



Environment Agency Habitat Creation Scheme, Steart Peninsular, Somerset

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation Report





**Environment Agency Habitat Creation Scheme,
Stearr Peninsular, Somerset**

**Archaeological Trial Trench
Evaluation Report**

Prepared for

May Gurney

By

Wessex Archaeology

Portway House
Old Sarum Park
SALISBURY
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

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Summary

In April 2011 an archaeological trial trench evaluation comprising eighteen 30m long trenches was undertaken at Steart Point, an area of low-lying coastal land situated at the mouth of the River Parrett in Somerset.

The Site comprised two areas of investigation; the first a 1.8ha area of land which is to be used as a borrow pit (centred on NGR 326043 44123) for the construction of a trial embankment and the second; a c.6ha area within which invertebrate translocation ponds (centred on NGR 324920 144078) are going to be created.

No archaeological features of significance were recovered during the evaluation though a single sherd of Roman samian ware pottery dating to the second half of the second century AD was recovered.

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Acknowledgements

This programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation was commissioned and funded by May Gurney, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Matt Phillips in this regard.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Steve Thompson, Piotr Orczewski and Andy Sole, with reporting by Steve Thompson, finds analysis by Rachel Seager-Smith and report illustrations by Linda Coleman.

The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Abigail Rolland.

Environment Agency Habitat Creation Scheme, Steart Peninsular, Somerset

Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by May Gurney (hereafter 'the Client') to carry out a programme of archaeological evaluation comprising eighteen 30m long trenches at Steart Point, an area of low-lying coastal land situated at the mouth of the River Parrett in Somerset.

1.1.2 The area of investigation comprises a 1.8ha area of land which is to be used as a borrow pit for the construction of a trial embankment and a c.6ha area within which invertebrate translocation ponds are going to be created. The areas of investigation are situated either side of Steart Drove. The borrow pit is centred Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) 326043 44123 (hereafter 'the Borrow Pit Site') and NGR 324920 144078 (hereafter the Pond Site; **Figure 1**).

1.1.3 The purpose of the archaeological evaluation was to provide information on the archaeological interest of this known site to inform the assessment of impacts to the heritage resource resulting from the creation of an intertidal saltmarsh environment through the managed realignment of existing flood defences on the River Parrett to the east of the two Sites. This report documents the results of archaeological evaluation undertaken.

1.2 The Site, Location and Geology

1.2.1 The two Sites are situated within the Central Somerset Levels, in an area of low lying, flat, artificially drained land, generally used as pasture. The Pond Site is located adjacent to Steart Drove just to the south of Marsh Farm, and the Borrow Pit Site is situated c.600m to the east of Steart Drove at Marsh Farm.

1.2.2 The solid geology of the area around Steart consists of Triassic mudstones with Rhaetic and Dolomitic conglomerate. To the west, around Stolford, the solid geology is Lower Lias (Geological Survey 1957). For the majority of the Site, the solid geology is overlain by alluvial deposits, with the area around Wall Common overlain by blown sand (Institute of Geological Sciences 1977). The coast consists of shingle storm beaches, dune sands and salt marsh.

1.3 Historical Background

1.3.1 A Desk Based Assessment (DBA) (Wessex Archaeology 2008) set out the historical background to the Steart Peninsular. A brief summary is included here.

