



making sense of heritage

East Chickerell, Weymouth Dorset

Archaeological Evaluation Report



Ref: 73312.03
July 2016



**Land at East Chickerell
Weymouth, Dorset**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Prepared for:

Pegasus Group
Pegasus House
Querns Business Centre
Whitworth Road
Cirencester
GL7 1RT

On behalf of:

Persimmon Homes (South Coast) Ltd
Persimmon House
100 Wickham Road
Fareham
Hampshire
PO16 7HT

Prepared by:

Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
SALISBURY
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

www.wessexarch.co.uk




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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Persimmon Homes (South Coast) Ltd to carry out an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land proposed for a housing development at East Chickerell, Weymouth, Dorset. The archaeological evaluation comprised 40 trenches, each approximately 50 m x 2 m, located across six fields. The trenches were targeted on both geophysical anomalies and apparent blank areas throughout the proposed development footprint area. The work took place between 16th May and 25th May 2016.

One main area of archaeological potential was identified in the central part of the southern half of the Site, centred on Trenches 31, 33, 34 and 35. A number of ditches and deposits containing material dating to the Romano-British period were identified in this area, with the greatest density of archaeological features in Trenches 31 and 35. Trenches 17 and 27, located slightly further to the north of the main concentration, also contained features tentatively dated to the Romano-British period.

The majority of the ditches encountered in these areas are likely to have formed components of field systems or enclosures. However, the quantity and character of cultural material recovered from some of the ditches and spreads are suggestive of a degree of contemporary settlement activity in the immediate area.

Evidence for activity within the Site during other periods was considerably more limited. A very small assemblage of residual pottery and worked flint, and a tree-throw hole of possible Bronze Age date provided the only traces of prehistoric activity. No finds or features of Saxon or medieval date were identified. A lime kiln, shown on late 19th century historic maps and detected by geophysical survey, was the only notable post-medieval feature encountered during the evaluation. As such, there is likely to be very limited potential for archaeologically significant remains derived from prehistoric or post-Roman periods to be present elsewhere within the Site.

Given the limited amount of evidence recorded during the evaluation, it is suggested that no further archaeological mitigation is required.



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Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned by Pegasus Planning Group on behalf of Persimmon Homes (South Coast) Ltd and Wessex Archaeology is grateful for their assistance prior to the work taking place.

The fieldwork was directed by Lee Newton, assisted by Andy Sole, Natalia Hunt, Jamie McCarthy, Emma Robertson, Richard Spencer, Tom Dawkins and Moises Reixach. This report was compiled by Lee Newton. The report illustrations were prepared by Nancy Dixon. Finds were assessed by Rachael Seager-Smith and Lorrain Higbee. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Gareth Chaffey.



Land at East Chickerell Weymouth, Dorset

Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Pegasus Planning Group on behalf of Persimmon Homes (South Coast) Ltd ('the Client') to conduct an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at East Chickerell, to the west of Weymouth, Dorset, centred on NGR 365184 80511 (hereafter 'the Site', **Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The development comprises the construction of a mixed use development of up to 470 dwellings along with car parking, landscaping, primary school and associated infrastructure to be submitted to West Dorset District Council (WDDC).
- 1.1.3 An archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) was originally prepared for the Site to consider its archaeological potential (WA 2015a). This concluded that there was an archaeological interest within the Site, with evidence of Romano-British, medieval, and post-medieval activity in the vicinity.
- 1.1.4 Following the completion on the DBA, a geophysical survey was carried out across the application area in April 2015 (WA 2015b). This identified a number of anomalies that were interpreted as likely, probable or possible archaeology, in addition to a large amount of ferrous material across the site of a 19th century limekiln shown on historic mapping.
- 1.1.5 The subsequent requirement for a trial trench evaluation, equating to a 2% sample of the Site, was set out in a scope of works provided by the Senior Archaeologist at Dorset County Council (DCC). The evaluation strategy and methodology were designed in accordance with the scope of works and detailed in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (WA 2015c). The WSI was submitted to and approved by the Senior Archaeologist at DCC prior to the start of the fieldwork, which was undertaken between 16th May and 25th May 2015.

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The Site is located at between 10 m and 54 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) on gently sloping, south-facing ground to the west of the River Wey, on the southern edge of a small ridge overlooking Weymouth and Portland harbour (**Figure 1**).
- 1.2.2 The Site consists of six fields currently under pasture, with a total area of approximately 26.5 hectares. The Site is bounded to the west by existing and under-construction residential development, to the north by agricultural land and Coldharbour Road, to the east by open fields and a large electricity sub-station and to the south by agricultural land beyond which lies the B3157 Chickerell Link Road. The internal and external boundaries are marked by mature hedgerows and trees.



- 1.2.3 The underlying geology in the north of the Site is mapped as mudstone of the Forest Marble Formation, in the central area as limestone cornbrash, and in the southern part as mudstone and sandstone of the Kellaways Formation (British Geological Survey).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background of the Site and its surrounding area was assessed in detail within the DBA (WA 2015a). This considered the recorded historic environment resource within a 1 km study area around the Site in order to place it within its archaeological and historic context.

2.1.2 It is not intended to repeat this information in detail, but a short summary is included below, focused largely on the area of the Site.

2.2 Recent investigations

2.2.1 A detailed gradiometer survey (WA 2015b) was successful in detecting anomalies of definite, probable and possible archaeological interest within the Site. In addition, regions of increased magnetic response, geological changes and several modern services were noted.

2.2.2 Linear features interpreted as land divisions of earlier periods, the majority predating the historic mapping available for the Site, were recorded within the application area, concentrated in the northern fields. A number of discrete features were also highlighted throughout the Site. A 19th century lime kiln shown on historic mapping was positively identified, with a large ferrous anomaly resulting from extensive burning being identified in the central part of the Site.

2.2.3 Ten trial trenches were excavated across a deserted medieval settlement at Lower Putton Lane located 130m west of the Site. Several medieval features were uncovered, comprising shallow ditches and pits likely to be associated with settlement. Medieval pottery ranging in date from the 11th to the 15th century was recovered during the fieldwork. A series of undated hollow-ways surviving as earthworks 200 m west of the Site boundary are also likely to be associated with the settlement. An evaluation carried out in 2007 immediately to the south of this area identified no features of archaeological origin.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and objectives

3.1.1 The aims and objectives of the archaeological work were to:

- *Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be impacted by the proposed development;*
- *Identify, within the constraints of the works, 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; and*
- *Produce a report which presents the results of the works in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the Site's archaeological potential.*



3.2 Fieldwork methodology

- 3.2.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the methodology specified in the WSI (WA 2015c) and in compliance with the standards set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and guidance for archaeological evaluation* (CIfA 2014a), except where they were superseded by the statements made below.
- 3.2.2 All works were carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974*, the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992* and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.
- 3.2.3 A 15 m buffer zone was established around the overhead power lines bisecting the Site, while the modern services identified in the geophysical survey were given a 10 m buffer zone. No trenches were situated in these areas.
- 3.2.4 All the evaluation trench areas were also scanned before and during excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) to further verify the absence of live underground services.
- 3.2.5 Forty-three machine-excavated trial trenches, each 50 m x 2 m, were originally proposed, with an even distribution across the Site and targeted on anomalies highlighted in the geophysical survey (**Figure 1**).
- 3.2.6 The quantity and positioning of the evaluation trenches was, however, constrained by the number of modern services running throughout the Site. As a result, Trenches 18, 19 and 22 could not be excavated. Despite this, the total evaluated area constitutes a sample of almost 2% of the available development footprint (218,000 m²).
- 3.2.7 A contingency for additional trial trenching was detailed in the WSI (WA 2015c) to allow for further investigation of any features or deposits not sufficiently characterised within the initial scope of the evaluation. In the event, no additional trenching was required by the Senior Archaeologist for DCC.
- 3.2.8 All trenches were laid out using GPS in general accordance with the pattern given in **Figure 1**. Trench location was tied in to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum (Newlyn).
- 3.2.9 The trenches were excavated using a 360° tracked excavator equipped with a toothless bucket working under constant supervision by WA. Machine excavation proceeded in spits (c. 20-200 mm deep), to the point at which the top of the archaeological levels or the top of the natural deposits, were exposed, whichever was the higher. Where appropriate, hand cleaning was then undertaken to establish the nature of the deposits.
- 3.2.10 Archaeological features were then sampled sufficiently to address the aims of the evaluation, and recorded to professionally accepted standards. Appropriate sampling of features identified in the trenches was carried out by hand, to establish their character, date and function.
- 3.2.11 All spoil derived from trenches, including archaeological features, was visually scanned by trained archaeological personnel for the purposes of finds retrieval.
- 3.2.12 Completed trenches were backfilled using the excavated material in the approximate order in which it was excavated. The trench areas were left level on completion, but no other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.



