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Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project
Longbarrow Crossroads
Winterbourne Stoke
Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation, Mitigation and Watching Brief



Ref: 74252.01
December 2014



**Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project
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Winterbourne Stoke
Wiltshire**

Archaeological Evaluation, Mitigation and Watching Brief

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December 2014

Report Ref: 74252.01



Quality Assurance

Project Code	74252	Accession Code		Client Ref.	
Planning Application Ref.		Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)	409897 141365		

Version	Status*	Prepared by	Checked and Approved By	Approver's Signature	Date
v01	E	PH	SF		30/10/14
File:					
	F	SF	ADC		
File:					
File:					
File:					
File:					

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

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Atkins Skanska JV to undertake a phased programme of archaeological evaluation, excavation and watching brief during work to upgrade the Longbarrow Crossroads roundabout. This work formed part of a wider scheme to provide new visitor facilities at the Stonehenge World Heritage Site (WHS). The work involved the installation of additional lanes to improve traffic flow at the roundabout, and proposed the relocation of the central island to the south-west, providing an improved setting for the Winterbourne Stoke Long Barrow.

The work was considered necessary, not only to improve the setting at the fringes of the Stonehenge WHS, but also to address the likely impact on a linear ditch of probable Late Bronze Age date, that ran along the projected line of the new carriageway.

The line of the ditch was confirmed by trench evaluation. Two excavated sections, one hand-dug, recorded its broad, tapering profile that had filled with a series of natural silts. Nothing was found to confirm its date. The work also established that a further ditch, recorded during the initial construction of the roundabout in 1967 and listed as a 'stockade trench', cut through the tertiary fills of the supposed Late Bronze Age linear ditch.

Work also recorded a number of field boundary ditches associated with 'Celtic field' systems to the south-east of the roundabout, with another to the north of the roundabout, at the site of a construction compound.

The date of the 'stockade trench' and its relationship to the Bronze Age settlement has been the subject of considerable discussion and speculation since it was first identified in 1967. The fact that the issue has now been resolved archaeologically is significant. The date of the 'Wessex Linear' ditch as Late Bronze Age remains unproven, nevertheless a molluscan sample has demonstrated notable similarities with other ditches of the same date that have been sampled in other parts of Salisbury Plain. This is the first such piece of analysis to have been undertaken on this stretch of the ditch system, and is therefore a worthy addition to the archive.

These new pieces of archaeological evidence from the project are of sufficient importance that they should be published in a short article, of which the county journal provides the most suitable publication. Given the association with the Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project, it is appropriate that these results are combined with the results of the wider project into a single article.



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Acknowledgements

The work was commissioned by Atkins Skanska JV and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to them in this respect, and especially to Ani Maduabuchi and Sean Murphy, of Atkins Skanska for their collaboration on site. Thanks are also extended to Clare King at Wiltshire Council and David Vaughan and Phil McMahon at English Heritage's Stonehenge Curatorial Unit (SCU) who not only commented on and approved the various WSI documents, but also monitored the fieldwork. In addition, through discussion with the Client, they ensured that appropriate strategies could be implemented to minimise damage to the archaeological resource yet allow road construction to be completed satisfactorily.

Thanks also go to Chris Lewis and Karen Dymott (engineers) who made survey data available and to Paul Phillips, RW Groundworks site foreman, who helped ensure that the archaeologist was kept fully informed of the day-to-day work programme of the road scheme.

The fieldwork was led primarily by Phil Harding with contributions by Chris Ellis, Ben Cullen, Darryl Freer, Piotr Orczewski, Richard Payne and John Powell. Comments were supplied on the pottery by Lorraine Mephram and the molluscan samples processed by Tony Scothern and assessed by Sarah F. Wyles. The graphics were prepared by Rob Goller and the project managed for Wessex Archaeology by Sue Farr.



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Archaeological Evaluation, Mitigation and Watching Brief

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by the Atkins-Skanska JV (the Client) to undertake a programme of archaeological work including field evaluation, mitigation excavation and watching brief during junction improvements at Longbarrow Crossroads, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire, located at National Grid Reference (NGR) 409897 141365 (the Site; **Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project (SEIP) was developed by English Heritage to deliver an improved landscape setting for Stonehenge. This comprised a new, sensitively designed and environmentally sustainable Stonehenge Visitor Centre making it possible to provide better interpretation of the monument and the Stonehenge World Heritage Site (WHS). The improvements also necessitated associated access facilities and highways improvements.
- 1.1.3 One element of the SEIP included improvements proposed by the Highways Agency to the Longbarrow Roundabout A303(T)/A360 junction, and included development of land to the south-west of the roundabout. These alterations were designed to accommodate additional traffic that would be re-routed along the A303(T) and A360 following the closure of the A344.
- 1.1.4 The new junction layout created three lanes joining westbound on the A303 and southbound on the A360. In addition the roundabout was repositioned to the south-west of its former location, further away from the Winterbourne Stoke long barrow, and the redundant carriageway adjacent to the long barrow was removed and landscaped. This work was undertaken to improve the setting of the monument.
- 1.1.5 Limited groundwork was also required to construct a compound, approximately 800m north of the roundabout and immediately west of the A360.
- 1.1.6 Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI) were prepared by Wessex Archaeology (Wessex Archaeology 2011a, 2011b, 2013) for successive phases of work. These documents set out the strategy, techniques and methodologies by which the archaeological work would be undertaken. Each document was submitted to Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service (WCAS) and English Heritage's Stonehenge Curatorial Unit (SCU) (the Curator) for comment and approval prior to the commencement of work.

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The Site comprised the area of the Longbarrow Crossroads roundabout, its immediate approach roads, comprising the east to west aligned A303 and the north to south aligned A360, and a wooded, triangular plot of land to the south-west of the roundabout,

Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire. The surrounding area comprised open arable fields within the gently undulating topography of Salisbury Plain.

- 1.2.2 The underlying geology of the Site comprises Upper Chalk (soft with flints) which caps Middle and Lower Chalk (British Geological Survey 1976, Sheet 298). The Site lies at an elevation of approximately 107m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

2 DESIGNATED SITES

2.1 Stonehenge World Heritage Site

- 2.1.1 The Site lay on the western boundary of the Stonehenge World Heritage Site (**Figure 1A**). The Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites were inscribed onto the World Heritage List in 1986. The nomination focused on the two megalithic monuments of Stonehenge and Avebury. However, it also included a number of associated sites; those close to Stonehenge include Robin Hood's Ball, fifteen Neolithic long barrows within a 5km radius of Stonehenge, the Cursus, Woodhenge, Durrington Walls and numerous Bronze Age round barrows surrounding Stonehenge.
- 2.1.2 No Scheduled Monuments lay within the Site itself, however five individually Scheduled barrows (SM10476, SM10481, SM10463, SM10464 & SM10484), the Winterbourne Stoke barrow cemetery (SM10306), a henge (SM10482), two long barrows (SM10462 & SM10330), a section of linear boundary earthwork (SM10489) and a Bronze Age enclosure (SM10484) lay in the immediate environs of the Site.
- 2.1.3 The defined boundaries of two of these monuments (**Figure 2**), the Winterbourne Stoke Long Barrow and a small round barrow approximately 10m to the north of the long barrow, were sufficiently close to the Site that their boundaries encroached across the edge of it.
- 2.1.4 The line of the new carriageway to the south-west of the former roundabout lay on the projected course of a Scheduled linear boundary earthwork (SM10489; WCC SMR SU14SW968). This feature (**Figure 2**) is undated, but is likely to be part of a Late Bronze Age 'Wessex Linear' ditch system (RCHME 1979, Richards 1990) which forms part of a complex of earthworks that can be traced from Rox Hill in the south-east to a point north-east of Longbarrow Crossroads.
- 2.1.5 Survey by the RCHME (1979) also mapped extensive, heavily ploughed field systems in the area. These were primarily of 'Celtic' fields (**Figure 2**) lying parallel to the A360 and extending from Druid's Lodge in the south to the north of the Longbarrow Crossroads, but also included areas of medieval ridge and furrow field systems.

2.2 Archaeological excavations at Longbarrow Crossroads

- 2.2.1 A Late Bronze Age settlement was discovered and excavated (Vatcher and Vatcher 1968, Richards 1990) in 1967 during works to construct the roundabout at Longbarrow Crossroads. Settlement evidence (**Figure 2**) comprised the postholes of at least three hut structures, a north-south aligned 'stockade trench' and several pits containing Deverel-Rimbury pottery sherds.
- 2.2.2 The 'stockade trench' (Vatcher and Vatcher 1968) was sampled at three locations, over a length of approximately 100m in 1967. No archive survives from the investigation of the feature, or its date, to confirm its relationship to the Late Bronze Age settlement.
- 2.2.3 The short interim report by Vatcher and Vatcher noted that 'the ditch at SU 1000 4135, south of the crossroads' (*ibid.*) was sectioned. The description recorded a V-shaped

profile and noted there was a probable bank on either side. It is likely, but uncertain, that this refers to the 'Wessex Linear' boundary ditch, as no record of the results survives.

- 2.2.4 A sample trench was placed across the 'Wessex Linear', approximately 60m south-east of the roundabout in 1982 (Richards 1990), as part of the Stonehenge Environs Project. The excavation (W51) showed that the ditch measured 2.4m wide and 1.1m deep, with a 'V' shaped profile. The sequence of silts was unbroken apart from a stabilisation horizon. No datable artefacts were recovered.
- 2.2.5 A watching brief on road works just west of the roundabout in 1999 found further evidence of settlement (Wessex Archaeology 1999). The full extent of settlement activity at this location is not known, however a geophysical survey north-west of the crossroads has detected many linear and circular anomalies which are possibly further elements of this settlement.
- 2.2.6 Archaeological evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2002a) undertaken in response to earlier Stonehenge improvement proposals immediately to the south-west of the Site did not identify any archaeological deposits. A watching brief during geotechnical works (Wessex Archaeology 2002b) was also undertaken. In test pit 62 to the immediate south-west of the Site, sherds of Romano-British and post-medieval pottery were noted within the topsoil.
- 2.2.7 Two soakaway pits were excavated during geotechnical investigations within the Site and subject to an archaeological watching brief (Wessex Archaeology 2010). No archaeological deposits were identified during the groundwork.

