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Defence Training Estate: Salisbury Plain
EIP – Victor Barrow
Everleigh, Wiltshire

Post-Excavation Assessment Report



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October 2013



**Defence Training Estate: Salisbury Plain
EIP – Victor Barrow
Everleigh, Wiltshire**

Post-Excavation Assessment Report

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by WYG Environment Planning Transport Ltd to undertake a programme of preliminary survey and sample excavation at V (Victor) crossing hard-standing, following the identification of a previously unknown round barrow during a watching brief of works to upgrade the hard-standing area. These works were part of a larger programme to enhance the infrastructure of the training estate, and to improve the connectivity of the training areas across Salisbury Plain.

Following an initial survey it was decided in consultation between WYG and Wiltshire Council that a strategy of sample excavation should be conducted at the site. This would aim to determine an approximate date for the monument and inform on its specific nature, while minimising any further impact to the monument, so that preservation *in situ* for the remaining elements could be achieved. The excavation strategy comprised:

- *The excavation of a cremation burial in the southern portion of the site;*
- *The excavation of one other cremation burial (at the site archaeologists discretion);*
- *The excavation of two interventions into the barrow construction ditch (one adjacent to the truncated cremation burial, the other located at the site archaeologists discretion);*
- *A metal detector survey to ascertain the potential for archaeological metalwork within the monument;*
- *Proposals to allow the in situ scalplings or hardcore to remain on the monument, to enable the formation of a barrier which would aid preservation in situ.*

The archaeological fieldwork was undertaken on the 25th September, and between 15th October and the 1st November 2012.

A total of 11 cremation burials were identified within the monument, with additional burials likely to be present in the uninvestigated central and northern parts of the monument. The excavation of the barrow ditch identified multiple inhumation burials, cutting its lower fills. Artefactual evidence from these depositions and the ditch, indicate a Neolithic to Late Bronze Age date range, although, further analysis including selective radiocarbon dating should help clarify this.

There can be little doubt that further human remains are present within the monument, presumably including a central primary interment and further cremation burials near the centre, and around the northern internal edge of the barrow construction ditch. Less than c. 8% of the ditch was investigated during the sample excavation, yet human remains were identified within both interventions and it would seem highly probable that more inhumation burials are present within the remaining portions of the ditch.



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Acknowledgements

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The watching brief was conducted by Martin Brown.

The initial field survey was conducted by Dave Murdie and Rebecca Wills. The excavation was directed by Stephen Beach, assisted by Rowan Kendrick, Dave Murdie, Mark Stewart and Steve Winterton. Environmental samples were processed by Steve Winterton. This report was written and compiled by Stephen Beach with contributions by Jacqueline I. McKinley (Human Bone), Sarah F. Wyles (Environmental Remains), Alistair J. Barclay (radiocarbon), Lorraine Mephram (Finds) and Lorrain Higbee (Animal bone).

The fieldwork was managed by Paul White, and the post-excavation assessment was managed by Sue Farr.



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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by WYG to undertake a programme of preliminary survey and sample excavation at V (Victor) crossing hard-standing, following the identification of a previously unknown round barrow during a watching brief being maintained on the works to upgrade the hard-standing area. The original barrow mound had been truncated in the recent past and the barrow was buried under a shallow layer of topsoil and road stone.
- 1.1.2 These works were part of a wider programme of improvements to enhance the infrastructure of the training estate, and to augment the connectivity of the training areas across Salisbury Plain.
- 1.1.3 The barrow is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 420480 152490, to the south of Weather Hill Firs on Everleigh Down.
- 1.1.4 The archaeological fieldwork was undertaken on the 25th September, and between 15th October and the 1st November 2013.

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The Site is located within the Defence Training Estate (DTE) Salisbury Plain at V crossing, c. 1km south of Everleigh, Wiltshire. The Site is located c. 70m east of V crossing, and c. 20m south-west of Weather Hill Firs (**Figure 1**).
- 1.2.2 The British Geological Survey map for the area shows that the Site lies on Upper Chalk (Sheet 282). The surface topography of the Site is generally flat, at an elevation of c. 150-155m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), surrounded to the north, west and south by higher ground.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The Salisbury Plain Training Area is well known for its prehistoric archaeology including round and long barrows, field systems and enclosures. It contains over 2,300 archaeological sites and monuments from all ages. The area has been in military use for over 100 years and contains features associated with the development of warfare over this period.



- 2.1.2 There are numerous funerary monuments in the vicinity of the Site, including two levelled barrows c. 350m to the north-west, the extensive Snail Down barrow cemetery (SM No.1009351) c. 700m to the south-east and a dispersed group of barrows on Weather Hill (Haxton Down) (including SM No.'s 1009337, 1009898, 1010068, 1010065, 1010143, 1009897, 1018172) c. 1km to the south.
- 2.1.3 Other monuments in the vicinity include a henge monument or enclosure (SM No.1009445) c. 150m to the north-east, a second enclosure (SM No.1010066), c. 250m to the north-east, the Weather Hill multi-period landscape and associated linear earthworks (SM No.1009337) c. 600m south, the Romano-British settlement at Coombe Down (SM No.1018960) c. 1.2km south and a Scheduled field system c. 600m to the north (SM No.1010071). Extensive Romano-British field systems are also recorded across the area.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork methodology

Watching brief

- 3.1.1 In accordance with the agreed strategy, initial monitoring was undertaken by WYG under a watching brief methodology. The areas were stripped using a tracked 360° excavation fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and under constant archaeological supervision. A digital photographic record was maintained during the watching brief, as well as a full written and graphic record.
- 3.1.2 Following the identification of significant archaeological remains, the Site was fenced off using Netlon fencing and wooden stakes, covered in terram and a methodology for further mitigation discussed and agreed with WYG and Wiltshire County Archaeology Service (WCAS).
- 3.1.3 All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the guidance and standards outlined in the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Watching Briefs* (IfA 2008).

Excavation

- 3.1.4 Following the discovery of archaeological features within the area of watching brief, a revised methodology was agreed with WYG and WCAS.
- 3.1.5 All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the guidance and standards outlined in the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (IfA 2008).
- 3.1.6 Prior to excavation, a preliminary survey of the Site was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. In consultation with WYG and the WCAS, a strategy of sample excavation was agreed which aimed to confirm a date for the monument and determine its specific nature, whilst minimising any further impact to the monument itself, to facilitate preservation *in situ* of the surviving elements. The excavation strategy comprised:
- The excavation of the truncated cremation burial in the southern portion of the Site (later designated context **100**);
 - The excavation of one other cremation burial (at the Site archaeologist's discretion);
 - The excavation of two interventions into the barrow construction ditch (one adjacent to the truncated cremation burial, the other located at the Site archaeologists discretion);
 - A metal detector survey across the Site, to ascertain the potential for archaeological metalwork;



- Proposals to enable the *in situ* scalplings or hardcore to be retained on the monument; these would form a barrier which would aid preservation *in situ*.

3.1.7 On removal of the protective covering of geo-textile, it became clear that the Site would need to be hand cleaned to remove any obscuring loose or weathered-in material before any excavation could properly be conducted. During this process, any modern material which was not loose or imported by weathering, was left strictly *in situ*.

3.1.8 After cleaning, the Site was photographed and surveyed and a metal detector survey was conducted.

3.1.1 All archaeological deposits were hand-excavated and recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Archaeological features and deposits were hand-drawn at either 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate. The Site limits and individual archaeological features were located using a Leica Viva series GNSS unit using the OS National GPS Network through an RTK network and referenced to OS mapping.

3.1.2 A full photographic record was compiled using digital images. The record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the principal features, finds excavated, and the Site as a whole.

3.1.3 A unique site code **86851** was allocated to the Site, and was used on all records and finds.

3.2 Post-excavation preservation of the Site

3.2.1 Following the completion of the sample excavation, a 'barrow-like mound' was instated over the remaining archaeological deposits, to facilitate their preservation *in situ* and to enable the significance of the monument to be better appreciated.

3.2.2 The initial stages of this work were completed under archaeological supervision, and comprised:

- The backfilling by hand of all archaeological interventions, including the laying of markers to signify the location of any un-excavated archaeological remains;
- Covering the entire Site in a layer of geo-textile material;
- The instatement of geo-web over the geo-textile material;
- The infilling of the geo-web with locally imported chalk rubble.

3.2.3 Following this process, the remainder of the mound was constructed using additional locally imported archaeologically sterile chalk rubble.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Preliminary survey

4.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned to undertake a preliminary survey of the Site (**Plate 1**) to record the archaeological features revealed. The survey was conducted on the 25th September 2013 and recorded the southern part of a barrow ditch, including animal disturbance, a possible pit or inhumation grave on the outer southern part of the ditch (subsequently buried under hardcore prior to the sample excavation) and eight possible cremation burials (seven of which were confirmed after cleaning).

