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New Slew Pad – Rear Gate RSA Larkhill Larkhill, Wiltshire

Archaeological Watching Brief Report



Ref: 107690.02
May 2015



**New Slew Pad – Rear Gate RSA Larkhill
Larkhill, Wiltshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief Report

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May 2015

Report Ref: 107690.03



Quality Assurance

Project Code	107690	Accession Code	-	Client Ref.	-
Planning Application Ref.	-	Ordnance Survey (OS) national grid reference (NGR)	412720 145250		

Version	Status*	Prepared by	Checked and Approved By	Approver's Signature	Date
v01	I	REW			12/03/2015
File:	X:\PROJECTS\107690\ Reports\ Superseded\107690_WB_Report_V0_1				
V02	I	SEC			09/04/2015
File:	X:\PROJECTS\107690\ Reports\ Superseded\107690_WB_Report_V0_2				
	I	SEC/REW	PAO		26/05/2015
File:	X:\PROJECTS\107690\ Reports\ Superseded\107690_WB_Report_V0_3				
	E	PAO	AIM		29/05/2015
File:	X:\PROJECTS\107690\ Reports\ 107690_WB_Report_V1_0				
File:					

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

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- Figure 1: Site location and proposed watching brief areas.
Figure 2: Watching brief areas showing archaeological features.

Plates:

- Plate 1: East facing section showing stratigraphic sequence through Watching Brief Area 5 - Slew Pad.
Plate 2: South-west facing section of Bronze Age gully **525**.



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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Landmarc Solutions Services to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the removal of the existing slew pad, construction of a new slew pad and the laying of a temporary bypass road around the works occurring at the Rear Gate at RSA Larkhill, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 412720 145250 (**Figure 1**).

The work was carried out between the 16th of February and the 8th of March 2015. The watching brief identified and confirmed the presence of low level prehistoric activity in this area. An early Bronze Age gully was the only identifiable archaeological feature. A number of postholes were excavated, but it was not possible to clearly identify whether these were ancient or modern in their origin.



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Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by Landmarc Solutions Services and Wessex Archaeology is grateful for their assistance during the programme of works. Thanks are also due to the Dyer and Butler ground work team for their help and cooperation.

The watching brief was undertaken by Benjamin Cullen, Lee Newton, Rachel Williams, Dave Murdie, John Powell and Susan Clelland. The report was written and compiled by Rachel Williams. Finds were assessed by Rachel Seager Smith, Alistair Barclay, Lorrain Higbee, and Phil Harding. The illustrations were prepared by Nancy Dixson. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Simon Cleggett who also edited the report.



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Archaeological Watching Brief Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Landmark Solutions Services (the Client) to carry out an archaeological watching brief on land north of the rear gate of RSA Larkhill, at Larkhill, Wiltshire, during the removal of the existing slew pad, construction of a new slew pad and the laying of a temporary bypass road around the works (hereafter the Site). The Site is centred on NGR 412720 145250.
- 1.1.2 The permitted works comprised of the laying of a temporary bypass road around the works, removal of the existing slew pad, construction of a new slew pad and drainage channels.
- 1.1.3 The watching brief was undertaken between the 16th of February and the 8th of March 2015.

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The Site is located directly outside the rear entrance gate to the Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill, northeast of Cutt's Copse at the intersection of the Southern Transit and Watson Road. The Site is bordered by Larkhill Racecourse to the north, Larkhill Camp to the south, the A345 to the east and the B3086 to the west.
- 1.2.2 The Site is located within a gently undulating landscape at an approximate elevation of 125m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).
- 1.2.3 The underlying geology of the Site is mapped predominantly as Cretaceous chalk of the Seaford Chalk Formation, overlain by a dendritic pattern of Head deposits composed of clay, silt, sand and gravel, laid down during the Quaternary period (British Geological Survey).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 A detailed archaeological and historical background for the Site has been compiled for the Desk Based Assessment (DBA) (WA 2013a, revised 2014), and as such will not be repeated here.
- 2.1.2 In summary the DBA identified the Site as lying in within an area of known archaeological potential. The Site is located within an area designated as an Area of Special Archaeological Significance (Salisbury District Local Plan, 2011) and immediately adjacent to Knighton Long Barrow (SM 1010052).



2.1.3 There is an extensive history of archaeological research within the area and the Site's wider context. These investigations include a large number of antiquarian excavations. Many of the barrows and other monuments visible above ground in the Stonehenge environs were excavated during the 19th century, particularly by Sir Richard Colt Hoare and William Cunnington, though recorded investigations stretch back as far as the 17th century (Darvill *et al* 2005).

