Land east of Selborne Road, Alton, Hampshire

Post-excavation Assessment

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wessexarchaeology

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Contents

List of Figures

List of Plates

List of Tables

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Foreman Homes Ltd, to undertake archaeological mitigation works on land east of Selborne Road, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1PA, centred on NGR 471357 138412. The works were carried out as a condition of planning permission for development on a 7.4 hectare site (East Hampshire District Council ref. 30021/056/OUT) and comprised the excavation of approximately 0.08 ha and a watching brief covering 1.06 ha.

The excavation and watching brief were the final stage in a programme of archaeological works, which had included magnetometry survey (Archaeological Services WYAS 2013) and archaeological trial trench evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2020b) of the overall development area. The watching brief was undertaken on 18 May 2020 and the excavation was carried out between 20–25 of July 2020.

The excavation identified the remains of a circular post-built structure, probably a roundhouse, with associated pits and postholes. Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from several of the features, along with small amounts of animal bone, fired clay, worked flint and charred plant remains. The watching brief observed a set of modern (likely mid-20th century) sub-rectangular, flat-bottomed pits that were probably the remains of shallow building foundations, similar to those recorded in this location during the evaluation. Whilst it remains possible that the structures were associated with military activity during the second world war, as had been suggested during the evaluation phase, subsequent investigation produced no evidence to support or refute the hypothesis.

Although the Late Bronze Age evidence is of local significance as it enhances our understanding of the distribution and character of late prehistoric settlement in the area, there is little potential for further analysis of the stratigraphic, artefactual or environmental evidence to yield additional information. Accordingly, no further work is proposed, and publication of the results is not recommended, although the post-excavation assessment will be made available via the Archaeology Data Service ArchSearch catalogue and Wessex Archaeology's website

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Foreman Homes Limited, for commissioning the archaeological mitigation works, in particular Jane Carrington. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of the Hampshire Council Archaeologist, who monitored the project for East Hampshire District Council, and to Foreman Homes Limited for their cooperation and help on site.

Land east of Selborne Road Alton, Hampshire

Post-excavation Assessment

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Foreman Homes Ltd ('the client'), to undertake archaeological mitigation works on land east of Selborne Road, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1PA, centred on NGR 471357 138412 (**Fig. 1**). The works comprised the excavation of approximately 0.08 ha and a watching brief covering 1.06 ha.

1.1.2 The work was carried out as a condition of planning permission, granted by East Hampshire District Council (ref. 30021/056/OUT), for the development of 243 residential dwellings with associated parking, landscaping and open space. The overall development area encompasses 7.4 ha. Conditions 4, 5 and 6 of the planning permission apply to archaeological works; these are reproduced in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2020a).

1.1.3 The excavation and watching brief were the final stage in a programme of archaeological works, which had included magnetometry survey (Archaeological Services WYAS 2013) and archaeological trial trench evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2020b) of the overall development area. The areas selected for archaeological mitigation, based on the results of these preliminary investigations, comprised:

- a targeted strip, map and excavation in the eastern part of the development site, centred on evaluation Trench 10, within which a concentration of late prehistoric features had been recorded; and

- a watching brief in the south-western corner of the development site (coinciding with Trenches 31–5 and 44–8), intended to rapidly note any further archaeological features, which may relate to that part of the site being used for temporary structures during the second world war.

1.1.4 The excavation and watching brief were undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI), which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed for the fieldwork and the post-excavation work (Wessex Archaeology 2020a). The Hampshire Council Archaeologist approved the WSI on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to the fieldwork. The watching brief was undertaken on 18 May 2020 and the excavation was carried out between 20–25 of July 2020.

1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the provisional results of the mitigation works and the evaluation, and to assess the potential of the results to address the research aims outlined in the WSI. It also assesses the merits of further analysis, potentially leading to dissemination of the archaeological results via publication, and sets out proposals for curation of the project archive.

1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The development site is located to the east of Selborne Road (A339), at the southwestern edge of Alton, opposite Stonehill Farm and to the south of The Butts. The northern edge of the development site is bounded by the Mid-Hants Railway and residential development around Berehurst Road. Borovere Business Park borders the eastern end of the development site, and its southern extent is defined by a narrow band of deciduous woodland.

1.3.2 At the time of the investigations, the development site coincided with three fields, divided by two roughly north–south hedges. Ground levels range from 136 m OD at the north-eastern end of the development area to 110 m OD in the south-west.

1.3.3 The geology across most of the development area is mapped as Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation. Towards the south-western end this formation gives way to a thin strip of Zig Zag Chalk Formation, which extends roughly parallel with the A339 (British Geological Survey online viewer).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background to Alton has previously been documented during an Extensive Urban Survey of Hampshire (Hopkins 2004). A selection of the results is presented below, with additional research entries from the Hampshire Historical Environment Record (HER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced as appropriate.

2.1.2 The site is included in the Hampshire County Integrated Charter Assessment (Hampshire CC 2012, Wey Valley Area 3f). The assessment summarised that the area had been clearly exploited throughout the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age periods, although this is little evidence for significantly dense settlement within the north and south of the area.

2.1.3 The area appears to have contained significant historic routes, which were reinforced by formal roads within the Romano-British period and the development of the Romano-British town at the crossroads at Alton.

2.2 Previous investigations related to the development

Magnetometry survey (2013)

2.2.1 A magnetometry survey of the development site was carried out in November 2013 (Archaeological Services WYAS, 2013). The survey identified a curvilinear anomaly, which coincided approximately with the geological boundary of the Holywell Nodular Chalk and Zig Zag Chalk, and others suggested to be the result of natural processes, post-medieval quarrying, ridge and furrow cultivation and other agricultural activities. No anomalies of obvious archaeological interest were identified by the survey.

Trial trench evaluation (2020)

2.2.2 An archaeological trial trench evaluation undertaken in 2020 comprised a 4 % sample of the overall development area (Wessex Archaeology 2020b). Twelve of the 49 trenches contained archaeological features, with the majority comprised of modern postholes and traces of the post-medieval lynchets, which had been identified in the preceding magnetometry survey. The modern features, located within the southern edge of the site,

were tentatively interpreted as being possibly related to temporary second world war military structures.

2.2.3 More significantly, a concentration of postholes and possible pits was recorded within the north-eastern edge of the development area in Trench 10. The features were dated to the Late Bronze Age/Iron Age based on a small quantity of pottery and other finds recovered from them. The late prehistoric features are similar to those seen in recent excavations to the west of the site at the former Community Hospital and suggest a concentration of prehistoric activity nearby.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Prehistoric (c. 1,000,000BC – AD43) and Romano-British AD43–410)

2.3.1 Excavations on the site of Amery House, to the south of the church, recovered worked flint of Mesolithic and Bronze Age date (Bowden *et al* 1988, 62).

2.3.2 Two sherds (noted as stray finds) from Middle Bronze Age cinerary urns were found at 'The Butts' Alton in the 19th century (HER 17102)

2.3.3 A pair of Iron Age brooches were recovered from the area of the public gardens and Westbrooke Road, to the south-west of the marketplace. The fact that a pair of brooches were discovered may suggest that they were associated with a burial.

2.3.4 An Iron Age enclosure has been identified to the north-east of Alton, near to the site of the Romano-British settlement at Neatham; Iron Age pottery has also been recovered close by through fieldwalking.

2.3.5 Romano-British remains have been uncovered at several sites in Alton. Pottery and ditches have been recorded from around the area of the church, at the southern end of the High Street, and within the public gardens, evidence for Romano-British settlement has been recovered. A small cemetery was also located on the eastern side of High Street near the site of the Methodist Church.

2.3.6 At Neatham, approximately 2 km to the north-east of the town centre, is the site of a Romano-British small-town, which was located at the junction of the road linking Winchester and London, and that between Chichester and Silchester.

2.3.7 A fourth century coin, possibly of Constantine I, is recorded as having been found at 'The Butts' (HER 28078). No other information is available.

Anglo-Saxon–medieval (AD410–1500)

2.3.8 A fifth or sixth century Anglo-Saxon cemetery was found in 1960 when a new housing estate was being built in Mount Pleasant Road to the south-east of the town centre. Two phases of excavation uncovered the remains of approximately 50 inhumation burials and a similar number of cremations. It is considered that the southern and eastern limits of the cemetery were in the original excavations, and that the western limit was located prior to the construction of further housing in 1986. There is no record of burials being discovered when the housing estate on the northern side of Windmill Hill was built so the northern extent of the cemetery is unknown.

2.3.9 Anglo-Saxon pottery was recovered from pits on the site of Amery House to the south of the church, but no other features of Anglo-Saxon date were found, although it was hoped

that evidence for the early medieval manor house would be recovered (Bowden *et al* 1988, 59).

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

3.1.1 The general aims of the excavation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2020a) and in compliance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (CIfA 2014a), were to:

- examine the archaeological resource within a given area or site within a framework of defined research objectives;
- seek a better understanding of the resource;
- compile a lasting record of the resource; and
- analyse and interpret the results of the excavation and disseminate them.

