



Buller Park, Porton Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report



Ref: 114270.05
December 2016



**Buller Park, Porton
Wiltshire**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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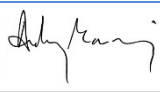
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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Bovis Homes Limited (Southern Region), to carry out an archaeological evaluation at Buller Park, Idmiston Road, Porton Wiltshire, (NGR 419253, 136492) prior to the submission of a planning application for the residential development of the site.

The evaluation, comprising eight trenches was targeted on the results of a recent geophysical survey. The evaluation confirming the results of the geophysical survey and identified a number of known 19th century boundaries, the remains of earlier ridge and furrow and the location of a 20th century railway siding embankment associated with The Experimental Station at Porton Down. No evidence was found of any archaeological features, deposits or finds pre-dating the ridge and furrow activity.

A number of the trenches were targeted on areas along the line of a postulated Roman road, shown on Ordnance Survey plans and potentially identified in an earlier archaeological investigation, immediately to the west of the site. No evidence for a road or flanking ditches were discovered within the evaluation area. One trench (Trench 1) uncovered an area of outcropping chalk, which, although similar to the results seen in the earlier investigation, was found on further investigation to be clearly natural chalk outcropping and not related to a raised deposit of residual chalk forming a road base. It is possible that the route lies further to the north-west (as shown on the Wiltshire and Swindon Historic Environmental Record (WSHER) and is largely located outside the boundaries of the site along a later road shown on the 1841 tithe map.

The evaluation was undertaken between 17 and 20 October 2016

This information will inform any discussions by Wiltshire Council in determining the planning application, and will inform any future archaeological works which may be needed if the application is successful and the development is permitted.



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Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by Bovis Homes Limited, and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Bovis Homes Limited (Southern Region) and to Clare King and Rachel Foster (Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service) who monitored the works on behalf of Wiltshire Council.

The evaluation was undertaken by Darryl Freer assisted by Alin Fuior, Orlagh Walsh, Dylan Duane Roche, Natalia Hunt and Cordelia Laycock.

This report was written by Darryl Freer and edited by Naomi Brennan. The illustrations are by Nancy Dixon, Karen Nichols and Naomi Brennan. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Andrew Manning.



Buller Park, Porton Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Bovis Homes Limited (Southern Region) (the Client), to carry out an archaeological evaluation at Buller Park, Idmiston Road, Porton Wiltshire, centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 419253, 136492 (hereafter the 'Site') (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The Site is proposed for the construction of residential development with associated access and landscaping.
- 1.1.3 A desk-based assessment was prepared for the Site which initially concluded that there was a potential archaeological interest within the Site, in particular relating to Romano-British and post-medieval remains, including the course of a Roman road mapped as potentially passing through the north-western edge of the Site (Wessex Archaeology 2016a).
- 1.1.4 Subsequent to this, a geophysical survey was undertaken, which did not identify any significant potential archaeological features, although there was evidence of earlier agricultural activity (Wessex Archaeology 2016b). Although colluvial deposits have been identified during geotechnical investigation carried out within the Site, these generally seem to lie at a depth of around 0.30-1.0 m below ground level and are not thought to be deep enough to obscure any earlier archaeological activity. Accordingly, the geophysical survey assessed the Site as being of low archaeological potential.
- 1.1.5 In consultation with Claire King, the Assistant Archaeologist at Wiltshire Council (WC), it was recommended that an archaeological trial trench evaluation should be conducted on the Site, prior to the determination of any planning application, the results of which could be used to inform any subsequent archaeological mitigation which may be required.
- 1.1.6 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2016c) was submitted to and approved by Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service (WCAS), prior to the commencement of the ground works.

1.2 Scope of document

- 1.2.1 This document describes the results of the evaluation, and provides a consideration of the archaeological potential of site and its significance within its broader historic and landscape setting.



2 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Location, topography and geology

- 2.1.1 The Site is located on the south-eastern edge of Porton, Wiltshire, some 4.6 km south-east of Amesbury and 7 km north-west of Salisbury (**Figure 1**). The Site is bounded by Idmiston Road and residential properties to the west, an access track to Bonaker Farm to the north, a garden centre to the east and the access road to the garden centre and a hotel to the south.
- 2.1.2 The Site comprises a single agricultural field, c. 2.36 ha in size, bordered by trees and hedgerows.
- 2.1.3 The Site lies on a gentle south-west facing slope, with the north-eastern corner at an approximate height of 93 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) falling to a height of approximately 73 m aOD to the south-west.
- 2.1.4 The underlying geology of the Site is mapped as the Seaford Chalk Formation with no superficial deposits recorded (British Geological Survey). However geotechnical investigations conducted within the Site have indicated the presence of superficial deposits of colluvium and head.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was assessed in detail within the Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment (Wessex Archaeology 2016a) which considered the recorded historic environment resource within a 1 km Study Area around the Site in order to place the site within its historical and archaeological context. The results of this assessment and relevant Wiltshire and Swindon Historic Environmental Records (WSHER) and entries from the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) are summarised below.

