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# Land at Parmiter Drive Wimborne, Dorset

Archaeological Evaluation Report



Planning Ref: 3/15/0839/FUL Ref: 108072.04 December 2015

# wessexarchaeology



## **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

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# Archaeological Evaluation Report

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# Archaeological Evaluation Report

#### SUMMARY

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Lewis Wyatt (Construction) Ltd to undertake an archaeological field evaluation on land at Parmiter Drive, Wimborne, Dorset, in support of their planning application for 'Construction of New Football Pitches with Clubhouse, Stands, Changing Facilities and Parking; 81 Dwellings; Allotments and Teenage Activity Space with Associated Open Space, Landscaping and Highways and Change of Use of Agricultural Land to Sang': Planning Application Reference – 3/15/0839/FUL.

The field evaluation was undertaken between the  $3^{rd}$  and  $13^{th}$  of November and consisted of 25 evaluation trenches measuring 30 x 2 m. These were targeted, where possible, on potential archaeological features identified during the previous geophysical survey, as well as testing blank areas and the projected route of a hypothetical Roman road.

A substantial penannular ring ditch was identified in Trench 14 and is likely to represent the remains of a prehistoric barrow, although no human remains were observed within the trench. Trench 2 was designed to target a similar feature identified by the geophysical survey, but the trench was relocated due to the constraint of overhead power cables.

Several substantial ditches were also identified in Trenches 1, 8, 11 and 12. No dating evidence was recovered from the east – west aligned ditch in Trench 1. The east – west aligned ditch in Trench 8 was cut by a small pit containing a complete Food Vessel dating to the Early Bronze Age. A substantial ditch terminus measuring approximately 2.7 m wide and 1.17 m deep was recorded in Trench 12. The ditch had been deliberately backfilled with gravel material and a cremation burial had been placed in the terminus. A single radiocarbon date was obtained from the human bone. The result is consistent with a Late Neolithic date and indicates that the burial was made at some point during 2840-2490 cal BC. The ditch appeared to continue into Trench 11, where it was truncated by a modern geotechnical pit.

Several trenches were placed along the projected route of the Roman road, which is thought to have linked the Roman town of *Clausentum* (located in the modern suburb of Bitterne in Southampton) to a legionary fortress situated west of Wimborne. Although an east – west ridge of slightly higher ground exists in this location, it was characterised by the field team as being geological in nature. No *agger* material or roadside ditches were present and, in any case, the ridge was cut by prehistoric features.

# **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

#### Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology extends its thanks to David Wyatt, of Lewis Wyatt (Construction) Ltd, for commissioning the evaluation and for his assistance and co-operation during the works. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice and assistance of Steve Wallis, Senior Archaeologist at Dorset County Council, who monitored the works.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Jamie Wright, Barry Hennessy, Sian Hennessy and Stephen Legg and managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Bruce Eaton.

The environmental samples were processed by Tony Scothern and were assessed by Sarah F. Wyles. The finds were assessed by Matt Leivers (Food Vessel and flint) and Lorraine Mepham. The human bone was assessed by Jaqueline I. McKinley.

The radiocarbon date was processed by the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre Radiocarbon Laboratory, East Kilbride and was reported on by Alistair Barclay.

The report was prepared by Jamie Wright and Bruce Eaton and edited by Matt Leivers.

## Archaeological Evaluation Interim Report

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 **Project background**

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) were commissioned by Lewis Wyatt (Construction) Ltd (hereafter the Client) to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land at Parmiter Drive, Wimborne, Dorset (hereafter the Site), centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 402535, 099490 (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The proposed development is for 'Construction of New Football Pitches with Clubhouse, Stands, Changing Facilities and Parking; 81 Dwellings; Allotments and Teenage Activity Space with Associated Open Space, Landscaping and Highways and Change of Use of Agricultural Land to Sang': Planning Application Reference – 3/15/0839/FUL.
- 1.1.3 The application was submitted to East Dorset District Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015. WA produced a Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) in support of the application (WA 2015a). The DBA established that there was an archaeological interest within the Site; the potential for buried archaeological remains, in particular relating to the Roman road that was projected to traverse the Site. Due to a lack of previous investigations within the Site it was not possible to determine the presence, location and significance of buried heritage assets.
- 1.1.4 Mr Steve Wallis, Senior Archaeologist (SA) for Dorset County Council (DCC), in consultee comments dated 7<sup>th</sup> September, advised East Dorset District Council to request a geophysical survey and a trial trench evaluation in order to inform the planning decision.
- 1.1.5 A geophysical survey of the Site was undertaken by WA on 6<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> October 2015. Anomalies identified as being of archaeological interest were primarily ditch-like features, with some evidence for associated pit features also apparent. At least four circular features were identified throughout the survey area and these had been interpreted as possible roundhouses (WA 2015b).
- 1.1.6 It was agreed with the SA at DCC that the evaluation should take the form of a 2% sample with evaluation trenches targeting the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey as well as testing blank areas and the hypothetical route of Roman road confirmed 500 m to the east of the Site.
- 1.1.7 The evaluation was undertaken by WA on 3<sup>rd</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015, in accordance with the methodology set out in an agreed written scheme of investigation (WA 2015c), and was monitored by the SA at DCC.
- 1.1.8 An interim report was issued by WA on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015 (WA 2015d). This set out the initial findings of the evaluation, along with provisional interpretation, to help inform the planning decision. Due to time constraints the interim report did not include a full finds report, environmental analysis, osteological report or radiocarbon dating.



#### 1.2 Scope of document

1.2.1 This report sets out the findings of the archaeological evaluation in full, along with the relevant specialist reports and a full discussion of the results. This report supersedes the interim report (WA 2015d).

#### 1.3 Site location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The Site comprises an irregular parcel of land of approximately 8.2 ha located at the south-eastern edge of the town of Wimborne, some 0.5 km north of the village of Oakley.
- 1.3.2 The Site is currently under arable cultivation and consists of a single field, enclosed on all sides by mature hedgerows. Two sets of overhead cables traverse the Site from the northwest to south-east across its north-eastern corner and from the north north-west to south south-east across the western side of the field.
- 1.3.3 Modern residential development borders the Site along Parmiter Way to the north, while the extensive premises of the technology firm Cobham lie to the west. A sewage works is located immediately to the south-west of the Site, while a large swathe of arable land extends to the east. The southern limit of the Site is bounded by the A31, approximately 200 m beyond which lies the River Stour.
- 1.3.4 The Site is situated within a relatively flat area of land at an elevation of approximately 16
   18 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). Local topography falls gently to the south towards the valley of the River Stour.
- 1.3.5 The underlying bedrock geology throughout the Site is mapped as Palaeogene Clay, Silt and Sand of the London Clay Formation, overlain to the north by Quaternary River Terrace Deposits 2, which comprise of sand and gravel with lenses of silt, clay or peat (British Geological Survey).

#### 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 WA has previously carried out a DBA for the Site (WA 2015a). The DBA considered known heritage assets recorded within a 1 km Study Area surrounding the Site. The archaeological records were obtained from the Dorset Historic Environment Record (DHER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE). The results of this study are summarised below along with the results of the more recent geophysical survey (WA 2015b).

#### 2.2 Prehistoric

- 2.2.1 The earliest evidence for activity within the Study Area dates to the Mesolithic and comprises a small number of chance discoveries of diagnostic worked flint objects including tranchet picks.
- 2.2.2 A concentration of flint flakes and scrapers of probable Neolithic date was also reportedly found in the vicinity of Oakley Lane at the south-western edge of the Study Area around 1948.
- 2.2.3 Two flint arrowheads and a thumbnail scraper dating to the Bronze Age were found during the construction of the Wimborne bypass.



2.2.4 A recent evaluation on land immediately to the east of the Site identified a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit as well as evidence for a Late Iron Age/early Romano-British agricultural settlement.

#### 2.3 Romano-British

- 2.3.1 The most notable archaeological feature within the Study Area is a section of a Roman road, now a Scheduled Monument (List Entry Number 1018028), situated approximately 500 m to the east of the Site. The monument consists of a approximately 120 m long section of the east-north-east to west-south-west road. The raised embankment of the roads surface (*Agger*) measures up to 8 m in width and 0.4 m in height above the surrounding ground surface. When first recorded in 1928, sections of a largely infilled ditch (approximately 2 m in width) were present on each side of the agger, though only the southern ditch is still perceptible.
- 2.3.2 Commensurate with its status as a Scheduled Monument, the statutorily protected section of the Roman road is deemed to be of national significance. This significance is considered to derive predominantly from the high evidential value of the monument; the formal scheduling description states:

'The section of Roman road 150 m south of Park Farm Cottages is a well preserved example of its class. Elsewhere many of the physical remains of this routeway have been removed. The road will contain archaeological deposits providing information about its construction, contemporary and subsequent use and associated environment.'

- 2.3.3 The road is thought to have linked the Roman town of *Clausentum* (located in the modern suburb of Bitterne in Southampton) to a legionary fortress situated west of Wimborne (see below). No trace of the road survives above ground beyond the boundary of the Scheduled Monument to the west, either within the Site or its vicinity.
- 2.3.4 The projected route of the Roman road extends from the boundary of the Scheduled area to the west-south-west, to a crossing point over the River Stour, and onwards to the *'Roman camp, forts and a vexillation fortress 240 m north of Lake Farm'* Scheduled Monuments (National List nos. 1002418 and 1003803).
- 2.3.5 The fluxgate gradiometer survey undertaken on land immediately to the east of the Site in late 2014 proved to be inconclusive in terms of identifying geophysical anomalies of potential archaeological origin. The geophysical survey revealed no trace of the Roman road beyond the Scheduled Monument boundary. However, it is suggested that the results of the survey should be treated with caution in this regard. The accompanying report concluded that:

The effectiveness of the survey has been limited by widespread ferrous litter contained within domestic compost that has been spread across almost the entire site. This has served to partially mask magnetically weaker features, potentially including archaeological remains. Notwithstanding this, a number of ephemeral linear anomalies have been flagged as possible ditches, possibly indicative of traces of early occupation and including a potential small enclosure within 50 m to the north of a Roman road (CgMs 2014; p.4).

2.3.6 The subsequent archaeological evaluation found no trace of the road. It did, however, identify enclosure ditches broadly dated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> century (CgMs 2015).