3.2 Research objectives

3.2.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site the research objectives of the excavation defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2020a) were to:

- confirm the results of the results of the previously undertaken evaluation, in particular Trench 10;
- determine the date, nature and extent of the late prehistoric features identified in the north-western edge of the site and to place the findings into their archaeological context;
- to record the nature and extent of any new modern features located in the south-western corner of the site in regard to their association with Alton's military history and local importance; and
- assess the potential for the recovery of artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2020a) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in CIfA guidance (CIfA 2014a). The post-excavation assessment and reporting followed advice issued by the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO 2015). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

Excavation

4.2.1 The excavation area was set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the same position as that proposed in the WSI. In the event, the excavation area was modified slightly to avoid encroachment on a small parcel of woodland to the south-east, which is to be retained within the development. The investigated area was also extended to the north-

east by approximately 27 square metres to confirm the absence of archaeological features within 5 m of the excavation limits, as specified in the WSI (**Fig. 1**).

4.2.2 The topsoil/overburden was removed in level spits using a 360º excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded in level spits until the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.3 Where necessary, the surfaces of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. All archaeological features were initially half-sectioned. It was subsequently agreed with the Hampshire Council Archaeologist that all features would be 100% hand-excavated to aid with finds recovery, dating and environmental sampling.

4.2.4 Spoil derived from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological features were visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. A metal detector was also used. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained.

Watching Brief

4.2.1 The watching brief archaeologist monitored mechanical excavations within the specified area (**Fig. 1**). Where necessary, the surfaces of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand to aid visual definition.

4.2.2 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Were applicable artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.

Recording

4.2.3 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.

4.2.4 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.

4.2.5 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

General

4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2020). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (Campbell *et al* 2011).

4.4 Monitoring

4.4.1 The Hampshire Council Archaeologist monitored the works on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the client and the Hampshire Council Archaeologist.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

Summary of archaeological features and deposits

5.1.1 The excavation identified the remains of a circular post-built structure, probably a roundhouse, with associated pits and postholes. Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from several of the features, along with small amounts of animal bone, fired clay, worked flint and charred plant remains. The watching brief observed a set of modern (likely mid-20th century) sub-rectangular, flat-bottomed pits that were probably the remains of shallow building foundations, similar to those recorded in this location during the evaluation.

Methods of stratigraphic assessment and quantity of data

5.1.2 All handwritten and drawn records have been collated, checked for consistency and stratigraphic relationships. Key data has been transcribed into a database, which can be updated during any further analysis. Preliminary phasing of archaeological features and deposits was principally undertaken using stratigraphic relationships and the spot dating from artefacts, particularly pottery.

5.1.3 The following presents the results of the works, with archaeological features and deposits discussed by period.

5.1.4 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts from the excavation and watching brief are provided in Appendices 1–2.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

Excavation area

5.2.1 The topsoil throughout the excavation area was a 0.35 m thick dark brown silty clay loam with common sub angular chalk inclusions. The topsoil was underlain by a 0.1 m thick layer of greyish brown silty clay with abundant fragments of degraded chalk; this formed the interface between the natural chalk bedrock and the topsoil above. The chalk bedrock was observed across the whole area at a depth of 0.45 m below the current ground surface.

Watching brief area

5.2.2 The topsoil observed across the watching brief area consisted of a mid-greyish brown, silty clay loam, with sparse chalk fragments. It varied between 0.15–0.25 m in thickness. The topsoil overlay the chalk bedrock, there was a clear level plough horizon between the two layers.

5.3 Late Bronze Age (1100–700 BC)

5.3.1 A concentration of Late Bronze Age pits and postholes was exposed in the north-western part of the excavation area (**Fig. 1**). Thirteen of the features had previously been partially excavated and recorded (as 1003, 1005, 1007, 1009, 1011, 1013, 1015, 1018, 1019, 1022, 1024, 1026, 1028) during the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2020b; Trench 10). Five of the features, 1003, 1009, 1015, 1018 and 1024, were re-examined during the excavation and recorded as 5029, 5025, 5031, 5045 and 5029, respectively.

Roundhouse

5.3.2 The excavation revealed a ring of thirteen postholes (5024) that probably formed the remains of a roundhouse with an internal diameter of approximately 9.4 m (**Fig. 2, Plate 1**). The postholes (**Plates 2–6**) were typically sub-circular and measured 0.29–0.40 m in diameter. They were generally steeply sided and had flat or concave bases. The postholes became shallower downslope, from NNW–SSE. The deepest posthole in the north-west was 0.4 m (5005), while in the south-east it is just 0.1 m (5043). It is possible the decreasing depth of the postholes was part of the original construction process, although it could also be the result of agricultural practices and natural hillside erosion over the past 2,500 years. The postholes were filled with mid–dark brown silty clay, incorporating varying amounts of chalk fragments.

5.3.3 The roundhouse was situated on a south-east facing slope just below the brow of the hill. There is no obvious trace of a doorway, porch or vestibule, although larger gaps between the postholes on the south and south-east sides of its circuit might correspond with the position of an entrance.

5.3.4 A small quantity of Late Bronze Age pottery and a few pieces of worked flint were recovered from five of the postholes. One example (5005) also produced fragments of fired clay, probably from a cylindrical perforated object (ON 7001).

Internal features

5.3.5 Nine postholes were identified within the circumference of the roundhouse (5031, 5033, 5035, 5045, 5051, 5053, 5059, 5065) (**Figs 2–3**). The exact function of the posts that once stood in these holes is unclear. Three of the postholes (5031, 5059, 5063) were located close to the arc of the roundhouse wall. These measured between 0.35–0.38 m in diameter and were 0.13-0.22 m deep, with moderately steeply sloping sides and flat or concave bases. They were filled with a mid-brown or greyish brown silty clay with common chalk inclusions. These postholes may have provided additional support to the main structure. The other six postholes were located within the central portion of the roundhouse. They were predominantly sub-circular, had moderate to steeply sloping straight sides and concave or flat bases and measured between 0.22–0.4 m in diameter and were 0.08–0.18 m deep. The postholes were filled with a silty clay varying in colour from dark yellowish brown through to light greyish brown. These postholes may have provided additional structural support for the roundhouse or perhaps formed internal partitions. Two fragments of Late Bronze Age pottery were recovered from the postholes. A similar pattern of decreasing depth of features downslope was also observed with the internal features.

5.3.6 Sub-circular pit 5011 (**Fig. 3; Plate 6**) was located 0.23 m from the NNE arc of the roundhouse wall. It measured 0.75 m in diameter, was 0.38 m deep and had steep, concave sides and an undulating base. The pit was largely infilled with a layer of dark brown silty clay with common chalk fragments (5012), which seems to have been deposited above the semi-articulated remains of a young sheep (**Plate 7**). Fifteen sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery, 814 g of burnt flint, six pieces of worked flint and a few tiny fragments of fired clay were also recovered from the deposit. Its chalky primary fill (5013) yielded several more sherds of pottery and a few pieces of burnt flint, fired clay, animal bone and worked flint.

5.3.7 A second pit (5057) was found close to the centre of the roundhouse. It was sub-circular, measured 0.68 m by 0.6 m, was 0.28 m deep and had steep, straight sides and a concave base (**Fig. 3; Plate 8**). It contained a single fill of dark reddish brown, slightly sandy silty clay with common chalk fragments, from which four sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery were recovered.

Other features

5.3.8 There were four other features (**Fig. 2**) external to, but probably associated/contemporary with the roundhouse. Posthole 5067 and pit 5016 (**Plate 9**) were approximately 0.97 m to the north-west, whilst posthole 5037 and pit 5041 (**Plate 10**) lay 0.8–1 m to the south. Posthole 5067 and pit 5041 produced Late Bronze Age pottery. Although the other two features are undated, their proximity to the roundhouse and similar dimensions to other features implies that they contemporary. The features to the south of the roundhouses were very shallow compared to those in the north-west, consistent with the general pattern of truncation observed across the excavation area.

5.4 Undated features

5.4.1 Three circular postholes (5018, 5020, 5022) (**Fig. 2; Plate 11**) were encountered within the excavation area, approximately 5 m north-east of the remains of the roundhouse. The postholes measured 0.2–0.27 m diameter and were 0.11–0.22 m deep. Two had concave sides and bases, whilst the middle posthole was U-shaped in section. They contained single fills of mid-darkish grey brown silty clay with occasional chalk fragments. It is not possible to definitively associate them with the roundhouse due to a lack of dating evidence.

5.4.2 A further undated posthole 5055 was located on the edge of the roundhouse immediately adjacent to one of the structural postholes (5005). The narrow profile of this feature, with straight, vertical sides and a flat base, is unlike any of the postholes associated with roundhouse. Consequently, it is suspected to derive from more recent agricultural activity.

5.5 Modern

5.5.1 Thirteen pits (103–115) were exposed along the north-eastern edge of the watching brief area (**Fig. 1; Plate 12**). The pits were sub-rectangular, had flat bases and varied between 0.55–0.75 m in width and were 0.2–0.4 m deep. Occasional fragments of modern ceramic building material and barbed wire were observed in many of the pits. The pits are similar to those uncovered in this area during the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2020b; Trenches 44–48), which were interpreted as the remains of shallow foundations for temporary structures, possibly associated with military activity.

6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A small quantity of finds was recovered during the excavation and preceding evaluation in this area (trench 10). Datable material is of Late Bronze Age date. The finds have been cleaned and quantified by material type in each context; this information is summarised in Table 1.