3.2 Prehistoric (900,000–AD 43)

- 3.2.1 Two Palaeolithic hand axes (WSHER MWI10438) and a Mesolithic flint tool (WSHER MWI10440) are recorded as being found in the Study Area, indicating some early prehistoric activity in the local area. A possible Neolithic flint mine is also recorded around 100 m to the north-west of the Site (WSHER MWI10444) and Neolithic and Bronze Age flint tools have been found in the area (WSHER MWI10443, MWI10442 and MWI10447).
- 3.2.2 On the higher ground above the river valley possible Bronze Age barrows have been identified as cropmarks on aerial photographs (WSHER MWI10070, MWI10071, MWI10588, MWI10075). In the wider area several barrow cemeteries are known including a group on Idmiston Down to the north-east (NHLE 1013970, 1013971, 1013989, 1014818, 1014819, 1015557), near Manor Farm to the east (NHLE 1013972-5) and near Moll Harris's Clump to the south-east (NHLE 1014091-6).
- 3.2.3 There is no confirmed Iron Age activity within the Study Area, there are however a number of undated enclosures identified from aerial photographs (WSHER MWI10557, MWI10558, MWI10072, MWI10563), which may relate to activity at this time.

3.3 Romano-British (AD 43 – 410)

- 3.3.1 Traversing the Study Area and potentially passing through the Site is the route of a Roman road from *Sorviiodunum* (Salisbury) to *Calleva Atrebatum* (Silchester) (WSHER MWI10477, MWI17292, EWI121). The exact course of the road is not confirmed along much of its length with its mapped position on the Ordnance Survey maps and by the WSHER varying.
- 3.3.2 Several finds of Roman pottery are recorded in the Study Area including some fragments adjacent to the church. Although no confirmed features or deposits have been identified, Roman roads were often a focus for activity and settlement.

3.4 Saxon, medieval, post-medieval 19th century and modern (AD 410 – present day)

- 3.4.1 Idmiston is known to be a village with Saxon or early medieval origins and is documented from the 10th century (WSHER MWI10491). Both Idmiston and Porton are recorded in the 1086 Domesday Survey with Idmiston documented as a significant settlement of 15 households. Although the current parish church in Porton dates to the 19th century (NHLE 1183981) it replaced a 14th century chapel on an adjacent site.
- 3.4.2 It appears that during the medieval period, post-medieval period and early 19th century, beyond the small scattered settlements along the base of the river valley the area is largely agricultural fields and unenclosed downland. The majority of the base of the river valley also forms part of an extensive series of water meadows (WSHER MWI10503, EWI6701, EWI7256).
- 3.4.3 The earliest detailed map available for this study was the 1841 Idmiston Tithe Map, this shows the Site divided into a large number of small land parcels or allotments. By contrast the 1843 enclosure map shows the Site within a single large allotment with a plan dated to *circa* 1845 indicating that the land in this area has been allotted to the Bonakers Estate. On both the tithe map and c 1845 plan a path or track can be seen crossing the north-western edge of the site.
- 3.4.4 The branch line between Oakley Junction on the Southampton and London main line, and Milford, to the east of Salisbury was opened in 1857 and can be seen on the 1st edition 1887 Ordnance Survey (OS) map. There was originally a station at Porton, just to the east of the site. Marked across the north-west part of the Site, though not labelled, is the projected course of the Roman road.
- 3.4.5 Further expansion of the village and the station can be seen on the 1901 OS 25" edition map, including the construction of the Railway Hotel immediately to the south of the Site. The Experimental Station at Porton was initially served by a light railway, which can be seen crossing the eastern edge of the Site on the 1925 OS 25" edition map, meeting with the main line just to the north of Porton Station. Porton Down was established in 1916 in response to the use of gas as an offensive weapon by German forces during the First World War (WWI) (Carter 2000, 3). Despite reductions in the levels of staff after the end of WWI the decision was made to continue the research on chemical warfare resulting in a programme of new building at the Experimental Station with further expansion after the outbreak of the Second World War (WWII) (Carter 2000, 48-9). The military light railway had been abandoned and largely removed by the 1962 edition, although the line of the adjacent boundary can still be seen as extant within the Site.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Project aims

4.1.1 With due regard to the ClfA *Standard and Guidance for archaeological evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), the generic aims of the project were to:

- *To locate, identify, investigate and record the presence/absence of archaeological features or deposits;*
- *To confirm, where possible, the extent, date, character, relationship, condition and significance of archaeological features, artefacts and deposits within the proposed development area;*
- *To inform the scope and nature of any requirements for any potential further fieldwork, whether additional watching brief, excavation or post-excavation work;*
- *To enable the preservation by record of any archaeological features or deposits uncovered; and*
- *To place any identified archaeological remains within their historical context.*

4.1.2 Specifically, the project aimed to confirm whether the postulated route of a Roman road did indeed lie within the Site.

