making sense of heritage

Hale Farm, Idmiston, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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archaeology

Hale Farm,
Idmiston, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Prepared for:
Lark Energy
Unit 11
Spitfire Business Park
Northfield Road
Market Deeping
Lincolnshire
PE6 8GY

Prepared by:
Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

www.wessexarch.co.uk

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DISCLAIMER

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Front cover: View to north-west across Site showing topography with dry valley in mid-ground

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Lark Energy to undertake the archaeological evaluation of land at Hale Farm, adjacent to Boscombe Down Airfield, near Amesbury, Wiltshire, (centred on NGR 418300, 139150) in order to inform the planning application for a proposed installation of a 12MWp solar farm and associated infrastructure.

Fifty-four trial trenches were excavated across the Site; many of which were targeted on anomalies identified from a preceding geophysical survey. The results of the evaluation correlate well with the location of identified geophysical anomalies, although the evaluation appears to show that many of the features in the west of the Site relate to geological features and features within the dry valley appear to relate to colluvium or other trends.

The archaeological features and deposits uncovered within the trenches appear, to a large degree, to be closely related to the topography of the Site, with the dry valley being a clearly important landscape feature in the location, and preservation, of the archaeological features. A deep sequence of colluvium was identified within the dry valley and this possibly began to build-up from the Iron Age–Romano-British period onwards and may be associated with increased arable agriculture upslope.

Dated activity within the Site relates to two main chronological periods of activity: the Early/Middle Iron Age (c. 700–100 BC) and the late Romano-British (c. late 3rd – 4th century AD). However, a large number of features were undated and, based on known activity surrounding the Site, potentially features may also relate to late prehistoric–Romano-British and medieval activity.

A complex of Early–Middle Iron Age pits possibly for the quarrying of chalk and/or flint was sealed by colluvium in the east of the Site. In addition, the remains of a possible Early–Middle Iron Age field boundary was uncovered, also sealed by colluvium, within the centre of the dry valley. This Iron Age activity is likely to be peripheral to the Middle Iron Age–Romano-British settlement known from excavations earlier this century to lie approximately 250m to the east of the Site and also to a trapezoidal enclosure revealed by the geophysical survey which was located immediately to the south-east. Further Early–Middle Iron Age settlement has also been located within King's Gate development on the south side of Amesbury, approximately 2.5km to the north-west and wider afield at High Post.

A Romano-British probable hollow way aligned approximately east–west, with a possibly associated parallel flint bank, was sealed by colluvium in the centre of the dry valley. An assemblage of pottery of Late Roman date, animal bone and a possible polished whetstone fragment were recovered from its naturally accumulated fill. Again it is likely that the Romano-British features are also associated with the nearby settlement, with the hollow way perhaps linking agricultural land to the settlement and associated Late Roman cemetery.

The dating of a northwest–southeast aligned double-ditched feature in the east of the Site was not secure, and for this reason the feature is phased as of probable later prehistoric–Romano-British date. Rather than functioning as a trackway, it is more likely to have defined a boundary. The

similarity of the ditch's profile with the northeast–southwest aligned undated ditch in the northwest of the Site and the perpendicular alignment of the latter with the double-ditched boundary may possibly suggest that these two features are contemporary with each other.

A number of wide shallow features were cut into the chalk slopes of the dry valley following the contours and these are considered to represent probable medieval lynchets, from cultivation terraces. Further known cropmarks of probable strip lynchets are known to the south, close to the village of Idmiston, known to have medieval origins.

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Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Lark Energy for commissioning the project, and Rachel Wood in particular is acknowledged for her communication and assistance. Thanks are also extended to Claire King, Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service, for her advice and guidance.

The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Andrew Manning. The field evaluation was led by Steve Thompson, Phil Harding, and Dave Murdie assisted by Eleanor Morris, Ben Cullen, Bill Moffat, Nancy Dixon, Matt Kendal, Steve Winterton, Malcolm Gullifoyle-Pink and Tom Wells. This report was written by Gail Wakeham, and the illustrations were prepared by Will Foster. The artefacts were assessed by Rachael Seager Smith.

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Lark Energy to undertake the archaeological evaluation at Hale Farm, adjacent to Boscombe Down Airfield, near Amesbury, Wiltshire (**Figure 1**), hereafter 'the Site' (centred on NGR 418300, 139150).

1.1.2 A planning application was submitted in June 2014 (14/05740/FUL) for the proposed installation of a 12MWp solar farm and associated infrastructure. The application was accompanied by an archaeological desk-based assessment and a geophysical survey of the proposed development area and its environs.

1.1.3 Subsequent consultation was undertaken with the Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service (WCAS) who advise the Local Planning Authority (LPA). WCAS advised that the Site has the potential to contain heritage assets of archaeological interest and that trial trench evaluation is necessary to define the significance of the possible archaeological features within the proposed development area. They recommended that an archaeological evaluation should be carried out prior to the determination of the application.

1.1.4 Accordingly, a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by Wessex Archaeology and approved by WCAS (Wessex Archaeology 2014a). The archaeological evaluation was undertaken between 26th August and 12th September 2014. This report provides an assessment of the results of the archaeological evaluation.

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 The Site occupies the head of a dry valley close to the River Bourne (located to the southeast). The eastern and western parts of the Site are the highest, lying at a height of over 110m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) with the lowest area in the dry valley in the centre less than 100m aOD. The Site area is defined by field boundaries that form the limit of the proposed development area.

1.2.2 The solid geology on the Site is recorded as Upper Chalk (Cretaceous); no superficial deposits are recorded (Ordnance Survey 1976); although some colluvial deposits may exist within the dry valley. The soils within the Site are likely to be brown rendzinas of the 343h (Andover 1) association (SSEW 1983).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 An archaeological desk based assessment (DBA) has been undertaken for the Site (Archaeological Project Services 2013); the results of which are summarised below.

2.2 Archaeological Background

2.2.1 The surrounding environs of the Site are known to contain numerous sites and findspots, mainly dating from the later prehistoric period, and are of significant archaeological importance.

2.2.2 A Neolithic (4000-–2200 BC) stone axe and Bronze Age (2200–800 BC) finds, including pottery, flints and a bead, are recorded from within the DBA assessment area (up to approximately 500m around the Site), with only the latter perhaps suggesting settlement. An undated cropmark, suggestive of a barrow and the separate find of a Beaker vessel, may indicate that the area was also used for funerary practises during the Bronze Age.

2.2.3 To the east of the Site, excavations undertaken in 1948 revealed an extensive Iron Age (800 C–AD 43) settlement, including a large enclosure of the Late Iron Age (100 BC–AD 43). There appears to be some continuity of settlement into the Romano-British (AD 43–410) period, which included a late 3rd – 4th century cemetery. There are extensive cropmarks of undated field systems and enclosures which are likely to date to these two periods.

2.2.4 No Saxon (AD 410–1066) remains are known from the assessment area, although Idmiston is mentioned in the 10th century when it was granted to Glastonbury Abbey. During the medieval period (AD 1066–1540), the Site lay to the northwest of the documented village of Idmiston. Initially, the area may have been marginal land, though strip lynchets suggest it was eventually being cultivated. The post-medieval period (1540–1900 AD) saw the area still under agricultural regimes, though it was omitted from the planned enclosure of the parish in the late 18th century. By the end of the 19th century, a small farmstead was located just outside the southern boundary of the Site.

2.2.5 The Site lies adjacent to the former RAF Boscombe Down airfield which was initially constructed in 1917 and reopened in the late 1920s. During the Second World War it received a number of pillboxes to defend the airfield, of which three lie in close proximity to the Site. The airfield is still in use as an experimental research station.

2.2.6 A walk-over survey for the DBA recorded open agricultural land (under cultivation) with tree belts forming the southern and western boundary and an internal tree belt (presently forming the south-eastern boundary of the Site following a re-design). The internal tree belt appeared to have been planted along the line of a possible medieval strip lynchet. To the north-east of the Site, a spread of Romano-British pottery was discovered during the walk-over and may attest to a small settlement of the period.

2.3 Previous Archaeological Work

2.3.1 A detailed magnetometer survey was conducted in December 2013 using a Bartington Grad601-2 dual fluxgate gradiometer system (Wessex Archaeology 2014b). The survey was conducted in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (2008).

2.3.2 The gradiometer survey of 36.4 ha, covered the Site and a field to the south-east which was previously part of the development proposals. It successfully demonstrated the

presence of anomalies of likely, probable and possible archaeological interest within the survey area, along with regions of increased magnetic response and a modern service.

2.3.3 This survey indicated that the main concentration of archaeological features and possible archaeological features lies at the centre and east of the Site with former field boundaries, several large possible pits and a possible track or Wessex linear defined by parallel ditches detected. It seems likely that other features may have been obscured by ferrous responses from services and fences belonging to the nearby airfield. A curving field system was observed running through the centre of the survey area that appears to follow the contours of the dry valley (**Figure 1**).

2.3.4 The enclosure and internal discrete features to the east of the Site also identified by the geophysical survey (**Figure 1**) lie on the edge of an area of dense Iron Age and Romano-British settlement activity within the airfield; this previously unknown enclosure appears to fit into this known archaeological landscape and may be contemporary to some of these known settlements.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1.1 With due regard to the IfA's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2008), the aims of the investigation, as defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2014a) were:

- *To locate, identify and to investigate and record the presence/absence of archaeological features or deposits;*
- *Where possible, to confirm the extent, date, character, relationship, condition and significance of archaeological features, artefacts and deposits within the proposed development area; and*
- *To inform the scope and nature of any requirements for any potential further mitigation*.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Fieldwork methodology

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2014a). Following consultation with WCAS, a 1.5% sample of the proposed development area was to be undertaken by the excavation of trial trenches (generally 30m by 2m), resulting in the excavation of 54 trenches.

4.1.2 The evaluation trenches, many of which were targeted on anomalies from the preceding geophysical survey, were accurately located using GPS.

4.1.3 The trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket and under the direction of an experienced archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded in spits to the upper surface of archaeological deposits/features, or the *in situ* natural geology, whichever was encountered first. Once the level of archaeological deposits was exposed by machine, cleaning was undertaken by hand where necessary.

4.1.4 Topsoil and subsoil/overburden deposits were stored separately and scanned for artefacts.

4.1.5 Appropriate sample excavation by hand of archaeological features and deposits was undertaken in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner in order to fulfil the aims and objectives of the evaluation. Care was taken to preserve the integrity of any archaeological features or complex deposits which may be better excavated under a controlled full excavation/archaeological mitigation.

4.2 Health and Safety

4.2.1 Health and Safety considerations were of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practices override archaeological considerations at all times.

4.2.2 All work was carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work etc. Act* 1974 and the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations* 1992, and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.

4.3 Recording

4.3.1 All exposed archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system with all features and deposits being assigned an unique context number. A unique project code (105660) was allocated, and was used on all records and any recovered artefacts and environmental samples.

4.3.2 An accurate overall plan of the Site was produced by surveying using a Leica Total Station Theodolite (TST) or GPS, and thereby related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

4.3.3 A full written and drawn record of excavated archaeological features and deposits was compiled. This included both plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (usually 1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and referenced to the overall Site plan. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels were calculated and plans/sections were annotated with OD heights.

4.3.4 A full photographic record was maintained using digital photography. The photographic record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the principal features, finds excavated, and the Site as a whole. Digital images are embedded with appropriate metadata to ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.4 Specialist strategies

Artefact recovery

4.4.1 All artefacts were retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. Material of undoubtedly modern date was noted but not retained. Bulk finds were collected and recorded by context from excavated features. Small finds (objects) were recorded three-dimensionally using TST or GPS surveying equipment.

4.4.2 All artefacts were, as a minimum, washed, weighed, counted and identified. Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions were dealt with immediately in line with *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998). Suitable material, primarily the pottery, worked flint and non-ferrous metalwork, was scanned to assess the date range of the relevant assemblages. Any ferrous metalwork was X-rayed to provide further detail concerning its original form as part of the assessment.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A total of 54 trenches were excavated across the Site, many of these were targeted on anomalies from the preceding geophysical survey (**Figure 1**). The archaeological features and deposits uncovered within the trenches appear to a large degree to be related to the topography of the Site, with the dry valley being a clearly important landscape feature in the location, and preservation, of the archaeological features. Therefore, the results of the archaeological evaluation are discussed below by topographic area in relation to the dry valley: also largely in trench order.

