



making sense of heritage

Land at Riverdown Park Salisbury, Wiltshire (Land Parcels A1-A3)

Archaeological Evaluation Report



Ref: 101633.02
October 2015



**Land at Riverdown Park, Salisbury,
Wiltshire
(Land Parcels A1-A3)**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Land at Riverdown Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire (Land Parcels A1-A3)

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Land at Riverdown Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire (Land Parcels A1-A3)

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Richard Meager of CgMs Consulting to undertake a trial trench evaluation ahead of land formation on land at Land to the north and west of Bishopdown Farm Salisbury Wiltshire Somerset, Riverdown Park, land parcel A1-A3 (centred on National Grid Reference 415111 132660). The work was carried out to the specifications set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CgMs and approved by Clare King, Assistant County Archaeologist for Wiltshire.

The fieldwork was undertaken between the 5th and 14th October 2015.

5 post-holes were recorded in Trenches 9, 10 and 11, which are believed to be the continuation of a prehistoric timber post avenue previously identified during the excavation to the south at Greentrees School, in 2015, and at land at Old Sarum, to the north, in 2006. This feature is as yet undated. At the Old Sarum excavation it was associated with a Wessex Linear double-ditched boundary, likely to be of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date, although no stratigraphic relationship was established.

A further 4 post-holes and a curvilinear gully were recorded in Trench 3, the form of which suggests a roundhouse with drip gully. Although no dating evidence was recovered, Trench 3 is in close proximity to the location of a further 3 roundhouses and a pit, identified in 2001/2, during works associated with the Old Sarum water pipeline. These were dated to the Late Bronze Age.

The archaeology to the North West of the site (Trench 3) has had a degree of truncation as a result of topsoil removal prior to soil storage. The Avenue postholes to the North of the site (Trenches 9, 10 and 11) are well protected beneath compacted topsoil and a further 2 m of redeposited chalk.



**Land to the north and west
of Bishopdown Farm
Salisbury
Wiltshire**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology extends its thanks to Richard Meager of CgMs Consulting for commissioning the evaluation, Barratt Homes for financing the project and Jim Hennon, the Site Manager, for his assistance and co-operation during the works. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice and assistance of Clare King who monitored the project for Wiltshire County Archaeological Service.

The Project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Bruce Eaton. The fieldwork was directed by Mike Dinwiddy and undertaken by Tom Burt.

The environmental samples were processed by Tony Scothern and assessed by Sarah Wyles. This report was written by Bruce Eaton, with contributions from Mike Dinwiddy, and illustrated by Will Foster.



Land to the north and west of Bishopdown Farm Salisbury Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Richard Meager of CgMs Consulting, for Barratt ('the Client'), to undertake a trial trench evaluation on Land to the north and west of Bishopdown Farm Salisbury Wiltshire, Riverdown Park, land parcel A1-A3 (hereafter 'the Site') and is centred on National Grid Reference 415111 132660 (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The land is currently in use to stockpile chalk excavated during works associated with the Bishopdown Park development.
- 1.1.3 Previous works associated with the Bishopdown Park and Greentrees School developments, immediately to the south of the Site, have identified an Early Neolithic inhumation, pits dating to the Middle Neolithic and Early Bronze Age as well as near continuous occupation of the area from the Middle Bronze age through to the Early Iron Age, including an impressive circular fenced enclosure, 50m in diameter, containing a large roundhouse of Late Bronze Age date, a number of smaller roundhouses, a Late Bronze Age cremation and the southern extent of a posted 'avenue'. (WA 2014, 2015)
- 1.1.4 Previous work for a Wessex Water pipeline in the north-west corner of the Site, undertaken in 2001/2002, has identified further evidence for Late Bronze Age occupation in the form of 3 roundhouses and associated pit feature. (WA 2004)
- 1.1.5 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CgMs Consulting (CgMs 2015) and comprised of 17 evaluation trenches measuring 20 m x 1.8 m.
- 1.1.1 This report has been prepared in accordance with the WSI, the guidance given in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE, Historic England 2015), and the ClfA's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), excepting where superseded by statements below.
- 1.1.1 The fieldwork was undertaken between 5th and 14th October 2015.

1.2 Site location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The Site is located to the north and west of the Bishopdown Park development on the northern edge of Salisbury. The Site rises up towards the north and west to a plateau. The original topology of the Site has been obscured as it has been used as a store for natural chalk excavated from the Bishopdown Park development.



- 1.2.2 The underlying geology is mapped as Newhaven Chalk Formation (British Geological Survey online viewer).

2 AIMS AND METHODS

- 2.1.1 The aims and objectives of the archaeological evaluation were set out in the WSI produced by CgMs Consulting (CgMs 2015).

2.2 METHODOLOGY

2.3 Service location

- 2.3.1 Each evaluation trench was scanned before and during excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) in order to verify the absence of any live underground services. A potential service was identified within Trench 60 and so the trench was split to avoid it.