2.3 Modern disturbance

- 2.3.1 A former bungalow lay immediately to the south-west of the roundabout (**Figure 3A**). This building was demolished as part of the road realignment and roundabout construction in the early 1960s.

2.4 SEIP investigations

- 2.4.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Vinci Construction on behalf of English Heritage to undertake a programme of archaeological work during the groundwork associated with the Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project, including excavation, watching briefs, historic building recording, and monitoring during the relocation of the Grade II Listed Airman's Cross memorial and an adjacent unlisted milestone.
- 2.4.2 The archaeological excavation during the removal of the A344 road adjacent to Stonehenge revealed short lengths of the Stonehenge Avenue ditches, and a part of the outer edge of the ditch that encircles the Heel Stone (Wessex Archaeology in prep.) A large oval feature was exposed on the west side of the A360, approximately 110m south of Airman's Corner to the north of the Site. A slot cut through it revealed a sequence of fills, including layers of burnt soil the lowest of which provided a radiocarbon date of cal AD 1655–1955. The feature is interpreted as a possible quarry, perhaps to provide bank material for the post-medieval square embanked pond on the other side of the road. The burning event, which occurred after the feature had partly silted up, may have involved the burning of turves to provide fertiliser for the cultivation of former pasture, a process known in Wiltshire as 'burnbaking'. A number of Burnbake field names are recorded on historic mapping in the Stonehenge landscape.



3 AIMS

3.1 General

3.1.1 The project to monitor and record archaeological features and deposits during work to redesign the Longbarrow Roundabout comprised two principal strategies which comprised:

- *an archaeological evaluation of specific targets with an appropriate mitigation based on the results of the evaluation; and*
- *an archaeological watching brief.*

3.1.2 These two elements shared common generic aims;

- *to enable the preservation by record of any archaeological features or deposits uncovered and to establish the extent (where possible), date, character, relationship, condition and significance of surviving archaeological features, artefacts and deposits within the area to be impacted by construction work;*
- *where significant archaeological remains or deposits were identified, to inform discussions on the final extent and scope of the required archaeological mitigation; and*
- *to place any identified archaeological remains within their context.*

3.2 Objectives

3.2.1 These aims would be satisfied on two levels comprising a field evaluation and archaeological watching brief.

3.2.2 The field evaluation included general aims 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, condition and depth of any surviving remains within the Site;*
- *assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits; and*
- *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.*

3.2.3 It also specifically set out to:

- *confirm the Bronze Age 'Wessex Linear' boundary feature which was projected to run beneath the realigned carriageway and if possible resolve its relationship to Vatcher's (1968) 'stockade trench';*
- *record the soil sequence present within the evaluation trenches and assess the geo-archaeological and palaeo-environmental potential of colluvial deposits, where present;*
- *assess the degree of preservation of remains across the whole evaluation area; and*
- *provide results that could be used to determine the need for any further response.*

3.2.4 The watching brief included the:



- *identification, recording, and if feasible, rapid excavation/ recovery of archaeological remains exposed; and*
- *recording the stratigraphic sequence encountered.*

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The aims and methods by which the various phases of work would be undertaken were included in the respective WSI documents (Wessex Archaeology 2011a and b, Wessex Archaeology 2013). These documents, which were prepared by Wessex Archaeology and approved in advance of work, also included details of standards and guidelines used as well as methodologies for dealing with treasure and human remains should they be encountered.
- 4.1.2 Fieldwork commenced on 30 October 2012 when an archaeological watching brief was maintained to monitor topsoil stripping to create a construction compound.
- 4.1.3 Groundwork at the roundabout began on 12 November 2012 and archaeological monitoring continued up to 15 March 2013.
- 4.1.4 Archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken from 27-28 November 2012 with a hand-dug section through the Late Bronze Age 'Wessex Linear' excavated from 22-25 January 2013.
- 4.1.5 All phases of the work were monitored as a matter of routine by the Assistant County Archaeologist and English Heritage's SCU. Amendments to the scheme of work, most notably in connection with the Late Bronze Age 'Wessex Linear' ditch, became necessary to resolve issues affecting the requirements of road construction and those of the archaeology. These issues were resolved through consultation on site between representatives of the Client, the Assistant County Archaeologist and English Heritage's SCU and implemented by Wessex Archaeology.
- 4.1.6 In format and content the fieldwork conformed with current best practice, and to the guidance outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE, English Heritage 2006). All fieldwork was conducted in accordance with the guidance and standards outlined in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluation* (ClfA 2008a), *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (ClfA 2008b) and *Standard and Guidance for Excavation* (ClfA 2008c).

4.2 Fieldwork

- 4.2.1 The fieldwork comprised three separate elements (**Figure 1C** and **3**) including evaluation, excavation and watching brief. The results of the initial trench evaluation, (Trenches 1 and 2) were used to determine the need and scope for further detailed excavation, which was centred on work associated with the 'Wessex Linear' ditch. All other work was monitored by a continuous archaeological watching brief which was maintained on all areas as they were developed. Features were recorded as they were identified, sufficient time being allocated to allow this to take place before they were impacted upon.

4.3 Recording

- 4.3.1 All exposed archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system. This system permitted all phases of evaluation, excavation and

watching brief to be integrated into a single archive under Wessex Archaeology's Site code **74252**.

4.3.2 A complete drawn record of excavated archaeological features and deposits was compiled. This included both hand-drawn plans and sections, at appropriate scales (normally 1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections) and referenced to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Ordnance Datum (OD) using GPS survey equipment. Evaluation trenches were also positioned using this equipment and tied in to the Ordnance Survey grid.

4.3.3 A comprehensive daybook and full digital photographic record was maintained throughout all phases of the project.

4.4 Finds

4.4.1 All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. These were primarily related to the construction of the 20th century bungalow.

4.4.2 Excavated spoil from evaluation trenches was scanned visually for artefacts. Large amounts of the spoil represented products of landscaping following the construction of the former roundabout, and artefacts were consequently poorly provenanced.

4.4.3 All retained artefacts were processed washed, weighed, counted, identified and catalogued. Suitable material, primarily the pottery, worked flint and non-ferrous metalwork, has been scanned to assess the date range of the relevant assemblages.

4.5 Environmental sampling

4.5.1 The primary and secondary silts of the hand-dug section across the linear ditch were sampled for molluscs and artefacts as part of the agreed project methodology. These samples were taken in a contiguous column at 0.10m intervals, taking due reference for any stratigraphical boundaries.

4.5.2 The position of the column was recorded on the section drawing.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Context numbers during the project (**Figure 1C**) were allocated on the following basis:

- 100-199: evaluation Trench 1 and to all miscellaneous features subsequently excavated in the SW quadrant of the development during the watching brief;
- 200-299: evaluation Trench 2 and all contexts within the subsequent hand dug excavation across the 'Wessex Linear' ditch, with which the section was contiguous;
- 300-399: machine-excavated trench through the 'Wessex Linear' ditch;
- 400-499: watching brief during removal of the traffic island on the north side of the former roundabout. The natural Chalk in this area had been lowered during the construction of the roundabout in 1967. No archaeological features or deposits were identified;

- 500-599: watching brief of machined removal of traffic island on the east side of the former roundabout. Much of this area comprised the former A303 carriageway, predating the construction of the 1967 roundabout. No archaeological features or deposits were identified;
- 600-699: watching brief and record of archaeological features exposed in a pipe trench along the north side of A303, to the east of the roundabout;
- 1000-1099: features recorded during a watching brief associated with the construction compound; and
- 2000-2999 numbers allocated to the topsoil strip for a footpath, to the west of the northbound carriageway of the A360, which connected the compound to the roundabout. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded.

5.2 Results

- 5.2.1 Two machine-excavated evaluation trenches (Trenches 1 and 2), both 10m long and 1.6m wide, (**Figure 3B**) were dug to confirm the alignment of the 'Wessex Linear' ditch and to evaluate the survival of deposits or features on land to the west of the ditch.
- 5.2.2 Excavation was undertaken using a tracked 360° excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All work was conducted under constant supervision by Wessex Archaeology. Machine excavation ceased at the top of archaeological levels or the top of natural deposits, according to whichever was encountered first.
- 5.2.3 Both trenches were backfilled after inspection by English Heritage SCU and the Assistant County Archaeologist.
- 5.2.4 These trenches confirmed the alignment of the Late Bronze Age 'Wessex Linear' boundary ditch and the condition of the deposits, but did not investigate the layers in detail. These potentially complex stratified archaeological deposits were left *in situ* to await an appropriate decision regarding their future mitigation.
- 5.2.5 The English Heritage SCU and the Assistant County Archaeologist concluded that additional archaeological investigation was necessary to meet the aims of the WSI, specifically to sample, record and interpret any archaeological deposits on the Site, and mitigate the potential impact of the road construction on these deposits.
- 5.2.6 The issue was considered in consultation with all interested parties and addressed in a subsequent phase of excavation. It was agreed that this could be undertaken following removal of overburden to the level of the natural Chalk, the formation level of the new road.
- 5.2.7 The excavation stage comprised two sections (**Figure 3B**) that were dug across the line of the 'Wessex Linear' ditch. These trenches were cleaned, drawn and photographed in detail:
- A controlled hand-dug section was placed across the ditch at a point that projected from the northern section of the Trench 2 evaluation trench. This location lay beneath a concrete floor foundation for the former bungalow, which had prevented rabbit burrowing beneath it. It also provided a complete section through the ditch. This section was sampled comprehensively for molluscs.

- Trench 3 was excavated by machine across the western end of the ditch where the deposits were heavily disturbed by rabbit burrowing.

- 5.2.8 Once this phase of work was completed it was agreed that all tertiary silts of the ditch would be removed by machine to the upper surface of the secondary silts, a depth of approximately 0.50m. The tertiary deposits were heavily affected by rabbit infestation and sufficiently unstable to allow road construction.
- 5.2.9 Removal of the tertiary sediments modelled the contour of the secondary silts to preserve the upper profile of the ditch. Work was monitored continuously by an archaeologist. The upper surface of the secondary ditch silts was sealed using a geosynthetic membrane (Terram) and the road foundation built up and compacted to formation level using crushed concrete.
- 5.2.10 All other aspects of the project were conducted as part of the watching brief. Archaeological features were located in the triangle of land to the south-west of the former roundabout, in a realigned drainage trench on the north side of the eastern approaches of the A303 and beneath the construction compound. These features were similarly cleaned by hand and recorded in detail.