3.3 Monitoring

- 3.3.1 Wessex Archaeology informed the Senior Archaeologist for DCC of the commencement of fieldwork and the progress of the investigations of the site.

3.4 Recording

- 3.4.1 All exposed archaeological contexts were recorded using WA's *pro forma* recording system.
- 3.4.2 A complete drawn record of all excavated features and deposits was compiled. This includes both plans and section drawings at appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and with reference to a site grid tied to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) heights of all principle features and levels have been calculated and the plans and sections annotated with these OD heights.
- 3.4.3 A complete photographic record was maintained, using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subjected to quality control and curation processes, which embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

3.5 Specialist strategies

Artefacts

- 3.5.1 All artefacts recovered during the evaluation remain the property of the landowner. As a minimum, all the retained artefacts have been cleaned, weighed, counted and identified. They have been suitably bagged and boxed in accordance with guidance given by the relevant museum and generally in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a) and the Museums and Galleries Commissions *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections*. With the permission of the landowner, it is anticipated that the artefacts will be deposited with the relevant museum.

Environmental

- 3.5.2 None of the excavated deposits were deemed suitable for environmental sampling.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits were identified in 28 of the excavated trenches. The remaining 12 trenches (Trenches 3, 5, 9, 11, 15, 17, 23, 27, 31, 33, 34 and 35) contained a varied density of features, most containing a single linear feature but two in particular (Trenches 31 and 35) contained several archaeological features.
- 4.1.2 Detailed trench descriptions are tabulated in **Appendix 1**.

4.2 Natural deposits and soil sequence

- 4.2.1 The topsoil was observed to vary slightly in composition across the Site. It consisted of a mid to dark grey brown silty clay loam, clay loam or silty clay, which ranged in thickness from 0.1-0.3 m. In the majority of the trenches, the topsoil overlaid a light brown or mid grey brown silty clay subsoil, which averaged 0.2 m in thickness (**Plates 1 to 8**).
- 4.2.2 The underlying natural substrate varied slightly across the Site, but was generally a mid-grey brown or yellow brown silty clay with abundant poorly sorted sub-angular limestone



inclusions. This was typically encountered at between 0.25 and 0.40 m below ground level (bgl). The depth of the natural substrate was generally greater towards the southern part of the Site.

- 4.2.3 A 0.26 m thick layer of colluvium, formed of a mid-grey brown silty clay, was encountered below the subsoil horizon in one trench (Trench 10). This sealed the upper surface of the natural substrate, which occurred at 0.62 m bgl in this location.

4.3 Prehistoric

- 4.3.1 No archaeological features of conclusively prehistoric date were encountered during the evaluation. However, a possible Bronze Age date may be ascribed to a tree-throw hole in Trench 30, **3004**, on the basis of the single sherd of pottery and a worked flint flake that were recovered from its fill. This feature measured 1.5 m in length, 0.9 m in width and 0.24 m in depth.

4.4 Romano-British

- 4.4.1 Trench 17 contained a north-south aligned ditch, **1704 (Plate 9)**, 1.18 m wide and 0.46 m deep. The single fill contained only one fragment of Roman pottery so the date assigned to this feature is tentative.
- 4.4.2 Trench 27 contained an east-west aligned ditch, **2704**, 0.47 m wide and 0.27 m deep. The Roman pottery was present only in the upper fill of this ditch and was abraded making the Romano-British date of this feature tentative.
- 4.4.3 Trench 31 contained a steep-sided ditch, **3106 (Plate 10)**, aligned north-south. The single fill contained a moderate amount of abraded pottery dating to the Romano-British period. The exact function of this feature is unclear, but it probably formed part of a field boundary/drainage system and ran parallel to several other linear features in the vicinity.
- 4.4.4 Trench 31 contained a fairly wide ditch, **3108**, which yielded no dating evidence. However, the base contained an arrangement of fairly large, flattish angular stones interpreted as an early field drain. This feature continued in Trench 34, where it was numbered **3404** and dated to the Romano-British period. **3108** also has a north-south alignment, which is shared with other dated features in the vicinity, for example **3106**, which dates to the Romano-British period.
- 4.4.5 Trench 31 also contained a thin spread of material towards its eastern end, **3111**. This extended for approximately 4 m and contained an abundance of pottery dating to the late Romano-British period.
- 4.4.6 A north-east to south-west aligned ditch in Trench 31, **3112**, also contained a quantity of mostly abraded Romano-British pottery as well as an abundance of scallop and whelk shells. This feature was 0.70 m wide and 0.34 m deep.
- 4.4.7 Trench 33 contained a north-south aligned ditch, **3304 (Plate 11)**, 0.95 m wide and 0.23 m deep. The numerous fragments of pottery within the fill were all heavily abraded.
- 4.4.8 Trench 34 contained a substantial east-west aligned gully, **3404**, 0.65 m wide and 0.25 m deep. This feature contained Romano-British pottery within its two fills.
- 4.4.9 Trench 35 contained several archaeological features. A substantial north-east to south-west aligned ditch, **3504**, contained Romano-British pottery within its fills. This feature was approximately 2.20 m wide and 0.42 m deep.



- 4.4.10 A north-west to south-east aligned ditch, **3513**, was 1.30 m wide and 0.35 m deep. It remained undated; however, it contained a later recut numbered **3506**, which contained abraded material dating to the Romano-British period.
- 4.4.11 A shallow gully with straight, gently sloping sides, **3516**, aligned east-west, contained pottery dating to the Romano-British period. It was up to 0.35 m wide and 0.08 m deep.
- 4.4.12 A steep-sided ditch aligned east-west, **3518** contained frequent large pottery sherds dating to the Romano-British period. This was interpreted as a field boundary/drainage ditch and was up to 0.60 m wide and 0.36 m deep.
- 4.4.13 A north-west to south-east aligned gully, **3521**, was 1.07 m wide and 0.17 m deep and contained a single sherd of Romano-British pottery.

4.5 Post-medieval

- 4.5.1 The 19th century lime kiln known from historic mapping was uncovered in Trench 23 where it was given the number **2304**. This cut for this had been backfilled with general refuse during the 1960s.
- 4.5.2 Trench 9 contained two probable post-medieval agricultural furrows.

4.6 Modern

- 4.6.1 Trench 31 contained a spread of modern material. Three modern ditches were revealed during the evaluation; these were encountered in Trenches 15, 25 and 38. Many of the trenches were traversed by modern land drains.

4.7 Features of uncertain date

- 4.7.1 Trench 3 contained an east-west aligned ditch, **304**, 0.71 m wide and 0.31 m deep. This contained a single fragment of fired clay which is intrinsically undatable. However, where this material has been recovered elsewhere on the Site it has been associated with pottery dating to the Romano-British period.
- 4.7.3 Trench 5 contained part of a very shallow discrete feature, **504**, which contained evidence of in-situ burning such as baked clay and heat-affected stones, but which remained undated.
- 4.7.4 Trench 11 contained a north-west to south-east aligned ditch, **1104**, 1.06 m wide and 0.46 m deep. Although this feature contained no reliable dating evidence, the sparse struck flint present within the single fill may suggest a prehistoric date.
- 4.7.5 Ditch **3119** in Trench 31 was also undated, but was cut by Romano-British ditch **3112**, making it an earlier feature. Ditch **3119** was aligned north-east to south-west and was 0.30 m wide and 0.25 m deep.
- 4.7.6 A narrow 'V'-shaped gully in Trench 35, **3514**, was also undated but cut both **3516** and **3518**, both dating to the Romano-British period, making it later than them. It is possibly a modern land drain.



5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 In accordance with the WSI (WA 2015), artefacts of 19th and 20th century date, were noted on context records but not collected or retained. Materials of this date, including pottery, glass, bricks, tiles and rubber, were noted in ditches **1503**, **2504** and **3805** as well as topsoil (Trenches 25, 28-31, 35-37 and 39) and subsoil (Trenches 30 and 31) contexts.
- 5.1.2 In addition, small quantities of earlier artefacts, totalling just 2.5 kg, were recovered and retained from 11 of the excavated trenches. All have been cleaned, scanned to assess their nature, date range and condition as well as quantified by material type within each context; this information is presented in **Appendix 2**. Most of the chronologically diagnostic pieces are of Romano-British date, although a few prehistoric finds are also included.
- 5.1.3 All material types survive in moderate condition, although fragment size is quite small – just 7.8 g among the pottery, for instance (between 10 and 20 g is considered normal for Romano-sites across southern England). However, this is typical for assemblages predominantly recovered from ditches. During use, ditches require frequent cleaning and/or re-cutting to maintain them, resulting in the repeated reworking of material accumulating within them and the comminution of any artefacts present. It is therefore a truism that artefacts found in ditches are only rarely linked to the use of the ditch itself, but instead represent material, often spanning a wide date range, present in the area once the feature has gone out of use and is allowed to fill up.

