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Zone 2 EAC and Zone 3 Enclosed Area Porton Down, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Assessment Report

Ref: 108953.03
November 2015



**Zone 2 EAC and Zone 3 Enclosed Area
Porton Down, Wiltshire**

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Assessment Report

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Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Report

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology were commissioned by Porton Down Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) to undertake two separate archaeological investigations on land at Porton Down: an archaeological evaluation comprising the excavation of 42 trenches on former sport pitches proposed for redevelopment (Zone 2) and an archaeological watching brief monitoring groundwork associated with redevelopment (Zone 3), centred on NGR 421394 136897 and 420984 137347 respectively. The Zone 2 evaluation was undertaken between 29th June and 11th July 2015. The Zone 3 watching brief was undertaken between 11th May and 7th August 2015.

Despite the known archaeological potential, identified through a preceding desk-based assessment, the Zone 2 archaeological evaluation only identified a very low density of features. The majority of these features are of modern date and appear to relate to the earlier history of the Porton Down military establishment, although features of uncertain date were also uncovered including a substantial ditch in the far west of the Site as well as a smaller possible ditch and two postholes.

The location of sub-surface remains of a since demolished railway in the south of Zone 2 correspond to the line of a 'light railway' marked on Ordnance Survey (OS) maps from 1925–1961, although by 1961 it is labelled as 'disused'. In the west of Zone 2, the limited remains of a modern building (represented by its footings) approximately correspond to the location of a small building associated with the military establishment shown on OS maps from 1961 and 1977.

The large archaeological ditch recorded in the west of Zone 2, although of uncertain date, may potentially be associated with the later prehistoric divisions of the landscape known in the Porton Down area, possibly a 'Wessex linear' ditch.

The Zone 3 archaeological watching brief uncovered a small number of more significant features dating to the Bronze Age period. These comprised a slightly sinuous ditch that could not be precisely dated, although it was established by stratigraphic excavation to be earlier than a radiocarbon dated Middle Bronze Age inhumation burial. A short distance to the east of this landscape division, one small pit and a larger pit were both also dated to the Bronze Age and contained a range of artefacts indicative of occupation or settlement within the local area. A single posthole identified in close proximity to the other remains was of uncertain date.

A Statement of Potential and Proposals, solely in relation to the results of the Zone 3 watching brief, is outlined within this report which will lead to the production of a short article, to be submitted to the *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*.



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The watching brief was undertaken by Neil Fitzpatrick assisted by Natalie Hunt. The evaluation was led by Benjamin Cullen, assisted by Steven Froud, Natalia Hunt and Bianca San Martin. This report was written by Gail Wakeham, with contributions by Benjamin Cullen. Report graphics were prepared by Elizabeth James. Finds were assessed by Matt Leivers, Phil Harding (flint), Lorrain Higbee (animal bone) and Kirsten Egging Dinwiddy (human bone). The samples were processed by Tony Scothern and were assessed by Sarah F. Wyles. Radiocarbon dating was prepared by Alistair J. Barclay and Sarah F. Wyles. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Simon Cleggett.



Zone 2 EAC and Zone 3 Enclosed Area Porton Down, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by the Principal Estates Advisor to carry out an archaeological evaluation and watching brief on land at Porton Down Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl – the Client). The trial trench evaluation was undertaken within Zone 2 (EAC) centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 421394 136897, and the archaeological watching brief monitored groundworks within Zone 3 (Enclosed Area) centred on NGR 420984 137347 (hereafter collectively known as the Site, although specific reference will be made to Zone 2 and Zone 3; **Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in order to inform the planning application for the proposed development of a new structure within Zone 2, following consultation with the Assistant County Archaeologist of Wiltshire County Council (WCC). The archaeological watching brief within Zone 3 was undertaken in order to record any buried archaeological remains that may be revealed during the redevelopment of 20th century buildings at Dstl Porton Down.
- 1.1.3 All archaeological investigations were carried out in accordance with the detailed methodologies and standards set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; WA 2015a). The WSI was submitted to and approved by the Assistant County Archaeologist (WCC) prior to the commencement of fieldwork.
- 1.1.4 The Zone 2 archaeological evaluation comprising the excavation of 42 trial trenches (each measuring 30 m by 1.8 m) was carried out over a 10 day period between 29th June and 10th July 2015.
- 1.1.5 The Zone 3 archaeological watching brief was undertaken between 11th May and 7th August 2015.

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The Site is located within the Dstl complex at Porton Down, Wiltshire, which lies to the east of the village of Idmiston and approximately 1.5 km north-east of the village of Porton.
- 1.2.2 Zone 2 comprises a parcel of land of 4.48 hectares (ha) centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 421394 136897, immediately to the south-east of Zone 3. It is located within the sports recreation ground and is bordered by three unnamed roads to the north, west and south.
- 1.2.3 Zone 3 comprises a parcel of land of 20.79 ha centred on NGR 420984 137347. Zone 3 is bordered by Southway road to the south-west, the Salisbury to Grately railway line to the north-west and by two unnamed roads to the north-east and south-east.



- 1.2.4 The British Geological Survey map for the area (1:50,000 Solid and Drift Series, sheet 298) indicates that the underlying geology of the site consists of Upper Chalk. Alluvial deposits and Valley Gravel associated with the River Bourne are also present in the locality.
- 1.2.5 The land within the Site slopes gently to the south-east, falling from a height of approximately 110 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in Zone 3 to 104 m aOD in Zone 2. In terms of the wider topography, the Site is situated on chalk downland which rises to the east of the Site and drops to the valley of the River Bourne, situated approximately 2 km west of the Site, on the western side of Idmiston and Porton villages.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 A number of nationally important designated assets, defined as ten Scheduled Monuments located within the Site's immediate environs as well as a Listed Building located within the Site itself (Zone 3), are detailed below (for their location see Figure 1 WA 2015b).
- 2.1.2 Several non-intrusive and intrusive archaeological investigations have been previously undertaken within the Site and its immediate surroundings, including: geophysical survey, Desk-based Assessment (DBA), archaeological evaluation and excavation. A summary of the findings is presented below.

2.2 Designated assets

- 2.2.1 The Scheduled Monuments mainly comprise a number of Bronze Age barrows (burial mounds), although also includes a Bronze Age enclosure and gas testing trenches relating to developments in gas warfare during the period 1916-1918.
- 2.2.2 To the east and north-east of the Site (approximately 200-400 m north-east of Zone 2) a group of barrows is located north-west of Idmiston Down, comprising two bell barrows (List Entry no. 1013970 and 1013989) and a saucer barrow (List Entry no. 1013970).
- 2.2.3 To the east and south-east of the Site (approximately 400-800 m from Zone 2) on Idmiston Down, a further group of Scheduled Monuments is located, comprising: two disc barrows and two bowl barrows (List Entry no. 1015557); a bell barrow, three bowl barrows and gas testing trenches (List Entry no. 1014818); and a Bronze Age enclosure and two bowl barrows (List Entry no. 1014819).
- 2.2.4 Approximately 600-900 m south of the Site, a further group of six bowl barrows are located (List Entry no. 1013972 contains three of these, 1013973, 1013974, and 1013975).
- 2.2.5 One Grade II Listed Building (List Entry no. 1300376) lies within the Site, more precisely in the south-east corner of Zone 3. The building (Building 106) represents a former headquarters building of 1918 for Royal Engineers Experimental Station (Gas Corps) and is presently in use as administration offices at Dstl.

2.3 Recent investigations

Zone 2

- 2.3.1 Zone 2 has been the subject of an archaeological DBA (WA 2015b) and a geophysical survey was provided by the Client which was undertaken primarily for the purposes of

UXO detection (WA 2015a Figure 2), but no intrusive archaeological investigations are known to have been carried out within this area of the Site.

- 2.3.2 A DBA was prepared for land at Zone 2 EAC (WA 2015b) in order to define the known archaeological and historic environment resource within 1 km of this part of the Site, as well as to predict the potential resource that may be affected by the proposed development; this also included an intervisibility study for known heritage assets of national importance within a 5 km radius. This assessment concluded whilst there were no overriding heritage constraints likely to prohibit the development, there was a defined potential for buried archaeological remains. This potential was likely to relate to known cropmarks of a field system of uncertain date partly extending into the Site, as well as for Neolithic and Bronze Age remains because these had been previously recorded in the immediate vicinity, and finally for features associated with the early 20th century Experimental Station. However, the full potential or significance of such archaeological remains could not be fully confirmed on the basis of the available information.

Zone 3

- 2.3.3 Some limited areas within Zone 3 have been the subject of archaeological investigations. These include a 1997 evaluation by archaeological site investigations within the north-eastern part of Zone 3 which identified a number of archaeological features, mainly ditches, one of which was a different scale to the others and its 'V'-shaped profile suggested it may be of prehistoric date (HER no. EWI4616: WA 2015b, WA42) and a magnetometry survey undertaken in 2008 by Archaeological Surveys Ltd in the north of the Dstl complex revealed some weak anomalies that may have related to pit-like features with magnetically enhanced material (HER no. EWI6912: WA 2015b, WA35). Another small evaluation, again within the north of Zone 3, discovered no archaeological features (WA2015b Figure 1).

Dstl Proposed Magazine Site, located south-east of Zone 2

- 2.3.4 Following a DBA and geophysical survey, an archaeological evaluation consisting of 45 trial trenches was excavated across 24 hectares centred on NGR 421450 136400 (WA 2009a), located 200m to the south-east of the Zone 2 area of the Site. The evaluation established the presence of significant prehistoric archaeological features comprising a segmented enclosure ditch, a crouched inhumation burial, a segmented ring-ditch, a small 'C'-shaped enclosure and part of a 'Wessex Linear' ditch were present, though dating evidence was limited. A subsequent archaeological excavation was undertaken in 2011 (WA 2012), with further excavations because of changes to development plans undertaken in 2014 (WA 2014) and early 2015; the results of all these phases of work are included in a forthcoming publication (Andrews and Thompson forthcoming) as summarised below.
- 2.3.5 The excavation of an Early Beaker–Early Bronze Age funerary monument revealed an unusually complex burial sequence of 12 individuals, spanning four centuries, including eight infants and only one probable male, surrounded by a segmented ring-ditch. In the centre was a large grave which contained the disturbed remains of an adult female, accompanied by a Beaker, probably placed within a timber burial chamber and later 'revisited' on one or more occasions. This primary burial and an antler pick from the base of the ring-ditch provided identical Early Beaker radiocarbon dates. Two burials were accompanied by a food vessel and a miniature Collared Urn respectively, others were unaccompanied, and there was a single and a double cremation burial, both within inverted Collared Urns. A 'C'-shaped enclosure nearby may have had been contemporary with the funerary monument, but its date and function are uncertain. Other features included an Early Neolithic pit which contained a significant assemblage of worked flint,



and several Middle Bronze Age ditches and a Late Bronze Age 'Wessex Linear' ditch that reflect later prehistoric land divisions probably related to stock control (Andrews and Thompson forthcoming).

Other investigations within the immediate surroundings of the Site

- 2.3.6 A number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken within the immediate surroundings of the Site, as fully detailed in the DBA (WA 2015b); the most relevant of these to the archaeological investigations within the Site are described below.
- 2.3.7 To the immediate north-west of Zone 2 and east of Zone 3, archaeological observations undertaken in 2006-2007 by Southampton Archaeology Unit recorded a Neolithic pit containing Grooved Ware pottery and an assemblage of other finds, an arc of six undated postholes and an undated ditch (HER no. EW16913: WA 2015b, Figure 2 WA14).
- 2.3.8 To the immediate south of Zone 3, two Iron Age pits were uncovered in 1970 (WA 2015b, Figure 2 WA17) and an archaeological evaluation undertaken in 2009 by WA located a series of lynchets, a limited quantity of residual Bronze Age finds and a 19th century field boundary (WA 2009b; WA 2015b, Figure 2 WA27).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and objectives

- 3.1.1 The aims of the Zone 2 archaeological evaluation as defined in the WSI (WA 2015a) were to:
- *Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be impacted by development;*
 - *Identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character and condition of any surviving remains within the Site;*
 - *Assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits;*
 - *Place the Iron Age and earlier activity from recent investigations to the east and south of the Site within the context of this Site and its wider environs ;*
 - *Produce a report which will present the results of the evaluation in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the Site's archaeological potential.*
- 3.1.2 The aims of the Zone 3 watching brief as defined in the WSI (WA 2015a) were:
- *To determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains, and should remains be present, to ensure their preservation by record to the highest possible standard;*
 - *To confirm the approximate date or date range of the remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;*
 - *To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains;*
 - *To determine the condition and state of preservation of the remains;*



- To determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present;
- To prepare a report on the results of the watching brief.

4 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the methodology set out within the WSI (WA 2015a) and in compliance with the standards outlined in the ClfA's *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a) and ClfA's *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014b) excepting where they are superseded by statements made below.

4.2 Health and Safety

4.2.1 Health and safety considerations were of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practices will 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.