Table 1 Finds quantification

Material	Number	Weight (g)
Pottery	49	390
Fired clay	8	451
Flint	25	471
Burnt flint	13	932
Animal bone	66	133

6.2 Pottery

6.2.1 A small assemblage of Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the excavation area, comprising 49 sherds (390 g). The material is abraded, with a mean sherd weight of 8 g. It derives from five pits (1018/1020, 5011, 5041 and 5057), five postholes of roundhouse 5024 (5005, 5009, 5014, 5025 and 5047), two postholes found within the roundhouse (5063 and 5065) and posthole 1009. The largest group came from pit 5011 (26 sherds, 221 g); all other features produced four sherds or fewer.

6.2.2 The assemblage has been quantified by fabric type in each context (number/weight in grammes/Estimated Vessel Equivalent). Fabrics have been characterised with the aid of a binocular microscope at x20 power and assigned identifying codes (Appendix 3). Vessel form, size (rim diameter/wall thickness) and surface treatment have been recorded to the site database. This level of analysis corresponds with the level of 'detailed record' (Barclay *et al* 2016, section 2.4.6).

Table 2 Quantification of pottery, by fabric

Fabric	Number	Weight (g)
Flint-tempered		
F1	34	230
F2	6	67
F3	1	54
F4	3	15
F5	2	10
F99	1	1
Detrital		
R1	2	13
Total	**49**	**390**

6.2.3 The pottery fabrics are almost all flint-tempered wares, with five variants recorded (F1–F5; Table 2). The exception is a fabric characterised by the presence of occasional detrital rock fragments in a very fine sandy/silty clay matrix (R1). The assemblage includes four rim sherds. One is a flared rim from a long-necked vessel with rim diameter of 220 mm, probably a shouldered jar, but broken at the neck/shoulder join (pit 5041). This rim form has a currently in the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (cf Early Iron Age at Brighton Hill South, Hampshire, Morris 1992, fig. 6.1; 10th to 6th century BC at Potterne, Wiltshire, Gingell and Morris 2000, 151-2, form 51). Two incurving rims are undifferentiated and flattened, deriving from jars of ovoid profile. The rim diameter of only one is measurable (180 mm); both were recovered from pit 5011. This is also quite a long-lived form, commonly occurring on Late Bronze Age sites but continuing in use during the Iron Age. Parallels include Winnall Down, Hampshire (Hawkes 1985, fig. 51.4 and 9); Brighton Hill South (Early Iron Age, Morris 1992, fig. 6.9 and 13), Pingewood, Berkshire (Bradley 1985, fig. 8, nos. 36, 41-5, 55, 56, 59) and Aldermaston, Berkshire (Bradley 1980, fig. 11.5, form 5). The fourth vessel is a round-shouldered bowl with pinched rim of 160 mm diameter, from pit 1018 (cf Aldermaston, Bradley 1980, fig. 11.2, form 2). None of the vessels represented in the assemblage are decorated; the only surface treatment is occasional external wiping.

6.3 Fired clay

6.3.1 The fired clay assemblage (eight fragments, 451 g) includes part of a probable cylindrical perforated object, recovered from posthole 5005 (ON 7001). It is almost fully oxidised to a pale orange colour; the fabric is sandy with occasional detrital inclusions of flint, calcareous material and iron oxides. Although no longer measurable, the diameter of the object is estimated to have been 110 mm. Perforated cylindrical objects are not uncommon on Late Bronze Age sites (for example Winnall Down, Bates and Winham 1985, fig. 70.2; Aldermaston and Knight's Farm, Berkshire, Bradley 1980, fig. 19 and 37); possibly uses include as a loomweight on a warp-weighted loom; Bradley has also suggested larger examples may have been used as thatch weights. Four small fragments of fired clay (31 g) with one oxidised surface (slightly curved or flat) found in pit 5011 may also derive from objects of fired clay. Two amorphous fragments (12 g) in a buff-coloured fabric from pit 5011 and posthole 1009 are likely to represent structural materials.

6.4 Flint

6.4.1 The evaluation report described two flakes from postholes 1009 and 1015, with a broken, burnt flake from Late Bronze Age pit 1018. None of the pieces were distinctive, technologically, to be informative; however, all were in a relatively sharp condition, suggesting that they may be related to the Bronze Age phase of activity at the site.

6.4.2 The results of the subsequent excavation have largely duplicated these results. The total number of additional pieces comprises 11 flakes, five broken flakes, two blades and a broken blade, a broken flake that may have been retouched, a flake core and a chip from eight contexts. Six pieces were burned. The largest quantity, 10 pieces, was recovered from pit 5011.

6.4.3 The most recent collection is, in all respects, identical to the artefacts from the evaluation. All pieces are patinated and in a sharp condition, with no trace of post depositional edge damage. The collection is numerically insufficient to provide meaningful conclusions.

6.4.4 Burnt flint was recorded from three features: pit 5011 (819 g) and posthole 5061 (102 g). Although intrinsically undatable, this material type is frequently associated with prehistoric activity.

6.5 Animal bone

6.5.1 A small quantity of animal bone (66 fragments, 133 g) came from late prehistoric pit 5011. The bones are in reasonably good condition but show signs of root etching typical of chalkland sites.

Methods

6.5.2 The assemblage was rapidly scanned and assessed following current guidelines for best practice (Baker and Worley 2014 and 2019). Information quantified includes species, skeletal element, preservation condition, fusion and tooth ageing data, butchery marks, metrical data, gnawing, burning, surface condition, pathology and non-metric traits. This information was directly recorded into a relational database (in MS Access) and cross-referenced with relevant contextual information.

Results

6.5.3 The partial remains of a sheep came from fill 5012 at the base of pit 5011, associated with roundhouse structure 5024. The bones were found in a semi-articulated state and include the skull, mandibles and limb bones from a yearling aged between 6–12 months (Mandible

wear stage C, after Payne 1973). The femur from another, slightly younger sheep also came from this deposit, and further bones came from fill 5013, including a scapula, femur and metatarsal.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Twenty-seven bulk sediment samples were taken from pits and post holes of Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age chronology and were processed for the recovery and assessment of the environmental evidence. The bulk samples break down into the following feature groups:

Table 3 Sample provenance summary

Feature type	No. of bulk samples	Volume (litres)
Post hole	22	195
Pit	5	136
Totals	**27**	**331**

7.2 Aims and Methods

7.2.1 The purpose of this assessment is to determine the potential of the environmental remains preserved at the site to address project aims and to provide data valuable for wider research frameworks. The nature of this assessment follows recommendations set up by Historic England (Campbell *et al* 2011).

7.2.2 The samples were taken following a site-specific sampling strategy which recommended extensive sampling on discrete features such as pits and postholes.

7.2.3 The size of the bulk sediment samples varied between 2 and 40 litres, and on average was around 12 litres. The samples were processed by standard flotation methods on a Siraf-type flotation tank; the flot retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 4 mm and 1 mm fractions. The coarse fractions (>4 mm) were sorted by eye and discarded. The environmental material extracted from the residues was added to the flots. The fine residue fractions and the flots were scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy (Leica MS5 microscope) at magnifications of up to x40 for the identification of environmental remains. Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (e.g. *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains, such as burrowing snails (*Cecilioides acicula*), or earthworm eggs and insects, which would not be preserved unless anoxic conditions prevailed on site. The preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains, as well as the presence of other environmental remains such as terrestrial and aquatic molluscs and animal bone was recorded. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000), for cereals. Abundance of remains is qualitatively quantified (A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30–99, A = >10, B = 9–5, C = <5) as an estimation of the minimum number of individuals and not the number of remains per taxa. Mollusc nomenclature follows Anderson (2005).

7.3 Results

7.3.1 The flots from the bulk sediment samples were generally small (Appendix 4). There were high numbers of roots, low numbers of modern seeds and high numbers of the burrowing

snail *Cecilioides acicula* that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Environmental evidence was sparse and predominantly poorly preserved, comprising plant remains preserved by carbonisation, small amounts of mature wood charcoal, small animal bones and the remains of terrestrial molluscs.

7.3.2 The charred assemblages consisted of cereals and other taxa with neither particularly dominating. Cereal remains included mainly *Hordeum vulgare* (barley) but also *Triticum* sp. (wheat, sometimes tentatively identified) and Triticeae (unidentified cereal grain fragments). Pit 5011 (deposits 5012 and 5013) produced the largest range of wild taxa, including seeds of *Galium* sp. (bedstraw), Vicieae (vetches), Trifolieae (clovers), Caryophyllaceae (pinks), *Polygonum* sp. (knotgrass) and nutshell fragments of *Corylus avellana* (hazel). Moderate amounts of mature wood charcoal were also recovered from this feature. Other taxa noted across the samples were *Avena/Bromus* (oats/brome) and an endocarp fragment of *Prunus* sp. (plum/blackthorn), both tentatively identified.

7.3.3 No environmental material apart from small amounts of mature wood charcoal and the remains of terrestrial molluscs were recovered from postholes 5005, 5029, 5037, 5061, 5049 and 5025 (deposits 5006, 5030, 5035, 5062, 5050 and 5026) and pit 5041 (deposit 5042).

7.4 Discussion

7.4.1 Although generally poorly preserved, a relatively significant environmental assemblage has been retrieved from the samples. The highlight of the assemblage is the charred plant remains, wood charcoal and small animal bones from one of the pits (5011). Overall, the assemblage is indicative of resource exploitation activities at the site, including agricultural crop-processing activities and wild resource exploitation activities. The assemblage is largely consistent with the Bronze Age chronology of the settlement, however none of the taxa are precise age indicators.

