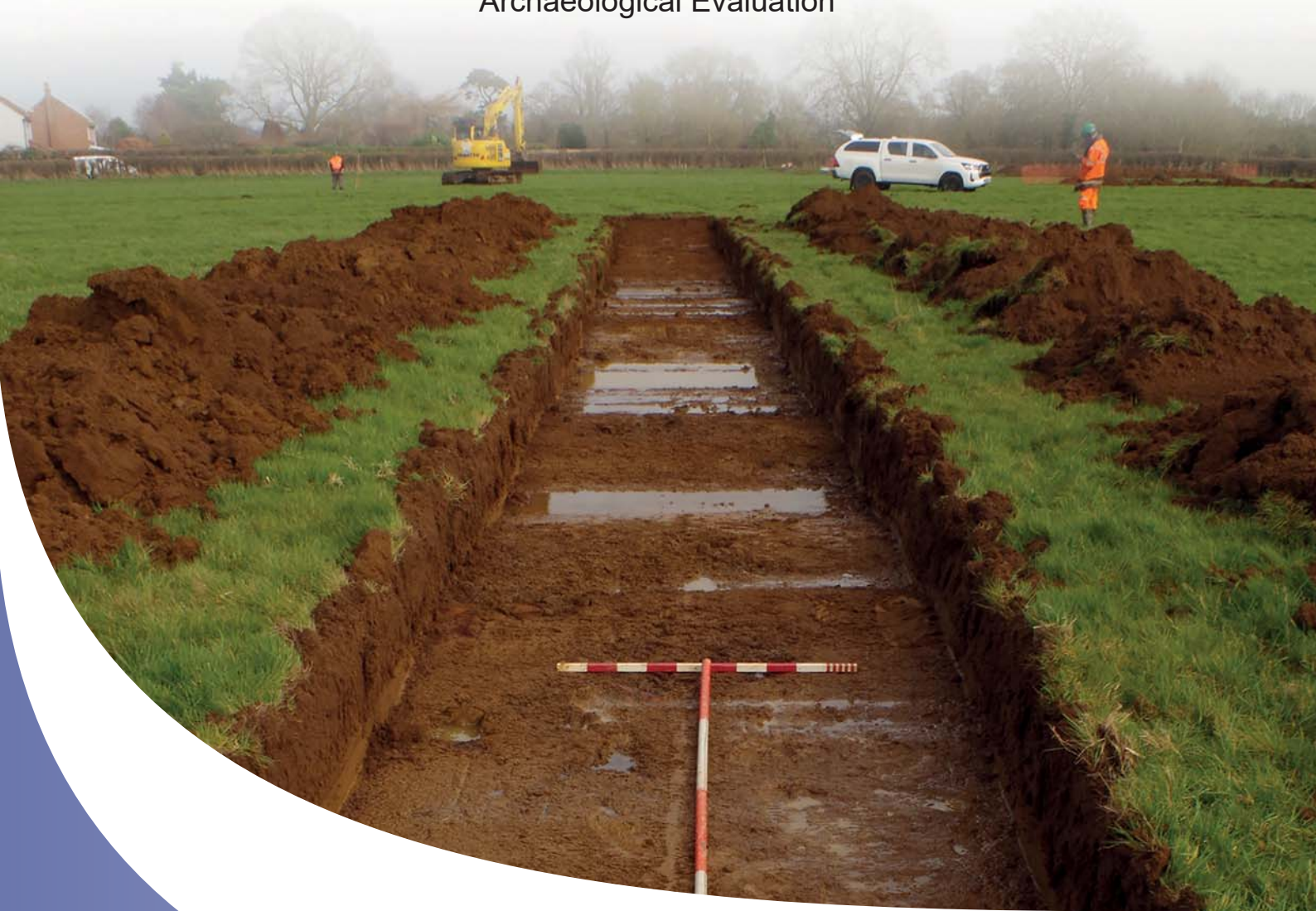




Land West of Sand's Lane Rowde, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation



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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Rowde LVA LLP, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 4.7 ha parcel of land to the west of Sand's Lane, Rowde, Wiltshire.

The evaluation, comprising 24 trial trenches (3 % sample), was undertaken between 13 March and 21 March 2023.

Five of the twenty four excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, demonstrating archaeological remains have survived across the site.

The uncovered features consisted of five ditches and a pit that represent two main periods of activity: the late prehistoric and the post-medieval. There were also a number of land drains and linear anomalies that resolved to be variations in the natural geology.

Due to the very wet weather three linear features were not excavated however, pottery was recovered from the surface of trench 2204.

Pottery was recovered from four contexts. All are dated to the prehistoric, with the suggestion that those in pit 104 and the subsoil in trench 4 may be Bronze Age and those in ditches 704 and 2204 are later prehistoric.

Perhaps the most informative result of the evaluation was the overall lack of corroboration between the previously undertaken geophysical survey, which had indicated a high potential for the presence of archaeological features, and the low potential identified by the trial trench evaluation. Of the 18 features tested only five corresponded. And only two of those, ditches 704 and 1305, were found to be archaeological. A feature in trench 11 was found on investigation to be very irregular and was interpreted as a superficial geological anomaly or possibly bioturbation. This corresponded with a D-shaped anomaly in the centre of the site, which had initially been interpreted as a possible late prehistoric enclosure. Two features in trench 3 corresponded to anomalies from the survey but were found to be undulations in the natural geology.

The field within which the evaluation was located also had very clear and extensive evidence of medieval ridge and furrow, and it is possible that this may have influenced the results of the geophysical survey, that was subsequently not borne out in the evaluation. It is also possible that the results of the geophysical survey were influenced by nature of the underlying natural geology, which was demonstrated in the evaluation to be variable across the whole site, including within individual trenches

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Rowde LVA LLP, for commissioning the archaeological evaluation. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of Wiltshire Council Archaeology



Service, who monitored the project for the LPA, and to Channel Plant Hire Ltd for their cooperation and help on site.