5.2 Flint

- 5.2.1 Struck flints were found in five of the excavated trenches (trenches 11, 27, 30, 31 and 40). With the possible exception of a trimming flake from a blade core which occurred alongside a sherd of Early or Middle Bronze Age pottery in tree throw **3004**, none of the pieces are from primary context, but most survive in sharp condition suggesting that they are unlikely to have moved far from their point of manufacture.
- 5.2.2 Raw material includes Portland chert and waterworn beach pebbles as well as slightly better quality gravel or chalk flint. None of the pieces are particularly chronologically diagnostic, although a broken trimming flake from a blade core from ditch 2704 could be of Neolithic date. The only identifiable tool, a naturally backed, Portland chert knife with retouch along one margin, came from the subsoil in trench 40, although edge damage on a trimming flake from a blade core found in ditch **1104** may indicate that it had been utilised in some way. A heavily patinated waste flake and a fragment of worked, burnt Portland chert were also found in this ditch. Other pieces comprise a very irregular, multi-platform flake core made from poor quality Portland chert (ditch **3106**) and a debitage fragment from layer **3111**.

5.3 Pottery

- 5.3.1 Pottery was the most common material type recovered and has provided the primary dating evidence for the Site. To provide a basic minimum archive (PCRG, SGRP, MPRG 2016), sherds from each context were sub-divided into broad ware groups (e.g. oxidised wares) or known fabric types (e.g. Southwestern Black Burnished ware) and quantified by the number and weight of pieces present. The number and type of any vessel forms were also recorded and spot-dates, used to inform the stratigraphic phasing, were assigned to each fabric group and, in combination with any dating evidence provided by other artefact

types, to the context as a whole. A breakdown of the assemblage by chronological period and ware type is shown in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Pottery totals by ware type (number of pieces/weight in grammes)

Ware	No.	Wt.
<i>Prehistoric:</i>		
Grog-tempered ware	1	34
<i>Romano-British:</i>		
Black Burnished ware	144	1004
South-east Dorset orange wiped wares	6	119
Samian	4	39
Southwestern black burnished ware	3	41
Oxidised ware	3	18
New Forest colour coat	1	8
Total	161	1229

5.3.2 The single prehistoric sherd came from tree throw **3004**. It is a fragment from the base of a small to medium sized, handmade jar with an oxidised exterior surface and a dark grey core, in a grog-tempered fabric. Although the form of the vessel is not particularly chronologically diagnostic, the use of grog as a tempering agent is suggestive of a Bronze Age date, the use of such fabrics being "... a feature of Early and Middle Bronze Age ceramics in south Dorset" (Cleal 1997, 88). A single flint flake was also found in this feature, so together the two may indicate a prehistoric date for this feature.

5.3.3 As expected in this area, the Romano-British assemblage is dominated by Black Burnished wares from the Wareham/Poole Harbour region. The fabrics and vessel forms present indicate activity in close proximity to the Site throughout the four centuries of the Roman period. Early Romano-British material is represented by an imitation samian form 29 bowl (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, 236-6, type WA 36) from ditch **3506** and the 1st to later 2nd/early 3rd century AD Southwestern black burnished ware sherds (layer **3111**; possible ditch **3521**). Other 2nd century material includes the samian, all from Central Gaulish sources and from form 33 cup (layer **311** and residually in land drain **3104**) and bowl forms (layer **3111** and ditch **3112**), while the remaining South-east Dorset (Wareham/Poole Harbour) Black Burnished ware vessel forms (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, 231-5, types WA 2, 2/3, 20 and 25), span the 2nd to 4th centuries AD. During the late 3rd and 4th centuries AD, drinking vessels were supplied by the New Forest industry, a sherd from a colour-coated ware indented beaker (Fulford 1975, 52, type 27), coming from ditch **3106**. The three oxidised ware sherds (ditch **3504**) are from a vessel of similar indented form, which may be a lightly-fired product of the New Forest industry, but its precise identification is hampered by the complete loss of the original surfaces of the sherds, and therefore any trace of a colour-coat. The South-East Dorset orange wiped wares also form a distinctive part of the latest Roman assemblages in South Dorset, their production perhaps continuing into the early decades of the 5th century AD (Gerrard 2010).

5.4 Other finds

5.4.1 A fragment from the edge of a rectilinear shale tray was found in layer 3111. The upper surface is decorated with two groups of three parallel, incised grooves set 22 mm in from edge; similar decoration occurs on an example from Greyhound Yard, Dorchester (Mills and Woodward 1993, fig. 80, 53). The frequency with which these rectangular trays/trenchers occur in 1st/2nd contexts at Greyhound Yard, and their near absence from

sites such as Colliton Park (Calkin 1972; Atkien and Aitken 1982), suggest that they are predominantly of Early Romano-British date.

- 5.4.2 The six pieces of fired clay are all small, featureless fragments in predominantly oxidised slightly sandy fabrics. With the exception of the single scrap which was the only artefact from Gully **304**, all the pieces were associated with Romano-British pottery, and a similar date is therefore likely. The only other artefact is a small piece from a post-medieval/modern brick (ditch **3804**), which was collected in error as residual Romano-British pottery also occurred in this deposit.

5.5 Animal bone

- 5.5.1 Thirty fragments of animal bone were recovered (**Appendix 2**). Bone preservation varies from good to fair and gnaw marks were noted on only four pieces. Bone was recovered from six ditches (**1705**, **3106**, **3504**, **3506**, **3507** and **3518**), and spread **3111**. Most of the identified bones belong to cattle. They include a near complete metacarpal from ditch **3106**, a proximal fragment of metacarpal from spread **3111**, a scapula from ditch **3504** and loose teeth from ditches **3506** and **1705**. Other identified bones include a sheep/goat third molar from ditch **1705** and a horse tibia from ditch **3506**. The tibia is mostly complete and is from a pony-sized animal.

5.6 Marine molluscs

- 5.6.1 On site, two deposits in Trench 31 (contexts 3113 in ditch 3119 and 3114 in ditch 3112), were noted to contain significant quantities of marine shells – 10-15% and over 50% of the make-up of these layers respectively. Only the shells from layer 3114 were sampled, the context description noting that those from 3113 were of similar composition. The shells from layer 3114 are comprise cockle and winkle (common periwinkle or *Littorina littorea*) shells in the ratio of 1:9 (**Appendix 2**). These were probably collected from the nearby Chesil Beach or Weymouth Harbour and represent either food remains or the preparation of bait for catching fish. Associated pottery suggests a Romano-British date for this deposit.
- 5.6.2 The fill (context **1705**) of ditch **1704** in Trench 17 is described as containing abundant (over 50%) 'snail shells' (see **Appendix 1**). These were not collected or sampled, but given the proximity of the coast and the quantity of shells in the deposit, it seems more likely that the shells were of marine rather than terrestrial species.

5.7 Conservation

- 5.7.1 No immediate conservation requirements were noted in the field. During assessment, none of the finds were identified as being of unstable material types or as being in an unstable condition, so no further conservation treatment is considered necessary.

5.8 Potential

- 5.8.1 Although fragment size is comparatively small and no individual artefacts of particular intrinsic interest were recovered, the assessment results indicate that the preservation of artefacts is moderately good. Chronological evidence, primarily from the pottery, indicates that the activity falls within two main periods - Romano-British (1st – 4th century AD) and modern (19th century onwards), with a background of low-level, earlier prehistoric activity evidenced by the struck flint.
- 5.8.2 The small size and fragmentary nature of the assemblage offers only limited scope to further contribute to the existing corpus of published data from the area, but the material



serves to highlight the potential for the recovery of further Romano-British remains if larger areas of the Site were to be examined.

5.9 Recommendations

- 5.9.1 All the finds have been recorded to a fairly detailed level as part of this assessment. No additional analysis is recommended at this stage, but the assemblage should be reconsidered in the light any larger collections of material perhaps recovered during further fieldwork at the Site.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 6.1.1 No archaeological deposits suitable for environmental sampling were identified during the evaluation.