- 2.3.2 A total of 17 machine-excavated trial trenches; each measuring approximately 30m in length and 1.8 m wide were proposed, with trenches 9, 10 and 11 specifically targeting the projected route of the 'avenue'. The location of the trenches were in general accordance with the proposed positions outlined in the WSI (CgMs 2015) however trenches 8, 14 and 15 were abandoned due to the depth of stockpiled material and due health and safety considerations.

- 2.3.3 The trial trenches were excavated using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket under constant supervision by WA. Machine excavation proceeded in spits to a depth at which the top of archaeological levels or the top of natural deposits were exposed, whichever was the higher. Where appropriate, hand cleaning of the trenches were undertaken to establish the nature of the deposits and features investigated.

- 2.3.4 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of The Client and Clare King for Wiltshire County Archaeological Service were backfilled using the excavated material in the approximate order in which they were excavated by WA and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment will be undertaken.

2.4 Recording

- 2.4.1 All exposed archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system.

- 2.4.2 A complete drawn record of archaeological features and deposits was compiled including both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and with reference to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels will be calculated and plans/sections will be annotated with OD heights. A representative section of the overlying deposits recorded within the trenches and the test pits was recorded and drawn.

- 2.4.3 A photographic record was maintained during the evaluation using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images will be subject to managed quality control and curation processes which will embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

2.5 Monitoring

- 2.5.1 The field work was monitored by Clare King for Wiltshire County Archaeological Service.



3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 Observations are summarised in **Appendix 1**; details are in the archive.

3.2 Natural deposits and soil sequences

3.2.1 The evaluation area is currently in use as a storage area for chalk material excavated during the Bishopdown Park development. The thickness of this material varied across the site from 0.8 m in the west up to 1.85 m in trench 15. Trench 8 was located under a pile of chalk material visibly in excess of 2 m high and was not excavated.

3.2.2 In Trenches 1 – 4 topsoil and subsoil had been previously removed and the stockpiled material sat directly on the natural.

3.2.3 Across the rest of the Site compacted buried topsoil was present, measuring c. 20 cm thick. This was a mid-greyish brown sandy silt loam with small chalk inclusions. This in turn sat directly above the natural chalk.

3.3 Archaeological features

3.3.1 No archaeological features were identified in Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 17.

3.3.2 Trenches 8 and 14 were not excavated due to depth of overburden and due health and safety considerations.

Trench 3

3.3.3 Trench 3 contained 4 post-holes (**305**, **307**, **310**, **311**), measuring between 0.24 m and 0.38 m in diameter and between 0.06 m and 0.11 m in depth. These were arrayed in a semi-circular arc.

3.3.4 To the south-east of the post-holes there was a sub-linear gully (**303**) running north-west to south-east for a length of 1.26 m and was 0.35 m wide and 0.11 m in depth. This was filled by a mid-brownish grey sandy silt loam (**304**).

3.3.5 In form these features suggest a roundhouse structure with drip gully.

Trench 9

3.3.6 Trench 9 contained one post-hole (**904**, **Plate 1**) measuring 0.32 m in diameter and 0.18 m in depth, with steep concave sides and a concave base. The primary fill (**906**) was a mid-whitish grey chalky silt 0.04 m thick. The secondary fill (**905**) was a mottled mid-whitish grey/brown friable sandy silt.

Trench 10

3.3.7 Trench 10 contained one post-hole (**1004**, **Plate 2**) measuring 0.29 m in diameter and 0.36 m in depth, with vertical and undercut side and a blunt point base. The primary fill (**1006**) was a mid-whitish grey chalky silt loam 0.20 m thick. The secondary fill (**1005**) was a mottled mid-greyish brown sandy silt 0.18 m thick.



Trench 11

- 3.3.8 Trench 11 contained two post-holes. The first (**1104, Plate 3**) was 0.41 m in diameter and 0.20 m in depth with vertical to steep sides and a concave base. No primary fill was apparent. The secondary fill (**1105**) was a light greyish brown sandy silt loam.
- 3.3.9 Post-hole **1106 (Plates 4 and 5)** measured 0.41 m in diameter and was 0.28 m in depth. The primary fill (**1109**) was a mid-whitish grey chalky silt loam 0.05 m thick. Secondary fill **1108** was a mid-greyish brown sandy silt loam 0.19 m thick and contained post packing **1107**, moderate well sorted sub-angular flint nodules and fragments in a mottled light whitish grey/brown sandy silt matrix.

4 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 No artefacts were recovered during the evaluation.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 A series of bulk samples were taken from undated gully 303 in Trench 3 and undated postholes 904, 1004, 1104 and 1106 in trenches 9, 10 and 11 to evaluate the presence and preservation of palaeo-environmental remains. It was also hoped that these samples would produce suitable dating material to enable a date for the significant avenue of postholes to be obtained. The samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoal.

5.2 Charred plant remains

- 5.2.1 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 4 mm, 2 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>4 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. The flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains recorded in **Table 1**.
- 5.2.2 The flots were of moderate size with generally 50-60% numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements.
- 5.2.3 No charred plant remains were recovered from these features. There is no evidence of any settlement activity or date of the features from the environmental remains.