#### 2.4 Saxon and medieval

- 2.4.1 The Grade I Listed Parish Church of Canford Magna, which is located at the core of the village to the south-east of the Site, is of late Saxon origin and represents the most prominent survival from this period within the Study Area. The official listing description notes that the minster church is 'A very fine and interesting church, the late Saxon work being of major importance'.
- 2.4.2 Canford Magna was, by the time of the Domesday Survey of 1086, a very large (for the standards of the time) settlement of 87 households. The manor house at Canford was referred to in 1221, when it was owned by *William Longespee*, Earl of Salisbury. Today, the only surviving part of the manor house is the Grade I Listed John of Gaunt's Kitchen, Canford School, the former kitchen block which primarily dates to the 15<sup>th</sup> century (though incorporates earlier elements and later alterations).
- 2.4.3 Documentary evidence indicates that the manor of Canford possessed three deer parks during the medieval period; these were referred to as *Leye Park, Caneford Park* and *Knyghton Park* in 1348, and again in 1362 (Wilson 1976). Of these, the former, which is referred to variously as *Leye* or *Leigh Park* and *Canford Little Park*, was situated to the north of the River Stour and may have contained or coincided with the location of the Site.
- 2.4.4 The deer park may have been named after the small settlement of *Leigh* recorded by the Domesday survey, and in turn gave its name to the former Park Farm and its adjoining fields (named by the Wimborne parish Tithe apportionment as *the Parks, Stoney Park* and *Corders Park*), located to the east of the Site. No traces of a park pale or enclosing earthworks have been definitively identified as being associated with Leigh Park; Wilson (1976) notes that the deer park *'comprised an area of some 170 acres, and there is a strong presumption that it was never embanked'*. The corresponding DHER entry notes that the deer park was disparked by 1583 and the land once contained within it was later in use as meadow.
- 2.4.5 Although the Site is located within the general vicinity of several settlements of Saxon or medieval origin, little direct archaeological evidence relating to these periods is recorded within the Study Area. However, the Site may have lain partly or entirely within the boundaries of a medieval deer park as Wilson (1976) notes that *'both the western and eastern sides of Leigh Park here mentioned are still parish boundaries, running south-south-east to the Stour on either side of Park Farm'.* Consequently, buried archaeological remains relating to this may be encountered.

#### 2.5 Post-medieval, 19<sup>th</sup> century and modern

- 2.5.1 It is thought likely that the low lying land on the floodplain of the Stour, upon which the Site is located, was in use as riverine meadow or pasture throughout much of the post-medieval period. Wilson (1976) states that *'it is noticeable that many field boundaries are marked by drainage channels, and here again the absence of embankment can probably be attributed to the dampness of the terrain.'* He also notes that Canford Park is documented in the 18<sup>th</sup> century as having been converted into meadows.
- 2.5.2 Within the Study Area, seventeen records of 19<sup>th</sup> century and modern activity are recorded in the DHER. The Southampton and Dorchester Railway has now been dismantled but was first opened in 1847 along with the Wimborne Train Station which was located approximately 600 m west of the Site. It formed the main line from London to Dorchester and Weymouth until 1893 taking in all the larger settlements including Wimborne Minster. A more direct route from London to Poole was opened in 1888 at which point the railway through Wimborne Minster became a minor branch, closing to passenger traffic in 1964.



- 2.5.3 Following the opening of the railway, significant commercial and industrial development occurred in 19th century Wimborne. This accompanied the construction of new suburbs on the east side of the River Allen, close to the train station. The Iron Works and Saw Mill on New Borough Road and the Gas Works on Leigh Road were all established during this period.
- 2.5.4 Within the Study Area, an Old Gravel Pit and Old Clay Pit were recorded in the DHER north of the Site above Leigh common. They appear on the 1887 and 1900 edition OS maps but are not shown on subsequent maps. The suburban growth of Wimborne Minster also seems to have influenced the gravel and clay extraction industries. Much of Dorset's building vernacular is based on its underlying geology of Portland stone and ball clay, a resource that first developed on a commercial scale during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, but soon expanded throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Highley *et al.* 2001).

#### 2.6 Previous archaeological work

- 2.6.1 Until the recent geophysical survey (WA 2015b see below) there had been no previously recorded investigations within the boundaries of the Site. However, as previously mentioned, an area of approximately 29 ha located immediately beyond the eastern boundary of the Site was subject to a programme of geophysical survey in September 2014 (CgMs 2014). The results of this survey proved inconclusive due to 'ferrous litter', although some anomalies were identified.
- 2.6.2 A 51 trench evaluation of this site was subsequently undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September 2015. Although there was no trace of the postulated Roman road, three phases of archaeological activity were identified; a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit; a Late Iron Age or early Romano-British agricultural settlement with associated field system and a possible corn drier or pot kiln; and enclosure ditches broadly dated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> century (CgMs 2015).
- 2.6.3 Other previous investigations within the Study Area have failed to identify significant archaeological features or deposits.

#### 2.7 Geophysical survey

- 2.7.1 WA conducted a geophysical survey across the Site on 6<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> October 2015. The detailed gradiometer survey demonstrated the presence of a number of anomalies of archaeological interest throughout the area. The anomalies identified as being of archaeological interest were primarily ditch-like features with some evidence for pit features also evident. At least four circular features were identified throughout the survey area and these were interpreted as possible roundhouses. Throughout the Site other anomalies were identified and defined as agricultural features, trends, areas of increased magnetic response and isolated ferrous responses, none of which were classified as of archaeological potential.
- 2.7.2 Two distinct circular anomalies were apparent centrally within the northern part of the Site. These were interpreted as roundhouses. Measuring approximately 12 – 16 m in diameter they were thought likely to be former dwellings. A clear entrance was visible on the eastern extent of the northern 'roundhouse' and south-eastern extent of the southern 'roundhouse'. Given the presumed proximity of a Roman road (WA 2015a) these were thought likely to be Romano-British in age. Two further potential circular features were identified to the south. A number of pit-like features could be seen across the entirety of the Site. These were interpreted as possible pits or post holes.



2.7.3 Although it was proposed in the Parmiter Drive DBA (WA 2015a) that the Roman road 150 m south of Park Farm Cottages was highly likely to coincide with the area under survey, no clear evidence for this was identified. Typically, large linear bands of disturbance or zones of discrete positive anomalies reveal the historic location of Roman roads and none of these were identified.

#### 3 AIMS

#### 3.1 General aims and objectives

- 3.1.1 The aims of the archaeological field evaluation 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;
  - produce a report which would present the results of the evaluation in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the Site's archaeological potential and mitigation if appropriate.

#### 3.2 Specific aims and objectives

- 3.2.1 The geophysical survey identified at least four potential roundhouses and a number of potential pits and postholes. Given this information the evaluation trenches were designed to:
  - target areas of potential archaeology identified by the geophysical survey, with a particular focus on the potential roundhouses and associated pit features;
  - target the projected route of the Roman road;
  - test areas that appear as blank in the geophysical survey as a control sample.

### 4 METHODOLOGY

#### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 A full methodology for the evaluation was set out in a written scheme of investigation (WA 2015c), which was submitted to and approved by the SA at DCC prior to the fieldwork commencing.
- 4.1.2 It was necessary to move some of the proposed trenches due to on-site constraints, predominately the presence of overhead power cables. These alterations to the general scheme were implemented following consultation with the SA at DCC. Trenches 2, 11 and 15 were all relocated and Trenches 3, 9 and 24 were rotated.
- 4.1.3 A Ministry of Justice Licence (Licence 15-0312) was obtained once it became apparent that barrows were present and there was a likelihood of disturbing human remains.

#### 4.2 Service location and avoidance

4.2.1 Each evaluation trench was scanned before and during excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) in order to verify the absence of any live underground services.



4.2.2 No mechanical excavation was undertaken within 10 m of overhead power cables. Where necessary trench locations were altered. 'Goal posts' were used to create clearly defined routes for the machine when traversing the Site below overhead power cables.

#### 4.3 Trench excavation

- 4.3.1 A total of 25 machine-excavated trial trenches, each measuring approximately 30 m in length and 2 m wide were proposed. The location of the trenches was in general accordance with the proposed positions outlined in the written scheme of investigation (WA 2015c), with the exceptions noted above.
- 4.3.2 The trial trenches were excavated using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket under constant supervision by WA. Machine excavation proceeded in spits to a depth at which the top of archaeological levels or the top of natural deposits were exposed, whichever was the higher. Where appropriate, hand cleaning of the trenches was undertaken to establish the nature of the deposits and features investigated.
- 4.3.3 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the Client and SA at DCC were backfilled using the excavated material in the approximate order in which it was excavated by WA and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

#### 4.4 Recording

- 4.4.1 All exposed archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system.
- 4.4.2 A complete drawn record of archaeological features and deposits was compiled including both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and with reference to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels were calculated and plans/sections annotated with OD heights. A representative section of the overlying deposits recorded within the trenches and the test pits was recorded and drawn.
- 4.4.3 A photographic record was maintained during the evaluation using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images will be subject to managed quality control and curation processes which will embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

#### 4.5 Monitoring

4.5.1 All fieldwork was monitored by the SA for DCC.

### 5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

#### 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Works comprised the machine excavation of 25 trenches measuring 30 m in length, and the subsequent archaeological recording and backfilling.

#### 5.2 Natural deposits and soil sequences

- 5.2.1 The underlying natural geology across the Site varied from sandy silt and flint gravel to white block chalk. The natural geology was overlain by well-established ploughsoils and subsoils which were recorded as measuring up to 0.35 and 0.3 m in depth respectively.
- 5.2.2 Full details of the stratigraphic sequence can be found in **Appendix 1**.



#### 5.3 Evaluation Trenches

5.3.1 The results of the fieldwork are presented below by trench.

#### **Negative Trenches**

5.3.2 No archaeological features or deposits were identified in Trenches 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24 and 25.

#### Trench 1

5.3.3 Ditch **104** (**Plate 3**) was aligned approximately east – west and was 1.55 m wide and 0.68 m deep with irregular but steep sides to a flat base. No finds were recovered from its fills (**105** and **106**) although environmental samples were taken. An irregular feature in the same trench was considered of a natural origin.

#### Trench 8

- 5.3.4 An east west aligned linear feature lay beneath the southern edge of Trench 8. It was approximately 4.2 m long, 1.1 m wide and 0.45 m deep, but could not be properly defined due to limited space. Its fill was cut by pit 804 (Fig 3), which was sub-rectangular in plan, concave in section and measured 1 by 0.65 m and was 0.1 m deep. Its single fill (805) contained a complete Food Vessel (SF 101, Plates 1 and 2), of Early Bronze Age date, lying on its side and open to the west. This was lifted whole, with its contents, for micro-excavation under laboratory conditions. No artefacts were recovered during the micro-excavation and the excavated material was retained for environmental processing.
- 5.3.5 To the east of **804** was an oval posthole, **807** (**Fig. 3**), measuring 0.24 m by 0.18 m and 0.20 m deep. The single, homogenous fill (**808**) contained burnt flint but no closely datable material.

#### Trench 9

5.3.6 Ditch **904** (**Fig. 3**) was aligned north – south and was 1.45 m wide and 0.35 m in depth. Its fills (**901** and **902**) contained charcoal but no finds. Environmental samples were taken.

#### Trench 11

- 5.3.7 Ditch **1103** (**Fig. 4**) is likely to be a continuation of ditch **1207** (see below) and was approximately 2 m wide and aligned northwest southeast. It was cut by a modern geotechnical pit, which made excavation impractical.
- 5.3.8 A 1.6 by 0.9 m oval tree throw hollow, **1106**, was excavated to the north of 1103.

#### Trench 12

5.3.9 In Trench 12 a substantial ditch, **1207** (Fig. 4, Plate 4), was identified and the trench was extended to allow its safe excavation. Expanding the trench revealed the ditch terminal. Ditch **1207** was 2.7 m wide and 1.17 m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. At a depth of approximately 1 m the flint gravels gave way to a pale, unconsolidated coarse sand and it seems that the ditch's original excavators did not continue digging through this loose material. At the bottom of the ditch was a 0.06 m thick fill (**1210**) (Fig. 4) apparently eroded from the sides of the ditch. This was covered by a 0.85 m thick deposit of flint gravel (**1209**) which appears to be a deliberate backfill. At a depth of 0.1 – 0.2 m into the top of this fill a cremation burial was partially recovered. The final fill (**1208**) comprised



silts probably derived from the surrounding topsoil. This substantial ditch had not been detected by geophysics survey.