4.2.3 WA supplied a copy of their Health and Safety Policy and a Risk Assessment to the Client before the commencement of any fieldwork. The Risk Assessment was read and understood by all staff attending the Site before any groundwork commenced.

4.2.4 Risks associated with the military use of the Site included the potential for the presence of unexploded ordnance (UXO). Geophysical survey and systematic UXO clearance was carried out and, a Clearance Certificate issued prior to fieldwork. Following Client policy, High Risk Dig Wardens were present at all times and consulted during the fieldwork.

4.2.5 Prior to fieldwork, the Client provided information regarding the presence of any below/above ground services. All evaluation trench locations were scanned before and during excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) in order to verify the absence of any live underground services. Where necessary trenches were moved to ensure no interference with live services, following consultation with High Risk Dig Wardens.

4.3 Zone 2 Trial trench evaluation methodology

4.3.1 The trench locations were laid out using GPS in general accordance with the pattern given in the WSI, as shown in **Figure 1**, although minor adjustments to the layout may have been required to take account of any on-site constraints such as vegetation, located services and to allow for manoeuvring; as well as changes to the southern Site boundary.

4.3.2 A total of 42 machine-excavated trial trenches each measuring 30 m in length and 1.8 m wide were excavated using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket and under the constant supervision of a suitably experienced WA Archaeologist and a High Risk Dig Warden.

4.3.3 Machine excavation continued in shallow spits to the top of archaeological levels, or until the top of natural deposits were exposed, whichever was the higher. All excavated spoil was visually scanned for archaeological artefacts and metal-detected as appropriate by trained archaeological personnel for the purposes of finds retrieval.



- 4.3.4 Where appropriate the base of the trenches/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. All trenches and any archaeological features they contained were surveyed by GPS/Total Station to produce a Site plan that is related to Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum (Newlyn).
- 4.3.5 Appropriate sampling of any potential archaeological features and deposits identified in the evaluation trenches was undertaken by hand, in order to address the aims of the evaluation, and were recorded to professionally accepted standards.
- 4.3.6 Where modern features of no archaeological significance, were identified to truncate the archaeological deposits, and where practicable, these were carefully removed without damage to surrounding deposits to enable the depth of stratification to be assessed.
- 4.3.7 Access to the Site was arranged for the Assistant Archaeologist (WCC) in order to monitor the archaeological investigations as they progressed. Any variations to the WSI were agreed in advance with WCC and the Client.
- 4.3.8 Once the archaeological investigation was completed to the satisfaction of the Assistant Archaeologist (WCC) and the Client, trenches were backfilled by machine using the excavated material in the approximate stratigraphic sequence in which they were excavated. They were left level on completion and no other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

4.4 Zone 3 Watching brief methodology

- 4.4.1 The watching brief monitored all intrusive construction groundworks associated with the development within Zone 3 (**Figure 1**).
- 4.4.2 The watching brief was undertaken by at least one experienced archaeologist subject to the number of site operations being undertaken at any one time. The mechanical excavation was, where possible, undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant supervision by WA. Machine excavation proceeded to the required construction levels or the top of archaeological levels whichever was the higher. Where necessary and practicable and without causing unreasonable delay to the groundwork programme, groundworks were halted whilst investigations were carried out by WA staff.
- 4.4.3 Where human remains (see below) were revealed, these were identified and the Assistant Archaeologist (WCC), the Client and their groundwork contractor were informed. Areas of archaeological interest were marked up and suitably protected in advance of their investigation and recording.
- 4.4.4 WA staff investigated archaeological deposits and features by excavation and recording commensurate with the scale of work and using WA's *pro forma* recording system. Where practical, and towards meeting the aims of the watching brief, excavation included sampling of features and deposits in order to determine stratigraphic relationships and to recover artefacts, ecofacts and dating evidence. Recording included written, drawn, and photographic elements as conditions allowed (in line with procedures outlined in Section 4.5 below). Archaeological features and deposits were surveyed using a Total Station/GPS and related to Ordnance Survey.
- 4.4.5 When required, arrangements were put in place with the Client in order for the Assistant Archaeologist (WCC) to access the Site to monitor progress of the watching brief. Where extensive and well preserved archaeological remains were present, a contingent programme for their excavation was agreed with the Client and the Assistant



Archaeologist (WCC), potentially extending the scope of archaeological works, whilst ensuring no unreasonable delay was caused to the construction programme.

- 4.4.6 The watching brief was maintained throughout groundwork excavations and was concluded when, in consultation with the Assistant Archaeologist (WCC), it was clear that the potential for archaeological remains to be exposed had been exhausted.

4.5 Recording of archaeological features and deposits

- 4.5.1 All trenches and any exposed archaeological deposits were recorded using WA's *pro forma* recording system.
- 4.5.2 A complete drawn record of excavated archaeological features and deposits was compiled. This includes both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and with reference to a site grid tied 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.
- 4.5.3 A photographic record was maintained during the evaluation using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images were 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.
- 4.5.4 A unique project code (108953) was allocated, and was used on all records and any recovered artefacts and environmental samples.

5 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

5.6 Introduction

- 5.6.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery of artefacts and environmental samples were in line those outlined in the WSI (WA 2015a). Where necessary, specialist advice was sought from WA in-house Finds and Environmental Specialists, and if appropriate from the English Heritage Scientific Advisor.
- 5.6.2 The treatment of artefacts and environmental samples is in accordance with the ClfA's *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b).

5.7 Finds

- 5.7.1 All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. In such circumstances, sufficient artefacts were retained in order to elucidate the date and/or function of the feature or deposit.
- 5.7.2 All retained artefacts were, as a minimum, processed, sorted, quantified, identified, assessed and reported on by WA in-house specialists.
- 5.7.3 Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions were dealt with immediately in line with *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998). X-raying and storing of any metalwork and other delicate objects was undertaken by WA in-house conservation staff, or the staff of the Conservation Service, Wiltshire History Centre, Chippenham or another approved conservation centre.
- 5.7.4 Recovered artefacts were suitably bagged and boxed in accordance with the guidance given by the relevant museum repository, in general accordance with the Chartered



Institute for Archaeologist's guidance and the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, Conservation Guidelines no. 2 (UKIC 2001).

- 5.7.5 All artefacts recovered during the excavations on the Site are the property of the landowner. On completion of the archaeological post-excavation programme and with the permission of the landowner it is anticipated that any artefacts will be deposited with the relevant museum.

5.8 Environmental sampling

- 5.8.1 Environmental sampling was undertaken in accordance with WA's *Guidelines for Environmental Sampling* along with policies outlined in the ClfA's guidance documents and *Environmental Archaeology; A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (second edition)* (English Heritage 2011).
- 5.8.2 Bulk environmental soil samples for the recovery of plant macro fossils, wood charcoal, small animal bones and other small artefacts were taken as appropriate from well-sealed and datable archaeological contexts. Samples were of an appropriate size, for charred material typically from 20-40 litres, reduced to between 10-20 litres from waterlogged deposits, or 100 % of smaller contexts. Samples were not taken from the intersection of features or from those deposits with intrusive material.
- 5.8.3 Bulk environmental soil samples were processed by standard flotation methods and scanned to assess the environmental potential of deposits, but will not be fully analysed. The flot has been retained on a 0.25/0.5 mm mesh, with residues fractionated into 5.6/4 mm, 2 mm, 1 mm and 0.5 mm and dried as appropriate. Coarse fraction (>5.6/4 mm) was sorted, weighed and discarded, with any finds recovered given to the appropriate specialist. Finer residues will be retained until after analysis, with the project archive.
- 5.8.4 Other samples were taken, as appropriate, in consultation with WA specialists, the Assistant Archaeologist (WCC) and if appropriate the English Heritage Regional Science Advisor (e.g. soil micromorphology, pollen, microfossil, radiocarbon dating, dendrochronology etc).

5.9 Human remains

- 5.9.1 Upon the discovery of human remains, in accordance with the WSI and the tenets of the Ministry of Justice Licence (No.15-0188) they were, in the first instance, left *in situ*, covered and protected (**Plate 10**). WA informed the Client who notified the Assistant Archaeologist (WCC), at which point the need for and appropriateness of their excavation/removal as part of the fieldwork was determined. The greatest care was taken in dealing with human remains, in accordance with professional standards and in line with the latest government regulations.
- 5.9.2 Where human remains were excavated, all excavation and post-excavation was in accordance with the standards set out in ClfA Technical Paper 13 *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed remains* (McKinley and Roberts 1993). Where necessary, specialist guidance/site visits were undertaken by a WA osteologist. The final placing of human remains following analysis will be subject to the requirements of the Ministry of Justice Licence.

5.10 Treasure

- 5.10.1 WA would have notified the Client and Assistant Archaeologist (WCC) immediately if any material was recovered considered to be covered by the *Treasure Act 1996*. All necessary



information required by the *Treasure Act* (i.e. finder, location, material, date, associated items etc.) were reported to the County Coroner within 24 hours. No such material was recorded.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 Nine of the 42 excavated evaluation trenches contained archaeological features, predominantly consisting of modern features relating to the remains of a railway line, a modern building as well as archaeological features of uncertain date including a large ditch and two postholes. All features are discussed below and illustrated in **Figure 2**.
- 6.1.2 The results from the Zone 3 watching brief are separately detailed below and illustrated in **Figure 3**. A Middle Bronze Age inhumation burial was uncovered that was cut into an earlier ditch; two Bronze Age pits and a posthole of uncertain date were also recovered within close proximity of each other.
- 6.1.3 Detailed trench descriptions from the Zone 2 evaluation are tabulated in **Appendix 1**. Context descriptions from the Zone 3 watching brief are tabulated in **Appendix 2**.
- 6.1.4 Several trenches were moved from the positions set out by the WSI (WA 2015a) and **Trenches 2** and **42** were shortened in length due to constraints, mainly relating to the location of services. **Trenches 16** and **42** were extended upon the request of the Assistant Archaeologist (WCC) in order to further examine features and meet the objectives of the evaluation.

6.2 Soil sequence

- 6.2.1 The soil sequence was broadly similar across the Site. The underlying natural geology was chalk with evident periglacial striping.
- 6.2.2 Above the natural chalk, a subsoil (the lower part of an overlying developed soil) was identified in the majority of the evaluation trenches in Zone 2. This consisted of a mid-yellowish or reddish-brown silty clay with moderate flint and chalk inclusions (of variable depth, approximately 0.06–0.23 m). This deposit had a diffuse lower interface with the underlying weathered chalk natural, the parent material for the soil. On its upper surface it generally had a sharp horizon with the overlying grassed topsoil, a likely truncation horizon, perhaps suggesting that the ground had been cultivated or potentially stripped to the upper surface of this subsoil when the grassed sports pitches were formed in this part of the Site.
- 6.2.3 In a small number of trenches, modern made ground was discovered below the topsoil. **Trench 41** contained a thin layer (approximately 0.10 m deep) of modern made ground (**4102**) that contained rare (frequency) ceramic building material (CBM – not retained) that overlay the subsoil. Made ground was also found in **Trench 42** above the remains of a modern building (detailed below).
- 6.2.4 In all cases, the trenches were covered with grassed topsoil, a mid-yellowish/greyish brown silty loam deposit with sparse sub-angular flint inclusions and sparse small chalk pieces (approximately 0.20–0.25 m in depth).
- 6.2.5 In the Zone 3 watching brief area, the surface was formed of made ground of variable depth, approximately 0.3–0.4 m, overlying a subsoil intermittently surviving across the area, up to a maximum of 0.10 m deep.

6.3 Natural features and deposits

- 6.3.1 A significant proportion of trenches contained small slightly irregular features identified in plan; many of these were investigated by hand in order to confirm that they were natural geological features, and then were surveyed as such and not further recorded. Similarly tree-throws were surveyed as a separate category of their own for the formation of the Site plan and were also not further recorded.
- 6.3.2 **Trench 16** contained a feature that was initially considered to be archaeological. A short curving possible ditch segment measured approximately 4 m in length and appeared to terminate at either opposing end, with a width of 1.10 m and a depth of 0.25 m where excavated by hand in its central part (**1604**), where the cut was reasonably well defined with moderate straight sides and a narrow base (**Plate 1**). Nine pieces of worked flint and two burnt flints were recovered from its single secondary fill, a mid-reddish brown silty clay (**1605**), although these flints are likely to be residual, particularly as they were found within the upper 0.05 m of this deposit. The eastern possible terminus (**1606**) of this curving feature was also hand excavated and was not so clearly defined with irregular sides and base, no archaeological finds were recovered from fill **1607**.
- 6.3.3 Upon the request of the Assistant Archaeologist (WCC), **Trench 16** was extended southwards in order to determine whether there were further remains that could be associated with this curving possible ditch segment. A number of irregularly-shaped features were examined and recorded within this area that were all natural geological features (**1608**) representing periglacial features and solution hollows within the Chalk. No archaeological finds were recovered from these (**Plate 2**). Following comparison of the possible archaeological curving linear feature (**1604/1606**) with these natural features (**Plate 3**), it is concluded that curving linear feature **1604/1606** is actually also more likely to be a natural geological feature with the flint artefacts later naturally accumulating within a hollow, although this interpretation should be treated with caution.
- 6.3.4 **Trench 39** contained a large natural feature (**3904**) extending approximately 10 m in length and across the width of the trench (1.8 m +). At the request of the Assistant Archaeologist (WCC) a sondage was machine excavated through it to a depth of 3.6 m in order to ascertain if it was an archaeological or natural feature; observations made concluded that it was a natural feature known as a sinkhole.