5.3 Wood charcoal

- 5.3.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 1**. Very few charcoal fragments greater than 2 mm were recovered from these features.

5.4 Land snails

- 5.4.1 The bulk samples were rapidly assessed by scanning under a x 10 – x 40 stereo-binocular microscope to provide some information about shell preservation and species representation. Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008). The presence of these shells may aid in broadly characterising the nature of the wider landscape.



- 5.4.2 The mollusc assemblage recovered from gully 303 in Trench 3 included shells of the open country species *Helicella itala*, *Vallonia costata*, *Vallonia excentrica*, *Pupilla muscorum* and Introduced Helicellids, and the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*.
- 5.4.3 The large number of shells recorded from posthole 904 In Trench 9 included those of the open country species *Helicella itala*, *Vallonia costata*, *Vallonia excentrica*, *Pupilla muscorum* and Introduced Helicellids, and the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus* and *Cochlicopa* sp.
- 5.4.4 The mollusc assemblage noted from posthole 1004 in Trench 10 included shells of the open country species *Helicella itala*, *Vallonia costata*, *Vallonia excentrica*, *Pupilla muscorum* and Introduced Helicellids, and the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus* and *Cochlicopa* sp.
- 5.4.5 The large number of shells recorded from postholes 1104 and 1106 in Trench 11 included those of the open country species *Helicella itala*, *Vallonia costata*, *Vallonia excentrica*, *Pupilla muscorum*, *Vertigo pygmaea* and Introduced Helicellids, the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*, *Pomatias elegans* and *Cochlicopa* sp. and the shade-loving species *Discus rotundatus*.
- 5.4.6 These assemblages are representative of a well established open downland environment. The presence of the introduced Helicellids may be indicative of a later Bronze Age or later date for these features. However these shells may be intrusive within the samples due to the degree of rooting within the deposits. Well established open downland environments have been indicated by other mollusc assemblages from deposits of Neolithic date or later from elsewhere on Salisbury Plain.

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other	Analysis	Comments										
Trench 3 Gully																								
303	304	1	6	40	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	Moll+(A**)		molluscs include introduced helicellids, <i>Helicella itala</i> , <i>Vallonia</i> , <i>Pupilla</i> , <i>Trochulus</i>										
Trench 9 Posthole																								
904	905	2	9	30	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	Moll+(A**)		molluscs include introduced helicellids, <i>Helicella itala</i> , <i>Vallonia</i> , <i>Pupilla</i> , <i>Trochulus</i> , <i>Cochlicopa</i>										
Trench 10 Posthole																								
1004	1006	3	7	30	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	Moll+(A**)		molluscs include introduced helicellids, <i>Helicella itala</i> , <i>Vallonia</i> , <i>Pupilla</i> , <i>Trochulus</i> , <i>Cochlicopa</i>										
Trench 11 Postholes																								
1104	1105	4	19	60	60	-	-	-	-	-	0/<1 ml	Moll+(A**)		molluscs include introduced helicellids, <i>Helicella itala</i> , <i>Vallonia</i> , <i>Pupilla</i> , <i>Trochulus</i> , <i>Cochlicopa</i> , <i>Vertigo</i> , <i>Pomatias elegans</i>										
1106	1107	5	30	60	50	-	-	-	-	-	0/<1 ml	Moll+(A**)		molluscs include introduced helicellids, <i>Helicella itala</i> , <i>Vallonia</i> , <i>Pupilla</i> , <i>Trochulus</i> , <i>Cochlicopa</i> , <i>Discus</i>										

Table 1 Environmental data

5.5 Further potential

Charred plant remains

- 5.5.1 There is no potential for analysis due to the absence of charred plant remains.

Wood charcoal

- 5.5.2 There is no potential for the analysis of the wood charcoal to provide information on the species composition, management and exploitation of the local woodland resource on the site due to the paucity of remains.

Land snails

- 5.5.3 There is little potential for further analysis of these assemblages to provide more detailed information on the nature of the local environment.



5.6 Recommendations

Charred plant remains

- 5.6.1 No further work is proposed on these samples.

Wood charcoal

- 5.6.2 No further work is proposed on these samples

Land snails

- 5.6.3 No further work is proposed on these samples.

Scientific dating

- 5.6.4 There is nothing appropriate within these samples to help date the avenue of postholes observed on the site. Undated avenues of postholes, with poor environmental remains, have been recorded elsewhere in the area. If further work is done in the area and more avenues of postholes uncovered, consideration of potential ways of dating the features should be given while the field work is being conducted.