Land west of Sand's Lane Rowde, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Rowde LVA LLP, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a c. 4.7 ha parcel of land to the west of Sand's Lane, Rowde, Wiltshire, SN10 2PT centred on NGR 397570 162473 (Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The proposed development comprises up to 50 dwellings, new community building and associated car parking, public open space and associated infrastructure with all matters reserved for future consideration except for access.
- 1.1.3 A planning application (PL/2023/00386) submitted to Wiltshire Council, is under consultation, with a decision deadline of 24 April 2023. Consultation with the Assistant County Archaeologist at Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service (WCAS) determined that a 3% sample evaluation of the area was required, targeting the results of the geophysical survey (Lefort Geophysics 2022).
- 1.1.4 All works were undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed in order to undertake the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2023). The Assistant County Archaeologist approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 1.1.5 This evaluation is part of staged approach in determining the archaeological potential of the site, and follows other non-intrusive archaeological work, including a geophysical survey (Lefort Geophysics 2022) and Archaeology and Heritage Statement (BSA Heritage 2022).
- 1.1.6 The evaluation, comprising 24 trial trenches (3 % sample), was undertaken between 13 March and 21 March 2023.

1.2 Scope of the report

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed description of the results of the evaluation, to interpret the results within a local, regional or wider archaeological context and assess whether the aims of the evaluation have been met.
- 1.2.2 The presented results will provide further information on the archaeological resource that may be impacted by the proposed development and facilitate an informed decision with regard to the requirement for, and methods of, any further archaeological mitigation.

1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The evaluation area was located on the western edge of Rowde, approximately 3 km northwest of Devizes, Wiltshire. The development area was located within a large agricultural field, which appeared to be regularly ploughed. The field was crossed by one official footpath (ROWD27) as seen on OS mapping and the Wiltshire Council Rights of Way Explorer; however aerial photographs and a site visit suggested the field was crossed



by a further two unofficial footpaths. The area was bound by Cock Road to the north, Sands Lane to the south (designated as a Bridleway ROWD28) and east and further agricultural fields to the west.

1.3.2 Existing ground levels are recorded as 73 m above Ordnance Datum (OD).

1.3.3 The bedrock geology is mapped as Lower Greensand Group - Sandstone. No superficial deposits have been recorded (British Geological Survey 2023).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was assessed in a prior Archaeology and Heritage Statement (BSA Heritage 2022). A summary of the results is presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the Wiltshire and Swindon Historic Environment Record (WSHER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development

Geophysical Survey (2022)

2.2.1 A geophysical survey (Lefort 2022) identified at least two field systems across the site. A D-shaped enclosure was shown in the centre of the field with possible associated internal features in the forms of ditch and pit-like anomalies. A second, larger field system defined by straight ditches forming a rectilinear pattern extended across the northern half of the site. The ditches appear to be parallel to the existing field boundaries and therefore may have a more recent date.

2.2.2 The 1886 edition Ordnance Survey map indicates that the field previously existed as two fields divided by an east/west aligned field boundary, identified by the geophysical survey. To the north of this, a series of strong north/south aligned anomalies were identified and were determined to be agricultural, possibly ridge and furrow or drainage. Further agricultural features were visible to the south of the former field boundary that may prove to be drainage features. Another possible drainage ditch ran along the western boundary.

2.2.1 A number of other ditches were visible across the site, which may relate to one of the above field systems or form a third more fragmentary system. Ridge and furrow was evident across much of the site.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Prehistoric (900,000 BC–AD 43)

2.3.1 No prehistoric records are recorded on the WHER for the study area

Romano-British (AD 43–AD 410)

2.3.2 To the east of the site two Roman coins and a fragment of a Roman glass finger ring have been found (WSHER 4860, 4864 and 4866). HER 4860 records the find of a 4th century coin in the 1970s, less than a 100 m from the site. The other Roman coin is also of an early 4th century emperor and both it and the ring fragment were found within 400 m of the site, to its north-east.

Anglo-Saxon–Medieval (410–1500)

- 2.3.3 As indicated by earlier fabric in the parish church, Rowde certainly has medieval, or more likely Anglo-Saxon origins. A series of enclosures and trackways observed on aerial photographs and identified as an undated settlement site are located 700 m east of the site (WHER 4902). The only other potentially medieval entry for the study area other than a small number of finds is likely ridge and furrow observed on aerial photographs north of Smithwick Farm (HER 64454).

Post-medieval–modern (1500–present)

- 2.3.4 Of numerous 19th century farmsteads and 'outfarm' related structures recorded within the study area by the HER following past county-wide survey, those closest to the site include WSHER 69130, 69131, 69132 and 69134. All lie between the site and the Kennet and Avon Canal and all are noted to have been demolished. Where Marsh Lane crosses the canal, the remains of an early 19th century tramway are recorded (WSHER 77261). This linked two sections of the canal whilst the Caen Hill locks were built.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General aims

- 3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023) and in compliance with the ClfA *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a), were to:

- provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
- inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

3.2 General objectives

- 3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were to:

- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

3.3 Site-specific objectives

- 3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site, the site-specific objectives defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023) were to:

- test and ground-truth the results of the geophysical survey including areas of the site which based on the survey would appear to be blank of archaeological features (Lefort 2022).



- Define and confirm the date and nature of the geophysical anomalies indicated on the survey.

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 2023) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.1.2 The weather, throughout the investigation, was very wet and a number of trenches were inundated either by ground water or rainfall. A policy of waiting for better weather was not rewarded and, with the agreement of WCAS, three linear features in trenches 9 and 22 were not excavated.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the approximate positions proposed in the WSI, although some trenches had to be slightly moved because of obstacles on site (Figures 2 and 3).

4.2.2 Twenty four trial trenches, each measuring 30 m in length and 1.8 m wide, were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.3 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.

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

4.2.5 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and WCAS were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

Recording

4.2.6 All exposed archaeological deposits and features 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.

4.2.7 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.



- 4.2.8 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

- 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 2023). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011), and ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2: Appraisal).