6.4 Modern disturbance

- 6.4.1 Limited modern disturbance was recorded in the Zone 2 evaluation trenches. This consisted of a reduction in the level of the natural Chalk in **Trench 4** and a small rectilinear area of modern disturbance in **Trench 7**.
- 6.4.2 In the Zone 3 watching brief area, a far greater amount of modern disturbance was recorded consisting of soakaways, manhole covers, service trenches, pits, storage tanks, and cellars from buildings that had previously stood within this area of the Site. This disturbance was where practicable, surveyed for the formation of the Site plan. A variety of artefacts comprising a selection of glass bottles, cutlery and crockery were recovered from a rectangular pit (**47**) in the east of the Zone 3 area (**Plate 4**) which may relate to the early use of the military site: however the artefacts could not be retained for assessment due to asbestos contamination. A brick-lined circular feature (**46**), possibly a well or footing for above-ground structure was surveyed in the west of the watching brief area (**Plate 5**) but again could not be excavated by hand because of contamination concerns.

6.5 Zone 2 evaluation: modern features and deposits

- 6.5.1 **Trenches 25, 27, 28, 30, 34 and 35** contained the remains of a modern railway line (**Plate 6**). This consisted of a construction cut approximately 3 m in width (0.42 m in depth, where excavated) that was cut through the subsoil, and was filled with a mid-reddish brown silty clay and sometimes redeposited chalk and gravel make up layers, with evident tarmac and the degraded wood of railway sleepers. This feature was not fully excavated by hand in all of these trenches because areas had not been UXO cleared due to the high presence of ferrous targets.
- 6.5.2 **Trench 42** contained multiple layers of made ground (**4202-4205**) underlying the turfed topsoil (**4201**) to a depth of approximately 0.62 m below the present ground surface (**Plate 7**): all of the made ground layers contained material of modern date (CBM, glass, slate, metal – not retained). These made ground deposits physically overlay the recorded buried soil layer (**4206** representing the original soil sequence overlying the chalk) and stratigraphically overlay the *in situ* remains of a modern cavity wall (**4210**) of a building, therefore these made ground layers likely relate to subsequent ground levelling in this locality following the demolishing of the modern building.
- 6.5.3 In **Trench 42**, the remains of a modern building were uncovered and continued beyond the western edge of the trench (**Plate 8**). The construction cut (**4209**) was 'L'-shaped in plan, measuring 2.7 m by 2.0 m long and was 0.52 m wide and was recorded to cut buried soil deposit **4206**. Construction cut **4209** was filled with, in stratigraphic order, a foundation (**4211**) consisting of cemented flint nodules (not coursed) varying in height between 0.04 m and 0.18 m, upon which the modern wall (**4210**) was built. 'L'-shaped wall **4210** was formed of cemented London Brick Company Fletton bricks and one footing course survived completely across this south-west corner of the building showing the wall to be of one construction phase with the second and third courses only partially surviving: wall **4210** stood 0.08-0.24 m high. The courses were regular, but insufficient courses were present in order to determine the brick bonding; however the wall stepped in slightly after the initial footing course. The cement jointing was thin and regular, approximately 0.01 m thick, however the jointing of the second course was thicker (0.06 m thick) in the central area between the two leaves of bricks suggesting that the wall was of cavity construction.

6.6 Zone 2 evaluation: features of uncertain date

- 6.6.1 **Trench 12** contained a single rectangular posthole (**1204**) measuring 0.29 m long by 0.20 m wide and 0.09 m deep. It was filled with a single light yellowish brown silty loam deposit (**1205**) from which one piece of worked flint was recovered and rare (frequency) charcoal flecks recorded.
- 6.6.2 **Trench 27** contained a north-west to south-east aligned possible ditch (**2703**) measuring 0.63 m in width and 0.28 m in depth. This ditch had a concave base with slightly convex steeply sloping sides. One sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered from the upper portion of its single fill (**2704**), however this may be intrusive and is not considered sufficient to date the feature. No continuation of this possible ditch was recorded in any surrounding evaluation trenches.
- 6.6.3 A single undated posthole (**4003**) was uncovered in **Trench 40**. It was sub-circular in plan measuring 0.37 by 0.32 m, and was 0.15 m deep. No finds were recovered from its single secondary fill (**4004**).
- 6.6.4 **Trench 42** contained a substantial north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**4212**). It had steep straight sides and a concave base and was 2.10 m wide by 0.59 m deep (**Plate 9**). This ditch was cut into the natural chalk and its mid reddish brown silty clay secondary fill

(4213) was sealed by the buried soil layer (4207), which represents the original soil sequence overlying the chalk, and is proved stratigraphically earlier than the modern building remains in **Trench 42** (see above). No archaeological finds were recovered from this ditch and therefore it remains undated, although it is a definite archaeological feature.

6.7 Zone 3 watching brief: Bronze Age features

Ditch group 11

- 6.7.1 The stratigraphically earliest feature uncovered during the Zone 3 watching brief was a slightly sinuous ditch (group **11**) that extended on a north-north-west to south-south-east orientation for some 28 m across the eastern part of Zone 3 (**Plate 10**). Although several sections were excavated by hand through this feature, only small quantities of worked and burnt flint were recovered from its single secondary fill, and these whilst inferring a prehistoric date, do not provide a secure date. However, inhumation grave **6** was cut into the infilled ditch (cut **9**) and radiocarbon dates from the human bone returned a Middle Bronze Age date (section 7.7 below) providing a *terminus post quem* for this land division.
- 6.7.2 Ditch **11** appeared to terminate at its northernmost extent but excavation (cut **23**) revealed that it had suffered truncation.
- 6.7.3 At the southernmost extent of ditch **11**, one excavated section (cut **30**) was cut into an earlier feature (**27**), and is recorded as a re-cut of an earlier possible ditch segment (**27**). One piece of worked flint was the only find retrieved from the uppermost fill (**29**) of feature **27**. The later ditch (**30**) contained a dark greyish brown fill (**31**) from which four pieces of burnt flint were recovered. It is possible that feature **27** may be natural in origin as a degree of weathering can be seen in the sides of the profile and the surrounding chalk natural; the fills of feature **27** (**28** and **29**) may appear to be anthropogenic due to sediment leaching through from the physically overlying darker deposit (**31**) of ditch cut **30** (**Plate 11**).
- 6.7.4 Throughout its length, ditch **11** was variable in its depth, a minimum of 0.08 m (cut **8**) and a maximum of 0.24 m (cut **4**) which may suggest that it was in fact constructed in segments. Although no dating evidence was recovered from ditch **11**, it is likely to be of Bronze Age date because linear divisions of the landscape in this local area are unlikely to predate this period, and the Middle Bronze Age date of the inhumation burial as stated above provides a *terminus post quem*.

Middle Bronze Age inhumation burial

- 6.7.5 Grave **6** stratigraphically cut a fill of ditch **11** (fill **10** of cut **9**). The grave cut (**6**) was difficult to discern from the cut of the ditch because of truncation by machine (under watching brief conditions); however the grave cut measured approximately 1.53 m by 0.45 m and survived to a depth of 0.14 m. Root disturbance was also evident on the north-eastern side of the grave. The grave was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east, following the line of the earlier ditch (**Plate 12**).
- 6.7.6 The unaccompanied adult inhumation burial (context **7**) had been placed in a flexed position, lying on the left side, with the head at the north-north-west end of grave **6** facing eastwards (**Plate 13**). The inhumation and grave were 100% excavated following the procurement of a Ministry of Justice licence (No. 15-0188) and in accordance with the methods outlined in the WSI (WA 2015a). Assessment of the human bone is detailed in section 7.6 and a sample of the human bone was radiocarbon dated to the Middle Bronze Age (1500–1300 cal BC – detailed in section 7.7).

- 6.7.7 Inhumation grave **6** was backfilled with a mid-yellowish brown silty clay deposit with common chalk pieces and rare small flints with fine rooting noted throughout. No artefacts were recovered (context **8**). There was little discernible difference between this and the fill of the earlier ditch **11** (fill **10** of cut **9**).

Bronze Age pits

- 6.7.8 Circular pit **32** was located approximately 5 m east of the southernmost extent of ditch **11**. It was cut into the natural chalk and measured 1.2 m in diameter and 0.24 m in depth (**Plate 14**). It was initially half-sectioned and then 100% excavated and sampled for the recovery of environmental evidence (see section 8). It was filled with three deposits: the earliest of these was a deliberate dump (fill **33**) containing a large quantity of burnt flint and a worked flint assemblage with microdebitage. The material within fill **33** is probably related directly to the backfilling of the feature. Four sherds of probable Early Bronze Age pottery (perhaps belonging to a coarse Beaker) were also recovered from this context. The overlying fills (**34** and **35**) did not contain any artefacts and were likely formed through natural silting (accumulative sedimentation).
- 6.7.9 A substantial pit (**36**) (**Plate 15**) was located approximately 7 m from the northernmost extent of ditch **11**. Pit **36** was excavated in quadrants and it was established that it was cut by a later tree-throw (**44**) which contained no artefacts. The pit was oval in plan measuring 3.8 by 3.5 m and was 1.18 m+ in depth (the pit was not fully bottomed because of health and safety limitations): there was a shallow lip (0.15-0.30 m wide) around the upper edges of the cut. The sides descended steeply and had a convex profile.
- 6.7.10 Pit **36** was filled with a number of deposits (fills **37-43**): the earliest light greyish brown fills with common chalk pieces derived from the weathering of the feature sides and initial silting (**37-39**); these did not contain any artefacts. A number of artefacts were recovered from secondary fill **40** consisting of a variety of animal bones (including part of a sheep/goat bone point or gauge object), burnt flint and worked flint (including a retouched knife tool possibly of Early Bronze Age date). Finds retrieved from the overlying fills (dumped backfill **41** and secondary fill **42**) include sherds of both flint-tempered Middle or Late Bronze Age pottery together with three possible Beaker sherds of earlier Bronze Age date, this together with the worked flint assemblage indicates some redeposition i.e. that not all the finds may be contemporary. The largest concentration of animal bone from the Site (mainly cattle and sheep/goat) came from secondary fill (**42**), which was also bulk sampled for environmental information (see section 8). Animal bone was also recovered from the upper tertiary fill (**43**) of pit **36**.

Posthole of uncertain date

- 6.7.11 A single sub-circular posthole (**12**) was located 0.5 m east of ditch **11**. It measured 0.32 m in diameter and 0.10 m in depth and was filled with a single secondary fill (**13**) from which no artefacts were recovered (**Plate 16**). Of uncertain date, the spatial proximity of the posthole with the other Bronze Age features may infer a similar phase.

7 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 The Zone 2 evaluation and Zone 3 watching brief produced a small quantity of finds ranging in date from prehistoric to post-medieval, and occurring in a restricted range of material types; a quantified breakdown by material and by context is given in **Table 1**.
- 7.1.2 Human bone from the unaccompanied inhumation burial recovered from the Zone 3 watching brief was subject to assessment: in the absence of any dating evidence a 2.6 g

sample of bone (right tibia) was submitted for radiocarbon dating, the results of which determined a Middle Bronze Age date (see section 7.7).

Table 1: All finds by context (number/weight in grammes)

| Context | Animal Bone | Burnt Flint | Flint | Human Bone | Pottery |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------|---------------|
| 0007 | | | | 1/1 | |
| 0016 | | 1/288 | 2/34 | | |
| 0019 | | | 1/12 | | |
| 0029 | | | 4/47 | | |
| 0031 | | 4/130 | | | |
| 0033 | | 1299/19340 | 42/336 | | 4/8 |
| 0040 | 7/69 | 2/266 | 19/285 | | |
| 0041 | 15/209 | 19/1625 | 40/1117 | | 1/5 |
| 0042 | 252/2205 | 19/1295 | 54/1347 | | 8/388 |
| 0043 | 48/239 | | | | |
| 0801 | | | 1/21 | | |
| 1205 | | | 1/3 | | |
| 1601 | | | 1/22 | | |
| 1605 | | | 13/572 | | |
| 2704 | | | | | 1/31 |
| 2901 | | 1/68 | | | |
| 3701 | | | 4/80 | | |
| u/s | 1/3 | | 7/102 | | |
| Total | 323/2725 | 1345/23012 | 192/4090 | | 14/432 |

7.2 Pottery

7.2.1 Of the 14 sherds recovered, 13 are of later prehistoric date and one of post-medieval date.

Prehistoric

7.2.2 Four sherds in a sandy fabric (from pit **32**) are most likely to be of Early Bronze Age date, perhaps belonging to a coarse Beaker. One sherd derives from a simple squared rim; the others are featureless.