6 DISCUSSION

- 6.1.1 The archaeological features identified during the evaluation can be split into two distinct groups; the post-holes and gully in Trench 3, which are indicative of a roundhouse, and the four post-hole identified within Trenches 9, 10 and 11, which lie on the projected route of the posted 'avenue'.
- 6.1.2 The roundhouse in Trench 3 is in close proximity to, and almost certainly related with, the three roundhouses previously identified during the Wessex Water pipeline excavations (2004). Although no dating for the features in Trench 3 was recovered, the previously recorded roundhouses were dated to the Late Bronze Age. It is reasonable to assume that the roundhouse in Trench 3 is also of this date, which the environmental evidence from the drip gully would seem to bear out.
- 6.1.3 The archaeology in Trench 3 was heavily truncated due to previous topsoil stripping activity and Trenches 1, 2 and 4 has also previously been stripped down to the natural geology. The survival of archaeology in Trench 3 may be due to its close proximity to the water pipeline, where stripping activity would necessarily be more tentative. However, due to the previous truncation of this area, the survival of further shallow archaeological deposits seems remote.
- 6.1.4 The post-holes identified in Trenches 9, 10 and 11 almost certainly relate to the posted 'avenue', which is assumed to run between the Late Bronze Age settlement at Bishopdown Park to the south (WA 2014) to the double-ditched Wessex Linear on land near Old Sarum (WA 2013), over 1 km to the north. That the post settings at the two sites are linked is given further credence by a geophysical survey of Old Sarum Airfield (WA 2007), which lies at the midway point between the two sites. Linear anomalies, suggestive of a former land boundary, ran for over 50 m on the same line and orientation. Unfortunately neither excavated site identified a stratigraphic relationship between the 'avenue' and the Late Bronze Age archaeology at either end. A lack of dating evidence recovered during the evaluation has brought us no nearer to understanding this relationship, although a tentative date of Late Bronze Age would seem reasonable.



- 6.1.5 The archaeology in this location was sealed below modern chalk stockpiling directly on top of the topsoil. As such the archaeology has been protected and the potential survival of this stretch of the 'avenue' is considered very good.

7 OASIS

- 7.1.1 An OASIS online record (<http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>) has been initiated for the work and key fields in regard of the evaluation will be completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All appropriate parts of the form will be completed for submission to the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive). A copy of the OASIS entry has been included in this report (**Appendix 2**).

8 STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum, who has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the site code **101633**.

8.2 Preparation of Archive

- 8.2.1 The complete archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993, 1995; ClfA 2014b; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

8.3 Discard policy

- 8.3.1 WA follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact categories which are not considered to warrant further analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.

8.4 Security copy

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

8.5 Copyright

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



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10 APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1: Trench summary tables

TRENCH 1		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 18.8m x 4.25m		Max. depth 0.99m	Ground level: 87.77m – 87.47m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 414851.309 N 132620.222 and E 414870.783 N 132624.776			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
101	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, quite diffuse horizon.	0-0.81m
102	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but straight horizon. No visible periglacial activity or bioturbation. Probably horizontally truncated by modern activity.	0.81m +

TRENCH 2		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 16.5m x 4.97m		Max. depth: 0.92m	Ground level: 88.48m – 87.69m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 414848.584 N 132603.045 and E 414862.552 N 132588.731			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
201	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, quite diffuse horizon.	0 – 0.92m
202	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but straight horizon. No visible periglacial activity or bioturbation. Probably horizontally truncated by modern activity.	0.92m +

TRENCH 3		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 17.4m x 1.80m		Max. depth: 0.92m	Ground level: 87.83m – 87.58m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 414910.174 N 132616.374 and E 414924.174 N 132602.091			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
301	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, quite diffuse horizon.	0 – 0.92m
302	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but straight horizon. No visible periglacial activity or bioturbation. Probably horizontally truncated by modern activity.	0.92m +
303	Cut	Cut of shallow NW – SE sub-linear gully measuring 1.26m (visible) x 0.35m x 0.11m deep. Moderate slightly irregular sides and a concave base (probable drip gully). Filled with (305)	0.92 – 1.01m
304	Fill	Secondary fill of 303 . – Mid brownish grey sandy silt loam, frequent poorly sorted chalk fragments >20%. No finds.	0.09m thick
305	Cut	Cut of sub-circular posthole measuring 0.38m in diameter and 0.11m deep. Steep to moderate concave sides and a concave base. Filled with (306).	0.92 – 1.03m



306	Fill	Secondary fill of 305 . – Mid brownish grey sandy silt loam, frequent poorly sorted chalk fragments >15%. Scarce poorly sorted sub-angular flint nodule fragments (possible disturbed packing material). No finds.	0.11m thick
307	Cut	Cut of sub-circular posthole measuring 0.24m in diameter and 0.10m deep. Steep concave sides and a concave base. Filled with (308).	0.92 – 1.02m
308	Fill	Secondary fill of 307 . – Mid greyish brown sandy silt loam, frequent poorly sorted chalk fragments >15%. Scarce poorly sorted angular – sub-rounded flint nodule fragments (possible disturbed packing material). 1x RB pot sherd.	0.10m thick
309	VOID	Mapped as pre-ex arch excavated as probable rooting.	0.03m deep
310	Cut	Cut of sub-circular posthole measuring 0.26m in diameter and 0.11m deep. Steep concave sides and a concave base. Filled with (312) and (313).	0.92 – 1.03m
311	Cut	Cut of sub-circular posthole measuring 0.30m in diameter and 0.06m deep. Gentle concave sides and a concave base. Heavily truncated, filled with (314).	0.92 – 0.98m
312	Fill	Post-Packing of 310 . – Mid greyish brown sandy silt loam, frequent poorly sorted chalk fragments >20%. Clear horizon with post-pipe material (313) and natural. No finds.	0.08m thick
313	Fill	Post-Pipe of 310 . – Mid greyish white/brown chalky silt / sandy silt loam, Abundant well sorted chalk flecks >50%. No finds.	0.10m thick
314	Fill	Secondary fill of 311 . – Dark greyish brown sandy silt loam, moderate poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments >15%. Friable and disturbed in nature, probably horizontally truncated. No finds.	0.06m thick