4.2 Evaluation methodology

4.2.1 The full detailed methodology of the archaeological works was set out in a WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2016c), this is summarised below:

4.2.2 The evaluation consisted of the excavation and recording of total of eight trial trenches, constituting a sample area of around 2% of the Site. The locations of the trenches were based on information from geophysical gradiometer survey (Wessex Archaeology 2016b) and the desk based assessment (Wessex Archaeology 2016a). Some minor adjustments were made to the location of Trench 3 due to existing services.

4.2.3 Investigations were recorded commensurate with the archaeological results using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system and a comprehensive day book. Recording also included written, drawn and photographic elements as conditions determined.

4.2.4 A full photographic record was compiled using digital images. The record illustrated both the detail and the general context of the Site as a whole. Digital images have been subject to a managed quality control and curation process that has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure the long term accessibility of the image set.

4.2.5 A real time kinematic (RTK) survey was carried out using a Leica Viva series GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service. All survey data was recorded in Ordnance Survey National Grid coordinates and heights above Ordnance Datum (Newlyn), to a three-dimensional accuracy limit of 50 mm.

4.2.6 A unique code **114270** was allocated to the Site, and was used on all records and finds.

4.3 Health and safety

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

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

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The general stratigraphic sequence encountered was a silty clay topsoil, overlying subsoil, which in turn overlay a silty clay, flint and chalk natural geology at depths of up to 0.53 m below current ground level, which corresponded to the chalk and head deposits previously identified on the Site. The topsoil was between 0.10-0.26 m thick, being shallowest on the sloped part of the site (Trenches 1, 2, 7 and 6) and deepest in the more level areas (Trenches 3 (**Plate 1**), 4 and 5). The ground in the area of Trench 8 was found to be truncated by the construction of the railway siding. The subsoil deposits were up to 0.27 m thick and followed the general trend of the topsoil in terms of the relationship between slope and thickness.

- 5.1.2 Colluvial deposits were encountered in both Trenches 1 and 2, located at the bottom of the slope to the north-west of the public footpath. This colluvium is likely to have accumulated through the downslope movement of soil either exposed by clearance or by cultivation. The absence of any distinct buried soil would suggest that this deposit accumulated gradually. The colluvial deposits, where encountered, were within the parameters suggested by the geotechnical survey and were fully removed to reveal the underlying natural geology.

- 5.1.3 Summaries of the excavated sequences in each trench can be found in **Appendix 1**.

5.2 Archaeological features and deposits

- 5.2.1 Archaeological features of post-medieval date were recorded in five trenches (Trenches 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7) which appear to correspond with former field boundaries and ridge and furrow cultivation identified by the DBA (Wessex Archaeology 2016a) and geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2016b). A modern feature uncovered within Trench 8, was identified as the foundation of a railway siding associated with The Experimental Station at Porton Down.

Potential Roman Road

- 5.2.2 Trenches 1 and 2 were positioned on the postulated route of a possible Roman road that is projected by Ordnance Survey to traverse the north-western part of the Site on a north-east – south-west alignment. It should be noted that the geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2016b) did not pick up any evidence for a road or associated features along the postulated route.
- 5.2.3 Previous investigations immediately to the west of the Site (ASI Heritage Consultants 2002, cited in Hopper 2004, 4) had tentatively identified a “rammed chalk” deposit over the south-east half of the trench and which was interpreted as the remains of an ‘agger’; the raised foundation for a road.
- 5.2.4 Within the current evaluation, a similar compact chalk deposit (103) was identified in Trench 1 to the south-east of the footpath which is situated immediately to the east of the 2002 investigation. However, a sondage was excavated to a depth of 1.20 m into this deposit, which confirmed this chalk deposit as comprising natural geology, due to its undisturbed and compact nature (**Plate 2**).

Ridge and furrow

- 5.2.5 Trenches 2 and 7 both revealed remains of ridge and furrow cultivation, as indicated by the geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2016b). This is likely to be associated with medieval or post-medieval agriculture.

Post-medieval field boundaries

- 5.2.6 Within the central part of Trench 3, a north-east - south-west aligned ditch was located which corresponded to a field boundary depicted on the 1841 Idmiston tithe map and a c.1845 map of Porton. The north-west – south-east return of this boundary, which was also identified during the geophysical survey, was located in the northern part of Trench 4, (ditch 404). Excavation of this feature demonstrated that the base and sides were very irregular and was likely therefore to represent the position of a hedgerow (**Plate 3**).
- 5.2.7 Within Trench 6, a north-west–south-east aligned field boundary was revealed in the north-east end of the trench which may correspond to or run parallel to a boundary on the 1841 Idmiston tithe map. The remains were deemed to be very superficial and interpreted as being a small hedgerow
- 5.2.8 Within Trench 7 a probable field boundary was located the position of which corresponded to a north-east – south-west anomaly identified in the geophysical survey and present on the 1841 Idmiston tithe map. The orientation of this feature in plan appears to be more broadly east-west and no corresponding feature was located in Trench 2 to the north-east, however, it is considered to most likely relate to the post-medieval and 19th century agricultural use of the land.