7.2.3 A group of six flint-tempered sherds from context **42** in pit **36** appear to derive from two or three different Middle or Late Bronze Age vessels. Only featureless body sherds are present. Three much more abraded sherds in a sandy fabric (including one base angle and one with finger nail rustication) from fills **41** and **42** in the same feature may be additional coarse Beaker. Synonymous with the flint from this feature (below) the mix of types suggests some redeposition.

Post-medieval

7.2.4 A single sherd from ditch **2703** (context **2704**) can be identified as a rim from a Verwood-type earthenware vessel from east Dorset.

7.3 Worked flint

- 7.3.1 A total of 185 pieces of worked flint was recovered from 13 contexts. The most significant collection comprised 36 pieces, including 23 chips of core preparation debris from context **33** in Bronze Age pit **32**. This group of material, characterised by cortical flakes also included two refitting flakes and other pieces that were undoubtedly derived from the same nodule. The presence of microdebitage also suggests that the material is related directly to the filling of the feature; however the inclusion of a broken burnt piece may indicate a short hiatus between flake production and the episode of dumping.
- 7.3.2 The largest collections of worked flints were recovered from contexts **40**, **41** and **42**, which collectively produced 121 artefacts, and are fills within Bronze Age pit **36**. These collections contain elements of the entire flaking sequence and include cores and retouched tools. However the surface condition of these pieces is more diverse than the collection from pit **32** (context **33**), they are also dominated by unbroken flakes and there is a marked absence of microdebitage. These observations suggest that there is a greater likelihood that the individual pieces are mixed and may not be contemporary.
- 7.3.3 The most notable retouched tool from these groups comprised a knife from Bronze Age pit **36** (context **40**). The blank selection and application of the delicate pressure flaked retouch along both edges is reminiscent of the style and manufacture of a similar implement found with the Amesbury Archer (Fitzpatrick 2011), suggesting that it may be of Early Bronze Age date. All other retouched tools from these collections are dominated by scrapers, none of which are noteworthy.
- 7.3.4 The remaining nine contexts (**16**, **19**, **29**, **801**, **1205**, **1601**, **1605**, **3701** and unstratified material) contained insufficient quantities to provide meaningful comment. Artefacts were variable in condition and probably residual.

7.4 Burnt flint

- 7.4.1 Burnt, unworked flint was also recovered. This material type is intrinsically undatable, although often taken as an indicator of prehistoric activity. In this instance, this does seem to be the case, as the distribution of burnt, unworked flint coincides very closely with that of the worked flint.

7.5 Animal bone

- 7.5.1 A total of 323 fragments (or 2.725 kg) of animal bone was recovered from Bronze Age pit **36** during the watching brief. Once conjoins have been taken into account this falls to 132 fragments (**Table 2**).
- 7.5.2 Identified bones from fill **40**, near the base of the pit, include a horse patella, cattle atlas vertebra, a fragment of roe deer maxilla and part of a bone point or gouge made from a modified sheep/goat metacarpal. Dump deposit **41** contained a few further fragments of cattle and sheep/goat bones including elements from the cranial and post-cranial skeleton. The largest concentration of bone fragments, about 78 % of the total, came from fill **42**, a secondary deposit overlying fill **41**. Most of the identified bones are from cattle and sheep/goat; they include a range of different skeletal elements, although bones from the forelimbs of cattle were more common than other body parts. Mandibles were recovered from two 30–36 month old cattle and a 1–2 year old sheep/goat. Other identified bones include a pig femur and skull fragments and the baculum (or os penis) from a dog. Six poorly preserved cattle bones were recovered from the upper tertiary fill **43**, of the pit.

Table 2: Animal bone: number of identified specimens present (or NSIP)

| Species | N |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| cattle | 34 |
| sheep/goat | 17 |
| pig | 3 |
| horse | 1 |
| dog | 1 |
| roe deer | 1 |
| Total identified | 57 |
| Total unidentifiable | 75 |
| Overall total | 132 |

7.6 Human bone

Methods

- 7.6.1 The bone was rapidly scanned to assess its condition, the age and sex of the individual, the potential for indices and the presence of pathological lesions. Assessment of age and sex was based on standard methodologies (Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Scheuer and Black 2000). Grading for bone condition followed McKinley (2004, fig 6).

Results

- 7.6.2 Poorly defined inhumation grave **6**, which survived to a depth of 0.14 m, was cut through gully **9** (which contained no dateable artefacts), and into the underlying natural chalk. The body had been placed in the grave in a flexed position, lying on the left side. The backfill (context **8**) was a chalky silty-clay.
- 7.6.3 The bone is in a fair condition, with moderate surface erosion and root etching (grade 3–4). Approximately 35% of the skeleton was recovered, much of which is moderately to heavily fragmented. Bone loss and fragmentation was mainly due to the circumstances of discovery i.e. mechanical excavation under watching brief conditions, though some crushing occurred in antiquity, and some disturbance had been caused by modern root systems. Dark grey fungal staining, usually associated with roots, was sparsely distributed across much of the skeleton.
- 7.6.4 The remains are those of an adult possible male *c.* 30–40 years old. Dental pathology includes calculus and periodontal disease; heavy chipping of the tooth enamel was also observed. Other pathological lesions include slight *Cribra orbitalia* – indicative of metabolic problems, and a cyst or localised infection in the left orbit. Mild degenerative changes to the spine and right thumb were also noted. A few standard measurements are possible, though it is unlikely that stature will be calculable.

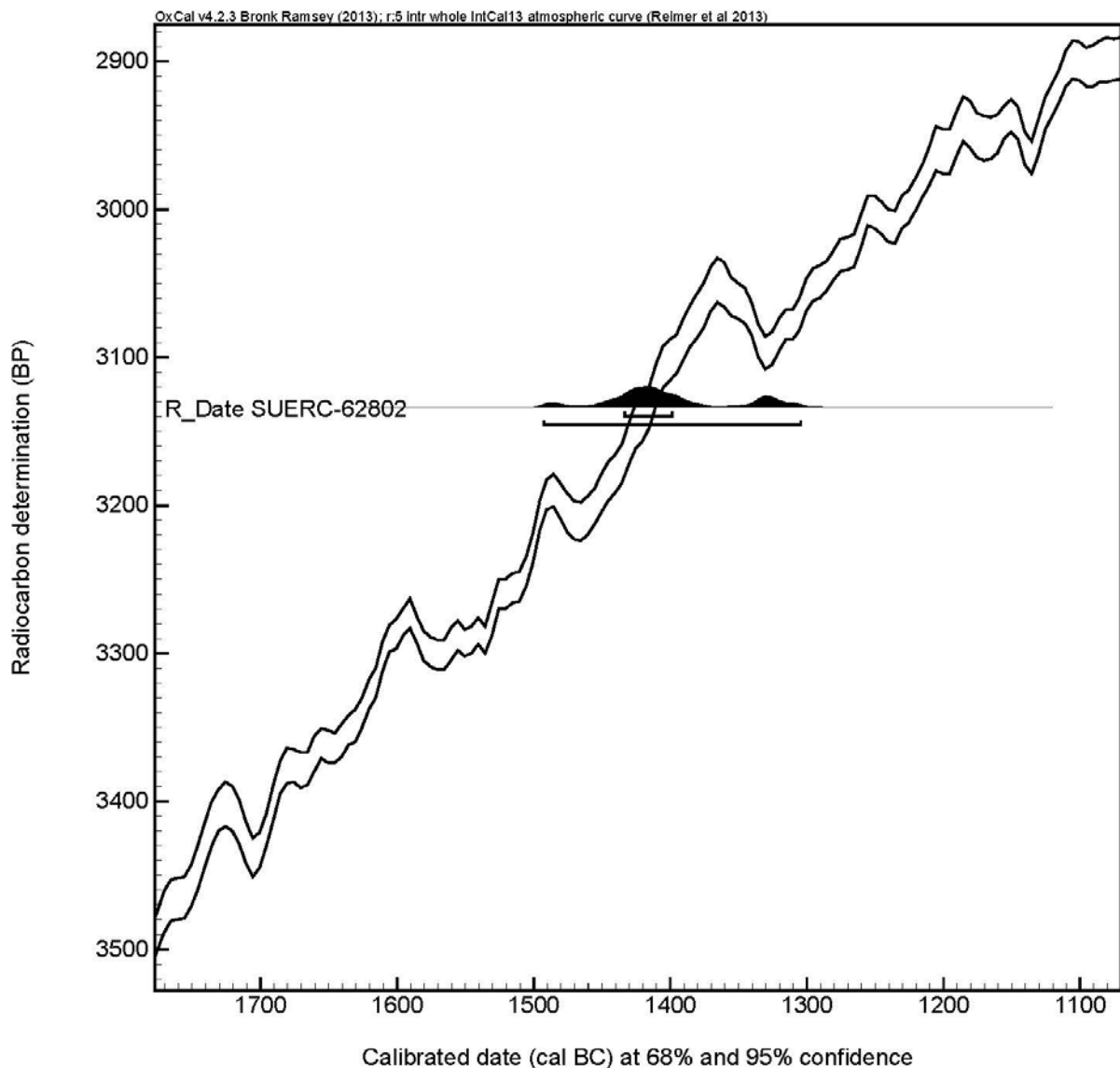
7.7 Radiocarbon dating

- 7.7.1 A single radiocarbon date was obtained from a sample of articulated human bone selected from the inhumation burial and submitted to the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (**Table 3**). It has been calculated using the calibration curve of Reimer *et al.* (2013) and the computer programme OxCal (v4.2.3) (Bronk Ramsey and Lee 2013) and cited in the text at 95% confidence and quoted in the form recommended by Mook (1986), with the end points rounded outwards to 10 years. The range in plain type in the radiocarbon table has been calculated according to the maximum intercept method (Stuiver and Reimer 1986).

- 7.7.2 In addition, the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values (-21.2 and 8.5 with a ratio of 3.3) for the sample are consistent with a terrestrial diet and, therefore, the potential for a date offset is unlikely (see Bayliss *et al.* 2004). Dietary offsets can cause radiocarbon measurements to appear older than their actual date, which in turn can lead to misleading conclusions about the phase of a site.
- 7.7.3 The date (SUERC-62802) confirms that the burial was made at some point during the 15th or 14th century cal BC (at 95% confidence) corresponding with the Middle Bronze Age and the currency of Deverel-Rimbury pottery.

Table 3: Radiocarbon date

| Laboratory Code | Feature and context | Material Identification | Radiocarbon Age (BP) | $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰) | $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰) | C:N Ratio | Calibrated Date Range (95.4% confidence) cal BC |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|---|
| SUERC-62802 | Grave 6 | Human bone, ?right tibia | 3135±31 | -21.2 | 8.5 | 3.3 | 1500-1300 |





8 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 Two bulk samples were taken from Bronze Age pits **32** and **36** within Zone 3 watching brief area and were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoal.

8.2 Charred plant remains

8.2.1 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 3**. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, Tables 3, page 28 and 5, page 65), for cereals.

8.2.2 The flots were generally large with low to high numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. The charred material was poorly preserved.

8.2.3 Very few charred plant remains were recorded from these Bronze Age pits. A few fragments of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) were recovered from pit **36**.

8.3 Charcoal

8.3.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 3**. A high number of charcoal fragments greater than 2 mm were noted in the sample from pit **32** and a moderately small number from pit **36**. The charcoal included mature wood fragments.

8.4 Land snails

8.4.1 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. The numbers of shells and the presence of taxonomic groups were quantified (**Table 4**). Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999), Davies (2008) and Evans (1972). The presence of these shells may aid in broadly characterising the nature of the wider landscape.

8.4.2 A shell of the Introduced *Helicellids* species was recorded in the sample from pit **32**. This is likely to be intrusive within the sample.

8.4.3 Large numbers of shells were recovered from pit **36**. These included shells of the open country species *Vallonia costata*, *Vallonia excentrica*, *Helicella itala*, *Pupilla muscorum* and *Vertigo pygmaea*, the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*, *Pomatias elegans*, *Cochlicopa* sp. and *Cepaea* sp., and the shade-loving species *Carychium tridentatum*, *Discus rotundatus*, *Oxychilus cellarius*, *Aegopinella nitidula*, *Aegopinella pura*, *Vitrea* sp., *Clausilia bidentata*, *Merdigera obscura* and *Acanthinula aculeata*.

8.4.4 Although the majority of the shade-loving species observed can be found in both leaf litter and long grass habitats, some of the species, such as *Acanthinula aculeata*, are indicative of woodland environments. The assemblage appears to be indicative of a generally open downland landscape, possibly of both pasture and arable, with areas of longer grass and

some woodland in the vicinity. This is comparable with other assemblages from Bronze Age deposits elsewhere on Salisbury Plain.