5.3.10 Also in Trench 12 was a 0.46 m wide and 0.18 m deep linear gully, **1205** (**Fig. 4**). The single fill (**1206**) contained no artefacts.

#### Trench 14

- 5.3.11 Trench 14 also had to be expanded to excavate ditch **1404** (**Fig. 4**, **Plate 5**). This was 1.8 m wide and 1.35 m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. As with ditch **1207**, it seems that the original excavators had reached unconsolidated coarse sands and ceased digging. The ditch seemed to show the 'classic' form of primary, secondary and tertiary fills. The lowest fill (**1405**) was predominantly gravel and was overlain by greyish brown silt (**1412**). These fills had a total thickness of 0.7m and appeared to form the primary fill, eroded from the ditch's sides. Above was a 0.25 m thick, dark greyish brown fill (**1411**) which extended across the width of the ditch, and probably represented a period of stabilisation and a secondary fill. The final fill (**1410**), a dark yellowish brown silt may have been the tertiary fill, possibly ploughed in topsoil and subsoil after the ditch was no longer in use. Only worked and burnt flint was recovered from the ditch and bulk environmental samples were taken from fills (**1410**), (**1411**) and (**1412**).
- 5.3.12 A ditch terminal was identified 12 m east of **1404**. This was 2.3 m wide but only extended 0.9 m into the trench and so was not excavated. It was clear that there were gravels slumping into this feature from the west, implying material excavated from the ditch had been deposited on this side. The terminal and ditch **1404** match the results of the geophysical survey which showed a penannular ditch with an eastern entrance.

#### Trench 17

- 5.3.13 Gully **1704** (**Fig. 4**) was 0.96 m wide, 0.28 m deep and concave in section. Four fills were identified, all silty clays with varying amounts of flint gravel.
- 5.3.14 Near to the middle of the trench was circular feature **1708** (**Fig. 4**). This had a diameter of approximately 1 m, a depth of 0.14 m, and was heavily bioturbated. Its fill (**1709**) contained common charcoal, burnt flint and a small sherd of pottery. There was no scorching of the natural on the edge of the pit and the material must have been tipped into it rather than it being burnt *in situ*.
- 5.3.15 No evidence was observed for the possible circular anomaly identified as possible archaeology by the geophysical survey.

#### Trench 21

5.3.16 In Trench 21 two tree throw hollows, **2104** and **2106** (**Fig. 5**), of approximately 0.9 m diameter were recorded. **2104** contained a quantity of burnt flint in a dark grey soil 0.1 m deep.

#### Trench 22

5.3.17 A possible post hole, **2206** (**Fig. 5**), approximately 0.25 m in diameter and 0.2 m deep, was excavated. No dating evidence was recovered. A tree throw, **2204**, was identified and was 0.8 m in diameter. It was not excavated.



#### 6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

#### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The evaluation produced a moderate quantity of finds, deriving largely from topsoil contexts within the trenches excavated. Of particular interest amongst the assemblage is an almost complete pottery vessel, a Food Vessel of Early Bronze Age date. A moderate quantity of worked and burnt unworked flint was also recovered. Finds in other material types, largely post-medieval/modern, were found in small quantities.
- 6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are given in **Appenidx 2: Table 1**.

#### 6.2 Pottery

6.2.1 Apart from the Food Vessel, 21 sherds of pottery were recovered, of which seven are prehistoric, five Romano-British, four medieval and five post-medieval/modern. Most of these sherds came from topsoil or subsoil contexts, and their provenance is reflected in the condition of the assemblage – sherds are in general small and abraded.

#### Food Vessel

- 6.2.2 A single Food Vessel was recovered from pit **804**, complete when it was in the ground (four fragments of the rim and the complete base have since separated from the body of the vessel along existing fractures).
- 6.2.3 It is approximately 200 mm tall and 175 mm in diameter at the rim (the vessel survives as 190 mm by 160 mm, deformed by the pressure of the overlying earth). While the vessel is at present wrapped pending consolidation, photographs of it prior to lifting and examination of detached sherds from the rim show that the upper half of the pot is decorated with horizontal pinched-up ribs with vertical fingernail rustication both on and between the ribs, making it an example of the Ridged Vase type. The fabric consists of a quartz sand matrix, oxidised on the outer surface and with an unoxidised inner surface and core. There is no obvious temper added, but no fresh breaks are currently visible.
- 6.2.4 The contents of the vessel were removed in the laboratory: no cremated bone was present and it is therefore certain that the vessel had not been used as a container for a cremation burial.
- 6.2.5 Food Vessels are diagnostic of the Early Bronze Age (approximately 2000 to 1600 BC) and occur across Britain and Ireland, although they are far more common west and north of a line between the Severn and Wash. Examples of this type are more common in Yorkshire and Lancashire than in the south.

#### Late Prehistoric

- 6.2.6 Six of the later prehistoric sherds are in fabrics sparsely tempered with flint inclusions. None are diagnostic, but a date range in the Early Iron Age can be suggested on fabric grounds. These sherds came from Trenches 4 (subsoil), 10 (subsoil), 13 (subsoil), 17 (pit **1708**) and 20 (subsoil), although the very small and abraded sherd from pit **1708** cannot be taken as firm dating evidence for this feature.
- 6.2.7 The seventh sherd (Trench 8 topsoil) is in a sandy fabric, which is not particularly chronologically distinctive, and is more broadly dated as Iron Age.



#### Romano-British

6.2.8 Romano-British sherds are all in coarseware fabrics, two greyware (including a storage jar rim) and three Black Burnished ware (BB1). None are more closely datable within the period. The sherds came from Trenches 12 (subsoil), 15 (subsoil), and 17 (topsoil and pit **1704**).

#### Medieval

6.2.9 Three of the four medieval sherds are in coarse sandy fabrics of a type found widely across south-east Wiltshire and East Dorset from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The fourth sherd is in a finer sandy fabric, glazed and with combed decoration; this is likely to date to the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century. Medieval sherds came from Trenches 16, 17 and 20, all from topsoil or subsoil contexts.

#### Post-medieval/Modern

6.2.10 Post-medieval/modern sherds comprise four glazed earthenwares (one redware and three pale-firing Verwood-type wares), and one 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> transfer-printed pearlware. Sherds were found in Trenches 6, 11, 17, 19 and 20, all from topsoil contexts.

#### 6.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

6.3.1 This category includes fragments of medieval roof tile, post-medieval brick and postmedieval field drain. All fragments came from topsoil contexts.

#### 6.4 Worked Flint

- 6.4.1 Of the 104 pieces recovered, only five were not from ploughsoil or subsoil contexts. A multi-platform flake core came from ditch **1704**; a heavily patinated broken blade from pit **1708**; and three flakes from pit **804**. These last three are fresh and in a pale flint quite unlike most of the unstratified assemblage, and may be *in situ*, although they are chronologically undiagnostic.
- 6.4.2 The remaining 99 pieces consist mainly of large, thick and heavy flakes, flake fragments and cores, as is typical of assemblages from the plough zone. Most have edge damage, and in most cases this is likely to be the result of post-depositional movement. Only one (a flake from **2301**) has edge damage that is convincingly the result of use.
- 6.4.3 Formal tools are limited to an edge-flaked knife from **501** and scrapers from **801**, **1701** and **2101**.
- 6.4.4 Based on the limited information provided by the retouched tools and flake morphology, most of the pieces are likely to date to the later Neolithic or Bronze Age. If the few hints of blade and bladelet technology are real then there may be an small earlier element to the assemblage, although this cannot be identified with any certainty at this stage.

#### 6.5 Burnt Flint

6.5.1 Burnt, unworked flint was the most commonly occurring material type recovered from the Site. This material type is intrinsically undatable, but is often taken as an indicator of prehistoric activity. In this instance, its distribution coincides largely with that of the worked flint but, as with all other finds, much of it came from topsoil or subsoil contexts and so cannot be firmly dated on that basis. Only one context (undated tree throw **2104**) produced more than 1 kg of burnt flint (1645 g); there was also a small concentration in Trench 17 (1253 g), most of it from topsoil and subsoil.



#### 6.6 Human Bone

#### Introduction

- 6.6.1 Cremated bone (1211) from a single context (1209) was subject to assessment. The bone was recovered from a discrete (approx. 0.20 x 0.10 m) area within the upper levels of the gravel backfill (1209) within ditch 1207 (Trench 12), situated in the north-east area of the investigations (Fig. 4). No grave cut was evident in excavation, but the quantity and distribution of the bone suggests the deposit which extended into the section and was not subject to full excavation represents the remains of a burial.
- 6.6.2 In the absence of associated dating evidence a sample of cremated bone (2 g, femur shaft) was submitted for radiocarbon analysis and returned a date falling within the Late Neolithic period (**Section 8**, below).

#### Methods

6.6.3 The material was subject to a rapid scan to assess the condition of the bone, demographic data, and the presence of pathological lesions. The cremation-related deposit type was assessed from the combined osteological and site context data. Assessments of age and sex were based on standard methodologies (Beek 1983; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Scheuer and Black 2000).

#### Results

- 6.6.4 Although it was not excavated in its entirety in evaluation there is no evidence of disturbance to the deposit. The burial appears to have been made within an organic container, placed in the upper levels of the deliberate gravel backfill within the ditch terminal. The bone is in good visual condition, the deposit including a representative proportion of trabecular as well as the more robust compact bone.
- 6.6.5 The 313 g of bone represents the remains of an adult (estimated 23 35 yr), of currently unknown sex. Shallow Schmorl's nodes depressions in the vertebral body surface indicative of stress-related rupture to the vertebral disc were observed in both surfaces of at least one Lumbar vertebra.
- 6.6.6 The bone is uniformly white in colour, indicative of full oxidation of the organic components. Most of the surviving fragments are of moderate size (maximum 72 mm), supporting the observation of minimal post-depositional disturbance to the deposit.

#### Potential

- 6.6.7 Full analysis of the bone will provide more detailed demographic data regarding the age and sex of the individual, and it is probable that further pathological lesions will be observed with more detailed analysis.
- 6.6.8 Cremation-related mortuary deposits of this date are relatively rare in the archaeological record, both regionally and nationally. This may, in part, be due to the paucity of datable artefactual materials with such deposit which, until the fairly recent advent of radiocarbon analysis of cremated bone, rendered them temporally indistinct. Consequently, these burial remains from Parmiter Road join a small but potentially slowly expanding collection of important data which will increase our currently minimal understanding of the use and significance of the mortuary rite within the Late Neolithic in England. It may be pertinent to note that one recent find of this date from MoD Durrington in Wiltshire (Thompson and Powell forthcoming) featured a unurned burial made on the trampled/stabilised fill of a pit that was sealed by a mass of redeposited 'fresh' flint-knapping waste, demonstrating



some similarities to **1211** in terms of the lack of a grave cut and deliberate sealing within a 'non-grave feature.