7 CONCLUSION

- 7.1.1 The evaluation confirmed that the Site contains archaeological features and deposits which appear to predominantly date from the Romano-British period. The main concentration of archaeological material was identified in the central part of the southern half of the Site, centred on Trenches 31-35. Trenches 17 and 27, located slightly further to the north of the main concentration, also contained features tentatively dated to the Romano-British period.
- 7.1.2 The majority of the ditches encountered in these areas of the Site are likely to have formed components of Romano-British field systems or enclosures. However, the quantity and character of cultural material recovered from some of the ditches and spreads are suggestive of some degree of contemporary settlement activity in the immediate area.
- 7.1.3 Evidence for activity within the Site during other periods was considerably more limited. A very small assemblage of residual pottery and worked flint, and a tree throw hole of possible Bronze Age date provided the only traces of prehistoric activity. No finds or features of Saxon or medieval date were identified. A lime kiln, shown on late 19th century historic maps and detected by geophysical survey, was the only notable post-medieval feature encountered during the evaluation. As such, there is likely to be very limited potential for archaeologically significant remains derived from prehistoric or post-Roman periods to be present elsewhere within the Site.
- 7.1.4 The results of the evaluation demonstrated that the preceding geophysical survey had variable success in identifying archaeological features across the Site. It is possible that some of the geophysical anomalies that were interpreted as being archaeological in origin may, in fact, have represented variations in the underlying geology.

8 STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the evaluation be deposited with Dorset County Museum in Dorchester. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

8.2 Archive

- 8.2.1 On completion of the report a cross-referenced and internally consistent archive will be produced, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts,



ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

8.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site code **73312**, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:

- *One cardboard box of artefacts, ordered by material type*
- *One file/document case of paper records & A4 graphics*

8.2.3 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> has been initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. 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 **Appendix 3** of this report.

8.3 Conservation

8.3.1 No immediate conservation requirements were noted in the field. During assessment, none of the finds were identified as being of unstable material types or as being in an unstable condition, so no further conservation treatment is considered necessary.

8.4 Storage

8.4.1 No charge will be made for the temporary storage of finds or archives during the period when WA are undertaking analysis or report preparation.

8.4.2 However, if, after completion and submission of the report, finds and archives cannot be deposited with the relevant museum due to circumstances beyond WA's control, a charge will be made for storage.

8.4.3 A charge for storage may also be made where a delay is caused by a lack of confirmation of post-fieldwork analyses and report, if the delay exceeds three months.

8.5 Discard policy

8.5.1 WA follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. Any discard will be noted with the project archive. In this instance, modern and undated finds, having little or no further potential, have been discarded.

8.6 Copyright

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

8.7 Security Copy

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

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Online resources

British Geological Survey, <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/> [accessed August 2015]



10 APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1: Trench and Context Summaries

Bgl: Below Ground Level

Trench 1	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.58m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(ENE) 364956, 80978 (WSW) 364910, 80965		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
101	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium gravels. Moderately bioturbated from rooting.	0-0.13m	
102	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate subangular medium gravels. Sparsely bioturbated by rooting.	0.13-0.34m	
103	Natural	Mid grey/brown silty clay with common subangular coarse gravels and abundant subangular 'cobbles'.	0.34m +	

Trench 2	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.5m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(E) 364920, 80948 (W) 364912, 80948		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
201	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium gravels. Moderately bioturbated.	0-0.15m	
202	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate subangular medium gravels and flecks of charcoal. Sparsely bioturbated by rooting.	1.05-0.25m	
203	Natural	Light brown silty clay with common subangular medium gravels.	0.25m +	

Trench 3	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.46m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NNE) 364896, 80910 (SSW) 364909, 80864		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
301	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium gravels. Moderately bioturbated.	0-0.25m	
302	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate subangular medium gravels. Sparsely bioturbated by rooting.	0.25-0.46m	
303	Natural	Mid grey/brown silty clay with common subangular coarse gravels and abundant subangular 'cobbles'.	0.46m +	
304	Cut	E-W aligned gully with moderately sloped concave sides and concave base. 0.71m wide and 0.31m deep, with the intervention being 0.6m long. Shape and size consistent across feature.		
305	Primary Fill	Primary fill of gully [304], Mid grey/brown silty clay with sparse subrounded medium gravels. Consistent fill across feature, 0.5m wide and 0.12m deep.		
306	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of gully [304], Dark grey/brown silty clay with sparse subrounded 'cobbles', moderate subrounded coarse and medium gravels. 0.71m wide with a depth of 0.22m. A single abraded pot sherd within the fill.		



Trench 4	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.36m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NW) 364937,80901 (SE) 364983, 80886		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
401	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium gravels. Moderately bioturbated by turf.	0-0.15m	
402	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate subangular small-medium gravels. Sparsely bioturbated by rooting.	0.15-0.25m	
403	Natural	Mid – light brown silty clay with common subangular medium gravels.	0.25m +	

Trench 5	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.4m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(N) 365011, 80931 (S) 365015, 80884		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
501	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium gravels. Moderately bioturbated from rooting.	0-0.15m	
502	Subsoil	Light brown silty clay moderate subangular small-medium gravels. Sparsely bioturbated by rooting.	0.15-0.25m	
503	Natural	Mid yellow/brown clay with common subangular medium gravels.	0.25m +	
504	Cut	Subcircular pit with moderate to steep vertical/concave sides and a flat base, 1.1m in length, 0.61m wide, 0.2m deep. Probable fire pit, of unknown date.		
505	Deliberate	Deliberate deposit within pit [504], Dark brown/black silty clay with moderate inclusions of angular (cracked) packed stones (100-350mm). The lower half of the fill shows signs of in-situ burning, heavy charcoal component to fill. 1.1m long by 0.61m wide and 0.2m deep.		

Trench 6	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.46m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(E) 365039, 80837 (W) 364991, 80840		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
601	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium gravels. Moderately bioturbated from rooting.	0-0.16m	
602	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate subangular small-medium gravels. Sparsely bioturbated by rooting.	0.16m-0.34m	
603	Natural	Mid – light brown silty clay with common subangular small and large gravels. Variations across the natural of mid orange/red clay.	0.34m +	

Trench 7	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.28m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(N) 364933, 80842 (S) 364944, 80796		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
701	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subrounded	0-0.16	



		medium gravels. Moderately bioturbated from rooting.	
702	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate subangular medium-coarse gravels and sparse subrounded 'cobbles'. Sparsely bioturbated by rooting.	0.16-0.28
703	Natural	Two variations within the natural. A mid grey/brown silty with abundant subrounded 'cobbles', coarse and medium gravels. A mid grey/brown silty clay with sparse subrounded coarse gravels.	0.28+

Trench 8	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.46m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(N) 364946, 80765 (S) 364960, 80718		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
801	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subrounded medium gravels. Moderately bioturbated from rooting.	0-0.15m	
802	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate subrounded medium and coarse gravels. Sparsely bioturbated by rooting.	0.15m-0.36m	
803	Natural	Mid red/brown silty clay with rare subrounded coarse and medium gravels.	0.36m +	

Trench 9	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.5m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(N) 365024, 80783 (S) 365040, 80738		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
901	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium gravels. Moderately bioturbated from rooting.	0-0.1m	
902	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate subangular small-medium gravels. Sparsely bioturbated by rooting.	0.1-0.27m	
903	Natural	Mid – light brown silty clay with common subangular small and large gravels. Variations across the natural of mid orange/red clay with abundant subrounded large limestone inclusions and common small gravels.	0.27m +	
904	Cut	WSW-ENE aligned furrow, with shallow concave sides and a concave base. Majority of the feature observed in the bulk of the trench; 2.8m wide and 0.34m deep with an intervention length of 0.9m. A wide and shallow furrow located to the south of a second furrow [906].		
905	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of furrow [904], Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate subangular stone inclusions. No dating evidence present. 2.8m wide and 0.34m deep.		
906	Cut	E-W aligned furrow, with shallow concave sides and a concave base. Half of the feature observed in the bulk of the trench, 1.5m wide and 0.27m deep with an intervention length of 0.6m. A shallow furrow located to the north of a second furrow [904].		
907	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of furrow [906], mid grey/brown silty clay with inclusions of common subrounded limestone, and sparse subangular small-medium gravels. No dating evidence present. 1.5m wide and 0.27m deep.		