4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 WCAS monitored the evaluation 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 WCAS.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Five of the twenty four excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, demonstrating archaeological remains are present within the site.
- 5.1.2 The uncovered features consisted of five ditches and a pit that represent two main periods of activity: the prehistoric and the post-medieval. There were also a number of land drains and linear anomalies that resolved to be variations in the natural geology.
- 5.1.3 The following section presents the results of the evaluation with archaeological features and deposits discussed by period. Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (Appendix 1). Figures 2 and 3 shows all archaeological features recorded within the trenches, together with the preceding geophysical survey results (Lefort Geophysics 2022). Figure 4 presents section of excavated features.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The sequence was fairly consistent across site. A topsoil, generally 0.2 m to 0.3 m deep and consisting of a mid to dark yellowish brown, sandy loamy silt, overlay a mid yellowish brown, sandy silt subsoil (Figures 5 and 6). The subsoil is more variable in depth, from an absence in trenches 14 and 21 to 0.7 m in trench 15, but is general between 0.15 m and 0.3 m thick.
- 5.2.2 The natural geology consisted of yellowish brown, silty sandy clay of dense compaction, with manganese flecking with iron staining ranging across the layer and with rare small gravel inclusions (Figures 7 and 8). Striations and differences in colour warranted further investigation in trenches 3, 8, 11, 12, and 15 but all resolved to be variations in the natural.

5.3 Prehistoric

- 5.3.1 A large but shallow pit, 104, was uncovered in trench 1. It was 1.6 m long by 0.8 m wide and 0.2 m deep, with steep concave sides and an irregular base (Figures 4, 9 and 10). It contained a single, probably secondary, fill of a mid to dark yellowish brown silty sand. A small quantity of prehistoric pottery was recovered.



- 5.3.2 Ditch 704 was 1.7 m wide and 0.55 m deep, on a north-west/south-east alignment, and contained a single secondary fill of a mid brown sandy silt with patches of gravel in places (Figures 4 and 11). A small quantity of later prehistoric pottery was recovered from the fill. The ditch corresponds with a linear anomaly from the geophysics results than runs from the top of the site to the former field boundary.
- 5.3.3 Ditch 2204 (Figures 3 and 12) was on a north-west/south-east alignment, and between 1.1 m and 1.4 m wide. It could not be excavated due to water ingress, but a single sherd of prehistoric pottery was recovered from the surface. It met ditch 2206 (Figures 3 and 12) at an approximate right angle but no relationship could be established due to the features remaining and no discernible relationship could be visually identified. It did not correspond to any geophysical anomaly.
- 5.3.4 A small sherd of prehistoric pottery was found within the subsoil at the northern end of trench 4.

5.4 Post-medieval

- 5.4.1 Ditch 1305 was approximately 1.8 m wide and corresponded with the field boundary recorded by the geophysical survey and shown on 1886 edition Ordnance Survey map. A piece of clay pipe was recovered from the surface, and in discussion with WCAS, and as a result of water ingress, it was agreed that no further characterisation was required.

5.5 Uncertain date

- 5.5.1 Ditch 903 was approximately 1 m wide and on a north-east/south-west alignment that did not match any geophysical survey anomaly. It was not excavated due to water ingress.
- 5.5.2 Ditch 2206 was 0.5 m wide and formed a relationship with ditch 2204. It was not excavated due to water inundation. It does not correspond to any geophysical survey anomaly at this point, but is possibly on the line as an agricultural anomaly 20 m to the south-west

6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 Finds were recovered from four trenches (numbers 1, 7, 13 and 22), amounting to 141 g from four features. These have been quantified (number and weight of pieces) by material type within each context; totals are presented in Table 1. The material ranges in date from prehistoric to post-medieval.

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

Context	Feature/deposit type	Pottery	Clay pipe
105	Pit 104	7/114	-
705	Ditch 704	2/7	-
1305	Ditch 1304	-	1/3
2205	Ditch 2204	1/2	-
Unstratified	-	2/15	-
Total		12/138	1/3

6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 The small pottery assemblage consists of 12 sherds (138 g) and dates to the prehistoric and later prehistoric periods. Sherds from each context have been sub-divided into broad ware groups based on the dominant inclusion (e.g., grog-tempered ware) and quantified by number and weight of pieces. Diagnostic features have been noted along with other variables such as firing and surface treatment. Estimated Vessel Equivalents have not been used in the absence of any rims. The level of recording accords with the 'basic record' advocated for the purpose of characterising an assemblage rapidly (Barclay *et al* 2016, section 2.4.5). A breakdown of the assemblage by ware type is shown in Table 2.
- 6.2.2 The condition is variable with all pieces displaying some surface abrasion and edge damage. The mean sherd weight is 11.5 g, although this varies considerably between contexts (e.g., 2 g from ditch 2204 and 16.3 g from pit 104).

Table 2 Pottery totals by chronological period and ware type

Period	Ware	No.	Wt (g)
Prehistoric	Grog-tempered ware	9	129
Late Prehistoric	Grog and vesicular ware	2	7
	Sandy ware	1	2
Total		12	138

Prehistoric

- 6.2.3 Nine plain body sherds (129 g) have been broadly dated to the prehistoric period. The majority (5 fragments, 114 g) came from pit 104. All are in coarse grog-tempered fabrics with five in a slightly micaceous clay matrix, and two in a sandier clay matrix, indicating that the group derives from at least two vessels. The remaining two sherds (15 g) were found unstratified in trench 4. The exterior surfaces of all sherds are oxidised, whilst the interior and core are predominantly unoxidized. The fabric and firing conditions of these sherds would not be out of place amongst a Bronze Age assemblage.

Late prehistoric

- 6.2.4 Three sherds have been tentatively dated to this period (Table 2). Two pieces (ditch 704) are in a fabric containing fine grog and flattish vesicles that probably derive from a leached calcareous component such as shell whilst one flake in a sandy ware was recovered from the surface of ditch 2204. The components present within these fabrics are similar to those identified amongst other later prehistoric assemblages in the area including those from Potterne (Morris 2000) and Strawberry Hill, West Lavington (Morris and Powell 2011) for example.

6.3 Clay pipe

- 6.3.1 A single post-medieval plain stem fragment of clay tobacco pipe was found on the surface of ditch 1305.