5.3 The evaluation

Trench 1

- 5.3.1 The trench revealed that much of the area comprised redeposited topsoil (**101**) and a band of sub-angular chalk rubble (**102**), which represented landscaped spoil from the construction of the former roundabout. These layers overlay a basal layer of topsoil (**103**), the original soil profile, which capped the natural Chalk.
- 5.3.2 The entire soil profile was heavily disturbed by tree roots and from the removal of the stumps.
- 5.3.3 A small area of disturbance was noted at the southern end of the trench, which was subsequently recognised as the weathering cone of ditch (**105**, **GP127**).

Trench 2

- 5.3.4 A similar sequence of deposits to those in evaluation Trench 1 was revealed, and comprised landscaped topsoil (**201**, **202**, **203**), up to 0.70m thick overlying the pre-roundabout old ground surface (**204**, **205**).
- 5.3.5 The sequence was broken at the east end where demolition rubble (**207**) overlay a concrete floor slab (**209**), associated wall foundations (**208**) and a soak-away (**206**), which were all related to the former bungalow on the Site.
- 5.3.6 The concrete floor slab was laid over the western lip and tertiary silts of the 'Wessex Linear' (**210**, **GP223**). These deposits (**211**) comprised mid-dark brown silt loam which became light brown/grey brown at the edge. Chalk lumps were more prevalent towards the base. The contact surface with the underlying secondary silts was marked by a number of flint flakes which had sorted down through the soil profile.
- 5.3.7 Excavation ceased at this point and proposals drawn up to examine the deposits in detail in a succeeding phase of excavation.

5.4 Excavation of Late Bronze Age 'Wessex Linear' (GP223)

- 5.4.1 Details of work to be undertaken were contained in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2013).

- 5.4.2 A hand-dug section, 1.7m wide, was placed across the ditch (**210**) with a supplementary machine-dug slot (**301**), 3.70m wide, cut approximately 8m to the north. The tertiary fills were heavily disturbed by rabbit activity in this area. Both sections were dug with steps, up to 0.50m wide, to prevent collapse.
- 5.4.3 These locations (**Figure 3B**) were selected to provide complete ditch profiles and uninterrupted sedimentary sequences; only the eastern lip of ditch **301** was truncated by the former road-side drainage ditch of the A303 west-bound carriageway.
- 5.4.4 The ditch profiles and sedimentary sequences (**Figure 4A**; **Plates 1** and **2**) were sufficiently similar in both excavations that they can be considered together.
- 5.4.5 The ditch (**210** and **301**) measured approximately 4.6m wide and was 1.5m deep with regular sloping sides that tapered to a narrow rounded base.
- 5.4.6 Both ditch sections showed symmetrical sequences of silts that fined upwards from the primary silts, interrupted by a single episode of stabilisation.
- 5.4.7 The primary fills (**221**, **302**) comprised compact, homogeneous, moderately sorted chalk rubble, approximately 0.40m thick, with slightly larger clasts filling the central weathering cone. Flint was relatively scarce in the bedrock, and Chalk had therefore formed only an occasional component of the primary silt. Artefacts were absent.
- 5.4.8 The secondary ditch silts in ditch **210** comprised two virtually identical units (**218** and **219**), collectively 0.35m thick while, those in ditch **301** were formed by a single deposit (**303**) 0.20m thick. The sediments comprised grey/mid grey-brown silty clay with sparse chalk pellets and flint fragments. Worked flint flakes and animal bone were recovered from **218** and **219**.
- 5.4.9 The primary (**221**) and secondary silts (**218**, **219**) of ditch section **210** were sampled for molluscs in a column (**Figure 4A**).
- 5.4.10 A wedge of light grey silty clay (**222**), 0.25m thick and with abundant chalk rubble, was present on the eastern side of ditch (**210**). This distinctive addition of chalky material probably results from a single, relatively short-term event. The lack of similar traces elsewhere in the ditch suggests that this deposit is insufficient to speculate that it was derived from a bank.
- 5.4.11 The secondary fills were capped by a developed turf line (**215**, **216**, **304**), up to 0.20m thick, characterised by dark brown/grey-brown silty clay. The deposit was almost entirely chalk and flint-free except for a sorted horizon at the base, which produced worked flints and a single Romano-British pottery sherd from (**216**).
- 5.4.12 The stabilisation provided a distinct boundary with the upper tertiary colluvium (**214**, **305**, **306**) and coincided with the formation of a more developed weathering cone.
- 5.4.13 The tertiary fills were characterised by poorly sorted dark brown/grey brown silty clay with natural flints up to 50mm and sub-rounded chalk pellets. Worked flints were recovered from deposit (**214**). The tertiary fills in ditch (**301**) were heavily disturbed by rabbit burrows (**Plate 2**) but were subdivided into two units, as the lower (**305**) was considered to incorporate elements of a second turf line.

5.5 Watching brief

Features in the south-west corner of the roundabout

- 5.5.1 The upper parts of the 'Wessex Linear' (**GP223**) were also sampled during the watching brief in a small section (**116/119**) (**Figure 4B, Plate 3**) cut to establish its stratigraphic relationship with Vatcher's (1968) 'stockade trench' (**GP127**).
- 5.5.2 This ditch was aligned north to south, and parallel to the A360. Its course was traced to the south (**Figure 2**) on a geophysics plot (GSB 2001) of arable land to the south-west of the roundabout. The line is also apparent to the north, crossing the western edge of the former roundabout.
- 5.5.3 Additional sections (**123**) were recorded where they intersected with other archaeological features (**125**) to record a representative section (**111**), or were exposed as oblique sections during the excavation of service trenches (**105, 109**).
- 5.5.4 The results were broadly consistent throughout and can be summarised by reference to sections (**109, 111** and **119**). The ditch (**Figure 4C**) averaged 1m wide and 0.50m deep with sloping sides that tapered to a narrow flat base. The weathering cone was clearly defined in (**111**) (**Plate 4**) confirming the feature had remained open and silted naturally. The depth of the ditch increased to 0.90m (**Figure 4B**) where it was cut into the soft tertiary deposits of 'Wessex Linear' ditch (**116, GP223**).
- 5.5.5 The 'stockade trench' was filled with dark brown silty clay, which was heavily disturbed by roots. Chalk lumps were present, frequently towards the base where they represented the primary weathering of the sides. The upper deposits were representative of natural soil accumulations, probably derived from ploughsoil.
- 5.5.6 Chalk lumps were less frequent in the basal fills (**122**) of ditch (**119**) (**Figure 4B**) where it cut through Late Bronze Age ditch (**116**). This is probably due to the silts from the later ditch being derived not from the Chalk, but from the secondary and tertiary fills (**117, 118**) of the earlier ditch.
- 5.5.7 Artefacts were recovered from a number of deposits. These comprised primarily residual worked flints; however individual sherds of late prehistoric pottery were collected from the undifferentiated primary/secondary fill (**115**) of (**111**) with another from the tertiary fill (**120**) of (**119**).
- 5.5.8 The upper parts of ditch (**GP127**) (**Figure 3B**) were also sampled in cut (**123**) to examine the intersection with ditch (**125**). This feature was aligned approximately NW-SE and east of ditch (**GP223**).
- 5.5.9 Excavation established that this shallow ditch, which was 0.53m wide and 0.08m deep with steep sloping sides and a flat base, cut through ditch **GP127**. No artefacts were recovered from its dark brown silty clay filling (**126**) to indicate its date. It may be related to the former bungalow which was constructed on the same alignment.
- 5.5.10 An undated ditch (**107**) was exposed (**Figure 3B**) in the opposing sides of the realigned drainage channel around the south-west corner of the redesigned roundabout. This ditch (**Figure 4D**), which was also aligned north to south, measured 0.28m wide, 0.40m deep and was cut with vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled with densely packed, relatively clean chalk rubble (**108**) in a dark brown silty clay matrix. The freshness of the chalk rubble, the lack of a distinct primary fill and absence of a weathering cone suggested that the ditch had been backfilled deliberately, soon after its excavation. Although its function

was not established, it seems most likely that it was of post-medieval or modern date, possibly related in some way to the modern A360 or the adjacent fields.

Features on the north side of the eastbound A303 carriageway 'Celtic field' boundary ditches

- 5.5.11 Two ditches and a section across the line of the former military light railway were recorded in the side of a trench, 0.8m wide that was dug to replace a storm water drain pipe in the road verge to the east of the roundabout (**Figure 5A**).
- 5.5.12 The two ditches (**601** and **605**) were both aligned approximately north to south, and were 55m apart. They shared broadly similar ditch profiles (**Figures 6A** and **B**, **Plate 5**) and dimensions, averaging 2m wide and 0.9m deep. Both ditches were cut with regular sloping sides and a narrow rounded base.
- 5.5.13 The ditch fills (**604** and **608**) were heavily disturbed by tree roots and rabbit burrows. The sediments comprised sub-angular chalk rubble in a matrix of mid-brown/grey-brown silty clay. Poorly formed tip lines, visible in both sections, and general fining upwards of clast size indicated that this material was derived from natural weathering of the ditch sides.
- 5.5.14 The upper parts of the sedimentary sequence (**602**, **603** and **606**, **607** respectively) comprised well sorted dark brown silty loam topsoil that were separated from the main ditch fill by a thin spread of natural flints in the weathering cone of the ditch.
- Military light railway
- 5.5.15 The foundation level of the former military light railway (**617**) was defined by compacted chalk make-up between flanking ditches (**609**, **613**), and ran north to south within the western boundary of the copse at Winterbourne Stoke Crossroads. The two flanking ditches measured approximately 0.80m wide and 0.30m and 0.50m deep respectively. Ditch **609** was cut with sloping sides and a flat base while ditch **613** had steep sides and a rounded base (**Figure 5** and **6C**).
- 5.5.16 The ditch fills and the deposits associated with the track line itself were heavily disturbed by tree roots. The most distinctive deposit (**611**) comprised a layer of dense sub-angular chalk pebbles in a light grey chalky matrix. This layer was up to 0.20m thick and was present between the two ditches. It probably represents repair/make-up material or chalk that has been reworked from the underlying bedrock as the track became rutted.