TRENCH 4		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 15.5m x 3.5m		Max. depth: 1.73m	Ground level: 88.73m – 87.71m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 414902.801, N 132584.439 and E 414922.314 N 132588.827			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
401	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, quite diffuse horizon.	0 – 1.73m
402	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but straight horizon. No visible periglacial activity. Probably horizontally truncated by modern activity.	1.73m +

TRENCH 5		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 20.20m x 4.1m		Max. depth: 1.33m	Ground level: 82.51m – 81.42m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 415075.763 N 132547.15 and E 415094.073 N 132558.416			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
501	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt	0 – 1.13m



		loam Topsoil, clear horizon.	
502	Layer	Buried Topsoil – Mid greyish brown very compact sandy silt loam. Frequent >10% poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments included. Clear horizon.	1.13 – 1.33m
503	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, diffuse but straight horizon. N–S orientated Plough-scar activity visible.	1.33m +

TRENCH 6		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 17.20m x 4.25m		Max. depth: 1.30m	Ground level: 82.05m – 81.17m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 415074.874 N 132540.24 and E 415079.772 N 132520.848			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
601	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, clear horizon.	0 – 1.10m
602	Layer	Buried Topsoil – Mid greyish brown very compact sandy silt loam. Frequent >10% poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments included. Clear horizon.	1.10 – 1.30m
603	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but straight horizon. Bioturbated.	1.30m +

TRENCH 7		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 17.50m x 4.2m		Max. depth: 1.37m	Ground level: 81.29m – 80.98m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 415092.546 N 132532.832 and E 415105.744 N 132517.805			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
701	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, clear horizon.	0 – 1.17m
702	Layer	Buried Topsoil – Mid greyish brown very compact sandy silt loam. Frequent >10% poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments included. Clear horizon.	1.17 – 1.37m
703	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but straight horizon. Periglacial and NW–SE orientated Plough-scar activity visible.	1.37m +

TRENCH 8	Type: Evaluation	Unexcavated
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TRENCH 9		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 15.60m x 4m		Max. depth: 1.31m	Ground level: 85.25m – 85.03m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 415144.441 N 132688.832 and E 415147.474 N 132708.601			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
901	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, clear horizon.	0 – 1.11m
902	Layer	Buried Topsoil – Mid greyish brown very compact sandy silt loam. Frequent >10% poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments included. Clear horizon.	1.11 – 1.31m



903	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but straight horizon..	1.31m +
904	Cut	Cut of sub-circular posthole measuring 0.32m in diameter and 0.18m deep. Steep concave sides and a concave base. (Possibly part of the ‘Avenue’ previously discovered) Filled with (904).	1.31 – 1.49m
905	Fill	Secondary fill of 904 – Mottled mid whitish grey/brown sandy silt, friable in nature, disturbed. Scarce poorly sorted chalk fragments >10%. Frequent well sorted angular – sub-rounded flint nodule fragments >20% (possible disturbed packing material). Pea grit at interface with (906). No finds. Sample no 2 10l taken.	0.18m thick
906	Fill	Primary fill of 904 – Mid Whitish grey chalky silt, softly compacted, abundant well sorted chalk flecks >40%	0.04m thick

TRENCH 10		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 18m x 4m		Max. depth: 1.14m	Ground level: 86.34m – 85.72m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 415142.454 N 132730.676 and E 415123.695 N 132737.613			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1001	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, clear horizon.	0 – 0.94m
1002	Layer	Buried Topsoil – Mid greyish brown very compact sandy silt loam. Frequent >10% poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments included. Clear horizon.	0.94 – 1.14m
1003	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but clear straight horizon..	1.09m +
1004	Cut	Cut of sub-circular posthole measuring 0.29m in diameter and 0.36m deep. Vertical and undercut sides and a blunt point base. (Possibly part of the ‘Avenue’ previously discovered) Filled with (1004).	1.14 – 1.50m
1005	Fill	Secondary fill of 1004 – Mottled mid greyish brown sandy silt. Frequent poorly sorted chalk fragments >10%. Diffuse horizon with (1006) No finds.	0.18m thick
1006	Fill	Primary fill of 1004 – Mid Whitish grey chalky silt loam friable, abundant well sorted chalk flecks >30% Diffuse horizon with (1005) No finds. Sample no 3 10l taken.	0.20m thick