- 4.1.2 During the survey, a small intervention (**Plate 2**) was made in the northern part of the Site, to ascertain the likely northern extent of the barrow construction ditch. Only modern overburden was removed during this investigation.
- 4.1.3 A section of a truncated ditch c. 35m long and c. 1.80m wide was also surveyed during this phase (**Plate 3**) of work, but was covered by hardcore prior to the commencement of the sample excavation. No dating evidence was recovered from this ditch. However, the ditches orientation in the landscape and the broadly V-shaped profile, would suggest it is likely to relate to the extensive Romano-British field systems in the area.
- 4.1.4 The sample excavation started on the 15th October. In the intervening period the initial Netlon and wooden stake fencing had fallen into disrepair, and was replaced by Netlon with metal stakes and the Site covered with a geo-textile fabric to prevent any further detrimental weathering (**Plate 4**).

4.2 The monument

- 4.2.1 The surviving visible monument comprised a low, probably ovoid earthen mound, which survived to a central height of 0.13m above natural chalk bedrock. The mound was encircled by a ditch, which was up to 3.65m wide and 0.82m deep. At least two previous phases of truncation, combined with the effect of the slightly northerly sloping topography, had impacted upon the monument in such a way that the surviving mound appeared taller at ground level than it actually was (**Plate 5**).
- 4.2.2 The northern and north-western parts of the monument were covered in modern hardcore, which largely remained *in situ* in accordance with the excavation brief. Apart from a narrow investigative trench 0.20m wide (**Figure 2**), excavated during the initial survey and inspection to determine the likely northerly extent of the barrow ditch, the more northerly portions of the monument remained unexcavated and poorly understood. The heavy precipitation during the early phases of the sample excavation also left these northern parts of the barrow, underwater for extended periods.
- 4.2.3 **Figure 2** depicts the surviving elements of the monument. Truncation to natural bedrock chalk was evident to the north and the south of the monument, but was particularly evident in the south. Remnant mound material was present over much of the monument with the exception of the south-eastern section which was excavated to chalk bedrock. The central and central-southern areas of the barrow were also overlain by a mixed layer of material containing archaeological remains (mostly charcoal flecks) and modern scalpings and hardcore. Extensive animal burrowing was evident on the south-eastern side and a disused military communications cable, once connected to a field telephone, cut across the eastern part of the monument.
- 4.2.4 The overall maximum observed diameter of the monument is 24.07m, with an internal (mound) diameter of 19.23m, and an internal surface area of c. 290m².

4.3 Cremation burials

- 4.3.1 It was agreed prior to the commencement of the sample excavation by WYG and WCAS that two cremation burials would be fully excavated, and the remainder (of unknown number) would be preserved *in situ*. A cremation burial (**100**), which had previously been machine truncated, was to be one of the burials excavated; the second was to be chosen by the archaeologist in charge of the fieldwork.



- 4.3.2 Partial cleaning of the barrow, identified a ring or partial ring of cremation burials around the outer edge of the original mound, perhaps within a berm (if present) between the inner edge of the construction ditch and the outer edge of the mound. Any features in the central portion of the barrow, including any primary burial were situated under a layer of remnant mound material which was in turn partially sealed by a mixed deposit of modern hardcore and archaeologically rich material. This could not be removed under the terms of the approved methodology. However, one single cremation burial (**102**) was detected in the central southern portion of the barrow, where a machine scrape had gone slightly deeper. It was determined that this most centrally located cremation burial should be the second to be excavated. This burial was chosen because it was likely to provide the greatest potential of chronological and/or spatial separation between cremation burial (**100**), part of the main, perhaps secondary 'ring' group, and the central cremation burial (**102**), which might be part of a primary phase, assuming the barrow mound was constructed soon after any centralised interment.
- 4.3.3 Cremation burial **100** was situated in the southern portion of the barrow c. 1.50m north of the partially truncated ditch (it would probably have been about 1.00m north of the ditch had truncation not occurred), and c. 2.00m south-east of unexcavated cremation burial **130** (see below). The burial was truncated by machine along the southern edge, so that approximately 35-45% of the feature was missing (**Plate 6**). The grave (**100**) was sub-circular in plan with a maximum diameter of 0.34m and surviving depth of 0.20m. The edge of the grave pit was cut near vertical with a flat base. The grave contained a single placed deposit (**101**) comprising pyre debris and the cremated remains of a sub-adult or young adult (see section 5.16).
- 4.3.4 Cremation burial **102** was situated c. 3m south of the centre of the barrow. The grave was sub-ovoid in plan and measured 0.47m east-west and 0.40m north-south. Like grave **100** this grave had almost vertical sides and a flat base. The grave contained two deposits; the first (**112**) was a placed deposit which comprised pyre debris, the cremated remains of a new born child, and three tiny shale beads. The second and final deposit (**113**) comprised topsoil or mound derived material which presumably slumped into the grave as settling of the primary placed deposit (**112**) had occurred.
- 4.3.5 In accordance with the excavation plan, the remainder of the identified probable cremation burials were not excavated, to facilitate their preservation *in situ*. Exposure to the elements over a period, prior to the covering of the barrow meant that some careful light cleaning of these features was required to ascertain their significance. However, care was taken to minimise any potential disturbance, and no material was removed from the surface of these features.
- 4.3.6 Nine probable graves (**103-109, 129-130**) formed part of the main group of cremation burials identified within the barrow and appeared to form a 'ring' between the outer edge of the barrow mound and the inner edge of the ditch. Excavated cremation grave **100** formed part of the same group. It is not known if any cremation burials survive under the northern part of the barrow as this area remained largely under modern hardcore, which was to be preserved *in situ* under the terms of the excavation plan.
- 4.3.7 Each unexcavated probable cremation burial was inspected, described and photographed prior to its preservation *in situ*. Only burials **106** and **109** had cremated bone visible on the surface. However, it is considered likely that a certain degree of settling must have occurred within all of the graves, resulting in plugs of slumped material near the surface of the majority of the graves, as recorded in cremation burial **102**.



4.3.8 The results of the inspection process are presented in tabular form below:

Table 1: Probable cremation burials (unexcavated)

Probable Cremation Burials (Unexcavated)				
Context Number	Shape	Dimensions (max / min Ø)	Location within the Barrow Perimeter (orientation and NGR)	Description
103	Sub-circular	0.62m / 0.36m	SE 420486 152484	Truncated by Military Communications Cable on western side. Charcoal located around the edge of the visible deposits, except on the western side. Burnt flint and burnt chalk noted in the central portions, which appeared to be mostly topsoil/mound derived (mid-dark brown clay with silt). No cremated bone was observed in the visible deposits
104	Sub-ovoid	0.58m / 0.40m	E 420488 152489	A sub-ovoid-shaped pit (main axis orientated in a NW-SE direction). Charcoal present with visible deposits around the north-eastern edge and at the southern end. Central portions composed of mid-dark brown clay with silt with inclusions of chalk, burnt flint and burnt chalk. No cremated bone was observed in the visible deposits
105	Sub-ovoid	0.70m / 0.50m	E 420488 152490	A sub-ovoid-shaped pit (main axis orientated in a NE-SW direction). The north-eastern edge of this feature was hard to define and it may truncate an earlier small pit or post-hole. Charcoal was present along the north-western and south-eastern sides of the feature and chalk, burnt flint and burnt chalk were present in the central portions
106	Circular	0.17m Ø	E 420488 152492	A small circular feature containing burnt (cremated) bone, charcoal, burnt flint and chalk. This material was concentrated towards the centre of the feature
107	Circular	0.30m Ø	W 420474 152491	A small circular feature containing charcoal, burnt flint, burnt clay and chalk. This material was noted throughout the visible fill of this feature
108	Circular	0.30m Ø	W 420474 152489	A small circular feature containing charcoal and burnt flint. This material was visible throughout the fill of this feature
109	Sub-ovoid	0.60m / 0.50m	SW 420475 152484	A sub-ovoid shaped pit (main axis orientated in a E-W direction). Structure was observed in the distribution of the inclusions within this feature. A central 'ring' of charcoal c. 0.30m Ø was observed and contained burnt (cremated) bone, burnt flint and burnt chalk. There was a secondary concentration of charcoal in the north-eastern corner of the feature. Sparse levels of burnt flint, burnt chalk and charcoal were observed throughout the rest of the feature
129	Sub-ovoid	0.60m / 0.40m	SW 420478 152482	A sub-ovoid-shaped pit (main axis orientated in a E-W direction). Within the visible fill charcoal was located in clusters around the edges to the north, east and south and burnt flint, burnt chalk and chalk was located throughout
130	Circular	0.16m Ø	SW 420479 152481	A small circular pit partially truncated by machine along the southern edge. The visible fill of this feature contained charcoal, burnt chalk and chalk throughout

4.4 The barrow ditch and inhumation burials

4.4.1 In accordance with the agreed excavation strategy, two interventions were made into the barrow ditch. Both of which encountered human remains.

The barrow ditch 123 and grave 116

4.4.2 Intervention **123** was excavated into the southern part of the barrow ditch. It was initially 1.00m wide, but on the identification of inhumation grave **116**, it was widened to 2.00m to allow the full excavation of the grave.

4.4.3 The barrow ditch at intervention **123** was found to be 2.50m wide and 0.82m deep. The base of the ditch was reasonably flat and the sides were convex in profile. (**Figure 3**: S1).