Watching brief at the compound

- 5.5.17 A field boundary ditch (**GP1110**), aligned east to west, was observed during the removal of topsoil to create a construction compound for the project. It was sampled in three hand-dug sections (**1102**, **1104**, **1107**).
- 5.5.18 The ditch (**Figure 6D**) ranged from 1.30m (**1102**) to 1.04m (**1104**) wide but was consistently 0.20m deep. It was cut with shallow concave sides and a rounded base. The filling comprised orange-brown silty loam with thinly distributed natural flints (**1103**, **1106**, **1109**) that was capped by remnants of ploughsoil (**1100**, **1105**, **1108**). Excavation of these sections suggested that the upper parts of the ditch profile have been truncated by continuous ploughing.



6 FINDS

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 A very small quantity of finds was recovered during fieldwork, consisting largely of worked flint (see **Table 1**).
- 6.1.2 Finds other than flint comprise a small amount of very abraded cattle bone from Trench 2 from secondary ditch silts in ditch (**210**); a single piece of burnt, unworked flint from context (**106**), and three sherds of pottery. The latter are all small, abraded body sherds, their size and condition consistent with reworking within a ploughsoil horizon.

6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 The sherd from fill (**115**) of ditch (**127**) (section (**111**)), the Vatchers' 'stockade trench', is in a fabric tempered with relatively fine, well-sorted crushed burnt flint. Flint-tempered fabrics have an attested longevity in the area through much of the prehistoric period, but finely flint-tempered fabrics such as this are most characteristic of the Middle/Late Bronze Age through to Middle Iron Age.
- 6.2.2 Sherds from tertiary fill (**120**) of ditch (**119**) and turf line (**216**) are Romano-British, comprising a coarse greyware and an Oxfordshire colour-coated fineware (3rd/4th century AD) respectively.

6.3 Worked flint

- 6.3.1 The worked flint assemblage comprised small collections of patinated artefacts that were recovered from the ditch fills. The largest group of material was collected from the tertiary deposits (**214**) of linear **210**. Some of the artefacts from **211**, which were collected in a less controlled fashion during the evaluation, were probably derived from the same source. Material from the secondary fills of this feature is represented in **218** and **219**.
- 6.3.2 Post-depositional edge damage is poorly developed, suggesting that material may well have been derived from the immediate locality.
- 6.3.3 Most of the artefacts are undiagnostic and, on the basis of technology and adjacent monuments, likely to be of Neolithic and Bronze Age date. Most noteworthy is a pressure-flaked knife from the topsoil, which is likely to be of Late Neolithic date. Artefact density was relatively low throughout with nothing in the collection that could be related directly to industrial or refuse disposal activity connected to the Bronze Age settlement.

Table 1: All finds by context (number of pieces)

Context	Animal bone	Burnt Flint	Worked Flint	Pottery
100			3	
105			1	
106		1	1	
113			4	
115				1
120			12	1
122			1	
211			5	
214			17	
216			3	1
218			6	

219	13		3	
220	1			
608	1			
1106			1	
unstrat.			1	
TOTAL	15	1	58	3

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 A series of nine small contiguous samples was taken from 'Wessex Linear' ditch **210**, (**GP223**). These were processed for the recovery and assessment of land snails.

7.2 Land snails

- 7.2.1 Samples of 1,500g were processed by standard methods (Evans 1972) for land snails. The flots (0.5mm) were rapidly assessed by scanning under a x 10 – x 40 stereo-binocular microscope to provide some information about shell preservation and species representation. The numbers of shells and the presence of taxonomic groups were quantified (**Table 2**). Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999).
- 7.2.2 Shell numbers were moderate to good through the 'Wessex Linear' ditch sequence. The mollusc assemblages were dominated by the open country species, in particular by *Pupilla muscorum*. Numbers of *Vallonia costata* and *Vallonia excentrica* increased after the basal samples. The few shade-loving species observed towards the top of the sequence included low numbers of *Aegopinella nitidula*. Although this species likes leaf litter, it can also be found in long grass environments. The higher numbers of *Punctum pygmaeum*, part of Evan's ditch group (1972), recorded in the upper part of context **219** and context **218** may also be reflective of areas of long grass in the vicinity. The occurrence of *Pomatias elegans* towards the top of the sequence, together with *Vertigo pygmaea* and fluctuating numbers of *Helicella itala*, may be indicative of small changes in the local landscape.
- 7.2.3 The assemblages appear to be reflective of a long established open landscape of managed downland. There is an indication that there may be fluctuations within the intensity levels of grazing in the area and the possibility of some arable activity in the vicinity, particularly towards the top of the sequence. The emerging picture of a mixed landscape of managed downland, comprising mainly pasture but with some changing levels of arable activity has been indicated by other mollusc assemblages from Late Bronze Age or later deposits elsewhere on Salisbury Plain, such as downlands south-east of Amesbury (Wyles in prep), Earl's Down Farm (Allen and Wyles 2004), Figheldean (Allen and Wyles 1993) and Scotland Lodge, Winterbourne Stoke (Wyles 2008).
- 7.2.4 Although the study area of the Wessex Linear Ditch Project was further to the east from this Site, there appears to be some similarities between this sequence and assemblages from parts of some of the sequences analysed by Entwistle (1994) such as those from the Sidbury Double Linear Ditch (LDP 027) and the Sidbury East Linear Ditch (LDP 097).

7.3 Environmental potential

- 7.3.1 There is the potential for analysis of the mollusc assemblages from ditch **210**, (**GP223**), to assist in ascertaining the detailed nature of the well-established open downland at this

Site. It may be possible to determine whether there were areas of pasture and arable present in the vicinity and whether the land use and nature of the local environment changed over time.

- 7.3.2 These results would augment the information from other molluscan assemblages from ditches of this period in the area, such as downlands south-east of Amesbury (Wyles in prep.) and Earl's Down Farm (Allen and Wyles 2004), providing an enhanced characterisation of the nature of the wider landscape. They could also be compared with the assemblages studied by Entwistle (1994) as part of the Wessex Linear Ditch Project.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 Introduction

- 8.1.1 The archaeological investigations undertaken at the Longbarrow Crossroads were designed to ensure that appropriate levels of recording be undertaken to guarantee that no archaeological deposits or features were destroyed until they had been fully recorded.

8.2 Prehistoric archaeology

- 8.2.1 Central to this was confirmation that a linear ditch, thought to be a Late Bronze Age 'Wessex Linear', ran beneath the projected carriageway of the new road, and should it be present, to assess its condition and implement an appropriate response, either by preservation *in situ*, excavation or a combination of these strategies to mitigate the impact.
- 8.2.2 The project also set out to examine any other features that might be exposed or at risk. This included the Vatcher's (1968) 'stockade trench', which remained undated but importantly 'may have been connected' to adjacent Bronze Age settlement. Richards (1990, 278) regretted that this ditch had produced only 'ambiguous dating evidence' from the upper fills thereby frustrating attempts to confirm its true date or relationships to the settlement.
- 8.2.3 The results of the work confirmed the presence of the 'Wessex Linear' and demonstrated that the upper tertiary fills had been subjected to extensive rabbit penetration/burrowing of sufficient severity to render them virtually worthless for archaeological research. As a result it was possible to record their presence and condition and remove them to construct the new road. The basal fills however were shown to be relatively intact and these have been preserved *in situ*.
- 8.2.4 No artefacts were recovered to confirm the date of the ditch as a Late Bronze Age 'Wessex Linear', although this remains the most likely conclusion. The only datable pottery comprised a sherd of Romano-British pottery from the upper fills which was probably derived from the 'Celtic' field system, to the west. The remainder of the assemblage was from the secondary and sorted horizon fills, from where they are most likely to have migrated down through the soil profile from the upper fills.
- 8.2.5 There was a notable absence of domestic settlement debris connected to the Bronze Age settlement adjacent to the long barrow.
- 8.2.6 The results of analysis of the molluscan column have demonstrated that the ditch was constructed in open country, something that has been noted elsewhere whenever sections have been cut through similar earthworks. This is new to this stretch of the earthwork and confirms the results of the work undertaken by Richards.

- 8.2.7 Opportunity to observe, section and record the intersection of the 'Wessex Linear' ditch and the 'stockade trench' has demonstrated unequivocally that the latter was cut through the tertiary fills of the Late Bronze Age ditch. The 'stockade' is therefore not only later, but possibly considerably later, than the 'Wessex Linear' and also unconnected to the adjacent Bronze Age settlement.
- 8.2.8 Artefacts have added little to this stratigraphic evidence. The 'Wessex Linear' produced a sherd of plough-abraded, Romano-British pottery of 3rd/4th century AD date. This sherd was found at the level of the stabilisation turfline within the ditch fills, where it is likely to have migrated down from the overlying tertiary colluvium. This deposit, through which the 'stockade trench' was cut, is likely to have resulted from Romano-British ploughing of the 'Celtic' field system in the area.
- 8.2.9 The 'stockade trench' also produced only a single sherd of pottery, in a similar condition, and of a fabric that was in use from Middle/Late Bronze Age to the Middle Iron Age.
- 8.2.10 It is possible that the 'stockade trench' relates to a series of sub-parallel features, approximately 30-40m apart, which have been plotted (EH NMP) from aerial photographs in the fields to the west of the roundabout.
- 8.2.11 Geophysical survey in the area (GSB 2001) has identified a number of these alignments as faint responses in the vicinity of the Site. It was considered that the features were related to ploughing of medieval or later date, which has truncated much of the underlying chequer-board pattern of 'Celtic fields' which is well defined to the east of the A360.
- 8.2.12 The project at the Longbarrow Crossroads also provided additional data relating to the 'Celtic field' system to the south-east of the barrow cemetery. Two linear ditches on the north side of the A303 eastbound carriageway defined the northern and eastern edges of a field in this complex.
- 8.2.13 This system, which was laid out in the angle formed by the Winterbourne Stoke Barrow Cemetery and the Late Bronze Age linear ditch comprised individual fields between 55 and 70m north to south. This distance equates to that between ditch **605** and the southern edge of barrow cemetery, and suggests that the field system probably extended to the fringes of the cemetery.

