



making sense of heritage

Lay Wood Devizes, Wiltshire



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Executive Summary

This report presents the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation undertaken by Wessex Archaeology in September 2013 on land adjacent to Lay Wood, Devizes, Wiltshire (NGR 402860, 162813) and was undertaken prior to the determination of an outline planning submission for a residential development.

The evaluation consisted of 28 trenches targeted on locations based on information from a Historic Environmental Report and a geophysical survey.

The investigations located the remains of a Roman villa with associated features, a further area of Romano-British activity and a number of other ditches thought to be former field boundaries. Modern made ground was found to be present in the north-western part of the Site and it has potentially truncated any archaeological remains.

At this stage, the potential of further analysis of the material collected is very limited. No recommendations for further analysis have been proposed for the pottery or environmental samples. However, if further work was undertaken, the results from this evaluation would both inform and need to be incorporated into any future work.



**Lay Wood
Devizes, Wiltshire**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by AMEC Environment & Infrastructure UK Limited (AMEC) on behalf of The Crown Estate to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Lay Wood, Devizes, Wiltshire (NGR 402860, 162813). An outline planning application has been submitted (reference 13/01243/OUT) for a residential development of up to 260 houses. The Assistant County Archaeologist (ACA) at Wiltshire Council (Rachel Foster) requested that an archaeological field evaluation should be undertaken prior to determination in order to confirm the presence or absence of archaeological remains and their relative significance.

The evaluation, consisting of 28 trenches, follows a Historic Environmental Report and a geophysical survey undertaken earlier this year (AMEC 2013a) and was undertaken between 2nd and 6th September 2013. This evaluation successfully characterised and identified the nature and extents of the archaeological potential of the Site.

No prehistoric features were located within the trenches although some residual finds were recovered suggesting activity within the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods.

Two distinct areas of Romano-British activity were identified on the Site. One area, centred on the western end of **Trench 23** in the south-western field, consisted of two ditches and a small pit and implies a region of Early Roman-British occupation focused to the west of the Site, the area now occupied by Northfields housing estate.

Within **Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14** was a concentration of Romano-British features indicating a range of buildings in this area, most probably a villa complex. This area of archaeological activity could be seen to be located on a slightly higher plateau within the field. Remaining structural remains indicate chalk built walls and also potentially more than one phase of construction. Evidence of a hypocaust system was identified in **Trenches 12 and 11**.

Indications from the finds assemblage are of activity from the 1st or 2nd century AD into the late 3rd or 4th century and suggest that the villa complex may span this date range. Despite the presence of a single fragment of vessel glass, some tesserae and the indications for a hypocaust system, there are no indications within the excavated deposits for this being a high status villa site. The pottery assemblage is dominated by local coarsewares with only a few sherds of imported and fineware fabrics.

A number of historic field boundaries were identified during the evaluation. Where investigated, the field boundary ditches were often shown to be wide but fairly shallow in depth in some places, suggestive of parallel ditches flanking a bank or hedgerow.

The western part of the Site appears to have been substantially disturbed in the late 1960s or early 1970s when a number of field boundaries were removed and the ground appears to have been truncated and then built up. The dates at which this occurs suggests it corresponds with the removal of the Prisoner of War camp and the subsequent construction of the County Council Depot immediately adjacent to the north-western boundary of the Site.



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The fieldwork was carried out by Naomi Brennan assisted by Ben Cullen, Daniel Connor, Ed Grenier, Natalia Hunt, Daniel Manson Sharman, Charlotte Tooze and Peter Wilson. This report was written and compiled by Naomi Brennan with specialist reports by Rachael Seager Smith (finds), Lorrain Higbee (animal bone), Sarah Wyles (environmental) and illustrations by Rob Goller. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Caroline Budd.



Lay Wood Devizes, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by AMEC Environment & Infrastructure UK Limited (AMEC) ('the Client') on behalf of The Crown Estate to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Lay Wood, Devizes, Wiltshire, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 402860, 162813 (hereafter referred to as the 'the Site') (**Figure 1**). An outline planning application has been submitted (reference 13/01243/OUT) for a residential development of up to 260 houses, a new access from Horton Road to the north and extensive open space and landscaping (including the retention of Lay Wood).
- 1.1.2 A response to the outline planning application in July 2013 from the Assistant County Archaeologist (ACA) at Wiltshire Council (Rachel Foster) requested that an archaeological field evaluation should be undertaken prior to determination in order to confirm the presence or absence of archaeological remains and their relative significance.
- 1.1.3 This evaluation, consisting of 28 trenches, follows a Historic Environmental Report and a geophysical survey undertaken earlier this year (AMEC 2013a).
- 1.1.4 The evaluation was undertaken between 2nd and 6th September 2013.

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The Site is situated on the north-eastern side of the town of Devizes in Wiltshire some 2km from the town centre and within the parish of Bishops Canning. The northern extent of the Site is defined by Horton Road, the west by residential development, the east by further agricultural land and the south by the course of the Kennet and Avon Canal.
- 1.2.2 The Site consists of approximately 17.5ha of land consisting of two agricultural fields and an area of woodland known as Lay Wood. Both fields were under arable cultivation. The topography of the Site is generally flat although it slopes slightly to the north and east and lies at a height of between 127-132m aOD.
- 1.2.3 The underlying geology is mapped as the Upper Greensand Formation (BGS).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1.1 The full archaeological and historical background to the Site is detailed in the Historic Environmental Report (AMEC 2013a). A summary is provided here.
- 2.1.2 The 19th century Laywood Bridge, which is a Listed Grade II structure (LB 1033730), lies just outside the south-eastern boundary, constructed to cross the, then newly opened, Kennet and Avon Canal. The associated World War Two (WWII) hexagonal blockhouse is

also covered by the listing. Although there are other designated assets within the Study Area, they are situated at some distance to the Site.

- 2.1.3 There are no known prehistoric monuments or findspots within the Site or its immediate vicinity, although Neolithic (Scheduled Monument (SM) 1013360) and Bronze Age barrows (SM 1004773, 1012302, 1013361 and 1015691) are known from Roundway Down some 2.5km to the north-west of the Site. A number of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age finds have also been located in and around Devizes. Oliver's Castle hillfort (SM 1005709), an early Iron Age monument, is also located on Roundway Down.
- 2.1.4 The only recorded find within the Site boundary is a group of pewter artefacts thought to be of Roman date, discovered in 1852. There are further finds of Romano-British date from the wider area, including a lead coffin to the west of the Site, also found in the mid-19th century.
- 2.1.5 Bishops Canning is listed in the Domesday survey in 1086 as a large and wealthy manor. Devizes is not listed, but the construction of a castle (SM 1021375) in the early 12th century, suggests that it too was growing in size and influence. In the medieval period, land within the site was marsh and only later was more extensively sub-divided into a number of smaller enclosures. The enclosure of the Site is well documented on early 19th century historic maps and former field boundaries were plotted as part of the historic environment assessment (AMEC 2013a).
- 2.1.6 The Kennet and Avon canal, which borders the southern part of the Site, linked the River Avon at Bath to the River Kennet at Newbury, thereby making a navigable route from Bristol to Reading. Work began in the late 18th century with the stretch through Devizes, including the complex Caen Hill Locks (SM 1004694), completed in 1810.
- 2.1.7 In 1878, the Le Marchant Barracks were built along the main Devizes to Beckhampton road (A361, London Road). These barracks extended into land immediately adjacent to the western boundary of the Site, a zone known as Camp 23. This hatted camp, formerly used by militiamen, was converted into a Prisoner of War (POW) camp during WWII.
- 2.1.8 The geophysical survey, which comprised a magnetometer survey, identified a number of anomalies which were thought to represent archaeological remains. In particular, it located an area of greater archaeological potential in the eastern part of the site, where there was a concentration of linear anomalies. This included some which appear to form small (partial) rectilinear enclosures, with possible internal features, probably of later prehistoric and/or Romano-British date. Anomalies consistent with former field boundaries identified from documentary sources were also identified.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and objectives

3.1.1 The archaeological field evaluation aimed to:

- *Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be impacted by development.*
- *Identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character and condition 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.*



- *Target trenches on anomalies identified as a result of the geophysical survey in order to clarify the nature and presence/absence of underlying archaeological remains.*
- *Produce a report which will present the results of the evaluation in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the Site's archaeological potential.*

3.2 Fieldwork methodology

- 3.2.1 The full detailed methodology of the archaeological works was set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (AMEC 2013b) and is summarised below:
- 3.2.2 The evaluation comprised a c. 2% sample of the 17.5ha proposed development area and consisted of 29 proposed trenches, each approximately 50m by 2m, largely targeted on the geophysical anomalies (**Figure 1**). Several of the trenches in the eastern part of the northern field extended slightly beyond the development area to provide a buffer zone and to more fully explore the geophysical results from this area. Following on-site discussions with the ACA, it was agreed that Trench 20, which lay within the northern boundary of the woodland area, should not be excavated.
- 3.2.3 The trenches were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless bucket, operating under constant archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation continued in spits through the topsoil and subsoil, until reaching either the uppermost archaeological features or natural deposits, whichever was encountered first.
- 3.2.4 Topsoil was separated from the subsoil and all other arisings, and was stored at a minimum of 1m from the trench edge. The spoil from the trenches was scanned for artefacts. Upon completion of the fieldwork and recording, the trenches were backfilled with the excavated spoil, topsoil last in order to preserve the soil stratigraphy.
- 3.2.5 Where encountered, the archaeological features were investigated by hand, with a sufficient sample of each layer/feature type excavated in order to establish, where possible, their date, nature, character, extent and condition.
- 3.2.6 The trenches, archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system which uses a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Archaeological features and deposits were hand-drawn at either 1:10 or 1:20, including both plans and sections; these were referred to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels were calculated. A representative section of each trench was recorded showing the depth of the overburden deposits.
- 3.2.7 A full photographic record was maintained using digital photography. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and the general context of the principal features and finds excavated as well as the Site as a whole. Digital images have been subject to a managed quality control and curation process which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and ensures the long term accessibility of the image set.
- 3.2.8 The survey was carried out with a Leica Viva series GNSS unit, using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network with a 3D accuracy of 30mm or below. All survey data was recorded using the OSGB36 British National Grid coordinate system.
- 3.2.9 A unique project code **101070** was allocated to the Site, and was used on all records and finds.



3.3 Health and Safety

- 3.3.1 Health and Safety considerations were of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practices took precedence over archaeological considerations at all times.
- 3.3.2 All work was carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974*, the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992* and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.

3.4 Best practice

- 3.4.1 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (IfA 2008).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 In general, the stratigraphic sequence in the northern field, (**Figures 2-5**), consisted of between 0.20-0.30m of modern ploughsoil overlying the subsoil, itself 0.16-0.30m deep. No subsoil horizon was encountered in **Trenches 4, 5 or 17** where the ploughsoil directly overlay the natural geology. In the south-western field, (**Figure 6**), the ploughsoil was slightly shallower (0.16-0.26m deep). The subsoil in this field was also less well developed and between 0.08-0.18m deep. There was some variation in the natural geology encountered with the south-western part of the Site encountering more clay-rich deposits.
- 4.1.2 In the area around Lay Wood, which lies at a low point within the Site, deposits of peat were identified in **Trenches 17 (1708), 18 (1803) and 29 (2903) (Plate 1)**. While this peat deposit was only a thin layer in **Trenches 17 and 18**, it was up to 0.5m deep in **Trench 29** and it is likely that similar or even greater depths of peat may lie within the wood itself. Several sherds of Roman and a single sherd of prehistoric pottery were recovered from the sandy deposit which overlies the peat in **Trench 29, 2902**. In all three trenches where it was encountered, the peat was found to overlie blue-grey clay. Lens of re-deposited peat were also found within the made-ground deposits found in **Trenches 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 and 19**. Full details of the stratigraphic sequence can be found in **Appendix 1**.
- 4.1.3 No archaeological features or deposits were found in **Trenches 1-4, 7, 8, 19, 27 and 28**. The areas of magnetic disturbance identified by the geophysical survey in the north-west of the Site were shown to correspond to a large area of modern made-ground. This deposit, which was between 0.54 and 0.92m deep, was encountered in **Trenches 1, 2, 7, 8, 9 and 19** and suggests that the area had been substantially built-up (**Figure 2 and Plate 2**). Moreover, the sharp and distinct interface between the made-ground deposits and the underlying natural geology, with no sign of a buried soil horizon, suggests that that the area had been stripped or dug away, possibly for the extraction of peat or during the demolition of the adjacent barracks in the late 1960s or early 1970s, prior to the deposition of the made-ground material.
- 4.1.4 Due to the potential complexity of many of the archaeological deposits and features identified in **Trenches 11, 12 and 14** it was desirable to only excavate a small sample of features within these trenches as the full extent and nature of many of these features could not be seen.

4.2 Prehistoric

- 4.2.1 There were no clearly identified prehistoric features located during this evaluation although some residual prehistoric material was located. While some of the undated features could relate to prehistoric activity there was no strong indication of intense activity during this period within the trenches.
- 4.2.2 Although a late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age barbed and tanged arrowhead was found in pit **2603**, in the south-western part of the Site in **Trench 26**, a number of abraded sherds of Roman pottery show that it is residual in this context. A further piece of Early/Middle Neolithic worked flint was recovered from the upper part of deposit **1704 (Trench 17)**, the secondary fill of ditch **1703**, though it is probably also residual. These finds along with a sherd of Early/Middle Neolithic pottery within **Trench 29**, indicate some potential Early Neolithic to Early Bronze activity within the Site or the wider environs.

4.3 Romano-British

- 4.3.1 A defined area of Romano-British activity was located in **Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 (Figure 3)**. This broadly corresponds with the area of increased magnetic disturbance and a concentration of anomalies found by the geophysical survey, although the excavated features differ substantially from the initial geophysical interpretations (**Figure 4**). This variation can be largely accounted for by the discovery of a number of structural remains, as well as a layer of demolition debris which obscured the archaeology below.

Trench 13

- 4.3.2 **Trench 13** lay on the north-eastern edge of this activity. Excavation did not locate any obvious demolition debris within the ploughsoil or subsoil confirming that it lies beyond the building complex. Three east-south-east to west-north-west aligned ditches were identified in this trench (**1305, 1307 and 1309**). These were mainly identified by the presence of chalk and ceramic building materials (CBM) as their uppermost fills (secondary deposits **1304, 1306 and 1308**) were very similar to the underlying natural geology, making them very difficult to see. The inclusion of fragments of chalk and CBM implies that these features filled after the demolition of the structures in the vicinity and they may, therefore, post-date at least the first phase of buildings in this area, if not the main phase of Romano-British activity. While most of the pottery recovered was broadly Roman in date, some of the Savernake-type ware sherds from ditch **1305** suggest a 1st-2nd century date. Whereas the two most southerly features, **1307 and 1309**, were little more than small gullies or drainage ditches, feature **1305** was more substantial and is likely to mark a boundary (**Plate 3**). The geophysical survey suggests that it marks the northern extent of the main area of Romano-British activity.

Trench 10

- 4.3.3 **Trench 10** lay within the north-western part of this area of activity. The geophysical survey results suggests some further activity to the north of this trench. Unlike **Trench 13**, the ploughsoil, subsoil and **1003**, the layer which the archaeology could be seen to cut, contained substantial fragments of chalk suggestive of demolition debris.
- 4.3.4 Four linear features were located on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment within **Trench 10 (1007, 1012, 1014 and 1016)**. Two parallel gullies at the western end (**1014 and 1016**) may mark the western extent of the activity, although there is an increase of chalk fragments within layer **1003** in the western part of the trench (**Plate 4**). A large sherd of Roman pottery from ditch **1014** would seem to confirm that these features relate to the Romano-British phase of activity.

- 4.3.5 Within the central part of the trench was feature **1012**. This contained considerable chalk rubble, suggestive of a possible wall base or robber trench, although excavation showed this to be a highly truncated feature with no evident structural elements. Pottery sherds recovered from this feature suggest a 2nd century or later date. The final north-north-west to south-south-east aligned feature, **1007**, situated at the eastern end of the trench was cut by a north-west to south-east aligned ditch **1005**. Pottery recovered from ditch **1007** indicates a date prior to c. AD 150 suggesting that it may be part of the earliest phase of Romano-British activity on Site.
- 4.3.6 Ditch **1005**, in contrast to the secondary fill of ditch **1007** (**1006**), contained a number of small chalk fragments within the upper part of its single secondary fill **1004** and would seem to represent a later phase of activity on a distinctly different alignment. However the artefactual material recovered was not closely datable beyond the broad period. Ditch **1010**, which lies to the west of ditch **1005**, may also relate to this phase as its north-east to south-west alignment is perpendicular to that of ditch **1005**. This feature was not excavated.

Trench 12

- 4.3.7 **Trench 12** contained further gullies on the same north-north-west to south-south-east alignment as many of the features in **Trench 10** (**1206**, **1208**, **1210** and **1215**). Three of these features (**1206**, **1208** and **1215**) appeared to be narrow gullies with fairly similar secondary fills (**1205**, **1207** and **1214**) but ditch **1210**, which was wider, contained large chalk fragments within its visible fill **1209**. The possibility that this may be a later field boundary is discussed in **Section 4.4 below**.
- 4.3.8 A well-defined area of demolition debris **1224** was found in the central part of **Trench 12**, corresponding to a dipolar magnetic anomaly, which usually indicates ferrous or fired materials. It contained large chalk blocks and fragments of CBM and was found to overlie abutting structures **1211**, **1212** and **1219** (**Plan 1 and Plate 5**). The central structure **1211** appeared to be the base of a large, north-north-west to south-south-east aligned wall, with large, squared chalk block facing material and a chalk rubble core. Abutting this, on the eastern side, was structure **1212**, a possible north/south aligned chalk wall. Unlike the well-made structure of wall **1211**, wall **1212** lacked a defined face or core and did not extend across the full width of the trench; it may represent a later addition or alteration. To the west and south of wall **1211**, was structure **1219**. Regularly spaced *pedalis* tiles and a defined band of dark, sooty material (**1220**), suggests that this is the flue and edge of a hypocaust system. The *pedalis* tiles would have formed the base of *pilae* stacks supporting a raised floor, thus allowing the hot air to circulate and warm the room above. Although only a small part of this structure was exposed, it was sufficient to suggest that the flue is situated to the north and that the hypocaust system and the room, or rooms, it served, extend southwards. Hypocaust systems are typically associated with higher status reception rooms and bath-house complexes.
- 4.3.9 On a north – south alignment, and just beneath the topsoil, was a possible wall base (**1216**), also constructed using large chalk blocks, although there was little coherent structure and it could not have supported a substantial structure. Its high position within the stratigraphic sequence suggests it may in fact be a much later feature and could potentially be a drain. A similar feature, **1222**, was seen at the opposite end of the trench on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment (**Plate 6**).