4.4.4 The barrow ditch was open for long enough prior to the construction of grave **116** to allow two fills (**126** and **127**) to be deposited. Fill **126** comprised chalk rubble within a matrix of fine silt, which was mostly but not entirely, deposited from the northern internal side of the ditch. This fill was derived from a number of phases of edge erosion, mostly from the northern side of the ditch and accounts for the less steeply sloping northern slope noted above. Some of the material which constitutes fill **126** is also likely to derive from the barrow mound (ditch up-cast redeposition). The second fill (**127**) was heavily disturbed by animal burrowing (probably rabbit), which also truncated much of grave **116** (**Figure 3**). The combined truncation caused by the grave and animal burrowing only left a small portion of fill **127** *in situ*. However, enough survived to determine its nature. Fill **127** represents a gradual secondary phase of deposition and formed through a process of in-washing and silting of edge derived materials originating from the surrounding topsoil.

4.4.5 Grave **116** was cut into fill **127** after enough time had elapsed to allow for c. 50% of the ditch to have in-filled. It is likely that the first phase of deposition within the ditch was a relatively rapid occurrence, as the edges of the ditch stabilised. The second phase would have been much slower, but represents a much smaller percentage of the surviving fills due to truncation by the grave (**116**).

4.4.6 Grave **116** (**Plate 7**) was oval in plan and measured 1.14m east-west and 0.82m north-south. The cut extended from the top of fill **127** and through the base of the barrow ditch to form a grave, which was c. 0.80m deep (a total depth of c. 1.10m below ground level when including the remainder of the barrow ditch).

4.4.7 The inhumation burial comprised the remains of a robust adult male (**114**) arranged in a crouched position (**Plate 8**) (see **Section 5**). It was positioned in an east-west direction along the central line of the ditch, with the head to the east, facing north or towards the centre of the barrow. The legs were brought up in a crouched position, so the knee joints were broadly level with the lower part of the thorax, with the left knee joint resting on top of the right elbow and the right hand resting on top of the right knee, the left arm was positioned so that the left hand was resting near the right cheek bone. A thin layer of charcoal (**115**) was located around the edge of the grave wall. Some of this carbonised material had collapsed and overlain the right knee and hand of the burial (**114**). It is possible that this carbonised material represents the remains of a wooden grave lining.

4.4.8 Grave **116** was rapidly backfilled with context **128**, which comprised a mix of freshly excavated chalk and redeposited ditch fills, derived from contexts **126** and **127**. Four pieces of Neolithic or Bronze Age struck flint were recovered from the backfill (**128**), and are assumed to be residual and derived from the redeposited elements of ditch fill **126** and (more likely) ditch fill **127**. The grave backfill was disturbed by animal burrowing (**Figure 3**). The grave backfill (**128**) was overlain by two phases of slumping (**124** and

125), which were formed as the rapidly deposited grave backfill settled and stabilised. Context **124** contained two sherds of Middle to Late Bronze Age pottery, both of which are small and abraded and likely to be residual.

4.4.9 The final fill of ditch **123** also sealed grave **116**. This deposit (**111**) comprised topsoil derived material with common chalk and flint rubble inclusions, and finds of animal bone, Middle to Late Bronze Age pottery and Neolithic or Bronze Age worked flint. This deposit was very compact, presumably the result of the previous placing of the modern hardcore.

Barrow ditch 117, graves 131 and 151 and possible (unexcavated) grave 147

4.4.10 The excavation of the second of the two proposed barrow ditch interventions, proved to be rather complex. The intervention was placed on the eastern side of the barrow ditch, in a site position which was located just before the ditch was buried by modern hardcore to the north, and as spatially separated from ditch intervention **123** as possible, within the confines of the agreed excavation strategy.

4.4.11 The barrow ditch at intervention **117** was found to be 3.65m wide and 0.70m deep. The base of the ditch was flat and the sides were convex in profile. The upper 0.20m of both sides of the ditch were shallow, although the western (internal) was the more gently sloping (as was the case in intervention **123**). The lower parts of both sides of the ditch were very steep to vertical for the final c. 0.30m before reaching the base (**Figure 3**).

4.4.12 The primary ditch fill (**117**) comprised chalk rubble within a matrix of fine silt and topsoil-derived material, which was mostly deposited from the internal sides and the outer edges of the ditch (contexts **120**, **121** and **153**). This fill is likely to have been derived from a number of phases of edge erosion from both sides of the ditch but probably slightly more commonly from the western (internal) side of the ditch, which accounts for the less steeply sloping internal edge. This primary slumping was cut directly by two pits (**147** and **151**).

4.4.13 Pit **147** was not excavated, and was left to be preserved *in situ*. The pit was slightly ovoid in plan with a maximum diameter of 0.70m. Given its size and form, it is highly likely that it is an inhumation grave. Two fills (**145** and **146**) were visible on the surface of the feature; fill **146** was predominately derived from chalk rubble and is believed to be rapidly deposited. Fill **145** comprised light yellow-brown silty clay with common inclusion of small chalk rubble. This fill may have slumped into pit **147** after the settling and stabilisation of fill **146**.

4.4.14 Pit **151** was irregular in plan and was situated directly to the west of pit **147**. It contained the redeposited and partially disarticulated remains of a juvenile (**133**) (**Plate 9**). As both pits were cut from the same level, within the fills of ditch intervention **117** they are likely to be contemporaneous. It was also considered possible at the time of excavation that the remains within pit **151** may represent an earlier interment which was disturbed by the digging of pit/grave **147**, and were reinterred hastily, but respectfully next to the new grave.

4.4.15 Both features (**147** and **151**) were subsequently sealed by a second phase of slumping represented by contexts **134** and **135**. This depositional event appears to have built gradually from edge derived slumps and collapses from both sides of the barrow ditch (**117**); there was no evidence to suggest this fill was rapidly deposited to deliberately seal pits **147** and **151**. This second phase of slumping was cut by grave **131**.



- 4.4.16 Grave **131** was oval in plan and measured 1.20m north-south and 0.70m east-west. The grave was shallow at 0.15m deep and did not extend below the level of the top of the previous interments.
- 4.4.17 The inhumation comprised the remains of an adult female (**122**) buried in a crouched position (**Plate 10**) (see **Section 5**). The burial was positioned in a north-west to south-east direction within the barrow ditch, with the head to the north-west, facing east or away from the barrow. The legs were tightly crouched, so that the knee joints were broadly level with the central part of the thorax, with the right leg resting on top of the left. The left arm was drawn up so the left hand rested below the throat, and the right hand was probably resting on the right thigh. A fragment of horn core (**ON 2**) was placed between the torso and the lower left arm. A pyritic nodule (**ON 1**) was also found adjacent to the rear of the skull and is likely to have been deliberately placed.
- 4.4.18 Grave **131** was then covered with flint rubble (**119**), which may have originally formed a cairn. Some of the flint within this rubble layer appeared to have been struck once or twice. This concentration of flint rubble was only found over grave **131**, making it unlikely to have originated from slumping events.
- 4.4.19 Grave **131** and the possible flint cairn **119** represented the final phase of funerary activity within this section of the barrow ditch (**117**). A gradually deposited secondary fill (**154**) formed around the cairn (**119**), and filtered through it to form some of the material (**132**) surrounding crouched inhumation **122**. The tertiary fill (**118/159**) finally sealed the barrow ditch **117**. Modern disturbance was found to be cutting the final fill of the ditch and included, animal disturbance (**155**) and a recent post hole (**157**).

Unexcavated inhumation burial 110

- 4.4.20 Another possible inhumation burial was identified in the southern part of the barrow 'mound' area (**Plate 11**). This feature was situated just within the circumference of the supposed circle formed by cremation burials **100**, **103-109** and **129-130**, although there is no evidence these feature are chronologically related in terms of phasing. The grave (**110**) was orientated north-east to south-west and was 1.95m in length and at least 0.68m wide; the southern edge had been truncated by machine and it's exact width is not known, however it appears only a small portion of the feature was lost. A single recently fractured lower limb bone (femur or tibia) was identified projecting from the upper fills of the feature. This feature was the only identified (exposed) inhumation burial not to be contained within the barrow ditch. The south-eastern part of the feature was disturbed by animal burrowing, as depicted on **Plate 11** (bottom right of frame).

4.5 Metal detector survey

- 4.5.1 The metal detector survey identified 30 metallic objects within the Site. Only two of these signals were of likely archaeological significance, and neither was particularly strong. These signals were associated with the unexcavated cremation burials **107** and **108** on the western side of the barrow. The remainder were associated with modern material (construction debris, cartridge cases etc.) contained within the remnant modern hardcore, or pressed into the upper layers of the barrow ditch.



5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Apart from human bone, few finds were recovered; quantities by material type and by context are given in **Table 2**. Finds came both from grave contexts and from other features.

5.2 Pottery

5.2.1 The five sherds of pottery recovered are all of prehistoric date. The two sherds from context **124**, and two of the three sherds from fill **111** (ditch **123**), are all in coarse, flint-tempered fabrics, while the remaining sherd from **111** is in a fine sandy fabric. Although these sherds are undiagnostic, the fabrics suggest a date range in the Middle to Late Bronze Age.