8.3 Medieval and later archaeology

- 8.3.1 Work by the RCHME (1979) documented land use across the Stonehenge area to the present day, which includes invaluable data to interpret recent development at the crossroads.
- 8.3.2 The line of the A360 Salisbury-Devizes road was superimposed on a network of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation to the south of Longbarrow Crossroads and was turnpiked soon after 1760 (RCHME 1979, PI 22).
- 8.3.3 The copse, which forms a conspicuous landmark at Longbarrow Crossroads, may be included as one of several similar sized areas of woodlands that were created after 1800 (RCHME 1979). These plantations were often situated at locations where densely packed prehistoric barrow cemeteries made ploughing uneconomic.
- 8.3.4 The line of a former military light railway is now in the woodland but is shown on an aerial photograph of the 1930s (RCHME 1979 PI 2; Ashmolean Mus, Oxford (Allen Coll.)) as being on open downland. This light railway was constructed during the early years of

World War 1 to supply a number of military installations that proliferated across Salisbury Plain at that time.

- 8.3.5 The track passed through the Winterbourne Stoke Crossroads barrow cemetery, carefully avoiding the ancient monuments, to supply the Lake Down Aerodrome at Druids Lodge (RCHME). The railway ceased to be of value after cessation of hostilities in 1918 and was dismantled in the early 1920s.

9 PROPOSALS FOR PUBLICATION AND ANALYSIS

9.1 Archaeological features

- 9.1.1 The project to record the archaeological features and deposits at Longbarrow Crossroads has produced results that, while not of national significance, nevertheless deserve wider dissemination.
- 9.1.2 The date of the 'stockade trench' and its relationship to the Bronze Age settlement has been the subject of considerable discussion and speculation since it was first identified in 1967. The fact that the issue has now been resolved archaeologically is significant and worthy of publication.
- 9.1.3 The date of the 'Wessex Linear' ditch as Late Bronze Age remains unproven, nevertheless the molluscan sample has demonstrated notable similarities with other ditches of the same date that have been sampled in other parts of Salisbury Plain (sg, Entwistle 1994). This is the first such piece of analysis to have been undertaken on this stretch of the ditch system and is therefore a worthy addition to the archive.
- 9.1.4 The project has also provided additional opportunities to sample and record elements of the 'Celtic field' system which is extensive in the area surrounding the Longbarrow Crossroads. This suggests that the field system once extended up to the edge of the barrow cemetery, with no apron of uncultivated ground surrounding it.

9.2 Environmental deposits

Land snails

- 9.2.1 It is proposed to analyse the mollusc samples from ditch **210**, **GP223**, if this sequence can be dated.
- 9.2.2 Analysis of selected samples involves the extraction of apical and diagnostic fragments from both flots and residue. The recovered shells are identified and quantified using stereo incident light microscopy at magnifications of up to x40 using a Leica MS5 microscope, following the nomenclature of Anderson (2005) and with reference to modern reference collections where appropriate. The results are tabulated and species diversity indices calculated (Shannon index, Broullion index, Delta 2 index and Delta 4 index). Mollusc histograms are produced where applicable using Tilia v 2.0.2 (Grimm 1991).

Table 2: Environmental task list table

Task ID	Task	Resource	Duration
1	Extraction of Molluscs (9 samples)	ES	2.5 days
2	Analysis and Reporting of Molluscs (9 samples)	SPO	6 days

9.3 Publication proposal

- 9.3.1 It is proposed that the results of the mitigation should be combined with the results of the wider SEIP works, and published as a joint article (with supporting illustrations), summarising the results presented in this report, and be submitted for publication in *The Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*. The likely publication timetable will be confirmed when both assessment reports have been accepted.
- 9.3.2 For this part of the publication, the report will comprise a brief introduction detailing the circumstances of the project and its aims and objectives, a description of the archaeological remains recorded, summaries of the finds data contained in this report, analysis of the molluscan samples, and a discussion of the results, placing the Site within its wider regional context.
- 9.3.3 A copy of this assessment report will be deposited with the NMR at Swindon and the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record.
- 1.1.7 In addition, an Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> has been initiated. All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form have been completed for submission to the Wiltshire HER. Once approved, this will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive).

10 STORAGE AND CURATION

10.1 Museum

- 10.1.1 The archive is currently stored at Wessex Archaeology's office in Salisbury under the project code **74252**. The complete project archive will be prepared in accordance with the relevant standards set out in '*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*' (MoRPHE), English Heritage (2006), Wessex Archaeology's *Guidelines for Archive Preparation* and in accordance with *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage* (UKIC 1990).
- 10.1.2 The archive will be deposited at the completion of all post-excavation works with the Salisbury and South Wiltshire museum.

10.2 Archive

- 10.2.1 The complete Site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995, IfA 2009, Brown 2007, ADS 2013).

10.3 Discard policy

- 10.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant further analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 10.3.2 The discard of environments remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2002).

10.4 Security copy

- 10.4.1 In line with current best practice, (eg 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.

10.5 Copyright

- 10.5.1 Wessex Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any report under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. Excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of the report by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the specification. Any document produced to meet planning requirements may be copied for planning purposes by the Local Planning Authority.
- 10.5.2 This report, and the archive generally, may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Evaluation trench tables

Area 1 – Evaluation trench					
Context	Type	FO	GP	Description	Depth
101	Layer			Dark brown poorly sorted silty loam with mixed flints. Heavily rooted. Redeposited topsoil	0-0.20
102	Layer			Redeposited sub angular chalk rubble in dark grey-brown silty matrix. Redeposited material from 1967.	0.20-0.50
103	Layer			Heavily rooted, well sorted dark brown loam with lighter grey silty clay sub soil below. Pre1967 ogs	0.50-0.80
104	Layer			Natural Chalk	0.80+
Watching Brief					
105	Cut		127	Ditch, 1m wide aligned N-S with steep sloping sides and flat, shallow rounded base	0.50
106	Fill	105		Med-dark brown silty clay with sub angular chalk rubble c.20mm	0.50
107	Cut			Ditch, 0.28 m wide aligned N-S. Vertical sides and flat base	0.40
108	Fill	107		Fresh angular chalk rubble, c. 30mm, in dark brown silty clay matrix	0.40
109	Cut		127	Ditch, 1.6m wide aligned N-S	0.70
110	Fill	109		Very dark brown, becoming dark brown, with chalk rubble, 30mm fining upwards. Natural silting process	
111	Cut		127	Ditch, 1m wide aligned N-S, with steep sloping sides and narrow flat base and clear weathering cone (See also 310)	0.49
112	Fill	111		Dark brown silty clay with sparse sub angular chalk pellets. Residual topsoil in weathering cone of ditch	
113	Fill	111		Poorly sorted chalk pebbles, up to 10mm in dark brown silty clay matrix, probably isolated dump of subsequent backfill	
114	Fill	111		Dark brown silty clay with basal sorted horizon of chalk lumps, uncertain turf line	
115	Fill	111		Dark brown silty clay, virtually stone free. Primary and secondary ditch fill	
116	Cut		223	Sample section of LBA 'Wessex Linear' ditch. Dug sufficient to establish relationship with 119	0.50
117	Fill	116		Dark brown silty clay loam with scarce chalk pellets. Heavily rooted tertiary colluvium	
118	Fill	116		Grey-grey brown silty clay with mixed chalk pellets, 2mm, increasingly chalky at base. Secondary silt	0.26+
119	Cut		127	Ditch aligned N-S with steep sloping sides and narrow base. Depth increases to south where it cuts into 119	0.90
120	Fill	119		Dark brown silty clay loam with chalk pellets	



				2mm, plentiful. Poorly sorted tertiary plough soil colluvium.	
121	Fill	119		Grey-brown silty clay with plentiful chalk lumps, 20mm. Heavily rooted. Poorly sorted colluvium	
122	Fill	119		Grey brown silty clay with sub angular chalk lumps <20mm. Poorly sorted. Natural weathering	
123	Cut		127	Box sample section of ?IA/R-B ditch. Dug sufficient to establish relationship with 125	0.12+
124	Fill	123		Dark brown silty clay loam with rare scattered chalk pellets <5mm. Tertiary fill, cut by decayed wooden post	
125	Cut			Shallow ditch, 0.53m wide, aligned NW-SE, with steep, sloping sides and flat base. Aligned parallel to former bungalow	0.08
126	Fill	125		Very dark brown silty clay loam with rare scattered chalk pellets <2mm. Heavily rooted	
127	Group			Probable IA/R-B 'Celtic' field boundary ditch. Vatcher's (1968) 'stockade' Comprises 105, 109, 111, 119, 123, 310.	

Area 2 – Evaluation trench					
Context	Type	FO	GP	Description	Depth
201	Layer			Dark grey silty clay topsoil. Heavily rooted. Largely removed prior to trench excavation	
202	Layer			Light grey brown, poorly sorted silty clay with plentiful chalk pellets at W end of trench. Reworked topsoil from former roundabout construction	
203	Layer			Mid-dark brown silty clay, largely stone free. Similar origin to 202	
204	Layer			Dark grey silty clay, virtually stone free, heavily rooted. Probably ogs prior to construction of former roundabout	0.10
205	Layer			Mid-dark brown silty clay with mixed chalk pellets <4mm. Former subsoil of ogs	0.11
206				Cut and fill of modern soak-away of former bungalow	
207	Layer			Demolition rubble from former bungalow towards E end of trench	
208	Layer			Concrete foundation of former bungalow with single course of bricks	
209	Layer			Concrete floor of former bungalow, overlies 211 directly	0.10
210	Cut		223	Late Bronze Age 'Wessex Linear'	
211	Fill	210		Tertiary colluvium of ditch. Mid-dark brown silt loam becoming grey at edges where chalk more common <5mm. Sorted horizon at base	0.80
212	Cut			Square pit 0.40 m wide, extends 0.30m from S section. Related to former bungalow	0.30
213	Fill	212		Poorly sorted chalk rubble <30mm in mid grey brown silty clay matrix. Contains brick frags	



Excavation					
214	Fill	210		Dark brown silty clay with natural flints <50mm, chalk pellets <3mm. Poorly sorted colluvium	0.20
215	Fill	210		Dark brown silty clay, upper parts stone free, chalk pellets <3mm, sorted down to base. ?former turf line/ogs	0.25
216	Fill	210		Dark brown/grey-brown silty clay with sorted sub-angular flints <50mm and pea grit. Tertiary fills - ?stabilisation ogs	
217	Group			Tertiary fills of 210, comprises 211, 214-6	
218	Fill	210		Grey/grey-brown silty clay, generally chalk free. Upper parts of secondary silts	0.20
219	Fill	210		As 218, divided by tip of chalk pellets <2mm	0.10
220	Group			Secondary fills of 210, comprises 218-9	
221	Fill	210		Light grey silty clay and very abundant sub rounded chalk <40mm. Larger clasts in central weathering cone. Product of weathering	
222	Fill	210		Wedge of sub rounded chalk <50mm in matrix of light grey silty clay. Located on NE side of ditch. Not present elsewhere so probably not bank. Overlies secondary silts 218-9	
223	Group			210, 301, 116	
224	Layer			Natural Chalk. Off-white/white tabular Chalk.	