2.2 Recent investigations in the area

2.2.1 In 2011 WA conducted a watching brief within RSA Larkhill Camp approximately 500m southeast of the Site. This watching brief did not locate any archaeological features, one trench contained modern disturbance whilst the second area did not contain any archaeology. Finds were limited to residual worked and burnt flint (WA 2011).

2.3 Recent investigations in the wider landscape

2.3.1 In more recent times, a considerable number of investigations within the area have been carried out in the course of development control, though many research led projects have also been undertaken.

2.3.2 Evidence of a Bronze Age settlement was discovered 0.5 miles southeast of the Site during a watching brief conducted by WA in 2009 (WA 2009, 70411.05).

2.3.3 Identified 2.5 miles to the northeast of the Site at Barrow Clump, a Bronze Age barrow was found to have become the focus for Anglo Saxon burial in AD 500 (WA 2013b, 85370.01).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and objectives

3.1.1 With due regard to the ClfA *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (ClfA 2014a), the general aims and objectives of the archaeological works were:

- *to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains, and should remains be present, to ensure their preservation by record to the highest possible standard;*
- *to confirm the approximate date or date range of the remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;*
- *to determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains;*
- *to determine the condition and state of preservation of the remains;*
- *to determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present; and*
- *to prepare a report on the results of the watching brief.*

3.2 Fieldwork methodology

3.2.1 The full detailed methodology of the archaeological works was set out in the agreed WSI (WA 2015) and comprised of the monitoring of the groundworks associated with the removal of the old slew pad and construction of the new slew pad.



- 3.2.2 All works designed to reduce ground levels were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator using, where possible, a toothless ditching bucket and was undertaken under constant supervision by an experienced archaeologist.
- 3.2.3 Machine levels were determined by construction levels, although they ceased immediately when archaeological remains were encountered to allow further investigation and recording of these remains.
- 3.2.4 The Watching Brief involved the archaeological monitoring of three areas as shown on **Figure 2** and comprised:
- *the excavation of four machine dug test pits (Test Pits 1-4) located beyond the limits of the proposed Slew pad to determine the depth of services pipes and cables prior to construction*
 - *the excavation of the new Slew pad and associated drainage (Watching Brief Area 5 – Slew Pad)*
 - *the construction of an access road (Watching Brief Area 5 – Access Road)*
- 3.2.5 In three of the four test pits natural chalk horizons were identified approximately 0.3m below the ground surface and were overlain by a layer of topsoil. One test pit (Test pit 3) located at the south east corner of the proposed Slew pad identified an earlier concrete road surface below the topsoil.
- 3.2.6 The excavation of Watching Brief Area 5 for the new slew pad and associated drainage involved the removal of the existing concrete road surface and slew pad, followed by the gradual reduction of the ground surface to the required construction level. All excavated material was scanned for artefacts.
- 3.2.7 The construction of the access road (Watching Brief Area 5 – Access Road) comprised the laying of terram (geotextile permeable fabric) over the existing ground surface over which a layer of hard core was placed and compacted. No archaeological monitoring of this process was undertaken.

3.3 Recording

- 3.3.1 All archaeological deposits were recorded using WA'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.
- 3.3.2 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. Digital images have been subject to a managed quality control and curation process which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and ensures the long term accessibility of the image set.
- 3.3.3 The general Site area and recorded archaeological features were digitally surveyed using GPS within the OS NGR system, and including heights above Ordnance Datum (Newlyn). The electronic survey record will be retained within the site archive.
- 3.3.4 A unique Site Code **107690** was allocated to the Site, and was used on all records and finds.



4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The following section provides a summary description of the results from Watching Brief Area 5 – Slew Pad (**Figure 2**). Details of individual excavated contexts and features are retained in the project archive. Summaries of the excavated sequences can be found in **Appendix 1**.

Natural deposits and soil sequences

4.1.2 The underlying natural deposits comprised chalk overlain by lightly turfed topsoil that was a dark grey-brown loose silty loam, lightly rooted and bioturbated, with inclusions of rare sub-angular flint <0.06m and sparse chalk flecks and fragments. The topsoil layer was between 0.12 and 0.28m deep.

4.1.3 Aligned east to west, and bisecting the centre of the Area 5 – Slew pad, the extant tank track and slew pad was found to comprise the truncated remains of a buried modern topsoil (**504**) overlain by a deliberate deposit of re-deposited compacted chalk (**503**) levelling. The depth of this deposit varied across the Watching Brief Area and was dependant on the relative height of the underlying ground surface. The tank road was made up of two successive layers of compacted hardcore, deposits **502** and **503**. This sequence of deposits is shown in **Plate 1**. The depth of layer **502** varied significantly across the development and corresponded to the underlying topography of the chalk natural. The most significant of the archaeological remains, gully **525**, was located in the western area of the Site where the majority of this made ground was located.