Trench 11

- 4.3.10 **Trench 11** was positioned to the west of **Trench 12** and within an area of magnetic disturbance and a number of geophysical anomalies. This revealed a number of structural

remains suggesting it is situated over a building range. A small pit, **1104**, at the north-western end of the trench, contained a number of extremely large chalk blocks probably of structural origin (**Plate 7**). To the south-east, a defined area of demolition debris, **1108**, also contained significant quantities of box flue tile and some hollow voussoir block fragments which would have potentially been used to form arches (**Plate 8**). Box flue tile is generally associated with funnelling air from a hypocaust system up and along the walls, and is again indicative of higher status reception rooms or a bath-house. A sondage through this deposit revealed remnants of an east-south-east to west-north-west wall or structure, **1110**, overlain by a pale, sandy layer **1109**, probably composed of degraded mortar. Alongside its southern edge and potentially butting up against it, was a dark sooty deposit, **1112**, similar to **1220**. This may be taken as further evidence for a hypocaust system in the vicinity. To the south, another demolition deposit **1111**, remains unexcavated but appears to be banked up against deposit **1112** and structure **1110**. There is the potential for more structural remains to lie beneath this deposit.

- 4.3.11 A vertical cut **1106**, apparently cutting through the southern edge of this sequence of deposits, was thought to be associated with an area of demolition debris, **1107** which extended for at least 7m to the south. Although, as the full extent and opposing edge of this robbing event lay beyond the excavated sondage, it could instead be associated with demolition rubble **1108** to the north. Within deposit **1107** were three areas of a darker, sandy fill **1114**. A small sondage showed that these were cut features (**1113**). Although they were not fully seen in plan, and their precise nature and purpose therefore remains unclear, their position within the stratigraphic sequence suggests that they post-date the use and demolition of at least one phase of building, as represented by structure **1110**.
- 4.3.12 Two narrow east-south-east to west-north-west aligned linear features were identified in the central part of the trench, **1115** and **1117**. The most northerly of these, **1117**, cut demolition deposit **1107** and contained large angular chalk blocks within its visible fill (**1116**), suggestive of a possible wall remnant or robber trench backfill. Feature **1117**, which cut through **1123**, a layer probably largely equivalent to layer **1107**, did not contain such large or angular chalk fragments but was nevertheless thought to be indicative of possible structural remains. Situated along the north-eastern edge of the trench was a distinct area of pale green sand (**1131**). This deposit was not excavated and so its exact nature remains unclear although it appeared to be cut by adjacent robber trench **1119**.
- 4.3.13 Robber cut **1119** lay on a clear north/south alignment just to the south of feature **1117** (**Section 1 and Plate 9**). Although at the very edge of the trench, there is also some indication that it terminates to the south with a straight edge perhaps implying a possible westward return. Excavation showed that this contained a series of presumably deliberate backfill deposits (**1120**, **1121**, **1122** and **1124**), primarily composed of demolition material. Of particular note was **1124**, a mortar-rich lens, most probably associated with the reclamation of useful building stone. The robber cut was only 1.0m wide and does not suggest an overly substantial wall. It was cut through layer **1123** which was thought to be late Roman in date, though as the entire structure had been removed no relationship between this layer and the former wall could be inferred. It does, however, imply that earlier Roman deposits may lie beneath the exposed stratigraphy.
- 4.3.14 Another potential robbed feature, (**1126**), was located at the southern end of the trench. This was not fully seen in plan but appeared to be a rectangular structure at least 1.95m wide, nearly 5m long and 0.62m deep (**Plate 10**). Although the deliberate backfill (**1125**) of this feature contained abundant chalk rubble and mortar it was a fairly consistent, compact deposit and it is possible that it represents a makeup layer to provide a foundation for construction. Within this deposit was found a single sherd of vessel glass, a higher status material. At the base of this feature, two deposits, **1127** and **1129**, were

revealed. Deposit **1127**, which was seen in the western part of the excavated slot, was similar to the general demolition deposits, such as **1107** and **1123**, encountered elsewhere in the trench. In the eastern part of the cut, however, was a possible structural deposit (**1129**). Only a small portion of this was seen but it suggested that this structure may extend further east, beyond the edge of cut **1126**.

Trench 14

4.3.15 **Trench 14** lay to the south-west of **Trench 11** and was also situated within another area of magnetic disturbance and geophysical anomalies suggestive of a further area of activity. At the request of the ACA, this trench was extended to the south-west in order to define the extent of this activity. An area of demolition debris (**1404**) occurred within the central part of the trench. Within this, a number of possible structural remains were seen (**1405, 1407, 1409, 1413, 1415, 1419, 1423** and **1426**). One area, around **1413** and **1423**, was more thoroughly investigated to demonstrate that these were indeed the upper visible portions of intact structural remains (**front cover**). The potential structures were all seen to be constructed from angular chalk blocks within a pale yellow-white lime mortar. In addition, the upper, exposed, portions of these remains lay, in general, between 0.30-0.40m below the current ground level and so may be considered at risk from deep ploughing activities. The exact plan of most of these structures was not clearly defined due to the presence of tumbled stones and the small area exposed, but they suggest a building on a south-west to north-east and south-west to north-east alignment. Linear features **1412** and **1422**, which lie to the east of this activity, are discussed in **Section 4.4** below.

4.3.16 Structure **1413** was shown to be a north-east to south-west aligned wall. It had large, square facing stones on the south-eastern elevation but more varied chalk blocks on the north-western side. This could suggest that the internal face lay to the south-east. At the south-western end of wall **1413** was an arc of stones, **1423**. This is suggestive of a decorative niche or possibly the edge of a curving feature such as a plunge pool. As with **1413**, the more substantial facing stones lie within the south-eastern elevation. A more chalk- and mortar- rich deposit **1425** could also be seen abutting this face. Both **1413** and **1423** contained chalk blocks with a pale red hue, suggestive of some exposure to heat.

Trench 23

4.3.17 **Trench 23**, located within the south-western field, contained a concentration of Romano-British activity (**Figure 6**). The apparent dislocation between this and the potential villa, some 400m to the north-east, suggests it may well be related to an area of activity to the west, now covered by the Northfields housing estate. At the western end of the trench, a wide but relatively shallow and flat bottomed, north-north-west to south-south-east aligned ditch **2304** (**Plate 11**) was exposed. Excavation showed that, although it only contained one deposit (**2305**), a number of large sherds of pottery were found, which may suggest episodes of deliberate deposition (**back cover**). Such a large assemblage of pottery sherds coupled with animal bone, some badly degraded, is suggestive of domestic refuse and the pottery suggest a date range of the 1st-2nd century AD. These sherds were concentrated within the western part of the feature suggesting deposition from this side. Another narrower, north to south aligned ditch, **2306**, lay just to the east of ditch **2304** (**Plate 11**). Although such closely situated features are unlikely to have been in use at the same time, the finds from the smaller ditch, **2306**, were not closely datable. Further east, a small pit, **2310**, contained a single mixed secondary fill, **2311**, though the sherds of Roman pottery within this were very abraded. A further ditch (**2308**), which lay in the far eastern end of the trench, was thought to be more probably related to later agricultural and drainage activity within this field and is discussed in **Section 4.5** below.

Trench 25

- 4.3.18 In **Trench 25**, which also lay within the south-west field, a single north-west – south-east aligned ditch was seen, **2504 (Plate 12)**. Excavation showed this to be relatively steep sided, 'V'-shaped ditch with a single secondary fill (**2505**) suggestive of gradual infilling. A number of sherds of Roman greyware were recovered from **2505**, although their small size suggests that they may well be residual or that this feature lies at a distance from the main activity area.

Trench 26

- 4.3.19 An isolated sub-circular pit located in **Trench 26, 2603**, was found to contain a number of abraded sherds of Roman pottery in addition to a late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age barbed and tanged arrowhead. This flat-bottomed feature, though potentially truncated, was relatively shallow and despite containing some charcoal fragments did not suggest intensive activity or nearby occupation (**Plate 13**). It could be a peripheral feature related to the Romano-British activity indicated to the north-west, adjacent to **Trench 23**.

4.4 Historic field boundaries

- 4.4.1 A large sub-oval enclosure is visible from the earliest cartographic sources (c. 1800) consulted within the northern part of the Site and extending to the other side of Horton Road (**Figure 2**). This boundary is shown to persist until it was removed some time in the late 1960s or early 1970s and is visible on aerial photographs as being marked by a number of mature trees. The approximate position of this boundary was visible as a slightly disturbed and bioturbated area within **Trenches 5 and 6 (505 and 606)** and as a disturbed area containing a number of large roots within **Trench 9 (904)**. The continued course of this boundary was not obvious within **Trench 2** though it is unclear whether this is just because it was less visible within the slightly more mottled geology or whether it has been truncated away by later disturbance. Given that a field boundary, which is depicted from the early 19th century enclosure map till the early 1960s, that should pass through the location of **Trench 19** was also not visible it seems more probable that these boundaries within the western part of the Site were removed and the ground truncated in the late 1960s or early 1970s.
- 4.4.2 **Trench 18** seems to have been the location of several iterations of a north-north-west – south-south-east aligned field boundary visible on the early 19th century maps (**Plate 14**). In addition to three linear features on this alignment (**1812, 1814 and 1816**) just to the north of these features were three more ditches on a more north-west – south-east alignment (**1805, 1807 and 1810**), another boundary also visible on 19th century mapping. It is possible that ditches **1814 and 1816** are contemporary features and are two parallel ditches flanking a bank or hedgerow. The area between them was slightly disturbed with a concentration of animal bone located within it (numbered **1802**). Ditch **1807** was excavated and shown to have a relatively shallow flat based profile. It was predominantly filled with a dark, slightly humic, clay-rich fill (**1809**) overlying a distinct, pale white, chalky clay fill (**1808**), which may have been washed from the north-east (**Plate 15**). A few sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from the upper fill **1809**, though, given the nearby activity, they may be residual. A partial slot across ditch **1814** showed it to have a similar shallow, flat bottomed profile and dark, slightly humic secondary fill (**1815**). This feature remained undated.
- 4.4.3 No clear continuation for the north-west – south-east aligned field boundary was identified in **Trench 15**, which lay to the south-east of **Trench 18**. However an area of bioturbation within the northern part of the trench may be the continuation of this boundary.

- 4.4.4 Although not depicted as a field boundary on any of the 19th or 20th century maps consulted, a similar possible pair of flanking ditches is seen in **Trench 7 (704 and 706)**. This would be a potential continuation of the alignment formed by ditches **1814** and **1816** to the south. These features were not excavated and remained undated, though large wood or root fragments were still visible in the fills (**705** and **707**).
- 4.4.5 Another possible pair of parallel, wide but very shallow linear features was noted in **Trench 16 (1604 and 1611)**, where it corresponded to the location of a field boundary visible on the 1810 enclosure map and on early 20th century OS maps.
- 4.4.6 Corresponding to the position of a field boundary depicted on the 1810 enclosure map, which has disappeared by the 1886 1st edition OS map, was ditch **1422 (Trench 14) (Section 2)**. This feature was more substantial than the other field boundaries encountered, having a deeper, more concave profile. It could be seen to cut through the earlier Romano-British demolition deposit **1404** and, as such, the finds are likely to be residual. Its alignment, however, is slightly at variance with the field boundary as depicted and this, along with the geophysical survey results, may indicate that ditch **1412**, which lies slightly further east and remained unexcavated, is the field boundary depicted. The north-western course of this same field boundary approximately intersects with ditch **1210** in **Trench 12**. This feature was unexcavated.
- 4.4.7 No clear correspondence could be found for the field boundaries depicted on the 1810 map in the south-western field, though several of these have apparently already been removed by the 1886 1st edition OS map. The exception is an east – west track from the south-west corner of Lay Wood to the fields to the west (now the Northfield housing estate). This is also the course of a watercourse which issues in Lay Wood and joins a drain to the west. This is annotated with a dashed or dotted line on most of the map editions and annotated with 'C. Tk. B.'. Although C. and B. are used on OS maps to indicate a number of different features, the most likely interpretation is 'culvert, track, bank', suggesting that this boundary was most likely not marked by a ditch.
- #### 4.5 Features of uncertain date
- 4.5.1 Though **Trench 6** was notably clear of substantial Romano-British remains a small distinct area of stony rubble **604** was located in the northern part of the trench. Excavation showed that this shallow feature contained sandstone rubble and CBM (**Plate 16**), which is in contrast to the chalk rubble associated with the Roman structural remains. The exact date of this feature is unclear. Some of the tile fragments suggest a Romano-British date, and the sandstone fragments are similar to those identified as possible roofing material, but it seems to lie at some distance to the identified Romano-British remains.
- 4.5.2 Although the area of Romano-British structural debris clearly terminated within the extension of **Trench 14**, a further linear feature **1504** lay within the northern end of **Trench 15**. This narrow north-north-west to south-south-east aligned ditch or gully potentially curves to the north-north-east or intersects with a south-south-west to north-north-east feature at the western edge of the trench. This narrow gully is mostly likely a drainage feature and, despite excavation, remained undated.
- 4.5.3 A small possible gully feature was noted in the central part of **Trench 16, 1609**. This narrow and diffuse feature was north-north-east – south-south-west contained no visible datable material and remained unexcavated.
- 4.5.4 At the northern end of **Trench 17** was a series of intercutting ditches, **1703, 1705** and **1709**. The similarity of the deposits within these three ditches suggests they may be

broadly contemporary features and, despite excavation of the intersection between ditches **1703** and **1705**, no relationship could be determined. It seems likely that these features form a central north-west – south-east aligned ditch with a number of perpendicular branches form a network of drainage channels. As such, they are likely to relate to cultivation of this marshy landscape in the medieval or post-medieval period though a single shred of Roman pottery was recovered from ditch **1705**. An area of modern made ground at the south end of this trench, **1707**, may relate to the construction of the Kennet and Avon canal in the early part of the 19th century.

- 4.5.5 Three east – west aligned narrow gullies were noted in **Trenches 21 (2108)** and **25 (2506, 2508)** in the south-west field. Although unexcavated and undated they are most probably small drainage channels and relate to the draining of this marshy ground for use as pasture possibly in the late medieval or post-medieval period. The northern most of these features in **Trench 25, 2506** is cut by a more recent land drain.
- 4.5.6 Four linear features were identified on a north – south alignment in **Trenches 23 (2308)** and **26 (2605, 2607 and 2609)**, also in the south-western part of the Site. Three of these **2308, 2605** and **2607** were narrow gully features similar to those observed on an east – west alignment. Gully **2607** was excavated and shown to a shallow feature with a single fairly sterile fill **2606**. In plan **2609**, the most easterly of these three linear features, was much wider and therefore more likely to be a boundary ditch.
- 4.5.7 A small sub-oval feature identified in **Trench 25, 2510**, was fully excavated but remained undated. Its irregular sides and mixed, charcoal-rich fill **2511** may be the result of natural root disturbance. A similar charcoal-rich feature was seen in the northern part of the Site in **Trench 5**. This sub-oval feature **503**, which was not fully seen in plan and remained unexcavated, may also be a natural feature or a small isolated pit. Another small oval possible pit was also located in **Trench 17, 1711**. This contained a peat and charcoal rich fill **1712** and remained unexcavated.

4.6 Modern features

- 4.6.1 Although the underlying geology of the Site is shown as Upper Greensand, a less sandy natural geology was encountered in the south-western field. This is likely to be associated with the more marshy conditions indicated by the field names in the western part of the Site. Evidently due to these more waterlogged conditions, a large number of modern land drains were noted within the south-west field. A number of the other narrow linear features described in **Section 4.5** above, though not obviously dated, are also likely to relate to post-medieval and modern drainage of the Site.
- 4.6.2 A narrow north-west – south-east linear feature seen in **Trench 9, 905**, was deliberately backfilled with chalky material and lay at depth beneath the modern made ground and was thought most probably a modern land drain.
- 4.6.3 A south-west – north-east aligned linear feature located in both **Trenches 22 (2205)** and **24 (2403)** contained visible fragments of brick and concrete and was obviously modern in date. An area of disturbance to the south of **2205, 2209** contained a very mixed fill containing re-deposited clays and was also thought to be modern in date. This same feature may be present in **Trench 21** to the east (**2108**).

4.7 Natural features

- 4.7.1 To the west of the south-west field crossing Hopgood Close is a drain and pumping station, this watercourse then issues at the south-western corner of Lay Wood. A nebulous area of mixed alluvial clay in **Trenches 24 (2405)** and **25 (2512)** was thought to

be the former watercourse and a slightly meandering trend can be seen along this route in the geophysical survey data. The early cartographic sources would seem to suggest that the watercourse follows the straight direction of the field boundary which lies just the south but the markings on the 1st edition (1886) and early 20th century OS maps also imply that it had been culverted by this date (see **Section 4.4.7** above).

- 4.7.2 A few natural features were identified in **Trenches 15, 17, 22, and 23** consistent with root action disturbance and tree-throws. However, the general scarcity of these features is perhaps a reflection of a more open landscape.

5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Approximately 60kg of finds were retained from 35 contexts in 13 of the excavated trenches. The greatest quantities (totalling 57.75kg) were derived from **Trenches 10-14** and **23**, which examined the main areas of Romano-British structural remains and agricultural activity. The remaining finds, weighing just 2.23kg overall, came from **Trenches 6, 17, 18, 22, 25, 26 and 29**.

- 5.1.2 All the artefacts have been quantified (number and weight of pieces) by material type within each context (**Table 1**). All material types were also scanned on a context by context basis, to assess their date, range and condition. The pottery has provided the primary dating evidence, but, where appropriate, this has been combined with information from other chronologically diagnostic artefact types (e.g. glass, ceramic building materials) allowing broad spot-dates to be assigned to each context. In general, the artefacts survive in moderately good condition, although some of the animal bone is very poorly preserved.

Table 1: Finds totals by material type (number of pieces/weight in grammes)

Material	No.	Wt.
Animal bone	572	1085
Building materials:		
ceramic	121	39821
stone	22	9650
Clay tobacco pipe	3	6
Fired clay	5	64
Flint	9	29
Glass	1	3
Iron	13	166
Pottery:	568	8980
<i>prehistoric</i>	2	57
<i>Romano-British</i>	565	8900
<i>post-medieval</i>	1	23
Shell	5	185

5.2 Building materials

Ceramic

- 5.2.1 With the exception of one piece (238g) from a post-medieval redware chimney pot or louver found in the subsoil of **Trench 10**, all the ceramic building material is of Romano-British date.