8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

8.1 Stratigraphic potential

8.1.1 The remains of a roundhouse, of simple post-ring construction, and the scatter of pits and postholes, together with the small quantities of pottery, archaeobotanical remains and other cultural debris associated with them, appear relatively typical of the frequently small, short-lived and unenclosed settlements of the Late Bronze Age. Such types of site were characteristic of the Middle Bronze Age, although the latter stages of the period also saw the emergence of larger and more varied settlement forms, and more prolonged phases of occupation (Brück 2007). Excavated examples include those at Twyford Down, near Winchester, where the remains of several roundhouses and rectangular post-built structures were found (Walker and Farwell 2000) or Winnall Down, just to the north, which contained at least four Late Bronze Age houses (Fasham 1985). Certainly, the activities of later Bronze Age communities are prominently attested to across the chalklands of Hampshire and other parts of Wessex. The evidence from excavations and remote sensing surveys indicates that this landscape was sporadically populated with settlements interspersed with extensive field systems and large-scale linear boundaries – the appearance of which presumably reflects a major intensification of agricultural production and a concomitant shift in socio-economic organisation and complexity (eg, Yates 2007). Comparable forms of land division seem to be absent within the development area – indeed, the evaluation phase and watching brief identified no evidence of contemporary activity across the remainder of the site. Nevertheless, it is possible that further Late Bronze Age

remains lay un-investigated nearby, perhaps beyond the southern limits of the development area. Together with the results of the as-yet un-reported investigations at the Community Hospital site, a few hundred metres to the west, the evidence from Selbourne Road is undoubtedly of local significance as it enhances our understanding of the character and distribution of late prehistoric activity in the area. However, there is little potential to gain further information through analysis of the limited stratigraphic information from the excavation.

8.1.2 The watching brief produced no evidence to corroborate or refute the previously advanced hypothesis (Wessex Archaeology 2020b) that the remains of structures in the south-western part of the development area were associated with military activity during the second world war. The Hampshire HER and the Defence of Britain databases contain no entries relating to known second world war sites in this location (other than a tank block at Butts Bridge), but many such sites have gone undocumented. No traces of structures are depicted within this part of the development site on 19th and 20th century Ordnance Survey maps, nor does the cartographic evidence give any indication that this area was used for military purposes (although it is perhaps unlikely that this would have been documented by the surveys). Whilst it remains possible that the structures had some military function, they could have been associated with the allotment gardens marked on mid-20th century Ordnance Survey maps. The physical remains are potentially consistent with a range of insubstantial/ temporary structures, including military Nissen-type huts. Nevertheless, many such temporary military structures were re-purposed for civilian uses in the post-war period and it is possible that this was the case here. In any case, the remains of the structures appear to be limited significance and have no obvious potential for further analysis.

8.1.3 The post-excavation assessment has demonstrated that the research aims of the excavation have been addressed.

8.2 Finds potential

8.2.1 The pottery has provided the primary dating for the site but its potential to contribute further is limited by the small size of the groups recovered. The fired clay hints at possible textile working, but the pieces are too damaged for a confident identification. The flint assemblage is also too small for any meaningful conclusions to be drawn. The animal bones from pit 5011 provide limited information about the livestock economy, which is fairly-well understood at a regional level (Hambleton 1999).

8.3 Environmental potential

8.3.1 No further work is proposed with regard to the environmental evidence, although it is recommended that flots and residues are retained.

8.4 Summary of potential

8.4.1 The stratigraphic, artefactual and environmental data have been analysed to a sufficient level to achieve the aims of the project, and further work has negligible potential to yield additional information. Accordingly, no further analysis is proposed and, whilst publication is not recommended, the post-excavation assessment will be made available via the Archaeology Data Service ArchSearch catalogue and Wessex Archaeology's website.

9 STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

9.1.1 The archive resulting from the excavation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Hampshire Cultural Trust has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code **A2019.94**. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

Table 4 Task list

Task no.	Task description	Days	Staff
Archiving			
1	Finalisation/implementation of selection strategy	0.5	M Taylor (PO)
2	Physical archive preparation	1.5	J Whitby (PS)
3	Physical archive deposition	1	J Whitby (PS)
4	Digital archive preparation	2	T Burt (PS)
5	Digital archive deposition	Ext	Ext – ADS
6	Box storage grant	Ext	Ext – museum

9.2 Preparation of the archive

9.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Hampshire Cultural Trust, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; CIfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

9.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the site/accession code (A2019.94), and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:

- 4 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type
- 2 files/document cases of paper records and graphics

9.3 Selection policy

9.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4). In accordance with these, and any specific guidance prepared by the museum, a process of selection and retention will be followed so that only those artefacts or ecofacts that are considered to have potential for future study will be retained. The selection policy will be agreed with the museum and fully documented in the project archive.

9.4 Security copy

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

9.5 OASIS

9.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main) has been initiated (ref. wessexar1-407024), with key fields completed (Appendix 5). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the Hampshire Council Archaeologist on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

10 COPYRIGHT

10.1 Archive and report copyright

10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. 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 conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

10.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

10.2 Third party data copyright

10.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of *the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Excavation context summary

Context Number	Type	Category	Fill of/Filled With
5000	**Layer**	**Topsoil**	**n/a**
Dark brown silty clay loam with common subangular chalk inclusions 10-80mm sparse subangular chalk inclusions 1-8mm inclusions			
5001	**Layer**	**Interface**	**n/a**
Greyish brown silty clay with abundant chalk inclusion 70% of layer., 0.5-90mm diameter			
5002	**Layer**	**Natural**	**n/a**
Chalk: Predominantly white with patches of pale yellowish			
5003	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5004**
Sub circular Posthole with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 0.20 m. Width: 0.29 m. Depth: 0.22 m.			
5004	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5003**
Mid brown firm, slightly sandy, silty clay with sub angular chalk abundant course gravel size up to occasional 50mm inclusions			
5005	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5006**
Circular posthole with steep, irregular sides and a flat base. Diameter: 0.40 m. Depth: 0.40 m.			
5006	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5005**
Mid to dark brown silt clay loam with common subangular chalk 10-40mm inclusions			
5007	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5008**
Circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Diameter: 0.36 m. Depth: 0.18 m.			
5008	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5007**
Mid greyish brown silt clay loam with common subangular chalk 10-50mm (larger sorted fragment towards base) inclusions			
5009	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5010**
Sub-oval posthole with steep, concave sides and a v-shaped base. Length: 0.70 m. Width: 0.35 m. Depth: 0.32 m.			
5010	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5009**
Dark to mid-brown silt clay loam with common subangular chalk lumps 10-40mm about 40% of fill. common rounded pee gravel inclusions			
5011	**Cut**	**Pit**	**5012, 5013**
Sub-circular pit with steep, concave sides and an irregular/undulating base. Length: 0.75 m. Width: 0.73 m. Depth: 0.38 m.			
5012	**Fill**	**Deliberate backfill**	**5011**
Grey brown clay silt with occasional chalk inclusions 10-30mm diameter inclusions			
5013	**Fill**	**Primary fill**	**5011**
Grey brown clay silt with common subangular chalk inclusions 10-50mm diameter inclusions			
5014	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5015**
Circular posthole with vertical, straight sides and a u-shaped base. Diameter: 0.24 m. Depth: 0.39 m.			
5015	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5014**
Dark brown silt clay loam with common subangular chalk inclusions between 10-40mm diameter inclusions			
5016	**Cut**	**Pit**	**5017**
Sub-oval pit with steep, irregular sides and a flat base. Length: 0.62 m. Width: 0.42 m. Depth: 0.19 m.			
5017	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5016**
Dark brown silt clay loam with 60% abundant sub-angular chalk approximately 10-50 mm diameter with occasional chunks up to 80 mm diameter inclusions			
5018	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5019**
Circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.27 m. Depth: 0.22 m.			
5019	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5018**
Mid-darkish grey brown silty clay with occ.- quite common chalk cobbles, s-r and s-a, <50mm inclusions			
5020	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5021**
Circular posthole with steep, straight sides and a u-shaped base. Diameter: 0.20 m. Depth: 0.13 m.			
5021	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5020**