4.1.4 In the south-eastern part of the Site concrete slabs were located beneath the topsoil. In places these overlay buried subsoil and layers of modern disturbance. These deposits were not impacted upon by the construction.

4.2 Summary

4.2.1 The watching brief was successful in locating a small number of features (**Figure 2**). A small gully, **525**, containing Bronze Age pottery was located in the eastern part of the Site. A number of features of uncertain date were located across the Site. These included several postholes and a shallow pit

4.2.2 The south-west of the Site had been subjected to heavy modern disturbance. This disturbance was fairly shallow and would not have masked any significant archaeological features but may have truncated or obliterated more discrete features.

4.2.3 The postholes are mostly uniform in size and shape. There are large numbers of modern postholes within the vicinity of the site, and it is possible that these postholes relate to earlier phases of the road rather than being of archaeological interest. None of these postholes contained any anthropogenic material.

4.3 Bronze Age

4.3.1 Gully **525** (**Figure 2 and Plate 2**) was located at the western extent of Watching Brief Area 5 – Slew pad. The rectilinear gully, 0.8m wide and 0.35m deep had steep straight sides which tapered to a flat base and formed the north-east corner of a possible field enclosure. A single fill of weathered topsoil and eroded chalk fragments was found to contain several sherds of early Bronze Age pottery, animal bone and struck flint fragments. No other anthropogenic material such as charcoal or fired clay was noted within the gully fill.



4.4 Modern

- 4.4.1 In the south-eastern area of the Site the area had been heavily disturbed by modern construction. Modern ceramic building material (CBM), concrete and tarmac were compressed into the chalk. This disturbance was recorded at a thickness of not more than 0.1m but is likely to have destroyed any discrete archaeological features. The current construction did not remove all of the disturbed area so it is possible that archaeological features remain under this disturbance.
- 4.4.2 A series of modern utilities run across the Site. These comprised of live and redundant water pipes, electricity cables, telecommunications cables and sewerage pipes.
- 4.4.3 Two of the postholes, **515** and **521**, are almost certainly modern in date. These are located on the very edge of the area excavated and both contained a loose, silty fill. They are of roughly equal size and are approximately the correct size for the posts that are used by the army to enclose the tank tracks.

4.5 Features of uncertain date

- 4.5.1 A number of features of uncertain date were located across the Site.
- 4.5.2 Three postholes, **511**, **513** and **519**, were all of similar dimensions and all three contained similar compacted chalk fragment fills. None of these postholes contained any anthropogenic material but their similarity in form and infilling suggest that they are probably contemporary. These three postholes are all located under the previous tank track.
- 4.5.3 A shallow pit, **517**, which is cut by posthole **519**, can only be dated by its stratigraphic relationship with posthole **519**. Neither the pit nor the posthole contained any anthropogenic material. The pit did not have any obvious purpose or function and was probably truncated by the earlier groundworks associated with the tank track.
- 4.5.4 Two tree-throws were also located; neither of these contained any anthropogenic material.

5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Artefacts

- 5.1.1 Just 203g of finds were recovered, all from gully **525**. The finds consist of four struck flints (37g), three pieces (125g) of animal bone and two (41g) plain body sherds of pottery. The 'sandwich-fired' (oxidised surfaces/margins, dark grey core), grog-tempered fabric of these sherds, probably from a single vessel, suggests that they are from a Collared or Bi-conical urn of Early Bronze Age date.
- 5.1.2 All four of the flints have the light surface patina typical of material from the Chalk. Two (an end scraper and a knife), are retouched, while the other two are waste flakes. Although not closely datable, these pieces would not be out of place in an Early Bronze Age context, while the high proportion (50%) of retouched pieces suggests that this material has not moved far from its original point of use. The animal bone also includes one piece utilised as a tool – a cattle tibia split axially at its proximal end, while its distal end has four diagonal chop marks and a moderate degree of surface polish mid shaft. The other pieces comprise a second fragment of a cattle tibia and a small piece from a sheep-sized long bone; all three survive in very good, fresh condition.



6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 No material suitable for environmental analysis was present within the monitored areas.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Conclusions

7.1.1 This watching brief identified and confirmed the presence of Bronze Age activity in this area. The low level of archaeological remains recorded within this area may reflect the impact that previous groundworks have had on the Site, although a number of discrete undated features were identified and recorded.

8 STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

8.1.1 It is recommended that the finds and archive be deposited with Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum on completion of the project; however the museum is currently not accepting archaeological archives.

