

Oatlands Dairy Unit
Druids Lodge Estate, Wiltshire

Archaeological Strip, Map and Record Report



Ref: 56770.01
August 2004

**Oatlands Dairy Unit
Druids Lodge Estate, Wiltshire**

**Archaeological Strip, Map and Record
Report**

Prepared on behalf of
Carter Jonas Property Consultants
42 High Street
Marlborough
Wiltshire SN8 1HQ

by
Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
Salisbury
Wiltshire SP4 6EB

Report reference: 56770.01

August 2004

Contents

Summary.....	ii
Acknowledgements	iii
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Project Background.....	1
1.2 The Site	1
1.3 Planning Background.....	1
2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY	2
3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	2
4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	2
5 METHODOLOGY	2
6 RESULTS.....	4
6.1 Site-wide Stratigraphy.....	4
6.2 Archaeological Features and Deposits	4
7 FINDS	6
7.1 Introduction.....	6
CONTEXT.....	6
7.2 Pottery	6
7.3 Worked and Burnt Flint	6
7.4 Animal Bone	7
8 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE.....	8
8.1 Methodology	8
8.2 Results.....	8
<i>Charred plant remains</i>	8
<i>Charcoal</i>	9
<i>Land snails</i>	9
9 DISCUSSION.....	10
10 PROPOSALS	12
11 REFERENCES	13

Appendix I: Context Summary Table

Figure 1: Site Location Plan

Figure 2: Plan of features on site, with excavated features shown in detail.

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Carter Jonas Property Consultants to undertake an archaeological Strip, Map and Record on land at the Oatlands Dairy Unit, Druids Lodge Estate, Wiltshire (NGR 409175 140080). The archaeological fieldwork was carried out between the 21st and 23rd June 2004, in response to a planning condition, attached to the planning application (no. S/2004/570) for the development of a new covered yard to provide accommodation for cattle.

Sampling and hand excavation of potential archaeological features was undertaken in order to establish location, date, extent, character, condition and depth of the archaeology. All features, archaeological or otherwise, were mapped with a total station and tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

Two well-defined sub-circular pits were excavated to the south of the Site, together with one sub-square pit to the north. All three features were dated to the Beaker period (2600-1800BC) of the Early Bronze Age, and exhibited a similar sequence of deposition (although with slightly varying finds assemblages) and good preservation of environmental remains.

Whilst small pits of this type are well known from the Neolithic (4000-2400BC) within the vicinity and have been discussed at length (*e.g.* Thomas 1999), securely dated Beaker pits are much more of a rarity. The discovery of these pits, therefore, presents a significant contribution to the archaeological record, particularly in the light of an apparent dearth of evidence for the form of settlements and structures of the Beaker period, both in the Stonehenge area and in the country as a whole. These pits were dug at a time when major developments were occurring in the nearby Stonehenge ceremonial landscape and whilst they cannot alone be taken as evidence of structure or permanent settlement; they do provide us with important information on domestic activities related to Beaker period occupation of the landscape, such as food preparation and flint knapping.

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Carter Jonas Property Consultants who commissioned this Strip, Map and Record at the Oatlands Dairy Unit, Druids Lodge Estate.

The assistance and advice of Sue Farr (Wiltshire County Council's Archaeology Officer), who monitored the works on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, is duly acknowledged.

The fieldwork was supervised by Gail Wakeham, assisted by Mark Stewart. This report was compiled by Gail Wakeham and the illustrations were prepared by Leomie Willoughby-Ellis. Rob Armour Chelu managed the project on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.

**OATLANDS DAIRY UNIT
DRUIDS LODGE ESTATE, WILTSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP & RECORD
REPORT**

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Carter Jonas Property Consultants (The Client), to undertake an archaeological Strip, Map and Record on land at the Oatlands Dairy unit, Druids Lodge Estate, Wiltshire (hereafter 'the Site').