Context Number	Type	Category	Fill of/Filled With
Mid-darkish grey brown silty clay with occ. chalk cobbles, s-r and s-a, <10mm inclusions			
5022	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5023**
Circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.23 m. Depth: 0.11 m.			
5023	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5022**
Mid-darkish grey brown silty clay with occ. chalk cobbles, s-r and s-a, <10mm inclusions			
5024	**Group**	**Roundhouse**	**n/a**
The posts appear to form a circular post structure most likely to be a roundhouse. It is located on a south-east facing slope just below the brow of the hill. It appears to be an isolated feature, based on the evaluation results. However, there may have been similar structures on the lower slope to the south and east, beyond the development area. Very few artefacts were recovered from the structure. All postholes were sampled to look for economic/environmental evidence. There are a number of pits associated with the roundhouse, along with a set of posts creating possible internal divisions. Other postholes close to the roundhouse may have offered additional support to the structure. There was no obvious entrance. However, the large gap between posthole on the south/ south-eastern arc may correspond with the position of a door. Components: 5003, 5005, 5007, 5009, 5014, 5025, 5027, 5029, 5039, 5043, 5047, 5049, 5061			
5025	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5026**
Circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a sloping base. Diameter: 0.40 m. Depth: 0.23 m.			
5026	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5025**
Mid brown silt clay with 30% common subangular chalk 1-10mm, 10% sparse subangular chalk 10-40mm, 1% rare subangular flint nodule 50mm, sorted, larger inclusions towards base inclusions			
5027	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5028**
Sub-circular posthole with steep, straight sides and a flat base. Length: 0.32 m. Width: 0.30 m. Depth: 0.15 m.			
5028	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5027**
Mid brown silt loam with 30%common subangular chalk 1-10mm, 10% sparse subangular chalk 10-40mm, sorted larger pieces towards base inclusions			
5029	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5030**
Sub-circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 0.40 m. Width: 0.32 m. Depth: 0.12 m.			
5030	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5030**
Mid brown silt loam with 15% sparse sub-angular chalk inclusions 10-60mm			
5031	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5032**
Sub-circular posthole with steep, straight sides and a flat base. Length: 0.38 m. Width: 0.28 m. Depth: 0.22 m.			
5032	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5031**
Mid greyish brown silty clay with sparse sub rounded and subangular chalk ≤40mm and sparse chalk flecks, both poorly sorted inclusions			
5033	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5034**
Sub-circular posthole with steep, straight sides and a concave base. Length: 0.40 m. Width: 0.36 m. Depth: 0.12 m.			
5034	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5033**
Dark brown - yellowish brown silty clay with abundant 80% sub angular chalk inclusions > 30mm inclusions			
5035	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5036**
Sub-circular posthole with shallow, stepped sides and an irregular/undulating base. Length: 0.28 m. Width: 0.22 m. Depth: 0.08 m.			
5036	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5035**
Dark yellowish brown silty clay with abundant 75% sub angular chalk inclusions up to 30mm inclusions			
5037	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5038**
Sub-oval posthole with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.46 m. Width: 0.40 m. Depth: 0.11 m.			
5038	**Fill**	**Tertiary fill**	**5037**
Mid grey brown slightly sandy silty clay with common rounded pea grit. moderate sub-angular to rounded chalk clasts <80mm. sand is fine inclusions			
5039	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5040**
Sub-circular posthole with steep, straight sides and a concave base. Length: 0.38 m. Width: 0.30 m. Depth: 0.24 m.			

Context Number	Type	Category	Fill of/Filled With
5040	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5039**
Mid to dark brown silty clay with common subangular gravel size chalk inclusion 5-15mm and occasional pebble size chalk fragments <35mm			
5041	**Cut**	**Pit**	**5042**
Sub-oval pit with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 0.85 m. Width: 0.44 m. Depth: 0.08 m.			
5042	**Fill**	**Deliberate dump**	**5041**
Mid grey brown slightly sandy silty clay with common rounded pea grit. moderate sub-angular to rounded chalk <80 mm. very rare fine sand inclusions			
5043	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5044**
Sub-circular posthole with moderate, concave sides and an irregular/undulating base. Diameter: 0.36 m. Depth: 0.10 m.			
5044	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5043**
Mid grey brown slightly sandy silty clay with moderate sub-angular to sub-rounded chalk <0.06 m. sparse sub-rounded to rounded pea grit. very rare fine sand inclusions			
5045	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5046**
Sub-circular posthole with steep, concave sides and an irregular/undulating base. Length: 0.40 m. Width: 0.30 m. Depth: 0.18 m.			
5046	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5045**
Light greyish brown silty clay with abundant sub rounded and subangular chalk <60mm and chalk flecks inclusions			
5047	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5048**
Circular posthole with steep, straight sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.30 m. Depth: 0.16 m.			
5048	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5047**
Dark brown silty clay with common s-a chalk inclusions <50mm. not sorted inclusions			
5049	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5050**
Sub-circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.40 m. Width: 0.36 m. Depth: 0.20 m.			
5050	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5049**
Mid brown silt clay with 40% abundant subangular chalk inclusions 10-40mm inclusions			
5051	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5052**
Circular posthole with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.34 m. Depth: 0.08 m.			
5052	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5051**
Mid brown silt clay with 40% abundant subangular chalk inclusions 0.5-70mm diameter inclusions			
5053	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5054**
Sub-circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.32 m. Width: 0.28 m. Depth: 0.14 m.			
5054	**Fill**	**Tertiary fill**	**5053**
Mid to dark reddish brown slightly sandy silty clay with moderate sub-rounded to rounded chalk clasts <0.06 m. moderate rounded pea grit. very rare fine sand inclusions			
5055	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5056**
Circular posthole with vertical, straight sides and a flat base. Diameter: 0.22 m. Depth: 0.22 m.			
5056	**Fill**	**Tertiary fill**	**5055**
Dark brownish grey slightly gravelly silty clay with common sub-angular to rounded chalk clasts <0.06 m. moderate rounded pea grit inclusions			
5057	**Cut**	**Pit**	**5058**
Sub-circular pit with steep, straight sides and a concave base. Length: 0.68 m. Width: 0.60 m. Depth: 0.28 m.			
5058	**Fill**	**Deliberate dump**	**5057**
Dark reddish brown slightly sandy silty clay with common sub-angular to sub-rounded chalk clasts <0.10 m. sparse sub-rounded to rounded pea grit. very rare fine sand inclusions			
5059	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5060**
Circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Diameter: 0.34 m. Depth: 0.13 m.			
5060	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5060**
Mid greyish brown silt clay with 20% common subangular chalk 40-70mm, 40% abundant subangular chalk 1-10mm, well sorted, larger chunks towards top inclusions			

Context Number	Type	Category	Fill of/Filled With
5061	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5062**
Circular posthole with steep, straight sides and an irregular/undulating base. Diameter: 30.00 m. Depth: 0.20 m.			
5062	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5061**
Mid brown silt clay with 30% common subangular chalk inclusions 10-50mm, 10% sparse pea gravel inclusions			
5063	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5064**
Circular posthole with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Diameter: 0.35 m. Depth: 0.13 m.			
5064	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5063**
Mid brown silt loam with 30% common subangular chalk 10-40mm, 40% abundant subangular chalk 1-4mm, poorly sorted inclusions			
5065	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5066**
Sub-circular posthole with steep, straight sides and a sloping base. Length: 0.44 m. Width: 0.40 m. Depth: 0.17 m.			
5066	**Fill**	**Secondary fill**	**5065**
Mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional s-a chalk inclusion 10-50mm. common s-a chalk inclusions 1-5mm. not sorted inclusions			
5067	**Cut**	**Posthole**	**5068**
Circular posthole with vertical, straight sides and a sloping base. Diameter: 0.35 m. Depth: 0.29 m.			
5068	**Fill**	**Fill**	**5067**
Grey brown silty clay loam with common subangular chalk inclusions ≤50mm inclusions			

Appendix 2 Watching brief context summary

Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
101		Topsoil/turf	Mid greyish brown, silty clay loam, with a clear level plough horizon onto the underlying chalk natural. Depth varies between 0.15 m to 0.25 m, but is generally a consistent 0.25 m in depth. occasional Fragments of CBM. Sparse <1% angular and sub-angular flint inclusions and sparse 2% small sub-rounded chalk inclusions.	0–0.25 m
102		Natural	Chalk bedrock.	0.25–1.80 m
103	116	Cut of Pit	Cut of large pit, width 2.20 m, concave sides and flat base with barbed wire visible towards the base.	0.15–0.75 m
104	117	Cut of pit	width 0.65 m. Possible for square brick support	0.25–0.60 m
105	118	Cut of pit	width 0.60 m	0.25–0.59 m
106	119	Cut of pit	width 0.60 m	0.25–0.45 m
107	120	Cut of pit	width 0.60 m	0.25–0.45 m
108	121	Cut of pit	width 0.70 m	0.25–0.47 m
109	122	Cut of pit	width 0.55 m	0.25–0.50 m
110	123	Cut of pit	width 0.72 m	0.20–0.43 m
111	124	Cut of pit	width 0.55 m	0.25–0.65 m
112	125	Cut of pit	width 0.76 m	0.25–0.60 m
113	126	Cut of pit	width 0.68 m	0.20–0.60 m
114	127	Cut of pit	width 0.25 m	0.25–0.45 m
115	128	Cut of pit	width 0.75 m	0.25–0.55 m
116	103	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon. Barbed wire visible towards base of pit.	
117	104	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	
118	105	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	
119	106	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	
120	107	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	
121	108	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	
122	109	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	
123	110	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	
124	111	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	
125	112	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	
126	113	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	
127	114	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	
128	115	Deliberate backfill	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam. Well-defined horizon.	

Appendix 3 Pottery fabrics

F1. A soft, rough fabric containing common (20%) calcined flint, ≤ 3mm but rarely up to 8 mm, angular, poorly sorted, in a very fine/silty and slightly micaceous clay matrix.

F2. A soft, rough fabric containing moderate (10%) calcined flint, ≤ 4mm, angular, poorly sorted; rare (1%) iron oxides, ≤ 1 mm, rounded, in a very fine and slightly micaceous clay matrix.

F3. A soft, rough fabric containing moderate (10%) calcined flint, ≤ 2mm but rarely up to 6 mm, angular, poorly sorted; rare (1%) iron oxides, ≤ 1 mm, rounded, in a very fine/silty clay matrix.

F4. A soft, rough fabric containing moderate (10%) calcined flint, ≤ 3mm, angular, poorly sorted, in a very fine/silty and slightly micaceous clay matrix.

F5. A soft, rough fabric containing moderate (15%) calcined flint, ≤ 5mm, angular, moderately sorted, in a very fine/silty and slightly micaceous clay matrix.