8.1.2 Until final deposition with the museum the archive will be stored at the offices of WA Southern Region in Salisbury under the Site Code **107690**.

8.2 Archive

8.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014b; Brown 2011; ADS 2013). An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creator Forms. All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the West Berkshire HER. A copy of the OASIS entry form has been included in this report (**Appendix 2**).

8.2.2 The complete Site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the appropriate Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014b; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

8.2.3 All archive elements will be marked with the Site code and a full index will be prepared.

8.2.4 It is proposed in principle that, subject to the wishes of the landowner, the entire archive (including the finds) will be deposited with a suitable local Museums Service. Provision has been made for the cost of long term storage in the post-fieldwork costs.

8.3 Discard policy

8.3.1 WA follows the guidelines set out in Selection, Retention and Dispersal (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.



- 8.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; *ibid* 1995; English Heritage 2011)

8.4 Copyright

- 8.4.1 WA 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 development control, planning and educational purposes without recourse to the Copyright owner, the Copyright owner to be given full acknowledgment in any reproduction of material.
- 8.4.2 This document, the subsequent report and the archive generally, may contain material that is non-WA copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by WA. All remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of this document and subsequent report.

8.5 Security Copy

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

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10 APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1: Stratigraphic Summaries

Test Pit 1	Dimensions :	1.1m by 0.6m by 0.82m	Ground surface level:	141.53m aOD
	Centre point Coordinates (NGR):	412693.41, 145247.36		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
101	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey-brown silty clay loam, lightly rooted and bioturbated, loose with inclusions of rare sub-angular flint <0.06m and sparse chalk flecks and fragments. Clear and distinct horizon	0-0.28m	
102	Layer	Natural: Off white degraded upper chalk with rare sub-angular flints <0.2. Compact and with a clear and distinct horizon.	0.28m+	

Test Pit 2	Dimensions :	1.8m by 0.6m by 0.8m	Ground surface level:	141.64m aOD
	Centre point Coordinates (NGR):	412716.14, 145254.83		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
201	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey-brown silty clay loam, lightly rooted and bioturbated, loose with inclusions of rare sub-angular flint <0.06m and sparse chalk flecks and fragments. Clear and distinct horizon	0-0.2m	
202	Layer	Natural: Off white degraded upper chalk with rare sub-angular flints <0.2. Compact and with a clear and distinct horizon.	0.2m+	

Test Pit 3	Dimensions :	0.77m by 0.4m by 0.15m	Ground surface level:	142.72m aOD
	Centre point Coordinates (NGR):	412765.49, 145274.21		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
301	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey-brown silty clay loam, lightly rooted and bioturbated, loose with inclusions of rare sub-angular flint <0.06m and sparse chalk flecks and fragments. Clear and distinct horizon.	0-0.15m	
302	Structure	Concrete slab, possibly part of the old road surface, not excavated.	0.15m+	



Test Pit 4	Dimensions :	0.6m by 0.4m by 0.4m	Ground surface level:	142.77m aOD
	Centre point Coordinates (NGR):	412756.95, 145283.06		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
401	Layer	Topsoil: Dark grey-brown silty clay loam, lightly rooted and bioturbated, loose with inclusions of rare sub-angular flint <0.06m and sparse chalk flecks and fragments. Clear and distinct horizon	0-0.12m	
402	Layer	Natural: Off white degraded upper chalk with rare sub-angular flints <0.2. Compact and with a clear and distinct horizon.	0.12m+	

Area 5	Dimensions :	83.99m by 27.82m by 0.76m	Ground surface level:	141.68m aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	412686.67, 145252.09 by 412766.28, 145280.57		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
501	Layer	Road surface: Hardcore; mid red-brown sand, near complete sub-angular stone > 0.06m Very compact and with a distinct horizon.	0-0.14m	
502	Layer	Road make up/levelling; hardcore; light brown sand, near complete sub-angular stone <0.06m very compact with a distinct but variable horizon. (0.06 - 0.16m).	0.14m+	
503	Fill	Fill of 505 Levelling layer: re-deposited off-white chalk, very rare sub-angular flint >0.10. Very compact with a clear horizon.	0.16m thick	
504	Fill	Fill of 505 Buried topsoil/road surface. Dark grey-brown silty sand with abundant chalk flecks and fragments, common sub-angular stone. Compact and with a distinct horizon.	0.12m thick	
505	Cut	FW 503 & 504. Cut for road levelling, layers. Distinct horizon. 1.98m wide but T-shaped with the northern offshoot. Runs the length of Area 5.	0.28 deep	
506	Layer	Natural: Off white degraded upper chalk with rare sub-angular flints <0.2. Compact and with a clear and distinct horizon.	0.28m+	
507	Cut	Cut of north-east to south-west aligned shallow gully with steep straight sides running on to a flat base, recorded as 0.4m wide and 0.24m deep. Contains a single fill 508. Finds in other slots indicate an early Bronze Age date for the gully. The gully has been truncated by later landscaping associated with the tank track construction. Part of ditch group 525.	0.24m deep	
508	Fill	Single recorded fill of gully 507 . Mid grey-brown silty clay with inclusions of rare sub-angular flint <0.06m and abundant sub-rounded chalk flecks and fragments. Fairly compacted with a clear distinct horizon.	0.24m thick	
509	Cut	Cut of north-east to south-west aligned shallow gully with steep straight sides running on to a flat base, recorded as 0.8m wide and 0.35m deep. The gully becomes deeper as it rounds a corner from	0.35m deep	