Table 2: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

Context	Animal Bone	Burnt Flint	Worked Flint (No.)	Pottery	Shale	Stone
102					3/1	
111	16/108	1/13	20	3/4		
119	83/361		19			
120	8/11		2			
122	4/54					1/15
124				2/11		
128			4			
148		1/39	3			
TOTAL	111/534	2/52	48	5/15	3/1	1/15

5.3 Worked flint

5.3.1 The worked flint consists largely of waste flakes, with two cores. There are no tools or other utilised pieces. The material is in relatively fresh condition, with little sign of edge damage, although all pieces are patinated, and there are traces of a calcareous concretion ('racc') on some pieces from rubble layer (possible cairn material) **119**. In the absence of diagnostic tool types, this waste material can only be broadly dated on technological grounds (broad, squat flakes struck using hard hammer technique; multi-platform cores) as Neolithic or Bronze Age.

5.4 Burnt flint

5.4.1 Burnt, unworked flint was recovered from two contexts. This material type is intrinsically undatable, although often taken as an indicator of prehistoric activity.

5.5 Stone

5.5.1 A small natural spherical geode was found with skeleton **122**, and may have been deliberately placed in this context.

5.6 Shale

5.6.1 Three tiny shale beads (diameter 3mm) were recovered from a soil sample taken from the fill of cremation grave **102**. The beads are all of cylindrical form.

5.7 Human bone

Introduction

5.7.1 Human bone, cremated and unburnt, from five contexts was subject to assessment. The unburnt bone was recovered from features cut through the fills of the barrow ditch on the south and east side (**Figure 2**). The cremated remains derived from the only two (of 11) cremation graves within the area to be subject to excavation. There is no direct dating evidence associated with any of the burial deposits, though an Early to Middle Bronze Age date is likely for the mortuary assemblage.

Methods

5.7.2 All the material was subject to a rapid scan to assess the condition of the bone, demographic data, potential for indices recovery and the presence of pathological lesions. Any animal bone or non-osseous material were separated-out for assessment by the appropriate specialist. Assessments of age and sex were based on standard methodologies (Beek 1983; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Scheuer and Black 2000). Grading for preservation of the unburnt bone follows McKinley (2004a, fig 6).

Results

5.7.3 A summary of the results is presented in **Appendix 1 (Table 4)**.

5.7.4 The unburnt bone from the three skeletons is in excellent condition and in all cases the bone was mostly recovered. However, the bone is heavily fragmented, most of the breaks being fresh. The cremated bone from grave **100** is slightly worn and chalky in appearance, and only a small proportion of trabecular bone is present. The burial deposit in grave **102** was wholly undisturbed, and there is also likely to have been little if any loss of bone from grave **100** as a result of truncation.

5.7.5 The remains of five individuals are represented; two cremated and three unburnt. The remains of the adult male from grave **116** indicate as very large robust individual.

5.7.6 Pathological lesions were observed in the remains of all three inhumed individuals. The two adults have moderate dental calculus and all three have dental caries suggestive of a diet more dependent on carbohydrates than meat protein. Other dental lesions may provide further insights into the nature of their diet and potentially, thereby, their social status. The adult male has old, well healed fractures to the nose and at least one rib; the former would have left him with the 'flattened nose' commonly associated in the modern world with those engaged in violent contact sports. A few other mild-moderate lesions indicative of wear-and-tear to various joints and muscle strains were also observed.

5.7.7 Much of the bone from the neonatal burial (grave **102**) is black or blue/grey in colour indicative of poor levels of oxidation; the most probable cause is insufficient fuel being used in the cremation of this young individual.

5.8 Animal bone

5.8.1 Animal bone is in a poor, abraded condition. Species represented are cattle and sheep, with one pig bone from ditch fill **111** (ditch **123**). A cattle horn core (**ON 2**) and a cattle-size scapula fragment were found with skeleton **122**.



6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A total of 21 bulk samples were taken from spits and quadrants from two cremation related deposits, **100** and **102**. These were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and wood charcoal. Seven of the 18 samples taken from grave deposits were also floated as the presence of wood charcoal had been noted in some of the deposits. The remaining 11 samples from grave deposits were sieved for artefacts.

6.2 Charred plant remains

6.2.1 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5mm mesh, residues fractionated into 4mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>4mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. 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 **Appendix 2 (Table 5)**.

6.2.2 The flots varied in size and there were generally low numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation.

6.2.3 No charred plant remains were recovered from these deposits.

6.3 Wood charcoal

6.3.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 5**. Charcoal fragments of greater than 4mm were retrieved in moderate numbers from two of the 12 samples from cremation-related deposit **102** and in large quantities from two samples from grave deposit **116**.

6.4 Land and fresh/ brackish water molluscs

6.4.1 The flots were rapidly assessed by scanning under a x10 – x40 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.

6.4.2 The mollusc assemblages include the shade loving species *Acanthinula aculeata*, *Aegopinella nitidula*, *Oxychilus cellarius*, *Carychium tridentatum*, *Clausilia bidentata*, *Helicigona lapicida*, *Discus rotundatus*, *Merdigera obscura* and *Vitrea contracta*, the intermediate species *Pomatias elegans*, *Punctum pygmaeum*, *Trochulus hispidus*, *Cochlicopa lubrica*, *Cepaea* sp. *Limax/Deroceras* and *Vitrea pellucida* and the open country species *Vallonia costata*, *Vallonia excentrica*, *Pupilla muscorum*, *Helicella itala*, *Vertigo pygmaea* and *Truncatellina cylindrica*.

6.4.3 These species may reflect the exploitation of a variety of niche habitats in a mainly open landscape. For example *Acanthinula aculeata* and *Clausilia bidentata* are species typical of woodland environments, *Helicigona lapicida* favours rock rubble habitats whereas *Pomatias elegans* thrives in areas of bare earth and may be indicative of areas of clearance. The presence of the rare species *Truncatellina cylindrica* is noteworthy. This species exploits open areas of short dry grassland.



7 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

7.1 Archaeological deposits

- 7.1.1 The targeted excavation revealed a total of 11 cremation burials within the monument, with additional burials likely to be present in the uninvestigated central and northern parts of the monument. The excavation of the barrow ditch identified multiple inhumation burials, cutting the lower fills of the ditch. Artefactual evidence from these depositions and the ditch, indicate a Neolithic to Late Bronze Age date range. Radiocarbon dating (see below) of selected human and animal will be used to confirm and refine this sequence.
- 7.1.2 It is not known when the likely barrow mound was levelled to ground level. No barrow at this location is depicted on the Ordnance Survey First Series mapping of 1817 or the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition mapping of 1888.
- 7.1.3 There can be little doubt that further human remains are present within the Site, including presumably a central primary interment and further cremation burials near the centre and around the northern internal edge of the barrow construction ditch. Less than c. 8% of the construction ditch was investigated during the sample excavation, yet human remains were identified with each of the two interventions. It would seem highly probable that more inhumation burials are present within the remaining portions of the ditch.
- 7.1.4 The excavation has achieved the basic aims identified in the Written Scheme of Investigation in that it has defined the nature, extent, character and date of the monument within the areas of excavation so that preservation *in situ* for the remaining elements could be achieved
- 7.1.5 The Site can be examined against the known background for the immediate area and also has the potential to contribute to broader regional research agendas that have been identified in the *South West Archaeological Research Framework* (SWARF, Webster 2008). In particular, improving understanding of the chronological sequence of burial in the Neolithic to Bronze Age can be further examined.

7.2 Human bone

- 7.2.1 Full analysis of the bone will provide more detailed demographic data regarding the age and sex of the individuals. Although some extensive reconstruction of the unburnt skeletal elements will be required, this will enable the recovery of metric data and it should be possible to calculate the major skeletal indices for the adults. A study of the pathological lesions will enable a broad assessment of the health status of individuals and, by comparison with contemporaneous data - particularly that from the recently excavated assemblages at DTE, Amesbury Down and Porton Down, Wiltshire (Egging Dinwiddy forthcoming; McKinley forthcoming a; 2012 a) - some indication of their social status.
- 7.2.2 The cremated remains join a growing corpus of data from the region (e.g. Amesbury Down and Porton Down; McKinley forthcoming a and b) and, together with the recently recovered data from elsewhere on Salisbury Plain with which it is to be presented (Delta Track East and Delta Track West), will enhance our understanding of these contemporaneous population groups, their mortuary rites and their attitudes to the dead, especially the very young.



7.3 Environmental evidence

Charred plant remains

- 7.3.1 There is no potential due to the absence of charred plant remains in these samples. No further work is proposed.

Wood charcoal

- 7.3.2 The analysis of the wood charcoal would provide information on the range of species and whether there was any species selection. It would also assist in determining the nature of any local funerary practices.
- 7.3.3 This information would augment the wood charcoal analysis from other cremation related deposits on Salisbury Plain at Delta West.

Land snails

- 7.3.4 Detailed analysis is unlikely to assist in determining a very detailed picture of the local landscape. No further work is proposed.