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- 1.3.2 The geomorphological evolution of the Severn Estuary, at the mouth of which Steart Peninsula is located has, over many millennia, provided a dynamic environment within which humans have lived.
- 1.3.3 The Severn Levels, within which the Steart Peninsula is situated, are a man-made landscape and the result of sustained drainage and sea defence that began in some areas as early as the Romano-British period (AD43 – 410). In order to understand the archaeological potential of the Site it is necessary to understand the development of the landscape.
- 1.3.4 During the Pleistocene epoch for the 500,000 years prior to the beginning of the Holocene epoch (12,000 BP) the climate cycled through relatively frequent glacial (cold) and inter-glacial (warm) periods. The variance in climatic temperature was accompanied by fluctuating sea levels as water was periodically taken up and then released by the ice sheets. Evidence from hydrographic, geophysical and borehole surveys from Gloucester to the central Bristol Channel indicates that within the Severn Levels the Lower and Middle Palaeolithic landscape would have been dominated by a main river valley cut into bedrock geology with a network of subsidiary valleys feeding into it from the English and Welsh sides in the location of the present estuary (Brunning 2008, 44).
- 1.3.5 This very early landscape is now buried beneath deep Holocene marine sediments which make up the Severn Levels. The start of the Holocene is marked by the onset of a warm interglacial period starting at around 12,500BP. This warming phase was accompanied initially by rapidly rising sea-levels. The remains of a submerged Mesolithic forest just off the coast at Hinkley illustrate the huge change in the environment from the wooded landscape which dominated 10,000 years ago.
- 1.3.6 Within the intertidal zone the importance of the sea as a resource is evident with the remains of fish weirs and small vessels of medieval and later date giving clues as to how the people who lived on this coastline used the sea. On the peninsula itself surviving field boundaries, banks, ditches, lanes and settlements are the product of hundreds of years of reclamation and land improvement. Couple this with physical ground conditions which favour the survival of organic and environmental remains, and the significance of the heritage resource at a location such as the Steart Peninsula is clear.
- 1.3.7 The wider setting of the Steart Peninsula, particularly Bridgwater Bay and the River Parrett, has been the subject of a number of heritage research projects, from which a great deal has been learnt about the nature and extent of the heritage resource both in the intertidal and terrestrial environments. The peninsula itself has also been the focus of some detailed desk-based research projects as part of the Environment Agency's work to assess the suitability of the peninsula for habitat creation use. The results of this recent work have served to define the known heritage resource, but also to highlight the potential that exists for the presence and survival of further buried archaeological and palaeoenvironmental remains.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Wessex Archaeology 2011) was prepared following consultation with Richard Brunning, Senior Levels and Moors Heritage Officer and Ed Wilson of the Environment Agency outlining the manner in which the evaluation was to be carried out. A summary is included here.

2.2 Overview

2.2.1 Overall the aim of the package of phased archaeological evaluations, of which this project forms part, is to gather additional baseline information to enable the value of the heritage resource to be established and appropriate mitigations strategies put in place. The overall evaluation strategy is governed by two research questions agreed with the curators and are as follows:

- To date the chronology of land reclamation on the Steart Peninsula; and
- To understand and date the environmental changes within which the reclaimed landscape developed.

2.2.2 Each phase of the evaluation is designed to provide information which will help to answer these key questions. The following section sets out the specific objectives of the archaeological watching brief and geoarchaeological assessment.

2.3 Archaeological Field Evaluation

2.3.1 The aim of the evaluation is to provide further information concerning the presence/absence, date, nature and extent of any buried archaeological remains and to investigate and record these.

2.3.2 The aims of the archaeological field evaluation are to:

- clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be threatened by development.
- identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, condition and depth 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.
- establish the distribution of archaeological remains and place these within our current understanding of landscape development in the region.
- target anomalies identified in the geophysical survey to establish if they are archaeological features and their nature.
- gather sufficient evidence to establish the extent and scope of any investigations that may be required to mitigate the proposed development

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This section sets out the general methodology that will apply to the excavation and recording of archaeological remains in the field, and post-fieldwork including archive preparation.
- 3.1.2 The evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Institute for Archaeologist's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2008).

3.2 Health and Safety

- 3.2.1 Health and Safety considerations will be of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practices will override archaeological considerations at all times.
- 3.2.2 All work will be 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.
- 3.2.3 Wessex Archaeology will supply a copy of their Health and Safety Policy and a Risk Assessment to the Client before the commencement of any fieldwork. The Risk Assessment will have been read and understood by all staff attending the Site before any groundwork commences.