Area 3 - Excavation					
Context	Type	FO	GP	Description	Depth
301	Cut		223	Late Bronze Age 'Wessex Linear', 4.60 m wide, aligned NW-SE. Convex, moderate steep sides with narrow flat base.	1.48
302	Fill	301		Light grey-brown silty clay with abundant chalk rubble. Weathering processes with tip lines Primary fill of ditch	0.48
303	Fill	301		Mid grey-brown silty clay in rare chalk fragments <60mm. Secondary ditch silts	0.23
304	Fill	301		Dark grey-brown silty clay with rare chalk <50mm, Period of stabilisation/old turf line	0.21
305	Fill	301		Mid grey-brown silty clay with rare chalk <50mm. Extensive rabbit burrowing. Tertiary silts	0.30
306	Fill	301		Similar to 305. Extensive rabbit activity	0.35
307	Fill	301		As 305	0.17
308	Layer			Dark grey-brown silty clay loam topsoil with chalk flecks. Heavily bioturbated	0.30
309	Layer			Off white/white tabular Chalk	0.30+
310	Cut			Ditch line recorded in plan, later sectioned as (111)	
311	Fill	310		Number allocated to ditch fill. See (112-4)	

Area 4 – Watching brief					
Context	Type	FO	GP	Description	Depth
401	Layer			Dark grey-brown silty clay, reinstated topsoil from original roundabout construction	0.05



402	Layer			Mid-dark grey-brown silty loam with chalk rubble. Reinstated land from roundabout construction	0.15
403	Layer			Natural Chalk probably reworked during original roundabout construction	

Area 5 – Watching brief					
Context	Type	FO	GP	Description	Depth
501	Layer			Dark grey-brown silty clay, reinstated topsoil from original roundabout construction	0.10
502	Layer			Made ground – land-fill within traffic island overlying former A303 carriageway	

Area 6 – Watching brief					
Context	Type	FO	GP	Description	Depth
601	Cut			Linear ditch, aligned N-S, 1.9 m wide, with regular sloping sides and narrow rounded base	0.80
602	Fill	601		Dark brown fine silt loam, virtually stone free. Heavily rooted, former topsoil	
603	Fill	601		Dark brown/grey-brown silty clay with sub-angular chalk pebbles <10mm. Well sorted flints in base of weathering cone. Topsoil	
604	Fill	601		Mid brown/grey-brown silty clay, chalk pebbles <15mm near base. Natural silts fining up from base, heavily rooted	
605	Cut			Linear ditch, aligned N-S, 2 m wide, with regular sloping sides and narrow flat base	1.0
606	Fill	605		Dark brown silty loam, chalk lumps <10mm. Heavily rooted topsoil	
607	Fill	605		Dark brown silt loam, chalk lumps <10mm, likely base of topsoil including rabbit burrowing	
608	Fill	605		Grey/grey-brown silty clay with chalk rubble, some open framework at base <20mm. Natural ditch silts fining upwards	
609	Cut			Military light railway ditch, 0.85m wide with regular sloping sides and flat base	0.32
610	Fill	609		Dark brown silt loam, slightly more weathered chalk in base. Heavily rooted	
611	Fill	617		Dense sub angular chalk pebbles <20mm in light grey friable silt matrix. Possible chalk disturbed in dismantling track	0.20
612	Layer			Pockets of chalk pebbles <10mm in dark grey brown/brown silt clay/loam at base of topsoil	
613	Cut			Ditch on W side of military light railway, 0.80 m wide with regular steep sides and rounded base	0.50
614	Fill	613		Mid brown/grey-brown silty clay with sparse chalk <10mm. Colluvium	
615	Fill	616		Grey-brown fine silt	
616	Cut			Probable rut, 0.25 m wide, on W side of railway track	0.10
617	Cut			Base of military light railway. Developed into	



				rubbly, poorly bedded Chalk, possibly influencing 611	
618	Layer			Dark brown silty clay loam. Heavily rooted topsoil	

Area 1000 – Watching brief					
Context	Type	FO	GP	Description	Depth
1100	Layer			Light brown silty loam with common flints <60mm and sparse chalk <20mm	0.24
1101	Layer			Weathered Chalk, angular and sub angular <60mm	0.24+
1102	Cut		1110	Linear ditch aligned E-W, 1.3m wide, shallow/moderate concave sides and concave base	0.24
1103	Fill	1102		Secondary fill. Strong light orange-brown silty loam with rare chalk <20mm and sub angular flints <50mm	0.24
1104	Cut		1110	As 1102, 1.04 m wide	0.21
1105	Fill	1104		As 1100. Plough soil remnant	0.10
1106	Fill	1104		As 1103	0.13
1107	Cut		1110	As 1102, 1.05 m wide	0.19
1108	Fill	1107		As 1100. Plough soil remnant	0.08
1109	Fill	1107		As 1103	
1110	Group			Group for ?later prehistoric field boundary ditch	

Area 2000 – Watching brief					
Context	Type	FO	GP	Description	Depth
2000	Layer			Upper part of topsoil horizon, as 1000, sufficient only to create footpath, not stripped to Chalk	0.05

Appendix 2: Environmental Data

Table 3: Land snails assessment from Wessex Linear Ditch 210, Group 223

Site Phase	?Late Bronze Age									
Feature type	'Wessex Linear' ditch									
Feature no.	210 Group 223									
Context no.	221	221	221	221	219	218	218	222	216	
Sample no.	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
Weight (g)	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	
Open country species										
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i>	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i>	-	-	-	C	B	C	C	B	B	
<i>Helicella itala</i>	C	B	A	A	A	A	B	C	C	
<i>Vallonia costata</i>	B	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	
<i>Vallonia excentrica</i>	B	C	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	



Site Phase	?Late Bronze Age								
Feature type	'Wessex Linear' ditch								
Feature no.	210 Group 223								
Context no.	221	221	221	221	219	218	218	222	216
Sample no.	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Weight (g)	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
Introduced Helicellids	-	-	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
Intermediate species									
<i>Trochulus hispidus</i>	C	C	C	C	A	A	C	C	B
<i>Pomatias elegans</i>	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	C
<i>Cochlicopa</i> spp.	-	C	C	-	B	C	C	-	C
<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i>	C	-	C	C	A	A	B	C	C
Shade-loving species									
<i>Aegopinella nitidula</i>	-	-	-	-	-	C	C	-	-
Burrowing species									
<i>Cecilioides acicula</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	C	C
Approx totals	40	30	80	85	100+	100+	60	35	65

Key: A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5; + = present

Appendix 3: OASIS form

Longbarrow Crossroads, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire - Wessex Archaeology

OASIS ID - wessexar1-197927

Versions

View	Version	Completed by	Email	Date
View 1	1	Sue Farr	s.farr@wessexarch.co.uk	12 December 2014

Completed sections in current version

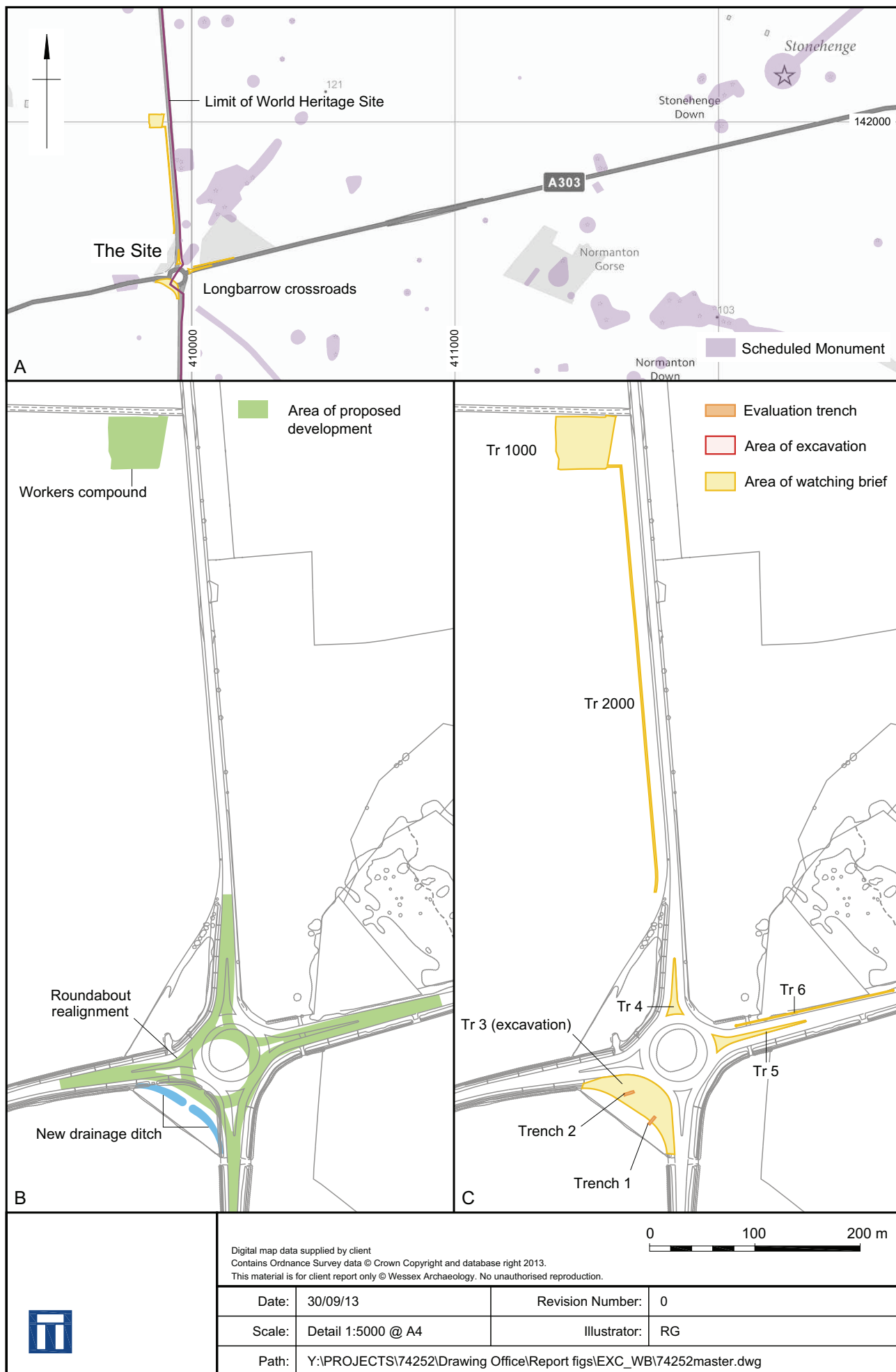
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Validated sections in current version