1.1.2 The archaeological fieldwork was undertaken out between the 21st and 23rd June 2004.

1.2 The Site

1.2.1 The Site lay approximately 1.5km south-east of Winterbourne Stoke. It was bounded to the north-west and north-east by buildings associated with the existing Oatlands Dairy Unit and to the south-west and south-east by open pasture (**Figure 1**). The Site was centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 409175 140080.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 A planning application (no. S/2004/570) was submitted to Salisbury District Council for the development of the Site to comprise the construction of a new covered yard to provide accommodation for cattle.

1.3.2 As a condition (no.3) attached to the granting of planning consent, the LPA requested that an archaeological investigation of the Site be undertaken prior to construction.

1.3.3 Condition 3 reads as follows:

No development shall take place within the area of the application until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority.

1.3.4 The Local Planning Authority (LPA), Salisbury District Council, on the advice of Wiltshire County Council's (WCC) Archaeology Officer, required archaeological monitoring and recording of groundworks associated with the proposed development. This was to take the form of a Strip, Map and Record whereby the entire area would be stripped down to the natural chalk and archaeological features identified and recorded in advance of construction.

- 1.3.5 The LPA also required the production of a Project Design outlining the proposed methodology to be employed by the archaeological contractor. This document (Wessex Archaeology 2004) was approved by WCC in advance of the commencement of the fieldwork.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 2.1.1 The underlying geology of the Site comprised Upper Chalk (BGS Solid & Drift Edition Sheet 298, 1976, 1:50 000).
- 2.1.2 The topography of the existing yard area was flat, the result of artificial levelling. The Site itself was slightly undulating, at an elevation of approximately 125m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), rising to the south.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 The Site lay within an area of high archaeological potential, and was located less than 1km from the Stonehenge World Heritage Site.
- 3.1.2 A large number of archaeological sites, cropmarks, earthworks and Scheduled Monuments, including Stonehenge itself, are recorded in the immediate vicinity. Given the scale of information available, this will not be detailed further here, although relevant parallels for the archaeological features and deposits encountered within the Strip, Map and Record will be detailed in the discussion (see Section 9).

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 4.1.1 The objective of the Strip, Map and Record investigation was to establish, within the constraints of the agreed strategy, the presence or absence, location, extent, date, character, condition, and depth of any surviving archaeological remains within the Site. All in accordance with the Project Design (Wessex Archaeology 2004).
- 4.1.2 The fieldwork sought to clarify the potential impact upon the archaeological resource of the development and to satisfactorily preserve by record any archaeological features or deposits identified prior to construction.

5 METHODOLOGY

- 5.1.1 The Site was excavated via 360° tracked excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket, under the constant supervision of an archaeologist, down to the underlying natural chalk. This level constituted the top of recognisable archaeological features.
- 5.1.2 Where appropriate, the area was cleaned by hand in order to identify features or deposits of archaeological significance. These features were then surveyed using a Topcon TST and then tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

- 5.1.3 Hand excavation of potential archaeological features was undertaken in order to resolve issues of dating, form and function. All exposed deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system.
- 5.1.4 A complete drawn record of excavated archaeological features and deposits was maintained. This included both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and with reference to a site grid tied to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels has been calculated and plans/sections were annotated with OD heights.
- 5.1.5 A full photographic record was also maintained, using both colour transparencies and black and white negatives (on 35mm film). Digital photography was also employed as appropriate. The photographic record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the features, finds excavated, and the site as a whole.
- 5.1.6 All artefacts were retained from excavated contexts, except features or deposits of undoubtedly modern date, where finds were noted but not retained. The excavated spoil from the stripped area was also examined for artefacts.
- 5.1.7 All artefacts were as a minimum washed, weighed, counted and identified. Suitable material was examined and the results are discussed in detail below (see Section 7).
- 5.1.8 Bulk environmental soil samples of a minimum of 10 litres were taken from sealed dated archaeological features or deposits for plant macrofossils, small animal bones and small artefacts.
- 5.1.9 Environmental soil samples taken have been processed by flotation and scanned to assess the environmental potential of the deposits, but will not be fully analysed. The results of the environmental processing are presented in Section 8. The residues and sieved fractions will be recorded and retained with the project archive.
- 5.1.10 An indexed project archive is temporarily stored at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury, under the project code 56770. Provision has been made for the finds and archive to be deposited with Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum, subject to the wishes of the landowner.