3.3 Fieldwork

- 3.3.1 The evaluation comprised a total of eighteen 30m long by 1.8m wide trenches; ten located in the Borrow Pit Site and eight in the Pond Site.
- 3.3.2 All overburden (topsoil and subsoil) was removed by mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or natural geology, whichever is encountered first. A single deeper sondage was excavated in the end of a number of trenches to investigate the thickness of the natural alluvial deposits. Excavated upcast from each trench was visually examined for archaeological material.
- 3.3.3 Each trench was cleaned by hand where appropriate and a representative section, not less than 1m in length, of deposits through each trench from ground surface to the top of the natural geology recorded.

3.4 Survey

- 3.4.1 All investigation areas will be set-out in advance within the Ordnance Survey (OS) NGR system, using GPS. Area co-ordinates will be digitally uploaded to minimise re-keying errors.
- 3.4.2 Each trench was located using a Leica GNSS survey system so all trenches can be tied into the OS NGR system including heights above OS datum (Newlyn).

3.5 Recording

- 3.5.1 A unique site code for all aspects of the project archive. All exposed deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system with unique numbers allocated for individual contexts.
- 3.5.2 A complete drawn record of excavated deposits was compiled. This will include both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections). The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels will be calculated and plans/sections will be annotated with OD heights.
- 3.5.3 A full photographic record was maintained using digital format. The photographic record will illustrate both the detail and the general context of the principal features, finds excavated, and the site as a whole.

3.6 Copyright

- 3.6.1 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.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The investigation was divided into two distinct areas with the Pond Site (centred on NGR 324920 144078) investigated through the excavation of eight trenches (numbered **1 to 8**) and the Borrow Pit Site (centred on NGR 326043 44123) investigated through ten trenches (numbered **9-18**).
- 4.1.2 The Results Section should be read in conjunction with **Appendix 1: Trench Descriptions**.

4.2 The Pond Site

Site Wide Stratigraphy

- 4.2.1 The stratigraphy of deposits was uniform across the Site, with the same deposits and thicknesses of material observed within Trenches 1-8. The Site was sealed by a c. 0.20m thick plough soil layer (recorded as **101, 201, 301, 401, 501, 601, 701 and 801**) which was removed to reveal the upper layers of natural alluvium (recorded as **102, 202, 302, 402, 502, 602, 702 and 802**). The upper c.0.20m of alluvium had been heavily impacted upon by ploughing and sub-soiling which had created deep scars in the natural. This upper layer was removed aid the identification of archaeology.
- 4.2.2 A number of ceramic field drains were identified crossing the trenches. No archaeological features of significance were identified.

4.3 The Borrow Pit Site

Site Wide Stratigraphy

- 4.3.1 The stratigraphy of deposits was uniform across the Site, with the same deposits and thicknesses of material observed within Trenches **1-8**. The Site was sealed by a c.0.20m thick plough soil layer (recorded as **901, 1001, 1201, 1301, 1401, 1501, 1601, 1701** and **1801**) which was removed to reveal the upper layers of natural alluvium (recorded as **902, 1002, 1202, 1302, 1402, 1502, 1602, 1702** and **1802**). The upper c.0.20m of alluvium had been heavily impacted upon by ploughing and sub-soiling which had created deep scars in the natural. This upper layer was removed aid the identification of archaeology.
- 4.3.2 No archaeological features of significance were identified.

5 FINDS

- 5.1.1 A number of clearly modern finds including, horse shoes, pieces of agricultural machinery, modern ceramics and brick and tile were observed within the plough soil. This material was not retained.
- 5.1.2 Only a single piece of pre-modern pottery was recovered; a single un-abraded body sherd (weight 6g) from a Roman central Gaulish samian ware cup (form DR 33) dating to the second half of the 2nd century AD was recovered from the plough-soil of **Trench 2**.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The evaluation was successful in its stated aims in identifying that no archaeological remains of significance were located within the two areas of proposed development.

7 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

7.1 Archive Storage

- 7.1.1 The complete Site archive, which will include records, plans, photos, and artefacts will be prepared to comply with guidelines set out in *Environmental Standards for the permanent storage of excavated material from archaeological sites* (UKIC 1984, Conservation Guidelines 3), and *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage* (Walker 1990). It is recommended that ultimately the archive will be deposited with Museum of Somerset in Taunton under accession code TTNM 46/2011.
- 7.1.2 This report will be uploaded to the OASIS database under the following reference number Wessexar1-314359

7.2 Copyright

- 7.2.1 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 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-profit making, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003.