#### Proposed methods and recommendations

- 6.6.9 Following full excavation of the deposit, analysis of the cremated bone will follow the writer's standard procedure (McKinley 1994, 5-6; 2004). The unsorted <4 mm residues will be subject to a rapid scan at this stage to extract any identifiable material, osseous or artefactual.
- 6.6.10 Taphonomic factors potentially affecting differential bone preservation will be assessed. The age of the individual will be further assessed using standard methodologies (Beek 1983; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Scheuer and Black 2000). Sex will assessed from the sexually dimorphic traits of the skeleton (Bass 1987; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Gejvall 1981). Pathological lesions will be recorded in text and via digital photography.
- 6.6.11 The form and nature the deposit will be further considered in light of the osteological and other finds data together with the full context data. Aspects of pyre technology and the cremation mortuary rite will be discussed within the appropriate temporal context.

#### 6.7 Other Finds

6.7.1 Other finds comprise very small quantities of animal bone (large mammal long bone from Trench 12 topsoil; sheep/goat tooth fragments from context **806**); clay tobacco pipe (undatable bowl fragment and plain stem fragments); glass (post-medieval/modern vessel and window glass); and ironworking slag.

#### 7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

#### 7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 A series of 10 bulk samples were taken from a range of features within the evaluation Trenches 8, 9, 12 14, 17 and 21 to evaluate the presence and preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains. The samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoal.

#### 7.2 Charred plant remains

- 7.2.1 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 (>5.6 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 **Appendix 3: Table 2**. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).
- 7.2.2 The flots varied in size with low to moderate numbers of roots and modern seeds. The charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation.
- 7.2.3 Very little charred material was recovered in the samples, A few hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell fragments were noted from undated ring ditch **1404** in Trench 14. The small assemblage from undated tree throw **2104** in Trench 21 included indeterminate grain fragments and sloe (*Prunus spinosa*) stone fragments.
- 7.2.4 There is no firm indication of date from these small assemblages but they would be compatible with an earlier prehistoric date. The exploitation of and general reliance on the wild food resource has been noted in assemblages of earlier prehistoric date (Moffett *et al.*



1989; Stevens 2007; Robinson 2000). There is no indication of any later settlement activity in the vicinity from these assemblages.

#### 7.3 Wood charcoal

7.3.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in Appendix
 3: Table 2. Large quantities of charcoal fragments greater than 2 mm were recovered from undated boundary ditch 904 in Trench 9 and undated pit 1708 in Trench 17. The charcoal included mature wood fragments.

#### 7.4 Further potential

#### Charred plant remains

7.4.1 The analysis of the charred plant assemblages has no potential to provide information on the nature of the settlement and the local environment due to the paucity of remains recovered.

#### Wood charcoal

7.4.2 The analysis of the wood charcoal from boundary ditch **904** and pit **1708** has the potential to provide limited information on the species composition, management and exploitation of the local woodland resource on the site.

#### 7.5 Aims and methods

#### Charred plant remains

7.5.1 No further work is proposed on these samples.

#### Wood charcoal

7.5.2 No further work is proposed on these samples.

### 8 RADIOCARBON DATING

8.1.1 A single radiocarbon date was obtained on cremated human bone from the cremated burial recorded in the top of ditch **1207**. The result is consistent with a Late Neolithic date and indicates that the burial was made at some point during 2840-2490 cal BC (SUERC-64556, 4065±29 BP at 95% confidence). The date is consistent with the use of Durrington Walls style Grooved Ware, the construction of large henge enclosures and other related monuments.

#### 9 DISCUSSION

#### 9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 Significant archaeology was identified during the evaluation, with dating evidence for features ranging from the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age. Although the geophysical survey was invaluable in locating two potential barrows, the presence of a series of substantial linear features not previously identified shows the limitations of relying on this survey technique alone.

#### 9.2 Early Bronze Age Food Vessel

9.2.1 Although there was general absence of datable material recovered during the evaluation, the complete Food Vessel, SF 101, is an invaluable aid in defining the likely date and character of the archaeological features recorded.



- 9.2.2 The Food Vessel was recovered from a pit cut into an earlier ditch feature. Such vessels are known to be deposited in or near earlier prehistoric monuments, typically of Late Neolithic, Beaker and very Early Bronze Age date.
- 9.2.3 A complete Food Vessel of this type in the south of England is a significant find. The vessel is in an extremely fragile condition and is currently being consolidated in order to preserve it.

#### 9.3 Ring ditch features

- 9.3.1 Several potential 'roundhouse' features were identified during the geophysical survey. It was not possible to target the northernmost of these because of overhead power cables, but it is highly likely to be similar in form to ditch **1404**. Although no burials were identified within Trench 14, this feature has the form of a penannular ditch usually associated with a round barrow.
- 9.3.2 No firm dating evidence was recovered from **1404**. Round barrows, as a monument type, have considerable longevity in prehistory. Given other circumstantial dating evidence recovered from the Site, a date range between the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age seems likely.
- 9.3.3 Two further possible circular features identified by the geophysical survey and were targeted by Trenches 17 and 23. On excavation, neither of these anomalies were apparent.

#### 9.4 Linear ditch features

- 9.4.1 Linear ditch features were identified in Trenches 1, 8, 9, 11 and 12. None of these ditches were identified during the geophysical survey.
- 9.4.2 It seems highly likely that these ditches are all prehistoric in origin. The ditch feature in Trench 8 clearly predates the Food Vessel.
- 9.4.3 Of particular interest is ditch **1103/1207**. This substantial ditch appears to have been deliberately backfilled with a cremation burial placed in its terminal, and confidently dated to the Late Neolithic. The depth of the primary fill of **1207** suggests that this ditch was open for only a short period of time before being backfilled. Further work will be needed to ascertain the extent and function of the feature. It is a reasonable assumption that further cremation burials may be present.

#### 9.5 The Roman road

- 9.5.1 No evidence for the Roman road was identified in any of the trenches targeting its projected route. A ridge of higher ground, running approximately east west and shown as a contour plan on Fig. 2, could conceivably been exploited for this use, but no agger material or roadside ditches were observed. On this ridge Trenches 11, 18 and 19 contained no subsoil suggesting some erosion, and plough scars were noted for a length of 9 m cutting the gravel natural of Trench 11. The ridge was confidently identified on Site as geological and it should also be noted that prehistoric features were cut into it.
- 9.5.2 It is worth noting that the significant archaeology was predominately on or to the north of this natural ridge. It is possible that this ridge formed a natural flood defence against the River Stour to the south and may possibly be fluvial in origin.



### 10 CONCLUSION

#### 10.1 The archaeological resource

- 10.1.1 There is significant prehistoric archaeology within the Site, dating from the Late Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age. It seems highly likely that the penannular ditch in Trench 14 relates to a barrow and that a similar monument lies to the north. Taken together with the cremation burial from ditch **1207**, there is a potential for further human remains to be present within the Site.
- 10.1.2 The large linear ditches identified in Trenches 1, 8, 9, 11 and 12 were not identified by the geophysical survey. All are assumed to be prehistoric. The ditch in Trench 8 predates the deposition of the Early Bronze Age Food Vessel and the ditch identified in Trenches 11 and 12 is Late Neolithic in date.
- 10.1.3 No evidence was identified for the hypothetical Roman road.
- 10.1.4 The archaeological potential south of the natural ridge is low.
- 10.1.5 The archaeology on the Site should not present an impediment to development providing that further mitigation work is undertaken. The scope of the mitigation strategy will need to be designed in consultation with the SA at DCC and the Client. The results of the previous works are such as to enable a targeted and proportionate approach.

#### 11 OASIS

11.1.1 An OASIS online record (http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main) has been initiated for the work and key fields in regard of the evaluation will be completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All appropriate parts of the form will be completed for submission to the Dorset Historic Environment Record. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive). A copy of the OASIS entry has been included in this report (**Appendix 4**).

### 12 STORAGE AND CURATION

#### 12.1 Museum

12.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with the Dorset County Museum, who has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the site code **108072**.

#### 12.2 **Preparation of Archive**

12.2.1 The complete archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the Dorset County Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993, 1995; CIfA 2014a; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

#### 12.3 Discard policy

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



#### 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 Copyright

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

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### APPENDICIES

### 13.1 Appendix 1: Trench summary tables

| TRENCH   | 1             |           | Type:<br>Evaluation                                   | Mach<br>exca          | ine<br>vated |            |
|----------|---------------|-----------|---|-----------------------|--------------|------------|
| Dimensio | ons: 30 m x 2 | m         | Max. depth 0.55 m                                     | Ground level: 17.     | 6 m –        | 17.5 m aOD |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 40240 | 06.4 N 99 | 619.4 and E 402415.0 N                                | 99590.7               |              |            |
| Context  | Description   | l         |   |                       |              | Depth (m)  |
| 101      | Ploughsoil    | Grey sil  | t with occasional flint grav                          | el <40mm. Slightly    |              |            |
| 101      | Floughson     | uncerta   | in boundary   |                       |              | 0-0.27     |
| 102      | Subsoil       | Greyish   | Greyish brown sandy silt with occasional flint <60mm. |                       |              |            |
| 102      | Subsoli       | Sharp b   |   |                       |              |            |
|          |               | Rounde    | Rounded and sub-angular flint gravel in brown sandy   |                       |              |            |
| 103      | Natural       | matrix.   | Patches of subsoil like ma                            | terial along the bas  | e of         |            |
|          |               | the tren  | ch.   |                       |              |            |
| 104      | Ditch         | NE-SW     | aligned linear feature with                           | n steep concave to    |              | 0.68       |
| 104      | Diten         | irregula  | r sides and a flat base.                              |                       |              |            |
| 105      | Fill          | A dark g  | greyish brown silt containi                           | ning moderate gravel. |              | 0.40       |
| 105      | 1 111         | Upper f   | ill   |                       |              |            |
| 106      | Fill          | A dark g  | greyish brown silt with mo                            | derate gravel. Lowe   | r fill       | 0.34       |

| TRENCH   | 2             |                      | Type:<br>Evaluation           | Mach                 | ine<br>vated |             |
|----------|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Dimensio | ons: 30 m x 2 | m                    | Max. depth: 0.45 m            | Ground level:17.     | 9 m – 8      | 87.69 m aOD |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 40243 | 36.2 N 99            | 643.2 and E 402466.0 N        | 402466.0             |              |             |
| Context  | Description   |                      |                               |                      |              | Depth (m)   |
| 201      | Ploughsoil    | Grey sil             | ty clay with occasional flin  | t <30mm.Sharp        |              |             |
| 201      | Ploughson     | bounda               | ry                            |                      |              | 0 – 0.23    |
| 202      | Subsoil       | Greyish              | brown silty clay with occa    | asion flint <60mm. S | Sharp        | 0.23 – 0.40 |
| 202      | Subsoli       | undulating boundary. |                               |                      |              |             |
| 203      | Natural       | Rounde               | d and sub-angular flint in    | a brown sandy mat    | rix.         | >0.40       |
| 200      | inatural      | Patches              | s of silty clay in the flint. |                      |              |             |