F99. Flint-tempered – unspecified.

R1. A soft, slightly rough fabric containing rare detrital rock and flint, ≤ 8mm, sub-rounded to rounded, moderately sorted, in a very fine/silty clay matrix.

Appendix 4 Environmental evidence

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Preservation
5005	5006	8001	10	25	-	80%, C, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	-	-	-	C	cf. *Avena/Bromus*	0.75	Mature	Moll-t (A**)	Poor
5005	5006	8002	10	35	50% <4mm residue	80%, C, E, I *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	Mature	Moll-t (A**)	-
5009	5010	8003	9	30	-	80%, C, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	-	-	-	C	*Corylus avellana, Galium* sp.	1.5	Mature	Moll-t (A**)	Poor, small frags
5067	5068	8004	10	25	50% <4mm residue	80%, C, E, I *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	C	-	cf. *Triticum* sp.	-	-	0.5	Mature	Moll-t (A*)	Poor
5014	5015	8005	9	20	-	75%, C, E, I *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	C	-	*Hordeum vulgare*	-	-	0.5	Mature	Moll-t (A*)	Poor
5003	5004	8006	11	25	50% <4mm residue	75%, C, E, I *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	C	-	*Hordeum vulgare*	C	*Galium* sp.	1	Mature	Moll-t (A**)	Heterogeneous, grain fair, *Galium* poor
5027	5028	8007	11	30	50% <4mm residue	80%, C, E, I *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C		*Hordeum vulgare*	-	-	1	Mature	Moll-t (A*)	Poor
5029	5030	8008	2	3	-	90%, C, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	-	-	-	-	-	0.25	Mature	Moll-t (A)	-
5037	5035	8009	11	35	50% <4mm residue	90%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	-	-	-	-	-	1	Mature	Moll-t (A*)	-
5043	5044	8010	9	25	50% <4mm residue	90%, C, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	Triticeae	-	-	1	Mature	Moll-t (A)	Poor
5041	5042	8011	19	40	25% <4mm residue	80%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	-	-	-	-	-	4	Mature	Moll-t (A*)	-
5063	5064	8012	10	25	50% <4mm residue	90%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	*Triticum* sp., Triticeae	-	-	0.5	Mature	Moll-t (A)	Poor
5061	5062	8013	8	20	-	75%, C, E, I *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	-	-	-	-	-	0.75	Mature	Moll-t (A)	-

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Preservation
5049	5050	8014	11	20	50% <4mm residue	80%, C, E *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	-	-	-	-	-	2.5	Mature	Moll-t (A)	-
5039	5040	8015	7	10	-	85%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	-	-	-	C	*Galium* sp.	2	Mature	Moll-t (A)	Fair
5025	5026	8016	8	20	-	75%, C, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	-	-	-	-	-	2	Mature	Moll-t (A)	-
5047	5048	8017	10	30	50% <4mm residue	75%, C, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	*Hordeum vulgare*	-	-	2	Mature	Moll-t (A*)	Poor
5055	5056	8018	9	25	-	80%, C, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	C	-	*Hordeum vulgare*	-	-	1.75	Mature	Moll-t (A*)	Poor
5011	5012	8019	20	60	50% <4mm residue	60%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	B	-	*Hordeum vulgare*	A	*Galium* sp., *Corylus avellana,* Vicieae, Trifolieae, Caryophyllaceae, Asteraceae, *Polygonum* sp.	20	Mature	Moll-t (A*), Sab (A)	Heterogeneous
5011	5013	8020	19	50	50% <4mm residue	70%, A, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	B	-	*Hordeum vulgare*	C	*Galium* sp.,Trifolieae, *Polygonum* sp., *Corylus avellana*	10.5	Mature	Moll-t (A**), Sab (B)	Heterogeneous
5057	5058	8021	40	60	12.5% <4mm residue	70%, B, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A***)	-	-	-	C	*Galium* sp.	9	Mature	Moll-t (A*)	Fair
5053	5054	8022	5	25	-	85%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	*Hordeum vulgare*	-	-	1.25	Mature	Moll-t (A)	Poor
5065	5066	8023	11	20	50% <4mm residue	90%, C, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	C	-	*Hordeum vulgare*, cf. *Triticum* sp.	C	*Galium* sp.	0.5	Mature	Moll-t (A)	Heterogeneous (grain poor)
5051	5052	8024	6	15	-	80%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	C	-	Triticeae	-	-	1.75	Mature	Moll-t (A*)	Poor

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Preservation
5059	5060	8025	9	20	50% <4mm residue	80%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	-	-	-	C	Indet.	1	Mature	Moll-t (A*)	Fair
5031	5032	8026	9	25	-	70%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	C	-	*Hordeum vulgare*	-	-	1.75	Mature	Moll-t (A*)	Poor
5016	5017	8027	38	100	25% <4mm residue	80%, C, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	C	-	*Hordeum vulgare*	C	cf. *Prunus* sp. endocarp fragment	2	Mature	Moll-t (A**)	Poor, small frags

Appendix 5 OASIS record

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: wessexar1-407024

Project details

Project name	Land east of Selborne Road, Alton, Hampshire
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology, commissioned by Foreman Homes Ltd, undertook archaeological mitigation works on land east of Selborne Road, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1PA, centred on NGR 471357 138412. Carried out as a condition of planning permission for development on a 7.4-hectare site (East Hampshire District Council ref. 30021/056/OUT) mitigation works comprised the excavation of approximately 0.08 ha and a watching brief covering 1.06 ha. The watching brief was undertaken on 18 May 2020 and the excavation was carried out between 20-25 of July 2020. The excavation and watching brief were preceded by magnetometry survey (Archaeological Services WYAS 2013) and archaeological trial trench evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2020b) of the overall development area. The excavation identified the remains of a circular post-built structure, probably a roundhouse, with associated pits and postholes. Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from several of the features, along with small amounts of animal bone, fired clay, worked flint and charred plant remains. The watching brief observed a set of modern (likely mid-20th century) sub-rectangular, flat-bottomed pits that were probably the remains of shallow building foundations. Similar to those recorded in this location during the evaluation and suggested to be associated with military activity during the second world war. Investigation however proved inconclusive. Although the Late Bronze Age evidence is of local significance as it enhances our understanding of the distribution and character of late prehistoric settlement in the area, there is little potential for further analysis of the stratigraphic, artefactual or environmental evidence to yield additional information.
Project dates	Start: 18-05-2020 End: 25-07-2020
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	227501 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	EHDC 30021/056/OUT - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	A2019.94 - Museum accession ID

Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	ROUND HOUSE (DOMESTIC) Late Bronze Age
Monument type	PIT Late Bronze Age
Monument type	PITS Modern
Significant Finds	SHERD Late Bronze Age
Significant Finds	ANIMAL REMAINS Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	FLAKE Uncertain
Significant Finds	BURNT FLINT Uncertain
Significant Finds	LOOMWEIGHT FRAGMENT Late Bronze Age
Investigation type	""Part Excavation"","Watching Brief""
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE EAST HAMPSHIRE ALTON Land east of Selborne Road, Alton, Hampshire
Study area	1.14 Hectares
Site coordinates	SU 71357 38412 51.139998021974 -0.979896165072 51 08 23 N 000 58 47 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Foreman Homes Limited
Project design originator	Wessex archaeology
Project director/manager	Ruth Panes
Project supervisor	Kathryn Brook
Project supervisor	Steve Froud

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Physical Archive ID	A2019.94
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
	TBC

Digital Archive recipient	
Digital Archive ID	A2019.94
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Hampshire Cultural Trust
Paper Archive ID	A2019.94
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Diary","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph","Plan","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land east of Selborne Road, Alton, Hampshire. Post-excavation Assessment
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Brook, K.
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Wells, T.
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Salisbury
Description	A4 bound Client report with some A3 figures, Blue spine.

Entered by	Thomas Burt (t.burt@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	30 October 2020