Trench 10	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.66m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(WNW) 364977, 80707 (ESE) 365024, 80697		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
1001	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium gravels. Moderately bioturbated from rooting.	0-0.2m	
1002	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate subrounded medium gravels and rare subrounded coarse gravels. Sparsely bioturbated from rooting.	0.2-0.36m	
1003	Colluvium	Mid grey/brown silty clay with rare subangular medium gravels.	0.36-0.62m	
1004	Natural	Mid grey/brown silty clay with very rare subangular medium gravels.	0.62m +	

Trench 11	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.6m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(WNW) 365071, 80799 (ESE) 365116, 80786		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
1101	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular coarse gravels. Moderately bioturbated from rooting.	0-0.14m	
1102	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with common subrounded coarse gravels. Sparsely bioturbated.	0.14-0.34m	
1103	Natural	Mid red/brown silty clay with common inclusions of subrounded coarse gravels. Rare bioturbation.	0.34m +	
1104	Cut	NW-SE aligned ditch with moderately sloped convex sides and a flat base. 1.06m wide and 0.46m deep with an intervention length of 0.7m. Probable field boundary/drainage ditch.		
1105	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of ditch [1104], mid brown silty clay with rare subrounded stone inclusions and rare struck flint/chert. Some fired clay (not collected) and charcoal remnants along the base of the fill.		
1106	'Cut'	Series of diffuse blobs; explored but only appear to be shadows of features. No hard evidence of archaeology.		
1107	'Fill'	Mid brown/grey/yellow silty clay, very sterile.		

Trench 12	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.5m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(E) 365125, 80745 (W) 365079, 80744		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
1201	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with rare subangular stone inclusions and sparse subangular medium gravels. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.2m	
1202	Subsoil	Mid brown/grey silty clay with sparse subangular coarse gravels. Sparse bioturbation from rooting.	0.2-0.3m	
1203	Natural	Two variations within the natural. A mid yellow/grey silty clay with moderate subangular coarse and medium gravels.	0.3m +	



Trench 13	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.34m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(N) 365197, 80795 (S) 365203, 80747		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
1301	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subrounded medium gravels. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.26m	
1302	Natural	Mid brown/yellow silty clay with common subangular medium and large stone inclusions.	0.26m +	

Trench 14	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.32m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NE) 365258, 80745 (SW) 365232, 80705		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
1401	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium and coarse gravels. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.24m	
1402	Natural	Mid grey/brown silty clay with abundant subangular small to coarse stone inclusions.	0.24m +	

Trench 15	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NNW) 365160, 80726 (SSE) 365182, 80682		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
1501	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium and coarse gravels. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.25m	
1502	Natural	Variations in the natural, rare rooting throughout. Light brown/orange silty clay with abundant subangular coarse gravels and medium limestone inclusions. Mid – light brown clay loam with rare subangular medium gravel. Mid-dark brown/red clay loam with common subangular coarse gravel inclusions.	0.25m +	
1503	Cut	Cut of modern ditch running NW-SE with shallow sloped edges and a flat base. 0.8m wide by 0.08m deep with an intervention length of 0.65m.		
1504	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of ditch [1503]. Mid brown/grey silty clay with common inclusions of subangular coarse gravels. A sherd of modern pottery recovered from fill. 0.8m wide and 0.08m deep.		

Trench 16	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.39m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NNW) 365114, 80712 (SSE) 365136, 80669		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
1601	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium and coarse gravels. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.3m	
1602	Natural	Mid grey/brown silty clay with abundant subangular	0.3m +	



		small to large stone inclusions.	
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Trench 17	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.7m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NNW) 365006, 80658 (SSE) 365030, 80617		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
1701	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subrounded coarse gravels. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.15m	
1702	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with common subrounded coarse gravel inclusions. Sparse bioturbation from rooting.	0.15-0.38m	
1703	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with common inclusions of medium gravel and limestone. Variation in natural of patches of limestone. Sparse bioturbation from rooting.	0.38m +	
1704	Cut	S-N aligned ditch, straight, steep western side and straight, moderate eastern side with a flat base. 1.18m wide, 0.46m deep with an intervention length of 1m. Unlikely to continue into any other trench so purpose of feature unclear.		
1705	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of ditch [1704]. Mid grey/brown silty clay with sparse subangular large stone inclusions, and moderate subangular small to coarse stone inclusions. A pot sherd, animal bone and abundant snail shells (0.1-0.2m down in fill; not collected/sampled). 1.18m wide and 0.46m deep.		

Trenches 18 and 19 not opened

Trench 20	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.46m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(N) 365198, 80645 (S) 365199, 80598		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
2001	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular medium gravels. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.21m	
2002	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with sparse subangular coarse gravel inclusions. Sparse bioturbation.	0.21-0.35m	
2003	Natural	Mid grey/brown silty clay with abundant subangular small to large limestone inclusions.	0.35m +	

Trench 21	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.56m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(N) 365280, 80696 (S) 365281, 80549		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
2101	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with sparse subangular coarse gravels. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.2m	
2102	Subsoil	Dark yellow/brown silty clay with common inclusions of coarse gravel and moderate inclusions of coarse limestone. Variation in natural of patches of limestone. Moderate bioturbation.	0.2-0.38m	
2103	Natural	Light yellow/brown silty clay with common subangular coarse gravels and medium limestone inclusions. Variation in the natural with patches of mid-dark	0.38m +	



		yellow/brown silty clay.	
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Trench 22 not opened

Trench 23	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.31m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NW) 365249, 80598 (SE) 365279, 80561		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
2301	Topsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay loam with sparse subangular coarse gravels. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.13m	
2302	Subsoil	Light brown silty clay with sparse subangular small stone inclusions.	0.13-0.31m	
2303	Natural	Broken and weathered limestone brash with patches of yellow/brown clay.	0.31m +	
2304	Cut	Lime kiln/pit backfilled in the 1960's with modern materials. Dating of original kiln unknown.		
2305	Dump Deposit	Dump deposit of post war bottles and other debris. None collected		

Trench 24	Dimensions :	50m by 2.1m by 0.34m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(E) 365237, 80560 (W) 365190, 80559		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
2401	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay loam with sparse subangular coarse gravels. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.17m	
2402	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with moderate subangular coarse gravel inclusions and sparse subangular medium gravel. Sparse bioturbation.	0.17-0.26m	
2403	Natural	Mid grey/brown silty clay with abundant subangular small to large limestone inclusions.	0.26m +	

Trench 25	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.33m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(SE) 365307, 80462 (NW) 365273, 80496		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
2501	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay with rare coarse subangular to subrounded stone. Rare modern debris. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.13m	
2502	Subsoil	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with rare bioturbation by rooting and worm activity.	0.13-0.22m	
2503	Natural	Light yellow/brown silty clay with mottled grey clay. Grey water channels running downhill observed.	0.22m +	
2504	Modern disturb	Modern ditch containing charcoal, glass, rubber and pottery; no material collected.		

Trench 26	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.3m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(E) 365382, 80449 (W) 365333, 80454		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	



2601	Topsoil	Dark brown silty clay with rare subangular to subrounded stone. Moderate bioturbation.	0-0.14m
2602	Subsoil	Mid yellow/grey silty clay mottled with orange/brown. Rare coarse subangular to subrounded stone.	0.14-0.26m
2603	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay mottled frequently with grey clay. Rare coarse subangular to subrounded stone.	0.26m +
2604	Cut	Land drain – modern.	
2605	Secondary Fill	Fill of land drain	

Trench 27	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.38m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NNW) 365304, 80427 (SSE) 365325, 80382		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
2701	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay, no visible inclusions. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.18m	
2702	Subsoil	Mid orange/grey mottled silty clay with rare small fragments of subangular to subrounded chert and limestone.	0.18-0.36m	
2703	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay mottled frequently with Grey clay with rare small fragments of subangular to subrounded chert and limestone.	0.36m +	
2704	Cut	W-E aligned ditch with moderately sloped concave sides with a flat base. Diffuse boundaries make it difficult to say its exact alignment and depth. 0.47m wide by 0.27m deep; intervention length 1m.		
2705	Primary Fill	Possible primary fill of ditch [2704]. Mid yellow/brown clay with rare small angular chert/stones, sparse gritty manganese and sparse charcoal flecks and fragments. Diffuse with natural. 0.47m wide and 0.15m deep.		
2706	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of ditch [2704]. Dark yellow/brown clay with rare small subangular to subrounded chert, sparse gritty manganese, sparse charcoal flecks, possible degraded baked clay, pot sherd and flint flake within fill. Diffuse horizon. c.0.47m wide and 0.18m deep.		