- 5.2.2 The assemblage includes pieces from *tegula* and *imbrex* roof tiles, found in feature **604**, ditches **1012** and **1305** and demolition rubble layer **1404**. One of the *tegula* fragments (feature **604**) has a pre-firing, square-sectioned nail hole; the others, all very fragmentary, vary from 20-25mm thick. Two pieces probably from ridge tiles were also recognised; one from ditch **1012** is 25mm thick and at least 125mm high, the second, from demolition rubble layer **1108**, is also 25mm thick and made from an unusual yellow-orange grog/clay pellet-tempered fabric. While it is likely that *imbrex* were commonly used to cover the gap where the *tegulae* meet at the apex of the roof, specially made ridge tiles were sometimes used, Brodribb (1987, 27-8) listing examples from the villas at Littlecote, Wiltshire, Sparsholt, Hampshire and Newport on the Isle of Wight as well as the settlement at Alcester, Warwickshire although, in each case, the roofing tiles were made of stone.
- 5.2.3 Pieces from at least 21 bricks were also recorded, including a complete *pedalis* (290 x 275 x 40mm) retained as an example of the bricks used to form the *in situ* hypocaust *pilae* 1219/1221. Pieces from a measurable *bessales* brick (215 x 210 x 38mm) with deposits of off-white, poorly slaked lime mortar on one surface and fragments from at least nine other bricks of uncertain type came from the overlying demolition rubble layer 1224, while other examples came from the backfill of robber trench 1119, ditch 1309 and demolition rubble layers 1108, 1123 and 1404. These pieces vary from 30-45mm thick, suggesting that most belong to the smaller, thinner types (*bessales*, *pedalis* and *lydion*), predominantly used in hypocausts and in lacing/bonding courses in walls.
- 5.2.4 Further evidence for a hypocaust comes from the numerous thin, flat fragments with combed keying present among the material from demolition rubble layers **1108**, **1224** and **1404**. Most probably derive from box-flue tiles (*tubulus*), set vertically in the walls to carry the hot air from the under-floor flues (Brodribb 1987, 70-77) and, indeed, the complete length/width (365 x 180) of one block, with a rectilinear vent cut into its plain face, was reconstructable from the pieces retained from layer **1224**. However, the presence of at least one definite, and two probable, hollow voussoir (*tubulus cuneatus*) fragments among the material from layer **1108** highlights the possibility that more of the combed pieces may derive from blocks of this type, which were used to create arches or to provide airspace for insulation or for the flow of heated air in hypocausts (*ibid.* 79-83).
- 5.2.5 Two tesserae cut from pieces of brick/tile (topsoil (**1001**) Trench **10** and ditch **1305**) highlight the possibility of mosaic flooring in this vicinity.
- Stone*
- 5.2.6 Samples of the stone building material encountered in the evaluation trenches were not systematically collected but 20 flat fragments possibly derived from polygonal roof tiles and two freestone blocks were retained.
- 5.2.7 The possible roof tile fragments (feature **604**, ditches **1012** and **1305** and demolition rubble layers **1224** and **1404**) are all of Pennant-type sandstone and vary from 7-22mm thick, although none of them carry any obvious signs of being worked. The corner of a smallish, rectilinear block of hard chalk approximately 70mm thick came from the topsoil of Trench **10**. The second freestone block (c. 220 x 160 x 110), found in demolition rubble layer **1224**, is of tufa and has patches of *opus signinum* adhering to its surfaces, indicating its use in building construction.
- 5.3 Flint**
- 5.3.1 All the struck flints occurred residually, in contexts with pottery and other artefacts of Romano-British date, but their presence serves to highlight the potential for further prehistoric activity in the area. A nicely made blade (ON 2; ditch **1703**) with slight edge-

damage is probably of Early/Middle Neolithic date, broadly contemporary with the pottery from natural clay layer **2904**, and may have been used as a knife. A late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age barbed and tanged arrowhead (ON 1) was also found in pit **2603**; one of its barbs is broken off, probably snapped during manufacture. The remaining pieces (demolition rubble layer **1404** and ditches **1007**, **1010**, **1305** and **2506**) are all small, unaltered, waste flakes; one (ditch **1007**) was clearly made from a waterworn pebble but none of them can be closely dated within the prehistoric period.

5.4 Iron

5.4.1 All the iron objects were found in **Trenches 10-14**. The assemblage includes one hobnail or tack (ditch **1307**) and pieces from at least ten nails (topsoil **Trenches 10 and 13**, subsoil **Trench 12**, ditches **1305** and **1422** and demolition rubble layer **1404**), all with flat, round heads and square-sectioned tapering shanks (Manning 1985, 134, type 1b). Part of a small rectangular frame, possibly from a buckle or other fitting, came from ditch **1305**, while a square-sectioned rod, broken at both ends and of uncertain origin, was also found in demolition rubble layer **1404**. Although none of these objects are closely datable, it is likely that all are Romano-British.

5.5 Pottery

5.5.1 The pottery is predominantly of Romano-British date, with just two prehistoric and one post-medieval sherds being identified. To provide a basic minimum archive, sherds from each context were sub-divided into broad ware groups (e.g. sand and fine flint-tempered wares) or known fabric types (e.g. Oxfordshire red colour-coated ware) and quantified by the number and weight of pieces present. A breakdown of the assemblage by ware type is shown in **Table 2**. Spot-dates, used to inform the stratigraphic phasing, were then assigned to each fabric group and, in combination with any dating evidence provided by other artefact types, to the context as a whole.

5.5.2 Overall, the mean sherd weight is c. 16.8g; a figure of between 10g and 20g is generally considered 'normal' for Romano-British sites in central southern England. Some surface abrasion and edge damage is apparent among the softer, more lightly fired sherds, but the harder, more robust wares are less affected and, in the main, the assemblage survives in good, fresh condition.

Table 2: Pottery totals by ware type

Ware	No.	Wt.
<i>Prehistoric:</i>		
Flint-tempered	2	57
<i>Romano-British:</i>		
Savernake-type ware	294	5975
Greyware	204	1428
Oxidised ware	29	171
Sand and fine flint-tempered ware	16	944
Grog and flint-tempered ware	8	230
Black Burnished ware	7	67
Grog-tempered ware	3	68
Samian	2	9
North Wiltshire colour-coated ware	2	8
<i>Post-medieval:</i>		
Stoneware	1	23
total:	568	8980

- 5.5.3 The earliest pottery consists of a single piece of coarse, poorly-sorted flint-tempered ware of probable Early/Middle Neolithic date which was found residually, alongside Early Romano-British sherds, in sandy layer **2902** in **Trench 29**. A larger (47g), well-burnished sherd from the modern subsoil (**1102**) of **Trench 11**, is likely to be of Iron Age date.
- 5.5.4 The Romano-British material is dominated by local coarsewares, with Continental imports limited to just two body sherds of Central Gaulish samian (ditch **1012** and the subsoil (**1102**) of **Trench 11**), both of 2nd century AD date. British finewares are similarly scarce, restricted to just two joining body sherds from a North Wiltshire colour-coated ware roughcast indented beaker found in ditch **1007**. Evidence from other sites in Wiltshire (Anderson 1978; Seager Smith 2001, 240-41) indicates that these wares were made c. AD 125 – 140/150, perhaps over the lifespan of a single potter.
- 5.5.5 The oxidised wares, however, probably provided a range of medium quality wares, suitable for use in storage and preparation roles as well as everyday serving vessels. Many of these sherds, which occur in a variety of fabrics containing variable quantities of sand and/or mica, are very abraded; one (ditch **1305**) in a fine, cream, micaceous fabric might once have had a dark colour-coat, while others, including a small collared flagon/flask rim (subsoil of **Trench 10**) and a necked jar/bowl rim (ditch **1305**), in slightly coarser sandy fabrics, have a white slip. The only other recognisable form, a triangular rimmed flagon with at least one strap handle (c.f. Seager Smith 2001, fig. 80, 12), came from ditch **2305** and is probably of Early Roman date. Most are likely to be from relatively local sources (e.g. Anderson 1980, 55; Tomber and Dore 1998, 192; Hartley 2001, 223; Seager Smith 2001, 238, fabric 15).
- 5.5.6 The remaining, reduced coarseware fabrics include the entire range of coarse, utilitarian 'kitchen' vessels as well as finer beakers and bowls for use at table. The Savernake-type and sandy grey wares occur in approximately equal quantities although there is likely to be a chronological distinction between them. Most of the Savernake-type wares occurred in the hard, more Romanised, lighter coloured versions of this fabric and are probably of

later 1st – 3rd century AD date. Such wares were made at Whitehill and Toothill Farms to the west of Swindon (Anderson 1979, 13) as well as in the Savernake Forest itself. The grog- and grog and flint tempered fabrics, present as plain body sherds only, are also likely to be products of this industry (Hopkins 1999, fabrics 2-4). Vessel forms include necked and bead rimmed storage jars (*ibid.*, forms 12 and 13, figs.29 and 30), necked, everted rim jars/bowls, some with girth grooves (*ibid.*, forms 8 and 9), bead rimmed jars (forms 14 and 15), a butt beaker (form 4) and an imitation Gallo-Belgic ware platter (form 1). The sand and fine flint tempered wares remain unsourced but are also likely to be relatively local and probably of earlier Roman date. All were found in ditch **1007** and include 12 pieces from high-shouldered, narrow mouthed jar with an unelaborated, upright rim and two joining pieces, forming a thick (28mm), flat slab, well-burnished on one side, untreated on the other, and possibly from the base of a large vessel.

- 5.5.7 The greywares, are also likely to be of local origin, perhaps made in the Savernake Forest (Hopkins 1999, fabric 5), at Purton and the other Swindon kilns (Anderson 1979, 14) and on the Greensand ridge to the south and east (e.g. Rogers and Rodham 1991; Anderson 1979, fig.2, Broomsgrove kiln) from the 2nd century AD onwards. Jars (bead rimmed and necked varieties) are again predominant, with two dropped flange bowls of late 3rd or 4th century AD date, from the subsoil (**1002**) of **Trench 10** and demolition rubble layer **1123**. The few sherds of South-east Dorset Black Burnished ware, including a rim from a shallow, plain rimmed dish (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, type WA 20) probably span the period from the 2nd-4th centuries AD.

5.6 Animal bone

- 5.6.1 A total of 572 fragments (or 1.085kg) of animal bone was recovered from 13 contexts located in six evaluation trenches (**Trenches 10, 11, 13, 18, 23** and **25**). Most of the animal bone is from contexts of Roman date, with smaller amounts from overburden deposits and undated features.
- 5.6.2 The assemblage is quantified in **Table 3** by species and broad chronological period. Fragmented bones have been counted as one specimen hence the total fragment count is less than the raw fragment count given above.
- 5.6.3 The assemblage was rapidly scanned and the following information recorded where applicable: species, skeletal element, preservation condition, fusion and tooth ageing data, butchery marks, metrical data, gnawing, burning, surface condition, pathology and non-metric traits. This information was directly recorded into a spreadsheet and cross-referenced with relevant contextual information.

Table 3: Number of identified specimens present (or NISP)

OB/UD = overburden and undated

Species	Roman	OB/UD	Total
cattle	9	4	13
sheep/goat	3	1	4
horse	2	5	7
Unidentifiable	18	426	444
Total	32	436	468

- 5.6.4 Bone preservation is generally fair to poor, and most fragments have abraded cortical surfaces and/ or are extremely fragmented. As a result, only a small proportion of fragments are identifiable to species and skeletal elements, and even fewer retain features that might provide more detailed information.

- 5.6.5 Approximately five percent of fragments can be identified. All of the identified bones belong to common domestic species.
- 5.6.6 Cattle bones and teeth are common, and the majority were recovered from Roman ditch **1307** and subsoil layer **1802**. The latter also included a number of fragmented horse bones, including the proximal and/or distal ends of the radius, ulna, tibia, metacarpal and 1st phalanx. Horse bones were also recovered from two other Roman ditches, **1007** and **1305**.
- 5.6.7 A small number of sheep/goat bones were also identified. They include a calcined (i.e. heated at high temperature and blush grey-white in colour) proximal radius fragments from Roman ditch **2304**.

5.7 Other finds

- 5.7.1 All the other material types are present in only very small quantities (**Table 1**). The fired clay fragments were found in ditches **1305**, **1307** and **2506**, associated with other Romano-British artefacts. All are featureless pieces made in fine, oxidised, sandy fabrics with grog/clay pellet inclusions, and probably derive from oven/hearth lining. The single piece of vessel glass, found in the backfill of robber trench **1126**, is also of Romano-British date and probably from a mould blown beaker decorated with narrow, vertical ribs. Although not an uncommon find on Romano-British sites, glass was a relatively expensive commodity in the Roman world, and its presence therefore implies a standard of gracious living probably well beyond that of most subsistence farmers or rural craftsmen. The oyster shells probably represent food remains and include both right and left valves. Four were found in **Trench 10** (one from the topsoil and three from ditch **1012**), while the fifth was from the backfill of robber trench **1119**.
- 5.7.2 The clay tobacco pipe fragments were found in the subsoil of **Trench 22** and consist of the spur and two stem pieces probably from a single pipe. All are of post-medieval date.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 Three bulk samples were taken from Romano-British ditches **1305** and **2304** and layer **1220**, from **Trenches 13, 23 and 12** respectively, to evaluate the presence and preservation of palaeo-environmental remains. This information can contribute to the discerning of the archaeological significance of the site. These samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoal.

6.1 Charred plant remains

- 6.1.1 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, the residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. The flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains recorded in **Table 4 (Appendix 2)**. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, Tables 3, page 28 and 5, page 65), for cereals.
- 6.1.2 The flots were generally small with relatively low numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation.

- 6.1.3 High numbers of cereal remains were recovered from all three deposits. These remains included hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), grain, glume base and spikelet fork fragments, and barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grain fragments. Some of the glume base fragments could be identified as those of spelt (*Triticum spelta*).
- 6.1.4 Charred weed seeds were observed in all three samples, in the largest amount in ditch **1305**. They included seeds of dock (*Rumex* sp.), oats/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp.), vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), clover/medick (*Trifolium/Medicago* sp.), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), persicaria (*Persicaria* sp.) and goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.). There was also a stone of sloe (*Prunus spinosa*) in ditch **1305**.
- 6.1.5 These cereal assemblages are indicative of general settlement waste, while the weed seeds are those of species which are typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments. These charred plant assemblages are compatible with those of Romano-British date in Southern Britain (Greig 1991; Campbell 2000). There are similarities between the Romano-British assemblages at Lay Wood and those recorded from Romano-British deposits at Brickley Lane (Pelling 2002) and Wayside Farm (Carruthers 2002), both sites in Devizes.

6.2 Wood charcoal

- 6.2.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 4**. Wood charcoal fragments greater than 4 mm were retrieved in small quantities from these deposits.

6.3 Land snails

- 6.3.1 The flots were rapidly assessed by scanning under a x 10 – x 40 stereo-binocular microscope to provide some information about shell preservation and species representation. Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999). The presence of these shells may aid in broadly characterising the nature of the wider landscape.
- 6.3.2 Molluscs were only observed in the sample from layer **1220**. These included the shade-loving species *Oxychilus cellarius*, *Aegopinella nitidula*, *Discus rotundatus*, *Carychium tridentatum*, *Vitrea* sp., and *Clausilia bidentata*, the intermediate species *Pomatias elegans*, *Trochulus hispidus* and *Cochlicopa* sp., and the open country species *Vallonia costata*, *Vallonia excentrica*, *Helicella itala*, *Pupilla muscorum* and *Vertigo pygmaea*.
- 6.3.3 This assemblage may be reflective of a generally open landscape with a number of shady environments, such as the edge of woodland or areas of long grass, also being exploited.

7 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 This evaluation successfully characterised and identified the nature and extents of the archaeological potential of the Site. Although a low archaeological potential was identified in some areas of the Site, most notably the western part of the northern field and much of the south-western field, a concentration of Romano-British activity was identified in the eastern part of the northern field of likely local or regional significance.
- 7.1.2 Within the northern field, although the nature and position of the features found differed from the geophysical interpretation, the geophysical survey was successful in defining the

area of archaeological potential and also the portion of the Site which had been substantially disturbed.

- 7.1.3 The geophysical survey appeared to be less efficacious in the south-western field with only east-west aligned features correctly identified, despite a number of more north-south aligned features being located within the trenches. This variation in the geophysical survey results is likely due to the variation in natural geology noted between the northern and the south-western fields and the nature of the archaeological deposits in the south-western area being less at variance to the natural geology and therefore less responsive to detection by geophysical techniques.

7.2 Prehistoric

- 7.2.1 No prehistoric features were located within the trenches though some residual struck flint and pottery was recovered suggesting activity within the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods. Although some of the undated features may also relate to prehistoric activity there is no evidence of intense prehistoric activity within the Site.

7.3 Romano-British

- 7.3.1 Romano-British settlement and activity has been located in the eastern part of Devizes prior to the development of new housing in areas adjacent to Wayside Farm (Valentin and Robinson 2002) and Brickley Lane (Poore *et al.*, 2002) some 2km to the south-east of the Site. There are also a number of finds and discoveries in and around Devizes dating from the 2nd to 4th century, including a hoard found in the late 17th century at Wick Green in the southern part of the town (Pastscape reference 216164) and the discovery in 1852 of pewter vessels, presumed to be Roman-British, in the vicinity of Lay Wood (Pastscape reference 1011304). A fragment of box flue tile found in the garden of 29 Cairds Lawns (misspelt Cards Lawns) (Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine 1964, 206) was taken as evidence of a Roman villa in the vicinity (Scott 1993, 201), this lies just to the west of the settlement activity identified in the Wayside Farm and Brickley Lane excavations. All this implies an area of Roman-British activity in the eastern part of Devizes of which this Site is likely to form a part.
- 7.3.2 Two distinct areas of Romano-British activity were identified on the Site. One area, centred on the western end of **Trench 23** in the south-western field, consisted of two ditches and small pit. The largest ditch, **2304**, which runs parallel to the western boundary of the Site, contained a large number of large pottery sherds apparently deposited from its western edge. This implies a region of occupation focused to the west of the Site, the area now occupied by Northfields housing estate. This activity does not appear to extend further eastwards and there seems to be a clear hiatus between this and the second area of Romano-British activity, which lies some 400m to the north-east, centred on **Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14**. The large fragments of pottery recovered from ditch **2304** indicate an Early Roman-British date (1st – 2nd century AD) for at least some of this activity.
- 7.3.3 Within **Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14** was a concentration of Romano-British features including a number of structural remains (**Figures 3 and 4**). The nature of these remains would tend to indicate a range of buildings in this area, most probably a villa complex. Fragments of floor and roofing tile were recovered from all of these trenches. The geophysical survey indicated areas of magnetic disturbance to the north of **Trench 10**, centred around **Trench 11** and to the north of and around **Trench 14**. Such readings are likely to be caused by demolition debris and suggest three potential ranges of buildings around a central courtyard or yard. The known structural remains within **Trench 12** would also suggest a building in this area.