5.1.2 All excavated trenches are shown in **Figures 2-3**.

5.1.3 The soil sequence within the trenches was relatively consistent with a mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam ploughsoil overlying natural chalk or colluvium as defined by the topography, as discussed further in the opening paragraph for each below section.

5.1.4 A tabulated trench summary with detailed context information is provided in **Appendix 1**.

5.2 Trenches on the western side of the dry valley

5.2.1 The trenches in this part of the Site were all located on the western edge of the dry valley or coombe at *c.*104m aOD (in the south) rising to *c.*113m aOD in the far west where the downland begins to plateau. The underlying geology seen in all of these trenches was weathered natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes with occasional patches of mid reddish brown silty clay.

5.2.2 In the south of the Site, **Trench 3** contained a northeast–southwest aligned lynchet (**304**), 3.96m wide and 0.35m deep. It was filled with a basal primary fill and an overlying secondary fill, derived from naturally accumulated sediments, mainly likely to be ploughed in; neither fills contained any finds (**Plate 1**). This lynchet ran parallel to another identified downslope in **Trenches 1** and **2** (see below), but unlike those trenches no colluvium was recorded in **Trench 3** because it was located on the upper edge of the dry valley.

5.2.3 **Trenches 4-6** did not contain any archaeological features, although three possible tree throws were surveyed in **Trench 5**, these are perhaps more likely to be patches of silty clay, variations within the natural geology as seen in other trenches in this locality.

5.2.4 Likewise **Trenches 7-9** were devoid of archaeological features, the underlying natural chalk geology varied to include patches of mid reddish brown silty clay containing common flints and this changing geology may account for the possible archaeological anomalies identified in the locality of these trenches by the geophysical survey.

5.2.5 **Trench 10** contained a northeast–southwest aligned possible gully or natural feature (**1005**), 0.55m wide and only 0.10m deep. It was filled with a single reddish brown silty clay deposit (**1006**) which contained no artefacts and the fill of which was very similar in appearance to the patchy silty clay geology. Given the irregular sides and appearance in plan, this feature is likely to be natural in origin (**Plate 2**).

5.2.6 **Trenches 11-15** did not contain any archaeological features, bar a single tree throw in **Trench 15** which was surveyed. The possible archaeological anomaly identified by the geophysical survey in **Trench 12** appeared in this trench as a band of sterile mid reddish brown silty clay geology (**1202**); similar patches were noted in other trenches in the vicinity.

5.2.7 **Trench 16** contained a northeast-southwest aligned possible ditch terminal (**1603**), which was undated. It measured 1.6m long by 0.9m wide and was a maximum of 0.34m deep, with steep concave sides and an irregular base. It was filled with a primary and an overlying naturally derived secondary fill; neither contained any artefacts. This feature did not seem to relate to any of the linear geophysical anomalies; although within the confines of a trench it is always possible that rather than a ditch terminal this feature could relate to a discrete feature such as a pit.

5.2.8 **Trenches 17, 19** and **20** did not contain any archaeological features.

5.2.9 A probable geological feature (**1803**), which had been previously identified in the geophysical survey, was partly examined by a machine-excavated sondage in **Trench 18**. Within the trench, it measured 3.2m long by 1.8m wide and was excavated to a depth of 0.6m. It had straight moderate sides and was infilled with a homogenous sterile silty clay loam deposit (**1804**) which contained no artefacts (**Plate 3**). An unexcavated possible tree throw was also mapped in this trench. A similar geological feature (**2103**) was investigated in **Trench 21** and also did not contain any artefacts.

5.2.10 **Trenches 22** and **24-28** did not contain any archaeological features. Like other trenches in the vicinity the underlying natural was chalk with varying-sized patches of reddish brown silty clay and again this variable geology likely account for anomalies identified in the geophysical survey.

5.2.11 For **Trench 23** description, see below.

5.2.12 A slightly curving northeast-southwest aligned ditch, was mapped in **Trenches 29-32** and correlates with a linear geophysical anomaly extending between these trenches. It was excavated by hand in **Trench 30** and **32**, but no artefacts were recovered. In **Trench 30**, ditch **3006** had moderate straight sides and a flat base; it was 2m wide and 0.65m deep (**Plate 4**). In **Trench 32**, ditch **3204** had steeper convex sides and a flat base; it measured 2.2m wide and 1.0m deep (section drawing **Figure 4**). It is likely that this ditch represents a field boundary near the head of the dry valley.

5.2.13 For **Trench 33**, see below.

5.2.14 In **Trench 34**, a well-defined northwest-southeast aligned ditch (**3402**) was excavated. This feature was not identified by the preceding geophysical survey. It measured approximately 1.25m wide and 0.57m deep (**Plate 5**). No finds were retrieved although rare charcoal flecks were noted in the uppermost fill. A possible tree throw was also mapped in this trench.

5.2.15 In **Trench 35**, a northwest-southeast aligned lynchet (**3503**) was recorded following the contour of the upper slope of the dry valley. It measured 1.8m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.2m. It was filled with a mid brown silty clay deposit which did not contain any artefacts. A continuation of this lynchet (**4103**) was mapped to the southeast in **Trench 41**, also cut into the natural chalk.

5.3 Trenches with colluvium, within the dry valley

5.3.1 All the trenches within this central and northern part of the Site were located within the dry valley at *c.*100m to 106m aOD. All the trenches revealed colluvium (sediment that has moved down slope) which can mask earlier archaeological features which may lie beneath it, within its sequence, or have features cut into the surface of it. The colluvial deposits themselves have the potential to contain archaeological artefacts, as well as ecofacts

which can provide information as to the nature of and utilisation of the environment during the periods of occupation on the Site (and its surroundings). Some of the trenches also revealed degraded natural chalk which underlay the colluvial sequence.

5.3.2 **Trenches 1** and **2** both contained a northeast-southwest aligned linear feature interpreted as a lynchet (**104** and **204**), shown by the geophysical survey to be the same feature running between both trenches following the curve of the dry valley. Recorded to be a maximum of 4.4m wide and at least 0.15m deep, no finds were recovered from its fill. A possible tree throw was also surveyed in **Trench 2**. Thin possible colluvial deposits (maximum of 0.25m deep) overlay the natural chalk in both trenches.

5.3.3 In **Trench 23**, near the south-east boundary of the Site, a deposit of mid reddish brown silty clay covered the base of the trench; this is probably a colluvial deposit as seen in other low-lying trenches within the dry valley. No archaeological features were revealed.

5.3.4 In the north of the Site, no archaeological features were identified in **Trench 33**. A slighter deeper soil profile was seen in this trench with the subsoil layer (**3302**) at 0.20–0.45m below ground likely to a represent colluvial deposit. It had a diffuse upper boundary with the overlying ploughsoil.

5.3.5 A colluvial sequence was recorded in **Trench 36** (**Plate 6**). Under the ploughsoil (**3601**, 0-0.30m below ground level), an upper colluvial deposit of dark reddish brown silty clay with common sub-angular flint (**3602**) at 0.30-0.50m below ground level, had a clear horizon with the underlying layer considered to represent a buried turf or soil which was a dark greyish brown silty clay with sparse flints (**3603**) at 0.50-0.66m below ground level. A second colluvial layer of mid reddish brown silty clay with abundant sub-angular flints (**3604**) underlay this buried soil at 0.66m+ covering the base of the trench, and four sherds of Early/Middle Iron Age pottery was retrieved from this deposit.

5.3.6 Three linear archaeological features were recorded in **Trench 37**; all shared a northwest-southeast alignment, running parallel with the slope, although all were different in size and profile. Undated ditch **3706** had a well-defined V-shaped profile, 2.25mm wide and 0.90m deep (**Figure 4** section drawing; **Plate 7**). No finds were recovered from its naturally-derived fills. This correlates with the southernmost side of the boundary identified by the geophysical survey. Gully **3704**, located approximately 1m to the northeast, was shallow by comparison, only 0.13m deep and 0.65m wide with a naturally derived mid brown silty clay loam fill (**3705**) which did not contain any archaeological components. Although undated, the difference in fills and its size and profile suggest that it is unlikely to be associated with the larger parallel ditch **3706**. Furthest upslope within this trench, a lynchet (**3711**) was recorded in section; it measured 2.45m wide and was 0.32m deep with a single fill which contained no artefacts. This was not identified in the preceding geophysical survey. A deeper subsoil (**3702**, 0.21-0.43m below ground level) recorded underlying the ploughsoil and deepest at the downslope SW end of this trench is probably colluvial in nature.

5.3.7 In **Trench 38**, two parallel northwest-southeast linear ditches (**3804** and **3805**), approximately 4m apart, were mapped, but not excavated as they were investigated in other trenches (**Trenches 37 and 54**), along with a tree throw. The ditches correlate with a boundary identified by the geophysical survey. A deeper subsoil (**3802**, 0.28-0.42m below ground level) recorded underlying the ploughsoil and overlying the features in this trench is possibly colluvial in nature, as seen in other adjacent trenches.

5.3.8 A colluvial sequence was recorded in **Trench 39**. Under the ploughsoil (0-0.22m below ground level), a upper colluvial deposit of mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional

sub-angular flint (**3902**) at 0.22-0.43m below ground level, had a clear horizon with the underlying layer considered to likely represent a buried turf or soil which was a dark brown silty clay with sparse flints (**3903**) at 0.43-0.61m below ground level. A second colluvial layer of mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional sub-angular flints (**3904**) underlay this buried soil at 0.61m-0.85m. On the base of the trench a further colluvial layer (**3905**) with abundant small flint inclusions was seen in plan at the north-east end of the trench with natural chalk in the south-west. It would seem that the possible archaeological geophysical anomaly identified actually relates to this depth of colluvium. No artefacts were recovered from any of these deposits.

5.3.9 A northwest-southeast aligned lynchet (**3907**) cutting into the natural chalk was also recorded in **Trench 39**, as nearly 5m wide and a maximum of 0.32m deep in section. This correlates with a linear geophysical anomaly. No finds were retrieved. The same lynchet was also mapped in **Trench 42** to the south-east (**4203**), where the majority of the base of the trench was covered with colluvium, except at the south-west end where the lynchet was seen to cut degraded chalk natural.

5.3.10 **Trench 40** did not contain any archaeological features. A dark reddish brown silty clay deposit with abundant flint inclusions (**4002**; 0.25-0.68m below ground level) covered the base of this trench and underlay the ploughsoil, and is likely to be colluvial in origin.

5.3.11 Another shallow lynchet (**4304**) with a NW–SE alignment, parallel with the slope, was mapped in **Trench 43**. No finds were recovered. This correlates to a probable archaeology geophysical anomaly. The majority of the base of this trench was covered with colluvium, except at the north-east end of where the lynchet were seen to cut degraded chalk natural.

5.3.12 A number of probable pits were revealed in **Trench 44** that correlates with a large geophysical anomaly, likely to represent a quarry. In order to preserve the relationships between the multiple features for any future mitigation, they were left unexcavated (with the agreement of WCAS), but were mapped and surface artefacts were collected from their upper fills. Parts of at least four sub-circular pits or hollows (**4405**-**4408**), ranging from 2m to 4m in width, were surveyed and appeared to be cut into a silty loam layer (**4404**) which had common flint and chalk inclusions and is possibly colluvial in origin. The upper fills of these features were sealed by another colluvial layer (**4403**). Small quantities of artefacts were recovered from the upper fills of these possible pit features including: eight sherds of Early/Middle Iron Age pottery and 40 pieces of animal bone (pit/hollow **4405**, context **4412**), three sherds of Early/Middle Iron Age pottery and 39 pieces of animal bone (pit/hollow **4408**, context **4409**), although were unexcavated and so could potentially be earlier in origin. In the upslope north-west end of the trench, natural chalk was revealed.

5.3.13 Two parallel northwest-southeast aligned ditches (**4508** and **4510**), 2.5m apart, were mapped in **Trench 45** and relate to the double-ditched boundary revealed in the geophysical survey. They were not further investigated as they were excavated in other trenches (**Trenches 37 and 54**). Sealed by a colluvial sequence, only seen at the upslope north-east end of the trench, a possible hollow or pit was excavated (**4506**). It was semi-circular in plan measuring approximately 3m by 1m and was at least 0.3m deep. It was infilled by a series of gradually accumulated deposits from which a single flake of worked flint with possible retouch and three pieces of animal bone were recovered (context **4505**). A stabilisation horizon or turf-line (**4504**), as seen in the colluvial sequence from other trenches, was also recorded within the fill sequence of this feature. This hollow or possible pit is likely to be associated with those recorded in adjacent **Trench 44**, as indicated by the geophysical anomaly.