9 CONCLUSION

9.1 Zone 2 evaluation

Discussion of results

- 9.1.1 Despite the known archaeological potential of the Site, the archaeological evaluation only identified a very low level of features. The majority of these features are of modern date and appear to relate to the earlier history of the Porton Down military establishment, although features of uncertain date were also uncovered including a substantial ditch in the far west of the Site as well as a smaller possible ditch and two postholes.
- 9.1.2 The location of sub-surface remains of a since demolished railway in the south of Zone 2 correspond to the line of a 'light railway' marked on Ordnance Survey (OS) maps from 1925–1961, although by 1961 it is labelled as 'disused'. In the west of Zone 2, the limited remains of a modern building (represented by its footings) approximately correspond to the location of a small building associated with the military establishment shown on OS maps from 1961 and 1977. Although the date of its demolition is unclear, as is its purpose, this information could possibly be revealed by examination of Dstl's archive.
- 9.1.3 The large archaeological ditch recorded in the west of Zone 2 (Trench 42), although of uncertain date, may potentially be associated with the later prehistoric divisions of the landscape known in the Porton Down area: a 'Wessex Linear' ditch (considered to be of Late Bronze Age date) of a similar size but on a different alignment was discovered in excavations undertaken approximately 300 m to the south-east of Zone 2 (Andrews and Thompson forthcoming).

Conclusion

- 9.1.4 The Zone 2 evaluation indicates that there is a very low density of archaeological remains of low significance in this specific area of land in Dstl Porton Down. Any mitigation required within the Zone 2 part of the Site, considering the results of this evaluation, is the decision of WCC.

9.2 Zone 3 watching brief

Discussion of results

- 9.2.1 The watching brief in Zone 3 uncovered a small quantity of archaeological remains in the east of the observed area that were dated to the Bronze Age. Evidence comprised a slightly sinuous ditch that could not be precisely dated, although it has been established by stratigraphic excavation to be earlier than a radiocarbon dated Middle Bronze Age inhumation burial. A short distance to the east of this landscape division, one small pit and a larger pit were both also dated to the Bronze Age and contained a range of artefacts indicative of contemporary occupation or settlement within the local area. A single posthole identified in close proximity to the other remains was of uncertain date.

Recommendations

- 9.2.2 A Statement of Potential and Proposals solely in relation to the results of the Zone 3 watching brief is outlined below which will lead to the production of a short article, to be submitted to the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine.



10 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL AND PROPOSALS

10.1 Archaeological sequence

- 10.1.1 The archaeological sequence has the potential to add to known evidence of Bronze Age funerary practice, landscape divisions and occupation within the local area.
- 10.1.2 No further analysis of the stratigraphic sequence is required as this has been completed for this assessment.
- 10.1.3 The results of the watching brief presented above will be edited for publication and considered in their broader archaeological context, with particular reference to other recent investigations at Porton Down.

10.2 Finds

- 10.2.1 Further analysis is only proposed for the human bone. The pottery, worked flint and animal bone have already been analysed to an appropriate level and the results above will be edited for inclusion in the publication report.
- 10.2.2 Full analysis of the human bone will allow limited osteological data to be retrieved, allowing a more informed assessment of age and sex of the individual, and potentially providing further information regarding health and lifestyle. The data will add to the existing corpus of Middle Bronze Age information to that gathered from nearby archaeological investigations (Andrews and Thompson forthcoming), and ones in the wider area (McKinley forthcoming, Egging Dinwiddy 2015), where analysis tentatively suggests that different mortuary rites were favoured for different members of the community (McKinley forthcoming). The findings will lead to a better understanding of the lives and rituals of the Bronze Age inhabitants of the region.
- 10.2.3 For the human bone, all unsorted <4 mm residues will be subject to a rapid scan at this stage to extract any identifiable material, osseous or artefactual. Taphonomic factors potentially affecting differential bone preservation will be assessed. The minimum number of individuals will be assessed following McKinley 2004. The age of individuals will be assessed using standard methodologies (Brothwell 1972; Beek 1983; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Scheuer and Black 2000). Sex will be ascertained from the sexually dimorphic traits of the skeleton (Bass 1987; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994). Where possible a standard set of measurement will be taken (Brothwell and Zakrzewski 2004) and non-metric traits recorded (Berry and Berry 1967; Finnegan 1978). Pathological lesions will be recorded in text and via digital photography; some lesions may warrant photographing for publication purposes. It will be necessary to make X-radiographs of skeletal elements showing evidence of trauma or infection to ascertain, as far as possible, the full nature of the lesions.

10.3 Environmental

- 10.3.1 The ecofacts have little potential to provide detailed information on the nature of the local environment in the Bronze Age, given the small assemblage and absence of charred plant remains.
- 10.3.2 No further analysis of the environmental samples is required and the results of the assessment will be edited for inclusion in the publication report.



11 RESOURCES AND PUBLICATION

11.1 Proposed publication

11.1.1 It is proposed that, following the further analyses outlined above, the results of the watching brief will be reported on in the form of a short illustrated article of approximately three pages in the regional journal, *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine*.

11.1.2 Once the post-excavation assessment report has been approved the programme for further analysis and likely publication timetable will be confirmed.

11.2 Management structure

11.2.1 WA operates a project management system. The team will be headed by a Post-Excavation Manager who will assume ultimate responsibility for the implementation and execution of the project.

11.2.2 The Post-Excavation Manager will ensure that the report meets internal quality standards as defined in WA's guidelines.

11.3 Task list

11.3.1 The following WA staff are scheduled to undertake the work for post-excavation analysis and publication, as outlined below in **Table 4**.

Table 4: Task list

| Task no. | Description | Grade | WA staff | Days |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------|------------------|-------|
| Management and support | | | | |
| | Project management, QA and editing | SPM | Pippa Bradley | 0.5 |
| Stratigraphy | | | | |
| | Stratigraphic reporting and background research | SPO | Gail Wakeham | 1 |
| | Illustration of features and deposits | PO | GO | 1 |
| Finds analysis and reporting | | | | |
| | Human bone analysis and reporting | PO | Kirsten Dinwiddy | 1.75 |
| | Pottery, flint and animal bone reporting | PM | Matt Leivers | 0.25 |
| Environmental reporting | | | | |
| | Overview and environmental summary | SPO | tbc | 0.25 |
| Publication | | | | |
| | Journal cost | | ext | |
| Archiving | | | | |
| | Archive preparation | PS | Catherine Coates | 0.25 |
| | Archive deposition | PS | Catherine Coates | 0.125 |
| | Box storage grant (2boxes) | | ext | |

12 STORAGE AND CURATION

12.1 Museum

12.1.1 It is recommended that the finds and archive be deposited with Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum on completion of the project, though it should be noted that this is currently a closed repository, not accepting archaeological archives. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner

12.2 Preparation and deposition of archive

- 12.2.1 On completion of the report a cross-referenced and internally consistent archive will be produced, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the local museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014d; Brown 2011; ADS 2013). All archive elements will be marked with the Site code (108953), and a full index will be prepared.
- 12.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the project code (108953), and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:
- 2 cardboard boxes of artefacts & ecofacts, ordered by material type
 - 2 files/document cases of paper records & A3/A4 graphics
 - 1 x A1 graphic
- 12.2.3 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the Wiltshire HER. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive).

12.3 Discard policy

- 12.3.1 WA follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (SMA 1993 and 1995) which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 12.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2011).

12.4 Security Copy

- 12.4.1 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.

12.5 Storage of materials and archives

- 12.5.1 No charge will be made for the temporary storage of finds or archives during the period when WA are undertaking analysis or report preparation.
- 12.5.2 However, if, after completion and submission of the report, finds and archives cannot be deposited with the relevant museum due to circumstances beyond WA's control, a charge will be made for storage.
- 12.5.3 A charge for storage may also be made where a delay is caused by a lack of confirmation of post-fieldwork analyses and report, if the delay exceeds three months.



12.6 Copyright

- 12.6.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by WA under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The 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 to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.

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14 APPENDICES

14.1 Appendix 1: Zone 2 evaluation trench summary tables

| TRENCH 1 | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 28.92 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m):0.42 | Ground level (maOD): 103.60 |
| Co-ordinates: 421303.54E 137023.48N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 101 | Layer | Topsoil: Dark yellowish brown silt loam. Fine rooting. Sparse sub angular stones <0.04m. Friable, loose, diffuse horizon. | 0-0.18 |
| 102 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: Mid yellowish brown silty clay, moderate chalk pea grit, sparse sub angular stones <0.05m, diffuse horizon. | 0.18-0.25 |
| 103 | Layer | Natural: light yellowish white chalk with sporadic sparse pockets of pea grit. Periglacial scarring. | 0.25+ |

| TRENCH 2 | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 22.49 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.59 | Ground level (maOD):103.54 |
| Co-ordinates: 421295.81E 137013.91N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 201 | Layer | Topsoil: dark yellowish brown silty loam. Rooted, sparse sub angular stones <0.04m, friable, undulating fairly distinct horizon. | 0-0.23 |
| 202 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: Mid reddish brown silty clay, moderate, sub angular stones <0.06m, moderate chalk fragments, diffuse horizon. | 0.23-0.40 |
| 203 | Layer | Natural: Light yellowish white chalk with periglacial striping. Pockets of pea grit. | 0.40+ |

| TRENCH 3 | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.51 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m):0.54 | Ground level (maOD):103.60 |
| Co-ordinates: 421287.20E 136973.96N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 301 | Layer | Topsoil: dark yellowish brown silt loam, rooted, sparse sub angular stones <0.04m, rare chalk fragments, diffuse horizon. | 0-0.20 |
| 302 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid reddish brown silty clay, common chalk fragments, moderate sub angular stones <0.05m, bioturbated, diffuse horizon. | 0.20-0.40 |
| 303 | Layer | Natural: light yellowish white chalk mottled with light reddish brown silty clay, moderate flint nodules | 0.40+ |

| TRENCH 4 | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.35 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m):0.60 | Ground level (maOD): 103.53 |
| Co-ordinates: 421262.43E 136973.58N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 401 | Layer | Topsoil: dark yellowish brown silty loam, rooted, moderate flint <0.05m, diffuse horizon. | 0-0.25 |
| 402 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid reddish brown silty clay, rare pea grit, diffuse horizon. | 0.25-0.39 |
| 403 | Layer | Natural: Light whitish chalk with thin stripes of yellowish brown silty chalk, sparse sub angular flint. | 0.39+ |



| TRENCH 5 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 30.31 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m):0.58 | Ground level (maOD):104.24 |
| Co-ordinates: 421245.05E 136914.17N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 501 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, friable, rooted, moderate sub angular flint <0.05m, clear horizon. | 0-0.29 |
| 502 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rooting, rare sub angular flint, moderate chalk. | 0.29-0.49 |
| 503 | Layer | Natural: light yellowish white chalk, friable, periglacial patches. | 0.49+ |

| TRENCH 6 | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.436 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m):0.54 | Ground level (maOD):104.37 |
| Co-ordinates: 421228.45E 136891.79N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 601 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, friable, rooted, moderate sub angular flint <0.02m, clear horizon. | 0-0.26 |
| 602 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint <0.02m, rare chalk flecks, distinct horizon. | 0.26-0.54 |
| 603 | Layer | Natural: white chalk, light yellowish brown friable periglacial patches | 0.54+ |

| TRENCH 7 | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 28.73 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m):0.72 | Ground level (maOD):104.60 |
| Co-ordinates: 421263.26E 136894.15N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 701 | Layer | Topsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rooted, moderate poorly sorted angular to sub angular flint, diffuse horizon. | 0-0.25 |
| 702 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: light yellowish brown silty clay, moderate sub angular flints, rare-sparse chalk nodules, clear horizon. | 0.25-0.59 |
| 703 | Layer | Natural: off-white chalk in a light whitish brown matrix of degraded chalk and silty clay, moderate periglacial striping, moderate outcrops of large flint nodules. | 0.59+ |

| TRENCH 8 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 28.82 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m):0.74 | Ground level (maOD):104.33 |
| Co-ordinates: 421268.18E 136914.02N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 801 | Layer | Topsoil: Light yellowish brown silty loam, friable, rooted, sparse sub angular flint <0.04m, clear horizon. | 0-0.31 |
| 802 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint and chalk <0.04m, diffuse horizon | 0.31-0.63 |
| 803 | Layer | Natural: off-white chalk, light yellowish white friable periglacial patches. | 0.63+ |



| TRENCH 9 | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.89 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.56 | Ground level (maOD):104.82 |
| Co-ordinates: 421282.87E 136875.46N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 901 | Layer | Topsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rooted, moderate-common poorly-sorted angular to sub angular flint, rare chalk flecks, diffuse horizon. | 0-0.28 |
| 902 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: light yellowish brown silty clay, moderate-common poorly-sorted angular to sub angular flint, rare chalk flecks, clear horizon. | 0.28-0.45 |
| 903 | Layer | Natural: off-white chalk in a matrix of degraded chalk and silty clay, common periglacial striping, moderate outcrops of large flint nodules. | 0.45+ |