- 7.3.4 The area of archaeological activity in the northern field can be seen to be located on a slightly higher plateau within the field with the ground falling away markedly to the south and west and slightly to the north before rising once more up to Horton Road. To the east the ground continues to climb slightly toward the brow of the hill.
- 7.3.5 The wide section of wall base **1211** within **Trench 12** was orientated on north-north-west – south-south-east alignment as were many of the other linear features in **Trenches 10 and 12**. The ditches investigated in **Trench 13** lie at right angles to this alignment. By contrast robber trench **1119** in **Trench 11** was on a north – south alignment as was **1126** to the south. The existence of two differing alignments implies more than one phase of building. In particular two variant alignments appear to be present in **Trench 11**.
- 7.3.6 Concurrent with the position of the hypocaust system located in **Trench 12** was a dipolar magnetic anomaly, which usually indicates ferrous or fired materials. Another large dipolar magnetic anomaly could be seen in the geophysical data just to the east of **Trench 11** may signify the presence of another flue or hypocaust. Box flue tiles fragments which are associated with hypocaust systems were recovered from **Trenches 11, 12 and 14**.
- 7.3.7 Indications from the finds assemblage are of activity from the 1st or 2nd century AD into the late 3rd of 4th century and suggest that the villa complex may span this date range. While villas were higher status dwellings there is considerable variation in their scale and opulence. Despite the presence of a single fragment of vessel glass, some tesserae and the indications for a hypocaust system, there are no indications within the excavated deposits for this being a high status villa site. The pottery assemblage is dominated by local coarsewares with only a few sherds of imported and fineware fabrics.
- 7.3.8 Local chalk seems to have formed the main construction material for the walls and it is possible that the upper portion of the walls or any second storey was timber built. While some roofing tiles were located there was also a number of sandstone fragments seen which could indicate stone roof slabs also being used. The evidence from **Trench 11** suggests that a least some of the structural remains were deliberately removed after use.

7.4 Historic field boundaries

- 7.4.1 A number of historic field boundaries were identified during the evaluation primarily in the northern field however these could not be consistently identified in all the trenches where they were predicted to occur. This suggests a degree of truncation and disturbance within a number of areas of the Site. Where investigated the field boundaries ditches were often shown to be wide but fairly shallow in some places, suggestive of parallel ditches flanking a bank or hedgerow.

7.5 Modern activity

- 7.5.1 The western part of the Site appears to have been substantially disturbed in the late 1960s or early 1970s when a number of field boundaries were removed and the ground appears to have been truncated. This is also likely to correspond to the creation of the made ground deposit which covers much of this area of the Site. The date at which this occurs corresponds to the removal of the remains of the hutted camp known as Camp 23, which was used as a Prisoner of War (POW) camp during WWII and the construction of the County Council Depot immediately adjacent to the north-western boundary of the Site.



8 FURTHER POTENTIAL

8.1 Structural and Overall Potential

- 8.1.1 This evaluation has clearly identified a villa complex and associated features within the area of **Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14**. However at this stage due to the small sample of the remains exposed and investigated details of the layout and phasing of this complex are unclear.
- 8.1.2 At this stage the potential of further analysis of the material collected is very limited. No recommendations for further analysis have been proposed for the pottery or environmental samples. However, if further work was undertaken, the results from this evaluation would both inform and need to be incorporated into any future work.
- 8.1.3 Overall, the archaeological deposits have local and regional significance in that they further contribute to the knowledge of Romano-British settlement in Wiltshire.

8.2 Artefactual

- 8.2.1 The assessment results indicate that the preservation of artefacts is generally good across all parts of the site. Chronological evidence, primarily from the pottery, indicates that the activity is predominantly of Romano-British date, although more precise dating is hampered by the nature of the features and deposits the assemblage is derived from. The largest groups of all material types were found within mixed demolition rubble deposits, while material accumulated in ditches is generally only allowed to do so once the ditch has gone out of use.
- 8.2.2 No items of particular intrinsic interest were recovered, but the range of material culture is sufficient to indicate something of the nature of the Romano-British settlement, its economy and lifestyle of its inhabitants. The structural remains and building materials clearly indicate a substantial, fully Romanised building with a tiled (ceramic and/or stone) roof and a hypocaust heating system. The presence of *opus signinum*, a mortar associated with flooring and bath houses, and two tesserae suggest the potential for mosaic or tessellated pavements, though the degree of preservation of any such flooring is unknown. The animal bone indicates that the pastoral economy is based upon a mixed strategy of livestock husbandry (i.e. cattle and sheep/goat farming), while further, traded food resources (e.g. oysters) were also reaching the site. The pottery provides evidence for the trading links, ceramic influences and the types of vessels used, while items such as the glass provide limited evidence for comparatively gracious living, well beyond that of most subsistence farmers or rural craftsmen. Although present residually and in very small amounts, the Neolithic flint and pottery, as well as the slightly later arrowhead, all of which survive in good fresh condition, highlight the potential for further, well-preserved earlier prehistoric remains, if larger areas were to be examined.
- 8.2.3 The finds have all been recorded to fairly detailed levels (e.g. animal species/anatomical element, pottery ware types), and no further work on any of the material types is proposed at this stage. However, any future archaeological excavations at the site have a high potential to produce substantial, well-preserved and securely stratified assemblages, of Romano-British date and of all material types. There is also a lower potential for some prehistoric material. These are likely to provide more significant, detailed information about life in the area, and the material recovered from this evaluation should be reviewed at this stage.

8.3 Environmental

Charred plant remains

- 8.3.1 The analysis of the charred plant assemblages has the potential to provide some information on the nature of the settlement, the local environment, local agricultural practices and crop husbandry techniques during the Romano-British period. No further work is proposed on these samples at this stage but they should be considered for analysis once any further work on the site has taken place.
- 8.3.2 The results of this analysis could provide a comparison with the data from other sites in the local area, such as Brickley Lane (Pelling 2002) and Wayside Farm (Carruthers 2002).

Wood charcoal

- 8.3.3 The small quantities of wood charcoal recovered means there is little potential for ascertaining information on the species composition, management and exploitation of the local woodland resource on the site. No further work is proposed on these samples.

Land snails

- 8.3.4 Further analysis of this assemblage from single deposit is unlikely to provide a more detailed picture of the nature of the local landscape. No further work is proposed on these samples.

Recommendations for sampling

- 8.3.5 Samples should be taken for the recovery of charred plant remains where permitting from phased features, especially any arising and related to settlement activities and/or structures. Features that are specifically related to burning activities, such as cremations, should also be sampled. Generally samples should be taken covering as wider range of feature types, and phases as possible. Where available deposits permit, sample size should be of 20 to 30 litres from individual, secure contexts. However, if context are encountered that consist predominately of carbonised wood charcoal, in these cases smaller samples of 10 litres would appear suitable.
- 8.3.6 Although no mineralised remains were observed in the evaluation samples, samples should be taken for the recovery of mineralised plant remains where features are cut into greensand following the same sampling criteria as for charred plant remains. Mineralised plant remains have survived on other sites on greensand in the area, such as Brickley Lane (Pelling 2002) and Wayside Farm (Carruthers 2002).
- 8.3.7 There is some mollusc preservation on the site, so columns of snail samples should be taken through a selection of any suitable phased deep features, such as enclosure ditches, to provide information on the nature of the local landscape.

9 STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

- 9.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes. The Museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project currently under the project code **101070**. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.



9.2 Archive

- 9.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; IfA 2009; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 9.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the project code **101070**, and a full index will be prepared

9.3 Discard policy

- 9.3.1 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. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 9.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2002).

9.4 Copyright

- 9.4.1 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 recipient museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms with the *Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003*.
- 9.4.2 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report

9.5 Security Copy

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

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11 APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1:Trench Summaries

bgl = below ground level

TRENCH 1			
Dimensions: 51.40x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.88m	Ground level: 130.90-131.72m aOD
Easting: 402768		Northing: 163060	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
101	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty clay loam. 1% flint, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Homogeneous. Friable. Bioturbated. Distinct interface with 102. Overlies 102.	0.00-0.28 bgl
102	<i>Made Ground</i>	Made ground, thickness varies along length of trench. Mix of mid grey sandy clay and white chalky clay. Compact. Distinct interface with 101 and 103. Overlies 103.	0.28-0.82 bgl
103	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Light brown clay with occasional patches of green sand. Occasional mottling. Distinct interface with 102.	0.82+ bgl

TRENCH 2			
Dimensions: 49.30x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.94m	Ground level: 131.08-131.32m aOD
Easting: 402830		Northing: 163033	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
201	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown sandy silt loam. 1% flint, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Homogeneous. Loose. Bioturbated. Distinct interface with 202. Overlies 202.	0.00-0.26 bgl
202	<i>Made Ground</i>	Made ground, thickness varies along length of trench. Mix of peat, chalk, light grey sandy clay and green sandy clay. Friable. Distinct interface with 201 and 203. Overlies 203.	0.26-0.90 bgl
203	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid green-grey clay. Compact. Distinct interface with 202.	0.90+ bgl

TRENCH 3			
Dimensions: 50.30x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.46m	Ground level: 131.61-132.14m aOD
Easting: 402886		Northing: 163066	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
301	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown-grey sandy silt. 1% flint, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Homogeneous. Loose. Bioturbated. Distinct interface with 302. Overlies 302.	0.00-0.20 bgl
302	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Dark orange-brown silty sand. 1% flint, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <4cm. Homogeneous. Friable. Clear interface with 301 and 303. Overlies 303.	0.20-0.38 bgl
303	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid orange-grey sand, mottled. Loose. Clear interface with 302.	0.38+ bgl

TRENCH 4			
Dimensions: 49.70x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.36m	Ground level: 132.82-133.41m aOD
Easting: 402944		Northing: 163073	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
401	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown sandy silt. 1% flint, sub-angular, <1-6cm. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Distinct interface with 402. Overlies 402.	0.00-0.30 bgl
402	<i>Natural</i>	Natural Geology. Light to mid orange brown sand. Homogenous. Loose. Distinct interface with 401.	0.30+ bgl



TRENCH 5			
Dimensions: 48.40x2.10m		Max. depth: 0.70m	Ground level: 133.56-133.88m aOD
Easting: 402994		Northing: 163066	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
501	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Mid brown-grey sandy silt loam. 1% flint, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Homogeneous. Loose. Bioturbated. Clear interface with 502. Overlies 502.	
502	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mix of mottled light yellow-brown and light grey sand. Friable. Bioturbated. Clear interface with 501.	
503	Pit	Sub-oval pit or natural feature filled with 504. Unexcavated. 0.74m+ long, 0.60m wide. Cuts 502.	
504	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Deliberate backfill or natural fill of pit 503. Very dark grey to black silty sand. Charcoal rich appearance. Very slightly mixed. Compact. Distinct interface with 502. Unexcavated.	
505	<i>Layer</i>	Possible old tree lined boundary. Mottled grey and dark orange sandy silt. Occasional patches of dark green sandstone. Diffuse interface with 502. Unexcavated.	

TRENCH 6			
Dimensions: 48.30x2.10m		Max. depth: 0.74m	Ground level: 132.34-132.56m aOD
Easting: 402963		Northing: 162992	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
601	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Mid brown-grey sandy silt. 1% flint, sub-angular, <1-5cm. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Clear interface with 602. Overlies 602.	
602	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Light grey-brown sandy silt. 1% flint, sub-angular, <1-6cm. Homogeneous. Loose. Clear interface with 601 and 603. Overlies 603.	
603	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow-grey sand. Friable. Distinct interface with 602.	
604	Cut	Possible sub-oval pit or furrow filled with 605. Straight, moderately sloping sides, flat base. 0.94m wide. Cuts 603.	
605	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Deliberate backfill of 604, possible demolition material. Very dark orange brown sandy silt. 20% stone, sub-angular - angular, <1-10cm. Friable. Diffuse interface with 603.	
606	<i>Layer</i>	Possible old tree lined boundary. Mottled grey and orange sandy silt. Very diffuse interface with 603. Unexcavated.	

TRENCH 7			
Dimensions: 49.20x1.80m		Max. depth: 1.20m	Ground level: 130.90-131.70m aOD
Easting: 402892		Northing: 163010	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
701	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty clay loam. 1% flint, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Homogeneous. Friable. Bioturbated. Distinct interface with 702. Overlies 702.	
702	<i>Made Ground</i>	Made ground, thickness varies along length of trench. Mix of white chalky clay and mid grey silty clay with occasional bands of peat. Fragments of plastic and concrete. Compact. Distinct interface with 701 and 703. Overlies 703.	
703	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid orange-brown clay. 1% flint, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-10cm. Homogenous. Compact. Distinct interface with 702.	
704	Ditch	North - south aligned large undated possible field boundary filled with 705. In conjunction with 706, may have flanked bank feature. Cuts 703. Unexcavated.	
705	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of ditch 704. Dark grey-brown silty clay. Contains large wood	



		fragments, possibly tree stumps. Compact. Distinct horizon with 703. Unexcavated.	
706	<i>Ditch</i>	North - south aligned large undated possible field boundary filled with 707. In conjunction with 704, may have flanked bank feature. Cuts 703. Unexcavated.	-
707	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of Ditch 706. Very dark grey silty clay. Less green sand and clay than 705. Abundant large wood fragments. Humic. Compact. Distinct horizon with 703. Unexcavated.	-

TRENCH 8			
Dimensions: 48.00x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.72m	Ground level: 130.32-130.87m aOD
Easting: 402828		Northing: 162981	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
801	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown silt loam. 1% chalk, angular, <1-2cm. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 802.	
802	<i>Made Ground</i>	Made ground. Mottled green-grey and black sandy loam and peat. 10% chalk, rounded, <1cm. Very mixed. Compact. Overlies 803.	
803	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Dark brown clay. Slightly mottled. Compact.	

TRENCH 9			
Dimensions: 48.00x1.80m		Max. depth: 1.40m	Ground level: 130.45-130.68m aOD
Easting: 402890		Northing: 162942	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
901	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Mid-dark grey-brown silty clay loam. 3% flint, sub-angular, <1-6cm. Homogeneous. Loose. Bioturbated. Distinct interface with 902. Overlies 902.	
902	<i>Made Ground</i>	Made ground. Mix of dark grey clay loam, light yellow brown sand and peat. 20% chalk, sub-angular and 1% concrete, sub-angular. Fragments of plastic and modern pottery, not retained. Compact. Distinct interface with 901 and 903. Overlies 903.	
903	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid grey-green silty clay. Compact. Clear interface with 902.	
904	<i>Layer</i>	Possible old tree lined boundary. Mottled dark grey and orange silty clay. 16m wide. Very common wood fragments. Compact. Diffuse interface with 903. Unexcavated.	
905	<i>Ditch</i>	North-west - south-east aligned possible land drain filled with 906. 0.30m wide. Cuts 903. Unexcavated.	
906	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Deliberate backfill of ditch 905. Pale orange silty clay. 50% chalk. Unexcavated.	

TRENCH 10			
Dimensions: 48.50x2.10m		Max. depth: 0.70m	Ground level: 131.00-132.33m aOD
Easting: 402960		Northing: 162926	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1001	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Mid to dark grey-brown sandy silt. Homogeneous. Friable. Bioturbated. Overlies 1002.	
1002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Dark grey-brown sandy silt. 10% limestone and chalk, <1-3cm. Compact. Bioturbated. Overlies 1003.	
1003	<i>Layer</i>	Fragments of chalk within this layer suggest that this is not unaltered natural geology. Mid to pale greyish green silty sand. 5% chalk and flint <1-3cm. Compact.	
1004	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1005. Mid brown-grey sandy silt. 10% limestone and chalk fragments, sub-angular <1-5cm. Frequent chalk flecking. Slightly mixed. Moderately compact.	
1005	<i>Ditch</i>	North-west - south-east aligned linear ditch filled with 1004. Moderate, straight sides, concave base. 0.7m wide. Cuts ditch	



		1007.	
1006	Secondary fill	Secondary fill of ditch 1007. Dark brown-grey sandy silt. 5% stones, sub-angular, <0.5cm. Fairly homogenous. Moderately compact. Overlies 1008.	0.46 deep
1007	Ditch	North-north-west – south-south-east aligned linear ditch filled with 1006 and 1008. Steep, straight sides, concave base. 1.2m wide. Cut by later ditch 1005. Cuts 1003.	0.50 deep
1008	Primary fill	Primary fill of ditch 1007. Light green-brown silty sand. Slightly mixed. Moderately compact. Underlies 1006. Overlies cut of ditch 1007.	0.08 deep
1009	Secondary fill	Secondary fill of ditch 1010. Dark brown-grey sandy silt. 10% limestone and chalk, <1-5cm. Possible building rubble in top of fill. Unexcavated.	-
1010	Ditch	North-east - south-west aligned linear ditch filled with 1009. 1m wide. Cuts 1003. Unexcavated.	-
1011	Fill	Fill of ditch 1012, possibly linear spread of rubble. Dark brown-grey sandy silt. 10% limestone and chalk, sub-angular, <2-6cm.	0.10 deep
1012	Ditch	North-north-west – south-south-east aligned very shallow linear ditch filled with 1011, possibly heavily truncated. Shallow, irregular sides, flat base. 1m wide. Cuts 1003.	0.10 deep
1013	Secondary fill	Secondary fill of ditch 1014. Mid grey-brown sandy silt. Rare chalk and limestone flecking.	0.20 deep
1014	Ditch	North-north-west – south-south-east aligned shallow and narrow linear ditch filled with 1013. Steep, straight sides, flat base. 0.5m wide. Parallel with ditch 1016. Cuts 1003.	0.20 deep
1015	Secondary fill	Secondary fill of ditch 1016. Dark brown-grey sandy silt. 20% chalk and limestone rubble, sub-angular, <0.5-3cm. Unexcavated.	-
1016	Ditch	North-north-west – south-south-east aligned linear narrow ditch filled with 1015. 0.5m wide. Parallel with 1014. Cuts 1003. Unexcavated.	-