TRENCH 11		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 18.1m x 4.26m		Max. depth: 1.32m	Ground level: 87.25m – 86.52m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 415105.085 N 132750.835 and E 415113.982 N 132768.746			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1101	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, clear horizon.	0 – 1.12m
1102	Layer	Buried Topsoil – Mid greyish brown very compact sandy silt loam. Frequent >10% poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments included. Clear horizon.	1.12 – 1.32m
1103	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but clear straight horizon.	1.32m +



1104	Cut	Cut of circular posthole measuring 0.41m in diameter and 0.20m deep. Vertical to steep concave sides and a concave base. (Possibly part of the 'Avenue' previously discovered) Filled with (1105).	1.32 – 1.52-m
1105	Fill	Secondary fill of 1104 – Light greyish brown sandy silt loam. Frequent poorly sorted chalk fragments >20%. Clear horizon, no finds. Sample no 4 20l taken	0.20m thick
1106	Cut	Cut of sub-circular posthole measuring 0.41m in diameter and 0.28m deep. Vertical and slightly undercut sides and a concave base. (Possibly part of the 'Avenue' previously discovered) Filled with (1107), (1108 and (1109).	1.32 – 1.60m
1107	Fill	Post-Packing of 1106. – Mottled light whitish grey/brown sandy silt, frequent well sorted chalk flecks and fragments >15%. Moderate well sorted sub-angular flint nodules and fragments >5% (Probably post-packing material <i>in-situ</i> . No finds. Mixed Sample with (1108) no. 5 30l taken	0.12m thick
1108	Fill	Secondary fill of 1106 – Mid greyish brown sandy silt loam. Frequent poorly sorted chalk fragments >20%. Diffuse horizon with (1007) No finds. Mixed Sample with (1107) no. 5 30l taken	0.19m thick
1109	Fill	Primary fill of 1106 – Mid Whitish grey chalky silt loam friable, abundant well sorted chalk flecks >50% Clear horizon with (1107) No finds	0.05m thick

TRENCH 12		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 15.60m x 4.3m		Max. depth: 1.75m	Ground level: 83.57m – 84.94m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 415237.232, N 132779.545 and E 415225.163 N 132763.598			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1201	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, clear horizon.	0 – 1.55m
1202	Layer	Buried Topsoil – Mid greyish brown very compact sandy silt loam. Frequent >10% poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments included. Clear horizon.	1.55 – 1.75m
1203	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but straight horizon. Bioturbated.	1.75m +

TRENCH 13		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 17.1m x 4.3m		Max. depth: 1.82m	Ground level: 83.13m – 82.38m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 415236.005 N 132741.979 and E 415251.953 N 132729.91			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1301	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, clear horizon.	0 – 1.62m
1302	Layer	Buried Topsoil – Mid greyish brown very compact sandy silt loam. Frequent >10% poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments included. Clear horizon.	1.62 – 1.82m
1303	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite	1.82m +



		diffuse but straight horizon. Bioturbated.	
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TRENCH 14	Type: Evaluation	Unexcavated
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TRENCH 15		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 5m x 2m		Max. depth: 2.05m	Ground level: 81.19m – 80.88m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 415283.198 N 132690.41 and E 415283.662 N 132694.45			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1501	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, clear horizon.	0 – 1.85m
1502	Layer	Buried Topsoil – Mid greyish brown very compact sandy silt loam. Frequent >10% poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments included. Clear horizon.	1.85 – 2.05m
1503	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but straight horizon. Bioturbated.	2.05m +

TRENCH 16		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 18.5m x 3.6m		Max. depth: 1.78m	Ground level: 81.57m – 79.93m aOD
Co-ordinates: E415288.36 N 132731.983 and E 415272.412 N 132744.052			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1601	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, clear horizon.	0 – 1.58m
1602	Layer	Buried Topsoil – Mid greyish brown very compact sandy silt loam. Frequent >10% poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments included. Clear horizon.	1.58 – 1.78m
1603	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but straight horizon. Bioturbated.	1.78m +

TRENCH 17		Type: Evaluation	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 17m x 4.1m		Max. depth: 1.74m	Ground level: 82.31m – 81.46m aOD
Co-ordinates: E 415253.883 N 132763.079 and E 415265.953 N 132779.027			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1501	Layer	Made Ground – Mixed and redeposited mid greyish white Chalk upcast with mid greyish brown sandy silt loam Topsoil, clear horizon.	0 – 1.54m
1502	Layer	Buried Topsoil – Mid greyish brown very compact sandy silt loam. Frequent >10% poorly sorted chalk flecks and small fragments included. Clear horizon.	1.54 – 1.74m
1503	Natural	Natural – Mid white block chalk, compact with quite diffuse but straight horizon. Bioturbated.	1.74m +