7.4 Conventional radiocarbon dating and Bayesian chronologies

- 7.4.1 The approach for the project will include conventional radiocarbon dating and, if applicable, Bayesian modelling.
- 7.4.2 Conventional radiocarbon dating can be used to date material of otherwise unknown age (e.g. unaccompanied animal burials and human burials), to clarify the date of sample material (e.g. charred hazelnut shell in a prehistoric pit) and to provide the basis for site chronology.
- 7.4.3 The Bayesian approach to archaeological dating can be used to provide age estimates for archaeological events (Bronk Ramsay 2001 and 2009; Buck *et al.* 1996; Bayliss and Bronk Ramsay 2004), whereas radiocarbon dating will simply return the calendar age of the submitted sample. This is achieved by combining known stratigraphic (prior) information with radiocarbon dates to produce age estimates (posterior density). Overall the method tends to produce chronologies that are routinely more precise than conventional radiocarbon dating. The technique allows the following to be generated and measured- start and end dates, first and last, duration (span), and interval (hiatus in activity). It can also be used to estimate events within a radiocarbon dated sequence (e.g. date of construction). Date estimates for archaeological events can also be compared. The OxCal programme can also be used to order radiocarbon dates (e.g. to sequence burials within a Bronze Age cemetery).

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Archaeological deposits (Tasks 2-5, 13-14)

- 8.1.1 The known archaeology of the area will be re-examined by reviewing published reports and available grey literature. This will contribute towards the discussion of the Site within its wider landscape and its relationship to nearby sites, in particular other Early Bronze Age burial monuments.
- 8.1.2 Once the further post-excavation and stratigraphic analysis and radiocarbon dating is completed, revisions will be made as required to the phasing. The publication text will be

written and will integrate the key results of the proposed specialist work. Illustrations (comprising figures and plates) will be prepared to accompany the report. The results will be discussed in their local and regional context.

8.2 Human bone

8.2.1 Analysis of the cremated bone will follow the writer's standard procedure (McKinley 1994, 5-6; 2004b). All unsorted <4mm residues will be subject to a rapid scan at this stage to extract any identifiable material, osseous or artefactual.

8.2.2 Taphonomic factors potentially affecting differential bone preservation will be assessed. The age of individuals will be further assessed using standard methodologies (Brothwell 1972; Beek 1983; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Scheuer and Black 2000). Sex will be confirmed from the sexually dimorphic traits of the skeleton (Bass 1987; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Gejvall 1981). A standard series of measurement will be taken (Brothwell and Zakrzewski 2004) and skeletal indices calculated (Bass 1987; Trotter and Gleser 1952; 1958). Non-metric traits will be recorded (Berry and Berry 1967; Finnegan 1978).

8.2.3 Pathological lesions are recorded in text and via digital photography. X-radiography may be required in one case to aid diagnosis. Several lesions are likely to warrant photographing for publication purposes. The form and nature of the deposits currently of uncertain type will be further considered in light of the osteological and context data. Aspects of pyre technology and the cremation mortuary rite will be discussed.

8.2.4 It is recommended that bone samples from at least one inhumation and one cremation burial are submitted for radiocarbon dating (see below). This will enable the deposits to be studied within the correct temporal context and viewed within their wider regional setting.

8.3 Environmental evidence

Wood charcoal

8.3.1 It is proposed to analyse the wood charcoal from three samples from cremation related deposits **100** and **102** and from two samples from grave deposit **116**.

8.3.2 Identifiable charcoal will be extracted from the flot (>2mm). Larger richer samples will be sub-sampled. Fragments will be prepared for identification according to the standard methodology of Leney and Casteel (1975, see also Gale and Cutler 2000). Charcoal pieces will be fractured with a razor blade so that three planes can be seen: transverse section (TS), radial longitudinal section (RL) and tangential longitudinal section (TL). They will then be examined under bi-focal epi-illuminated microscopy at magnifications of x50, x100 and x400 using a Kyowa ME-LUX2 microscope. Identification will be undertaken according to the anatomical characteristics described by Schweingruber (1990) and Butterfield and Meylan (1980). Identification will be to the lowest taxonomic level possible, usually that of genus and nomenclature according to Stace (1997), individual taxon (mature and twig) will be separated, quantified, and the results tabulated.

8.3.3 The samples proposed for charcoal analysis are indicated with a "C" in the analysis column in **Table 5**.

Land snails

8.3.4 Detailed analysis is unlikely to assist in determining a very detailed picture of the local landscape. No further work is proposed.



8.4 Finds and animal bone (Tasks 6-7)

- 8.4.1 The pottery, animal bone and other material types are limited and offer little potential for further analysis, but information from this assessment will be included as appropriate. Further research into the significance of the shale beads within the cremation grave will be undertaken.

8.5 Human bone (Task 9)

- 8.5.1 The excavated human bone will be analysed in full. A written report will refer to local comparanda.

8.6 Environmental – charcoal (Task 6)

- 8.6.1 Wood charcoal from cremation related deposits **100** and **102** and from two samples from grave deposit **116** will be analysed and a report prepared for publication.

8.7 Radiocarbon dating (Tasks 10-11)

- 8.7.1 Depending on the reassessment of the animal bone from the primary barrow ditch, it could be possible to estimate a construction date for the barrow ditch. There are two sequential mortuary deposits above this bone, within the ditch fill (**133** and **122**). The upper grave is sealed by a possible flint cairn that also contains animal bone. In addition two cremation burials have potential for dating. One important burial with shale beads near the centre of the barrow and another found near the possible barrow mound edge. Although limited it may be possible to estimate the primary use and a construction date for the monument and a possible span for mortuary use based on the excavated sample of graves.

Research aims

- What is the likely construction date of the barrow?
- Do the burials within the ditch belong to a relatively short sequence- within one or more generations, or to separate burial events?
- Are the cremation burials within the barrow mound earlier, later or contemporaneous with the inhumation burials?
- What is the span of use for activity at the barrow? Is it short within 100 years or of longer duration- up to 500 years?

Recommend samples

- Animal bone from primary fill and flint cairn that bracket the sequence of inhumation burials;
- Human bone samples from inhumations **133** and **122**;
- Cremated bone from **101** and short-life charcoal from **102** on the basis that the bone is not suitable for radiocarbon dating.

Methods

- Review of potential sample material and generation of simulation models to test how many samples are required and whether the outcome of modelling is worthwhile;
- Submission of radiocarbon samples;
- Review of results and final modelling;
- Report.

Sample selection



- 8.7.2 All sample material will be selected by a named specialist assigned to the project (e.g. Jacqueline McKinley) according to advice and best practice (e.g. articulating and cremated human bone). Care will be taken to select the sample material that can be demonstrated to be in situ to avoid dating any intrusive or residual material.
- 8.7.3 Standard AMS radiocarbon dates, with an eight to 10 week turnaround time, will be obtained from Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC).

Reporting of result

- 8.7.4 Details of all radiocarbon results will be presented in tabulated form quoted in accordance with the international standard known as the Trondheim convention (Stuiver and Kra 1986), as conventional radiocarbon ages (Stuiver and Polach 1977) and calculated using the calibration curve of Reimer *et al.* (2009) and the computer program OxCal (v4.1) (Bronk Ramsey 1995; 2009). Cited calibrated date ranges will be given at 95% confidence and quoted in the form recommended by Mook (1986), with the end points rounded outwards to 10 years for errors >25 years.

Laboratory Code	Object Number	Material Identification	Radio-carbon Age (BP)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	Calibrated Date Range (95.4% confidence cal BC)	Calibrated date range (cal BC) (95% confidence)	Posterior density estimate 95%
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- 8.7.5 Results will be plotted using OxCal (v4.1) either as conventional dates at 95% or as age estimates (posterior density) at 95% probability.

8.8 Publication (Tasks 15-18)

- 8.8.1 The report will be prepared for publication in the county journal (see Section 9- below).

8.9 Archive (Tasks 19-23)

- 8.9.1 The archive will be prepared in accordance with the guidelines for the Wiltshire Heritage Museum (see- Section 11- below).

9 PROPOSALS FOR PUBLICATION

9.1 Publication proposal

- 9.1.1 The results will be published as part of a series of Wessex Archaeology papers, bringing together the wider programme of archaeological mitigation undertaken for the Eastern Infrastructure Project (EIP). It will be submitted to *The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*, a well-established journal that is subjected to academic peer review. The report will also be subjected to Wessex Archaeology’s standard internal review procedures.

9.2 Management structure

- 9.2.1 Wessex Archaeology operates a project management system. The team will be headed by the Project Manager, who will assume ultimate responsibility for the implementation



and execution of the project specification as outlined in the Updated Project Design, and the achievement of performance targets, be they academic, budgetary or scheduled.

- 9.2.2 The Manager may delegate specific aspects of the project to other key staff, who both supervise others and have a direct input into the compilation of the report. They may also undertake direct liaison with external consultants and specialists who are contributing to the publication report, and the museum named as the recipient of the project archive. The Manager will have a major input into how the publication paper is written. He will define and control the scope and form of the post-excavation programme.

9.3 Performance monitoring and quality standards

- 9.3.1 The Project Manager will ensure that the report meets internal quality standards as defined in Wessex Archaeology's guidelines.

