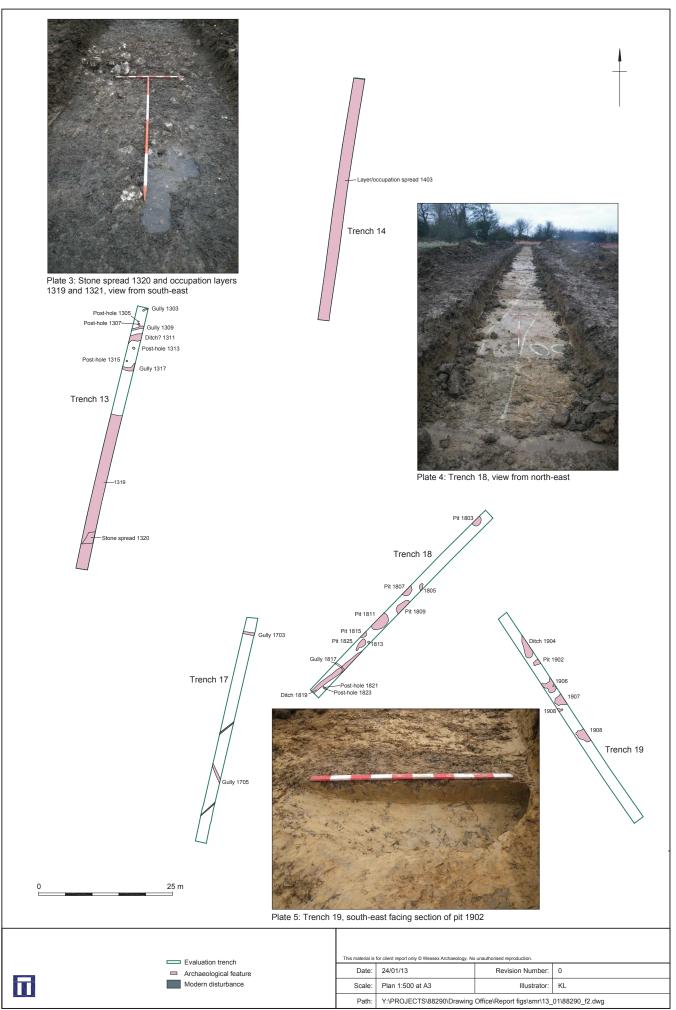
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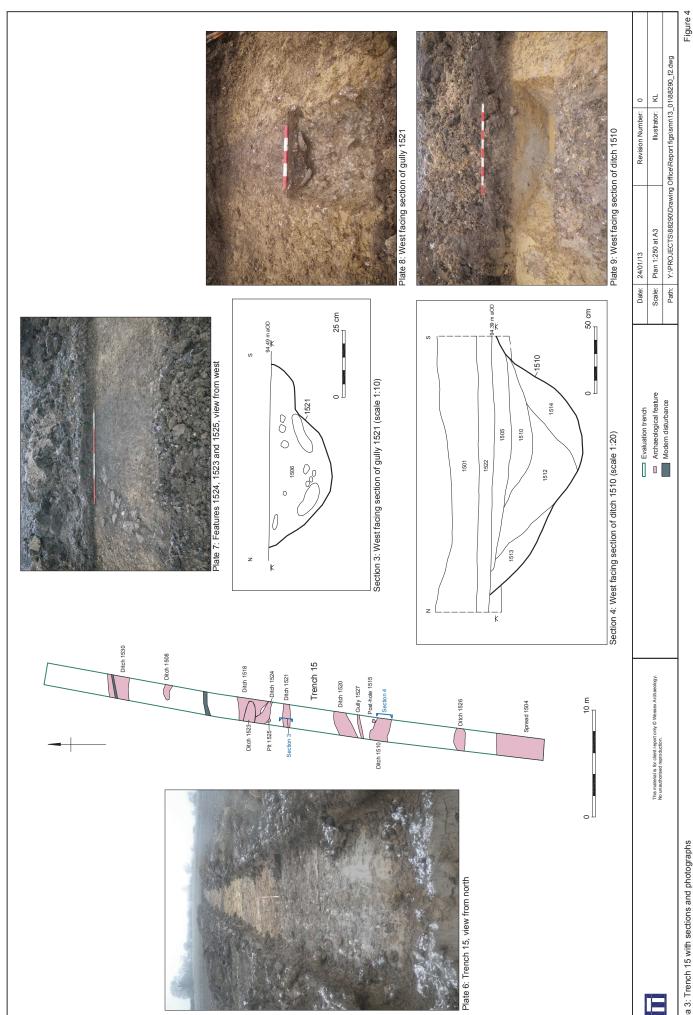
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Area 1: Trenches 1-5 with sections and photographs





Area 3: Trench 15 with sections and photographs