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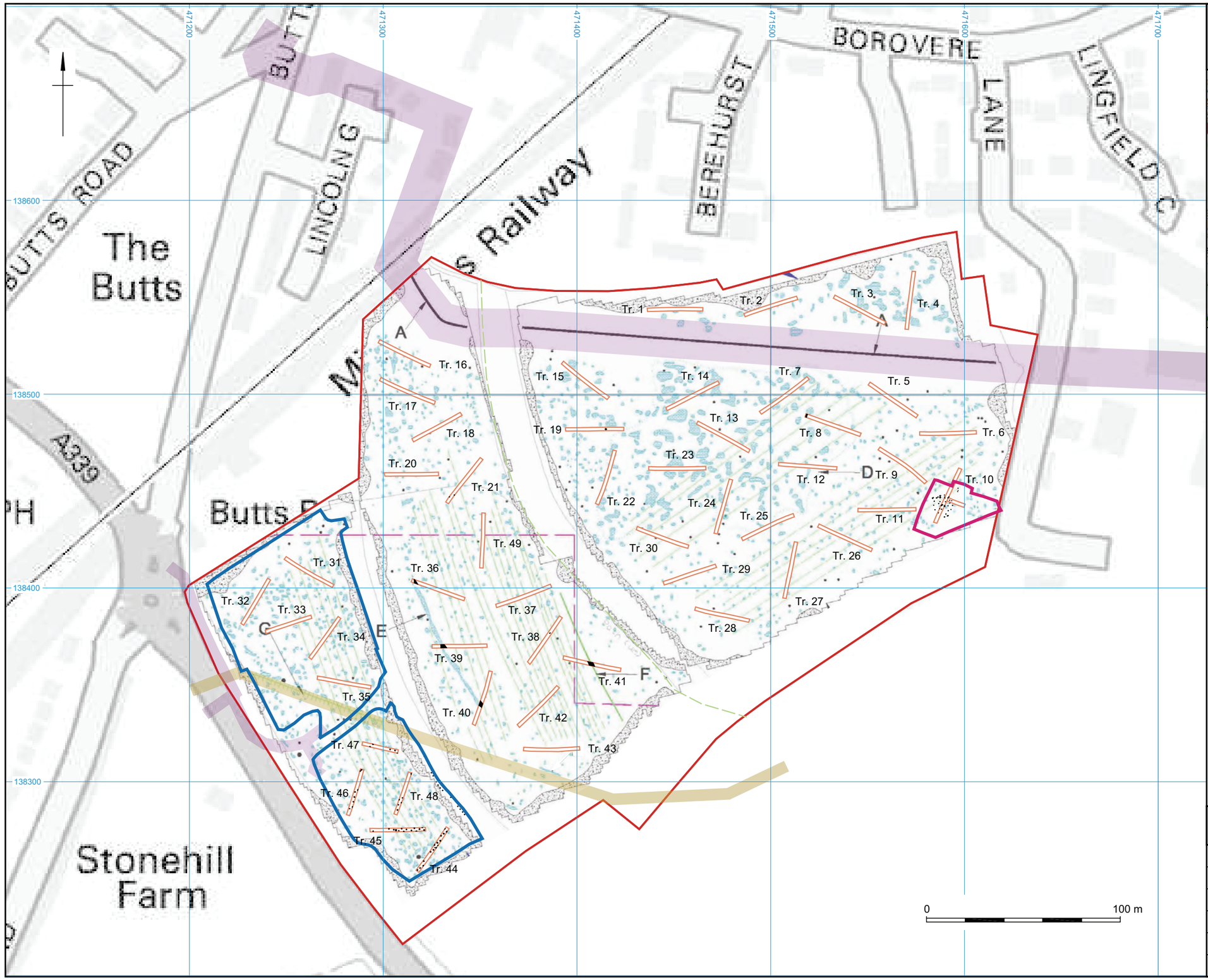

Site boundary
Strip,map and sample area
Watching brief area
Excavated trench
Archaeological feature
Utility buffer
Removed utility
Public footpath

Geophysical survey results
(© Archaeological services W Y A S)

SECTOR BOUNDARY

TYPE OF ANOMALY	INTERPRETATION
DIPOLAR ISOLATED	FERROUS MATERIAL
DIPOLAR LINEAR	SERVICE PIPE
MAGNETIC DISTURBANCE	FERROUS MATERIAL
LINEAR TREND	AGRICULTURAL
LINEAR TREND	RIDGE AND FURROW
LINEAR TREND	FIELD DRAIN
MAGNETIC ENHANCEMENT	GEOLOGY

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Revision Number:	0
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Illustrator:	RG/KJF
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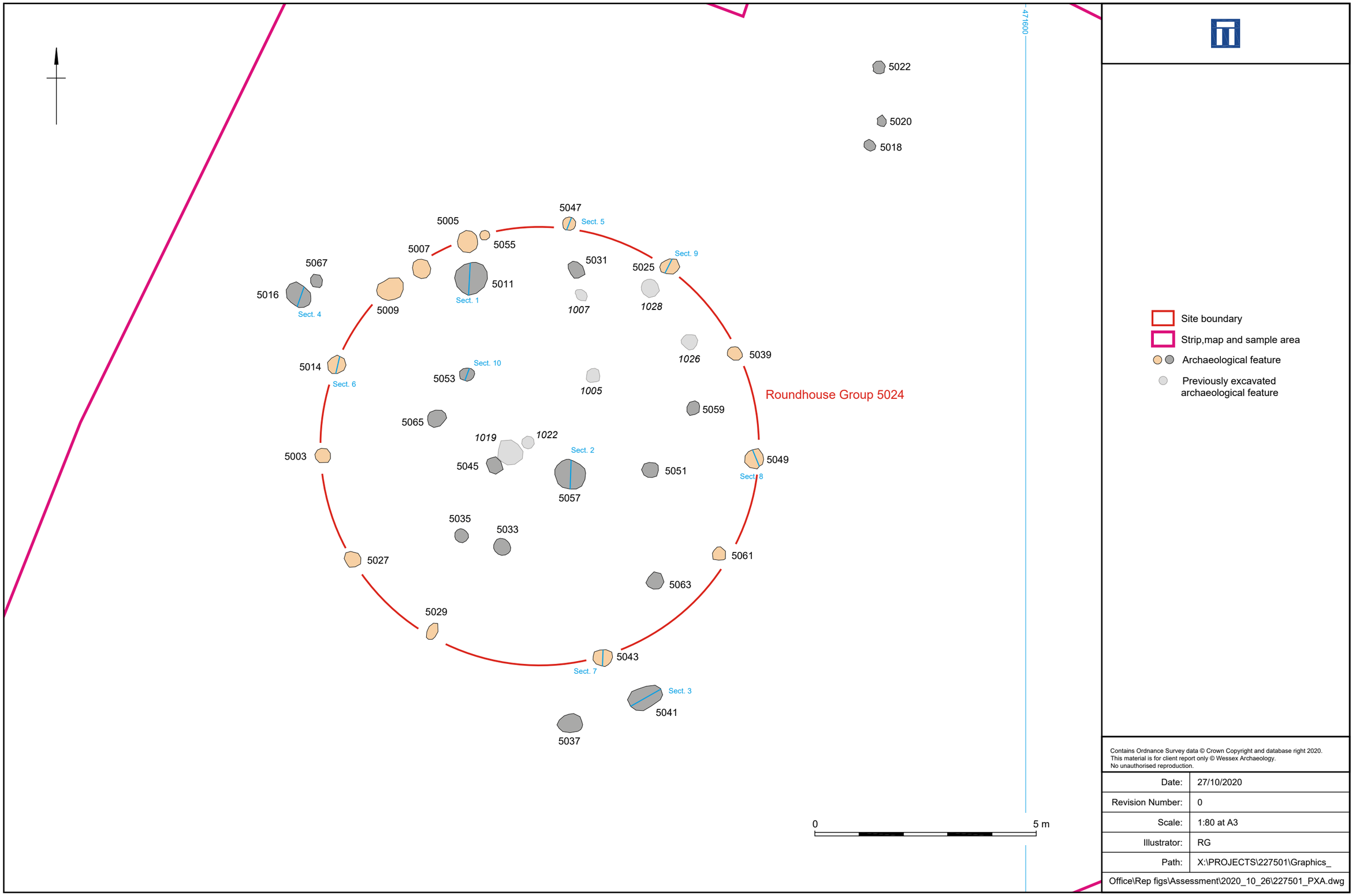
Office\Rep figs\Assessment\2020_10_26\227501_PXA.dwg	

Site location showing mitigation areas with previous evaluation trenches and geophysical results