| TRENCH   | 3             |                                      | Type:                  | Mach         | ine<br>vatad |
|----------|---------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Dimonsi  | one: 30 m x 2 | m Max donth: 0.50 m                  | Ground lovel: 17       |              | 17.9  m  200 |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 40244 | 43.0  N 99594.9  and E  402473.7  N  | 99592.2                | <u>9 m –</u> | 17.5 III aOD |
| Context  | Description   |                                      |                        |              | Depth (m)    |
| 201      | Bloughaoil    | Grey silty clay with occasional sm   | nall flint < 20 mm. Fi | ne           |              |
| 301      | Ploughson     | roots and an undulating boundary     | /.                     |              | 0 – 0.25     |
|          |               | Grey silty clay with occasional flir | nt <40 mm. Similar c   | olour        | 0.25 – 0.45  |
| 302      | Subsoil       | and texture to 301 but the subsoi    | I trowels smoothly a   | nd           |              |
|          |               | the ploughsoil does not.             |                        |              |              |
| 303      | Natural       | Sub-angular flint <100 mm in a g     | reyish brown sandy     |              | >0.45        |
| 303      | ivaluiai      | matrix. Several patches of greyis    | h brown silt exist.    |              |              |

| TRENCH   | 4             |  | Type:<br>Evaluation   | Mach<br>exca   | ine<br>vated                  |             |
|----------|---------------|--|---|--|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Dimensio | ons: 30 m x 2 | m  | Max. depth: 0.60 m  | Ground level: 18.  | 1 m –                         | 18.1 m aOD  |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 40247 | 77.9, N 9  | 9647.3 and E 402506.7 N   | 99651.5  |                               |             |
| Context  | Description   | Ì  |   |  |                               | Depth (m)   |
| 401      | Ploughsoil    | Greyish<br>upper 0<br>harrowe<br>develop<br>channe<br>bounda<br>bounda | a brown silty clay with occa<br>0.2 m and seems to have be<br>d relatively recently. The<br>bed structure with few void<br>ls) and seems undisturbed<br>ry between the two subdiv<br>ry to subsoil below. | asional flint <60 mm<br>been ploughed or<br>lower part has a be<br>s (and these worm/<br>d for some years. Sl<br>risions and sharp | . The<br>tter<br>root<br>narp | 0 – 0.35    |
| 402      | Subsoil       | A brow<br>worm/re  | n silty clay with occasional<br>oot channels. Sharp bound   | flint <60 mm, with<br>dary   |                               | 0.35 – 0.55 |
| 403      | Natural       | Rounde<br>silty cla  | ed and sub-angular flint gra<br>y matrix.   | avel <0.2 m in a bro   | wn                            | >0.55       |

| TRENCH   | 5             |                                   | Type:<br>Evaluation  | Mach<br>exca            | ine<br>/ated |            |
|----------|---------------|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------|------------|
| Dimensio | ons: 30 m x 2 | m                                 | Max. depth: 0.6 m  | Ground level: 18.       | 2 m –        | 18.1 m aOD |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 40253 | 36.0 N 99                         | 657.08 and E 402540.2  | N 99628.3               |              |            |
| Context  | Description   | ]                                 |  |                         |              | Depth (m)  |
| 501      | Ploughsoil    | Grey sil<br>field is u<br>present | Grey silty clay with rare sand and occasional gravel. The field is under coarse grass with some crop stubble present. Uncertain boundary |                         |              |            |
| 502      | Subsoil       | Greyish<br>lower be               | brown silty clay with occ<br>oundary.  | asional flint gravel. S | Sharp        | 0.3 – 0.5  |
| 503      | Natural       | Abunda<br>Sometir<br>pale bro     | Abundant angular and sub-angular flint <0.1 m.<br>Sometimes in a clay matrix sometimes sand – the clay is<br>bale brown.                 |                         |              |            |

| TRENCH   | 6             |  | Туре:   | Mach                  | ine    |            |  |
|----------|---------------|--|---|-----------------------|--------|------------|--|
|          |               |  |   | Evaluation            | exca   | vated      |  |
| Dimensio | ons: 30 m x 2 | m                                      | Max. depth: 0.5 m                                     | Ground level: 17.     | .7 m – | 17.8 m aOD |  |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 40242 | 29.1 N 99                              | 565.4 and E 402457.5 N                                | 99574.6               |        |            |  |
| Context  | Description   |  |   |                       |        | Depth (m)  |  |
| 601      | Dloughaoil    | Dark gr                                | eyish brown fine sandy sil                            | t with rare flint <40 | mm     |            |  |
| 001      | Floughson     |  |   |                       |        | 0 – 0.25   |  |
| 602      | Subsoil       | Greyish                                | Greyish brown fine sandy silt with rare flints <20 mm |                       |        |            |  |
| 603      | Natural       | Rounde                                 | d and sub-angular flint gr                            | avel in brown silty c | lay    | >0.40      |  |
| 003      | Inatural      | matrix. Patches of silty clay present. |   |                       |        |            |  |

| TRENCH   | 7                  |   | Туре:   | Mach                   | ine    |             |  |
|----------|--------------------|---|---|------------------------|--------|-------------|--|
|          |                    |   |   | Evaluation             | exca   | vated       |  |
| Dimensio | ons: 30 m x 2      | m   | Max. depth: 0.6 m                             | Ground level: 18.      | .0 m – | 17.9 m aOD  |  |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 40252      | 25.9 N 99   | 618.7 and E 402547.0 N                        | 99598.4                |        |             |  |
| Context  | ontext Description |   |   |                        |        |             |  |
| 701      | Ploughsoil         | Greyish brown silty clay with occasional flints <40 mm. |   |                        |        |             |  |
| 701      | Floughson          |   |   |                        |        | 0 – 0.20    |  |
| 702      | Subsoil            | Greyish   | brown, becoming brown                         | with depth, silty clay | /.     | 0.20 - 0.50 |  |
|          |                    | Rare flir   | Rare flint gravel and some worm/root channels |                        |        |             |  |
| 702      | Natural            | Mostly f  | lint gravel in a brown sand                   | dy silt matrix but wit | h      | >0.50       |  |
| 103      | INALUIAI           | several   | pale brown silt patches.                      | -                      |        |             |  |

| TRENCH   | 8  |   | Type:<br>Evaluation  | Mach<br>excav | ine<br>vated |  |  |
|----------|--|---|--|---------------|--------------|--|--|
| Dimensio | Dimensions: 30 m x 2 m Max. depth: 0.35 m Ground level: 17.6 m – |   |  |               |              |  |  |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 4024   | 69.5 N 99550.6 and E 402498.2 N   | 99557.0  |               |              |  |  |
| Context  | Description  |   |  |               | Depth (m)    |  |  |
| 801      | Ploughsoil   | Greyish brown silty loam with rare  | e flint gravel < 20mn  | n.            | 0 – 0.25     |  |  |
| 802      | Subsoil  | Brown silty loam with occasional rounded flint gravel.  | rounded and sub-   |               | 0.25 – 0.30  |  |  |
| 803      | Natural  | Sub-rounded and sub-angular flin<br>brown silt matrix. There are three<br>the gravel.                         | in<br>ilt in   | >0.30         |              |  |  |
| 804      | Cut  | A sub-rectangular pit of 1.0 m by shallowly concave in profile.   |  | 0.10          |              |  |  |
| 805      | Fill of 804  | A brown silty loan with occasiona<br>The deliberate backfill burying Fo                                       | l flint gravel <35 mm<br>od Vessel SF101                               | ٦.            | 0.10         |  |  |
| 806      | Fill   | A dark brown silty loam with rare<br>0.8 m context, possibly forming th<br>feature, but not exposed sufficien | flint gravel. A 4 m b<br>le upper fill of a line<br>tly for certainty. | y<br>ar       | >0.33        |  |  |
| 807      | Cut  | An oval shaped posthole of 0.18 steep/vertical sides to a flat base.  | very   | 0.20          |              |  |  |
| 808      | Fill of 807  | Dark brown silty loam. The only, I posthole.  |  | 0.20          |              |  |  |
| 809      | Fill of<br>SF101   | The fill number for the contents of   | f urn SF101.   |               | -            |  |  |

| TRENCH              | Ð              |   | Туре:  | Ма                 | chine     |              |  |
|---------------------|----------------|---|--|--------------------|-----------|--------------|--|
|                     |                |   |  | Evaluation         | exc       | avated       |  |
| Dimensio            | ns: 30 m x 2 m | l I   | Max. depth: 0.35 m                                 | Ground level: 17.  | 7 m -     | – 17.5 m aOD |  |
| Co-ordina           | tes: E 402512  | .7 N 99   | 568.7 and E 402544.4 N                             | 99566.5            |           |              |  |
| Context Description |                |   |  |                    | Depth (m) |              |  |
| 001                 | Dloughaoil     | Greyish brown silt with occasional flint gravel |  |                    |           |              |  |
| 901                 | Floughson      | <20 m   | 0 – 0.25   |                    |           |              |  |
| 902                 | Subsoil        | Brown   | silt with occasional flint                         | gravel <40 mm. Col | our       | 0.25 – 0.55  |  |
|                     |                | of plou   | of ploughsoil has washed down into this context so |                    |           |              |  |
|                     |                | that 90   |  |                    |           |              |  |
|                     |                | mergir  | ng with yellowish brown r                          | natural silts.     |           |              |  |



| 903 | Natural     | Rounded and sub-rounded flint gravel in brown matrix with three areas of yellowish brown silt. | >0.55 |
|-----|-------------|--|-------|
| 904 | Cut         | A N-S aligned wide and shallow (1.45 m by 0.35 m) linear feature.                              | 0.35  |
| 905 | Fill of 904 | The brown silt fill contained moderately common charcoal (sample 3).                           | 0.35  |

| TRENCH '   | 10                |                   | Type:<br>Evaluation  | Ma          | chine<br>eavated |                |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|--|-------------|------------------|----------------|
| Dimensio   | Ground level: 17. | 4 m ·             | – 17.4 m aOD   |             |                  |                |
| Co-ordinates: E 402530.15 N 99553.5 and E 402559.9 N 99559.4 |                   |                   |  |             |                  |                |
| Context Description  |                   |                   |  |             | Depth (m)        |                |
| 1001   | Ploughsoil        | Grey s<br>Undula  | silt with occasion flint grav<br>ating boundary.                                 | vel <20 mm. |                  | 0 – 0.25/30    |
| 1002   | Subsoil           | Brown<br>silt wit | Brown, but greyish brown in top approximately 0.1 m, silt with rare flint <10 mm |             |                  | 0.25/30 – 0.60 |
| 1003   | Natural           | Brown             | silt with rare flint gravel.   |             |                  | >0.6           |

| TRENCH   | 11  |  |  | Type:<br>Evaluation                                     | Mach<br>exca   | ine<br>vated |  |
|----------|---|--|--|---|----------------|--------------|--|
| Dimensio | Dimensions: 30 m x 2 m Max. depth: 0.6 m Ground level: 17.4 m – 1 |  |  |   |                |              |  |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 4026  | 14.79 N 4                                  | 02614.8 and E 402621.0   | N 99472.5   |                |              |  |
| Context  | Description   |  |  |   |                | Depth (m)    |  |
| 1101     | Ploughsoil  | Greyish<br>angular                         | brown silt with common s flint gravel.   | sub-rounded and su                                      | b-             | 0 – 0.25     |  |
| 1102     | Natural   | Flint gra<br>In a bro<br>plough<br>geotech | Flint gravel, rounded to angular and mostly c. 20-40 mm.<br>n a brown silt matrix, with small patches of silt. A modern<br>blough scar visible for c. 9 m. A 4 m long and 0.5 m wide |   |                |              |  |
| 1103     | Ditch   | A appro<br>trench.<br>Same a               | oximately 2m wide ditch, o<br>Cut by geotechnical pit ar<br>is ditch 1207 and not exca   | riented NW-SE, in N<br>nd hard to define exa<br>nvated. | N of<br>actly. | -            |  |
| 1104     | Fill of 1103  | Brown s                                    | silt becoming darer toward   | ls the centre.  |                | -            |  |
| 1105     | Subsoil   | Dark ye<br>Variable<br>getting             | Dark yellowish brown silty loam, with moderate flint gravel.<br>Variable boundary. Only present N of ditch 1103 and<br>getting deeper to N.  |   |                |              |  |
| 1106     | Cut   | Tree th                                    | row hollow with root distur  | bance.  |                | 0.22         |  |
| 1107     | Fill of 1106  | Fill.                                      |  |   |                | 0.22         |  |