5.3.14 A similar colluvial sequence (0.86m deep) was recorded in **Trench 46**. A single sherd of Roman pottery was retrieved from the lower colluvial layer (**4602**) and a sherd of medieval pottery was also found in the ploughsoil (**4600**). This colluvial sequence sealed a shallow northeast-southwest aligned ditch **4604** cut into the underlying natural chalk (**Figure 4** section drawing). Ditch **4604** measured 1.2m wide and 0.2m deep and was filled with a natural-derived single fill (**4605**) from which a single sherd of Early/Middle Iron Age pottery and 12 pieces of animal bone were recovered. This ditch again correlates with a linear geophysical anomaly and may have functioned as a possible field boundary.

5.3.15 A further colluvial sequence was recorded in **Trench 47** (0.85m deep). Underlying this colluvium, a possibly hollow way (**4711**) was identified. It was aligned northeast-southwest, perpendicular to the slope and was approximately 5.5m in width. It was infilled with a naturally derived dark greyish brown silty clay deposit (**4704**), 0.28m deep, from which 71 sherds of Roman (predominantly Late Roman) pottery were recovered, along with 12 pieces of animal bone and a polished stone flake from a possible whetstone. A clearly defined positive bank of flint nodules (**4706; Plate 8**) was located 0.5m to the southeast of the hollow way, again underlying the colluvial sequence, and this may be associated with the hollow way, or be the remains of an associated field boundary. These features correlate with linear geophysical anomalies. A gully surveyed in **Trench 47** could be a continuation of the possible Early-Middle Iron Age ditch excavated in the adjacent **Trench 46**, although the geophysical survey did not trace it to run between these trenches.

5.3.16 **Trench 48** was located further upslope and natural chalk formed the base of the whole trench with occasional patches of mid reddish brown silty clay with flints. A faint linear feature identified during the post-ex survey could possibly represent the truncated remains of the possible hollow way identified in **Trench 47** downslope to the east, as it is shown from the geophysical survey to be the same possible feature.

5.3.17 A colluvial sequence (1.14m deep) was also found overlying the natural chalk in **Trench 49** (**Plate 9**). Underlying the ploughsoil (**4901**) and the upper colluvium (**4902**), a buried turf-line or soil (**4903**) was identified overlying a 0.14m deep possible flint bank (**4904; Plate 9**) that may be associated with a linear geophysical anomaly. This may represent the remains of a field boundary. Underlying this was another colluvial deposit (**4905**) that contained a single sherd of Early/Middle Iron Age pottery near its surface.

5.3.18 No archaeological features were identified in **Trenches 50** and **52**, although a thin colluvial deposit was recorded in both trench sections (0.2-0.45m below ground level). A modern pipe trench was mapped in **Trenches 50-52** and this likely accounts for a linear geophysical anomaly running between these trenches.

5.4 Trenches on the eastern side of the dry valley

5.4.1 Three trenches in the east of the Site were located upslope from the dry valley at 107–109.5m aOD. The ploughsoil (0.2m deep) was found to directly overlie the natural chalk geology.

5.4.2 A northeast-southwest aligned lynchet was excavated in **Trench 51** and found to be 1.8m wide and 0.14m deep (**5103**) and a fragment of medieval/post-medieval tile was recovered from its single fill (**5104**). This corresponds to a slightly curving linear geophysical anomaly.

5.4.3 No archaeological features were uncovered in **Trench 53**, although two possible tree throws were mapped. The location of the trench just upslope from the dry valley meant there was no colluvium and the ploughsoil was seen to directly overlie natural chalk.

5.4.4 Two parallel northwest-southeast orientated ditches (**5406** and **5410**) approximately 2m apart were excavated in **Trench 54**.They both were of a similar size, 2.2-2.4m wide and 0.90-0.95m deep, and had a V-shaped profile. Both had a slowly accumulated fill sequence, with a lower primary fill, middle secondary fill and gradually accumulated tertiary fill. Some quantities of artefacts were recovered: A total of 12 pieces of animal bone from the tertiary fill (**5403**) of ditch **5406**; and a small abraded sherd of Early/Middle Iron Age pottery and a single sherd of Late Roman pottery from the same context (secondary fill **5408**); and a piece of animal bone from ditch **5410**. These ditches correlate to a boundary identified by the preceding geophysical survey. A possible pit or tree throw (**5411)** was also mapped in this trench.

6 FINDS

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Archaeologically significant artefacts, in this instance comprising fragments of animal bone, ceramic building material, worked flint and pottery totalling 1931g, were recovered from eight of the excavated trenches (**Trenches 36**, **44-47**, **49**, **51** and **54**).

6.1.2 After cleaning, all the retained artefacts were quantified by material type within each context (**Table 1**) and visually scanned to establish their nature, condition and potential date range.

	Animal bone	CBM	Flint	Pottery			Stone	Total
				E/MIA	R-B	Med		
Trench	**No/Wt**	**No/Wt**	**No/Wt**	**No/Wt**	**No/Wt**	**No/Wt**	**No/Wt**	**No/Wt**
36				4/4				4/4
44	79/357			17/68				96/425
45	3/15		1/16					4/31
46	12/30			1/3	1/65	1/25		15/123
47	12/106				71/989		1/94	84/1189
49				1/3				1/3
51		1/29						1/29
54	13/119			1/2	1/6			15/127
Total	119/627	1/29	1/16	24/80	73/1060	1/25	1/94	220/1931

Table 1: All finds by material type (number of pieces/weight in grammes)

6.2 Animal bone

6.2.1 Animal bone was recovered from seven features (pit **4408**, pit **4405**, hollow/pit **4506**, ditch **4604**, hollow way **4711**, ditch **5406** and ditch **5410**) in five of the excavated trenches (**Table 1**). Preservation is fair; most fragments have abraded cortical surfaces and are highly fragmented. All the pieces belong to common domesticated species, with the larger, more robust bones most frequently represented.

6.2.2 Associated pottery suggests that the pieces from pits **4405**, **4408** and ditch **4604** are of Early/Middle Iron Age date. These include an immature pig metacarpal (pit **4408**), adult cattle long bone and mandible fragments (pits **4405** and **4408**) and splinters from a large mammal long bone (ditch **4604**). No pottery was recovered from pit **4505**, but an

associated flint flake suggests that a cattle tooth could also be of prehistoric date. Sheep/goat rib and long bone fragments (hollow way **4711**) as well as pieces of cattle mandible, teeth and long bones also came from (hollow way **4711** and ditch **5410**), where associated pottery indicates a Late Romano-British date. The pieces from ditch **5406** remain undated but include fragments of sheep/goat scapula and long bone as well as cattle mandible and rib.

6.3 Ceramic Building Material

6.3.1 A medieval or post-medieval roof tile fragment (29g) was found in lynchet **5103**.

6.4 Flint

6.4.1 A single patinated, cortical flint flake was found in hollow/pit **4506**. The piece has some slight edge damage and can only be broadly dated as Neolithic/Bronze Age.

6.5 Pottery

6.5.1 The pottery sherds belong within three chronological periods, the Early/Middle Iron Age (*c*. 700-100 BC), Romano-British (*c*. AD 43-410) and Medieval (12th – 13th century).

6.5.2 The Iron Age sherds, mostly occurring as small, often freshly broken body sherds, came from colluvial layer **3604**, pit **4405**, pit **4408**, ditch **4604** and colluvial layer **4905**; and probably residually, in ditch **5410**. They occur in a range of fabrics tempered with quartz sand, shell, flint and/or grog inclusions which can be directly paralleled in the larger, Early to Middle Iron Age assemblage from land south-east of Amesbury (Brook *forthcoming*) on the north-western side of MoD, Boscombe Down and others in the area (e.g. Raymond 2000, 94; Jones 2011, 48-9; Every and Mepham 2008, 50-51).

6.5.3 In common with other sites in the area (Millard 1996; Jones 2011, 57-62; Swan 1971; Seager Smith forthcoming), the Romano-British pottery (colluvial layer **4602**, hollow way **4711** and ditch **5410**) is predominantly of late 3rd or 4th century AD date, although the presence of single pieces of imported Central Gaulish samian and black slipped ware in hollow way **4711** indicates at least some level of 2nd to early 3rd activity in the vicinity. Sherds from New Forest colour-coated ware beakers (Fulford 1975, types 27 and 44) were also found in this context, but the rest of the assemblage consists of grey coarsewares used in a wide range of food preparation, serving and storage roles. Most probably derive from the New Forest kilns, but the assemblage includes two sherds from a Savernake-type ware storage jar and six Black Burnished ware sherds from the Wareham/Poole Harbour region of Dorset.

6.5.4 The Laverstock-type ware (Musty *et. al.* 1969) sherd, found in the ploughsoil of **Trench 46**, is from the shoulder of a cooking-pot or jar of 12th-13th century date.

6.6 Stone

6.6.1 A flake from the slightly curved, polished surface of a micaceous sandstone object was also found in hollow way **4711**. This item is too incomplete to be positively identified, but it is possible that it derives from a bar-shaped whetstone.

6.7 Potential

6.7.1 The assessment results show that the preservation of artefacts is generally good. Chronological evidence from the pottery, indicates that the activity belongs within two main chronological periods, the Early/Middle Iron Age (*c*. 700–100 BC) and late Romano-British (*c*. late 3rd – 4th century AD, with some earlier, residual material). The single pieces

of medieval (12th – 13th century) pottery and medieval/post-medieval roof tile probably derive from the agricultural use of the land, manuring fields with domestic debris being common in both these periods.

6.7.2 No items of particular intrinsic interest were found and no structural remains were encountered, suggesting that the area was peripheral to any settlement. Although the pottery provides some evidence for the sources of supply and types of vessel used, while the animal bone indicates a reliance of the main domesticated species in both of the main chronological periods, the quantities of artefacts recovered are generally insufficient to provide further reliable information concerning the nature of the economy, craft/industrial activities and trading links operational in either period.

6.8 Recommendations

6.8.1 All the finds have all been recorded to fairly detailed levels (e.g. animal species/anatomical element, pottery ware types) and no further work on any of the material types is proposed. If, however, any further fieldwork is undertaken in the area, resulting in a larger collection of artefacts, the material from this evaluation should be considered again in the light of the greater body of evidence.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL

7.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits suitable for environmental sampling were identified during the course of the fieldwork.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 The results of the evaluation show that archaeological features revealed in the trenches generally correlate well with the archaeological anomalies identified by the preceding geophysical survey. The exception being anomalies in the west of the Site where many of the anomalies were found to be related to variations in the natural geology, with the natural chalk in this part of the Site containing many silty clay patches, including some possible natural sink-holes as identified in **Trench 12**, **18** and **21**.

8.1.2 Similarly many linear 'possible archaeological geophysical anomalies' were not identified in this area (**Trenches 7-10**), and within the dry valley they appear related to colluvial deposits (**Trenches 39** and **42**) and other trends (**Trenches 33**, **36** and **40**), and a modern pipe trench (**Trenches 50-52**). Conversely, a small number of archaeological features were recorded in the trial trenches that had not been identified by geophysical survey such as a possible gully in **Trench 10**, a ditch terminal/pit in **Trench 16** and a ditch in **Trench 34**; unfortunately none of these features contained artefacts and so are undated.

8.1.3 As well as confirming the presence or absence of archaeological features, the trial trench evaluation has also been valuable in clarifying the condition, nature, extent, significance and (to a large extent) the date of the archaeological remains on the Site.

8.1.4 **Figure 5** shows the trenches in relation to a generalised re-interpretation of the geophysical results, based on the features located within the trenches and their potential spatial association with the geophysical data rather than precise dating evidence found in every trench excavated through a feature. For example, dating evidence for Romano-British hollow way was only found in **Trench 47**, and this may only be potentially associated with mapped unexcavated ditches in **Trench 25** and **28**.

8.1.5 Activity within the Site is dated to relate to two main chronological periods of activity: the Early/Middle Iron Age (*c*. 700–100 BC) and the late Romano-British (*c*. late 3rd – 4th century AD). However, potentially features also are of possible late prehistoric–Romano-British and medieval date.

8.2 Early–Middle Iron Age

8.2.1 A complex of pits possibly for the quarrying of chalk and/or flint was sealed by an upper colluvial deposit in **Trench 44**. Early–Middle Iron Age pottery and animal bone was recovered from the upper fills of these features. An undated pit/hollow in adjacent **Trench 45** likely relates to this same quarry.