Figure 1



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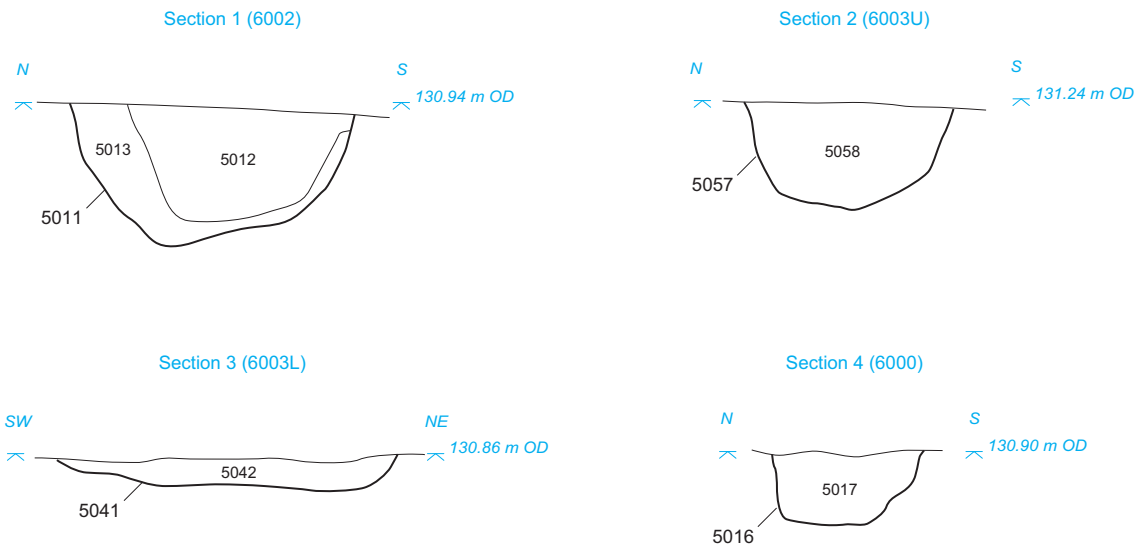
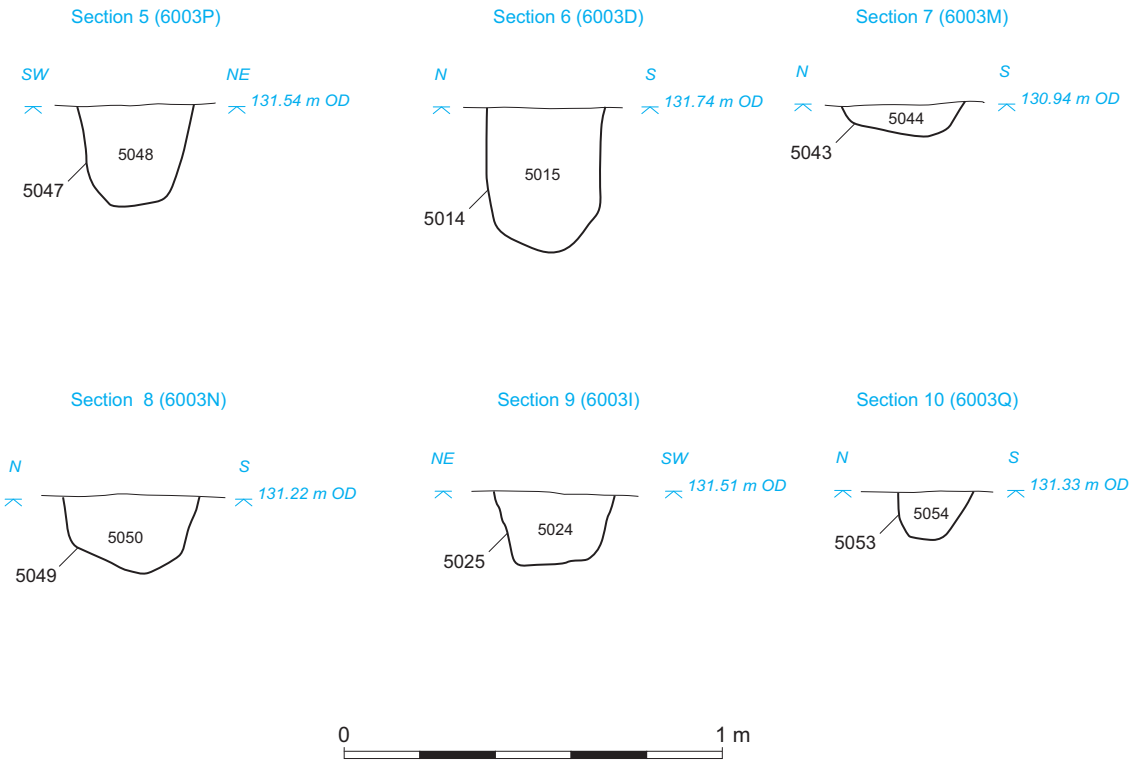
Detailed plan of excavation area

Figure 2



Pit sections

Posthole sections



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Path:	X:\PROJECTS\227501\Graphics__Office\Rep figs\Assessment\2020_10_26\227501_sections.ai		

Selected sections

Figure 3

Plate 1: View from the north of fully excavated roundhouse 5024. Scales 1 m and 2 m

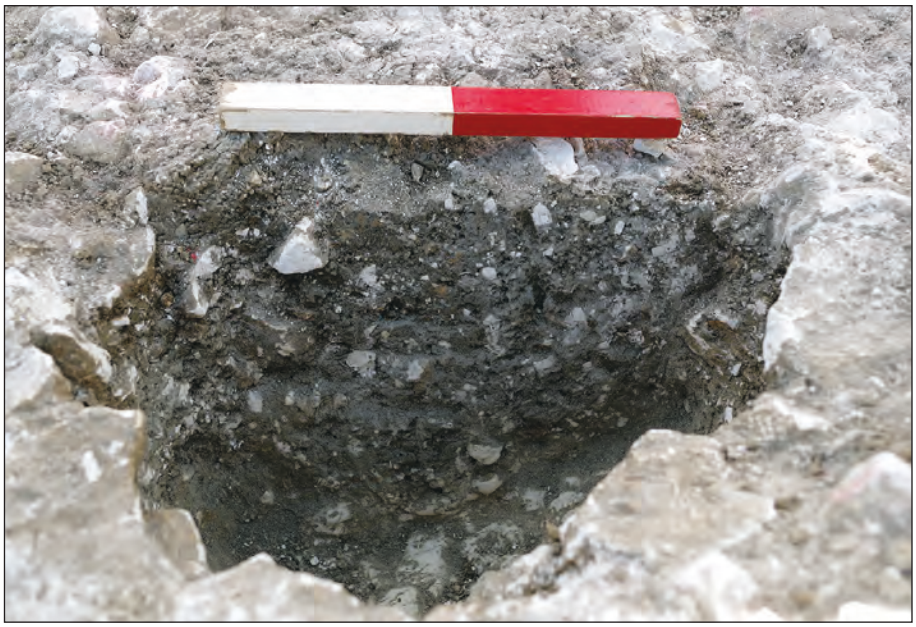

Plate 2: West facing section through posthole 5003. Scale 0.2 m

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Plate 3: West facing section through posthole 5009. Scale 0.2 m

Plate 4: South-east facing section through posthole 5039. Scale 0.2 m

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Plate 5: West facing section through posthole 5061. Scale 0.2 m

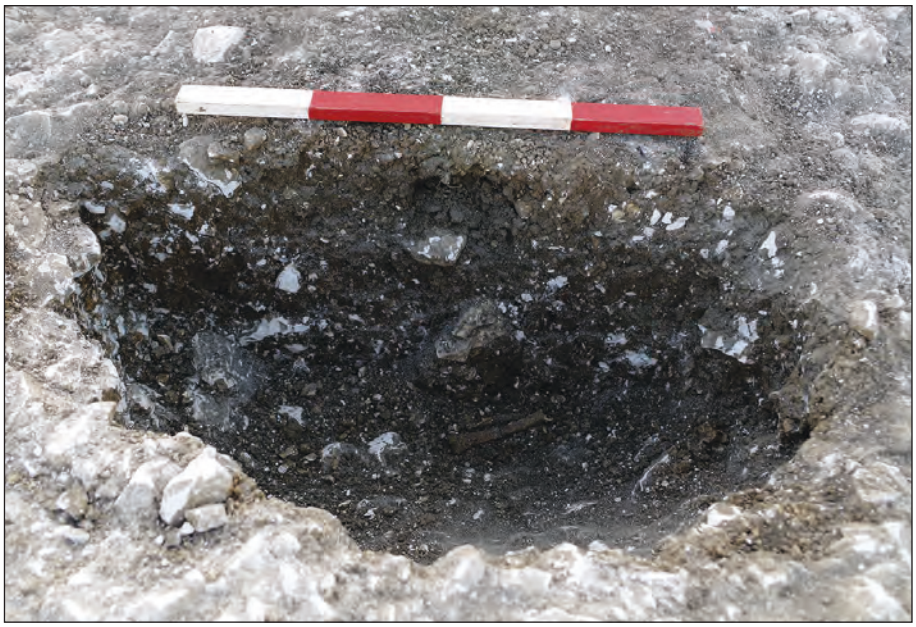

Plate 6: West facing section through pit 5011, mid-excavation. Scale 0.4 m

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Plate 7: View from the south of articulated sheep remains in pit 5011 (context 5012). Scale 0.2 m

Plate 8: West facing section through pit 5057. Scale 0.4 m

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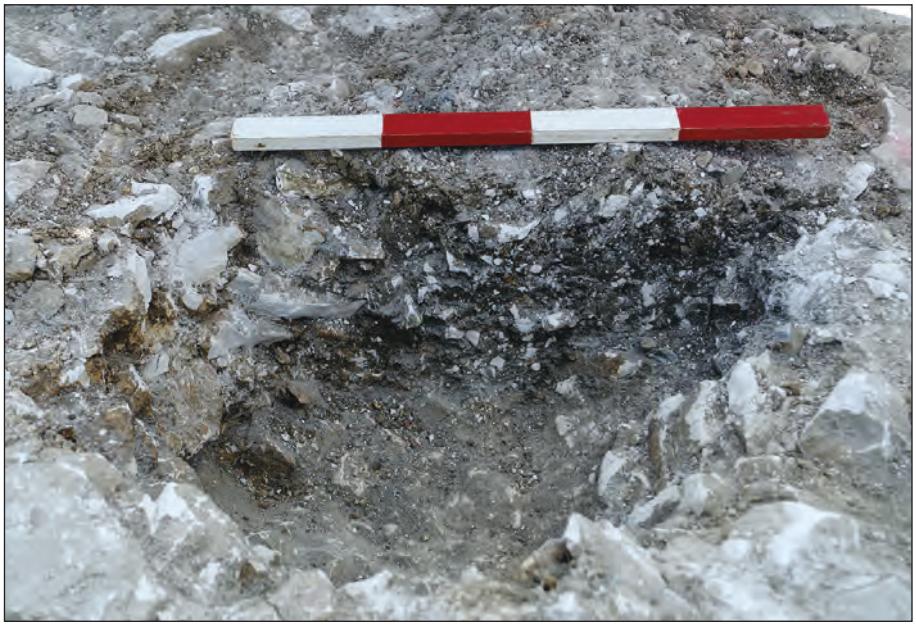

Plate 9: West facing section through pit 5016. Scale 0.4 m

Plate 10: South facing section through pit 5041. Scale 0.4 m

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Plate 11: View from the north-west of postholes 5018, 5020 and 5022. Scale 2 m

Plate 12: South-west facing section through modern pit 111. Scale 1 m

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