Trench 28	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.48m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(WNW) 363228, 80412 (ESE) 365277, 80403		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
2801	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay with rare coarse subangular to subrounded stone. Rare modern debris. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.18m	
2802	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay mottled frequently with grey/orange clay. Rare coarse subangular to subrounded stone.	0.18m-0.41m	
2803	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay mottled frequently with grey clay, sparse coarse subangular to subrounded stone. Rare concentrations of gravel and manganese.	0.41m +	



Trench 29	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.43m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NNW) 365214, 80393 (SSE) 365233, 80350		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
2901	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay with rare coarse subangular to subrounded chert and limestone. Rare modern debris. Moderate bioturbation.	0-0.21m	
2902	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay mottled frequently with grey/orange clay. Rare coarse subangular to subrounded chert and limestone.	0.21-0.38m	
2903	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay mottled frequently with grey clay, sparse coarse subangular to subrounded chert and limestone. Rare flecks of manganese.	0.38m +	

Trench 30	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m 0.35m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(ENE) 365329, 80358 (WSW) 365282, 80349		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
3001	Topsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with rare coarse subangular to subrounded chert and limestone. Rare modern debris. Moderate bioturbation.	0-0.19m	
3002	Subsoil	Mid grey silty loam with sparse orange mottling. Rare coarse subangular to subrounded chert and limestone. Rare modern debris.	0.19-0.33m	
3003	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay common patches of grey/brown clay, sparse coarse subangular to subrounded chert and limestone. Rare flecks of manganese.	0.33m +	
3004	Cut	Tree throw cut		
3005	Secondary Fill	Tree throw fill		
3006	Secondary Fill	Tree throw fill		

Trench 31	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.35m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NE) 365378, 80353 (SW) 365334, 80331		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
3101	Topsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with rare coarse subangular to subrounded chert and limestone. Rare modern debris. Moderate bioturbation.	0-0.15m	
3102	Subsoil	Mid grey silty loam with sparse orange mottling. Rare coarse subangular to subrounded chert and limestone. Rare modern debris.	0.15-0.25m	
3103	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay common patches of grey/brown clay, sparse coarse subangular to subrounded chert and limestone. Rare flecks of manganese.	0.25m +	
3104	Cut	Land drain – Modern		
3105	Secondary Fill	Light brown/grey and orange mottled silty clay, containing a piece of pottery.		
3106	Cut	N-S aligned ditch with steep straight sides and a flat base. 0.75m wide, 0.32m deep, with an intervention length of 0.7m. Probable field boundary/drainage ditch. Parallel to [3108] and [3104].		



3107	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3106]. Mid Grey silty clay with sparse large angular limestone, and sparse subangular and subrounded coarse gravel. Moderate manganese, pottery sherds, sparse animal bone and a piece of struck flint.	
3108	Cut	N-S aligned ditch with varied straight/concave, steep to shallow sides, and a flat base. No dating evidence found. Probable drainage ditch. 1.95m wide and 0.5m deep with an intervention length of 0.5m. Continues in to Trench 33 as [3304].	
3109	Deliberate backfill	Deliberate backfill of stones in ditch [3108]. Marbled yellow/brown clay with common large subangular stones – cobble to boulder size, and sparse gritty manganese. Large stones possibly used to aid drainage. 0.38m wide and 0.2m deep.	
3110	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of ditch [3108]. brown/grey silty clay with rare inclusions of small angular chert and manganese. 0.18m deep.	
3111	Spread	Possible Romano-British spread – dark brown/black silty clay with rare coarse angular stone inclusions. Pottery and animal bone fragments spread across a c. 4m section of the trench. 0.08m deep.	
3112	Cut	NE-SW aligned possibly reused ditch, with irregular sides, NW straight-vertical slope, and SE irregular slope with an irregular base. 0.66m wide, 0.34m deep, with an intervention length of 0.46m.	
3113	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of feature [3119]. Mid red/brown sandy clay loam with rare subangular medium stones. Moderate presence of whelk and scallop shells.	
3114	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3112]. Mid grey/black silty clay with abundance of whelk and scallop shells. Common pottery and sparse flint components.	
3115	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3108]. Dark yellow/brown clay with rare angular chert, rare manganese and charcoal flecks. 0.23m deep.	
3116	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3108]. Grey/brown silty clay with rare angular chert and manganese. 0.58m wide and 0.18m deep.	
3117	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3119]. Mid grey/black silty clay.	
3118	Spread		
3119	Cut	NE-SW aligned ditch with steep concave sides, base truncated by [3112]. 0.3m wide, 0.25m deep and c.2m long as seen in trench.	

Trench 32	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.39m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NE) 365300, 80327 (SW) 365254, 80312		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
3201	Topsoil	Light grey/brown loamy sand with moderate bioturbation.	0-0.1m	
3202	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown and orange mottled silty clay. Moderate bioturbation and rare-medium limestone fragments.	0.1-0.22m	
3203	Natural	Mid Yellow/Brown clay mottled grey.	0.22m +	



Trench 33	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.4m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(E) 365370, 80310 (W) 365320, 80309		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
3301	Topsoil	Dark brown silty clay, heavy bioturbation.	0-0.2m	
3302	Subsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay.	0.2-0.28m	
3303	Natural	Yellow/Brown clay.	0.28m +	
3304	Cut	Continued in Trench 31 as [3108] – Field boundary/drainage.		
3305	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3304].		

Trench 34	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.5m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NNW) 365391, 80313 (SSE) 365409, 80268		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
3401	Topsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay.	0-0.25m	
3402	Subsoil	Mid grey clay with dark yellow/Brown manganese flecks	0.25-0.5m	
3403	Natural	Light grey clay containing heavy dark yellow/grown flecking – Oxford clay. Bands of blue/grey clay.	0.5m +	
3404	Cut	E-W gully with a concave base, 0.65m wide, 0.25m deep and an intervention length of 0.4m.		
3405	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3404]. Light grey with mottled dark yellow/brown clay. One pottery fragment.		

Trench 35	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.42m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NW) 365361, 80247 (SE) 365404, 80222		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
3501	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay with rare coarse subangular to subrounded stone. Rare modern debris. Moderate bioturbation.	0-0.2m	
3502	Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay with moderate bioturbation by rooting.	0.2-0.3m	
3503	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with grey/orange mottling.	0.3m +	
3504	Cut	NE-SW ditch with concave base. One edge diffuse. c. 2.2m wide, 0.42m deep, with an intervention length of 1.55m.		
3505	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3504]. Dark yellow/brown mottled with light grey clay with sparse gravel flint and sandstone fragments. Moderate pottery fragments.		
3506	Cut	SE-NW ditch with moderate concave sides and concave base. 1.3m wide, 0.14m deep with intervention length of 0.45m. Possibly recut by later use [3513].		
3507	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3506]. Dark grey/black silty clay with common charcoal, burnt clay and pottery. 0.22m deep.		
3508	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3513]. Light yellow/brown silty clay with common rooting and subrounded to subangular stones; sparse charcoal. 0.16m deep.		
3509	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3504]. Mid grey clay with mottled dark yellow/brown clay. Moderate pottery fragments.		



3510	Deliberate	Charcoal lense within fill (3511) in feature [3513].	
3511	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3513]. Mid orange/brown silty clay with frequent grey mottling.	
3512	Natural Feature	Tree throw	
3513	Cut	SE-NW ditch with irregular sides and base. 1.3m wide and 0.35m deep with an intervention length of 0.45m.	
3514	Cut	E-W gully with steep straight sides and a concave base. 0.43m wide and 0.19m deep, with an intervention length of 0.6m. Cuts [3516] and [3518]. Possible wheel rut.	
3515	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3514]. Mid brown/grey silty clay. 0.19m deep, 0.43m wide.	
3516	Cut	E-W gully with gently sloped straight sides and a flat base. Largely obscured by [3514]. 0.35m wide and 0.08m deep, with an intervention length of 0.6m. Possible wheel rut.	
3517	Deliberate backfill	Possible deliberate backfill of [3516]. Dark grey silty clay with common charcoal and large limestone pieces. Sparse pottery and a piece of burnt flint; 0.35m wide and 0.08m deep.	
3518	Cut	E-W ditch with steep straight sides and a concave base. 0.59m wide and 0.36m deep, with an intervention length of 0.6m.	
3519	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3518]. Mid yellow/brown silty clay with grey mottling. Sparse large limestone fragments and charcoal flecks. 0.36m deep.	
3520	Deliberate	Deliberate fill of [3518]. Dark brown/grey silty clay with frequent large subrounded limestone nodules, common pottery sherd and rare animal bone. 0.15m thick.	
3521	Cut	Possible ditch that has been heavily eroded or natural feature. 1.07m wide, 0.17m deep with an intervention length of 1m.	
3522	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of [3521]. Mid brown silty clay, rare gravel inclusions. Single pottery sherd. 0.17m thick.	