		the south to the north-west, it also is wider across the corner, probably due to water movement eroding the edges. Contains a single fill 510. Finds in this slot indicate an early Bronze Age date for the gully. Part of ditch group 525	
510	Fill	Single recorded fill of gully 509. Mid grey-brown silty clay with inclusions of rare sub-angular flint <0.06m and abundant sub-rounded chalk flecks and fragments. Archaeological components include early Bronze Age pottery, animal bone and struck flint. Fairly compacted with a clear distinct horizon.	0.35m thick
511	Cut	Cut of posthole. Circular, steep posthole with an uneven base. 0.3m in diameter. Located a few meters west of the Bronze Age gully, however this area has been heavily disturbed by modern services so it may be either ancient or modern.	0.18m deep
512	Fill	Single recorded fill of posthole 511. Light grey-brown silty clay with very common small sub-rounded chalk fragments. Fairly compacted with a clear horizon.	0.18 thick
513	Cut	Cut of posthole. Circular, steep posthole with an uneven base. 0.35m in diameter. Located a few meters west of the Bronze Age gully, however this area has been heavily disturbed by modern services so it may be either ancient or modern.	0.25m deep
514	Fill	Single recorded fill of posthole 513. Light grey-brown silty clay with very common small sub-rounded chalk fragments. Fairly compacted with a clear horizon.	0.25m thick
515	Cut	Cut of posthole. Circular, steep posthole with an uneven base. 0.15m in diameter. Located close to the edge of the previous tank track and in an area that has been heavily disturbed by modern services so it may be either ancient or modern.	0.15m deep
516	Fill	Single recorded fill of posthole 515. Light grey-brown silty clay with rare small sub-rounded chalk fragments. Fairly loose with a clear horizon.	0.15m thick
517	Cut	Cut of shallow sub-oval pit with moderately sloping straight edges running to an undulating base. Recorded as 0.62m long and 0.44 m wide but only 0.09m deep this pit has been truncated by the previous tank track. No anthropogenic material was recovered from the pit. The pit was cut by posthole 519.	0.09m deep
518	Fill	Single recorded fill of pit 517. Light brown silty clay with sparse sub-rounded chalk fragments. Moderately loose with a clear horizon.	0.09m thick
519	Cut	Cut of posthole. Circular, steep posthole with a flat base. 0.46m in diameter. This posthole cuts a shallow pit 517 however as neither the pit nor the posthole contained any anthropogenic material so it may be either ancient or modern in date.	0.32m deep
520	Fill	Single recorded fill of posthole 519. Light grey-brown silty clay with very common small sub-rounded chalk fragments. Fairly compacted with a clear horizon.	0.32m thick
521	Cut	Cut of posthole. Circular, concave posthole 0.19m in diameter. Located close to the edge of the previous tank track and in an area that has been heavily disturbed by modern services so it may be either ancient or modern.	0.07m deep



522	Fill	Single recorded fill of posthole 521 . Light grey-brown silty clay with rare small sub-rounded chalk fragments. Fairly loose with a clear horizon.	0.07m thick
523	Cut	Cut of a tree-throw. Shallow, irregular sub-oval tree-throw with moderately sloping sides and an irregular base. This tree-throw was truncated by the later landscaping associated with the construction of the tank track. There was no indication of a felling direction and no anthropogenic material was recovered from the fill.	0.18m deep
524	Fill	Single recorded fill of tree-throw 523 . Light grey-brown silty clay with very common small sub-rounded chalk fragments. Moderately loose with a clear horizon.	0.18m thick
525	Group	Comprising ditch sections 507 and 509 . Rectilinear narrow ditch form a north-east corner of probable field enclosure.	