TRENCH 11			
Dimensions: 48.70x2.10m		Max. depth: 0.54m	Ground level: 131.47-131.90m aOD
Easting: 402973		Northing: 162902	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1101	Topsoil	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty sand. Homogeneous. Loose. Bioturbated. Diffuse interface with 1102. Overlies 1102.	0.00-0.22 bgl
1102	Subsoil	Modern subsoil. Dark green-grey silty sand. Diffuse interface with 1103. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Overlies 1103 and 1108.	0.12-0.40 bgl
1103	Layer	Fragments of chalk within this layer suggest that this is not unaltered natural geology. Dark grey-green sandy clay loam with rare orange sand. 5% chalk, <2-6cm. Sparse chalk flecks. Compact.	0.40+ bgl
1104	Pit	North-west - south-east aligned oval pit filled with 1105. 1.54m long, 0.70m wide. Cuts 1103. Unexcavated.	-
1105	Deliberate backfill	Possible deliberate backfill/demolition rubble. Fill of pit 1104. Grey-green silt loam. 5% chalk blocks with evidence of shaping, 6-20cm, 40cm+ and common chalk flecks. Unexcavated.	-
1106	Cut	Possible cut filled with rubble layer 1107. Full extent not clearly seen but 7m+ wide. Steep, straight sides, full depth not seen. Cuts 1111. Relationship with 1123 not known.	0.30+ deep
1107	Layer	Layer of demolition rubble, fill of 1106. Dark yellow-brown silty sand. 20% stones, angular, 6-20cm and 10% gravel. 2% CBM, angular. 25% chalk fragments, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <1-20cm. Mixed. Fairly compact.	0.30+ deep
1108	Layer	Layer of demolition rubble. Dark yellow silt loam. 25% Chalk	0.24 deep



		fragments 5% CBM fragments, angular, 6-20cm and abundant chalk flecks. Diffuse interface with 1102. Truncated by 1106. Overlies 1109 and 1111.	
1109	<i>Layer</i>	Mid yellow sand, possibly degraded mortar. Contains possible burnt mortar. Slightly mixed. Fairly friable. Surrounding 1110. Overlies 1112. Underlies 1108.	0.10 deep
1110	<i>Structure</i>	Remains of east-south-east – west-north-west aligned structure, possible wall remnant. Sandstone and chalk blocks, roughly shaped, bonded with mid yellow sand/mortar. Seen at base of trench so no coursing identified. Left <i>in situ</i> . Underlies 1109. Relationship with 1112 unclear.	0.12+ high
1111	<i>Layer</i>	Mid yellow sand, possibly degraded mortar. Contains burnt mortar/ sooty material. 20% stone, angular, <1-20cm. Mixed. Fairly compact. Relationship with 1112 unclear. Not fully excavated. Underlies 1108, cut by 1106.	0.12+ deep
1112	<i>Layer</i>	Burnt mortar/ sooty material lying between layers 1109 and 1111. Sparse charcoal. Fairly homogenous. Relationship to structure 1110 unclear. Largely unexcavated.	0.04+ deep
1113	<i>Pit</i>	Series of possible pit features filled with 1113, not fully seen in plan. Moderately sloping, slightly concave sides, flat base however only partially seen. Cuts 1107. Only partially excavated.	0.18+ deep
1114	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of pit features 1113. Dark green-brown silty sand. Rare chalk flecks. Slightly bioturbated. Homogenous. Only partially excavated.	0.18+ deep
1115	<i>Linear</i>	East-south-east – west-north-west aligned linear filled with 1116, possible wall remnant. Parallel with 1117. 0.55m wide. Cuts 1123. Unexcavated.	-
1116	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of linear 1115. Dark brown-yellow sandy clay loam. 40% chalk fragments, <1-20cm. Larger chalk blocks, 20cm+, appear to be regular in shape. 5% sandstone, angular, 6-20cm. Rare ceramic flecks. Unexcavated.	-
1117	<i>Linear</i>	East-south-east – west-north-west aligned linear filled with 1118, possible wall remnant or robber cut. Parallel with 1115. 0.40m wide. Cuts 1123. Unexcavated.	-
1118	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of linear 1117, possibly backfilled demolition rubble. Dark brown-yellow sand. Abundant chalk flecks and fragments. Rare ceramic flecks. Slightly mixed. Unexcavated.	-
1119	<i>Robber trench</i>	North - south aligned robber trench filled with 1120, 1121, 1122 and 1124. Steep, straight sides, eastern edge slightly concave, concave base. 1.0m wide. Cuts 1123.	0.50 deep
1120	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Deliberate backfill of robber trench 1119. Pale yellow-white coarse sand mortar. 25% sandstone and gravel fragments, angular. Mixed. Overlies 1122.	0.25 deep
1121	<i>Fill</i>	Possible deliberate backfill of robber trench 1119. Dark green sandy silt. 5% sandstone, angular, <1-20cm. Large flat sandstone fragments. Common chalk flecks. Slightly mixed. Moderately compact. Overlies cut 1119.	0.18 deep
1122	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Deliberate backfill of robber trench 1119. Mid grey coarse sand. Contains light yellow-brown mortar. Common chalk flecks. Rare charcoal flecks. Rare ceramic flecks. Slightly mixed. Overlies 1124.	0.14 deep
1123	<i>Layer</i>	Layer of demolition rubble. Dark brown-green sandy silt. 25% chalk fragments, angular, 2-20cm. 3% flat sandstone fragments. 2% CBM. Possible continuation of 1107.	0.40 deep
1124	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of robber trench 1119, mortar lens, possible trample. White-yellow coarse sand. 35% chalk, <1-6cm. Abundant chalk flecks. Overlies 1121.	0.02 deep



1125	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Likely deliberate backfill of robber trench 1126. Mid yellow-grey coarse sand. 20% chalk, angular, <1-8cm. 15% mid yellow mortar. Abundant chalk flecks. Mixed. Compact.	0.62 deep
1126	Robber trench	North - south aligned linear robber trench filled with 1125. Steep, straight sides, flat - slightly concave base. Full extent in plan not seen, 1.95m+ wide, 4.80m+ long. Cuts 1129.	0.62 deep
1127	<i>Layer</i>	Possible demolition rubble or makeup, only small area seen. Dark brown-green sandy silt. 30% chalk, angular, 2-20cm. 3% sandstone. 2% CBM. Slightly mixed. Compact. Unexcavated. Cut by 1130.	-
1128	<i>Layer</i>	Layer of demolition rubble and debris, similar to 1107 and 1123. Dark brown-green sandy silt. 35% chalk, <1-20cm. Abundant chalk flecks. 15% sandstone and CBM. Unexcavated. Relationship to 1123 unknown.	0.50 deep
1129	<i>Fill</i>	Possible structure, fill of construction cut 1130. Mid yellow silty sand. 20% stone, angular, 6-20cm. Number of stones of uniform size positioned in a linear north - south alignment, surrounded by a dry sand mortar. Sparse chalk flecks. Compact. Left <i>in situ</i> .	-
1130	Cut	Possible construction cut filled with 1129. Not fully seen in plan. Truncated by 1126. Unexcavated. Cuts 1127.	-
1131	<i>Layer</i>	Linear north-west – south-east area of pale green sand. <1% chalk flecks. Homogenous. Unexcavated so exact nature unclear.	-

TRENCH 12			
Dimensions: 49.00x2.10m		Max. depth: 0.96m	Ground level: 132.18-132.47m aOD
Easting: 403018		Northing: 162918	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1201	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty sandy loam. 1% flint, sub-angular, <1-4cm. Homogeneous. Loose. Bioturbated. Diffuse interface with 1202. Overlies 1202.	0.00-0.40 bgl
1202	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Mid grey/green-brown silty sandy loam. 1% gravel, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <1-2cm. Sparse chalk flecks. Fairly loose. Diffuse interface with 1201 and 1203. Overlies 1203.	0.27-0.55 bgl
1203	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Dark grey-brown sandy clay with mid green and brown mottling. Sparse chalk flecking. Firm and compact. Overlies 1204.	0.55+ bgl
1204	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Light-mid green sand with sparse grey and brown mottling. Loose. Clear interface with 1203.	0.55+ bgl
1205	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of linear 1206. Mid brown silty sand. 1% stones, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <1-2cm. Fairly clear interface with 1203. Unexcavated.	-
1206	Ditch	North north-west - south south-east aligned linear filled with 1205. 0.45m wide. Cuts 1203. Unexcavated.	-
1207	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of linear 1208. Mid grey-brown silty sand. Sparse chalk flecks. Rare charcoal flecks. Rare orange-brown clay flecks. Slightly diffuse horizon with 1203. Unexcavated.	-
1208	Ditch	North north-west - south south-east aligned linear filled with 1207. 0.98m wide. Cuts 1203. Unexcavated.	-
1209	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of linear 1210. Mid-dark brown sandy silt loam. 5% chalk, sub-rounded - angular, <6-20cm. Sparse but large chalk fragments. Moderate charcoal flecking. Sparse orange clay flecking. Fairly loose. Slightly diffuse interface with natural. Unexcavated.	-
1210	Ditch	North north-west - south south-east aligned linear filled with 1209. 1.32m wide. Cuts 1203. Unexcavated.	-
1211	<i>Wall</i>	Section of north-north-west – south-south-east aligned Roman wall. White chalk blocks (30-17x21-14cm), rectangular and faced.	-



		Bonded with very pale yellow-white lime mortar. Core composed of chalk rubble. Seen at base of trench so no coursing identified. 1.4m wide. Full length not seen. Left <i>in situ</i> . Butted by later 1212 to the east and potentially by flue/ hypocaust structure 1219 to the west and south.	
1212	Structure	Possible north - south aligned Roman wall butting earlier 1211 to the west. Chalk blocks, sub-rounded - sub-angular, 5-30cm. Does not have a well-defined face/ core structure. Bonded with very pale yellow-white lime mortar. Seen at base of trench so no coursing identified. Left <i>in situ</i> .	-
1213	Cut	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of 1212. Not visible in plan. Unexcavated.	-
1214	Secondary fill	Secondary fill of linear 1215. Mid brown silty sand. 1% stones, sub-angular, <1-2cm. Very rare orange clay flecking. Moderately compact. Unexcavated.	-
1215	Ditch	North - south aligned linear filled with 1214. 0.60m wide. Cuts 1203. Unexcavated.	-
1216	Structure	Possible wall base, north-north-west – south-south-east aligned. Chalk blocks, sub-rounded - sub-angular, 6-20cm bonded with very pale white-yellow lime mortar. 0.60m wide. Only visible in section. Underlies 1201.	0.26 high
1217	Cut	Construction cut of possible north– south wall base 1216. Vertical, straight sides, slightly concave base. 0.60m wide. Cuts base of 1202.	0.26 deep
1218	Cut	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of 1211. Not visible in plan. Unexcavated.	-
1219	Structure	Hypocaust in a linear alignment north - south and east - west. Square clay <i>pedalis</i> tiles (20-30x20-30cm) set in very pale yellow-white lime mortar. Seen at base of trench so no coursing identified. Left <i>in situ</i> .	-
1220	Layer	Very dark grey-black soot and charcoal mixed with lime mortar, associated with underlying 1219. 2% chalk, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <1-5cm. Fairly loose. Sampled. Overlies 1219.	-
1221	Cut	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of 1219. Not visible in plan. Unexcavated.	-
1222	Structure	Possible wall base, north-north-west – south-south-east aligned. Chalk blocks, sub-rounded - sub-angular, 5-20cm bonded with very pale white-yellow lime mortar. 0.72m wide. Only visible in section. Underlies 1201.	0.22 high
1223	Cut	Construction cut of possible north-north-west – south-south-east wall base 1222. Vertical, straight sides, slightly concave base. 0.72m wide. Cuts base of 1202.	0.22 deep
1224	Layer	Spread of demolition rubble. 20% chalk blocks, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <5-20cm, abundant chalk flecking, 5% sub-angular - angular CBM and abundant lime mortar, very mixed. Only visible in section. Underlies 1201. Overlies 1211, 1212 and 1220.	0.38 deep

TRENCH 13			
Dimensions: 47.40x2.10m		Max. depth: 0.80m	Ground level: 132.45-133.00m aOD
Easting: 403023		Northing: 162948	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1301	Topsoil	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty sand. Homogeneous. Loose. Bioturbated. Diffuse interface with 1302. Overlies 1302.	
1302	Subsoil	Modern subsoil. Dark green-grey-brown silty sand. Fairly loose. Diffuse interface with 1301 and 1303. Overlies 1303.	
1303	Natural	Natural geology. Dark grey-green sandy clay loam. Sparse chalk flecks. Rare small patches of orange-brown sand. Firm and	



		compact.	
1304	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1305, possible deliberate backfill. Green-grey silt clay loam. 3% chalk and stone, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Fairly homogenous. Moderately compact.	0.96 deep
1305	<i>Ditch</i>	East-south-east – west-north-west aligned linear ditch filled with 1304. Steep, concave sides, concave base. 1.78m wide. Cuts 1303.	0.96 deep
1306	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1307. Dark green-grey-brown sandy silt. 3% chalk, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Rare charcoal flecking. Fairly homogenous. Moderately compact.	0.30 deep
1307	<i>Ditch</i>	East-south-east – west-north-west aligned shallow linear ditch filled with 1306. Shallow, straight sides, concave base. 1.30m wide. Cuts 1303.	0.30 deep
1308	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1309, possible deliberate backfill. Mid to dark green-grey silty clay sand. 15% chalk, sub-rounded - rounded, 2-10cm. 1% flint, angular, 2-6cm. Frequent charcoal fragments. Fairly homogenous. Fairly compact but friable.	0.31 deep
1309	<i>Ditch</i>	East-south-east – west-north-west aligned linear ditch filled with 1308. Moderate - steep straight sides, slightly concave base. 0.85m wide. Cuts 1303.	0.31 deep

TRENCH 14			
Dimensions: 48.60x18.75m		Max. depth: 0.60m	Ground level: 130.50-131.05m aOD
Easting: 403018		Northing: 162850	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1401	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty sandy loam. 1% stone, <1-2cm. Homogeneous. Fairly compact but friable. Loose. Slightly diffuse interface with 1402. Overlies 1402.	0.00-0.20 bgl
1402	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Mid grey-green silty sand. 2% stones, <1-2cm. 5% chalk, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <1-4cm. Moderate chalk flecking. Fairly loose. Slightly diffuse interface with 1403. Overlies 1403.	0.18-0.45 bgl
1403	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Light - mid green sand with grey and brown mottling. 5% chalk, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <1-5cm. Moderate chalk flecking. Compact but friable.	0.45+ bgl
1404	<i>Layer</i>	Layer of demolition rubble. Dark grey brown silty sand with occasional patches of natural mid green sand 1403. 40% chalk fragments, rounded - angular, <1-30cm and abundant flecking. 3% orange clay fragments, 2-6cm and sparse flecking. 15% pale yellow-white lime mortar fragments. Underlies 1402. Overlies 1403.	0.50 deep
1405	<i>Structure</i>	East - west aligned remains of demolished linear structure. 40% chalk, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <5-30cm, facing not visible. 2% lime mortar. 0.66m wide. Unexcavated.	-
1406	<i>Cut</i>	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of 1405. Cuts 1404. Unexcavated.	-
1407	<i>Structure</i>	North - south aligned remains of demolished rectangular structure. 40% chalk, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <5-30cm, larger stones appear dressed. 10% lime mortar. 1% <i>opus signinum</i> . 1.40m wide. Unexcavated.	-
1408	<i>Cut</i>	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of 1407. Cuts 1404. Unexcavated.	-
1409	<i>Structure</i>	North-west - south-east aligned remains of demolished rectangular structure, possible wall terminus. 40% chalk, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <5-30cm, facing not visible. 10% lime mortar. 1% clay fragments. 0.82m wide. Unexcavated.	-
1410	<i>Cut</i>	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of	-



		1409. Cuts 1404. Unexcavated.	
1411	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of linear 1412. Dark grey-green silty sand with rare patches of orange-yellow sand. Rare orange clay and charcoal flecking. 1% chalk and sandstone, sub-angular, <10-15cm. Moderate chalk flecking. Compact but friable. Unexcavated.	-
1412	<i>Linear</i>	North - south aligned linear filled with 1411. 1.55m wide. Cuts 1403. Unexcavated.	-
1413	<i>Wall</i>	Section of north-east - south west aligned linear wall of possible Roman plunge pool. Chalk blocks (26-14x26-22cm), sub-rectangular and faced, heat effected in places. Bonded with very pale yellow-white lime mortar. Seen at base of trench so no coursing identified. 0.54m wide. Left <i>in situ</i> .	-
1414	<i>Cut</i>	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of 1413. Cuts 1404. Unexcavated.	-
1415	<i>Structure</i>	North - south aligned remains of demolished sub-circular structure. 40% chalk, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <5-30cm, facing not visible. 15% lime mortar. 1.55m diameter. Unexcavated.	-
1416	<i>Cut</i>	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of 1415. Cuts 1403. Unexcavated.	
1417	<i>Structure</i>	North - south aligned remains of demolished sub-oval structure. 40% chalk, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <5-30cm, facing not visible. 2% lime mortar. 1.28m diameter, full dimensions not visible. Unexcavated.	-
1418	<i>Cut</i>	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of 1417. Cuts 1403. Unexcavated.	-
1419	<i>Structure</i>	North-west - south-east aligned remains of demolished rectangular/linear structure. 40% chalk, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <5-30cm, larger stones appear dressed. 10% lime mortar. 1% orange clay fragments. 3% <i>opus signinum</i> . 1.60m wide. Unexcavated.	-
1420	<i>Cut</i>	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of 1419. Cuts 1403. Unexcavated.	-
1421	<i>Fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1422. Dark grey-brown sandy silt. 3% Chalk, sub-angular - sub-rounded, <1-3cm and sparse flecking. 3% limestone, sub-rounded - sub-angular, <1-6cm. 1% lime mortar, <1-5cm. Homogenous. Friable. Clear interface with 1403.	0.65 deep
1422	<i>Ditch</i>	North-north-east – south-south-west aligned ditch filled with 1421. Moderate - steep, concave sides, undulating base. 1.80m wide. Cuts 1403.	0.65 deep
1423	<i>Wall</i>	Section of north-east - south aligned curvilinear wall of possible plunge pool or decorative niche. Chalk blocks (26-16x22-16cm), sub-rectangular and faced, heat effected in places. Bonded with very pale yellow-white lime mortar. Seen at base of trench so no coursing identified. 0.30m wide. Left <i>in situ</i> .	-
1424	<i>Cut</i>	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of 1423. Cuts 1404. Unexcavated.	-
1425	<i>Layer</i>	Lower layer of mortar concentrated demolition rubble. Light - mid grey-white sandy silt. 20% chalk blocks, sub-angular, <5-10cm. 40% very pale yellow-white lime mortar. Fairly compact. Diffuse interface with 1404. Underlying 1404. Unexcavated.	-
1426	<i>Structure</i>	Corner of chalk blocks seen in northern edge of trench. 40% chalk, sub-angular - angular, 10-30cm, larger stones appear dressed. Pale yellow-white lime mortar. 0.60m+ wide but only partially seen. Unexcavated.	-
1427	<i>Cut</i>	Nominal number given to represent the construction cut of 1426. Cuts 1403. Unexcavated.	-



TRENCH 15			
Dimensions: 49.81x2.10m		Max. depth: 0.52m	Ground level: 128.53-130.54m aOD
Easting: 403024		Northing: 162799	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1501	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty sand. Homogeneous. Loose. Bioturbated. Diffuse interface with 1502. Overlies 1502.	
1502	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Green-brown silty sand. Diffuse interface with 1501 and 1503. Overlies 1503.	
1503	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Dark grey-green sandy clay loam. Sparse chalk flecks. Compact.	
1504	Ditch	North-north-west – south-south-east ditch, possible field drain/irrigation ditch filled with 1504. Steep, straight sides, concave base. 0.60m wide. Cuts 1503.	
1505	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of linear 1504. Dark grey-blue silty loam. Sparse ceramic and sandstone flecks. Homogenous. Moderately compact.	