6.4 Potential and Recommendations

- 6.4.1 Preservation of artefacts across the site is poor. Chronological evidence indicates activity during the prehistoric and late prehistoric periods. However, the range of material culture is extremely limited with all categories occurring in small quantities. The pottery has provided

a preliminary chronological framework for the site. Given the absence of diagnostic vessel forms further analysis will be of limited help in refining this sequence further.

- 6.4.2 The pottery has been recorded in accordance with the nationally recognised guidelines (Barclay *et al.* 2016) and the clay pipe has been recorded to recommended minimum standards for the archiving of archaeological finds. No further work is recommended at this stage. However, in the event of any future archaeological excavations at the site the material recovered from this evaluation should be reviewed alongside any additional material and as a minimum this report should be adapted for inclusion in any future dissemination of the results.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1.1 No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were encountered during the watching brief.

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Summary

- 8.1.1 Five of the twenty four excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, demonstrating archaeological remains have survived across the site.

- 8.1.2 The uncovered features consisted of five ditches and a pit that represent two main periods of activity: the late prehistoric and the post-medieval. There were also a number of land drains and linear anomalies that resolved to be variations in the natural geology.

8.2 Discussion

- 8.2.1 Due to the very wet weather three linear features were not excavated however, pottery was recovered from the surface of trench 2204.

- 8.2.2 Pottery was recovered from four contexts. All are dated to the prehistoric, with the suggestion that those in pit 104 and the subsoil in trench 4 may be Bronze Age and those in ditches 704 and 2204 are later prehistoric.

- 8.2.3 Perhaps the most informative result of the evaluation was the overall lack of corroboration between the previously undertaken geophysical survey, which had indicated a high potential for the presence of archaeological features, and the low potential identified by the trial trench evaluation. Of the 18 features tested only five corresponded. And only two of those, ditches 704 and 1305, were found to be archaeological.

- 8.2.4 A feature in trench 11 was found on investigation to be very irregular and was interpreted as a superficial geological anomaly or possibly bioturbation. This corresponded with a D-shaped anomaly in the centre of the site, which had initially been interpreted as a possible later prehistoric enclosure. Two features in trench 3 corresponded to anomalies from the survey but were found to be undulations in the natural geology.

- 8.2.5 The field within which the evaluation was located also had very clear and extensive evidence of medieval ridge and furrow, and it is possible that this may have influenced the results of the geophysical survey, that was subsequently not borne out in the evaluation. It is also possible that the results of the geophysical survey were influenced by nature of the underlying natural geology, which was demonstrated in the evaluation to be variable across the whole site, including within individual trenches.

9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

9.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Wiltshire Museum (Devizes) has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code **DZSWS:08-2023**. 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.

9.2 Preparation of the archive

Physical archive

9.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts and ecofacts, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Wiltshire Museum (Devizes), and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014c; SMA 1995).

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

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

Digital archive

9.2.3 The digital archive generated by the project, which comprises born-digital data (e.g., site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata.

9.3 Selection strategy

9.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during the course of an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities, i.e., the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving Museum.

9.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.

9.3.3 In this instance, given the relatively low level of finds recovery, the selection process has been deferred until after the fieldwork stage was completed. Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. These proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists and will be updated in line with any further



comment by other stakeholders (museum, local authority). The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.

- 9.3.4 Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

Finds

- 9.3.5 All finds have been recorded to an appropriate archive level prior to any selection proposals being implemented, and the selection process will be fully documented in the project archive. Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

- Pottery (13 pieces): small quantity of prehistoric and late prehistoric date; of local significance with some further research potential; Retain all
- Clay pipe (1 piece): negligible quantity, no further research potential; recommended for discard

Documentary records

- 9.3.6 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (written scheme of investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

Digital data

- 9.3.7 The digital data comprise site records (tablet-recorded on site) in spreadsheet format; finds records in spreadsheet format; survey data; photographs; reports. All will be deposited, although site photographs will be subject to selection to eliminate poor quality and duplicated images, and any others not considered directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.

9.4 Security copy

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

9.5 OASIS

- 9.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (Appendix 2). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the Assistant County 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*.

- 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 (e.g., 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 Trench summaries

Trench No 1		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.55 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
101		Topsoil	Mid to dark brown, sandy loamy silt, heavily rooted, heterogeneous horizon	0 – 0.27
102		Subsoil	Yellowish mid-brown, sandy silt, rare rooting, heterogeneous horizon	0.27 – 0.55
103		Natural	Yellowish greyish brown, silty sandy clay, dense compaction, manganese flecking with iron staining ranging across the layer, ≥10% sub-angular stones (0.1-0.2cm) lining the bottom 4 cm of layer.	0.55+
104	105	Pit	Sub-circular pit with steep, concave sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: 0.80 m. Width: 1.60 m. Depth: 0.20 m.	
105	104	Secondary fill	Mid to dark orangish brown silty sand with occasional gravel	

Trench No 2		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
201		Topsoil	Mid to dark brown, sandy loamy silt, heavily rooted, heterogeneous horizon	0–0.1
202		Subsoil	Yellowish mid-brown, sandy silt, rare rooting, heterogeneous horizon	0.1–0.4
203		Natural	Yellowish orange sandy silt, common stony fragments, loose compaction, clear horizon with above.	0.4+

Trench No 3		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.54 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
301		Topsoil	Mid to dark brown, sandy loamy silt, heavily rooted, heterogeneous horizon	0 – 0.27
302		Subsoil	Yellowish mid-brown, sandy silt, rare rooting, heterogeneous horizon	0.27 – 0.43



303		Natural	Yellowish greyish brown, silty sandy clay, dense compaction, manganese flecking with iron staining ranging across the layer, ≥10% sub-angular stones (0.1-0.2cm) lining the bottom 4 cm of layer.	0.43+
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Trench No 4		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.45 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
401		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon	0–0.1
402		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.1–0.45
403		Natural	Yellowish orangish light brown, sand loamy clay, moderate compaction, compacted stony layer flaking, diffuse horizons	0.45+