6 RESULTS

6.1 Site-wide Stratigraphy

- 6.1.1 All identified archaeological features were cut into the natural Upper Chalk geology **100**, which exhibited occasional plough scars and frequent periglacial stripes.
- 6.1.2 Sealing the archaeological features and deposits was layer **102**, a mid greyish brown silty clay layer containing flint and some chalk fragments. This represented an old cultivation soil derived from periods when the land was ploughed.
- 6.1.3 Overlying the former cultivation soil was the active topsoil, deposit **101**, comprising a dark greyish brown silty loam containing occasional flint and chalk fragments.
- 6.1.4 One modern pipe trench, orientated east-west, leading to a manhole cover was observed and surveyed to the north of the Site. This area also contained quantities of redeposited chalk derived from a now infilled slurry pit.
- 6.1.5 Along the northern edge of the Site was a slight bank *c.* 0.4m in height (see front cover), consisting of banded re-deposited topsoil and chalk. This presumably was created during construction of the yard for the current dairy units

6.2 Archaeological Features and Deposits

- 6.2.1 Two well-defined sub-circular pits (**103** and **106**) were identified and excavated in their entirety in the southern part of the Site. The most southerly, **103** lay *c.*2.5m south of **106** (**Figure 2**).
- 6.2.2 Pit **103** was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.90m by 0.76m with a depth of 0.35m. It had steep and concave sides and a concave base. The lower fill, **104**, comprised a dark silty clay containing occasional small flint and chalk fragments, with worked flint, burnt flint and small quantities of animal bone. Frequent charcoal flecks with some larger pieces (<0.02m) were also recorded. Above this material, fill **105**, was a friable mid brown silty clay containing flint and chalk pieces. This produced a single pot sherd, one animal tooth, some worked and burnt flint and occasional charcoal flecks. The uppermost fill of the pit, **115**, consisted of a red-brown silty clay containing flint and some chalk pieces, along with a small amount of worked flint.
- 6.2.3 Pit **106** was a similar size and shape to nearby pit **103**, measuring 0.90m by 0.74m with a maximum depth of 0.39m. It was sub-circular in plan with steep concave sides and a flat base. Its primary fill, **107**, comprised a pale brown silty clay containing chalk fragments and occasional flint. Overlying this was deposit **108**, a dark silty clay with very occasional flint and chalk, although rich in worked flint and charcoal flecks. A little burnt flint and two sherds of pottery were also retrieved. Fill **109** lay above this deposit,

consisting of a brown silty clay with flint and chalk fragments throughout. From this deposit two flint scrapers were recovered along with a quantity of flint flakes and working material, occasional burnt flint and six small pottery sherds. The upper fill **110** comprised a red-brown silty clay with frequent flint and chalk fragments. Some burnt and worked flint along with two pottery sherds were recovered from this fill.

- 6.2.4 A third pit was identified, apparently isolated, in the north of the Site (**Figure 2**). Pit **111** was less regular than the two pits in the south, appearing sub-square in plan with concave sides, a flat base and exhibiting considerable root disturbance to its western side. The primary fill, **112**, consisted of a pale brown chalky silt containing frequent chalk fragments in a degraded chalky matrix. Overlying this, deposit **113** comprised a dark charcoal-rich silty clay, with occasional chalk and flint fragments, from which a flint scraper, animal bone fragments, worked flint and burnt flint was retrieved. The upper fill was **114**, a red-brown silty clay with frequent flint and chalk fragments throughout, and containing burnt flint, a small quantity of worked flint and charcoal flecks.
- 6.2.5 A representative sample of features not initially identified as being archaeological in nature was examined. All proved to be of natural origin with the majority interpreted as tree throws. No cultural material was present in any of the natural features although, in accordance with the Project Design all features were mapped by TST with their distribution illustrated in **Figure 2**.

7 FINDS

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The archaeological investigations on the Site have produced a small finds assemblage in a limited range of material types, all deriving from the various fills of three pits. All finds have been cleaned and quantified by material type within each context, and this information is presented in **Table 1**. The assemblage appears to be entirely prehistoric in date.