Trench 36	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.53m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NW) 365343, 80218 (SE) 365383, 80191		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
3601	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay with rare coarse subangular to subrounded stone. Rare subrounded limestone fragments, sparse modern debris. Moderate bioturbation.	0-0.24m	
3602	Subsoil	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with grey mottling. Light rooting, rare coarse subangular to subrounded stone.	0.24-0.48m	
3603	Natural	Mid-light yellow/brown clay with grey mottling. Rare manganese flecks and sparse limestone fragments.	0.48m +	

Trench 37	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.52m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NW) 365349, 80182 (SE) 365388, 80154		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
3701	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay with rare coarse	0-0.21m	



		subangular to subrounded stone. Rare subrounded limestone fragments, sparse modern debris. Moderate bioturbation.	
3702	Subsoil	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with grey mottling. Light rooting, rare coarse subangular to subrounded stone.	0.21-0.46m
3703	Natural	Mid-light orange/brown clay with grey mottling. Rare manganese flecks and rare subangular to subrounded stone.	0.46m +

Trench 38	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.42m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NNW) 365377, 80133 (SSE) 365406, 80093		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
3801	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay with rare subangular to subrounded stone. Rare subrounded limestone fragments, sparse modern debris. Moderate bioturbation.	0-0.1m	
3802	Subsoil	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with Grey mottling. Light rooting, rare subangular to subrounded stone.	0.1-0.31m	
3803	Natural	Mid-light yellow/brown clay mottled grey. Rare manganese flecks and rare subangular to subrounded stone.	0.31m +	
3804	Cut	Cut of modern ditch.		
3805	Secondary Fill	Secondary fill of ditch [3804], modern pottery (NOT COLLECTED) within fill.		

Trench 39	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.52m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NNW) 365342, 80129 (SSE) 365361, 80084		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
3901	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay with rare subangular to subrounded stone. Rare modern debris. Moderate bioturbation.	0-0.25m	
3902	Subsoil	Mid grey/brown silty clay with orange mottling. Moderate rooting and rare subangular to subrounded stone.	0.25-0.43m	
3903	Natural	Light yellow clay with frequent grey mottling. Rare subangular to subrounded stone. Light rooting. Variation at N end of trench – Dark brown/black patches of possible rotted organics.	0.43m +	

Trench 40	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.5m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(ENE) 365273, 80020 (WSW) 365226, 80008		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
4001	Topsoil	Mid grey/brown clay loam with rare subangular medium gravel. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.15m	
4002	Subsoil	Mid brown/grey silty clay with rare subangular medium gravel. Mottled with an Orange hue.	0.15-0.35m	
4003	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with sparse subangular coarse gravel.	0.35m +	



Trench 41	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.55m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NNW) 365219, 79973 (SSE) 365240, 79929		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
	Topsoil	Mid grey/brown clay loam with rare subangular medium gravel. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.4m	
	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with sparse subangular coarse gravel.	0.4m +	

Trench 42	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.52m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NNE)365157, 80001 (SSW) 365139, 79956		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
	Topsoil	Mid grey/brown clay loam with rare subangular medium gravel. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.24m	
	Subsoil	Mid brown/grey silty clay with rare subangular medium gravel. Mottled with an orange hue.	0.24-0.39m	
	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with sparse subangular coarse gravel.	0.39m +	

Trench 43	Dimensions :	50 m by 1.8m by 0.53m	Ground surface level:	aOD
	Centre line Coordinates (NGR):	(NE) 365194, 79906 (SW) 365159, 79872		
Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)	
	Topsoil	Mid grey/brown clay loam with rare subangular medium gravel. Moderate bioturbation from rooting.	0-0.22m	
	Subsoil	Mid brown/grey silty clay with rare subangular medium gravel. Mottled with an orange hue.	0.22-0.29m	
	Natural	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with sparse subangular coarse gravel.	0.29m +	



10.2 Appendix 2: All finds by material type (number of pieces/weight in grammes)

Trench	Feature	Layer	Flint	Pottery	Animal bone	Other finds
			No./Wt.	No./Wt./Period	No./Wt.	No./Wt./Material
3	Gully 304	306				1/1 fired clay
11	Ditch 1104	1105	3/53			
17	Ditch 1704	1705		1/1 Romano-British	8/58	
27	Ditch 2704	2706	1/8	4/10 Romano-British		
30	Tree throw 3004	3006	1/18	1/34 Bronze Age		
31	Land drain 3104	3105		1/1 Romano-British		
	Ditch 3106	3107	1/61	25/80 Romano-British	2/81	3/9 fired clay
	Layer	3111	1/2	32/521 Romano-British	6/12	1/2 fired clay; 1/57 shale tray fragment
	Ditch 3112	3114		33/157 Romano-British		12/31 cockle shells; 101/371 winkle shells
33	Ditch 3304	3305		4/23 Romano-British		
34	Gully 3404	3405		1/26 Romano-British		
35	Ditch 3504	3505		30/92 Romano-British	2/10	
		3509		5/27 Romano-British		
	Ditch 3506	3507			4/325	
		3507		2/43 Romano-British	1/3	1/3 fired clay
	Tree throw 3512	3512		8/39 Romano-British		
	Gully 3516	3517		3/19 Romano-British		
	Ditch 3518	3520		9/179 Romano-British	7/7	
	Possible ditch 3521	3522		1/9 Romano-British		
38	Ditch 3804	3805		2/3 Romano-British		1/82 CBM
40	Subsoil	4002	1/13			
		Total	8/155	1/34 Bronze Age; 161/1229 Romano-British	30/496	1/82 CBM; 6/15 fired clay; 113/402 shell



10.3 Appendix 3: OASIS Record

OASIS ID: wessexar1-258012

Project details

Project name	Land at East Chickerell, Weymouth, Dorset
Short description of the project	<p>The archaeological evaluation comprised 40 trenches, each approximately 50 m x 2 m, located across six fields. The trenches were targeted on both geophysical anomalies and apparent blank areas throughout the proposed development footprint area. One main area of archaeological potential was identified in the central part of the southern half of the Site, centred on Trenches 31, 33, 34 and 35. A number of ditches and deposits containing material dating to the Romano-British period were identified in this area, with the greatest density of archaeological features in Trenches 31 and 35. Trenches 17 and 27, located slightly further to the north of the main concentration, also contained features tentatively dated to the Romano-British period. The majority of the ditches encountered in these areas are likely to have formed components of field systems or enclosures. However, the quantity and character of cultural material recovered from some of the ditches and spreads are suggestive of a degree of contemporary settlement activity in the immediate area. The areas that have been demonstrated to contain buried Romano-British remains may be of sufficient archaeological interest to merit further, targeted investigation, should these parts of the Site be directly impacted during the implementation of the development. Evidence for activity within the Site during other periods was considerably more limited. A very small assemblage of residual pottery and worked flint, and a tree throw hole of possible Bronze Age date provided the only traces of prehistoric activity. No finds or features of Saxon or medieval date were identified. A lime kiln, shown on late 19th century historic maps and detected by geophysical survey, was the only notable post-medieval feature encountered during the evaluation. As such, there is likely to be very limited potential for archaeologically significant remains derived from prehistoric or post-Roman periods to be present elsewhere within the Site.</p>
Project dates	Start: 16-05-2016 End: 25-05-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	73312 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	TREE THROW HOLE Bronze Age
Monument type	LIME KILN Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Bronze Age
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential



Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	DORSET WEST DORSET CHICKERELL Land at East Chickerell, Dorset
Postcode	DT3 4BG
Study area	26.5 Hectares
Site coordinates	SY 365281 080526 49.968623008793 -2.885164265971 49 58 07 N 002 53 06 W Point
Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Height OD / Depth	Min: 10m Max: 54m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Gareth Chaffey
Project supervisor	Lee Newton
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Persimmon Homes (South Coast) Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Dorset County Museum
Physical Archive ID	73312
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Dorset County Museum
Digital Archive ID	73312
Digital Contents	"other"