7.3 Security Copy

- 7.3.1 In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a security copy of the paper records will be prepared, in the form of microfilm. The master jackets and one diazo copy of the microfilm will be submitted to the National Monuments Record Centre (Swindon); a second diazo copy will be deposited with the paper records at the Museum, and a third diazo copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology.

8 REFERENCES

8.1 Bibliography

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APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

bgl = below ground level

Trench 1			Centre line co-ordinate	324802.89, 144029.02 324827.66, 144012.37
Dimensions: 30m by 1.80m		Max Depth: 0.45m	Ground Surface	5.58m aOD
Context	Description			Depth bgl
101	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of field which has been recently ploughed and is under grass. Mid grey brown clay loam with very occasional sub rounded flints<0.02 with occasional small limestone inclusions.		0-0.16m
102		Natural alluvial geology. Mid brown grey with blue grey clay patches.The upper 0.20m or so has been heavily impacted upon by ploughing and possible sub soiling, and so the trench was machined until the natural was clear to define any features. No archaeological features observed.		0.16-0.45m

Trench 2			Centre line co-ordinate	324849.93, 144097.90 324869.96, 144080.36
Dimensions: 30m by 1.80m		Max Depth: 0.45m	Ground Surface	5.65m aOD
Context	Description			Depth bgl
201	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of field which has been recently ploughed and is under grass. Mid grey brown clay loam with very occasional sub rounded flints<0.02. single piece of Roman samian ware recovered.		0-0.16m
202	Natural	Natural alluvial geology. Mid brown grey with blue grey clay patches.The upper 0.20m or so has been heavily impacted upon by ploughing and possible sub soiling, and so the trench was machined until the natural was clear to define any features. No archaeological features observed.		0.16-0.54m

Trench 3			Centre co-ordinate	324917.29, 144103.02 324938.16, 144121.36
Dimensions: 2		Max Depth:	Ground Surface	5.61m aOD
Context	Description			Depth bgl
301	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of field which has been recently ploughed and is under grass. Mid grey brown clay loam with very occasional sub rounded flints<0.05 and occasional small limestone inclusions.		0-0.22m
302	Natural	Natural alluvial geology. Mid brown grey with blue grey clay patches.The upper 0.20m or so has been heavily impacted upon by ploughing and possible sub soiling, and so the trench was machined until the natural was clear to define any features. No archaeological features observed.		0.22m-0.68m

Trench 4			Centre line co-ordinate	324888.26, 144175.25 324911.61, 144161.43
Dimensions: 30m by 1.8m		Max Depth: 0.60m	Ground Surface	5.64m aOD
Context	Description			Depth bgl
401	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of field which has been recently ploughed and is under grass. Mid grey brown clay loam with very occasional sub rounded flints<0.05 and occasional small limestone inclusions.		0-0.13m
402	Natural	Natural alluvial geology. Mid brown grey with blue grey clay patches. The upper 0.34m or so has been heavily impacted upon		0.13-0.60m

		by ploughing and possible sub soiling, and so the trench was machined until the natural was clear to define any features. No archaeological features observed.	
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Trench 5		Centre line co-ordinate	324828.06, 143971.61 324856.16, 143978.10
Dimensions: 30m by 1.8m		Max Depth: 0.62m	Ground Surface 5.66m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
501	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of field which has been recently ploughed and is under grass. Mid grey brown clay loam with very occasional sub rounded flints<0.05 and occasional small limestone inclusions.	0-0.18m
502	Natural	Natural alluvial geology. Mid brown grey with blue grey clay patches. The upper 0.26m or so has been heavily impacted upon by ploughing and possible sub soiling, and so the trench was machined until the natural was clear to define any features. No archaeological features observed.	0.18m-0.62