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

CONTEXT	Description	Animal Bone	Burnt Flint	Worked Flint	Pottery
104	pit 103	10/48	7/85	18/526	
105	pit 103	2/2	1/75	6/21	1/3
108	pit 106	4/1	2/18	39/428	2/6
109	pit 106	1/1	2/144	41/870	7/24
110	pit 106			29/267	8/16
113	pit 111	10/64	68/1265	9/81	
114	pit 111		57/807	5/17	
115	pit 103		3/28	11/36	1/1
	TOTAL	27/116	140/2422	158/2246	19/50

7.2 Pottery

7.2.1 Pottery constitutes the only closely datable material. All sherds are in grog-tempered fabrics, in varying degrees of coarseness, and all are fairly abraded. Diagnostic material is restricted to two body sherds, both with comb-impressed decoration. Both fabric and decoration are characteristic of Early Bronze Age Beaker ceramics.

7.3 Worked and Burnt Flint

7.3.1 Worked flint was the most commonly occurring material type on the site, and consists of pieces utilising the locally accessible chalk flint. Patination is variable, a few pieces are burnt, but most pieces are in relatively fresh condition. Most of the assemblage comprises flakes (mostly secondary, with a few primary and tertiary flakes), with a small number of unsystematic cores. Tools comprise four scrapers and one hammerstone; one core could also have been subsequently utilised as a hammerstone. The technological character of this assemblage is entirely consistent with a date in the Early Bronze Age.

7.3.2 The burnt, unworked flint is intrinsically undatable but is in this instance assumed to be of similar date to the pottery and worked flint.

7.4 Animal Bone

- 7.4.1 The animal bone comprised fragments of sheep/goat (teeth), cattle (pelvis, phalange, metacarpal) and possible deer (antler). The condition of the bone varies, but the group from fill **113** is in particularly poor and abraded condition. The possible deer antler (from fill **108**) is calcined.

8 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

8.1 Methodology

8.1.1 Five 10 litre bulk samples were taken from three Beaker/Early Bronze Age pits. They were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals.

8.1.2 The categories of palaeo-environmental evidence recovered were:

- charred plant remains
- charcoal
- small mammal bones
- land snails

8.2 Results

8.2.1 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods. The flot was retained on a 0.5mm mesh and the residues fractionated into 5.6mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions, then dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded.

8.2.2 The flots were scanned under a x10 - x30 stereo-binocular microscope and presence of charred remains quantified in order to present data to record the preservation and nature of the charred plant and charcoal remains and assess their potential.

8.2.3 The flots were relatively large and charcoal rich. They also contained a moderate number of roots, modern seeds and shells of *Cecilioides acicula* that are indicative of post-depositional disturbance.

Charred plant remains

8.2.4 Charred remains of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shells were reasonably abundant in all samples. Within some they were exceptionally well preserved often with half-shells present. Pit **103** (context **104**) in particular contained several hundred well-preserved fragments. Conversely, remains of other wild foods appeared to be absent.

8.2.5 Cereal grains were poorly represented and, in comparison with the remains of hazelnut, were generally poorly preserved. They were however present, even if in small numbers, in most of the samples. Of those identifiable most appeared to be of barley (*Hordeum vulgare* sl), and in one case (context **104**) could be identified as definitely from the hulled rather than the naked variety. The sample from pit **103** (context **105**), also contained an identifiable grain of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum*). No identified grains of hulled wheats, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*) were seen, but given that many of the grains were unidentifiable this does not preclude the possibility they were present.