TRENCH 16			
Dimensions: 49.60x2.10m		Max. depth: 0.86m	Ground level: 128.40-128.99m aOD
Easting: 403082		Northing: 162765	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1601	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty clay loam. 1% flint, 2-6cm. 1% chalk, 2-6cm. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 1602.	
1602	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Dark orange-brown sandy clay loam. No visible inclusions. Overlies 1603.	
1603	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Light yellow-green sandy clay loam at south-west end, sandy loam at north-east end. Compact.	
1604	Linear	North-north-west – south-south-east aligned possible hedge line filled with 1605. Concave, shallow sides, flat base. 2.56m wide. Cut by north north-west - south south-east aligned field drain 1607. Parallel to 1611. Cuts 1603.	
1605	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of linear 1604. Dark green-brown silty clay. No visible inclusions. Fairly homogenous. Moderately compact.	
1606	<i>Layer</i>	Layer at west end of trench, possibly related to canal/alluvial deposit. Mid brown-orange. Rare chalk flecks. Underlying 1602. Overlying 1603.	
1607	Land drain	North - south aligned linear land drain filled with 1608. 0.25m wide. Cuts 1603. Unexcavated.	
1608	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Deliberate backfill of land drain 1607. Orange-green silty clay. Mixed. Compact. Unexcavated.	
1609	Ditch	North-north-east – south-south-west aligned possible ditch, filled with 1610. Unclear, diffuse feature. 0.45m wide. Cuts 1603. Unexcavated.	
1610	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of possible linear 1609. Mid brown-orange loamy sand. No visible inclusions. Slightly mixed. Unexcavated.	
1611	Linear	North-north-west – south-south-east aligned possible hedge line filled with 1612. 4.3m wide. Parallel to 1604. Unexcavated. Cuts 1603.	
1612	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of linear 1604. Dark green-brown silty clay. No visible inclusions. Fairly homogenous. Moderately compact. Unexcavated.	



TRENCH 17			
Dimensions: 46.50x2.10m		Max. depth: 0.47m	Ground level: 127.77-128.30m aOD
Easting: 402995		Northing: 162757	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1701	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown silt loam. 2% chalk gravel, well-rounded, <1-2cm. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 1702.	
1702	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid blue- green clay. Occasional mid green-brown diffuse mottling especially in upper portion of deposit. Compact.	
1703	Ditch	South-east - north-west aligned linear ditch filled with 1704. Moderate, concave sides, concave base. 0.91m wide. Intersects with ditch 1705, stratigraphic relationship unclear likely contemporary. Cuts 1702.	
1704	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1703. Dark brown clay loam. <1% stone, sub-rounded, <1cm. Homogeneous. Compact. Rare charcoal flecks.	
1705	Ditch	South-west - north-east aligned linear ditch filled 1706. Steep, irregular sides, concave base. 0.50m wide. Intersects with ditch 1703, stratigraphic relationship unclear likely contemporary. Cuts 1702.	
1706	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1705. Dark brown clay loam. <1% stone, sub-rounded, <1cm. Homogeneous. Compact. Rare charcoal flecks.	
1707	<i>Made ground</i>	Area of made ground or disturbance. Pale green-grey sandy clay loam. Frequent chalk and CBM fragments. Slightly mixed. Compact. South end of trench only.	
1708	<i>Layer</i>	Humic dark black-brown peat. Homogenous. Compact. Overlies 1702. Southern part of trench.	
1709	Ditch	South-west - north-east aligned linear ditch filled 1710. Unexcavated. 0.60m wide. Intersects with ditch 1703, stratigraphic relationship unclear likely contemporary. Cuts 1702.	
1710	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1709. Dark brown clay loam. No visible inclusions. Homogeneous. Compact. Unexcavated.	
1711	Pit	Sub-oval pit or natural feature filled with 1712. Unexcavated. 1.0m+ long, 0.60m wide. Cuts 1702.	
1712	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Deliberate backfill or natural fill of pit 1711. Very dark grey- black silty clay and peat. Charcoal rich appearance. Compact. Distinct interface with 1702. Unexcavated.	

TRENCH 18			
Dimensions: 48.60x2.10m		Max. depth: 0.78m	Ground level: 128.33-130.05m aOD
Easting: 402947		Northing: 162825	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1801	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown silt loam. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 1802.	
1802	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Mid brown. No visible inclusions. Homogenous. Moderately compact. Overlies 1803.	
1803	<i>Layer</i>	Dark grey-brown peat. 1% chalk, angular, <1-6cm. Humic. Overlies 1804.	
1804	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Green sand and mid yellow-green sandy clay loam at north east end of trench, Mid blue-grey clay at south-west end. Compact.	
1805	Ditch	North-west - south-east aligned linear ditch filled with 1806. 2.6m wide. Cuts 1804. Unexcavated.	
1806	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1805. Dark brown sandy clay. Unexcavated.	
1807	Ditch	North - south aligned linear possible boundary ditch filled	
			0.42 deep



		with 1808 and 1809. Steep, straight sides, flat base. 1.32m wide. Cuts 1804.	
1808	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of 1807. White clay. Small shells throughout fill. Underlies 1809.	0.15 deep
1809	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of 1807. Dark brown sandy clay. Occasional chalk fragments. Slightly humic. Fairly homogenous. Overlies 1808.	0.35 deep
1810	<i>Ditch</i>	North-west - south-east aligned linear ditch filled with 1811. 1.5m wide. Cuts 1804. Unexcavated.	-
1811	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1810. Dark brown sandy clay. Unexcavated.	-
1812	<i>Ditch</i>	North- south aligned linear ditch filled with 1813. 3.7m wide. Cuts 1804. Unexcavated.	-
1813	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1812. Dark brown sandy clay. Unexcavated.	-
1814	<i>Ditch</i>	North - south aligned linear possible boundary ditch filled with 1815. Steep, straight sides, flat base. 1.4m wide. Cuts 1804.	0.32 deep
1815	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of 1814. Dark brown sandy clay. Slightly humic. Rare chalk fragments. Occasional mid yellow-orange mottles at feature sides. Compact.	0.32 deep
1816	<i>Ditch</i>	North- south aligned linear ditch filled with 1817. 1.2m wide. Cuts 1804. Unexcavated.	-
1817	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 1816. Dark brown sandy clay. Unexcavated.	-

TRENCH 19			
Dimensions: 49.10x1.80m		Max. depth: 1.10m	Ground level: 129.88-130.03m aOD
Easting: 402866		Northing: 162878	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1901	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown silt loam. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 1902.	0.00-0.28 bgl
1902	<i>Made Ground</i>	Made ground. Greenish brown loamy sand with black and brown mottling. 1% stone and chalk, <1-2cm. Very mixed. Compact. Overlies 1903.	0.28-0.95 bgl
1903	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Dark brown clay. 5% chalk, <6cm.	0.95+ bgl

No Trench 20

TRENCH 21			
Dimensions: 49.90x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.40m	Ground level: 129.10-129.54m aOD
Easting: 402748		Northing: 162748	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2101	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown silt loam. 2% flint gravel, <1-6cm. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 2102.	0.00-0.16 bgl
2102	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Mid red-brown silt loam. No visible inclusions. Fairly homogenous. Moderately compact. Overlies 2103.	0.16-0.30 bgl
2103	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Dark green-brown clay. Slightly mottled. Compact.	0.40+ bgl
2104	<i>Ditch</i>	East - west aligned linear possible former land drain filled with 2105. Steep, straight sides, concave base. 0.12m wide. Cuts 2103. Cut by ditch 2106.	0.49 deep
2105	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Deliberate backfill of ditch 2105. Dark brown sandy clay. No visible inclusions. Common orange ceramic and charcoal flecking. Slightly mixed. Compact.	0.49 deep
2106	<i>Ditch</i>	East - west aligned linear ditch likely to be associated with removal of land drain 2104 filled with 2107. Steep, straight sides, concave base. 0.83m wide. Cuts 2105.	0.29 deep
2107	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Deliberate backfill of ditch 2106. Mottled green, red and brown clay. 1% gravel, sub-angular, 1-2cm. Sparse orange ceramic and	0.29 deep



		charcoal flecking. Compact.	
2108	<i>Cut</i>	Area of modern disturbance filled with 2109. Unexcavated. 3.75m wide. Full extent not seen in plan, may be same as area of disturbance in Trench 22. Cuts 2103.	-
2109	<i>Fill</i>	Possible deliberate backfill or secondary fill of cut 2108. Mid green-brown sandy loam. No visible inclusions. Compact. Unexcavated.	-

TRENCH 22			
Dimensions: 51.00x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.38m	Ground level: 130.15-130.34m aOD
Easting: 402670		Northing: 162753	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
2201	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown silt loam. No visible inclusions. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 2202.	0.00-0.26 bgl
2202	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Mid orange-brown silty clay loam. No visible inclusions. Overlies 2211.	0.26-0.38 bgl
2203	<i>Ditch</i>	East - west aligned linear, possible land drain filled with 2204. Unexcavated. 0.50m wide. Cuts 2211. Same as 2106.	-
2204	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Or possible deliberate backfill of ditch 2203. Mottled green-brown clay. 1% gravel, <0.5-2cm. Unexcavated.	-
2205	<i>Ditch</i>	North-east - south-west aligned modern ditch filled with 2206. Unexcavated. 1.3m wide. Cuts 2211. Same as 2403.	-
2206	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 2205. Mid green-grey sandy clay. <1% stone, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Slightly mixed. Contained brick fragments. Compact. Unexcavated.	-
2207	<i>Land drain</i>	Modern land drain. North-east - south-west aligned filled with 2208. Unexcavated. 0.2m wide. Cuts 2211.	-
2208	<i>Deliberate backfill</i>	Deliberate backfill of land drain 2207. Dark brown silty clay loam. Mixed. Compact. Unexcavated.	-
2209	<i>Cut</i>	Area of modern disturbance filled with 2210. Unexcavated. 6m+ wide. Full extent not seen in plan, may be same as area of disturbance in Trench 21. Cuts 2211.	-
2210	<i>Fill</i>	Possible deliberate backfill or secondary fill of cut 2209. Mid green-brown sandy loam. Very mixed. No visible inclusions. Compact. Unexcavated.	-
2211	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid orange to pale yellow-orange sandy clay loam. Slightly mixed. Compact.	0.38+ bgl

TRENCH 23			
Dimensions: 49.25x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.51m	Ground level: 130.21-130.66m aOD
Easting: 402623		Northing: 162734	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
2301	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty clay loam. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 2302.	0.00-0.24 bgl
2302	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Mid orange-brown silty clay loam. No visible inclusions. Overlies 2303.	0.24-0.40 bgl
2303	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Pale brown-green loamy sand, slightly mottled. Compact.	0.40+ bgl
2304	<i>Ditch</i>	North-north-west – south-south-east aligned ditch filled with 2305. Straight, steep sides, flat base. 3m wide. finds concentrated in south-west part of fill. Cuts 2303.	0.32 deep
2305	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 2304. Mid orange-green loamy sand. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact.	0.32 deep
2306	<i>Ditch</i>	North - south aligned ditch filled with 2307. Slightly stepped, moderate sides, concave base. 0.92m wide. Cuts 2303.	0.26 deep
2307	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 2306. Mid orange-green loamy sand. No	0.26 deep



		visible inclusions. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact.	
2308	Ditch	North-north-west – south-south-east ditch or probable land drain filled with 2309. Unexcavated. 0.38m wide. Cuts 2303.	-
2309	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 2308. Mid orange-green loamy sandy. Slightly mixed. Compact. Unexcavated.	-
2310	Pit	Small sub-oval pit filled with 2311. Concave, moderate sides, concave base. 0.74m wide, 1.29m wide. Cuts 2303.	0.24 deep
2311	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of pit 2310. Mid grey loamy sand. No visible inclusions. Rare charcoal flecks. Slightly mixed. Moderately compact.	0.24 deep
2312	Land drain	North-north-west – south-south-east land drain filled with 2313. Unexcavated. 0.22m wide. Cuts 2303.	-
2313	<i>deliberate backfill</i>	Coarse stone deliberate backfill of land drain 2312. Unexcavated. Compact.	-

TRENCH 24			
Dimensions: 48.80x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.44m	Ground level: 129.75-130.18m aOD
Easting: 402652		Northing: 162662	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
2401	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark grey-brown silty clay loam. No visible inclusions. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 2402.	
2402	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil/ interface. Mid orange-brown sandy loam. No visible inclusions. Slightly mixed. Moderately compact. Overlies 2407.	
2403	Ditch	North-east - south-west aligned modern ditch filled with 2404. Unexcavated. 0.9m wide. Cuts 2407. Same as 2205.	
2404	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 2403. Mid green-brown sandy clay. <1% stone, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Slightly mixed. Contained concentrate fragments. Compact. Unexcavated.	
2405	Channel	Former stream course. Roughly east-west aligned. Filled with 2406. Unexcavated. Cuts 2407. Same as 2512.	
2406	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of former stream course 2405. Mid green-brown sandy clay. Mixed. Compact. Unexcavated.	
2407	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Pale to mid brown-orange sandy clay loam. Slightly mottled. Compact.	

TRENCH 25			
Dimensions: 49.70x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.30m	Ground level: 129.06-129.65m aOD
Easting: 402733		Northing: 162644	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
2501	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown silty clay loam. <1% stone, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 2502.	
2502	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Mid orange-brown silty clay loam. No visible inclusions. Overlies 2503.	
2503	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid brown-orange clay. Slightly mottled. Compact.	
2504	Ditch	North-west - south-east aligned ditch filled with 2505. Convex, moderate sides, concave base. 1.25m wide. Cuts 2503.	
2505	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 2504. Dark brown silty clay. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Frequent iron oxide mottling. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact.	
2506	Ditch	West - east aligned ditch filled with 2507. Concave, moderate sides, concave base. 0.58m wide. Cuts 2503.	
2507	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 2506. Dark brown silt loam. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Frequent iron oxide mottling. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact.	



2508	<i>Ditch</i>	West - east aligned ditch filled with 2509. Unexcavated. 0.45m wide. Cuts 2503.	-
2509	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 2508. Dark grey-brown silt loam. <1% stone, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact. Unexcavated.	-
2510	<i>Cut</i>	Small sub-circular cut, likely natural feature, filled with 2511. Concave, slightly irregular sides and base. 0.42m long, 0.27m wide. Cuts 2503.	0.22 deep
2511	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of feature 2510. Dark grey-black silt loam.. Frequent charcoal flecks. Fairly homogeneous. Moderately compact.	0.22 deep
2512	<i>Channel</i>	Former stream course. Roughly east-west aligned. Filled with 2513. Unexcavated. Cuts 2503. Same as 2405.	-
2513	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of former stream course 2512. Mid to pale green-brown sandy clay. Mixed. Compact. Unexcavated.	-

TRENCH 26			
Dimensions: 49.62x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.50m	Ground level: 129.17-129.37m aOD
Easting: 402682		Northing: 162584	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
2601	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown silty clay loam. No visible inclusions. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 2602.	0.00-0.21 bgl
2602	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Mid orange-brown sandy clay loam. Slightly mottled. Compact. Overlies 2611.	0.21-0.50 bgl
2603	<i>Pit</i>	Sub-circular pit filled with 2604. Concave, moderate sides, flat base. 1.16m long, 1.10m wide. Cuts 2611.	0.15 deep
2604	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of pit 2603. Dark brown loamy sand. No visible inclusions. Occasional charcoal flecks. Occasional dark grey-black mottling. Moderately compact.	0.15 deep
2605	<i>Ditch</i>	North-south aligned ditch filled with 2606. Unexcavated. 0.6m wide. Cuts 2611.	-
2606	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 2605. Dark brown loamy sand. No visible inclusions. Moderately compact. Unexcavated.	-
2607	<i>Ditch</i>	North-south aligned ditch filled with 2608. Straight, steep sides, flat base. 0.6m wide. Cuts 2611.	0.15 deep
2608	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 2608. Dark brown loamy sand with mid green mottles. No visible inclusions. Moderately compact.	0.15 deep
2609	<i>Ditch</i>	North-south aligned ditch filled with 2610. Unexcavated. 2.10m wide. Cuts 2611.	-
2610	<i>Secondary fill</i>	Secondary fill of ditch 2609. Dark orange brown sandy clay loam. No visible inclusions. Moderately compact. Unexcavated.	-
2611	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid yellow-brown and grey-green sandy clay loam. Slightly mottled. Compact.	0.50+ bgl

TRENCH 27			
Dimensions: 48.30x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.45m	Ground level: 128.90-129.02m aOD
Easting: 402734		Northing: 162561	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
2701	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown silt loam. No visible inclusions. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 2702.	0.00-0.23 bgl
2702	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Mid orange-brown sandy silt loam. No visible inclusions. Slightly mottled. Compact. Overlies 2703.	0.23-0.35 bgl
2703	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Pale yellow-brown loamy sand. Fairly homogenous. Compact.	0.35-0.45 bgl



TRENCH 28			
Dimensions: 49.10x1.80m		Max. depth: 0.33m	Ground level: 128.66-128.84m aOD
Easting: 402795		Northing: 162613	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2801	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown silt loam. No visible inclusions. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 2802.	0.00-0.25 bgl
2802	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil/interface. Pale green-brown silty clay. No visible inclusions. Mottled. Compact. Overlies 2803.	0.25-0.33 bgl
2803	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Pale yellow-brown clay with occasional patches of sandy clay. Fairly homogenous. Compact.	0.33+ bgl

TRENCH 29			
Dimensions: 49.20x1.80m		Max. depth: 1.10m	Ground level: 127.66-128.65m aOD
Easting: 402874		Northing: 162645	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
2901	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Dark brown silt loam. No visible inclusions. Homogeneous. Bioturbated. Overlies 2902.	0.00-0.40 bgl
2902	<i>Layer</i>	Pale yellow-green loamy sand. No visible inclusions. Mixed. Compact. Overlies 2903.	0.22-0.72 bgl
2903	<i>Layer</i>	Humic dark black-brown peat. Homogenous. Compact. Overlies 2904.	0.40-0.90 bgl
2904	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Mid blue-green clay. Occasional manganese flecks. Compact.	0.90+ bgl



11.2 Appendix 2: Environmental data

Table 4: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Samples				Flot							
Feature	Context	Sample	Vol. Ltrs	Flot (ml)	% roots	Charred Plant Remains				Charcoal >4/2mm	Other
						Grain	Chaff	Other	Comments		
Romano-British											
Trench 12 Layer											
-	1220	2	10	60	35	A	B	C	Hulled wheat grain frags, glume base frags, <i>Rumex</i>	3/7 ml	Moll-t (A**), Sab (C)
Trench 13 Ditch											
1305	1304	3	20	15	15	A	B	A	Hulled wheat grain frags, glume base frags inc. spelt, <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Trifolium/Medicago</i> , <i>Polygonum</i> , <i>Persicaria</i> , <i>Prunus spinosa</i> stone	1/1 ml	Sab (C), fish scale (C)
Trench 23 Ditch											
2304	2305	1	20	40	20	A	B	B	Hulled wheat + barley grain frags, glume bases + spikelet fork, <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i>	5/8 ml	-

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



11.3 Appendix 3: OASIS form

Lay Wood, Devizes - Wessex Archaeology

OASIS ID - wessexar1-161853

Versions				
View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
View 1	1	Naomi Brennan	n.brennan@wessexarch.co.uk	18 October 2013
Completed sections in current version				
Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
No	No	No	No	0/1
Validated sections in current version				
Details	Location	Creators	Archive	Publications
No	No	No	No	0/1
File submission and form progress				
Grey literature report submitted?	No	Grey literature report filename/s		
Report release delay specified?	Yes	Release delay	Release into ADS library once signed off	
Images submitted?	No	Image filename/s		
Boundary file submitted?	No	Boundary filename		
HER signed off?		NMR signed off?		