10.2 Appendix 2: OASIS summary

OASIS ID: wessexar1-212414

Project details

Project name	New Slew Pad - Rear Gate RSA Larkhill
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Landmarc Solutions Services to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the removal of the existing slew pad, construction of a new slew pad and the laying of a temporary bypass road around the works occurring at the Rear Gate at RSA Larkhill, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 412720 145250 (Figure 1). The work was carried out between the 16th of February and the 8th of March 2015. The watching brief identified and confirmed the presence of low level prehistoric activity in this area. An early Bronze Age gully was the only identifiable archaeological feature. A number of postholes were excavated, but it was not possible to clearly identify whether these were ancient or modern in their origin.
Project dates	Start: 16-02-2015 End: 08-03-2015
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	107690 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Site status (other)	Area of Special Archaeological Significance (Salisbury District Local Plan 2011)
Current Land use	Transport and Utilities 2 - Other transport infrastructure
Monument type	GULLY Early Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Bronze Age
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	General structure plan/local plan/minerals plan guidance



Project location

Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE SALISBURY DURRINGTON New Slew Pad, Rear Gate, RSA Larkhill
Postcode	SP4 8QR
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 412720 145250 50.9281496712 -1.41267317395 50 55 41 N 001 24 45 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	WGS 84 Datum

Project creators

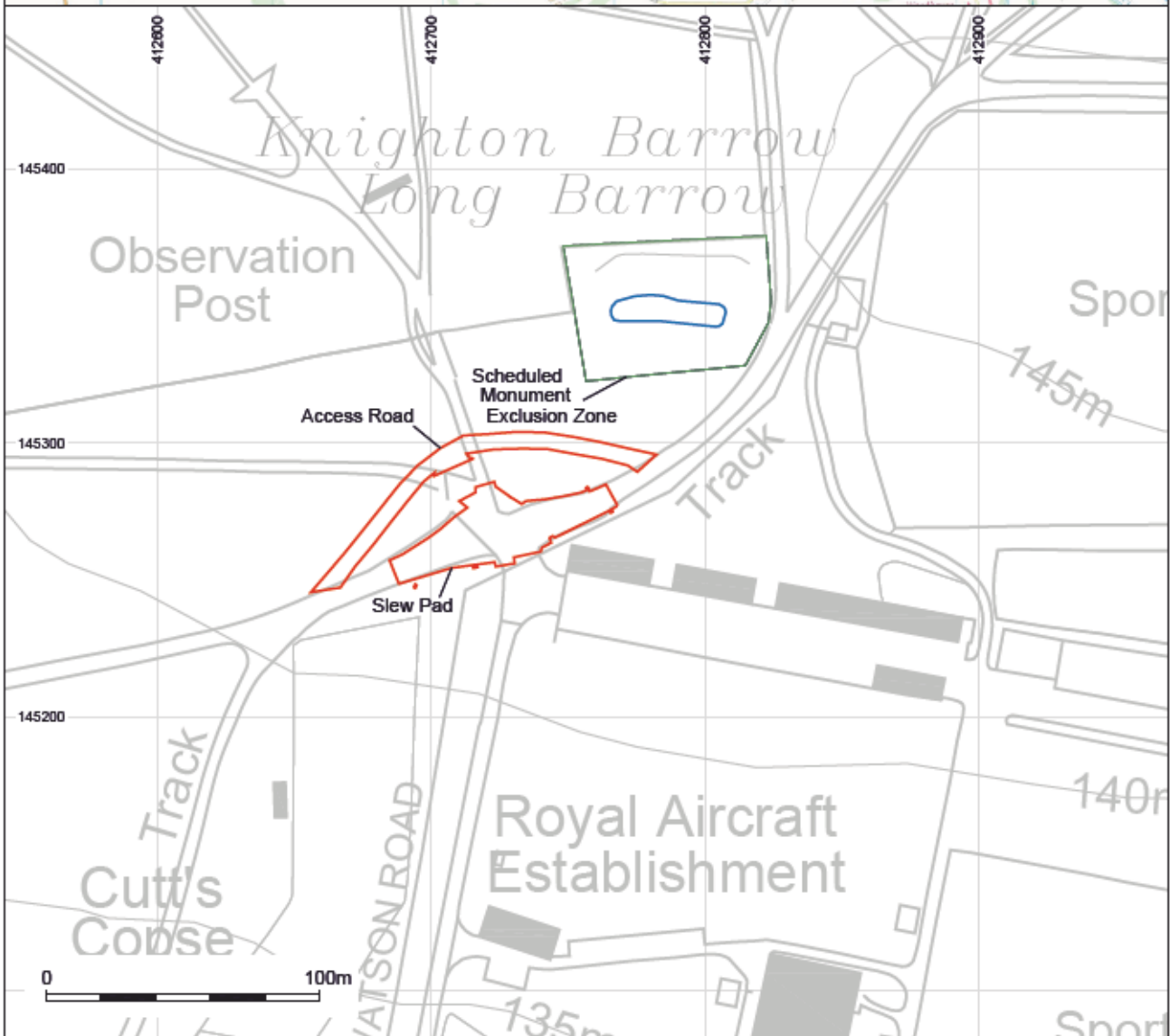
Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Landmarc Support Services Limited
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Simon Cleggett
Project supervisor	Ben Cullen
Project supervisor	Susan Clelland
Project supervisor	Lee Newton
Project supervisor	Rachel Williams
Project supervisor	D Murdie
Project supervisor	John Powell
Type of sponsor/funding	Ministry of Defence