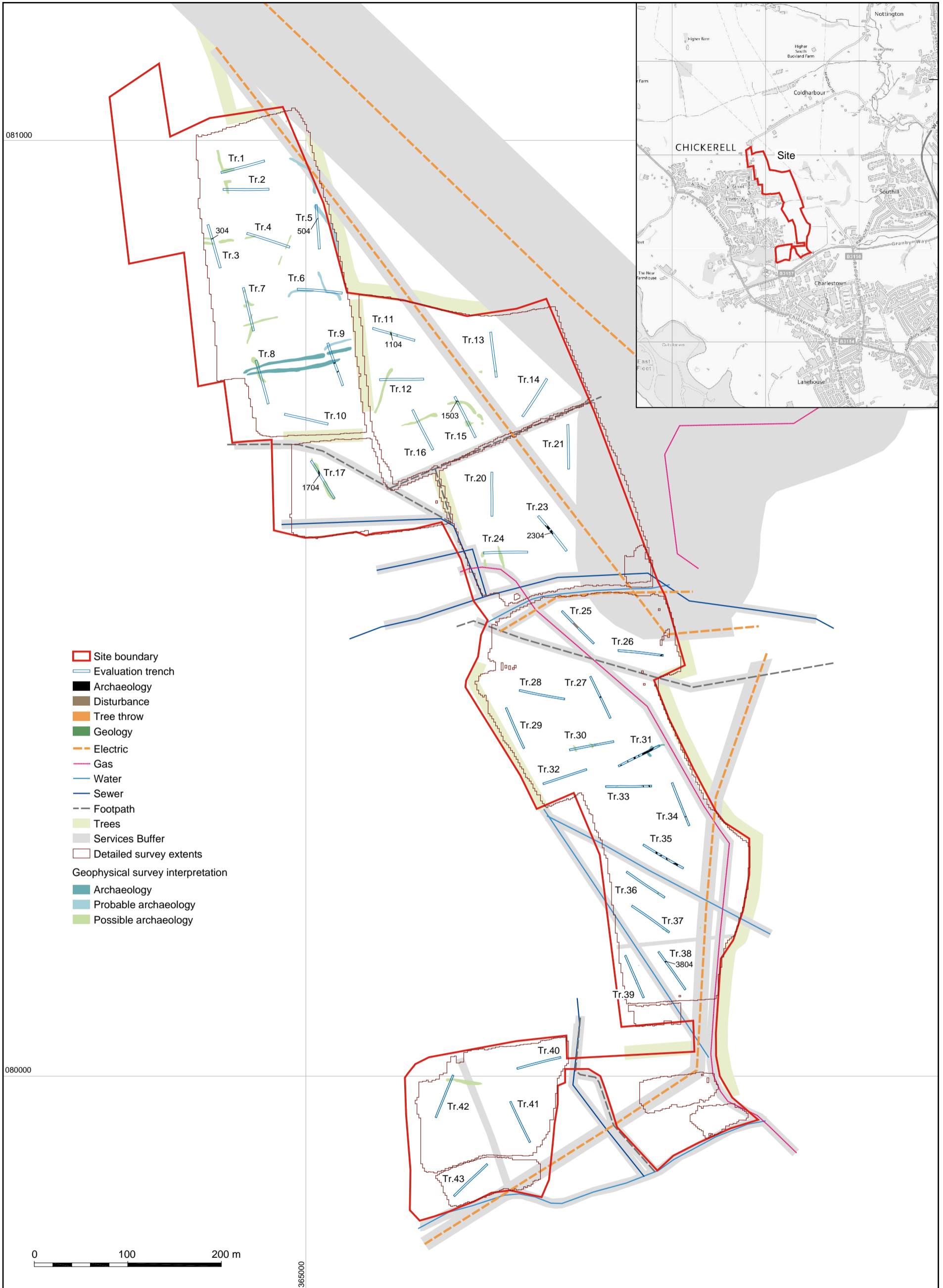


Digital Media available	"Spreadsheets", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Dorset County Museum
Paper Archive ID	73312
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Diary", "Drawing", "Notebook - Excavation", ' Research', ' General Notes', "Plan", "Report", "Context sheet", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at East Chickerell, Weymouth, Dorset
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newton, L
Other bibliographic details	73312.03
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Wessex Archaeology, Salisbury
Description	A4 client report.

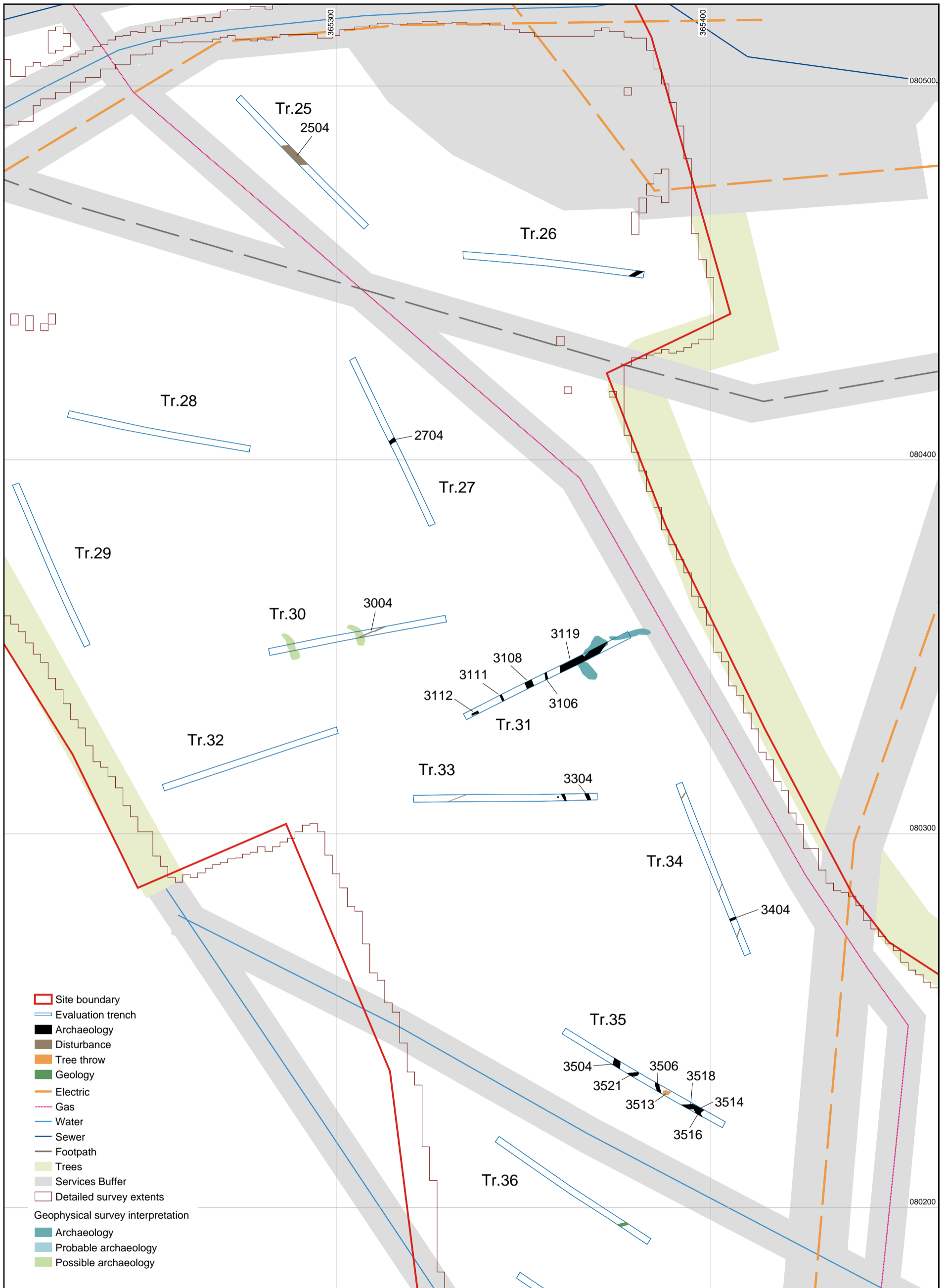
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Entered on	19 July 2016



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Location of the site, development area and excavated trenches

Figure 1



0 50 m



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Detail of trenches in southern field

Figure 2



Plate 1: Trench 7, general view from north



Plate 2: East facing representative section, Trench 7


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Plate 3: Trench 23, general view from north



Plate 4: South-west facing representative section, Trench 23


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Plate 5: Trench 31, general view from north-east



Plate 6: South-east facing representative section, Trench 31


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Plate 7: Trench 42, general view from north-east



Plate 8: North-west facing representative section, Trench 42


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Plate 9: South facing section of ditch 1704



Plate 10: South facing section of ditch 3106



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Plate 11: South-facing section of ditch 3304

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Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk



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