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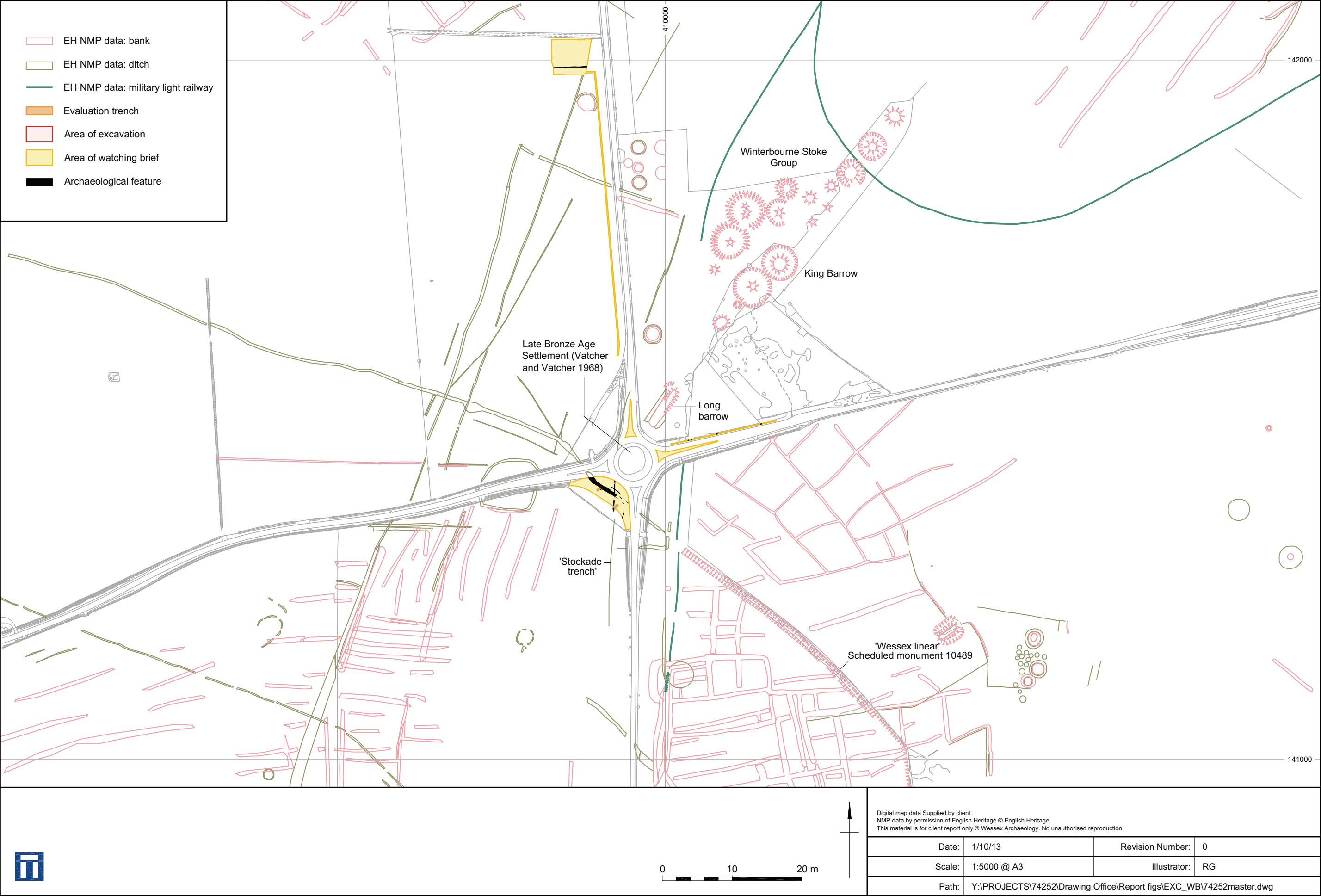
File submission and form progress

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



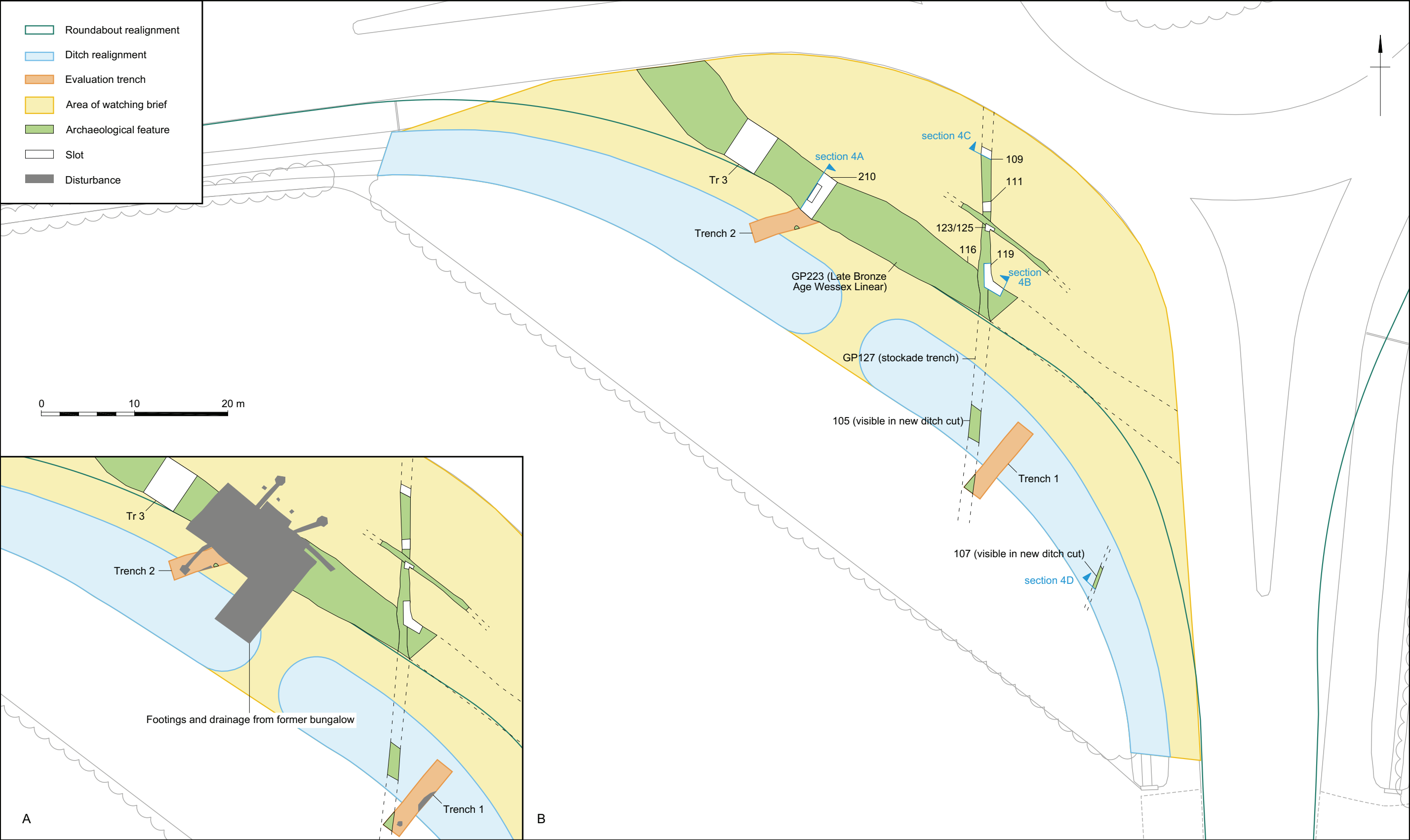
Site location plan showing major works and areas of archaeological mitigation

Figure 1



Archaeological features in relation to information from English Heritage's National Mapping Programme