- 8.2.6 Seeds of wild species were relatively scarce whilst remains of chaff were entirely absent, both of which are normally considered characteristic of the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age (Robinson 2000). Only two seeds were recovered; one probably of curled leaved dock (*Rumex crispus*), the other of speedwell, resembling thyme-leaved speedwell (*Veronica serpyllifolia*). A fragment of flower/stem was also recovered from context **104**, whilst pit **111** produced a possible small tuber.
- 8.2.7 The remains are all in keeping with the general picture seen for the Neolithic and the transitional Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age within southern England (Moffet *et al.* 1989). In particular the predominance of hazelnut shells recovered from small pits compares well with those from Neolithic sites in the general vicinity from the King's Barrow Ridge (Carruthers 1990) and from Old Sarum (Powell *forthcoming*). Information from later Neolithic and especially more securely dated Early Bronze Age domestic contexts are generally lacking in the area.
- 8.2.8 Whilst the samples are largely comparable with those from Neolithic sites in southern England their date increases their significance considerably. Firstly they provide information on more general, perhaps domestic, activities for a period, the Early Bronze Age, for which little information is otherwise available from southern England as a whole. This in turn provides evidence for a great continuity of both similar usage of cereals and wild foods for a millennia at least within the local area. Secondly, they provide information on the more mundane elements of human life, such as the utilisation of plants for food, during a period which sees significant changes in the local area in terms of the construction of monuments and barrows.

Charcoal

- 8.2.9 A considerable quantity of charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples. Little could be determined from twig or branch material, although a bud and probable Rosaceae thorn were identified from pit **111**.

Land snails

- 8.2.10 During the processing of bulk soil samples for the recovery of charred plant remains and charcoals, a number of mollusca were noted and recorded in the flots. Snails were relatively scarce in all the samples with the exception of that from pit **111**. All contained a mixture of shells of species associated with both more open grassland and more shaded conditions. Pit **106** contained shells of *Vallonia* sp., *Helicella itala*, *Pupilla muscorum*, *Pomatias elegans* and *Discus rotundatus*, whilst pit **103** contained a more narrow range of species with only shells of *Aegopinella* sp., *Vertigo* spp. and *Vallonia* sp. present.

9 DISCUSSION

- 9.1.1 The three pits identified on the Site are dated to the Beaker period (2600-1800BC), at the very start of the Bronze Age. They appear to have been dug for disposal of domestic waste, the result of a range of activities from flint knapping to food consumption. Their location on the edge of a forming ceremonial landscape may also be of some significance. The evidence suggests they were used for a short period of time, possibly even a single episode of activity. Although there is a primary fill in two of the pits, which may indicate that pits **106** and **111** were left open before being infilled, the shallowness of this primary fill equally could have resulted from a little spoil leftover from the original digging of the pits.
- 9.1.2 The sequence of deposition within all three pits is very similar. Above the primary fills (where present), there was a very dark charcoal-rich deposit, which contained quantities of charred hazelnuts. This deposit has been interpreted as a deliberate backfill or dump of material seemingly relating to domestic activity. There is slight variation in the quantity of anthropogenic finds retrieved from this deposit, although the types of material recovered is similar in all. Pit **106** contained far more worked flint, pit **111** showed the highest proportion of burnt flint, and pit **103** showed the greatest concentration of hazelnuts. Although this may be indicative of form or pattern of deposition, the sample (i.e. the number of pits within the Site) is far too small for any conclusions to be drawn.
- 9.1.3 The deposit identified above the dark material in pits **103** and **106**, a friable mid brown silty clay is almost certainly derived from the surrounding topsoil. It represents either deliberate backfill or is the result of the surrounding topsoil washing into the pits, probably aided by ploughing. On the evidence of the pottery and scrapers recovered from these fills, the former seems more likely, with subsequent truncation and mixing from ploughing.
- 9.1.4 The upper fill of red-brown silty clay is recorded as sealing all three pits and is interpreted as a tertiary fill derived from more recent deeper ploughing.
- 9.1.5 Evidence for the form of settlements and structures of the Beaker period has proved elusive in the ceremonial and funerary landscape around Stonehenge, as in the country as a whole. It is clear that this period saw the introduction of metalwork, a new type of pottery, a funerary rite involving primary burial within round barrows, and of course major changes at Stonehenge itself (**Figure 1**), where the Beaker period saw a series of major events (Periods II and IIIa). These included the remodelling of the long-abandoned enclosure; probable erection of station stones; construction of the first stage of the Avenue; resetting of the two entrance stones; partial construction and dismantling of double blue-stone ring; erection of outer sarsen ring and the horseshoe of five trilithons; as well as Beaker period burial from enclosure ditch. Chronologically, this overlaps with the final phase of activity at Durrington Walls, Woodhenge and Coneybury, with Beaker pottery produced from secondary contexts in both the interiors and ditches of these monuments (Richards, 1990, 272). Environmental evidence from all of these