Trench 6		Centre line co-ordinate	324987.08, 144060.10 325009.19, 144042.81
Dimensions: 2		Max Depth:	Ground Surface 5.55m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
601	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of field which has been recently ploughed and is under grass. Mid grey brown clay loam with very occasional sub rounded flints<0.05 and occasional small limestone inclusions.	0-0.12m,
602	Natural	Natural alluvial geology. Mid brown grey with blue grey clay patches. The upper 0.26m or so has been heavily impacted upon by ploughing and possible sub soiling, and so the trench was machined until the natural was clear to define any features. No archaeological features observed.	0.12m-0.62

Trench 7		Centre line co-ordinate	324986.34, 144122.79 325007.96, 144105.82
Dimensions: 2		Max Depth:	Ground Surface 5.62m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
701	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of field which has been recently ploughed and is under grass. Mid grey brown clay loam with very occasional sub rounded flints<0.05 and occasional small limestone inclusions.	0-0.12m
702	Natural	Natural alluvial geology. Mid brown grey with blue grey clay patches. The upper 0.40m or so has been heavily impacted upon by ploughing and possible sub soiling, and so the trench was machined until the natural was clear to define any features. No archaeological features observed.	0.12m-0.60

Trench 8		Centre line co-ordinate	324990.18, 144003.16 324964.04, 144014.38
Dimensions: 2		Max Depth:	Ground Surface 5.65m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
801	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of field which has been recently ploughed and is under grass. Mid grey brown clay loam with very occasional sub rounded flints<0.05 and occasional small limestone inclusions.	0-0.12
802	Natural	Natural alluvial geology. Mid brown grey with blue grey clay patches. The upper 0.35m or so has been heavily impacted upon by ploughing and possible sub soiling, and so the trench was	0.12-0.60m

		machined until the natural was clear to define any features. No archaeological features observed.	
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Trench 9		Centre line co-ordinate	326043.70, 144052.88 326065.49, 144069.42
Dimensions: 28m by 1.80m	Max Depth: 0.60m	Ground Surface	5.58m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
901	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of area currently under plough, mid brown grey clay loam with very rare small limestone inclusions	0-0.20m
902	Natural	Natural, mid brown grey silty clay natural alluvium, with rare small possible mud stone inclusions. Small areas of iron panning and manganese. The upper 0.30m of natural had been heavily affected by ploughing and sub soiling and so was removed until the natural was clear. No archaeological features observed.	0.20-0.60m

Trench 10		Centre line co-ordinate	325980.57, 144118.86 325981.15, 144090.54
Dimensions: 29.5m by 1.8m	Max Depth: 0.50m	Ground Surface	5.66m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
1001	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of area currently under plough, mid brown grey clay loam with very rare small limestone inclusions	0-0.17m
1002	Natural	Natural, mid brown grey silty clay natural alluvium, with rare small possible mud stone inclusions. Small areas of iron panning and manganese. The upper 0.30m of natural had been heavily affected by ploughing and sub soiling and so was removed until the natural was clear. No archaeological features observed	0.17-0.50m

Trench 11		Centre line co-ordinate	326083.01, 144123.80 326091.79, 144098.83
Dimensions: 27.6m by 1.80m	Max Depth: 0.50m	Ground Surface	5.68m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
1101	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of area currently under plough, mid brown grey clay loam with very rare small limestone inclusions	0-0.12m
1102	Natural	Natural, mid brown grey silty clay natural alluvium, with rare small possible mud stone inclusions. Small areas of iron panning and manganese. The upper 0.30m of natural had been heavily affected by ploughing and sub soiling and so was removed until the natural was clear. No archaeological features observed	0.12m-0.50m

Trench 12		Centre line co-ordinate	326054.85, 144200.15 326077.38, 144184.18
Dimensions: 29m by 1.90m	Max Depth: 0.62m	Ground Surface	5.70m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
1201	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of area currently under plough, mid brown grey clay loam with very rare small limestone inclusions	0-0.12m
1202	Natural	Natural, mid brown grey silty clay natural alluvium, with rare small possible mud stone inclusions. Small areas of iron panning and manganese. The upper 0.30m of natural had been heavily affected by ploughing and sub soiling and so was removed until the natural was clear. No archaeological features observed	0.12-0.62m