8.2.2 Another feature of Early–Middle Iron Age date was an approximately east–west orientated ditch in **Trench 46**, which is tentatively assigned to this period as only a single sherd of pottery of this date was recovered. Again the feature was sealed by colluvium which in this trench contained a single sherd of Roman date. This ditch could represent the remains of a field boundary and may have continued to the west, as a gully was mapped on this alignment in **Trench 47** (not traced by the geophysical survey). The geophysical survey showed a curving linear anomaly extending south from the east–west ditch, and this may have been associated with a possible linear flint bank (again sealed by colluvium) in **Trench 49**, therefore perhaps representing the corner of a field enclosure that extended to the south-east. A similar geophysical anomaly to the south-west was not identified in **Trench 23**, although the presence of unexcavated colluvium across the base of this trench may have obscured this feature which may have survived underneath. Outside the dry valley there was no colluvium to cover and preserve these potential field boundaries from subsequent agricultural ploughing, and it would appear that any further remains of this possible field enclosure have been completely truncated away.

8.2.3 It is therefore clear that Iron Age activity on the Site was largely agricultural in nature and peripheral to settlement within the local area. Within 200-500m to the north-east and east of the Site, Iron Age settlement sites dating from the 4th century BC (Middle Iron Age) to the start of the Romano-British period have been excavated (Archaeological Project Services 2013, 5), including a Late Iron Age possible bivallate hillfort occupied until before the Roman invasion (Richardson 1951, 137-9), the earthworks of which were destroyed in 1948 (Clarke 1998). The newly-discovered trapezoidal enclosure with internal possible pits and at least one potential roundhouse structure revealed by the preceding geophysical survey likely indicates Iron Age and/or Romano-British settlement to the immediate south-east of the Site is highly significant and the Iron Age features on the Site potentially could be associated and contemporary with this probable settlement.

8.2.4 Within the wider area, recent excavations have produced significant evidence of Early–Middle Iron Age settlement. Approximately 2.5km to the north-west of the Site, Iron Age settlement (many components of which are dated to the Early Iron Age) in the form of two roundhouses, a number of small rectangular post-built structures. three groups of intercutting possible quarrying pits and two potentially Iron Age inhumation burials is known from excavations at King's Gate residential development, on the south side of Amesbury, immediately south-east of Southmill Hill (Wessex Archaeology 2013a), where Iron Age settlement has been identified by cropmarks and archaeological evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2011).

8.2.5 Subsequent evaluation for another phase of this development has identified further Early Iron Age pit clusters (Wessex Archaeology 2013b). Approximately 3km to the south-west of the Site, an Iron Age hilltop enclosure has been excavated at High Post with evidence of Early Iron Age occupation lying beneath the internal bank. Within the enclosure,

settlement is represented by roundhouses, pits and postholes. The enclosure was abandoned during the Middle Iron Age, although the site remained occupied until the late Romano-British period (Powell 2011).

8.3 Romano-British

8.3.1 A probable hollow way aligned approximately east–west, with a possibly associated parallel flint bank, was sealed by colluvium in **Trench 47**. This feature measured approximately 5.5m wide and was 0.28m deep. An assemblage of Late Roman pottery, animal bone and a possible polished whetstone fragment were recovered from its naturally accumulated fill. In the adjacent trench to the west (**Trench 48**) and in **Trench 25** further west, gullies were surveyed which may represent the truncated remains of this feature. Again, away from the colluvium within the dry valley which has sealed and preserved this hollow way feature from subsequent ploughing, no further trace of this feature was identified in the trenches.

8.3.2 However, it is noteworthy that the geophysical survey identified intermittent curving linear 'possible archaeology' anomalies crossing **Trench 22**, on the western side of the dry valley, and east of **Trench 46** crossing **Trench 52**, on the eastern side of the dry valley. Tentatively these may represent elusive traces of the same hollow way, perhaps only traceable within the ploughsoil.

8.3.3 As with the preceding Iron Age period, it is clear that the Late Romano-British features uncovered on the Site are peripheral to settlement, with the hollow way perhaps linking agricultural land to the settlements known to the east of the Site. Approximately 250m to the east of the Site, a Romano-British settlement and associated cemetery, the latter dating to the late 3rd-4th century AD have been excavated (Richardson 1951, 139). A ditch with associated postholes and stakeholes which likely indicates settlement is also recorded to the north of the Site (Archaeological Project Services 2013, 5).

8.4 Features of probable later prehistoric–Romano-British date

8.4.1 The presence of a northwest-southeast aligned double ditch in the east of the Site was confirmed by the evaluation to have been defined by V-shaped ditches up to 2.4m wide and 0.95m deep (**Trenches 37, 38, 45** and **54**). The width between the two ditches varied from 2m to 4.5m apart, however in **Trench 38** only one ditch was uncovered, with an adjacent undated shallow gully probably unrelated. The only pottery recovered from this double ditch was a single sherd of Roman pottery and an abraded sherd of Early Iron Age pottery (likely residual), therefore this does not provide secure dating and for this reason the feature is phased as of probable later prehistoric–Romano-British date. The width between, and intermittent nature of, the ditches in plan make it unfeasible that this was a trackway. It is more likely to have functioned as a boundary. The similarity of the ditch's profile with the northeast-southwest aligned undated ditch in the north-west of the Site (see below) and the perpendicular alignment of the latter with the double-ditched boundary may suggest that these two features are contemporary with each other.

8.5 Probable medieval lynchets

8.5.1 A number of wide shallow features cut into the natural chalk on the slopes of the dry valley considered to represent probable medieval lynchets were recorded within many of the evaluation trenches (**Trenches 1-3**, **35**, **37**, **39**, **41-43** and **51**). These all correlate with curving linear geophysical anomalies that follow the contours of the slope, bar one in **Trench 37** which was not identified by the geophysical survey. Only one of these lynchets contained any artefacts, a medieval or post-medieval roof tile fragment from **Trench 51**.

8.5.2 Strip lynchets are generally formed by a build-up of plough soil on cultivation terraces created on sloping ground in the medieval or post medieval periods. Known cropmarks of probable medieval strip lynchets are located 250m to the south of the Site (Archaeological Project Services 2013, 5) within close proximity of the village of Idmiston, known to have medieval origins.

8.6 Colluvial deposits within the dry valley

8.6.1 Colluvial deposits were identified within many trenches within the dry valley and these are the result of sediment moving downslope. The colluvium is significant as it sealed features, preserving them, such as the Late Roman hollow way in **Trench 47** and the possible Early-Middle Iron Age field boundary ditch in **Trench 46**: to either side of the dry valley there is little or no trace of these features. The lower colluvium contained occasional sherds of Early-Middle Iron Age pottery in **Trenches 36** and **49** and a single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered in **Trench 46**. In some trenches a stabilisation layer or turf-line was identified where a soil had developed (during a period of stasis) and a further upper colluvial deposit was recorded above this (below the ploughsoil); no artefacts were recovered from these deposits.

8.6.2 The formation of colluvial deposits can sometimes be associated with arable land where fallow fields or fields only partly covered by crop are susceptible to erosion during heavy rainstorms (Stoops 2010, 39). It would seem that the colluvial sequence within the dry valley on the Site possibly began to build-up from the Iron Age – Romano-British period onwards and this was possibly associated with increased arable agriculture upslope.

8.7 Features of uncertain date

8.7.1 In the northwest of the Site, a well-defined V-shaped ditch (up to 2.2m wide and 1.0m deep) was recorded in **Trenches 29-32**. No artefacts were recovered and therefore this feature is undated, although this feature is perhaps associated with the probable later prehistoric – Romano-British double-ditched boundary in the east of the Site (see above).

8.7.2 Other features such as the gully in **Trench 10**, the possible ditch terminal /pit in **Trench 16** and the ditch in **Trench 35** are undated and cannot be further interpreted as they do not correlate with geophysical anomalies.

9 STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

1.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with Salisbury Museum. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

9.2 Preparation of Archive

9.2.1 The archive is currently held at Wessex Archaeology's Salisbury office under the project code 105660.

9.2.2 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the museum service's guidance, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; IfA 2009; Brown 2011; ADS 2013). All archive elements will be marked with both site and accession codes and a full index will be prepared.

1.1.2 All archive elements will be marked with the accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:

- 1 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts & ecofacts, ordered by material type
- 1 files/document cases of paper records & A3/A4 graphics
- 0 A1 graphics
- digital data (photographs, spreadsheets, pdf files)

9.3 Conservation

1.1.3 No artefacts were recovered that had immediate conservation requirements.

9.4 Discard Policy

1.1.4 In the matter of selection and retention of physical or digital archive prior to deposition, Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines (SMA 1993; English Heritage 2002; Brown 2011, section 4; Archaeology Data Service online guidance), which allow for the discard or dispersal of selected archive elements which are not considered to warrant any future analysis.

9.5 Copyright

1.1.5 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the Site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. The recipient museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms with the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003.

9.6 Security Copy

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

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11 APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Trench summary tables

TRENCH 1			
Dimensions: 29m x 1.8m	**Max. depth:** 0.45m	**Ground level:** 99.9m aOD	
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418409.2571 Y = 138900.6131 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
101	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam.	0-0.30
102	Subsoil/ ?Colluvial deposit	Mid greyish brown silty clay, moderate chalk inclusions	0.30-0.45m
103	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes	0.45m +
104	Cut	Cut of NE–SW aligned lynchet	0.15m
105	Fill	Fill of 104.	0.15m

TRENCH 2			
Dimensions: 29m x 1.8m	**Max. depth:** 0.45m	**Ground level:** 103.2m aOD	
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418421.8951 Y = 138950.2564 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
201	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam.	0-0.25
202	Subsoil/ ?Colluvial deposit	Mid greyish brown silty clay, seen at SE end of trench	0.25-0.38m
203	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes	0.38m +
204	Cut	Cut of NE–SW aligned lynchet	-
205	Fill	Fill of 204.	-

TRENCH 3			
Dimensions: 29.8m x 1.8m	**Max. depth:** 0.59m	**Ground level:** 106.2m aOD	
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418370.8798 Y = 138939.6556 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
301	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay.	0-0.28
302	Subsoil/ ?Colluvial deposit	Mid greyish brown silty clay with sparse SA flint inclusions	0.28-0.40m
303	Natural	Natural chalk with patches of md reddish brown silty clay	0.40m +
304	Cut	Cut of NE–SW aligned lynchet	0.35m
305	Fill	Basal fill of 304.Light greyish brown silty clay common chalk.	0.22m
306	Fill	Upper fill of 304. Mid brown silty clay few inclusions.	0.26m

TRENCH 4			
Dimensions: 29.4m x 1.8m	**Max. depth:** 0.36m	**Ground level:** 108.9m aOD	
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418290.2199 Y = 138974.1594 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
401	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Moderate small flint and chalk inclusions	0-0.24

402	Natural	Natural chalk with patches of md reddish brown silty clay	0.24m +

TRENCH 5			
Dimensions: 29.8m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.29m	**Ground level:** 108.3m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418337.3295 Y = 139002.6573 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
501	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Sparse SA flint inclusions	0-0.20
502	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes. Three possible treethrows in trench may just be patches of geology.	0.20m +

TRENCH 6			
Dimensions: 28.8m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.46m	**Ground level:** 104.8m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418412.7307 Y = 139015.6202 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
601	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Occasional SA flint and small chalk inclusions	0-0.34
602	Subsoil	Light mid grey brown silty clay. Layer may actually be a diffuse interface between above and below deposits.	0.34-0.46
603	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes.	0.46m +

TRENCH 7			
Dimensions: 28.4m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.46m	**Ground level:** 105.9m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418400.7061 Y = 139077.6005 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
701	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Occasional SA flint and small chalk inclusions	0-0.32
702	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay with moderate flint inclusions. Layer may actually be a diffuse interface between above and below deposits.	0.32-0.46
703	Natural	Natural chalk with mid reddish brown silty clay patches with common flint inclusions.	0.46m +

TRENCH 8			
Dimensions: 30.1m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.48m	**Ground level:** 108.4m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418347.2146 Y = 139082.3969 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
701	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Occasional SA flint and small chalk inclusions	0-0.30
702	Subsoil	Light reddish brown silty clay. Layer may actually be a diffuse interface between above and below deposits.	0.30-0.48
703	Natural	Natural chalk with large band of mid reddish brown silty clay with flint inclusions in south of trench.	0.48m +

TRENCH 9			
Dimensions: 29.6m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.36m	**Ground level:** 110.4m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418288.4599 Y = 139051.7438 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**