| TRENCH 10 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.86 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.57 | Ground level (maOD):104.76 |
| Co-ordinates: 421284.17E 136851.18N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 1001 | Layer | Topsoil: Light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, moderate sub angular flints <0.04m, clear horizon. | 0-0.27 |
| 1002 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint <0.03m, rare chalk flecks, moderately compact, clear horizon. | 0.27-0.46 |
| 1003 | Layer | Natural: chalk bedrock, light yellowish brown friable periglacial patches and scarring, rare sub angular flint <0.05m | 0.46+ |

| TRENCH 11 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.37 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.60 | Ground level (maOD): 104.62 |
| Co-ordinates: 421288.67E 136892.35N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 1101 | Layer | Topsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rooted, moderate-common poorly sorted angular to sub angular flint, rare chalk flecks, diffuse horizon. | 0-0.25 |
| 1102 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: light yellowish brown silty clay, moderate-common angular to sub angular flint, rare chalk flecks, clear horizon. | 0.25-0.45 |
| 1103 | Layer | Natural: off-white matrix of degraded chalk and silty clay, sparse outcrops of large flint nodules, common periglacial striping. | 0.45+ |



| TRENCH 12 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.79 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.60 | Ground level (maOD):104.48 |
| Co-ordinates: 421316.94E 136900.88N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 1201 | Layer | Topsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rooted, moderate-common poorly sorted angular to sub angular flint, rare chalk flecks, clear horizon. | 0-0.30 |
| 1202 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: light yellowish brown silty clay, moderate-common poorly sorted angular to sub angular flint, rare chalk flecks. | 0.30-0.50 |
| 1203 | Layer | Natural: off-white matrix of degraded chalk and silty clay. Common periglacial striping, moderate outcrops of large flint nodules. | 0.50+ |
| 1204 | Cut | Posthole: 0.29m by 0.20m by 0.09m. Rectangular with shallow, concave sides and an irregular base. | 0.09 |
| 1205 | Fill | Secondary Fill: light yellowish brown silty loam, moderate sub angular flint <0.05m and rare chalk flecks. | 0.09 |

| TRENCH 13 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 30.38 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.48 | Ground level (maOD):104.67 |
| Co-ordinates: 421324.85E 136877.59N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 1301 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty clay loam, rooted, friable, moderate sub angular flint <0.05m, clear horizon. | 0-0.23 |
| 1302 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, moderately compact, rare sub angular flint <0.04m, moderate chalk flecks, clear horizon. | 0.23-0.42 |
| 1303 | Layer | Natural: compact greyish white chalk, light yellowish brown periglacial patches and striping, rare sub angular flint <0.03m. | 0.42+ |

| TRENCH 14 | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 30.53 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.46 | Ground level (maOD):104.84 |
| Co-ordinates: 421289.83E 136858.67N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 1401 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty clitoris, rooted, rare sub angular flint < 0.02m, rare chalk flecks, friable, clear horizon. | 0-0.19 |
| 1402 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint <0.02m, loose, diffuse horizon. | 0.19-0.26 |
| 1403 | Layer | Natural: off-white chalk, light yellowish white periglacial patches and striping, moderate sub angular flint and chalk. | 0.26+ |

| TRENCH 15 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.19 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.43 | Ground level (maOD):104.84 |
| Co-ordinates: 421330.33E 136851.13N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 1501 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, moderate sub angular flint <0.03m, clear horizon. | 0-0.21 |
| 1502 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: Mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint <0.03m, sparse chalk flecks, moderately compact, diffuse horizon. | 0.21-0.35 |
| 1503 | Layer | Natural: greyish white chalk, periglacial scarring, rare sub angular flint <0.05m. | 0.35+ |



| TRENCH 16 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.45 by 2.10. | | Max. depth (m): 0.54 | Ground level (maOD): 104.85 |
| Extension is 8.24 by 8.06 | | | |
| Co-ordinates: 421296.36E 136848.91N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 1601 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, moderate sub angular flint <0.04m, clear horizon. | 0-0.28 |
| 1602 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint <0.03m, rare chalk flecks, moderately compact, clear horizon. | 0.28-0.50 |
| 1603 | Layer | Natural: greyish white chalk, periglacial patches and striping. | 0.50+ |
| 1604 | Cut | Natural feature: 1m+ by 1.10m by 0.25m. curvilinear in plan with irregular sides and base. Originally thought to be a curving ditch segment. | 0.25 |
| 1605 | Fill | Secondary fill: mid yellowish brown silty clay, common poorly sorted sub rounded to sub angular flint nodules<0.20m, sparse sub angular worn chalk nodules, rare burnt flint, rare flint flakes. | 0.25 |
| 1606 | Cut | Natural feature: 0.72m+ by 0.60m by 0.20m, curvilinear in plan with irregular sides and base. Originally thought to be curving ditch terminus. | 0.20 |
| 1607 | Fill | Secondary fill: mid yellowish brown silty clay, sparse sub angular weathered chalk nodules, sparse poorly sorted sub angular to sub rounded flint <0.02m. | 0.20 |
| 1608 | Cut | Natural feature: 4.95m 0.60m+ by 0.67m. irregular in plan, sides and base. | 0.67 |
| 1609 | Fill | Secondary fill: mid reddish brown silty clay, very rare chalk flecks, rare subangular flint <0.20m. | 0.67 |

| TRENCH 17 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 30.25 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.44 | Ground level (maOD):104.65 |
| Co-ordinates: 421331.45E 136866.51N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 1701 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, sparse sub angular flint <0.03m, clear horizon. | 0-0.20 |
| 1702 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint < 0.01m, very rare chalk flecks, moderately compact, clear horizon. | 0.20-0.26 |
| 1703 | Layer | Natural: greyish white chalk, periglacial patches and striping, compact. | 0.26+ |

| TRENCH 18 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 30.67 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.46 | Ground level (maOD): 104.58 |
| Co-ordinates: 421361.31E 136871.69N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 1801 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, sparse sub angular flint <0.04m, clear horizon. | 0-0.31 |
| 1802 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint < 0.02m, very rare chalk flecks, moderately compact, clear horizon. | 0.31-0.40 |
| 1803 | Layer | Natural: greyish white chalk, periglacial patches and striping, compact. | 0.40+ |



| TRENCH 19 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 30.23 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.68 | Ground level (maOD):104.87 |
| Co-ordinates: 421328.75E 136827.08N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 1901 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, sparse sub angular flint <0.03m, clear horizon. | 0-0.24 |
| 1902 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint < 0.06m, very rare chalk flecks, moderately compact, clear horizon. | 0.24-0.36 |
| 1903 | Layer | Natural: greyish white chalk, periglacial patches and striping, compact, rare flint <0.03m | 0.36+ |

| TRENCH 20 | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 30.74 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.53 | Ground level (maOD):104.74 |
| Co-ordinates: 421337.62E 136814.81N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 2001 | Layer | Topsoil: yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, sparse sub angular flint <0.07m, clear horizon. | 0-0.16 |
| 2002 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare chalk flecks, moderately compact, clear horizon. | 0.16-0.35 |
| 2003 | Layer | Natural: greyish white chalk, periglacial patches and striping, compact, rare flint <0.03m. | 0.35+ |

| TRENCH 21 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.84 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.48 | Ground level (maOD):104.71 |
| Co-ordinates: 421359.94E 136798.75N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 2101 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, sparse sub angular flint <0.04m, clear horizon. | 0-0.26 |
| 2102 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint < 0.02m, very rare chalk flecks, moderately compact, clear horizon. | 0.26-0.38 |
| 2103 | Layer | Natural: light yellowish white chalk, periglacial patches and striping, compact. | 0.38+ |

| TRENCH 22 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.89 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.45 | Ground level (maOD):104.05 |
| Co-ordinates: 421390.27E 136823.31N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 2201 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, sparse sub angular flint <0.04m, rare chalk <0.02m, clear horizon. | 0-0.23 |
| 2202 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare chalk < 0.02m, very rare chalk flecks, moderately compact, clear horizon. | 0.23-0.28 |
| 2203 | Layer | Natural: light greyish white chalk, periglacial patches and striping, compact. | 0.28+ |



| TRENCH 23 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 28.64 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.43 | Ground level (maOD):104.12 |
| Co-ordinates: 421386.67E 136844.90N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 2301 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, sparse sub angular flint <0.04m, clear horizon. | 0-0.23 |
| 2302 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint < 0.05m, very rare chalk flecks, moderately compact, clear horizon. | 0.23-0.36 |
| 2303 | Layer | Natural: light greyish white chalk, periglacial patches and striping, compact. | 0.36+ |

| TRENCH 24 | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 27.65 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.65 | Ground level (maOD):104.22 |
| Co-ordinates: 421396.20E 136801.35N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 2401 | Layer | Topsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, sparse poorly sorted angular to sub angular flint, clear horizon. | 0-0.26 |
| 2402 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: light yellowish brown silty clay with moderate flint and sparse chalk nodules, diffuse horizon. | 0.26-0.54 |
| 2403 | Layer | Natural: matrix of off-white silty clay and degraded chalk, common periglacial striping, sparse seams of large flint nodules. | 0.54+ |

| TRENCH 25 | | | |
|---|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 28.79 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m):0.57 | Ground level (maOD):104.44 |
| Co-ordinates: 421399.12E 136775.99 | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 2501 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, sparse sub angular flint <0.04m, clear horizon. | 0-0.25 |
| 2502 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint < 0.02m, very rare chalk flecks, moderately compact, clear horizon. | 0.25-0.48 |
| 2503 | Layer | Natural: light yellowish white chalk, periglacial patches and striping, compact. Possible line of railway tracks in this trench. | 0.48+ |

| TRENCH 26 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.15 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.48 | Ground level (maOD):104.41 |
| Co-ordinates: 421405.79E 136761.80N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 2601 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, loose, rooted, sparse sub angular flint <0.03m, rare chalk flecks, clear horizon. | 0-0.26 |
| 2602 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, moderate sub angular flint < 0.03m, very rare chalk flecks, moderately compact, diffuse horizon. | 0.26-0.33 |
| 2603 | Layer | Natural: Light yellowish brown fine gravel/silty clay mix, also greyish white chalk and periglacial scarring. | 0.33+ |



| TRENCH 27 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 30.11 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.38 | Ground level (maOD):104.19 |
| Co-ordinates: 421404.92E 136804.00N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 2701 | Layer | Topsoil: Dark yellowish brown silty clay loam, rooted, common sub angular stones <0.07m, moderate pea grit, diffuse horizon. | 0-0.28 |
| 2702 | Layer | Natural: light whitish yellow chalk, sporadic pockets of pea grit, common sub angular flint<0.04m. | 0.28+ |
| 2703 | Cut | Ditch: 0.70m+ by 0.63m by 0.28m, linear in plan, concave base, convex-stepped steeply sloping sides. | 0.28 |
| 2704 | Fill | Secondary fill: mid reddish brown silty clay loam, abundant pea grit, moderate sub angular flint <0.04m, sparse chalk fragments <0.05m, clear horizon. | 0.28 |
| 2705 | Cut | Cut of modern railway line. 4.47m by 3.30m | Not excavated |
| 2706 | Fill | Fill of railway line: noted remains of sleepers set within tarmac. | Not excavated |
| 2707 | Cut | Modern feature | Not excavated |
| 2708 | Fill | Secondary fill: mid red brown silty clay loam | Not excavated |

| TRENCH 28 | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 28.64 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.33 | Ground level (maOD):104.34 |
| Co-ordinates: 421429.43E 136801.94N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 2801 | Layer | Topsoil: Light yellowish brown silt loam, friable, rooted, sparse sub angular flint<0.04m, clear horizon. | 0-0.22 |
| 2802 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellow brown silty clay, moderately compact, sparse sub angular flint <0.05m, rare chalk flecks, clear horizon. | 0.22-0.30 |
| 2803 | Layer | Natural: Off-white light yellowish brown chalk, periglacial scarring. | 0.30+ |
| 2804 | Cut | Cut for railway line. 3.10m by 2.29m | Not excavated |
| 2805 | Fill | Railway line (remains of): noted remains of sleepers set in tarmac. | Not excavated |

| TRENCH 29 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.33 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.48 | Ground level (maOD): 103.61 |
| Co-ordinates: 421443.86E 136827.16N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 2901 | Layer | Topsoil: Light yellowish brown silt loam, friable, rooted, sparse sub angular flint<0.04m, clear horizon. | 0-0.27 |
| 2902 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellow brown silty clay, moderately compact, sparse sub angular flint <0.04m, rare chalk fucks, diffuse horizon. | 0.27-0.37 |
| 2903 | Layer | Natural: Off-white light yellowish brown chalk, periglacial scarring. | 0.37+ |