body

Project archives

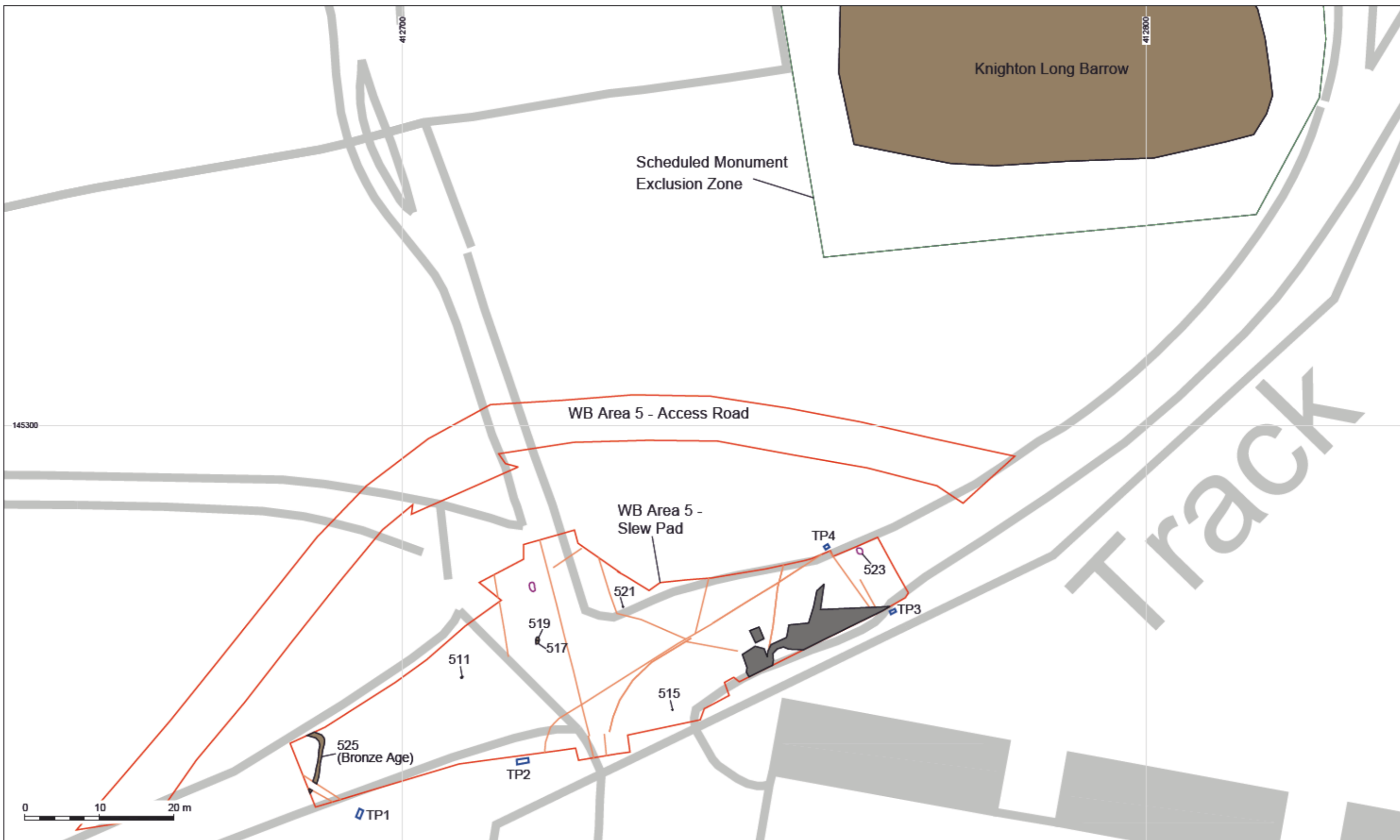
Physical Archive recipient	Salisbury and South West Wilts Museum
Physical Archive ID	107690
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum
Digital Archive ID	107690
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Salisbury and South Wilts Museum
Paper Archive ID	107690
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Plan","Report","Section"