Trench No 5		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.60 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
501		Topsoil	Mid to dark brown, sandy loamy silt, heavily rooted, heterogeneous horizon	0 – 0.27
502		Subsoil	Yellowish mid-brown, sandy silt, rare rooting, heterogeneous horizon	0.27 – 0.53
503		Natural	Yellowish greyish brown, silty sandy clay, dense compaction, manganese flecking with iron staining ranging across the layer, ≥10% sub-angular stones (0.1-0.2cm) lining the bottom 4 cm of layer.	0.53+

Trench No 6		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.60 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
601		Topsoil	Mid to dark brown, sandy loamy silt, heavily rooted, heterogeneous horizon	0 – 0.40
602		Subsoil	Yellowish mid-brown, sandy silt, rare rooting, heterogeneous horizon	0.40 – 0.55
603		Natural	Mid-yellowish brown sand.	0.55+



Trench No 7		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.60 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
701		Topsoil	Mid to dark brown, sandy loamy silt, heavily rooted, heterogeneous horizon	0 – 0.3
702		Subsoil	Yellowish mid-brown, sandy silt, rare rooting, heterogeneous horizon	0.30–0.6
703		Natural	Yellowish brown, silty sand, mid-loose compaction, clear horizon	0.6+
704	705	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned n-s with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 1.70 m. Depth: 0.55 m.	
705	704	Secondary fill	Mid brown sandy silt with ferrous stone	

Trench No 8		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.50 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
801		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon	0–0.2
802		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.2–0.5
803		Natural	Yellowish orangish light brown, sand loamy clay, moderate compaction, diffuse horizons	0.5+

Trench No 9		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.70 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
901		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon	0 – 0.40
902		Natural	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.40+
903	904	Ditch (Ditch (unexcavated due to complete flooding of trench)	
904	903	Secondary fill	Sec. fill	

Trench No 10		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.52 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1001		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon	0 – 0.26



1002		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.26 – 0.50
1003		Natural	Yellowish orangish light brown, sand loamy clay, moderate compaction, diffuse horizons	0.50+

Trench No 11		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.50 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1101		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon	0 – 0.27
1102		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.27 – 0.45
1103		Natural	Mid-yellowish brown sand / sand stone	0.45+

Trench No 12		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.63 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1201		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon	0–0.23
1202		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, rare stone inclusions, diffuse horizon	0.23–0.63
1203		Natural	Yellowish orangish light brown, sandy silt, moderate compaction, stony layer flaking throughout, diffuse horizon with above	0.63+

Trench No 13		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.55 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1301		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon	0 – 0.25
1302		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.25 – 0.45
1303		Natural	Yellowish orangish light brown, sand loamy clay, moderate compaction, diffuse horizons	0.45+
1304	1305	Post Med	Ditch	
1305	1304	Secondary fill	Sec. fill	
1306	1307	Ditch (turned out to be a drain)	Ditch (turned out to be a drain)	
1307	1306	Secondary fill	Sec. fill (turned out to be a drain)	



Trench No 14		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.33 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1401		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon	0 – 0.26
1402		Natural	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.26+

Trench No 15		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 1.10 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1501		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon	0–0.30
1502		Subsoil	Subsoil. orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.30–1.00
1503		Natural	Mid to dark orangish brown clayey sand	1.00+

Trench No 16		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.70 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1601		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon	0–0.40
1602		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.40–0.65
1603		Natural	Mid-orangish brown sand.	0.65+

Trench No 17		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.75 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1701		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon.	0 – 0.25
1702		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.25 – 0.55
1703		Natural	Orangey brown compact alluvium, sandy, no rooting, no inclusion	0.55+



Trench No 18		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.53 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1801		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon.	0 – 0.30
1802		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.30 – 0.44
1803		Natural	Yellowish orangish light brown, sand loamy clay, moderate compaction, diffuse horizons	0.44+

Trench No 19		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.53 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1901		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon.	0–0.25
1902		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.25–0.48
1903		Natural	Mid-orangish brown silty clay	0.48+

Trench No 20		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.42 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2001		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon.	0 – 0.21
2002		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.21–0.35
2003		Natural	Mid-yellowish brown sandy clay	0.35+

Trench No 21		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.44 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2101		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon.	0 – 0.33
2102		Natural	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.33+



Trench No 22		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.50 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2201		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon.	0 – 0.15
2202		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.15 – 0.40
2203		Natural	Yellowish orangish light brown, sand loamy clay, moderate compaction, diffuse horizons	0.40+
2204	2205	Ditch	Ditch (unexcavated due to complete flooding of trench)	
2205	2204	Secondary fill	Sec. fill	
2206	2207	Ditch	Ditch (unexcavated due to complete flooding of trench)	
2207	2206	Secondary fill	Sec. Fill	

Trench No 23		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.52 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2301		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon.	0 – 0.27
2302		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.27 – 0.51
2303		Natural	Yellowish orangish light brown, sand loamy clay, moderate compaction, diffuse horizons	0.51+

Trench No 24		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.80 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2401		Topsoil	Mid brown sandy loam, heavily rooted, grass topped, semi compact, diffuse horizon.	0–0.26
2402		Subsoil	Orangey brown sandy loam, compact, rare roots, diffuse horizon	0.26–0.6
2403		Natural	Orangey brown compact alluvium, sandy, no rooting, no inclusion.	0.6+