Railway sidings

- 5.2.9 Running broadly north-south through the centre of Trench 8 was the foundation for the railway siding embankment (803) depicted on the 1925 Ordnance Survey (OS) 25" map (**Figure 2**) and 1939 OS 25" map. It consisted of compacted chalk mixed with silty clay overlaying a buried ground surface (804) suggesting it was built up with perhaps only the topsoil removed prior to construction (**Plate 4**).

5.3 Natural Features

- 5.3.1 Several investigations were undertaken on possible archaeological features in Trenches 5 and 4, this confirmed these features to be of geological or natural origin.

6 ARTEFACTUAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 6.1.1 No artefacts were recovered during the works and no environmental deposits suitable for sampling were noted and accordingly no samples were taken.

7 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1.1 This evaluation has confirmed the results of the geophysical survey and the DBA in terms of confirming a generally low archaeological potential for the Site. Identified remains comprised previously mapped post medieval field boundaries, remains of Ridge and furrow cultivation and a modern railway siding. No artefactual material was recovered which may have indicated other earlier archaeological activity in the immediate area.
- 7.1.2 No evidence was found either in the evaluation or the previous geophysical survey for the Roma Road or possible associated features along the postulated route shown on Ordnance Survey maps. The potential 'agger' previously noted in 2002 appears now to be likely to have been natural in origin, as demonstrated in Trench 1 of the current

evaluation, and certainly there was no evidence of any continuation of the possible 'agger' in Trench 2, further to the east.

- 7.1.3 In the absence of any positive evidence for the Roma Road, it is concluded that the road may be located beyond the north-western edge of the Site as indicated in the WSHER along the line of the former post-medieval road (shown on the 1841 tithe map) (**Figure 2**).

8 STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with the Salisbury & South Wiltshire Museum, though it should be noted that this is currently a closed repository.
- 8.1.2 All archive elements will be marked with the project number or accession number, and a full index will be prepared.

8.2 Archive

- 8.2.1 The complete site archive, comprising paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, has been prepared following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; Brown 2011; ADS 2013; ClfA 2014b).
- 8.2.2 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> has been completed and submitted. A copy of this is included as **Appendix 2** of this report. A finalised version of this report will be uploaded in .pdf format on completion in conjunction with selected photographic images of the fieldwork. A paper copy of the finalised report will also be included with the project archive.

8.3 Copyright

- 8.3.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The recipient museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003*.
- 8.3.2 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

8.4 Security Copy

- 8.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), a security copy of relevant written records has been 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.



9 REFERENCES

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APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

(NGR coordinates and OD heights OD taken at centre of each trench)

TRENCH 1			Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30 x 1.80 m		Max. depth: 0.85 m	Ground level: 80.974 m OD
Co-ordinates: 419162 136510			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
101	Layer	Topsoil: Dark brown, silty clay loam, sparse flint stones 0.002-0.006m sub rounded	0-0.19
102	Layer	Subsoil: Mid brown, silty clay loam, moderate chalk inclusions, 0.002-0.006m sub rounded	0.19-0.32
103	Layer	Natural: Chalk	0.32-0.40+
104	Layer	Colluvial deposits as encountered NW of the footpath 1) Dark brown silty clay loam, sparse stone inclusions, 0.002-0.006m sub angular 2) Dark brown silty clay loam- similar to (1) but has abundant stone inclusions 3) Mid brown silty clay loam, sparse stone inclusions, 0.002-0.006m sub angular 4) Mid brown, clay, very compact, moderate stones 0.002-0.02m sub angular	0.19-0.66
NB trench is in effect two 15 m trench's bisected by a public footpath			

TRENCH 2			Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30 x 1.80m		Max. depth: 0.86m	Ground level: 85.392 m OD
Co-ordinates: 419227 136539			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
201	Layer	Topsoil: Dark brown, silty clay loam, frequent fine rooting, moderate to common fairly well sorted sub angular- rounded flints, >0.06m, clear horizon with (202)	0-0.14
202	Layer	Subsoil: Mid orange brown, silty clay, common flints and rare chalk flecks, undulating	0.14- 0.36
203	Layer	Natural	0.36 +
204	Layer	Colluvial deposits as encountered NW of the footpath 1) Dark brown, silty clay loam, sparse stone inclusions, 0.002-0.006m sub angular 2) Mid Brown, silty clay, moderate stone inclusions 0.006-0.02m, sub angular 3) Mid yellowish brown, moderate stone inclusions 0.006-0.02m, sub angular	0.14-0.86
NB trench is in effect two 15 m trench's bisected by a public footpath			