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Site location and proposed watching brief areas

Figure 1



- Watching Brief Areas
- Archaeological features
- Disturbance
- Test Pit
- Tree throw
- Services



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Watching brief areas showing archaeological features

Figure 2

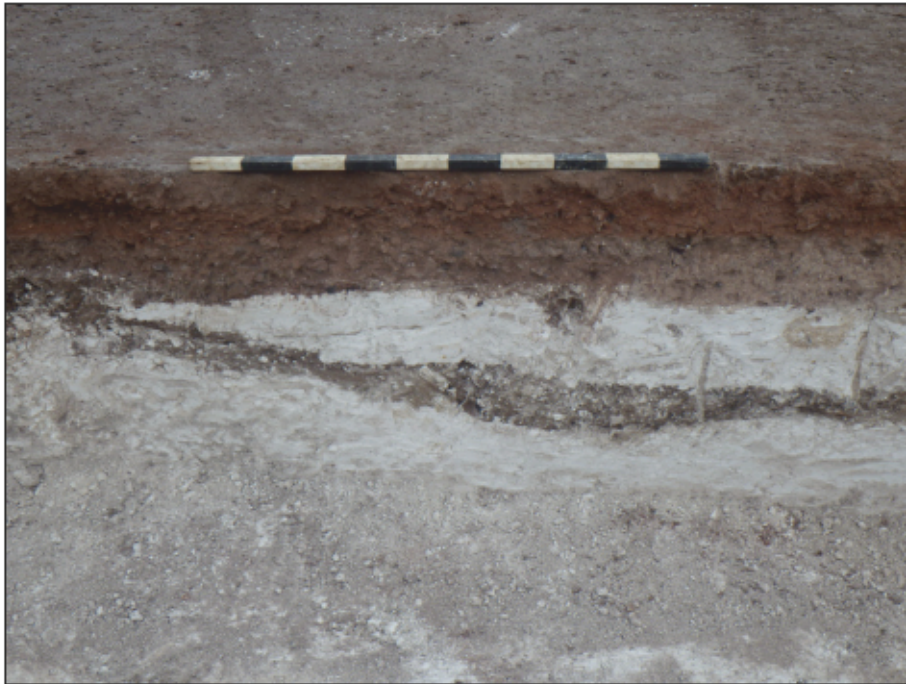


Plate 1: East facing section showing stratigraphic sequence through Watching Brief Area 5 - Slew Pad

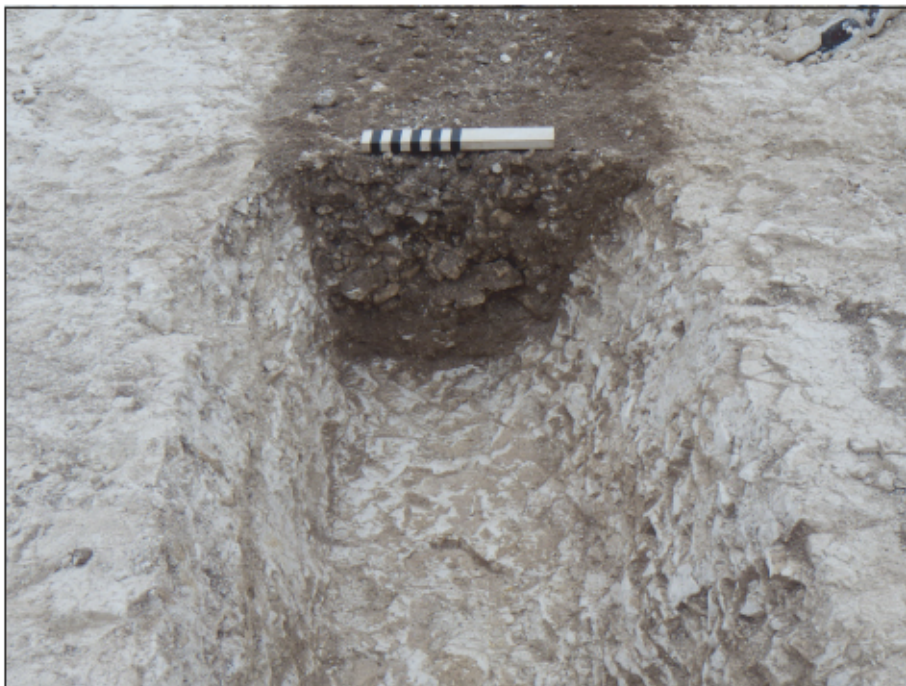



Plate 2: South-west facing section of Bronze Age gully 525

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