9.4 Personnel

- 9.4.1 It is currently proposed that the following Wessex Archaeology core staff will be involved in the programme of post-excavation analyses:

Table 3: The Project Team

Project Management and Coordination	Project Role and organisation
Matt Leivers	WA Post excavation Manager
Stephen Beach	WA Project Officer
Sarah Wyles	WA Coordination of Environmental Work
Linda Coleman	WA Management of graphics work
Research and publication	
Stephen Beach	WA Lead author
Robert Goller	WA Lead illustrator
Specialist Services WA	
Sarah Wyles	WA Environmental coordinator/charred plant remains and charcoal
Cathie Barnett	WA Charred Plant Remains
Jacqueline McKinley	WA Human Bone
Alistair Barclay	WA Radiocarbon Dating

9.5 Proposed publication and dissemination

- 9.5.1 It is proposed that the results of the excavation be made available to the academic community and the wider public through the publication of a single paper divided into four sections comprising:

- *Early Neolithic to Beaker period pits and an Early Bronze Age cremation burial;*
- *A Bronze Age cremation cemetery at Delta Crossing;*
- *Late Bronze Age settlement and burials;*
- *The military Practice Trench System and encampment.*

- 9.5.2 The results of the excavation at Victor barrow will be included in Part 1 of the paper.



9.6 Management structure

- 9.6.1 Wessex Archaeology operates a project management system. The team will be headed by the Project-Excavation Manager, in this instance Matt Leivers, who will assume ultimate responsibility for the implementation and execution of the project specification as above, and the achievement of performance targets, be they academic, budgetary, or scheduled.
- 9.6.2 The Project Officer may delegate specific aspects of the project to other key staff who both supervise others and have a direct input into the compilation of the report. They may also undertake direct liaison with external specialists who are contributing to the publication report, and the museum named as the recipient of the project archive. The Post-Excavation Manager will have a major input into how the publication report is written and will define and control the scope and form of the post-excavation programme.

10 TASK LIST, RESOURCES AND PROGRAMME

10.1 Task list and resources

- 10.1.1 The tasks necessary to complete the proposed programme of post-excavation analyses and publication are summarised below.

Table 6. Task List

Task No	Task	Grade	Name	Days
Management				
1	Management & consultation	PM	M Leivers	1
Stratigraphic analysis				
2	Check and enhance phasing	PM	S Beach	0.5
3	Update database & digital plans	PM	S Beach	0.5
4	Site narrative	PM	S Beach	4
5	Figures for publication	DO	Illustrator	2
Environmental				
6	Analysis and reporting of wood charcoal (5 samples)	SPO	S Wyles	2
Finds				
6	Pottery analysis and report writing	SPO	M Leivers	2
7	Summary of other finds (shale, etc)	PO	M Leivers	0.25
Human bone				
9	Analysis and report writing	SPO	J. McKinley	10
Radiocarbon				
10	Selection of radiocarbon samples, submission forms, calibration and results	SPM	A Barclay	0.5
11	Radiocarbon dating – 6 samples	Ext	SUERC	
Report				
13	Assemble report, introduction, background, captions, bibliography	PM	S Beach	1.5
14	Write discussion	PM	S Beach	1
15	Review and QA report	SPM	M Leivers	0.5
16	Editors corrections	All	All	1
17	Proofs check	All	All	1
18	Publication grant	Ext	Ext	
Archive				
19	Archive preparation	PO	TBA	0.25
20	Microfilm jobsheets and checking	PA	TBA	1
21	Microfilm paper records	Marathon	Ext	



22	Archive deposition + car hire and fuel	PO	TBA	0.5
23	Box storage grant		Ext	

11 QUALITY STANDARDS AS DEFINED IN WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY'S GUIDELINES.ARCHIVE

11.1 Preparation and deposition

11.1.1 The complete project archive has been prepared in accordance with Wessex Archaeology's *Guidelines for Archive Preparation* and in accordance with *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage* (UKIC 1990). Details of the watching brief have also been entered into the online Oasis1 database maintained by the Archaeological Data Service (ADS). A copy of the OASIS entry is included below.

11.2 Archive

11.2.1 The project archive consists of:

- One A4 file containing the paper records
- Digital data (site photographs, Word and pdf files).

11.2.2 The archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury under the WA project code 86851. On completion of the project, the archive will be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum, 41 Long Street, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1NS.

11.3 Copyright

11.3.1 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.

11.4 Security copy

11.4.1 In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a digital security copy of the paper records will be prepared, in the form of a pdfa file.

12 REFERENCES

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13 APPENDICES

13.1 Appendix 1: Human Bone

Table 4: Summary of results from assessment of human bone

context	cut	deposit type	quantification	age/sex	pathology	comment
<i>unburnt bone</i>						
114	116	crouched (R) inhumation *	c. 99%	adult c. 40-50 yr. male	calculus, dental caries, dental abscess; fracture – nose, left rib; periosteal new bone – mandible; sinusitis; osteoarthritis – C1-2; Schmorl's node – lumbar; degenerative disc disease – cervical, lumbar; osteophytes – patellae, right elbow & wrist, right foot, lumbar; enthesophytes - calcanea; calcified thyroid cartilage; spinal bifida occulta; ?exostoses - ?tibia; mv - Vastus notch, 6 th lumbar	heavily fragmented (mostly fresh breaks), will reconstruct, most/all indices; large, robust chap
122	131	crouched (L) inhumation burial	c.90%	adult c. 30-35 yr. female	calculus; dental caries; infection – mandibular canal; exostoses – radius; solitary bone cyst	fragmented. esp. skull (mostly fresh), will reconstruct, most indices; animal bone with skull
133	151	?redeposited	c. 85%	juvenile c. 8 yr. ?male	dental caries	fragmented;
<i>cremated bone</i>						
101	100	unurned burial + rpd	860g	subadult/adult c. 14-20 yr.		slightly worn & chalk appearance; charcoal stained; 9 bags, burial in SW quad.
112	102	*unurned burial + rpd	10g	neonate		much grey/black; burial in ?NE

KEY: R/L - right/left; rpd - redeposited pyre debris; * undisturbed burial remains; C - cervical vertebra; mv - morphological variation



13.2 Appendix 2: Environmental Data

Table 5: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Feature	Context	Details	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other	Analysis
Cremation Related Deposits														
100	101	Spit 1 SE quad	2	1	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	1/1 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A)	
100	101	Spit 2 SE quad	3	0.5	5	10	-	-	-	-	-	<1/1 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A)	
100	101	Spit 1 NW quad	4	1.5	10	20	-	-	-	-	-	2/1 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
100	101	Spit 2 NW quad	5	1.5	5	10	-	-	-	-	-	1/<1 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
100	101	Spit 1 SW quad	6	1.5	20	10	-	-	-	-	-	1/3 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
100	101	Spit 2 SW quad	7	1.5	25	5	-	-	-	-	-	3/8 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	C
100	101	Spit 1 NE quad	8	2	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	1/3 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
100	101	Spit 2 NE quad	9	1	12	5	-	-	-	-	-	3/2 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
100	101	Disturbed material	10	10	60	40	-	-	-	-	-	2/10 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
102	113	Spit 1 NW quad	12	2	5	10	-	-	-	-	-	1/<1 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	



Feature	Context	Details	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other	Analysis
102	112	Spit 2 NW quad	13	2	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	2/2 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
102	112	Spit 3 NW quad	14	1	15	5	-	-	-	-	-	3/4 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
102	113	Spit 1 SE quad	15	2	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	1/1 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A)	
102	112	Spit 2 SE quad	16	1.5	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	2/1 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
102	112	Spit 3 SE quad	17	1	20	5	-	-	-	-	-	3/4 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
102	113	Spit 1 SW quad	18	2	15	5	-	-	-	-	-	2/3 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
102	112	Spit 2 SW quad	19	2	40	5	-	-	-	-	-	8/5 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	C
102	112	Spit 3 SW quad	20	1	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	2/2 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
102	113	Spit 1 NE quad	21	2	8	5	-	-	-	-	-	2/1 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
102	112	Spit 2 NE quad	22	2.5	35	2	-	-	-	-	-	7/10 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	C
102	112	Spit 3 NE quad	23	1	35	2	-	-	-	-	-	2/10 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
Grave														



Feature	Context	Details	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other	Analysis
116	115		24	15	500	2	-	-	-	-	-	60/130 ml	Moll-t (A**)	C
116	114	right hand	25	0.5	100	2	-	-	-	-	-	20/30 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	C
116	114	skull	28	1	40	7	-	-	-	-	-	5/8 ml	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	
116	114	base	31	10	40	20	-	-	-	-	-	3/3 ml	Moll-t (A*)	
	122	skull	33	1	25	2	-	-	-	-	-	5/2 ml	Moll-t (A*)	
	122	base	40	20	40	5	-	-	-	-	-	0/<1 ml	Moll-t (A**)	
	133	base	41	10	30	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	Bone, Moll-t (A*)	