| TRENCH   | TRENCH 12           |  |  |                     | Mach       | ine        |
|----------|---------------------|--|--|---------------------|------------|------------|
|          |                     |  | Evaluation   | excav               | vated      |            |
| Dimensio | ons: 30 m x 2       | m  | Ground level: 17.  | .6 m –              | 17.7 m aOD |            |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 40258       | 86.9, N 9                                | 9530.5 and E 402596.7 N                                    | 99503.1             |            |            |
| Context  | Context Description |  |  |                     |            | Depth (m)  |
| 1200     | Dloughaoil          | Dark gr                                  | eyish brown silt with occa                                 | sional flint gravel |            |            |
| 1200     | Floughson           | <40 mm                                   | <40 mm.  |                     |            | 0 – 0.30   |
| 1201     | Subsoil 1           | Greyish                                  | Grevish brown silt with moderate flint gravel <50 mm and   |                     |            |            |
|          |                     | rare charcoal flecks. Former ploughsoil. |  |                     |            |            |
| 1202     | Subsoil 2           | Dark ye                                  | Dark yellowish brown silt with moderate flint gravel and 0 |                     |            | 0.60 -0.85 |
| 1202     |                     | charcoa                                  | al flecks. A sherd of potter                               | y recovered from se | ection.    |            |

|  | <b>_</b> |  |
|--|----------|--|
|  |          |  |
|  |          |  |

|  |   | Diffuse boundary. Relict ground surface.                    |             |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|---|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| 1202   | Subsoil 2   | Interface above natural. A dark yellowish brown silt with   | 0.85 - 1.00 |  |  |  |  |
| 1203   | Subsoli S   | moderate flint gravel.                                      |             |  |  |  |  |
| This trench was excavated on the N slope and top of the slight ridge that ran across the site. The |   |   |             |  |  |  |  |
| relict plou  | relict ploughsoils/ground surfaces described above became thinner upslope to S. |   |             |  |  |  |  |
| 1204   | Natural   | River terrace gravels.                                      | >1.00       |  |  |  |  |
| 1205   | Ditch   | A 0.44 m wide ditch with concave sides and a rounded        | 0.18        |  |  |  |  |
| 1205   | DIICH   | base.   |             |  |  |  |  |
| 1206   | Fill of 1205  | Dark yellowish brown silt with rare gravel.                 | 0.18        |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | A steep sided, flat based 2.70 m wide ditch. It had a       | 1.17        |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | rounded terminal within the trench. The top approximately   |             |  |  |  |  |
|  | Ditch   | 1 m of natural gravels were chaotically deposited, making   |             |  |  |  |  |
| 1207   |   | the cut very difficult to define, but below was pale coarse |             |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | sand, where the cut was clearly evident. The ditch's        |             |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | excavators stopped excavation at these unconsolidated       |             |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | sands.  |             |  |  |  |  |
| 1208   | Fill of 1207  | Dark yellowish brown silt with rare gravel <40 mm.          | 0.25        |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | Dark brown silt with abundant flint gravel <80 mm. The      | 0.85        |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | lack of layering/weathering and the height it reached       |             |  |  |  |  |
| 1209   | Fill of 1207  | (nearly to the top of natural gravels) suggested that this  |             |  |  |  |  |
| 1200   | 1 11 01 1201  | was deliberate back filling of the ditch. Unarticulated     |             |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | cremated human bones (1211) were recovered 0.1 m -          |             |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | 0.2 m from the top of this fill. Sample 2 from this fill.   |             |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | Yellowish brown slightly clayey silts with flint gravel     | 0.06        |  |  |  |  |
| 1210   | Fill of 1207  | <80 mm. Slump lines suggested that this was a (short        |             |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | lived) primary fill.  |             |  |  |  |  |
| 1211   | Human   | Cremation recovered from the top of fill 1209. More of this | 16.8        |  |  |  |  |
|  | remains   | cremation will still be present to the E of slot 1207.      |             |  |  |  |  |

| TRENCH 13           |               |           | Type:<br>Evaluation                              | Mach<br>exca            | ine<br>vated |             |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------|--|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Dimensio            | ons: 30 m x 2 | m         | Max. depth: 0.7 m                                | Ground level: 17.       | .5 m –       | 17.5 m aOD  |
| Co-ordin            | ates: E 4025  | 31.6 N 99 | 522.4 and E 402560.6 N                           | 99526.3                 |              |             |
| Context Description |               |           |  |                         | Depth (m)    |             |
| 1301                | Ploughsoil    | Greyish   | brown silt with occasiona                        | I flint gravel. A sligh | itly         |             |
| 1301                | i loughsoli   | intermitt | intermittent band of gravel at base.             |                         |              | 0 - 0.35    |
| 1302                | Subsoil       | Brown s   | silt with occasional gravel                      | <60 mm.                 |              | 0.35 - 0.65 |
| 1202 Natural        |               | Rounde    | d to sub-angular flint grav                      | el in pale brown silt   |              | >0.65       |
| 1303                | inatural      | matrix.   | The gravels dipped by approximately 0.15 m in E. |                         |              |             |

| TRENCH              | 14             |   | Type:<br>Evaluation                           | Mach          | ine<br>/ated |
|---------------------|----------------|---|---|---------------|--------------|
| Dimensio            | ons: 30 m x 2  | m Max. depth: 0.6 m   | Ground level: 18.                             | .0 m –        | 18.0 m aOD   |
| Co-ordin            | ates: E 40249  | 95.8 N 99498.8 and E 402525.6 N                                     | 99506.8                                       |               |              |
| Context Description |                |   |   |               |              |
| 1400                | Ploughsoil     | Dark greyish brown with occasion                                    | al flint.                                     |               | 0 - 0.30     |
| 1401                | Subsoil 1      | Greyish brown sandy silt with occ                                   | asional flint gravel.                         |               | 0.30 - 0.40  |
| 1402                | Subsoil 2      | Dark yellowish brown silt with occ                                  | asion flint gravel                            |               | 0.40 - 0.50  |
| 1403                | Natural        | Gravel. The top approximately 1 r 0.05m band of roughly horizontal  | n of gravel containe<br>silt, and below the g | d a<br>gravel | >0.50        |
|                     |                | was loose and unconsolidated ye                                     | llowish coarse sand                           | ĺ.            |              |
|                     |                | A very steep sided, flat based, 1.8                                 | 3 m wide ditch. As v                          | vith          | 1.35         |
| 1404                | Ditch          | ditch 1207 the original excavators                                  | s stopped digging af                          | ter           |              |
|                     |                | reaching the coarse sand natural.                                   |   |               |              |
| The S fac           | ing section wa | as first recorded (contexts 1405-9).                                | It was realised that                          | t this se     | ection was   |
| badly afte          | ected by anima | al burrowing so the N facing sectior                                | h was recorded (cor                           | itexts 1      | 1405, 1410-  |
| 14; conte           | xt 1405 was u  | inaffected by burrowing).   | 11  |               | 0.00         |
| 1405                | Fill of 1404   | Dark brown flint gravel. Primary fl                                 | 0.32  |               |              |
| 1406                | Fill of 1404   | Dark yellowish brown soft sandy s                                   | 0.08  |               |              |
| 1407                | Fill of 1404   | Dark yellowish brown slit with occ                                  | asional gravel.                               |               | 0.16         |
| 1408                | FIII OF 1404   | Firm yellowish brown sandy slit                                     |   |               | 1.00         |
| 1409                | Fill of 1404   | flecks.   | avel and rare chard                           | oai           | 0.45         |
| 1410                | Fill of 1404   | Dark yellowish brown silt with occ                                  | asional gravel <50                            |               | 0.45         |
|                     |                | Dark grevish brown silt stone free                                  | e. Secondary fill. Sa                         | mnle          | 0.25         |
| 1411                | Fill of 1404   | 6 taken.  |   | mpie          | 0.20         |
| 1412                | Fill of 1404   | Greyish brown silt with rare flint. In 1405. Primary fill. Sample 7 | nterleaved slightly v                         | vith          | 0.40         |
|                     |                | The semi-circular terminus of a di                                  | tch was partially                             |               | -            |
| 1413                | Ditch          | exposed, with a width of 2.3 m an was not excavated                 | d a length of 0.9 m.                          | It            |              |
|                     |                | A brown silt, similar to subsoil 140                                | )1. but with abunda                           | nt            | -            |
|                     |                | flint gravel seen in section to slum                                | p from W. The slun                            | nped          |              |
| 1414                | Fill of 1413   | gravel at the level of machining co                                 | ontrasts with the fills                       | s of          |              |
|                     |                | ditch 1404, in which the gravel wa                                  | as not present until                          |               |              |
|                     |                | approximately 0.5 m below the level                                 | vel of machining.                             |               |              |

| TRENCH 15           |               |                                  |   | Type:                 | Mach      | ine<br>voted |
|---------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|
|                     |               |                                  | Evaluation  | exca                  |           |              |
| Dimensio            | ons: 30 m x 2 | 2 m                              | Max. depth: 0.8 m   | Ground level: 17.     | .4 m –    | 17.9 m aOD   |
| Co-ordin            | ates: E 4024  | 51.4 N 99                        | 522.0 and E 402465.9 N  | 99493.3               |           |              |
| Context Description |               |                                  |   |                       | Depth (m) |              |
| 1501                | Ploughsoil    | Greyish                          | brown fine sandy silt with  | i common gravel <4    | 0 mm      | 0 - 0.25     |
| 1502                | Subsoil       | Greyish<br>rare flin<br>with adj | Greyish brown becoming dark brown with depth. Silt with rare flint gravel <20 mm. A scraper recovered from section with adjacent CBM suggests bioturbation. |                       |           |              |
| 1503                | Natural       | Small fl                         | int gravel in N and pale br   | own silt in S (upslop | be).      | >0.75        |

| TRENCH   | 16   |   | Type:<br>Evaluation   | Mach<br>exca | iine<br>vated |  |
|----------|--|---|---|--------------|---------------|--|
| Dimensio | ons: 30 m x 2  | m Max. depth: 0.7 m   | Ground level: 18  | .1 m –       | 17.8 m aOD    |  |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 4024   | 79.5 N 99495.2 and E 402488.2   | N 99466.2   |              |               |  |
| Context  | Description  |   |   |              | Depth (m)     |  |
| 1601     | Ploughsoil   | Greyish brown silty clay with o mm. Sharp boundary.                           | Greyish brown silty clay with occasional flint gravel <20 mm. Sharp boundary. |              |               |  |
| 1602     | Subsoil Greyish brown at top becoming pale greyish brown with depth. Silt or silty clay. Relatively stone free. Common vertical worm channels. |   |   | 0.25 - 0.60  |               |  |
| 1603     | Natural  | Yellowish brown silt. Relatively<br>gravel to S. Trench located ove<br>slope. | stone free but patch or<br>er natural ridge and its                           | of<br>N      | >0.60         |  |