sites shows dry probably grazed grassland. “It can be suggested that this now extensively cleared landscape provides the ideal vehicle for the introduction of more extensive and formalised arable cultivation. However, the evidence for such economic change does not appear within the earlier Bronze Age” (Richards, 1990, 257).

- 9.1.6 The Stonehenge Environs Project identified surface data for the Early Bronze Age as showing a similar emphasis as those areas of Late Neolithic activity; one of three concentrated foci was named as that immediately south and south-east of Winterbourne Stoke Crossroads (**Figure 1**). A Neolithic nucleated scatter of pottery, scrapers and a plano-convex knife lies close to the area of Late Bronze Age occupation, ‘the hut settlement’ recorded in 1967 during road construction (Vatcher and Vatcher, 1968). Although close, the absence of any earlier pottery from this small assemblage of this site suggests settlement shift within an established foci. Further indication that the pattern of fields and boundary earthworks, thought in their initial phase to be associated with Late Bronze Age settlement, may originate earlier, may be inferred from more sporadic surface data recorded to the south and south-east of Winterbourne Stoke crossroads. Here, Early Bronze Age pottery was recorded on the north-east side and along the axis of a main ‘spinal’ linear earthwork. It was suggested that the lack of pottery on the north-east side of the earthwork may be a result of differential collection, or equally could hint at the existence of an earlier boundary (Richards, 1990, 274).
- 9.1.7 The purpose of the above discussion is to place the Site into the context of a wider Early Bronze Age landscape that was clearly managed and organised. Whilst these types of pits are known from the mid-later Neolithic period within the Avon valley area from Amesbury, Ratfyn, Winterbourne Gunner, Larkhill, Rollestone, King Barrow Ridge and Coneybury (Heaton *et al*, 2003, 60). There are, however, “rather less frequently connected with Beaker pottery....a prosaic interpretation of this sequence might be one of a shift of economic practise away from cereals and toward pastoralism” (Thomas, 1999, 69). Certainly, cereal grains were poorly represented and chaff was entirely absent in the environmental samples taken, whilst the small amount of snails showed species associated with both more open grassland and shaded conditions, however conclusions cannot be drawn on the basis of such a small sample on one site.
- 9.1.8 Variation in the deposition of material in small pits during the Neolithic is outlined by Thomas (1999, 69). This variation is evident from the results of the excavation of the three Beaker pits at Oatlands Dairy Unit (as discussed above). in common with the Neolithic examples, these three pits exhibit apparent deliberate backfilling. The suggestion is of use for a short period of time, possibly even a single episode of activity.
- 9.1.9 It has been demonstrated that there is continuity between these types of pits through the Neolithic into the Beaker/Early Bronze Age period, however these Beaker pits are potentially of greater significance due primarily to their apparent rarity. They can provide information on more general perhaps domestic activities, during a period when little is known about form and distribution of settlement across southern Britain. The pits also offer an

insight in to the every day life of Beaker people, such as their utilisation of plants for food and knapping skills.

- 9.1.10 The digging of pits and the deposition of materials within them was clearly a significant act throughout both the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age in this area, and, whilst Thomas (1999) contrasts Neolithic and Iron Age pits in attempt to show that those of Neolithic date were not exclusively utilitarian in character; this Site offers comparisons between Neolithic pits and their Beaker counterparts.

10 PROPOSALS

- 10.1.1 It is proposed to present the results of this fieldwork as a note in *Wiltshire Studies*, the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine.