901	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Moderate SA flint inclusions	0-0.24
902	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes with patches of reddish brown clay with flint inclusions.	0.24m +

TRENCH 10			
Dimensions: 29.5m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.35m	**Ground level:** 111.0m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418201.8466 Y = 139005.5811 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
1001	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Sparse SA flint and small chalk inclusions	0-0.26
1002	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay. Layer may actually be a diffuse interface between above and below deposits.	0.26-0.34
1003	Natural	Natural chalk with patches of mid reddish brown silty clay with flint inclusions.	0.34m +
1004	Natural	Band of mid reddish brown silty clay with flint inclusions found in southern part of trench	0.34m +
1005	Cut	Cut of possible gully NE-SW aligned	0.10m
1006	Fill	Secondary fill of 1005. Mid reddish brown silty clay moderate small chalk and flint inclusions.	0.10m

TRENCH 11			
Dimensions: 29.0m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.27m	**Ground level:** 111.7m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418203.8482 Y = 139052.1178 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
1101	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Sparse SA flint <0.10m and small chalk inclusions	0-0.27
1102	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes	0.27m +
1103	Natural	Band of mid reddish brown silty clay with flint inclusions found in eastern end of trench	0.27m +

TRENCH 12			
Dimensions: 29.5m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.45m	**Ground level:** 111.1m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418252.7937 Y = 139102.0418 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
1201	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Sparse SA flint <0.10m and small chalk inclusions	0-0.25
1202	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes	0.25m +
1203	Natural	Band of mid reddish brown silty clay with flint inclusions found in centre of trench	0.25m +

TRENCH 13			
Dimensions: 29.8m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.35m	**Ground level:** *c.*112m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418187.7661 Y = 139099.2784 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
1301	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Sparse SA flint and chalk inclusions	0-0.22
1302	Natural	Natural mid reddish brown silty clay with flint inclusions with patches of chalk	0.22m +
TRENCH 14			

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.29m	**Ground level:** 1113.2m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418189.0824 Y = 139098.3954 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
1401	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Common small SA flint <0.04m and chalk <0.01m inclusions	0-0.23
1402	Natural	Natural chalk, soliflucted, with patches of mid reddish brown blocky clay with flint inclusions	0.23m +

TRENCH 15			
Dimensions: 29.6m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.30m	**Ground level:** 110.4m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418078.7762 Y = 139103.1012 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
1501	Ploughsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay loam. Occasional small SA flint inclusions <0.-04m and common small pea grit chalk	0-0.19
1502	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes with occasional patches of reddish brown clay with flint inclusions.	0.19m +

TRENCH 16			
Dimensions: 28.5m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.59m	**Ground level:** 114.0m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418120.1142 Y = 139143.5470 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
1601	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Occasional small SA flint inclusions and chalk.	0-0.25
1602	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes with common patches of reddish brown clay with flint inclusions.	0.25m +
1603	Cut	Cut of NW-SE aligned dich terminus	0.34
1604	Fill	Primary fill of 1603. Pale yellowish grey silty loam abundant chalk	0.15
1605	Fill	Secondary fill of 1603. Dark brown silty loam with occasional SA flint and common chalk <0.04m	0.18

TRENCH 17			
Dimensions: 29.3m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.33m	**Ground level:** 114.5m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418145.3062 Y = 139262.6449 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
1701	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Occasional small SA flint inclusions and small chalk	0-0.22
1702	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes with occasional patches of reddish brown clay with flint inclusions.	0.22m +

TRENCH 18			
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 1.05m	**Ground level:** 113.6m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418177.3890 Y = 139224.8413 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
1801	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Occasional SA and SR flint <0.04m and frequent chalk <0.03m	0-0.28
1802	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay loam Occasional SA and SR flint <0.05m and frequent chalk <0.03m	0.28-0.40
1803	Natural	Natural weathered chalk with common degraded chalk patches and peri-glacial striping.	0.40m +

1804	Cut	Cut of probable geological feature- swallow hole	0.60m+ deep
1805	Fill	Natural fill of 1805. Light-mid reddish brown silty clay moderate SA and SR flint inclusions <0.06m and frequent chalk frags <0.06m. Poorly sorted.	0.60m+ deep

TRENCH 19			
Dimensions: 29m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.37m	**Ground level:** 112.6m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418193.4504 Y = 139293.0028 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
1901	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Moderate small SA flint inclusions and small chalk	0-0.23
1902	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes with occasional patches of reddish brown clay with flint inclusions.	0.23m +

TRENCH 20			
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.28m	**Ground level:** 112.5m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418230.9517 Y = 139252.7483 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
2000	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Occasional SA flint <0.05m and frequent small chalk inclusions <0.02m	0-0.18
2001	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional SA flint <0.05m and frequent small chalk inclusions <0.02m. Layer may actually be a diffuse interface between above and below deposits.	0.18-0.28
2002	Natural	Natural weathered chalk with peri-glacial striping and occasional patches of mid reddish brown silty clay with flint inclusions.	0.28m +

TRENCH 21			
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.75m	**Ground level:** 111.2m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418283.3853 Y = 139199.2716 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
2100	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Occasional SA and SR flint <0.05m and frequent chalk <0.03m	0-0.24
2101	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay loam Occasional SA and SR flint <0.05m and frequent chalk <0.03m	0.24-0.44
2102	Natural	Natural weathered chalk with common degraded chalk patches and peri-glacial striping.	0.44m +
2103	Cut	Cut of probable geological feature- swallow hole	0.31m+ deep
2104	Fill	Natural fill of 1805. Light-mid reddish brown silty clay moderate SA and SR flint inclusions <0.06m and frequent chalk frags <0.06m. Poorly sorted.	0.31m+ deep

TRENCH 22			
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.28m	**Ground level:** 112.5m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418338.1915 Y = 139149.0370 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
2200	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Occasional SA flint <0.06m and frequent small chalk inclusions <0.03m	0-0.27
2201	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional SA flint <0.05m and frequent small chalk inclusions <0.02m. Intermittent layer. Layer	0.27-0.34

		may actually be a diffuse interface between above and below deposits.	
2202	Natural	Natural weathered chalk with peri-glacial striping and occasional patches of mid reddish brown silty clay with flint inclusions.	0.34m +

TRENCH 23			
Dimensions: 29.2m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.53m	**Ground level:** 101.1m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418497.8092 Y = 139126.9298 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
2301	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Occasional SA flint and frequent small chalk inclusions	0-0.26
2302	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with common flint inclusions and occasional small chalk pieces	0.26m +

TRENCH 24			
Dimensions: 29.1m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.36m	**Ground level:** *c.*105.0m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418436.5344 Y = 139142.2327 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
2401	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Moderate SA flint and small chalk inclusions.	0-0.18
2402	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay with moderate SA flint and small chalk inclusions. Layer may actually be a diffuse interface between above and below deposits.	0.18-0.30
2403	Natural	Natural weathered chalk with peri-glacial striping and occasional degraded chalk patches.	0.30m +

TRENCH 25			
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.36m	**Ground level:** *c.*110m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418358.5197 Y = 139178.1768 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
2501	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam with occasional SA flint and small chalk inclusions.	0-0.15
2502	Subsoil	Mid-light greyish brown silty clay with moderate chalk and SA flint inclusions. Layer may actually be a diffuse interface between above and below deposits.	0.15-0.25m
2503	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes	0.25m +
2504	Cut	Cut of NE–SW aligned ditch	-
2505	Fill	Fill of 2504.	-

TRENCH 26			
Dimensions: 28.5m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.39m	**Ground level:** *c* 111m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418319.0243 Y = 139240.7300 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
2601	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam with occasional SA/SR flint inclusions <0.06m and small chalk pieces	0-0.22
2602	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded, with peri-glacial stripes with occasional patches of reddish brown clay with flint inclusions.	0.22m +

TRENCH 27		
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m	**Max. depth:** 0.38m	**Ground level:** 110.0m aOD

Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418282.6629 Y = 139293.4800 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
2701	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Occasional SA and SR flint <0.05m and small chalk <0.03m inclusions.	0-0.28
2702	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional SA and SR flint <0.05m and small chalk <0.03m inclusions. Layer may actually be a diffuse interface between above and below deposits.	0.28-0.38
2703	Natural	Natural weathered chalk with peri-glacial striping and occasional degraded chalk patches and frequent irregular patches of mid reddish brown silty clay	0.38m +

TRENCH 28			
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.3m	**Ground level:** 110.8m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418230.1577 Y = 139335.5766 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
2801	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Occasional SA and SR flint <0.06m and small chalk <0.03m inclusions.	0-0.24
2802	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional SA and SR flint <0.06m and small chalk <0.02m inclusions. Thin intermittent layer. Layer may actually be a diffuse interface between above and below deposits.	0.24-0.28
2803	Natural	Natural weathered chalk with peri-glacial striping and occasional patches of mid reddish brown silty clay	0.28m +

TRENCH 29			
Dimensions: 28.7m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.33m	**Ground level:** *c.*112.5m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418167.1331 Y = 139364.3416 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
2901	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Occasional small SA flint inclusions and chalk.	0-0.27
2902	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes.	0.27m +
2903	Cut	Cut of NE-SW aligned ditch - unexcavated	-
2904	Fill	Upper fill of 2903	-

TRENCH 30			
Dimensions: 29.2m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.60m	**Ground level:** *c.*110m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418213.1012 Y = 139400.0886 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
3001	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Occasional small SA flint inclusions and chalk.	0-0.14
3002	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes.	0.14m +
3003	Fill	Upper tertiary fill of 3006. Dark reddish brown silty clay loam with sparse chalk small inclusions	0.30 deep
3004	Fill	Secondary fill of 3006. Dark reddish brown silty clay loam with concentration of SA flint <0.10m in centre and common chalk small inclusions	0.20 deep
3005	Fill	Secondary fill of 3006. Dark reddish brown silty clay loam with common small chalk and Sa flint <0.03m	0.15 deep
3006	Cut	Cut of NE-SW aligned ditch	0.60 deep
TRENCH 31			
Dimensions: 28.5m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.30m	**Ground level:** *c.*1.5m aOD

Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418247.1149 Y = 139444.8072 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
3101	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Moderate small SA flint inclusions and chalk.	0-0.20
3102	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes.	0.20m +
3103	Cut	Cut of NE-SW aligned ditch - unexcavated	-
3104	Fill	Upper fill of 2903	-

TRENCH 32			
Dimensions: 28.5m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 1.00m	**Ground level:** *c.*106m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418358.5197 Y = 139178.1768 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
3201	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam with occasional SA flint and small chalk inclusions.	0-0.25
3202	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with moderate chalk and SA flint inclusions.	0.25-0.35m
3203	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes	0.35m +
3204	Cut	Cut of NE–SW aligned ditch	1.00m deep
3205	Colluvium	Same as 3202?	-
3206	Fill	Tertiary fill of 3204. Dark reddish brown silty clay loam with occasional small-medium SA flint and chalk pieces	0.35m deep
3207	Fill	Secondary fill of 3204. Mid reddish brown silty clay loam with lenses of flint gravels	0.35m deep
3208	Fill	Stabilisation horizon or turf-line within fill sequence of ditch 3204 dark greyish brown silty clay loam with sparse chalk flecks	0.1m deep
3209	Fill	Basal secondary fill of 3204. Dark greyish brown silty clay loam with lens of fine gravel	0.55m deep

TRENCH 33			
Dimensions: 29m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.6m	**Ground level:** 105.2m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418333.5229 Y = 139443.0886 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
3301	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Occasional SA flint and frequent small chalk inclusions. Diffuse boundary below.	0-0.20
3302	Colluvium	Mid-dark reddish brown silty clay with common flint inclusions and occasional small chalk pieces	0.20-0.45 +
3303	Natural	Natural chalk	0.45m+

TRENCH 34			
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.25m	**Ground level:** *c.*107.5m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 418266.5275 Y = 139393.3230 (centre)	
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
3400	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam with occasional SA/SR flint <0.06m and common chalk inclusions <0.02m.	0-0.25
3401	Natural	Natural chalk with peri-glacial stripes	0.25m +
3402	Cut	Cut of NW–SE aligned ditch	0.57m
3403	Fill	Primary fill of 3402. Light grey brown silty clay abundant poorly sorted chalk frags <0.05m	0.08m
3404	Fill	Secondary fill of 3204. Mid-Dark brown silty clay loam with common SA/SR flint<0.10m and chalk pieces <0.02m	0.27m
3405	Fill	Secondary upper fill of 3204. Mid greyish brown silty clay loam	0.35m

		with occasional SA/SR flint <0.10m and common chalk inclusions <0.02m .	