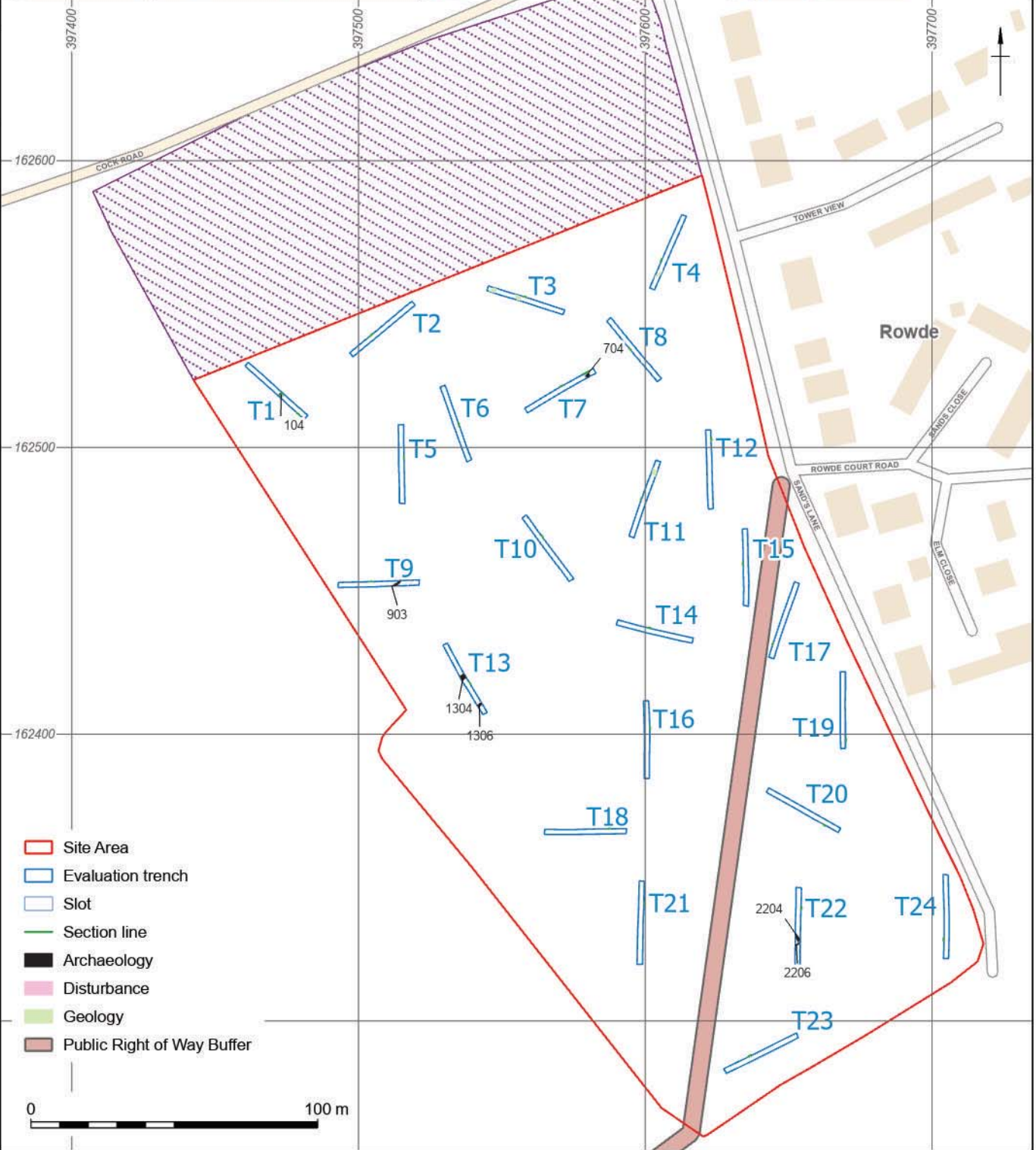
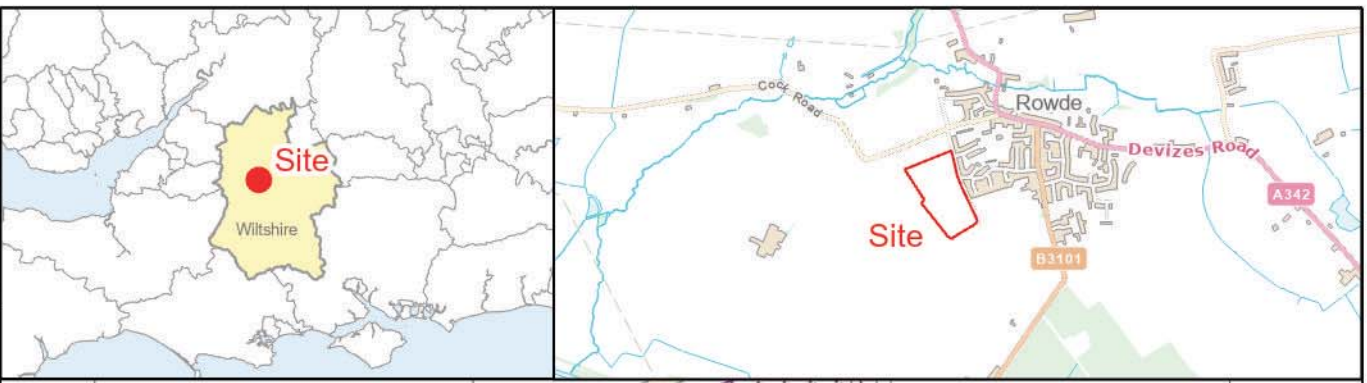


Appendix 2 OASIS summary

OASIS ID (UID)	wessexar1-514286
Project Name	Trial Trench at Land west of Sand's Lane, Rowde, Wiltshire
Sitename	Land west of Sand's Lane, Rowde, Wiltshire
Activity type	Trial Trench
Project Identifier(s)	Land west of Sand's Lane, Rowde, Wiltshire, Land west of Sand's Lane, Rowde, Wiltshire
Planning Id	PL/2023/00386
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Between application and determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Wessex Archaeology
Project Dates	13-Mar-2023 - 21-Mar-2023
Location	Land west of Sand's Lane, Rowde, Wiltshire NGR : ST 97570 62473 LL : 51.3613191665889, -2.03628818605795 12 Fig : 397570,162473
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Wiltshire District : Wiltshire Parish : Rowde
Project Methodology	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Rowde LVA LLP, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 4.7 ha parcel of land to the west of Sand's Lane, Rowde, Wiltshire. The evaluation, comprising 24 trial trenches (3 % sample), was undertaken between 13 March and 21 March 2023.