10.2 Appendix 2: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: wessexar1-227633

Project details

Project name	Land to the north and west of Bishopdown Farm, Salisbury, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation Report
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Richard Meager of CgMs Consulting to undertake a trial trench evaluation ahead of land formation on land at Land to the north and west of Bishopdown Farm Salisbury Wiltshire Somerset, Riverdown Park, land parcel A1-A3 (centred on National Grid Reference 415111 132660). The work was carried out to the specifications set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CgMs and approved by Clare King, Assistant County Archaeologist for Wiltshire. The fieldwork was undertaken between the 5th and 14th October 2015. 5 post-holes were recorded in trenches 9, 10 and 11, which are believed to be the continuation of a prehistoric timber post avenue previously identified during the excavation to the south at Greentrees School, in 2015, and at land at Old Sarum, to the north, in 2006. This feature is as yet undated. At the Old Sarum excavation it was associated with a Wessex Linear double-ditched boundary, likely to be of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date, although no stratigraphic relationship was established. A further 4 post-holes and a curvilinear gully were recorded in trench 3, the form of which suggests a roundhouse with drip gully. Although no dating evidence was recovered, Trench 3 is in close proximity to the location of a further 3 roundhouses and a pit, identified in 2001/2, during works associated with the Old Sarum water pipeline. These were dated to the Late Bronze Age. The archaeology to the North West of the site has had a degree of truncation as a result of topsoil removal prior to soil storage. The Avenue postholes to the North of the site are well protected beneath compacted topsoil and a further 2 m of redeposited chalk.
Project dates	Start: 05-10-2015 End: 14-10-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	ROUND HOUSE Late Bronze Age
Monument type	TIMBER AVENUE Late Bronze Age

Project location

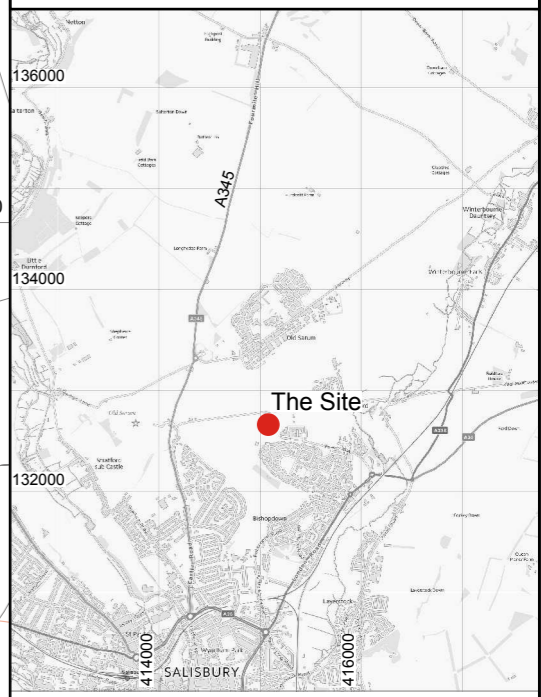
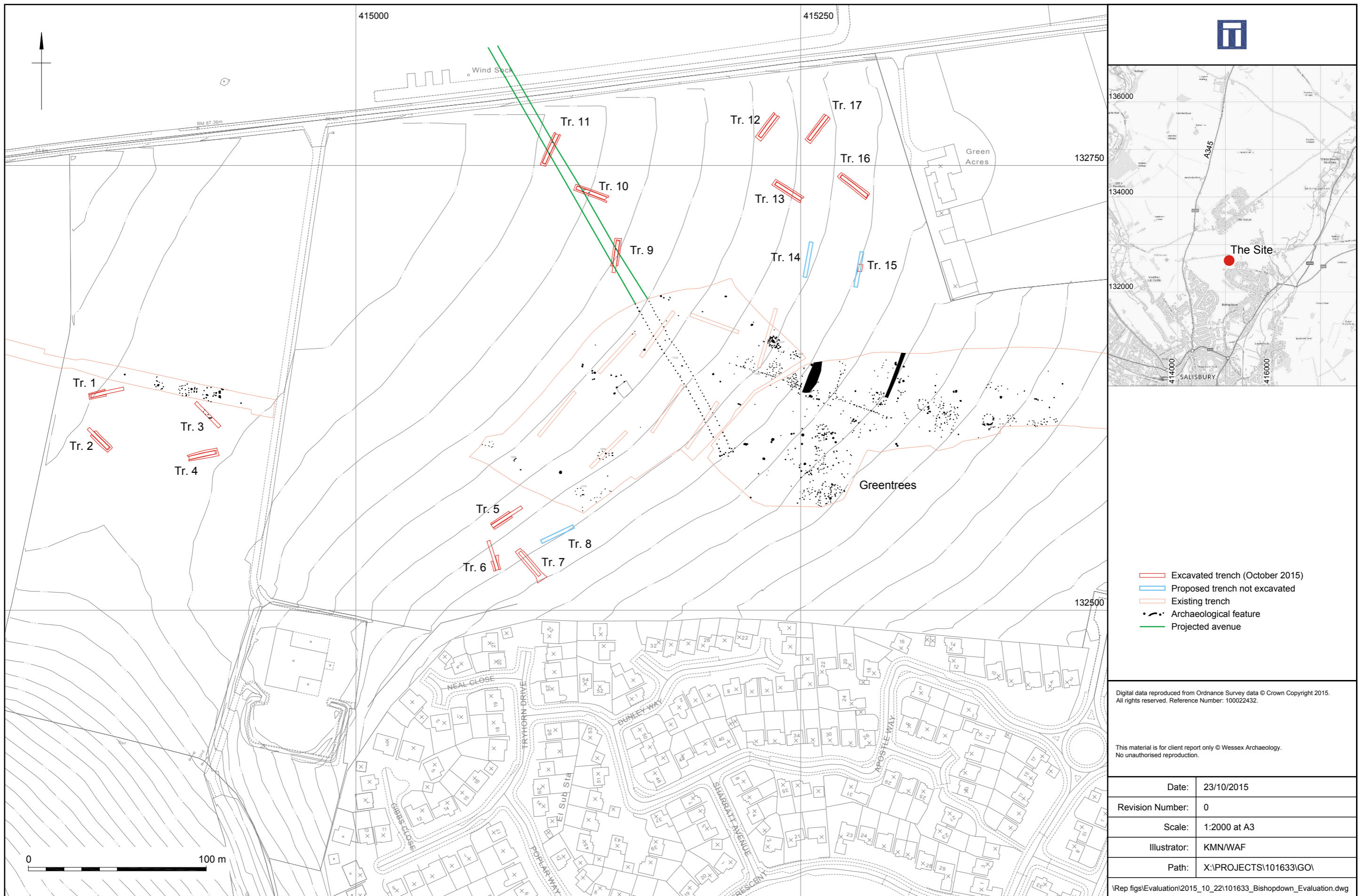
Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE SALISBURY SALISBURY Land north and west of Bishopdown Farm, Salisbury, Wiltshire
Postcode	NONE
Study area	0 Square metres
Site coordinates	SU 15111 32660 51.092520401678 -1.784200101627 51 05 33 N 001 47 03 W