TRENCH 35			
Dimensions: 29.5m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.25m	**Ground level:** 108.1m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418292.5966 Y = 139341.8696 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
3501	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam with sparse SA/SR flint <0.06m and common chalk inclusions <0.02m.	0-0.23
3502	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded, with peri-glacial stripes and patches of mid reddish brown silty clay	0.23m +
3503	Cut	Cut of NE–SW aligned lynchet	0.20m
3504	Fill	Fill of 3503. Mid brown silty clay with occasionalSA/SR flint <0.05m	0.20m

TRENCH 36			
Dimensions: 28.8m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.72m	**Ground level:** *c.*104.5m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418361.5858 Y = 139372.3534 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
3601	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Moderatel SA flint <0.08m.	0-0.30
3602	Colluvium	Dark reddish brown silty clay with common flint inclusions <0.10m and occasional small chalk pieces	0.30-0.50
3603	Layer	Buried topsoil/turf-line. Dark greyish brown silty clay with sparse SA flint <0.05m	0.50-0.66
3604	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with common flint inclusions <0.20m and occasional small chalk pieces	0.66+

TRENCH 37			
Dimensions: 29.3m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.51m	**Ground level:** 106.6m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418389.1880 Y = 139420.4851 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
3701	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional SR/SA flint and small chalk inclusions.	0-0.21
3702	Subsoil/ ?Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with moderate chalk and SA flint inclusions. Depth greater downslope to SW.	0.21- 0.43
3703	Natural	Natural chalk with small patches of light brown silty clay	0.43 +
3704	Cut	Cut of NW-SE aligned gully	0.13
3705	Fill	Secondary fill of 3704. Mid brown silty clay loam with small chalk pieces.	0.13
3706	Cut	Cut of NW-SE aligned ditch	0.90
3707	Fill	Fill of 3706. Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam with occasional flint and chalk inclusions	
3708	Fill	Stabilisation layer infilling ditch 3706. Mid brown silty clay with few inclusions	0.30
3709	Fill	Secondary fill of 3706. Mid-light brown silty clay with common flint and chalk inclusions	0.49
3710	Fill	Primary fill of 3706. Light brown silty clay common large chalk.	0.23
3711	Cut	Cut of NW–SE aligned lynchet	0.32
3712	Fill	Fill of 3711. Mid brown silty clay loam common small chalk pieces	0.32

TRENCH 38

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m	**Max. depth:** 0.50m	**Ground level:** *c.*105 m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418440.8528 Y = 139372.8640 (centre)	

Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
3801	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Moderate chalk inclusions	0-0.28
3802	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with and occasional small chalk pieces	0.28-0.42
3803	Natural	Natural chalk with small patches of light brown silty clay	0.42+
3804	Cut	Cut of NW-SE aligned ditch. Unexcavated.	-
3805	Fill	Upper fill of 3804. Unexcavated.	-

TRENCH 39

Dimensions: 29m x 1.8m	**Max. depth:** 0.85m	**Ground level:** *c.*102 m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418354.1487 Y = 139319.2787 (centre)	

Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
3901	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional SR/SA flint <0.05m and small chalk inclusions.	0-0.22
3902	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with moderate chalk and SA flint inclusions. Depth greater downslope to SW.	0.22- 0.43
3903	Layer	Buried topsoil/turf-line. Dark brown silty clay loam with sparse flint <0.03m	0.43-0.61
3904	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional SR/SA flint inclusions <0.04m	0.61-0.85
3905	Colluvium	Light brownish grey silty clay with abundant flint inclusions <0.05m. Seen in NE end on base of trench only.	0.85+
3906	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded, with peri-glacial stripes	0.85+
3907	Cut	Cut of NW–SE aligned lynchet	0.32
3908	Fill	Fill of 3907. Dark brown silty clay loam with occasional SR/SA flint <0.05m	0.32

TRENCH 40

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m	**Max. depth:** 0.32m	**Ground level:** *c.*103 m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418411.1081 Y = 139302.1437 (centre)	

Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
4001	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Moderate SA flint <0.08m.	0-0.25
4002	Colluvium	Dark reddish brown silty clay with common flint inclusions <0.10m and occasional small chalk pieces.	0.25-0.68+

TRENCH 41

Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m	**Max. depth:** 0.32m	**Ground level:** *c.*103 m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418382.9831 Y = 139245.0557 (centre)	

Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
4101	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam with sparse SA/SR flint <0.06m and common chalk inclusions <0.02m.	0-0.25
4102	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded, with small patches of light brown silty clay	0.25m +
4103	Cut	Cut of NW–SE aligned lynchet	
4104	Fill	Fill of 4103.	

TRENCH 42

Dimensions: 29.6m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.46m	**Ground level:** *c.*103 m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418427.9817 Y = 139240.6531 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
4201	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Moderate flint and chalk inclusions	0-0.24
4202	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with and occasional small chalk pieces. Covering the majority of trench base.	0.24m +
4203	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded, with small patches of light brown silty clay. Seen in far SW end of trench base only	0.24m +
4204	Cut	Cut of NW–SE aligned lynchet	
4205	Fill	Fill of 4203.	

TRENCH 43			
Dimensions: 29.6m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.51m	**Ground level:** *c.*101.5 m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418457.5257 Y = 139290.0831 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
4301	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay. Moderate flint and chalk inclusions	0-0.21
4302	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with and occasional small chalk pieces and common flints (large) Covering the SW base of trench.	0.21-0.42+
4303	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded, with small patches of light brown silty clay. Seen majority of trench base apart from SW end	0.42+
4304	Cut	Cut of NW–SE aligned lynchet	
4305	Fill	Fill of 4203.	

TRENCH 44			
Dimensions: 29.1m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.47m	**Ground level:** *c.*107m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418526.6404 Y = 139318.1951 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
4401	Ploughsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay loam with moderate flint and common chalk inclusions	0-0.20
4402	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded, with peri-glacial stripes and large flint nodules	0.20+
4403	Layer/ Possible colluvium?	Mid greyish brown silty loam with moderate small chalk pieces and flints (large)	0.40-0.47
4404	Layer/ Possible colluvium?	Light greyish brown silty loam with abundant chalk and flint nodules.	0.47+
4405	Cut	Cut of pit - unexcavated	-
4406	Cut	Cut of pit - unexcavated	-
4407	Cut	Cut of pit - unexcavated	-
4408	Cut	Cut of pit - unexcavated	-
4409	Fill	Upper fill of 4408 – unexcavated. Mid brown silty clay loam	-
4410	Fill	Upper fill of 4407 – unexcavated. Mid brown silty clay loam	-
4411	Fill	Upper fill of 4406 - unexcavated. Mid brown silty clay loam	-
4412	Fill	Upper fill of 4405 - unexcavated. Mid brown silty clay loam	-

TRENCH 45			
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 1.2m	**Ground level:** 106.2 m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418535.6247 Y = 139277.7049 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum**

			Depth (m)
4501	Ploughsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional SR/SA flint <0.05m and small chalk inclusions.	0-0.22
4502	Colluvium	Dark yellowish brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks and common SA flint inclusions .0.08m.	0.22- 0.40
4503	Fill	Upper fill of 4506. Mid greyish brown silty clay common flint >0.10m and chalk flecks	0.60-0.70
4504	Fill	Fill of 4506. Stabilisation layer / turf-line almost stone free	0.70-0.90
4505	Fill	Lower fill of 4506, perhaps not basal. Mid greyish brown silty clay with common flint inclusions <0.05m.	0.90+
4506	Cut	Semi-circular hollow feature, not fully excavated	0.60+
4507	Fill	Fill of 4508. Mid greyish brown silty clay occasional flint<0.08m and common chalk small pieces. Unexcavated	-
4508	Cut	Cut of NW-SE ditch - unexcavated	-
4509	Fill	Fill of 4508. Mid greyish brown silty clay occasional flint<0.08m and common chalk small pieces. Unexcavated	-
4510	Cut	Cut of NW-SE ditch - unexcavated	-
4511	Colluvium	2nd Lower colluvial event.	0.4-0.6
4512	Natural	Broken upper surface of chalk , occurs at N end of trench beneath hollow 4506.	1.00-1.20
4513	Natural	Natural solid blocky chalk with peri-glacial stripes	0.22+

TRENCH 46			
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.9m	**Ground level:** 103.3m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418522.3853 Y = 139217.4919 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
4600	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Occasional SA/SR flint <0.06m and chalk<0.03m	0-0.26
4601	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay loam with occasional SA/SR flint inclusions <0.06m and occasional chalk pieces <0.02m	0.26-0.42
4602	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay loam with common flint inclusions <0.10m and occasional small chalk pieces	0.42-0.86
4603	Natural	Natural chalk, weathered, with occasional degraded patched	0.86+
4604	Cut	Cut of ENE-WSW aligned ditch	0.2
4605	Fill	Single secondary fill of 4604. Mid reddish brown silty clay with common flint inclusions <0.08m and occasional small chalk pieces	0.2

TRENCH 47			
Dimensions: 28.2m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 1.14m	**Ground level:** 102.5 m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418478.3305 Y = 139207.4617 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
4701	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional SR/SA flint <0.05m and small chalk inclusions.	0-0.20
4702	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional chalk and SA flint inclusions	0.20- 0.55
4703	Colluvium	Greyish brown silty clay with occasional chalk and SA flint inclusions	0.51-0.85
4704	Fill	Fill of 4711. Dark brown silty clay with large flint inclusions	0.85-1.10
4705	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded	1.10+
4706	Layer	Large flint nodule bed, flint bank.	0.55-0.80
4707	Colluvium	Same as 4702 description, possibly just grading?	0.21-0.61
4708	Layer	Layer of flint nodules medium in size in light brown silty clay. Lens on lower horizon of 4707?	0.32
4709	Layer	Stabilisation/turf-line? Mid brown silty clay loam with sparse flint	0.61-0.74

		<0.03m. Rare flint and occasional small chalk	
4710	Layer/ Colluvium?	Mid brown silty clay with small flint gravel and chalk	0.74+
4711	Cut	Hollow way running approx. east -west	1.14+

TRENCH 48			
Dimensions: 29.2m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.39m	**Ground level:** 104.7.0m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418436.0738 Y = 139193.4860 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
4801	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Occasional SA and SR flint <0.05m and small chalk <0.03m inclusions.	0-0.28
4802	Subsoil	Light brown silty clay with moderate chalk and flint.. Layer may actually be a diffuse interface between above and below deposits.	0.28-0.38
4803	Natural	Natural weathered chalk	0.38m +
4804	Cut	Cut of approx. E-W gully -unexcavated	-
4805	Fill	Fill of 4804. unexcavated	-

TRENCH 49			
Dimensions: 30.2m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 01.16m	**Ground level:** *c.*103 m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	= 418525.6398 Y = 139171.5615 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
4901	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional SA flint <0.10m and small chalk inclusions.	0-0.31
4902	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with moderate chalk and SA flint inclusions. Depth greater downslope to SW.	0.31- 0.74
4903	Layer	Buried topsoil/turf-line. Dark brown silty clay loam with sparse flint <0.05m and chalk	0.74-0.88
4904	Layer	Flint bank SA flint <0.06m in mid reddish brown silty clay matrix	0.88-1.02
4905	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay with occasional SA flint inclusions <0.06m	1.02-1.14
4906	Natural	Flint gravel SA and Sr <0.3m in mid reddish brown silty clay matrix	1.14+
4907	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded	1.14+

TRENCH 50			
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.4m	**Ground level:** 105.8m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418577.4022 Y = 139154.5764 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
5001	Ploughsoil	Mid-Dark greyish brown silty clayloam. Occasional SA flint<0.06m and frequent small chalk inclusions. Diffuse boundary below.	0-0.24
5002	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay loam with occasional flint inclusions and occasional small chalk pieces	0.24-0.40
5003	Natural	Natural chalk, weathered, patches of geological disturbance/degraded chalk	0.40+

TRENCH 51			
Dimensions: 34.6m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.44m	**Ground level:** *c.*107.2 m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418583.3624 Y = 139208.6417 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
5101	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Sparse flint <0.10m and chalk flecks. Depth varies along trench.	0-0.40