<p>Project Results</p>	<p>Five of the twenty four excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, demonstrating archaeological remains have survived across the site. The uncovered features consisted of five ditches and a pit that represent two main periods of activity: the late prehistoric and the post- medieval. There were also a number of land drains and linear anomalies that resolved to be variations in the natural geology.</p> <p>Due to the very wet weather three linear features were not excavated however, pottery was recovered from the surface of trench 2204.</p> <p>Pottery was recovered from four contexts. All are dated to the prehistoric, with the suggestion that those in pit 104 and the subsoil in trench 4 may be Bronze Age and those in ditches 704 and 2204 are later prehistoric.</p> <p>Perhaps the most interesting result of the evaluation was how few features corresponded to the geophysical survey. Of the 18 features tested only five corresponded. And only two of those, ditches 704 and 1305, were found to be archaeological. A feature in trench 11 was found on investigation to be very irregular and was interpreted as a superficial geological anomaly or possibly bioturbation. This corresponded with the D-shaped anomaly in the centre of the site. Two features in trench 3 corresponded to anomalies from the survey but were found to be undulation in the natural geology.</p> <p>In addition, a total of 8 features were identified by the evaluation that do not correspond to the geological survey. Of these, 3 were land drains, another was a natural feature and 2 were unexcavated. But the remaining 2 were archaeological features containing dateable evidence.</p>
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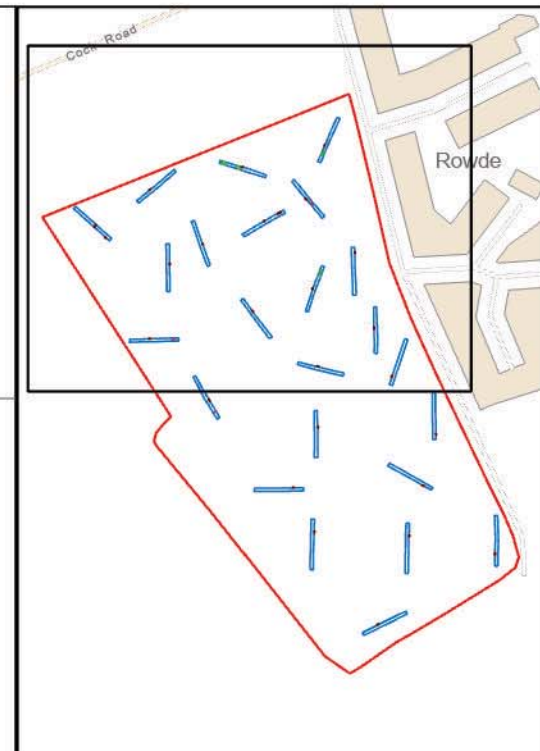
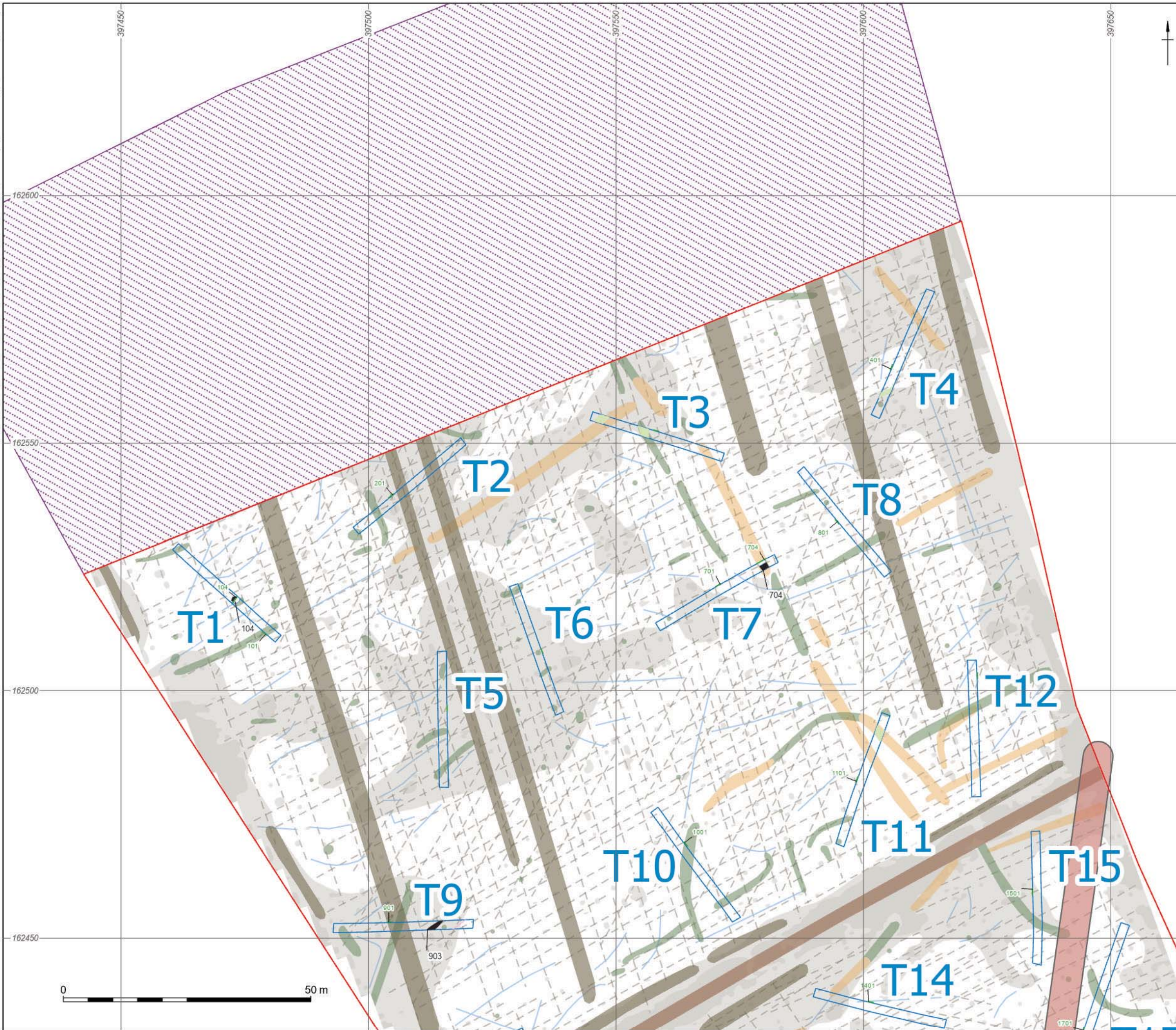