Point
Lat/Long Datum Unknown
Height OD / Depth Min: 80m Max: 87m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting Ltd.
Project design originator	CgMS Consulting Ltd
Project director/manager	Bruce Eaton
Project supervisor	Mike Dinwiddy
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer



- ▭ Excavated trench (October 2015)
- ▭ Proposed trench not excavated
- ▭ Existing trench
- Archaeological feature
- Projected avenue

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Illustrator:	KMN/WAF
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Site location and evaluation trenching results over known archaeology

Figure 1



Posthole 904 south east facing section

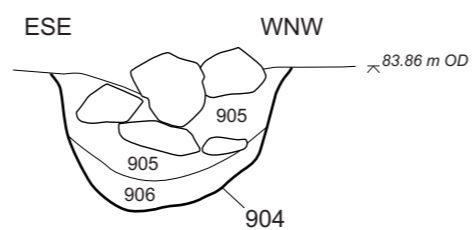


Plate 1: Posthole 904, view from the south east



Posthole 1004 north west facing section

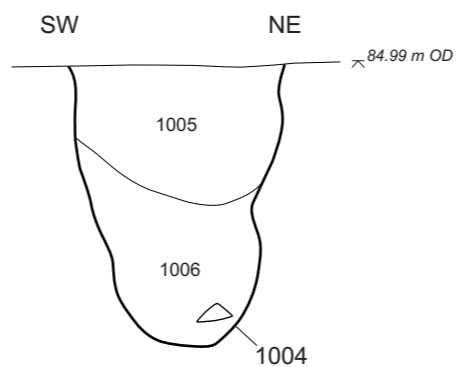


Plate 2: Posthole 1004, view from the north west



Posthole 1104 west facing section

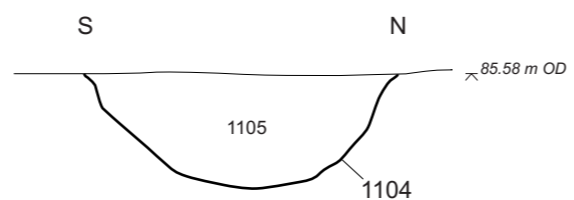


Plate 3: Posthole 1104, view from the east

Posthole 1106 west facing section

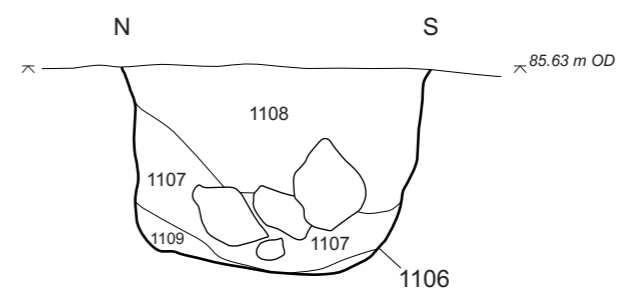


Plate 4: Posthole 1106, view from the west



Plate 5: Posthole 1106, fully excavated, view from the west



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