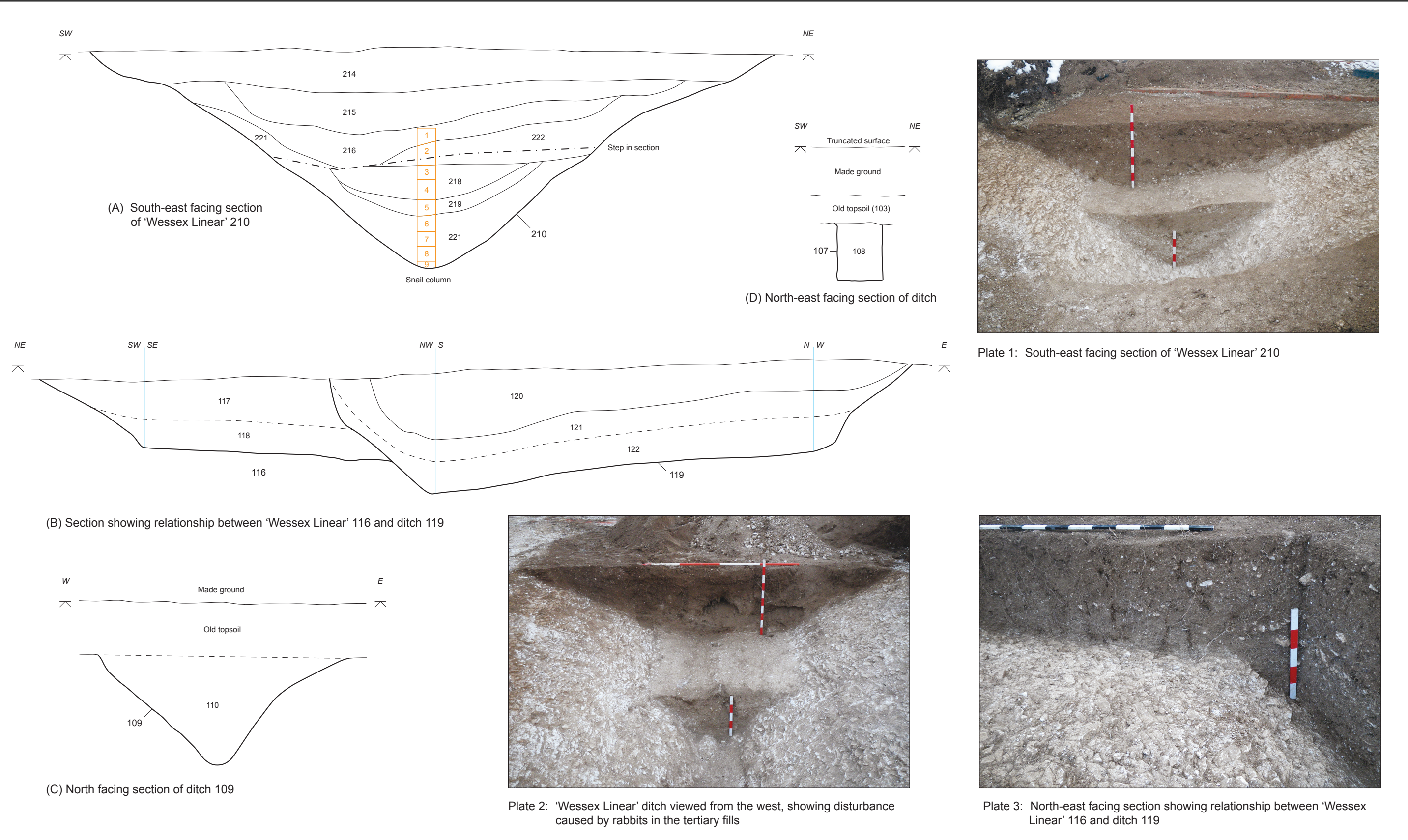
Figure 2



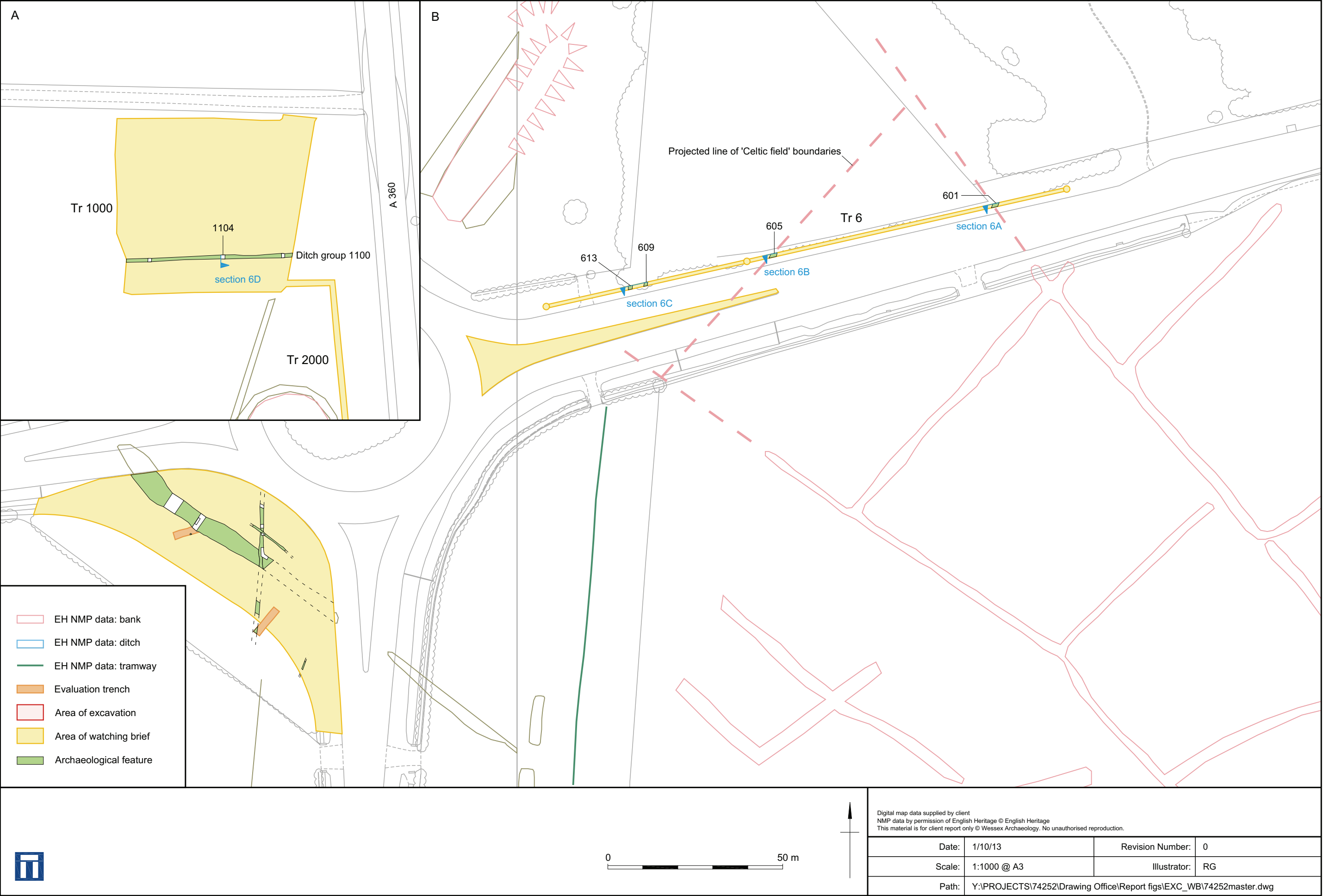
Digital map data supplied by client		
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Excavation area showing evaluation trenches

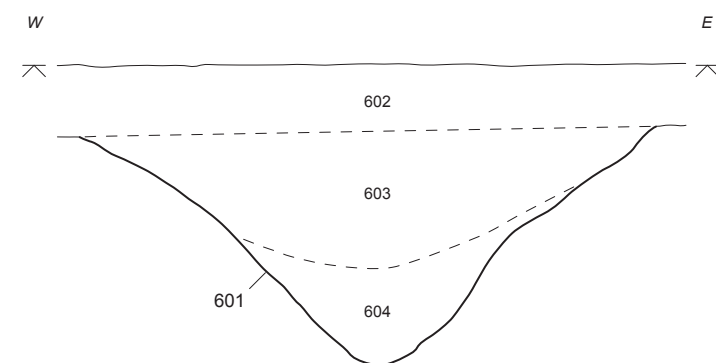
Figure 3



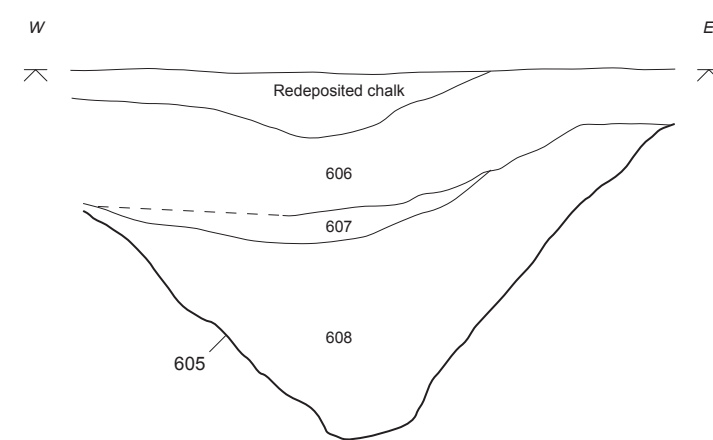
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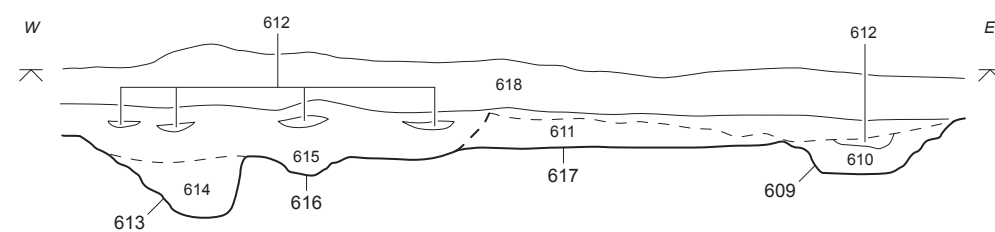
Plan of Trench 1000 (A) and Trench 6 (B) Figure 5



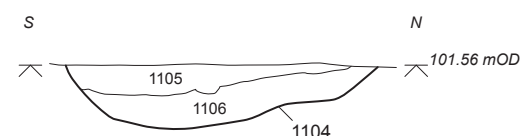
(A) South facing section of ditch 601



(B) South facing section of ditch 605



(C) Section through former military light railway 617



(D) East facing section of ditch 1104

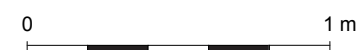


Plate 4: South facing section of ditch 111



Plate 5: North facing section of ditch 601



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