11 REFERENCES

- Allen, M.J. 1996. Landscape and land-use; priorities in Hampshire, 500,00 BC to AD 1500, in Hinton, D.A. and Hughes, M., *Archaeology in Hampshire: a framework for the future*. Winchester, Hampshire County Council, 55-70
- Bell, M.G. 1984. Environmental archaeology in South West England, in Keeley, H.C.M. (ed.), 1984. *Environmental Archaeology; a regional Review*. London, DAMHB, Occasional Paper 6, 43-133
- Carruthers W J. 1990. Carbonised plant remains. 250-52. In: Richards J. The Stonehenge environs project. *English Heritage Archaeology Report 16*. England, Wiltshire
- Evans, J.G. 1972. *Land Snails in Archaeology*. London, Seminar Press.
- Heaton, M. *et al.* (2003) 'Neolithic Pits at the Beehive'. In WANHM **96**, 54-62.
- Jones M (with an appendix by Mark Robinson). 1991. 4. The carbonised plant remains. 49-53. In: Barrett J, Bradley J and Hall M (eds.). Papers on the prehistoric archaeology of Cranborne Chase. *Oxbow Monograph 11*. [see also: Jones M. 1980. *Carbonised cereals from grooved ware contexts*. England, Dorset
- Powell, A. B. *forthcoming* Excavations along The Old Sarum water Pipeline, North of Salisbury, *Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine*.
- Richards, J. *et al.* (1990) *Stonehenge Environs Project*. English Heritage report no.16, Historic Buildings & Monuments Commission for England
- Thomas, J. (1999) *Understanding the Neolithic*. London: Routledge.
- Wessex Archaeology (2004) *Oatlands Dairy Unit, Druids lodge Estate. Project Design for Strip & Map Archaeological Watching Brief*. Ref: T8737.01.



Photo of section (NW facing)