5102	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded, with small patches of light brown silty clay.	0.40 +
5103	Cut	Cut of NW–SE aligned lynchet	0.14
5104	Cut	Fill of 5103. Light brown silty clay with common chalk flecks	0.14

TRENCH 52			
Dimensions: 29m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.85m	**Ground level:** 106.5 aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418579.9179 Y = 139258.1648 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
5201	Ploughsoil	Mid-Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Occasional SA flint<0.06m and frequent small chalk inclusions. Diffuse boundary below.	0-0.20
5202	Colluvium	Mid reddish brown silty clay loam with sparse flint inclusions and chalk pieces	0.20-0.45
5203	Layer	Dark brown clay with abundant large flint and sparse chalk inclusions. ?collluvium or natural geology?	0.45-0.53
5204	Natural	Natural chalk, with peri-glacial striping	0.53+

TRENCH 53			
Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 0.3m	**Ground level:**109.5m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418630.6699 Y = 139244.3012 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
5301	Ploughsoil	Mid-Dark greyish brown silty clay loam with occasional SA/SR flint inclusions <0.06m and common small chalk pieces <0.02m	0-0.3
5302	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded, with peri-glacial stripes with occasional patches of reddish brown clay with flint inclusions.	0.3m +

TRENCH 54			
Dimensions: 27.4m x 1.8m		**Max. depth:** 1.2m	**Ground level:** 109.5 m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)	X = 418637.2935 Y = 139186.1045 (centre)		
Context	**Description**		**Maximum Depth (m)**
5401	Ploughsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay loam with moderate flint and small chalk inclusions.	0-0.20
5402	Natural	Natural chalk, degraded, with peri-glacial stripes	0.20+
5403	Fill	Upper tertiary fill of 5406. Mid greyish brown silty clay loam sparse flint and chalk inclusions	0.28
5404	Fill	Secondary Fill of 5406. Light greyish brown silty loam common chalk and large flint inclusions	0.30
5405	Fill	Primary fill of 4506. Light brownish grey silty loam with abundant chalk	0.32
5406	Cut	Cut of NW-SE aligned ditch	0.95
5407	Fill	Upper tertiary fill of 5410. Mid greyish brown silty clay loam moderate flint and chalk inclusions	0.23
5408	Fill	Secondary Fill of 5410. Light greyish brown silty loam common chalk and large flint inclusions	0.25
5409	Fill	Primary fill of 5410. Light brownish grey silty loam with abundant chalk	0.32
5410	Cut	Cut of NW-SE aligned ditch	0.90

Appendix 2: Oasis summary

OASIS ID: wessexar1-191763

Project details	
Project name	Hale Farm, Idmiston, Wiltshire
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Lark Energy to undertake the archaeological evaluation of land at Hale Farm, adjacent to Boscombe Down Airfield, near Amesbury, Wiltshire, (centred on NGR 418300, 139150) in order to inform the planning application for a proposed installation of a 12MWp solar farm and associated infrastructure. The archaeological features and deposits uncovered within the trenches appear, to a large degree, to be closely related to the topography of the Site, with the dry valley being a clearly important landscape feature in the location, and preservation, of the archaeological features. A deep sequence of colluvium was identified within the dry valley and this possibly began to build-up from the Iron Age-Romano-British period onwards and may be associated with increased arable agriculture upslope.
Project dates	Start: 26-08-2014 End: 12-09-2014
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	105660 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Monument type	DITCH Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	BONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Wind farm developments
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	Pre-application
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE SALISBURY IDMISTON Hale Farm
Postcode	SP4 0AG
Study area	20.00 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 185 387 51.1467387551 -1.73549237182 51 08 48 N 001 44 07 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 99.00m Max: 108.00m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	A Manning

Project supervisor	PA Harding
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Lark Energy

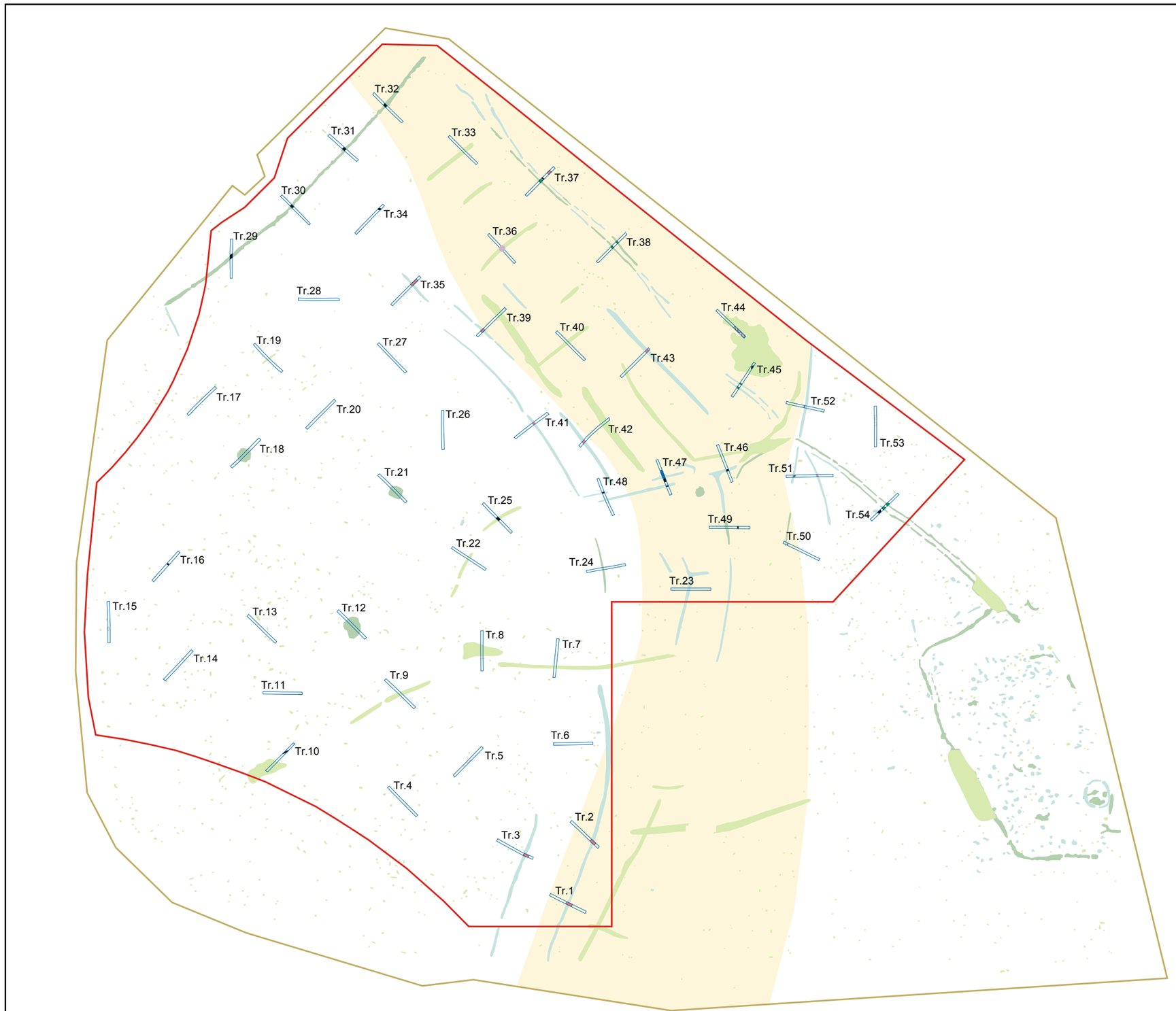
Project archives

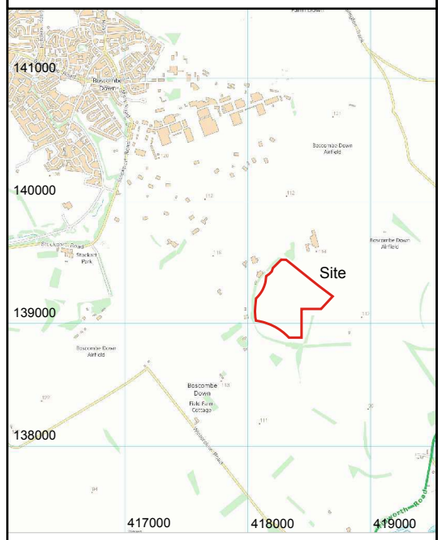
Physical Archive recipient	Salisbury and South West Wilts Museum
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Salisbury and South Wilts Museum
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Miscellaneous Material","Plan","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Hale Farm, Idmiston, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Wakeham, Gail
Other bibliographic details	105660.03
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Salisbury
Description	Soft back standard illustrated evaluation report c. 40 pages

Entered by	Andrew Manning (a.manning@w essexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	3 October 2014





Site boundary
Evaluation trench
Early–Middle Iron Age feature
?later prehistoric – Romano-British
Romano-British feature
Medieval lynchets
Modern disturbance
Features of uncertain date
Colluvial deposits within dry valley

Geophysical survey results
Geophysical survey extents
Archaeology
Probable archaeology
Possible archaeology

0 100 m

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Site and trench location

Figure 1

Key

- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Early–Middle Iron Age feature
- ?later prehistoric – Romano-British
- Romano-British feature
- Medieval lynchets
- Modern disturbance
- Features of uncertain date
- Colluvial deposits within dry valley

Geophysical survey results

- Geophysical survey extents
- Archaeology
- Probable archaeology
- Possible archaeology

Tr.32
Ditch 3204
Section 3204
Tr.31
Ditch 3103
Tr.30
Ditch 3006
Tr.34
Ditch 3402
Tr.29
Ditch 2903
Tr.28
Lynchet 3503
Tr.35
Tr.19
Tr.27
Tr.17
Tr.20
Tr.26
Tr.18
Tr.21
Tr.25
Ditch 2504
Tr.22
Tr.16
Ditch 1603
Tr.24
Tr.15
Tr.13
Tr.12
Tr.8
Tr.7
Tr.14
Tr.11
Tr.9
Tr.6
Gully 1005
Tr.10
Tr.5
Tr.4
Tr.2
Tr.3
Lynchet 204
Lynchet 304

0 100 m

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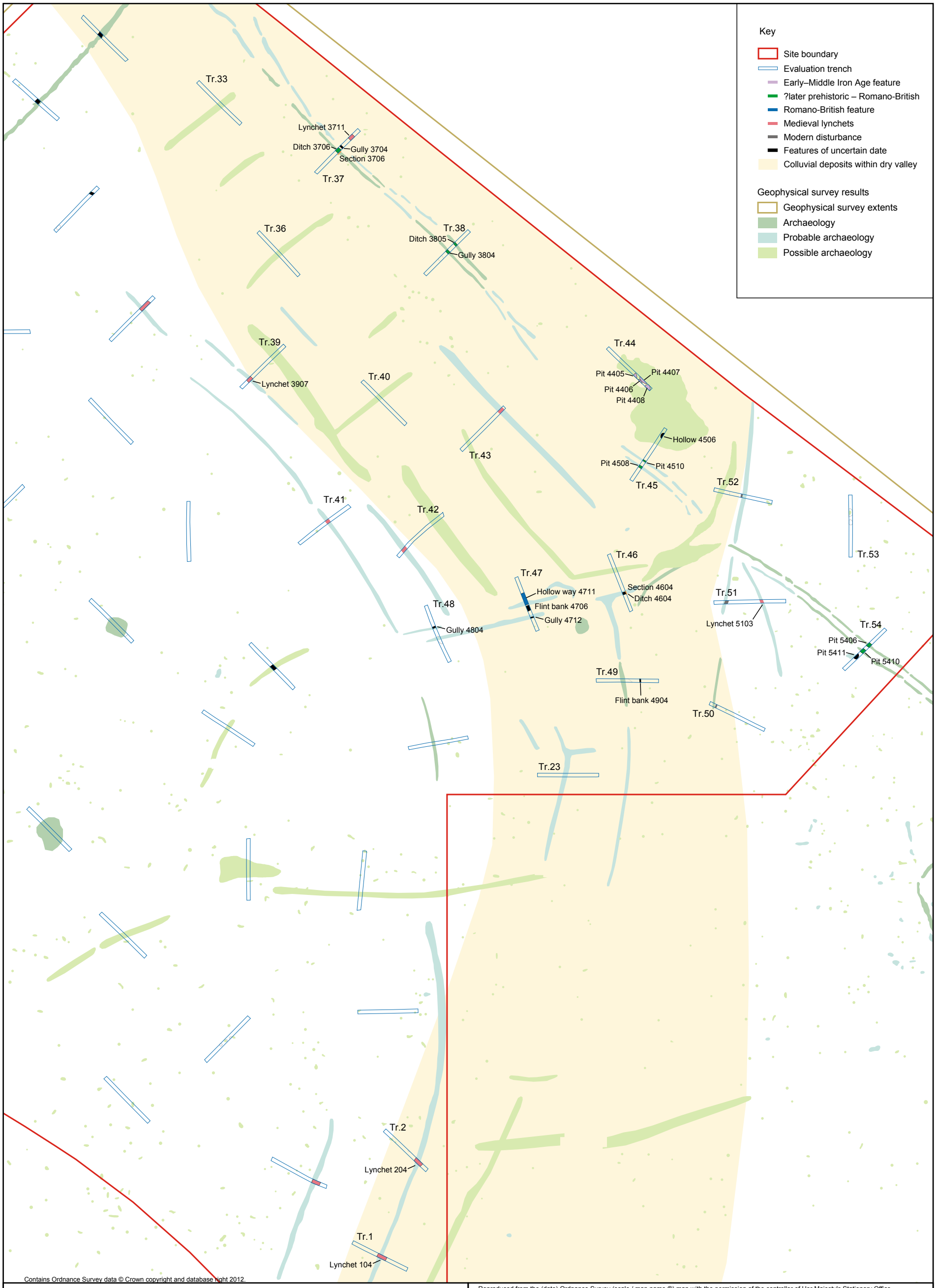
Trenches on the western side of the dry valley