| TRENCH 30 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.91 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.55 | Ground level (maOD): 104.09 |
| Co-ordinates: 421438.50E 136808.84N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 3001 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty clay, rooted, friable, sparse poorly sorted angular to sub angular flint, clear horizon. | 0-0.28 |
| 3002 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellow brown silty clay, moderate angular to sub angular flint, sparse chalk nodules, undulating horizon. | 0.28-0.49 |
| 3003 | Layer | Natural: off-white matrix of silty clay and degraded chalk, sparse periglacial striping, rare seams of large flint nodules, areas of mid reddish brown silty clay. | 0.49+ |
| 3004 | Layer | Railway construction layer: Tarmac | 0.08 |
| 3005 | Layer | Railway construction layer: compact flint gravel | 0.25 |
| 3006 | Layer | Railway construction layer: compact chalk made ground | 0.16 |
| 3007 | Layer | Railway construction layer: compact degraded chalk made ground. | 0.08 |
| 3008 | Cut | Construction cut for railway: 9.28m by 4.20m by 0.42m. | 0.42 |

| TRENCH 31 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 31.12 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.30 | Ground level (maOD): 104.69 |
| Co-ordinates: 421354.78E 136831.08N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 3101 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silt loam, rooted, sparse sub angular flint <0.04m, friable, clear horizon. | 0-0.19 |
| 3102 | Layer | Natural: off-white chalk bedrock, periglacial scarring. | 0.19+ |

| TRENCH 32 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.60 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.28 | Ground level (maOD): 105.00 |
| Co-ordinates: 421376.92E 136735.35N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 3201 | Layer | Topsoil: dark yellowish brown silty clay loam, moderate chalk fragments, moderate sub angular flint <0.60m, diffuse horizon. | 0-0.26 |
| 3202 | Layer | Natural: light yellowish white degraded chalk, periglacial scarring, and moderate sub angular flint. | 0.26+ |

| TRENCH 33 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 30.76 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.36 | Ground level (maOD):104.77 |
| Co-ordinates: 421341.40E 136761.67N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 3301 | Layer | Topsoil: light yellowish brown silty loam, rooted, moderate sub angular flint <0.06m, rare chalk flecks, friable, clear horizon. | 0-0.21 |
| 3302 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid red brown silty clay, rare sub angular flint<0.03m, rare chalk flecks, unclear horizon. | 0.21-0.29 |
| 3303 | Layer | Light yellowish brown silty clay/fine gravel, periglacial scarring, chalk bedrock at base. | 0.29+ |



| TRENCH 34 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.71 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.40 | Ground level (maOD):105.09 |
| Co-ordinates: 421320.05E 136774.95N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 3401 | Layer | Topsoil: dark grey brown silty clay loam, moderate sub angular flint pebbles <0.08m, bioturbated, friable, diffuse horizon. | 0-0.16 |
| 3402 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid red brown silty clay, common sub rounded flint pebbles and cobbles, friable, diffuse horizon, variable depth. | 0-0.34 |
| 3403 | Layer | Natural: off-white degraded upper chalk, rare periglacial scarring, patches of deeper alluvium, common sub angular flint <0.10m, compact, clear horizon. | 0.34+ |
| 3404 | Cut | Construction cut for railway track: 4.29m by 2.68m. Not excavated. Distinct horizon between cut and fill. | Not excavated. |
| 3405 | Fill | Remains of railway track: noted remains of wooden sleepers set in tarmac B horizon or subsoil: | Not excavated. |

| TRENCH 35 | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 30.14 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.38 | Ground level (maOD):105.10 |
| Co-ordinates: 421300.99E 136779.52N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 3501 | Layer | Topsoil: dark grey brown silty clay loam, moderate sub angular flint <0.10m, bioturbated, friable, diffuse horizon. | 0-0.14 |
| 3502 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid red brown silty clay, common sub rounded flint <0.10m, friable, diffuse horizon. | 0.14-0.30 |
| 3503 | Layer | Natural: off-white degraded upper chalk, patches of deeper alluvium, common sub rounded flint <0.10m, compact, clear horizon. | 0.30+ |
| 3504 | Cut | Railway line: 4.59m by 3.22m, not excavated. | Not excavated. |
| 3505 | Fill | Remains of railway track: noted remains of wooden sleepers set in tarmac. | Not excavated. |

| TRENCH 36 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 28.67 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.77 | Ground level (maOD):104.90 |
| Co-ordinates: 421265.26E 136807.23N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 3601 | Layer | Topsoil: mid greyish brown silty clay, rooted, moderate poorly sorted sub angular to sub rounded flint, friable, clear horizon. | 0-0.30 |
| 3602 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, moderate poorly sorted sub angular to sub rounded flint, rare chalk flecks, and clear horizon. | 0.30-0.77 |
| 3603 | Layer | Natural: off-white matrix of silty clay and degraded chalk, patches of mid yellowish brown silty clay, common seams of large flint nodules. | 0.77+ |



| TRENCH 37 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.79 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.61 | Ground level (maOD):104.94 |
| Co-ordinates: 421279.74E 136813.04N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 3701 | Layer | Topsoil: mid greyish brown silty clay, rooted, moderate poorly sorted sub angular to sub rounded flint, friable, clear horizon. | 0-0.20 |
| 3702 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, moderate poorly sorted sub angular to sub rounded flint, rare chalk flecks, and clear horizon. | 0.20-0.54 |
| 3703 | Layer | Natural: off-white matrix of silty clay and degraded chalk, patches of mid yellowish brown silty clay, common seams of large flint nodules. | 0.54+ |

| TRENCH 38 | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 28.30 by 2.15 | | Max. depth (m): 0.50 | Ground level (maOD):104.73 |
| Co-ordinates: 421255.95E 136837.71N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 3801 | Layer | Topsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay loam, rooted, moderate sub angular flint, sparse chalk fragments <0.60m. | 0-0.32 |
| 3802 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: dark reddish brown silty clay loam, common sub angular flint <0.50m, moderate chalk fragments, diffuse horizon. | 0.32-0.40 |
| 3803 | Layer | Natural: light yellowish white chalk, periglacial scarring. | 0.40+ |

| TRENCH 39 | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 30.35 by 2.15 | | Max. depth (m): 0.40 | Ground level (maOD):104.55 |
| Co-ordinates: 421248.22E 136844.59N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 3901 | Layer | Topsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay loam, rooted, moderate sub angular flint <0.05m, common chalk fragments, diffuse horizon. | 0-0.20 |
| 3902 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid reddish brown silty clay loam, moderate chalk fragments <0.04m. | 0.20-0.30 |
| 3903 | Layer | Natural: light yellowish white chalk, periglacial scarring, patches of alluvium. | 0.30+ |
| 3904 | Cut | Natural sinkhole feature: 10.90m+ by 2.15m+ | 3.60 |
| 3905 | Fill | Fill of sinkhole: mid red brown silty clay, moderate well sorted rounded flint boulders. | 3.60 |

| TRENCH 40 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.89 by 2.15 | | Max. depth (m): 0.35 | Ground level (maOD):103.95 |
| Co-ordinates: 421191.91E 136850.70N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 4001 | Layer | Topsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay loam, rooted, common pea grit, moderate sub angular flint, sparse chalk fragments, distinct horizon. | 0-0.27 |
| 4002 | Layer | Natural: light yellowish white chalk, common pea grit, common sub angular flint. | 0.27+ |
| 4003 | Cut | Posthole: sub oval with an irregular base and irregular steeply sloping sides. 0.37m by 0.32m by 0.15m. | 0.15 |
| 4004 | Fill | Secondary fill: mid yellowish brown silty clay loam, common peagrit, sparse chalk fragments, sparse sub angular flint. | 0.15 |



| TRENCH 41 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 29.06 by 2.10 | | Max. depth (m): 0.57 | Ground level (maOD):103.84 |
| Co-ordinates: 421149.94E 136891.01N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 4101 | Layer | Topsoil: mid greyish brown silty clay, rooted, moderate fairly poorly sorted angular-sub rounded flint, friable, clear horizon. | 0-0.27 |
| 4102 | Layer | Made ground: light grey chalky matrix, tarmac, CBM, other modern detritus, clear horizon. | 0.27-0.38 |
| 4103 | Layer | B horizon or subsoil: mid yellowish brown silty clay, sparse chalk flecks, moderate fairly poorly sorted angular-sub rounded flint, clear horizon. | 0.38-0.49 |
| 4104 | Layer | Natural: off-white clay and chalk mix, periglacial scarring, seams of less degraded chalk, moderate seams of large flint nodules. | 0.49+ |

| TRENCH 42 | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Dimensions (m): 26.51 by 2.10. | | Max. depth (m): 1.26 | Ground level (maOD):103.84 |
| Extension 3.74 by 2.52 | | | |
| Co-ordinates: 421131.80E 136840.07N | | | |
| Context | Description | | Depth from ground surface (m) |
| 4201 | Layer | Topsoil: mid grey brown silty clay loam, common sub angular flint, modern detritus (bricks, glass, slate, tile, metal), friable, distinct horizon. | 0-0.18 |
| 4202 | Layer | Made ground: light grey sandy silt, very common fine sub rounded flint gravel, modern detritus, compact, distinct horizon. | 0.18-0.30 |
| 4203 | Layer | Made ground: dark grey sandy silt, moderate sub rounded flint pebbles, modern detritus, compact, distinct horizons. | 0.30-0.46 |
| 4204 | Layer | Made ground: mid brown sandy silt, very common sub angular and sub rounded flint pebbles, modern detritus, compact, distinct horizons. | 0.46-0.54 |
| 4205 | Layer | Made ground:tarmac | 0.54-0.62 |
| 4206 | Layer | Buried soil: mid red brown silty clay, sparse sub rounded flint pebbles, friable, clear horizons. | 0.62-0.82 |
| 4207 | Layer | Buried soil: mid red brown silty clay, abundant sub rounded flint gravels, pebbles, cobbles and boulders, friable, clear horizon. | 0.82-1.10 |
| 4208 | Layer | Natural: off-white degraded upper chalk, predominantly matrix, common sub rounded flint pebbles, cobbles and boulders, friable, clear horizon. | 1.10+ |
| 4209 | Cut | Construction cut: right angled corner, 2.70m+ by 0.52m. contains wall 4210 and wall foundation 4211 | 0.34 |
| 4210 | Structure | Wall: L-shaped corner with stepped sides and a flat base, LBC fletton bricks, cement mortar, cavity wall. | 0.24 |
| 4211 | Structure | Wall foundation: flint nodule (uncoursed)set in cement. | 0.18 |
| 4212 | Cut | Ditch: NW-SE aligned, linear with concave base and steep straight sides, 0.5m+ by 2.1m. | 0.59 |
| 4213 | Fill | Secondary fill: mid red brown silty clay, sparse chalk fragments, common sub angular – sub rounded flint <0.11m. clear horizon. | 0.59 |



14.2 Appendix 2: Zone 3 watching brief summary table of contexts

| Context no. | Interpretative Category |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Modern overburden |
| 2 | B horizon or subsoil |
| 3 | Natural Chalk |
| 4 | Cut of ditch |
| 5 | Secondary fill of ditch 4 |
| 6 | Cut of inhumation grave |
| 7 | Human skeleton inhumation |
| 8 | Backfill of grave 6 |
| 9 | Cut of ditch |
| 10 | Secondary fill of ditch 9 |
| 11 | Group no. for NNW–SEE ditch |
| 12 | Cut of posthole |
| 13 | Secondary fill of posthole 12 |
| 14 | Cut of ditch |
| 15 | Secondary fill of ditch 14 |
| 16 | Secondary fill of ditch 14 |
| 17 | Cut of ditch |
| 18 | Secondary fill of ditch 17 |
| 19 | Secondary fill of ditch 17 |
| 20 | Cut of ditch |
| 21 | Secondary fill of ditch 20 |
| 22 | Secondary fill of ditch 20 |
| 23 | Cut of ditch |
| 24 | Secondary fill of ditch 23 |
| 25 | Cut of ditch |
| 26 | Secondary fill of ditch 25 |
| 27 | Cut of ditch |
| 28 | Primary fill of ditch 27 |
| 29 | Secondary fill of ditch 27 |
| 30 | Cut of ditch |
| 31 | Secondary fill of ditch 30 |
| 32 | Cut of small circular pit |
| 33 | Deliberate backfill in pit 32 |
| 34 | Secondary fill of pit 32 |
| 35 | Secondary fill of pit 32 |
| 36 | Cut of large pit |
| 37 | Primary fill of pit 36 |
| 38 | Secondary fill of pit 36 |
| 39 | Secondary fill of pit 36 |
| 40 | Secondary fill of pit 36 |
| 41 | Deliberate backfill in pit 36 |
| 42 | Secondary fill of pit 36 |
| 43 | Tertiary fill of pit 36 |
| 44 | Cut of tree-throw |
| 45 | Fill of tree-throw 44 |
| 46 | Cut of modern brick-lined feature |
| 47 | Cut of modern rectangular pit |