Post excavation photo of Pit 111

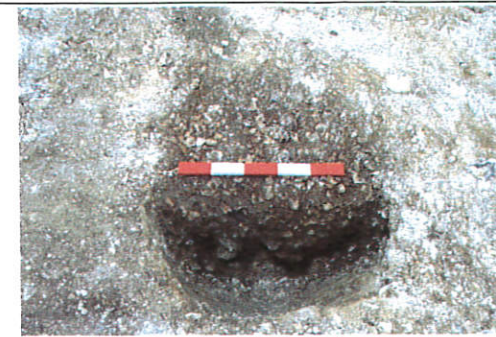
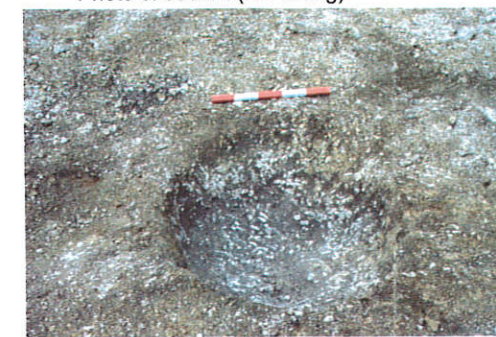
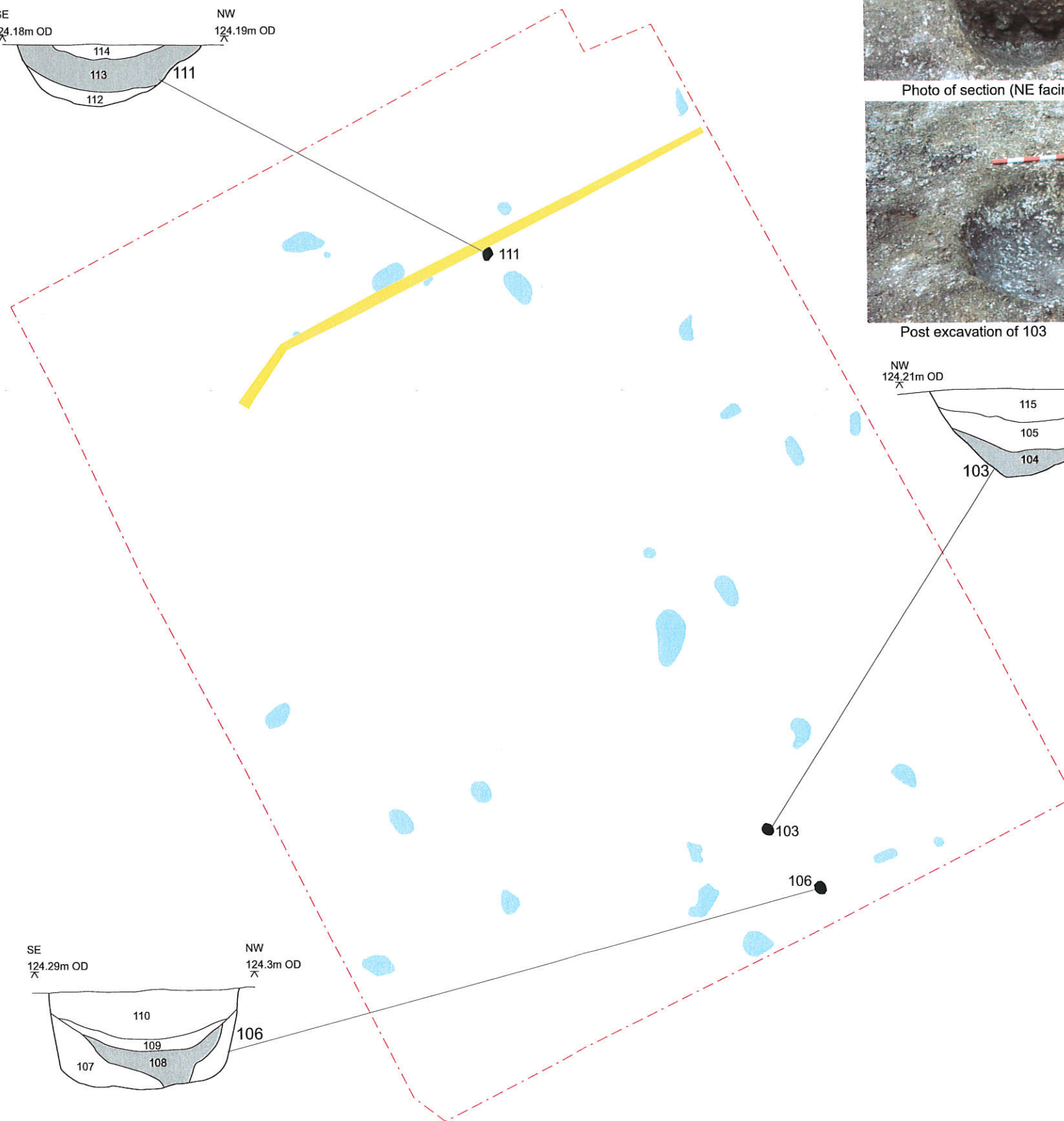
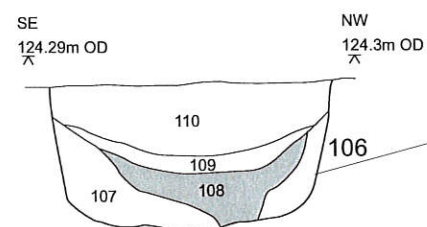
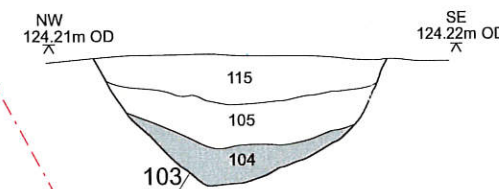
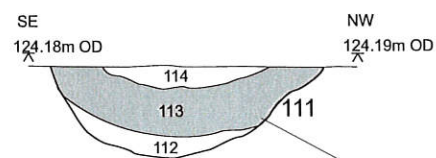


Photo of section (NE facing)



Post excavation of 103



- Features
- 100% Excavated features
- Modern pipe trench
- Charcoal rich deposit



Photo of section (NE facing)



Post excavation photo of pit 106

This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology.
No unauthorised reproduction.

Revision Number:	0
Illustrator:	LW-E
Date:	21:06:04
Scale:	1:20
Path:	

Y:\PROJECTS\56770\Drawing Office\Report Figures

Plan of features on site, with excavated features shown in detail.