TRENCH 3			Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30 x 1.80m		Max. depth: 0.57m	Ground level: 90.125 m OD
Co-ordinates: 419298 136539			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
301	Layer	Topsoil: Dark brown, silty loam, frequent fine rooting, moderate poorly sorted sub angular-rounded flints, straight fairly diffuse horizon to (302)	0-0.22
302	Layer	Subsoil/ colluvium: Mid orangery brown, silty clay, moderate-common sub angular-rounded flints, moderate chalk nodules slightly undulating horizon to (303)	0.22-0.47
303	Layer	Natural: Chalk in off white silty clay and degraded chalk at W half of trench, light yellowish brown silty clay at E half of trench, large poorly sorted flint nodules in concentrations	0.47-0.57+
North-east - south-west aligned field boundary ditch within central part of trench. Not excavated. Visible on the 1841 tithe map.			



TRENCH 4			Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30 x 1.80 m		Max. depth: 0.53 m	Ground level: 89.675 m OD
Co-ordinates: 419295 136514			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
401	Layer	Topsoil: Dark brown silty loam, frequent fine rooting, moderate-common fairly poorly sorted sub angular-rounded flints, diffuse horizon to (402)	0-0.26
402	Layer	Subsoil: mid orangey brown, silty clay, moderate-common fairly poorly sorted sub angular-rounded flints, rare-sparse chalk flecks, clear horizon to (403)	0.26-0.53
403	Layer	Natural: Chalk in an off white matrix of silty clay and degraded chalk, alternating bands of mid brown silty clay and sparse seams/concentrations of large flint nodules	0.53+
404	Cut	Field Boundary, north-west – south-east aligned. Visible on the 1841 tithe map. 2m wide. Irregular sides and base. Filled with (405-406).	0.64 deep
405	Fill	Secondary fill of [404]. Pale brown silt clay. Common chalk and sparse flint inclusions. Very compact. Overlies (406).	0.24 deep
406	Fill	Secondary fill of [404]. Mid brown silt clay. Sparse chalk and abundant flint inclusions. Very compact. Overlies [404].	0.57 deep
407	Layer	Natural feature	

TRENCH 5			Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30 x 1.80 m		Max. depth: 0.41 m	Ground level: 88.187 m OD
Co-ordinates: 419261 136847			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
501	Layer	Topsoil: Dark brown silty loam, frequent fine rooting, moderate sub angular poorly sorted stone 0.02-0.06 m, clear horizon to (502)	0-0.23
502	Layer	Subsoil: mid orangey brown, silty clay, moderate sub angular poorly sorted stone 0.02-0.06 m, moderate chalk inclusions, clear horizon to (503)	0.23- 0.38
503	Layer	Natural: Chalk in an off white matrix of silty clay and degraded chalk, alternating bands of mid brown silty clay and sparse seams/concentrations of large flint nodules	0.38-0.41+
504	Layer	Natural feature	
504	Layer	Natural feature	

TRENCH 6			Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30 x 1.80 m		Max. depth: 0.38 m	Ground level: 85.92 m OD
Co-ordinates: 419225 136442			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
601	Layer	Topsoil: Dark brown, silty clay loam, moderate sub angular stone inclusions 0.002-0.006 m	0-0.20
602	Layer	Subsoil: Mid brown, silty clay loam, abundant sub rounded chalk inclusions 0.002-0.006 m	0.20-0.28
603	Layer	Natural: Chalk	0.28-0.38+
North-west – south-east aligned linear feature. Not excavated. Possible field boundary, on same alignment as boundary on the 1841 tithe map.			

TRENCH 7			Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30 x 1.80 m		Max. depth: 0.45 m	Ground level: 84.784 m OD
Co-ordinates: 419211 136504			
Context	Description		Depth (m)
701	Layer	Topsoil: Dark brown, silty clay loam, moderate sub angular stone inclusions 0.002-0.006 m, clear horizon to (702)	0-0.15
702	Layer	Subsoil: Mid brown, silty clay loam, frequent sub rounded chalk inclusions 0.002-0.006 m	0.15-0.35
703	Layer	Natural: Chalk	0.35-0.45+
Broadly east – west aligned linear feature. Likely post-medieval field boundary, may be associated with boundary on the 1841 tithe map.			