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



13.3 Appendix 3: OASIS form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-162066

Project details

Project name	Victor Barrow, Defence Training Estate: Salisbury Plain EIP
Short description of the project	<p>Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by White Young Green to undertake a programme of preliminary survey and sample excavation at V (Victor) crossing hard-standing, following the identification of a previously unknown round barrow during a watching brief of works to upgrade the hard-standing area. Following an initial survey it was decided in consultation between WYG and Wiltshire Council that a strategy of sample excavation should be conducted at the site. This would aim to determine an approximate date for the monument and inform on its specific nature, while minimising any further impact to the monument. The archaeological fieldwork was undertaken on the 25th September, and between 15th October and the 1st November 2012. A total of 11 cremation burials were identified within the monument, with additional burials likely to be present in the uninvestigated central and northern parts of the monument. The excavation of the barrow ditch identified multiple inhumation burials, cutting its lower fills. Artefactual evidence from these depositions and the ditch, indicate a Neolithic to Late Bronze Age date range, although, further analysis including selective radiocarbon dating should help clarify this.</p>
Project dates	Start: 25-09-2012 End: 01-11-2012
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	86851 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	DITCH Bronze Age
Monument type	CREMATION BURIAL Uncertain
Monument type	GRAVE Bronze Age
Monument type	BARROW Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POT Bronze Age
Significant Finds	BEAD Uncertain
Significant Finds	HUMAN REMAINS Bronze Age
Significant Finds	CREMATION Uncertain
Significant Finds	ANIMAL REMAINS Uncertain
Significant Finds	LITHIC IMPLEMENT Uncertain

Project location



Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE KENNET EVERLEIGH Victor Barrow, Defence Training Estate: Salisbury Plain EIP
Postcode	SN8 3HA
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 420480 152490 50 -1 50 56 04 N 001 24 05 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Consultant
Project design originator	Consultant
Project director/manager	Sue Farr
Project director/manager	Paul White
Project supervisor	S Beach
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

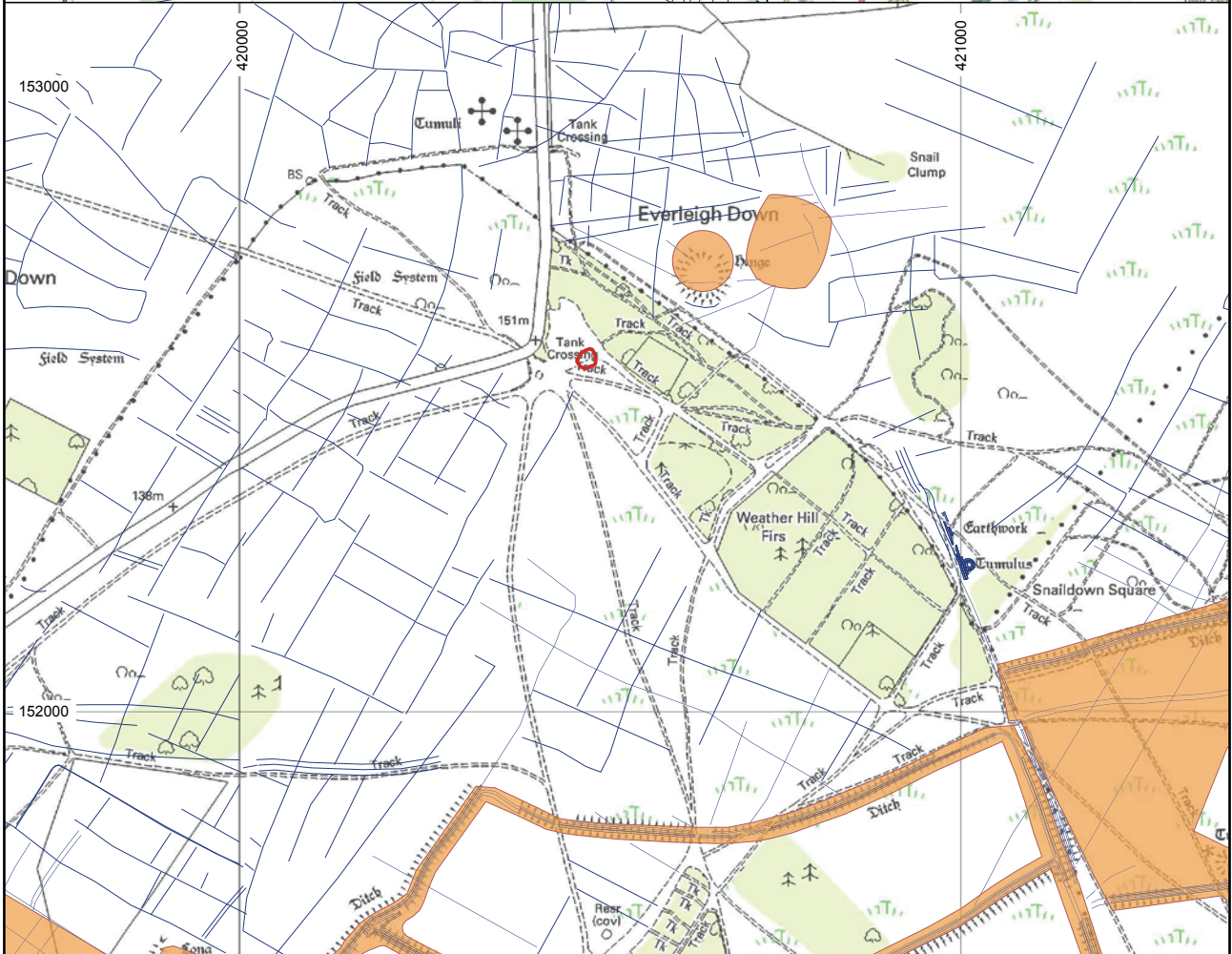
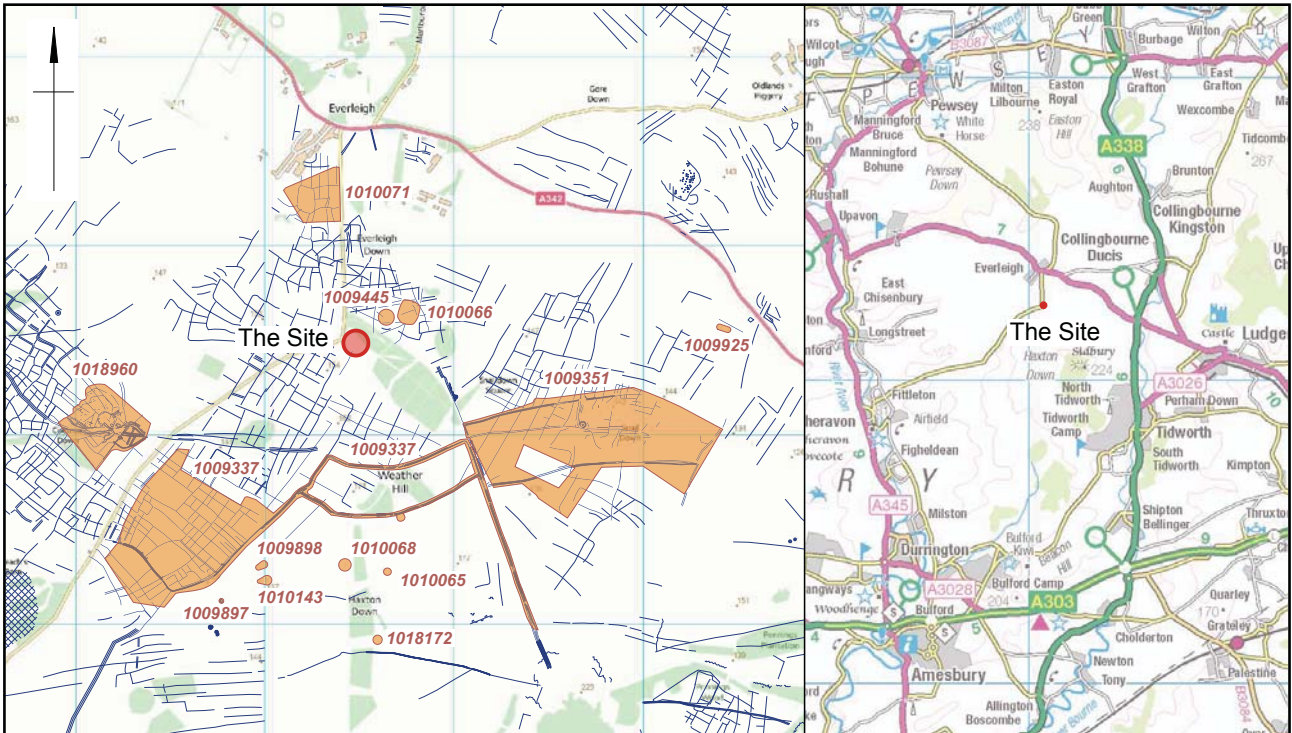
Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Wiltshire Heritage Museum
Physical Archive ID	86851
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Environmental", "Human Bones", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Wiltshire Heritage Museum
Digital Archive ID	86851
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Wiltshire Heritage Museum
Paper Archive ID	86851
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Plan", "Report", "Section"




**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Defence Training Estate: Salisbury Plain EIP - Victor Barrow, Everleigh, Wiltshire: Post-Excavation Assessment Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Beach, S.
Other bibliographic details	report number 86851
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Wessex Archaeology - Salisbury
Description	A4 bound client report



The Site
 Scheduled Monument
 Linear feature



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Site location plan

Figure 1



- Hardcore deposits for new area of handstanding
- Previous deposit of hardcore left *in situ*
- Area of remnant barrow mound?
- Interface of previous deposit of hardcore and remnant barrow mound
- Unexcavated archaeological feature
- Disturbed area
- Cb Cremation burial
- G Inhumation burial
- Excavated slot
- Natural chalk