Trench 13		Centre line co-	326054.85, 144200.15
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		ordinate	326077.38, 144184.18
Dimensions: 30m by 1.80m		Max Depth: 0.58m	Ground Surface 5.67m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
1301	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of area currently under plough, mid brown grey clay loam with very rare small limestone inclusions	0-0.20m
1302	Natural	Natural, mid brown grey silty clay natural alluvium, with rare small possible mud stone inclusions. Small areas of iron panning and manganese. The upper 0.30m of natural had been heavily affected by ploughing and sub soiling and so was removed until the natural was clear. No archaeological features observed	0.20-0.58m

Trench 14		Centre line co-ordinate	326030.36, 144113.92 326007.46, 144130.64
Dimensions: 28.8m by 1.80m		Max Depth: 0.52m	Ground Surface 5.72m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
1401	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of area currently under plough, mid brown grey clay loam with very rare small limestone inclusions	0-0.18m
1402	Natural	Natural, mid brown grey silty clay natural alluvium, with rare small possible mud stone inclusions. Small areas of iron panning and manganese. The upper 0.30m of natural had been heavily affected by ploughing and sub soiling and so was removed until the natural was clear. No archaeological features observed	0.18m-0.52m

Trench 15		Centre line co-ordinate	326048.43, 144162.16 326073.32, 144150.21
Dimensions: 28.8m by 1.8m		Max Depth: 0.73m	Ground Surface 5.71m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
1501	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of area currently under plough, mid brown grey clay loam with very rare small limestone inclusions	0-0.24m
1502	Natural	Natural, mid brown grey silty clay natural alluvium, with rare small possible mud stone inclusions. Small areas of iron panning and manganese. The upper 0.30m of natural had been heavily affected by ploughing and sub soiling and so was removed until the natural was clear. No archaeological features observed	0.24-0.73m

Trench 16		Centre line co-ordinate	326060.26, 144102.82 326048.18, 144129.00
Dimensions: 28.10m by 1.80m		Max Depth: 0.61	Ground Surface 5.75m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
1601	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of area currently under plough, mid brown grey clay loam with very rare small limestone inclusions	0-0.20m
1602	Natural	Natural, mid brown grey silty clay natural alluvium, with rare small possible mud stone inclusions. Small areas of iron panning and manganese. . The upper 0.30m of natural had been heavily affected by ploughing and sub soiling and so was removed until the natural was clear. No archaeological features observed	0.20-0.61m

Trench 17		Centre line co-ordinate	325992.77, 144074.17 326006.76, 144097.41
Dimensions: 28m by 1.80m		Max Depth: 0.55m	Ground Surface 5.59m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
1701	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of area currently under plough, mid brown grey clay loam with very rare small limestone inclusions	0-0.18m

1702	Natural	Natural, mid brown grey silty clay natural alluvium, with rare small possible mud stone inclusions. Small areas of iron panning and manganese. . The upper 0.30m of natural had been heavily affected by ploughing and sub soiling and so was removed until the natural was clear. No archaeological features observed The upper 0.30m of natural had been heavily affected by ploughing and sub soiling and so was removed until the natural was clear. No archaeological features observed	0.18-0.55
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Trench 18		Centre line co-ordinate	325992.77, 144074.17 326006.76, 144097.41
Dimensions: 2		Max Depth:	Ground Surface 5.66m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
1801	Ploughsoil	Current plough soil of area currently under plough, mid brown grey clay loam with very rare small limestone inclusions	0-0.20m
1802	Natural	Natural, mid brown grey silty clay natural alluvium, with rare small possible mud stone inclusions. Small areas of iron panning and manganese.	0.20-0.60m



Site and trench location

Figure 1



Plate 1: The Pond Site; Trench 8 from the south west



Plate 2: The Pond Site; South east facing 1m representative section of Trench 8

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Plate 3: The Borrow Pit Site; Trench 17 from the east



Plate 4: Borrow Pit Site; south facing 1m representative section of Trench 17

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WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED.

Registered Head Office: Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB.

Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk

Regional offices in **Edinburgh, Rochester and Sheffield**

For more information visit www.wessexarch.co.uk