TRENCH 8		Machine excavated
Dimensions: 30 x 1.80 m		Max. depth: 0.60 m
Co-ordinates: 419256 136434		Ground level: 87.099 m OD
Context	Description	Depth (m)
801	Layer Topsoil: Dark brown, silty clay loam, moderate sub angular stone inclusions 0.002-0.006 m	0-0.10
802	Layer Made ground: 1) Dark grey brown/black, silty clay loam, 2) Mixed sub rounded chalk and dark soil 3) Mid/pale brown, silty clay, sparse stone inclusions	0.10-0.48
803	Layer Foundation for railway siding comprising of compacted chalk with pale brown silty clay	0.10-0.48
804	Layer Buried ground surface: Mid brown, silty clay, moderate chalk inclusions, sparse sub angular stone 0.002-0.006 m	0.48-0.60
805	Layer Natural: chalk	0.60+



APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: wessexar1-270287

Project details

Project name	Buller Park, Porton, Wiltshire
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Savills, on behalf of Bovis Homes Limited (Southern Region), to carry out an archaeological evaluation at Buller Park, Idmiston Road, Porton Wiltshire, (NGR 419253, 136492) The evaluation, comprising eight trenches (representing an approximate 2% sample of the area affected by the proposed development) was undertaken between 17 and 20 October 2016. It has succeeded in confirming the results of the geophysical survey in terms of identifying known historic field boundaries, the remains of agricultural practises (ridge and furrow), and the location of a railway siding embankment associated with The Experimental Station at Porton Down. No artefactual material was recovered during the investigation suggesting limited archaeological activity in the immediate area. The one specific aim of the evaluation was to try and locate a postulated route of a Roman road. No indication of this feature was discovered within the evaluation, despite its previous tentative identification further to the south-west. It is possible that the route lies further to the north-west and largely outside the boundaries of the site where a later road is shown on the 1841 tithe map. The colluvial deposits, where encountered, were within the parameters suggested by the geotechnical survey and were fully removed to reveal the underlying natural geology.
Project dates	Start: 17-10-2016 End: 20-10-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	114270 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 5 - Character undetermined
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	RAILWAY EMBANKMENT Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches", "Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	WILTSHIRE SALISBURY IDMISTON Buller Park, Porton, Wiltshire
Postcode	SP4 0LU
Study area	2.36 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 19253 36492 51.126857452999 -1.724844375051 51 07 36 N 001 43 29 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
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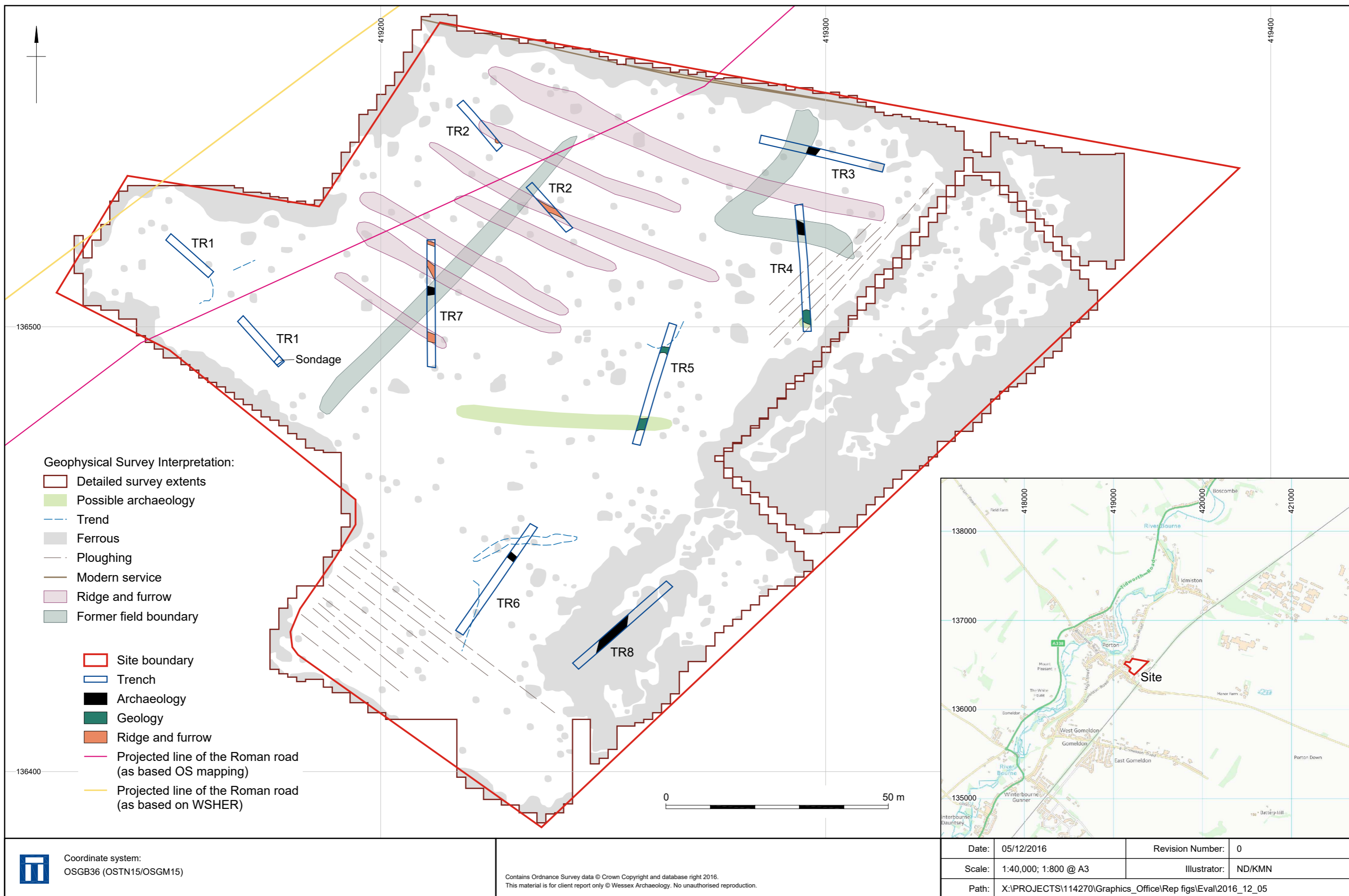
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Andrew Manning
Project supervisor	Darryl Freer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum
Physical Archive ID	114270
Digital Archive recipient	Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum
Digital Archive ID	114270
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum
Paper Archive ID	114270
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Report","Section"