OASIS ID: wessexar1-161853

Project details

Project name Lay Wood, Devizes

Short description of the project Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by AMEC Environment and Infrastructure UK Limited (AMEC) on behalf of The Crown Estate to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land adjacent to Lay Wood, Devizes, Wiltshire (NGR 402860, 162813). The evaluation, consisting of 28 trenches, was undertaken between 2nd and 6th September 2013. Two distinct areas of Romano-British activity were identified on the Site. One area, in the south-western field, consisted of two ditches and a small pit and implies a region of Early Roman-British occupation focused to the west of the Site, the area now occupied by Northfields housing estate. Within five trenches in the northern field was a concentration of Romano-British features indicating a range of buildings in this area, most probably a villa complex. This was located on a slightly higher plateau within the field. Remaining structural remains indicate chalk built walls and also potentially more than one phase of construction. Evidence of a hypocaust system was also identified. The finds assemblage indicates activity from the 1st or 2nd century AD into the late 3rd or 4th century and suggests that the villa complex may span this date range. A number of historic field boundaries were identified during the evaluation. No prehistoric features were located within the trenches although some residual Neolithic and Early Bronze Age finds were recovered. The western



part of the Site appears to have been substantially disturbed in the late 1960s or early 1970s when the ground appears to have been truncated and then built up.

Project dates	Start: 02-09-2013 End: 06-09-2013
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	101070 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	WALL Roman
Monument type	PIT Roman
Significant Finds	POT Roman
Significant Finds	TILE Roman
Significant Finds	ANIMAL REMAINS Roman
Significant Finds	ARROWHEAD Early Bronze Age
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Between deposition of an application and determination

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE KENNET BISHOPS CANNINGS Lay Wood, Devizes
Postcode	SN10 2JS
Study area	17.50 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 402860 162813 50 -1 50 56 38 N 001 25 35 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
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Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Consultant
Project director/manager	Caroline Budd
Project supervisor	Naomi Brennan
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Devizes Museum
Physical Archive ID	101070
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Devizes Museum
Digital Archive ID	101070
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Devizes Museum
Paper Archive ID	101070
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Plan","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Lay Wood, Devizes, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Brennan, N.
Other bibliographic details	report number 101070
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology



Place of issue or publication Wessex Archaeology - Salisbury

Description A4 bound client report

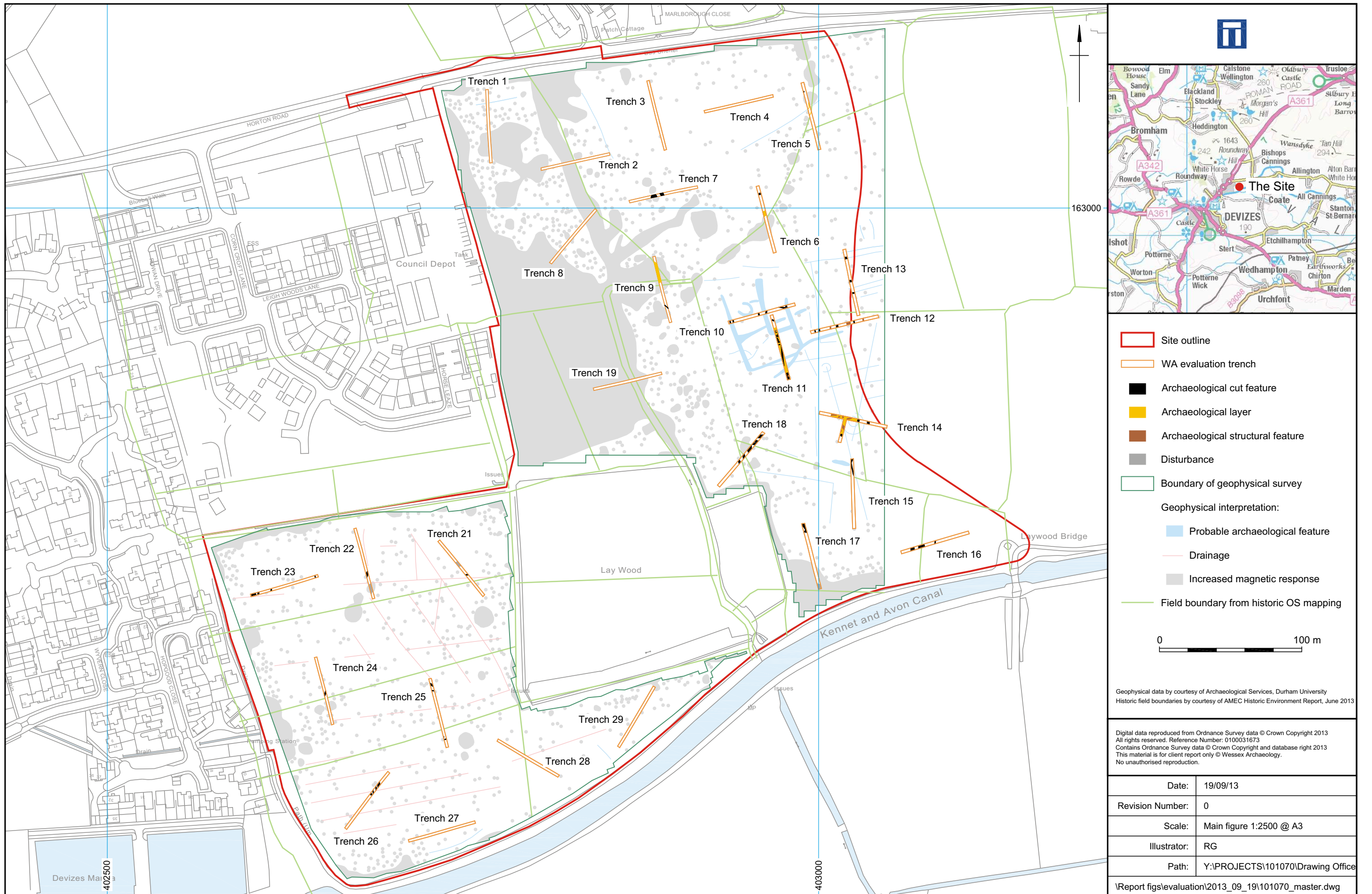
Entered by Naomi Brennan (n.brennan@wessexarch.co.uk)

Entered on 18 October 2013

OASIS:

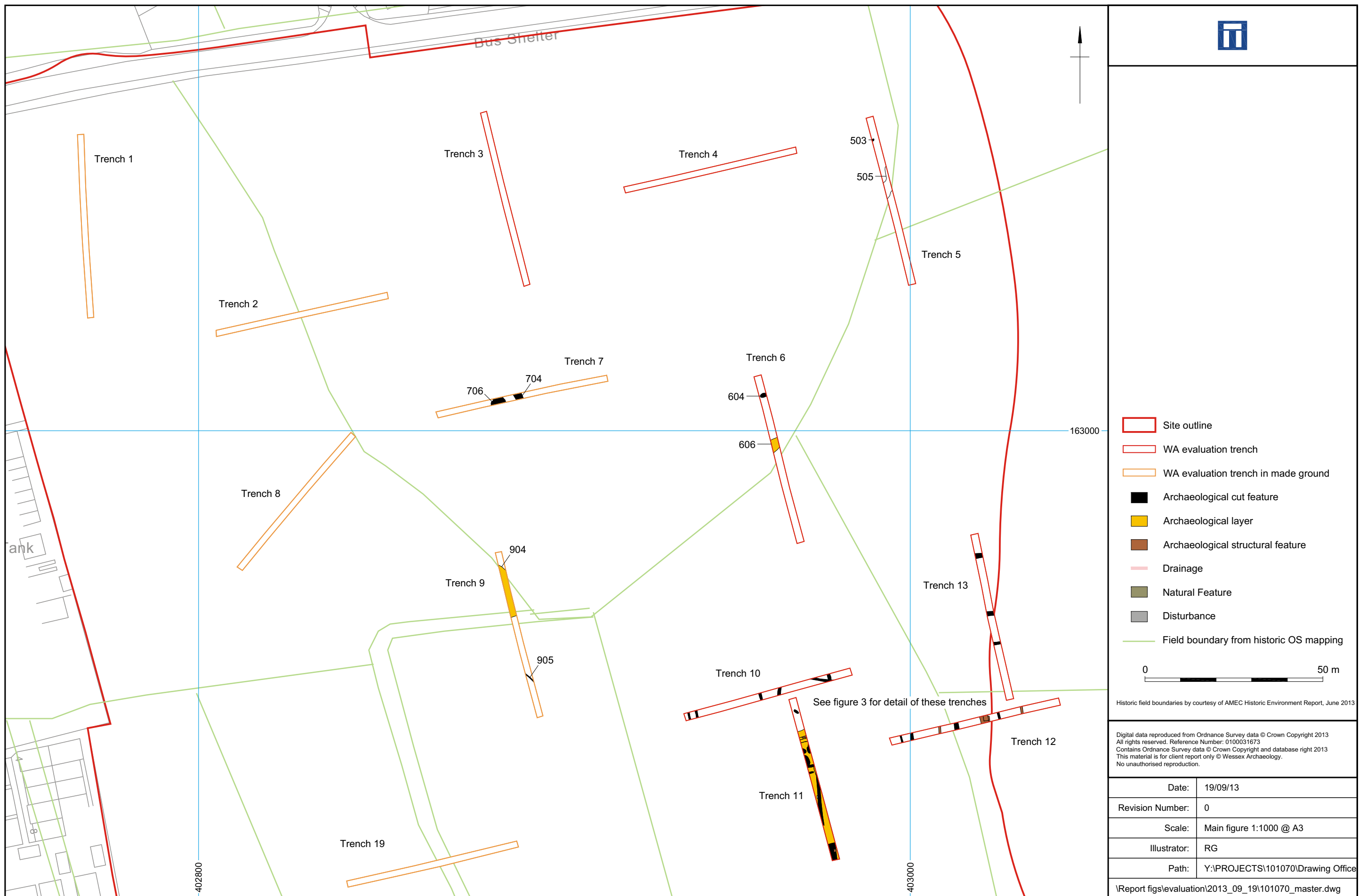
Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

© ADS 1996-2012 Created by [Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email](#) Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012



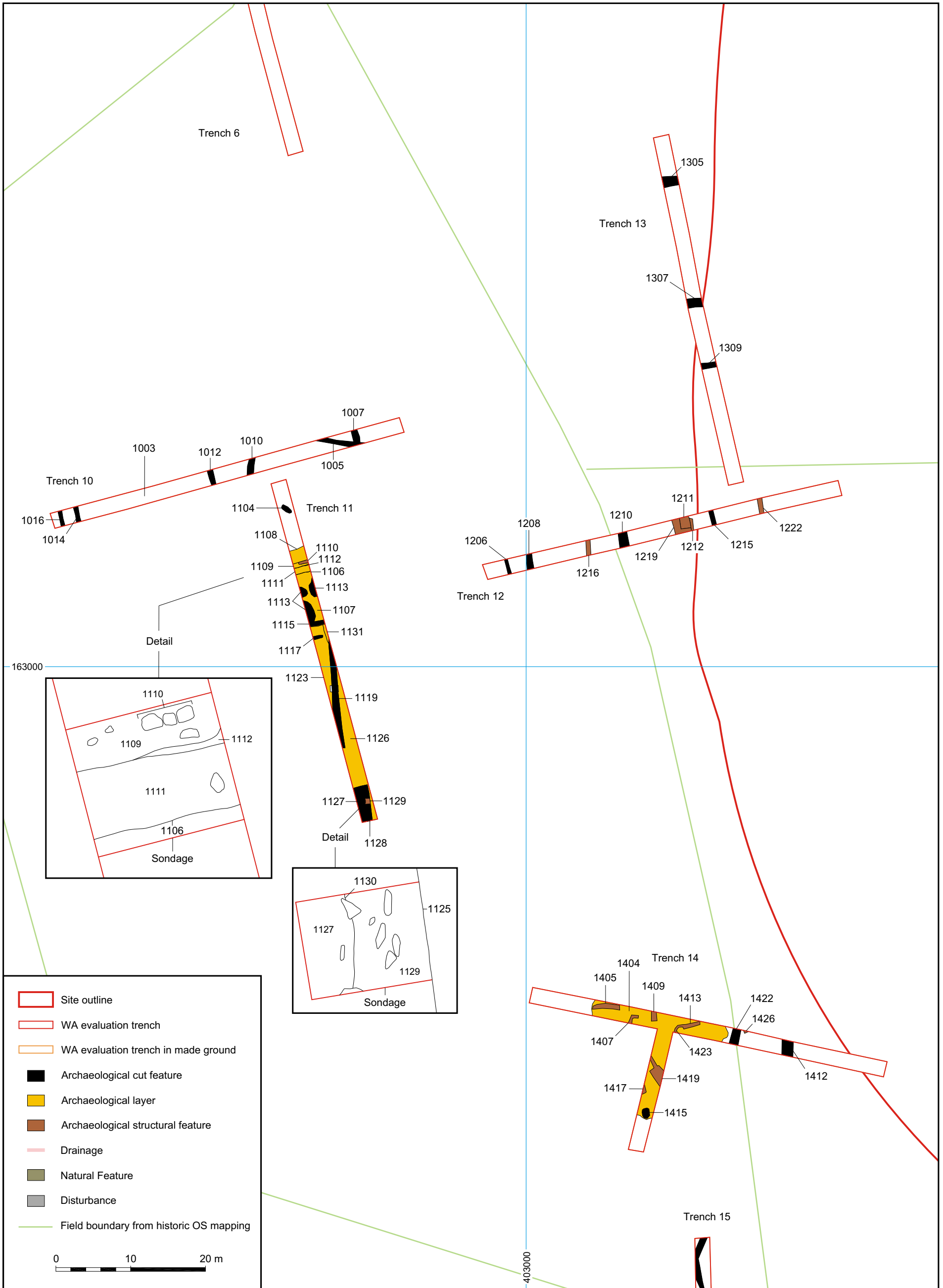
Location of Site, geophysical survey results and evaluation trenches

Figure 1



Northern part of northern field

Figure 2



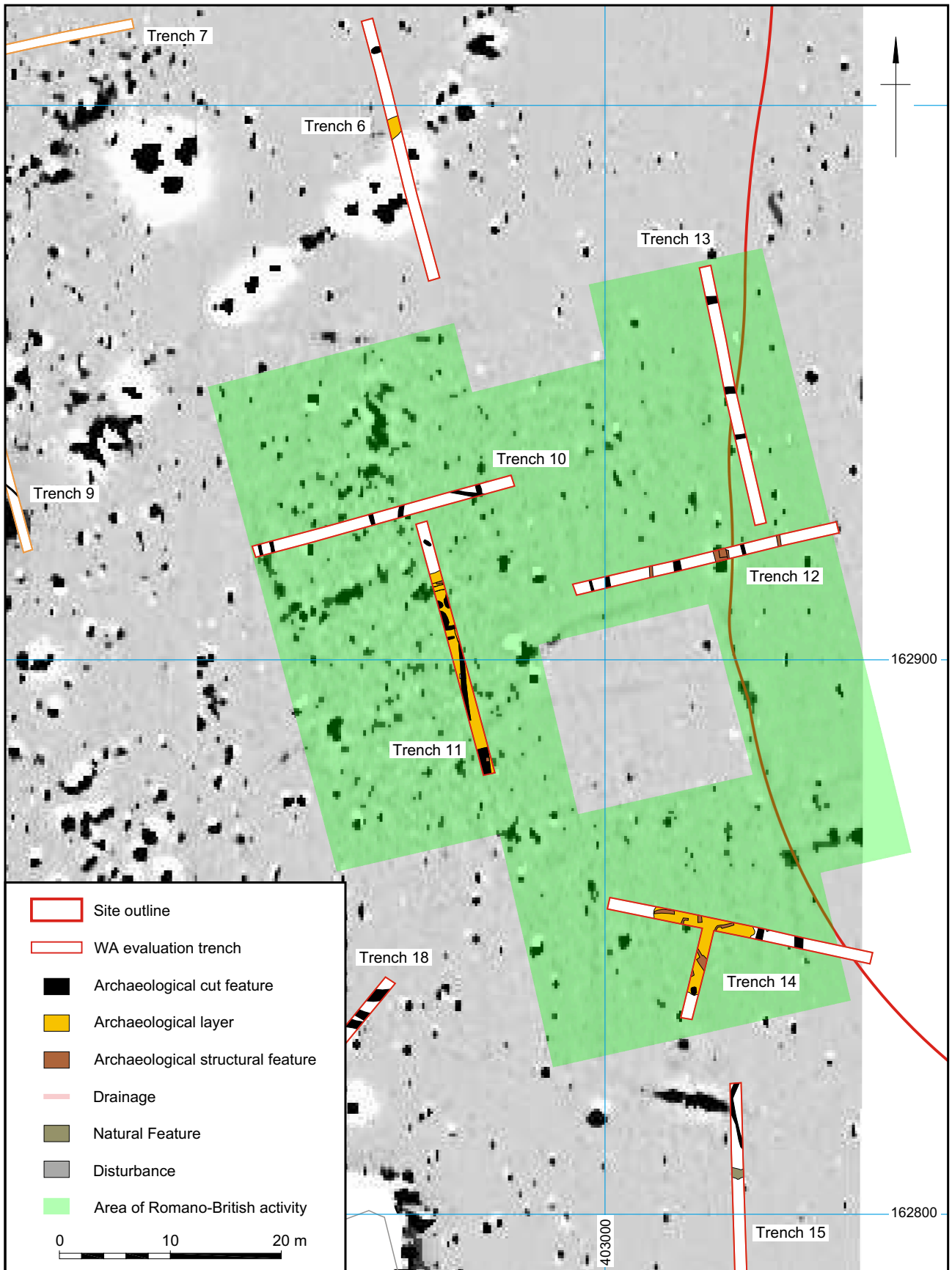
Historic field boundaries by courtesy of AMEC Historic Environment Report, June 2013