14.3 Appendix 3: Environmental data

Table 14.3.1: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

| Samples | | | | Flot | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---------|------------|--------------|--------------|------------|-----------------------|-------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Feature | Context | Sam ple | Vol. Ltrs | Flot (ml) | % roots | Charred Plant Remains | | | | Charcoal >4/2mm | Other | Anal ysis |
| | | | | | | Grain | Chaff | Other | Comments | | | |
| Zone 3 Bronze Age pits | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 32 | 33 | 7 | 40 | 250 | 70 | - | - | - | - | 10/35 ml | Moll-t (C) | - |
| 36 | 42 | 8 | 20 | 150 | 25 | C | - | - | Barley grain frags | 5/7 ml | Moll-t (A**) | - |

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

Table 14.3.2: Assessment of the Land snails

| Description | Bronze Age Pit 32 Context 33 Sample 7 (40L) | Bronze Age Pit 36 Context 42 Sample 8 (20L) |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| <u>Open country species</u> | | |
| <i>Pupilla muscorum</i> | - | A |
| <i>Vertigo</i> spp. | - | A |
| <i>Helicella itala</i> | - | A |
| <i>Vallonia costata</i> | - | A |
| <i>Vallonia excentrica</i> | - | A |
| Intro. Helicellids | C | - |
| <u>Intermediate species</u> | | |
| <i>Trochulus hispidus</i> | - | A |
| <i>Pomatias elegans</i> | - | A |
| <i>Cochlicopa</i> spp. | - | A |
| <i>Cepaea</i> spp. | - | B |
| <u>Shade-loving species</u> | | |
| <i>Carychium tridentatum</i> | - | A |
| <i>Discus rotundatus</i> | - | A |
| <i>Oxychilus cellarius</i> | - | A |
| <i>Aegopinella nitidula</i> | - | A |
| <i>Aegopinella pura</i> | - | A |
| <i>Clausilia bidentata</i> | - | C |
| <i>Merdigera obscura</i> | - | C |
| <i>Acanthinula aculeata</i> | - | A |
| <i>Vitrea</i> sp. | - | A |
| <u>Burrowing species</u> | | |
| <i>Cecilioides acicula</i> | C | A |
| Approx totals | 1 | 100+ |

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



14.4 Appendix 4: OASIS record form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-231513

Project details

| | |
|--|--|
| Project name | Zone 2 EAC and Zone 3 Enclosed Area |
| Short description of the project | <p>Wessex Archaeology were commissioned by Porton Down Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) to undertake two separate archaeological investigations on land at Porton Down: an archaeological evaluation comprising the excavation of 42 trenches on former sport pitches proposed for redevelopment (Zone 2) and an archaeological watching brief monitoring groundwork associated with redevelopment (Zone 3). The location of sub-surface remains of a since demolished railway in the south of Zone 2 correspond to the line of a 'light railway' marked on Ordnance Survey (OS) maps from 1925-1961, although by 1961 it is labelled as 'disused'. In the west of Zone 2, the limited remains of a modern building (represented by its footings) approximately correspond to the location of a small building associated with the military establishment shown on OS maps from 1961 and 1977. The large archaeological ditch recorded in the west of Zone 2, although of uncertain date, may potentially be associated with the later prehistoric divisions of the landscape known in the Porton Down area, possibly a 'Wessex linear' ditch. The Zone 3 archaeological watching brief uncovered a small number of more significant features dating to the Bronze Age period. These comprised a slightly sinuous ditch that could not be precisely dated, although it was established by stratigraphic excavation to be earlier than a radiocarbon dated Middle Bronze Age inhumation burial. A single posthole identified in close proximity to the other remains was of uncertain date.</p> |
| Project dates | Start: 11-05-2015 End: 07-08-2015 |
| Previous/future work | Yes / Not known |
| Any associated project reference codes | 108953 - Sitecode |
| Type of project | Field evaluation |
| Site status | None |
| Current Land use | Other 15 - Other |
| Monument type | INHUMATION Middle Bronze Age |
| Monument type | DITCH Middle Bronze Age |
| Monument type | PIT Middle Bronze Age |
| Significant Finds | POTTERY Early Bronze Age |
| Methods & techniques | "Sample Trenches" |
| Development type | Not recorded |
| Prompt | National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF |
| Position in the planning process | Not known / Not recorded |



Project location

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Country | England |
| Site location | WILTSHIRE SALISBURY IDMISTON Zone 2 EAC and Zone 3 Enclosed Area |
| Postcode | SP4 0BQ |
| Study area | 4.48 Hectares |
| Site coordinates | SU 421236 136868 50.920550231715 -1.400651927803 50 55 13 N 001 24 02 W Point |
| Lat/Long Datum | Unknown |
| Height OD / Depth | Min: 103m Max: 104m |

Project creators

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Name of Organisation | Wessex Archaeology |
| Project brief originator | Wessex Archaeology |
| Project design originator | Wessex Archaeology |
| Project director/manager | Simon Cleggett |
| Project supervisor | Ben Cullen |
| Type of sponsor/funding body | Defence Engineering |
| Name of sponsor/funding body | Dstl Porton Down |

Project archives

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Physical Archive recipient | Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre |
| Physical Archive ID | 108953 |
| Physical Contents | "Ceramics", "Human Bones", "Worked stone/lithics" |
| Digital Archive recipient | Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre |
| Digital Archive ID | 108953 |
| Digital Contents | "none" |
| Digital Media available | "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Survey", "Text" |
| Paper Archive | Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre |



recipient

Paper Archive ID 108953

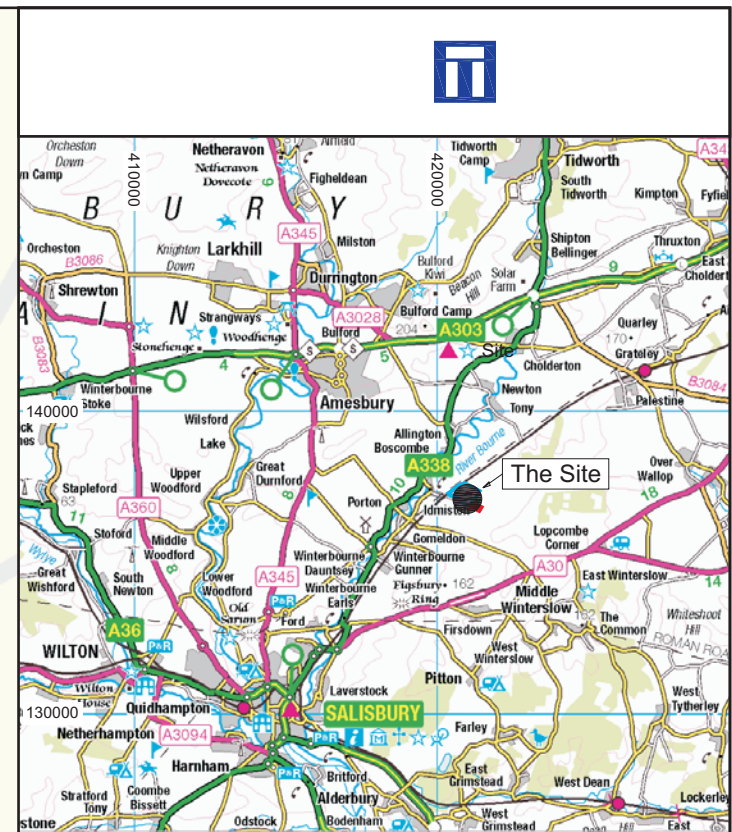
Paper Contents "none"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Notebook - Excavation", "Research", "General Notes", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Publication type | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript) |
| Title | Zone 2 EAC and Zone 3 Enclosed Area: Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Assessment Report |
| Author(s)/Editor(s) | Wakeham, G |
| Other bibliographic details | 108953.03 |
| Date | 2015 |
| Issuer or publisher | Wessex Archaeology |
| Place of issue or publication | Wessex Archaeology, Salisbury |
| Description | A4 illustrated client report |

| | |
|------------|---|
| Entered by | Gareth Chaffey (g.chaffey@wessexarch.co.uk) |
| Entered on | 24 November 2015 |



- Zone 2 EAC
- Zone 3
- Observed Area
- Evaluation Trench



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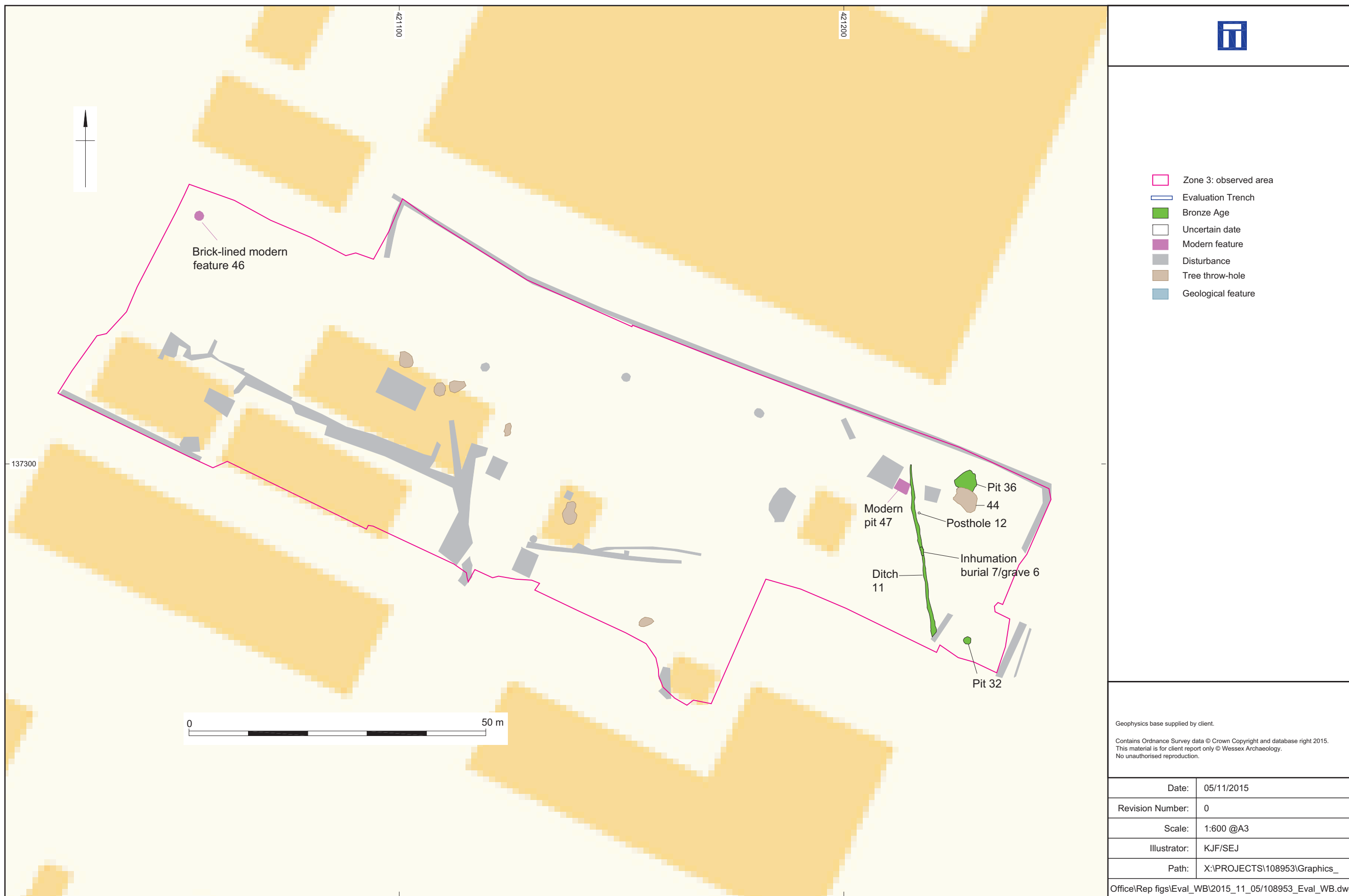
Site location

Figure 1



Zone 2 evaluation results: trenches with all archaeological features

Figure 2



Zone 3 watching brief results:all archaeological features

Figure 3



Plate 1: East facing section through feature 1604



Plate 2: Oblique view of natural features 1608, with 1604 in background


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Plate 3: General shot of extension to Trench 16 showing natural features



Plate 4: Selection of modern artefacts from modern pit 47


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Plate 5: View of brick-lined modern feature 46



Plate 6: View from east of remains of modern railway line feature in Trench 28


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Plate 7: Representative section of made ground over buried soil layers in Trench 42



Plate 8: Oblique view of modern building remains in Trench 42


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Plate 9: North-west facing section through undated ditch 4212



Plate 10: Working shot of recording excavated sections through ditch group 11, with the inhumation burial covered (prior to excavation)


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Plate 11: North-west facing section through ditch 30 (group 11) cut into earlier feature 27



Plate 12: General view from the south of Middle Bronze Age inhumation burial 7 cut into ditch group 11

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Plate 13: Detail view of inhumation burial 7 (from above)



Plate 14: South facing section through Bronze Age pit 32



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Plate 15: View from south-west of tree-throw hole cutting Bronze Age pit 36



Plate 16: North-west facing section through undated posthole 12

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