| TRENCH   | 17   |          |                               | Type:<br>Evaluation     | Mach<br>excav | ine<br>vated          |  |
|----------|--|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--|
| Dimensio | Dimensions: 30 m x 2 m Max. depth: 0.45 m Ground level: 17.9 m – 1 |          |                               |                         |               |                       |  |
| Co-ordin | Co-ordinates: E 402428.8 N 99453.8 and E 402457.9 N 99463.6        |          |                               |                         |               |                       |  |
| Context  | Description  |          |                               |                         |               | Depth (m)             |  |
| 1701     | Ploughsoil   | Dark br  | own silty loam with mode      | rate flint gravel <50r  | nm.           | 0 - 0.30              |  |
| 1702     | Subsoil  | Dark ye  | ellowish brown silty loam v   | vith occasional flint < | <50           | 0.30 - 0.53           |  |
|          |  | mm.      |                               |                         |               | max.                  |  |
| 1703     | Natural  | Yellowi  | sh brown silty clay over fli  | nt gravel.              |               | >0.40                 |  |
| 1704     | Ditob  | A 0.96   | m wide, steep sided and s     | lightly round based     | ditch.        | 0.28                  |  |
| 1704     | DIICH  | Cut from | Cut from below subsoil.       |                         |               |                       |  |
| 1705     | Fill of 1704   | A yellow | wish brown silty loam with    | occasion flint grave    |               | 0.18                  |  |
| 1705     | FIII 01 1704   | <50 mr   | n and rare charcoal.          |                         |               |                       |  |
| 1706     | Fill of 1704   | A pale   | yellowish brown silty clay    | loam. Part of primar    | y fill.       | 0.05                  |  |
| 1707     | Fill of 1704   | Dark ye  | ellowish brown sandy silt le  | cam with frequent fli   | int           | 0.07                  |  |
| 1707     | FIII 01 1704   | gravel · | <65 mm. Part of primary fi    | <b>II</b> .             |               |                       |  |
| 1709     | Dit/scoop  | A shall  | ow circular feature of 0.94   | m diameter. Heavily     | y             | 0.14                  |  |
| 1700     | Fillscoop  | bioturba | ated. No scorching of natu    | ıral.                   |               |                       |  |
| 1700     | Fill of 1708   | A dark   | brown silty loam containin    | g sparse flint, comm    | non           | 0.14                  |  |
| 1709     | charcoal, burnt flint and some pottery. Sample 1.                  |          |                               |                         |               |                       |  |
| 1710     | Modern cut   | A linea  | 0.25 m wide cut. Cut sub      | soil, field drain like  | cut           | 0.25 - <i>c</i> . 0.5 |  |
| 1/10     |  | but no   | drain present.                |                         |               |                       |  |
| 1711     | Fill of 1710   | Similar  | to subsoil.                   |                         |               | 0.25 - c. 0.5         |  |
| 1712     | Fill of 1704   | Latest   | ill of ditch. A yellowish bro | wn silty clay loam.     |               | 0.07                  |  |

| TRENCH   | 18            |                     | Type:<br>Evaluation   | Mach<br>excav     | ine<br>/ated |            |  |
|--|---------------|---------------------|---|-------------------|--------------|------------|--|
| Dimensio   | ons: 30 m x 2 | m                   | Max. depth: 0.3 m   | Ground level: 17. | 8 m –        | 17.8 m aOD |  |
| Co-ordinates: E 402528.6 N 99474.0 and E 402556.9 N 99478.0                                |               |                     |   |                   |              |            |  |
| Context  | Description   |                     |   |                   |              | Depth (m)  |  |
| 1801   | Ploughsoil    | Dark gr<br>gravel < | Dark greyish brown slightly sandy silt with occasional 0 - gravel <80 mm. |                   |              |            |  |
| 1802 Natural Predominantly brown silt with patches of rour<br>angular flint gravel <100 mm |               |                     |   |                   | sub-         | >0.25      |  |

| TRENCH  | 19            |                   | Type:<br>Evaluation   | Mach<br>excav     | ine<br>/ated |            |  |  |
|---|---------------|-------------------|---|-------------------|--------------|------------|--|--|
| Dimensio  | ons: 30 m x 2 | m                 | Max. depth: 0.3 m   | Ground level: 17. | 4 m –        | 17.6 m aOD |  |  |
| Co-ordinates: E 402551.6 N 99444.1 and E 402574.8 N 99460.3 |               |                   |   |                   |              |            |  |  |
| Context   | Description   | Description       |   |                   |              |            |  |  |
| 1901  | Ploughsoil    | Dark gr<br><40 mm | Dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional flint gravel 0 - 0.25 <40 mm                      |                   |              |            |  |  |
| 1902  | Natural       | Rounde<br>Two pa  | Rounded to sub-angular flint gravel in brown silt matrix.<br>Two patches of brown silt present. |                   |              |            |  |  |

| TRENCH  | 20  |  | Type:<br>Evaluation | Machi<br>excav | ine<br>ated |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|---------------------|----------------|-------------|--|--|--|
| Dimensions: 30 m x 2 m Max. depth: 0.5 m Ground level: 16.8 m - 1 |   |  |                     |                |             |  |  |  |
| Co-ordin  | Co-ordinates: E 402624.7 N 99419.4 and E 402632.1 N 99390.3 |  |                     |                |             |  |  |  |
| Context   | Description   |  |                     |                | Depth (m)   |  |  |  |
| 2001  | Ploughsoil  | Dark greyish brown silty loam                                    |                     |                | 0 - 0.30    |  |  |  |
| 2002  | Subsoil   | Dark brown sandy silt loam with abundant flint gravel 0.30 - 0.4 |                     |                |             |  |  |  |
| 2003  | Natural   | tural Dark reddish brown sandy clay with abundant flint gravel.  |                     |                |             |  |  |  |

| TRENCH   | 21            |   | Type:<br>Evaluation  | Mach                | ine<br>vated |           |  |  |
|----------|---------------|---|--|---------------------|--------------|-----------|--|--|
| Dimensio | ons: 30 m x 2 | m   | Ground level: 16.  | .7 m –              | 16.5 m aOD   |           |  |  |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 40262 | 27.6 N 99   | 364.8 and E 402657.8 N   | 99372.1             |              |           |  |  |
| Context  | Description   |   |  |                     |              | Depth (m) |  |  |
| 2101     | Ploughsoil    | Dark br   | own silty loam with moder  | ate gravel.         |              | 0 - 0.27  |  |  |
| 2102     | Subsoil       | Dark gr   | Dark greyish brown sandy silt loam with occasional flints. 0.27 - 0.50 |                     |              |           |  |  |
| 2103     | Natural       | Reddish   | n brown sandy clay with co   | ommon flint gravel. |              | >0.50     |  |  |
| 2104     | Tree throw    | Approxi   | mately 0.9m diameter tree  | e throw. Extended   |              | c.0.1     |  |  |
| 2104     | hollow        | beyond  | the trench edge.   |                     |              |           |  |  |
| 2105     | Fill of 2104  | Very dark brown to black with frequent burnt flint. c. 0.1    |  |                     |              |           |  |  |
| 2106     | Rooting       | Irregular shallow feature with many tunnels into natural. 0.1 |  |                     |              |           |  |  |
| 2107     | Fill of 2106  | Dark gr   | eyish brown with gravel ar   | nd some charcoal.   |              | 0.1       |  |  |

| TRENCH   | 22            |           | Type:<br>Evaluation                                      | Mach<br>excav         | ine<br>/ated |             |  |  |  |
|----------|---------------|-----------|--|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|--|--|--|
| Dimensio | ons: 30 m x 2 | m         | Max. depth: 0.5 m  | Ground level: 16.     | 7 m –        | 17.0 m aOD  |  |  |  |
| Co-ordin | ates: E 40264 | 46.2 N 99 | 360.3 and E 402649.8 N                                   | 99330.7               |              |             |  |  |  |
| Context  | Description   |           |  |                       |              | Depth (m)   |  |  |  |
| 2201     | Ploughsoil    | Dark gr   | eyish brown silty loam with                              | n occasional flints.  |              | 0 - 0.30    |  |  |  |
| 2202     | Subsoil       | Dark br   | own sandy silt loam with c                               | common flint gravel.  |              | 0.30 - 0.42 |  |  |  |
| 2203     | Natural       | Flint gra | avel in a reddish brown sa                               | ndy silt loam matrix. |              | >0.42       |  |  |  |
| 2204     | Roots         | Small a   | rea of root disturbance. No                              | ot excavated          |              | -           |  |  |  |
| 2205     | Fill of 2205  | Dark sil  | Dark silt with some charcoal flecks -                    |                       |              |             |  |  |  |
| 2206     | Possible      | A 0.25 I  | m diameter possible posth                                | ole                   |              | 0.02        |  |  |  |
| 2200     | posthole      |           |  |                       |              |             |  |  |  |
| 2207     | Fill of 2206  | Dark gr   | Dark greyish brown with occasional charcoal flecks. 0.02 |                       |              |             |  |  |  |

| TRENCH  | 23            |                       | Type:<br>Evaluation  | Mach<br>exca      | iine<br>vated |            |  |  |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|--|-------------------|---------------|------------|--|--|
| Dimensio  | ons: 30 m x 2 | m                     | Max. depth: 0.6 m  | Ground level: 17. | 2 m –         | 17.2 m aOD |  |  |
| Co-ordinates: E 402620.1 N 99310.3 and E 402649.9 N 99313.6 |               |                       |  |                   |               |            |  |  |
| Context   | Description   |                       | Depth (m)  |                   |               |            |  |  |
| 2301  | Ploughsoil    | Dark gro<br>half loos | Dark greyish brown silty loam with occasional gravel. Top half loose, lower half firm. |                   |               |            |  |  |
| 2302  | Subsoil       | Dark gr               | 0.30 - 0.56  |                   |               |            |  |  |
| 2303  | Natural       | Gravel i              | in reddish brown sandy cla   | ay matrix.        |               | >0.60      |  |  |

| TRENCH  | 24            |         | Type:<br>Evaluation                                   | Mach<br>excav | ine<br>/ated |           |  |
|---|---------------|---------|---|---------------|--------------|-----------|--|
| Dimensio  | ons: 30 m x 2 | m       | Ground level: 16.                                     | 9 m – '       | 16.7 m aOD   |           |  |
| Co-ordinates: E 402635.1 N 99286.1 and E 402644.0 N 99257.9 |               |         |   |               |              |           |  |
| Context   | Description   | 1       |   |               |              | Depth (m) |  |
| 2401  | Ploughsoil    | Dark gr | Dark greyish brown silty loam with occasional flints. |               |              |           |  |
| 2402  | Subsoil       | Dark gr | 0.25 - 0.40   |               |              |           |  |
| 2403  | Natural       | κ.      | >0.40   |               |              |           |  |

| TRENCH  | 25            |                   | Type:<br>Evaluation   | Mach<br>exca           | iine<br>vated |            |  |
|---|---------------|-------------------|---|------------------------|---------------|------------|--|
| Dimensio  | ons: 30 m x 2 | m                 | Max. depth: 0.5 m   | Ground level: 16.      | 8 m –         | 16.8 m aOD |  |
| Co-ordinates: E 402659.7 N 99277.1 and E 402662.6 N 99246.6 |               |                   |   |                        |               |            |  |
| Context   | Description   |                   |   |                        | Depth (m)     |            |  |
| 2501  | Ploughsoil    | Dark gr           | eyish brown silty loam witl                                 | h occasional flint gra | avel.         | 0 - 0.25   |  |
| 2502  | Subsoil       | Dark br           | Dark brown sandy silt loam with frequent flint gravel. 0.25 |                        |               |            |  |
| 2503  | Natural       | Dark re<br>abunda | ddish brown sandy clay m<br>nt flint gravel.                | atrix containing       |               | >0.46      |  |