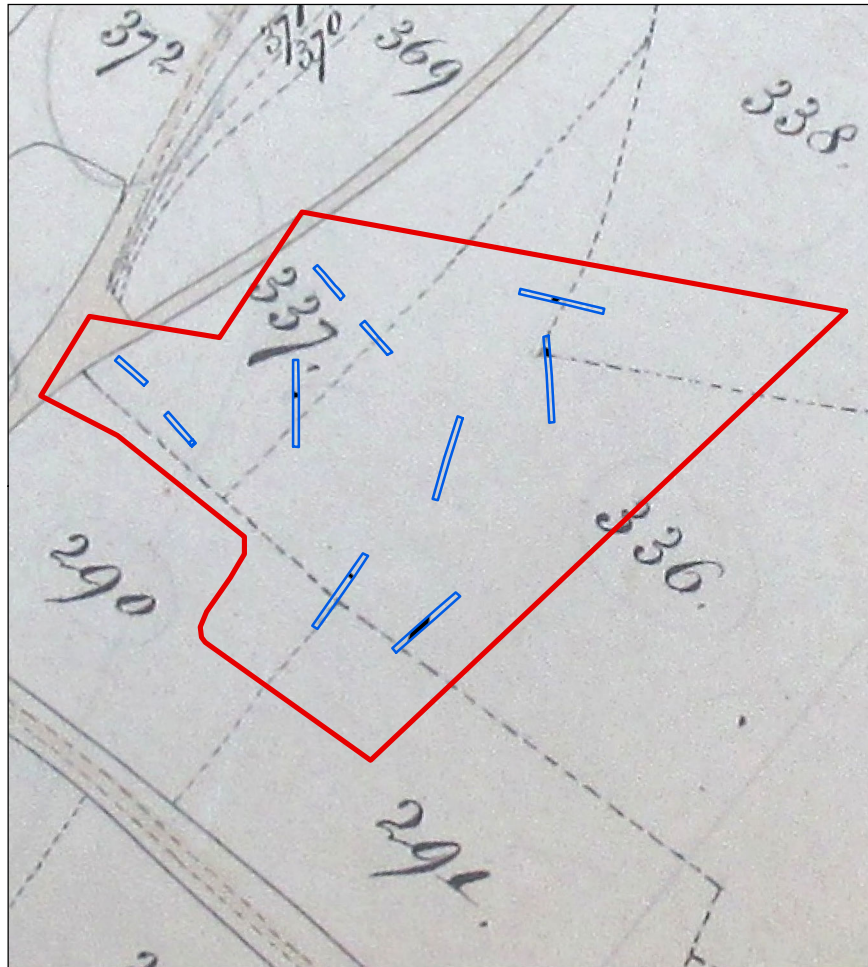
Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Buller Park, Porton, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Freer, D.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Brennan, N.
Other bibliographic details	report number 114270.05
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Wessex Archaeology - Salisbury
Description	A4 bound client report