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Detail of Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14

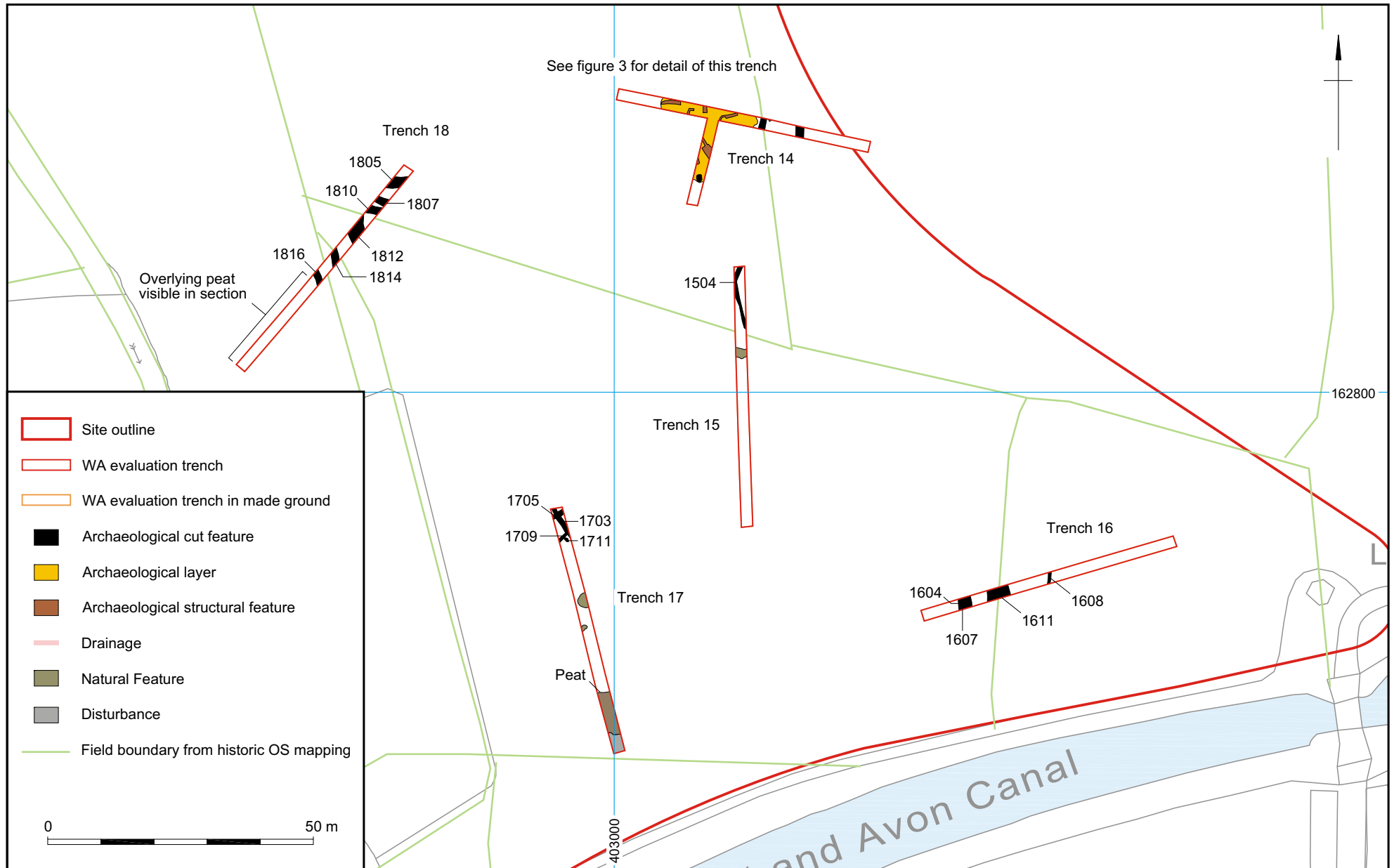
Figure 3



	Geophysical data by courtesy of Archaeological Services, Durham University		
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Trenches 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 in relation to gradiometric survey

Figure 4



	Site outline
	WA evaluation trench
	WA evaluation trench in made ground
	Archaeological cut feature
	Archaeological layer
	Archaeological structural feature
	Drainage
	Natural Feature
	Disturbance
	Field boundary from historic OS mapping

0 50 m

	Historic field boundaries by courtesy of AMEC Historic Environment Report, June 2013 Digital data reproduced from Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright (year) All rights reserved. Reference Number: 0100031673 Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2012. This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.	Date: 20/09/13	Revision Number: 0
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Southern part of northern field

Figure 5

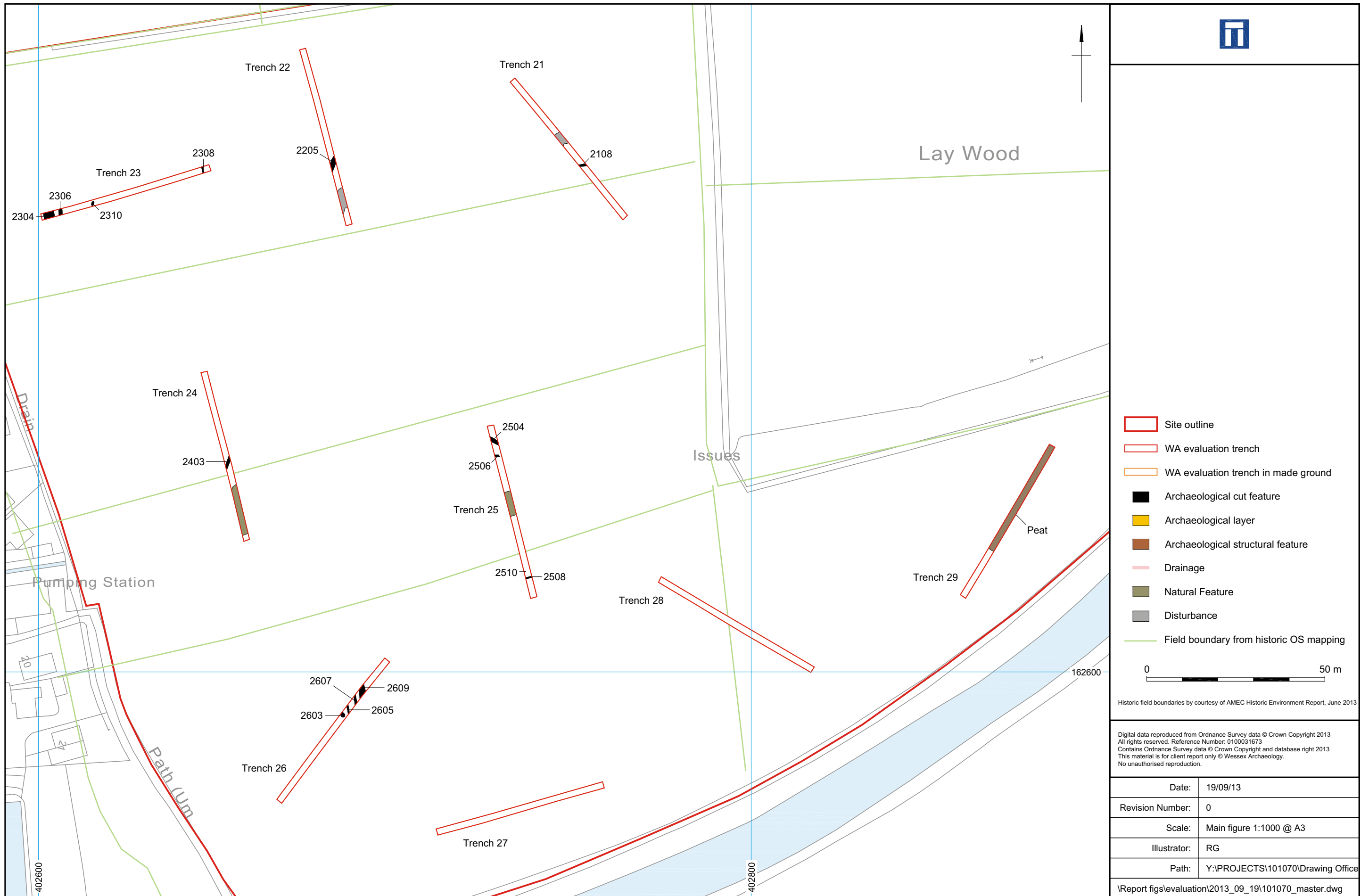




Plate 1: View of peat deposit in Trench 29

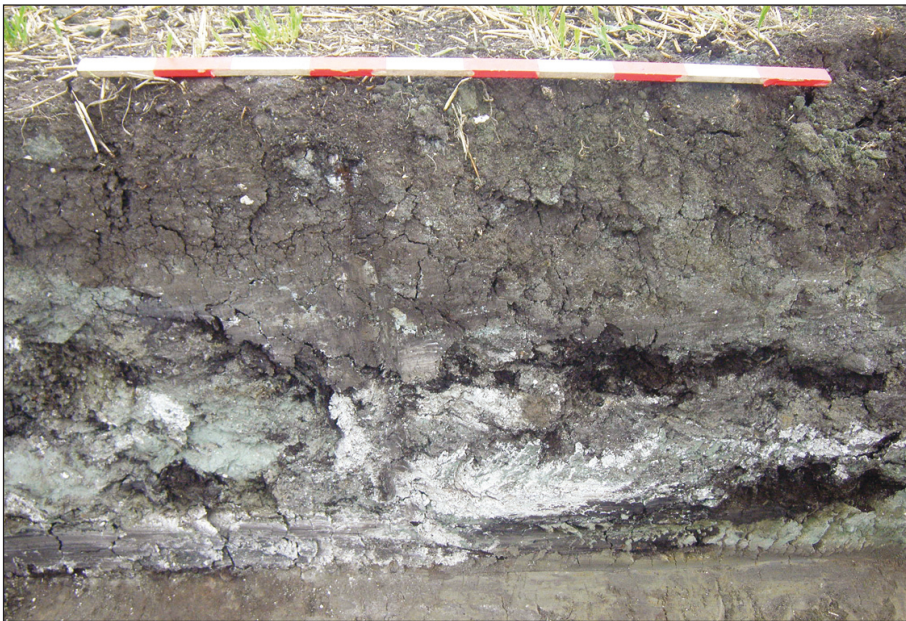


Plate 2: South facing section of made ground deposit 202


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Plate 3: East facing section of ditch 1305



Plate 4: Trench 10, view from the west



Plate 5: Plan view of structures 1211, 1212 and 1219

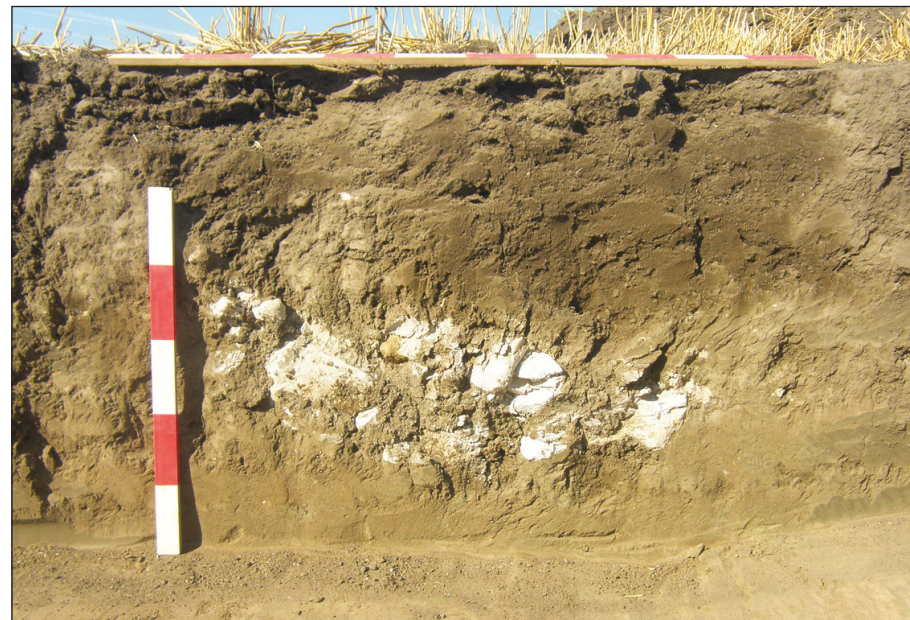


Plate 6: South facing section of possible structure 1222



Plan of structures 1211, 1212 and 1219



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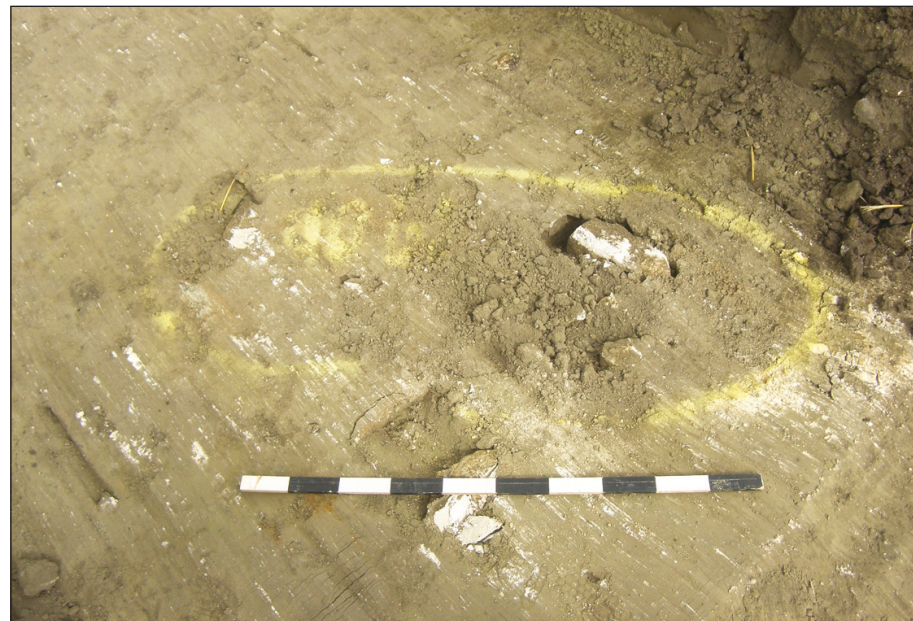
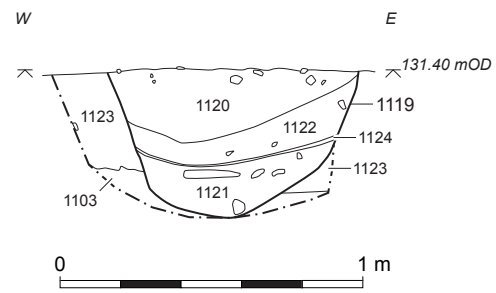


Plate 7: View of pit 1104, from the west



Plate 8: South-west facing section through demolition material 1108



South facing section of robber cut 1119



Plate 9: South facing section of robber cut 1119



Plate 10: South facing section of feature 1126



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Plate 11: South-west view of ditch 2304 and 2306 beyond

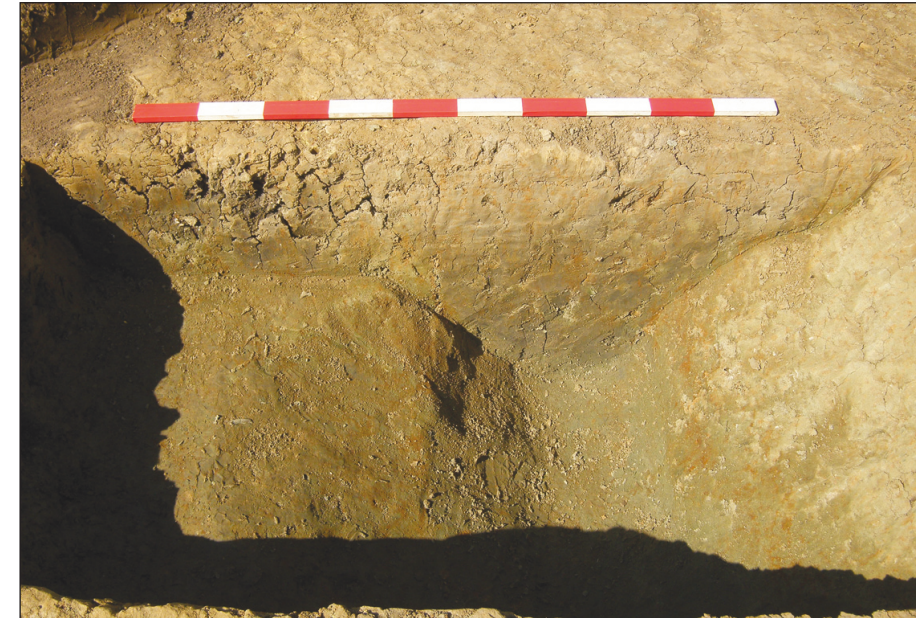


Plate 12: South-east facing section of ditch 2504



Plate 13: South facing section of pit 2603



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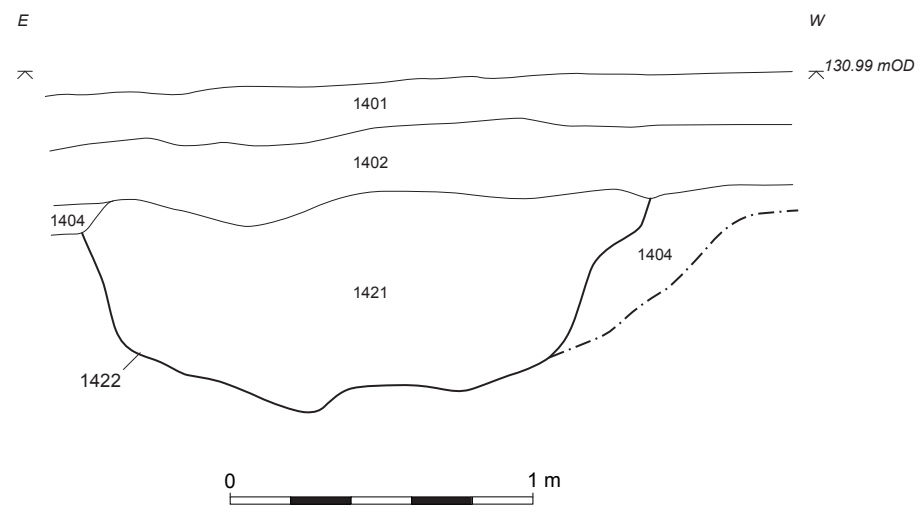
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Plate 14: View of ditches 1812, 1814 and 1816, from the south-west



Plate 15: South-east facing section of ditch 1807



North-north-west facing section of ditch 1422



Plate 16: View of feature 604, from the north-north-west



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