### 13.2 Appendix 2: Artefactual data

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

|         |             |     | Worked Flint | <b>-</b> |                      |
|---------|-------------|-----|--------------|----------|----------------------|
| Context | Burnt Flint | СВМ | (No.)        | Pottery  | Other Finds          |
| 101     | 3/77        |     |              |          |                      |
| 201     | 3/53        |     | 2            |          |                      |
| 301     | 12/175      |     |              |          |                      |
| 401     | 3/28        |     | 1            |          | 1 clay pipe          |
| 402     | 1/34        |     |              | 1 /2     |                      |
| 501     | 4/20        |     | 3            |          |                      |
| 601     | 4/35        |     | 2            | 1/16     |                      |
| 701     | 6/97        |     | 2            |          |                      |
| 801     | 45/477      |     | 5            | 1/6      | 1 clay pipe; 1 glass |
| 805     |             |     | 3            | 1/1200   |                      |
| 806     | 3/8         |     |              |          | 4 animal bone        |

| 808   | 4/7      |        |     |         |                        |
|-------|----------|--------|-----|---------|------------------------|
| 902   |          |        | 1   |         |                        |
| 1001  | 6/97     | 2/66   | 3   |         |                        |
| 1002  | 1/21     |        | 1   | 2/4     |                        |
| 1101  | 20/257   |        |     | 1/10    | 1 slag                 |
| 1201  | 2/83     |        | 5   |         | 1 animal bone; 1 glass |
| 1202  |          |        |     | 1/6     |                        |
| 1209  |          |        |     |         | 313g human bone        |
| 1301  | 4/49     | 2/99   | 2   |         | 2 glass                |
| 1302  | 2/49     |        | 2   | 1/23    |                        |
| 1400  | 23/390   |        | 3   |         |                        |
| 1401  | 9/143    |        | 6   |         | 1 glass                |
| 1402  |          |        | 1   |         |                        |
| 1501  | 9/92     | 1/51   | 5   |         | 1 clay pipe; 1 glass   |
| 1502  |          |        | 1   | 1/25    |                        |
| 1601  | 10/151   |        | 1   |         |                        |
| 1602  |          |        |     | 1/8     |                        |
| 1701  | 28/352   | 6/214  | 4   | 3/15    |                        |
| 1702  | 39/733   |        | 12  | 1/5     |                        |
| 1705  | 7/92     |        | 1   | 2/5     |                        |
| 1709  | 20/67    |        | 1   | 1/1     |                        |
| 1711  | 2/9      | 1/59   |     |         | 1 clay pipe            |
| 1801  | 5/75     |        | 3   |         | 1 glass                |
| 1901  | 3/26     |        | 1   | 1 /2    |                        |
| 2001  | 5/104    |        | 2   | 2/6     |                        |
| 2002  |          |        |     | 1/1     |                        |
| 2101  | 5/51     |        | 9   |         | 1 glass                |
| 2105  | 1/1645   |        |     |         |                        |
| 2201  |          |        | 2   |         |                        |
| 2301  | 4/41     |        | 6   |         |                        |
| 2401  | 8/131    |        | 2   |         |                        |
| 2402  | 1/39     |        | 1   |         |                        |
| 2501  | 8/162    |        | 7   |         |                        |
| 2502  | 2/86     |        | 4   |         |                        |
| Total | 312/5956 | 12/489 | 104 | 22/1335 |                        |

### 13.3 Appendix 3: Environmental data

| E t                           | Oristaut                         | 0 annu la | Vol | Flot | Roots | Quein  | 01#    | Cereal               | Charred | Notes for                     | Charcoal > | Others     |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----|------|-------|--------|--------|----------------------|---------|-------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Feature                       | Context                          | Sample    | (L) | size | %<br> | Grain  |        |                      | Other   | Table                         | 4/2mm      | Other      |
|                               |                                  | ,         |     |      | Ir    | 8 - E9 | riy Br | onze Age             | PIt     |                               |            |            |
| 804                           | 805                              | 4         | 10  | 15   | 30    | -      | -      | -                    | -       | -                             | 1/2 ml     | -          |
|                               | Tr 8 - Early Bronze Age Pot fill |           |     |      |       |        |        |                      |         |                               |            |            |
|                               | 805 obj<br>101                   |           |     |      |       |        |        |                      |         |                               |            |            |
| 804                           | bottom                           | 8         | 1   | 5    | 20    | -      | -      | -                    | -       | -                             | <1/<1 ml   | -          |
|                               | 805 obj<br>101 top               | 9         | 1.6 | 15   | 15    | -      | -      | -                    | -       | -                             | 1/1 ml     | -          |
| Tr 9 - Undated Boundary ditch |                                  |           |     |      |       |        |        |                      |         |                               |            |            |
| 904                           | 902                              | 3         | 10  | 250  | 10    | -      | -      | -                    | -       | -                             | 50/70 ml   | -          |
|                               | Tr 12 - Undated Ditch            |           |     |      |       |        |        |                      |         |                               |            |            |
| 1207                          | 1209                             | 2         | 15  | 10   | 10    | -      | -      | -                    | -       | stem frag                     | -          | -          |
|                               |                                  |           |     |      | Tr    | 14 - L | Indate | ed Ring Dif          | tch     |                               |            |            |
|                               |                                  |           |     |      |       |        |        |                      |         | Corylus<br>avellana shell     |            |            |
|                               | 1410                             | 5         | 6   | 5    | 40    | -      | -      | -                    | С       | frags                         | 0/<1 ml    | -          |
| 1404                          |                                  |           |     |      |       |        |        |                      |         | Corylus<br>avellana shell     |            |            |
|                               | 1411                             | 6         | 6   | 5    | 30    | -      | -      | -                    | С       | frags                         | <1/<1 ml   | Moll-t (C) |
|                               | 1412                             | 7         | 6   | 5    | 30    | -      | -      | -                    | -       | -                             | <1/<1 ml   | -          |
|                               |                                  |           |     |      |       | Tr 17  | 7 - Un | dated Pit            |         |                               |            |            |
| 1708                          | 1709                             | 1         | 20  | 650  | 5     | -      | -      | -                    | -       | -                             | 225/125 ml | -          |
|                               |                                  |           |     |      | Tr    | 21 - U | ndate  | d Tree thr           | ow      |                               |            |            |
|                               |                                  |           |     |      |       |        |        |                      |         | Prunus                        |            |            |
| 2104                          | 2105                             | 11        | 4   | 40   | 5     | С      | -      | Indet.<br>grain frag | С       | <i>spinosa</i> stone<br>frags | 5/10 ml    | -          |

#### Table 2: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

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

### 13.4 Appendix 4: OASIS form

### OASIS ID: wessexar1-235441

#### **Project details**

Project name

Land at Parmiter Drive, Wimborne, Dorset: Archaeological Evaluation

Short description of The field evaluation was undertaken between the 3rd and 13th of November and consisted of 25 evaluation trenches measuring 30 m x 2 m. These were the project targeted, where possible, on potential archaeological features identified during the previous geophysical survey, as well as testing blank areas and the projected route of a hypothetical Roman road. A substantial penannular ring ditch was identified in Trench 14 and is likely to represent the remains of a prehistoric barrow, although no human remains were observed within the trench. Trench 2 was designed to target a similar feature identified by the geophysical survey, but the trench was relocated due to the constraint of overhead power cables. Several substantial ditches were also identified in Trenches 1, 8, 11 and 12. No dating evidence was recovered from the east - west aligned ditch in Trench 1. The east - west aligned ditch in Trench 8 was cut by a small pit containing a complete food vessel dating to the Early Bronze Age. A substantial ditch terminus measuring approximately 2.7 m wide and 1.17 m deep was recorded in Trench 12. The ditch had been deliberately backfilled with gravel material and a cremation burial had been placed in the terminus. A single radiocarbon date was obtained from the human bone. The result is consistent

|  | with a Late Neolithic date and indicates that the burial was made at some point<br>during 2840-2490 cal. The ditch appeared to continue into Trench 11, where it<br>was truncated by a modern geotechnical pit. Several trenches were placed<br>along the projected route of the Roman Road, for which no evidence was<br>identified. |
|--|---|
| Project dates                                | Start: 03-11-2015 End: 13-11-2015   |
| Previous/future work                         | Yes / Yes   |
| Any associated<br>project reference<br>codes | 108072 - Contracting Unit No.   |
| Type of project                              | Field evaluation  |
| Site status                                  | None  |
| Current Land use                             | Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation   |
| Monument type                                | DITCH Late Neolithic  |
| Monument type                                | PENANNULAR DITCH Late Prehistoric   |
| Significant Finds                            | POTTERY Bronze Age  |
| Project location                             |   |
| Country                                      | England   |
| Site location                                | DORSET EAST DORSET WIMBORNE MINSTER Land at Parmiter Drive, Wimborne, Dorset  |
| Study area                                   | 8.2 Hectares  |
| Project creators                             |   |
| Name of<br>Organisation                      | Wessex Archaeology  |
| Project brief<br>originator                  | Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body   |
| Project design<br>originator                 | Wessex Archaeology  |
| Project<br>director/manager                  | Bruce Eaton   |
| Project supervisor                           | Jon Powell  |
| Type of<br>sponsor/funding<br>body           | Developer   |
| Name of<br>sponsor/funding<br>body           | Lewis Wyatt (Construction) Ltd  |

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### **Project archives**

| Physical Archive recipient | Dorset County Museum   |
|----------------------------|--|
| Physical Archive ID        | 108072   |
| Physical Contents          | "Ceramics","Environmental","Human Bones","Worked stone/lithics"            |
| Digital Archive recipient  | Dorset County Museum   |
| Digital Archive ID         | 108072   |
| Paper Archive recipient    | Dorset County Museum   |
| Paper Archive ID           | 108072   |
| Paper Media<br>available   | "Context sheet","Drawing","Report"   |
| Project<br>bibliography 1  |  |
| Publication type           | Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)                          |
| Title                      | Land at Parmiter Drive, Wimborne, Dorset: Archaeological Evaluation Report |
| Author(s)/Editor(s)        | Wright, J./Eaton, B./Leivers, M.   |
| Date                       | 2015   |













Detail of Trenches 1 - 10

![](_page_42_Figure_0.jpeg)

Detail of Trenches 11 - 19

Figure 4

![](_page_43_Figure_0.jpeg)

Detail of Trenches 20 - 25

![](_page_44_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Picture_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_44_Picture_3.jpeg)

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