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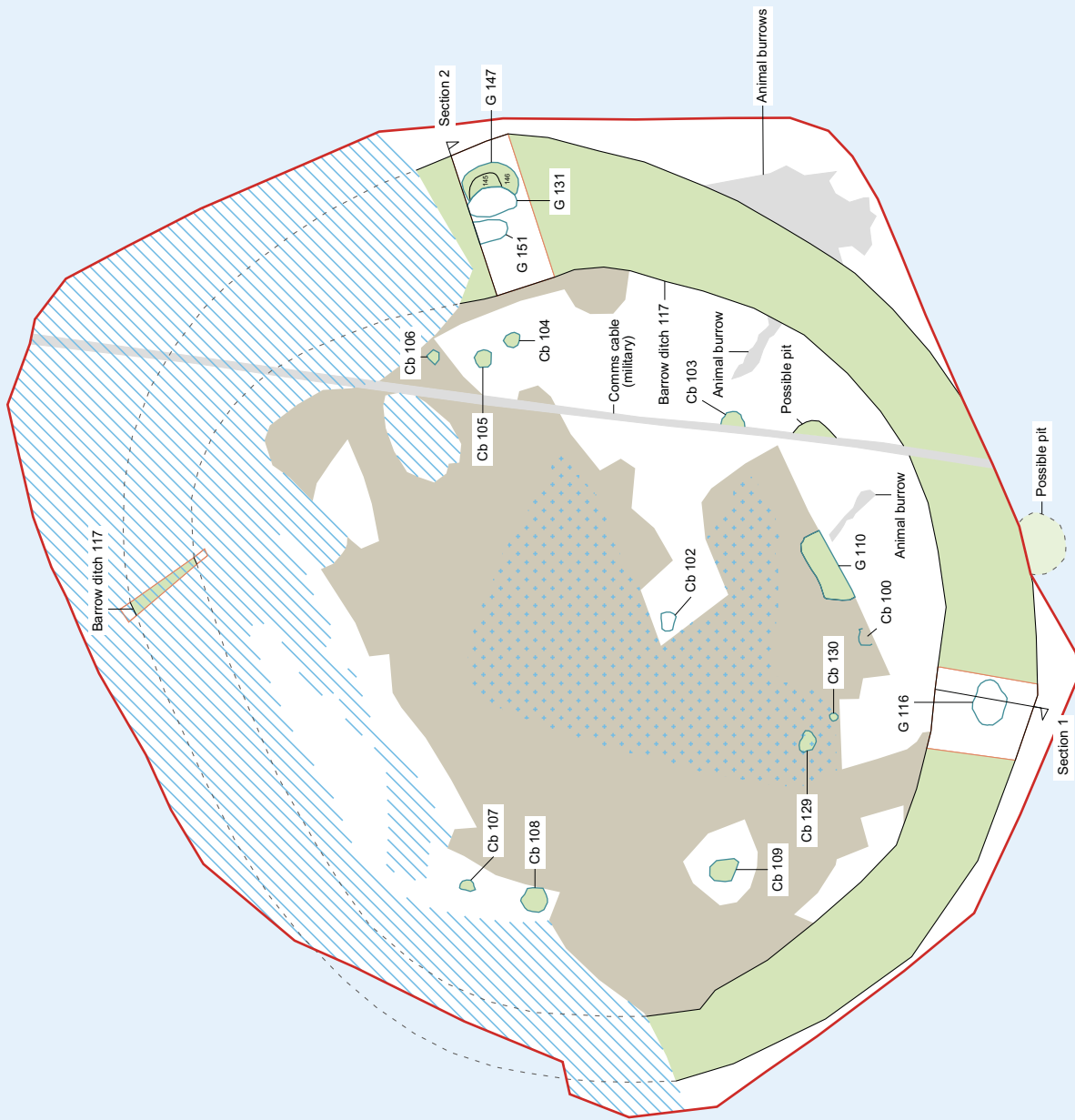
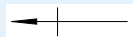
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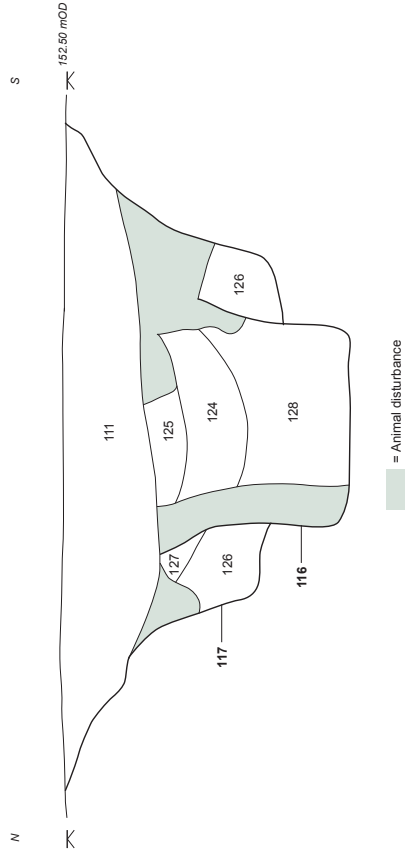
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Plan of archaeological features

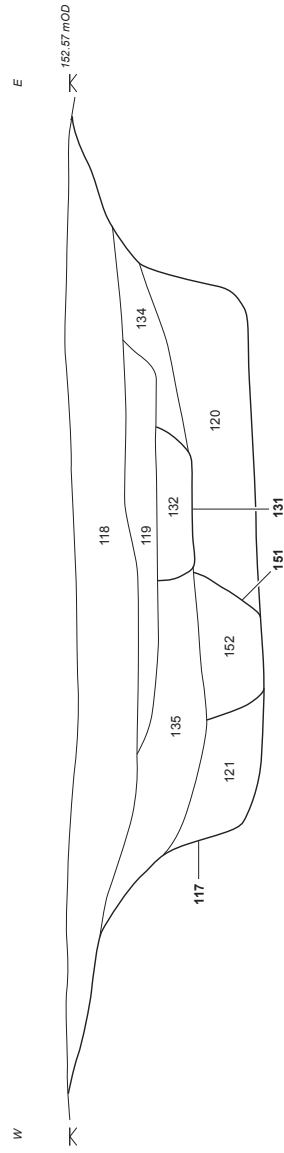
Figure 2



Section 1



Section 2



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Plate 1: View of the Site from the north during the preliminary survey



Plate 2: The northern extent of the barrow ditch identified during the preliminary survey


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Plate 3: View of the E-W ditch taken from the east during the preliminary survey



Plate 4: View of the Site from the south showing the protective fencing and geo-textile covering


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Plate 5: View of the Site from the east after cleaning

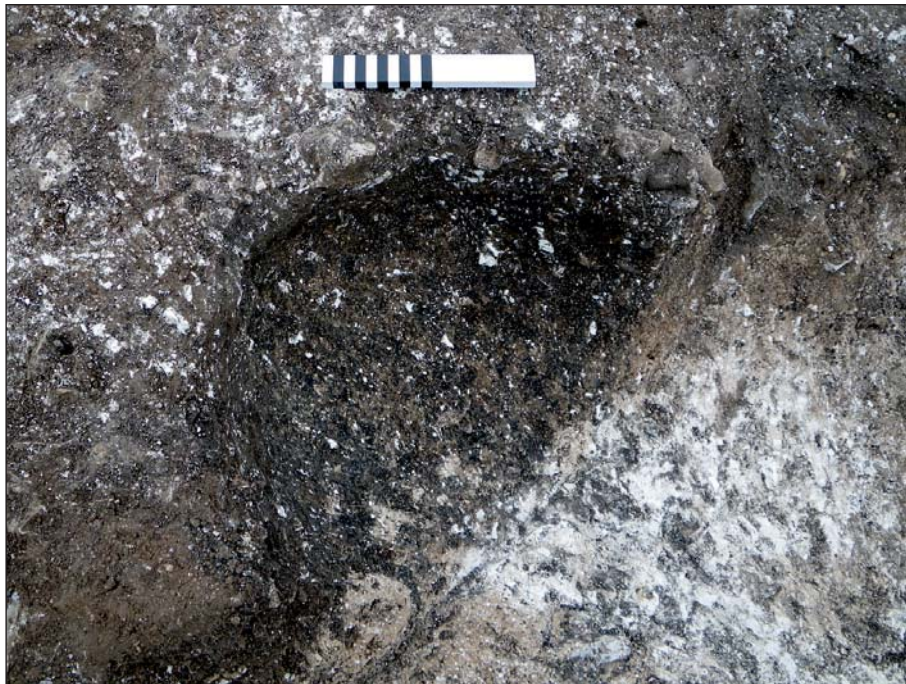


Plate 6: Post excavation view of cremation burial 100 from the southwest


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Plate 7: Grave 116 partially excavated taken from the north-west



Plate 8: Inhumation burial 114 from the north-west


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Plate 9: Inhumation burial 133



Plate 10: Inhumation burial 122 from the south



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Plate 11: Unexcavated inhumation burial 110 from the southeast

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