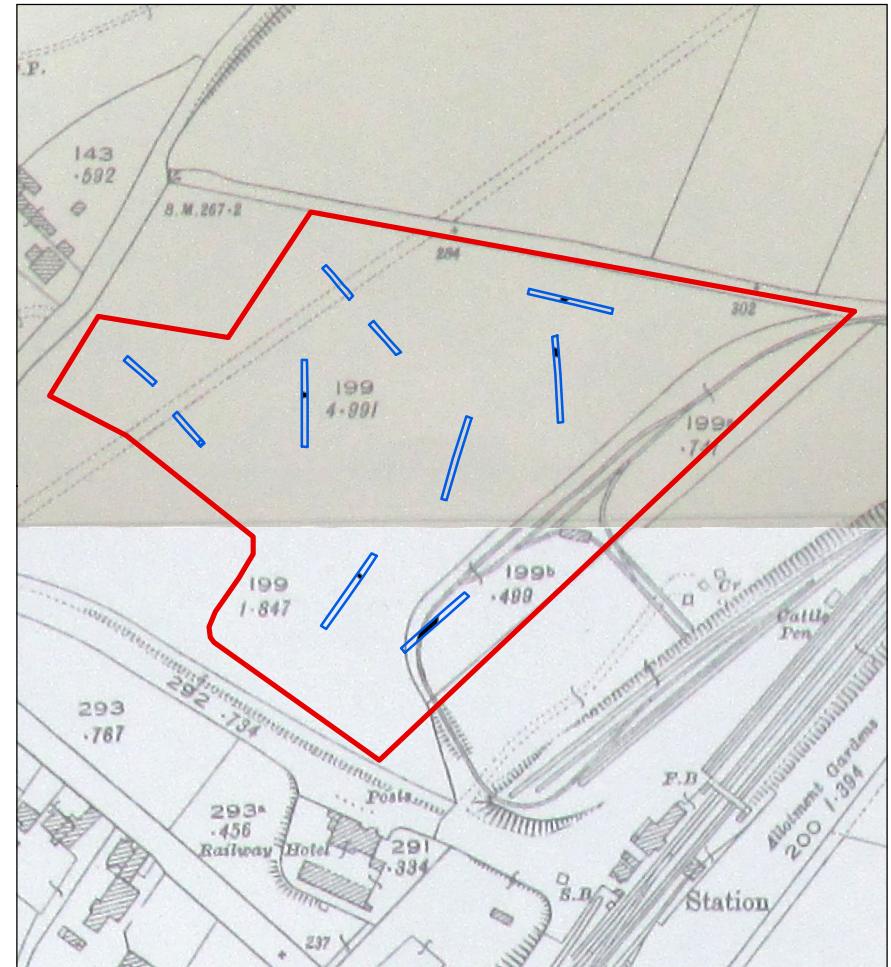


Location of Site, geophysical survey results and evaluation results

Figure 1



1841 Idmiston Tithe Map



1925 Ordnance Survey 25inch map



Coordinate system:
OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15)



- Site (approx.)
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature

Reproduced from the 1841 Idmiston Tithe Map and the 1925 Ordnance Survey 25 inch map.

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Plate 1: South-facing section Trench 3



Plate 2: West-facing section of sondage through deposit 103


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Plate 3: East-facing section of feature 404

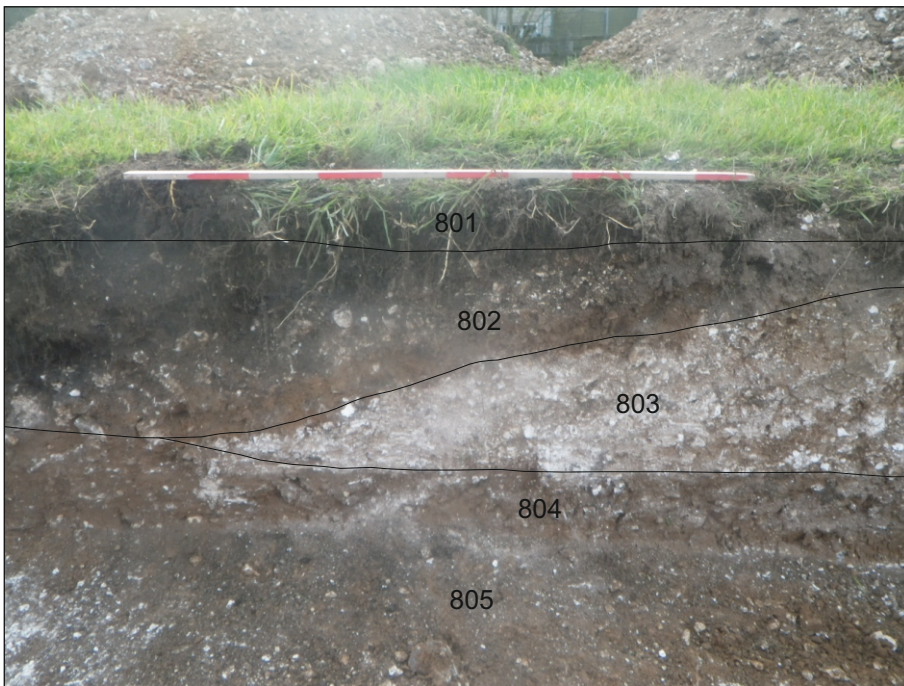



Plate 4: North-west facing section of area of railway embankment

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