Figure 2



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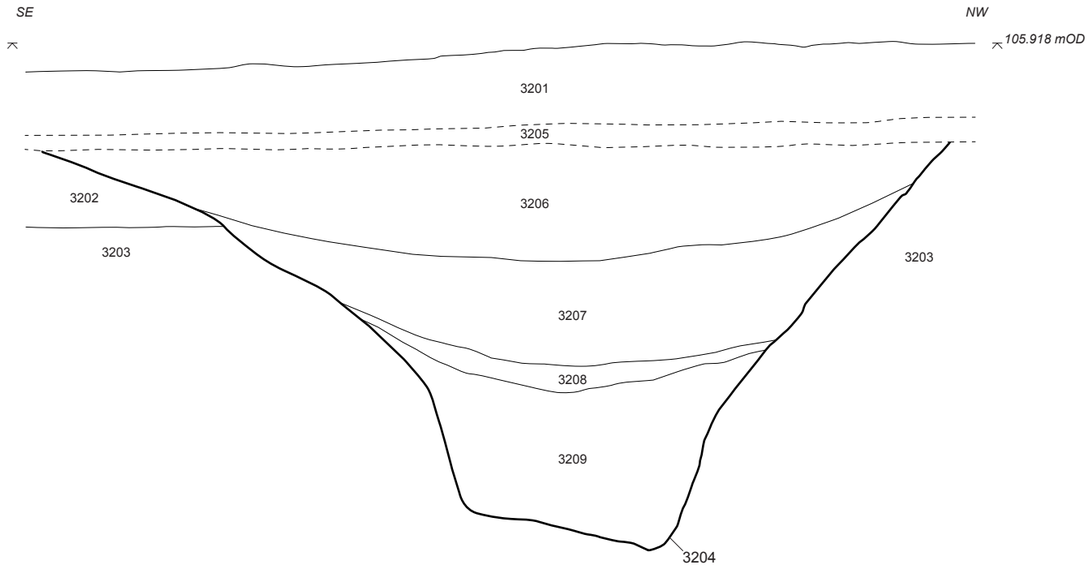
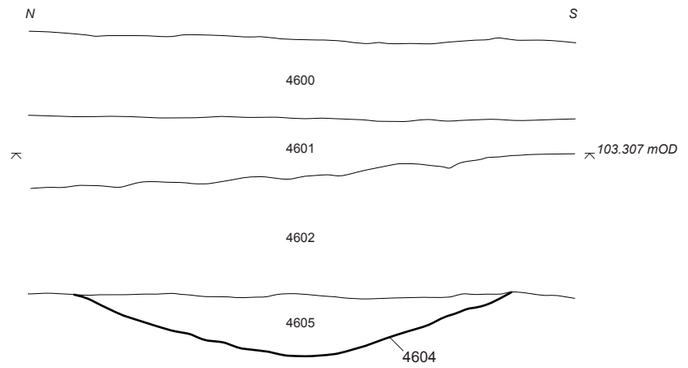
Trenches within the dry valley and on the eastern side

Figure 3

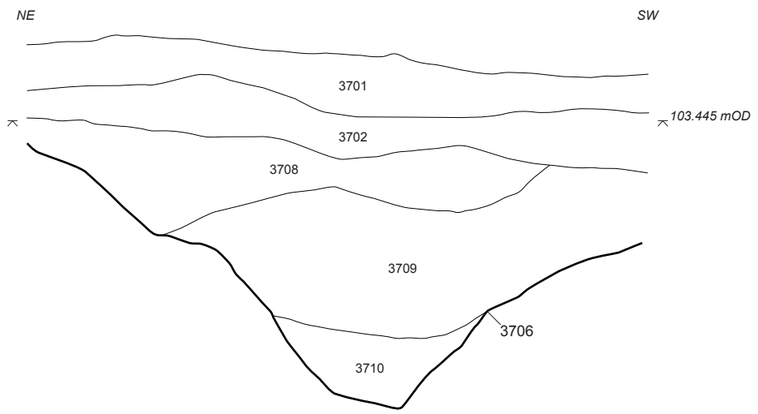
NE facing section through undated ditch 3204



SW facing section through Early–Middle Iron Age ditch 4604 sealed by colluvial sequence



NW facing section through probable later prehistoric – Romano-British ditch 3706



0 1 m

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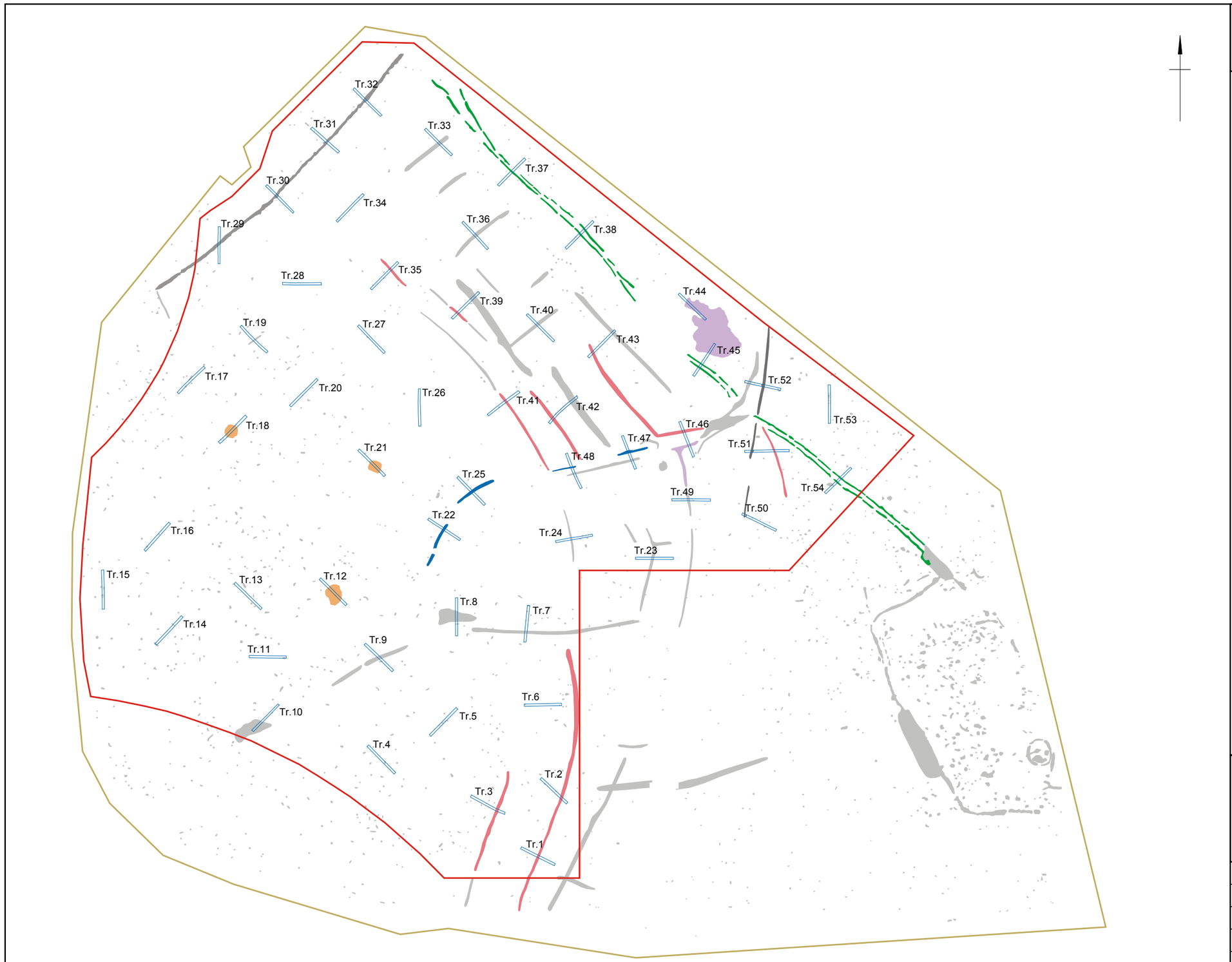
Selected section drawings of archaeological features

Figure 4



Site boundary
Evaluation trench
Early–Middle Iron Age
?later prehistoric – Romano-British
Romano-British feature
Medieval lynchets
Pipe trench
Undated ditch
Geological feature
Geophysical anomalies not identified in trenches

0 100 m

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Generalised re-interpretation of geophysical survey results based on evaluation trench results

Figure 5

Plate 1: SW facing section through lynchet 304

Plate 2: SW facing section through undated gully 1005

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Plate 3: Machine sondage through geological feature 1803

Plate 4: NE facing section through undated ditch 3004

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Plate 5: NW facing section through undated ditch 3402

Plate 6: View of colluvial sequence in Trench 36 showing (from top to bottom) ploughsoil, upper colluvium, buried soil/turf-line and lower colluvium on base of trench

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Plate 7: NW Facing section through ditch 3706

Plate 8: View of flint bank 4706 underlying colluvial sequence

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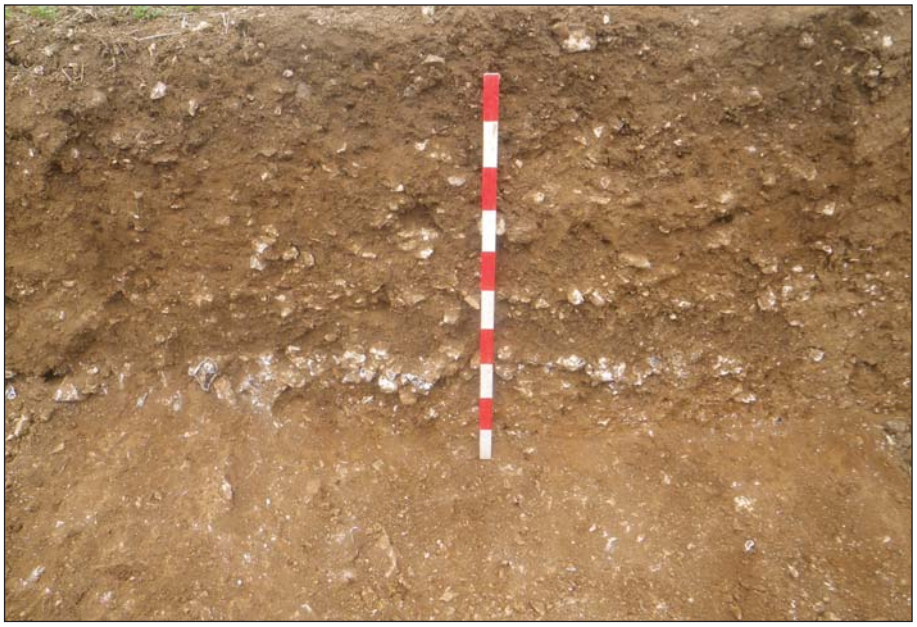

Plate 9: View of colluvial sequence in Trench 49 showing (from top to bottom) ploughsoil, upper colluvium, buried soil/turf-line, possible flint bank 4904 and lower colluvium on base of trench

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