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Figure 1: Site location and trench plan



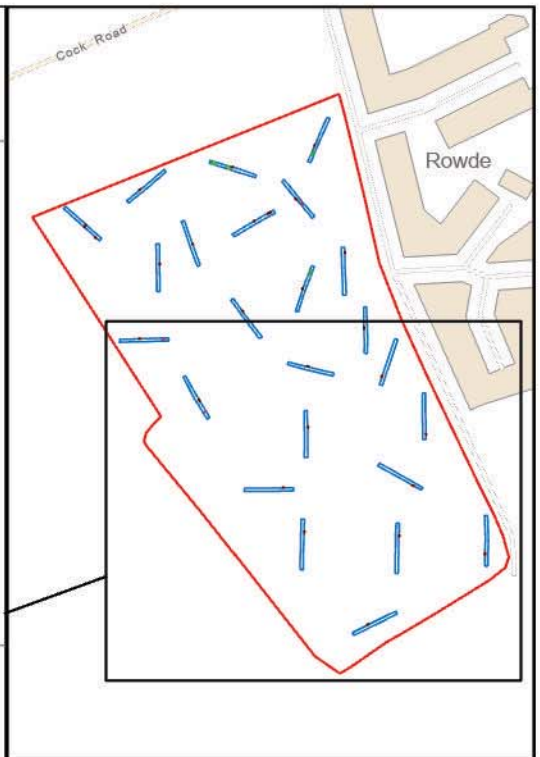
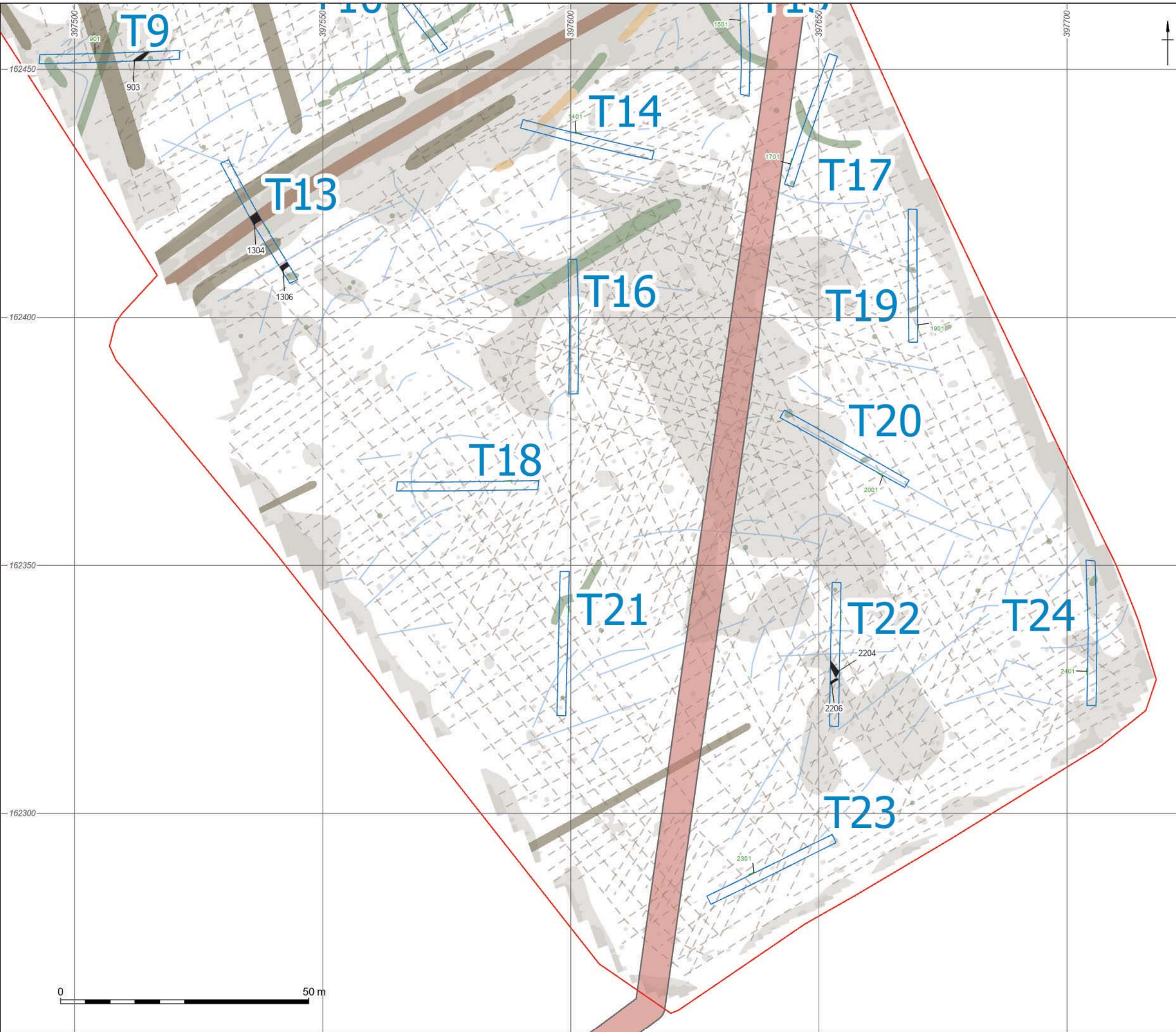


- ▭ Site Area
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Intervention
- Section line
- ▭ Archaeology
- ▭ Disturbance
- ▭ Geology
- ▭ Agricultural
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Former Field Boundary
- ▭ Archaeology
- ▭ Ferrous
- ▭ Increased Magnetic Response
- Trend
- - - Ridge and Furrow/Ploughing
- ▭ Public Right of Way Buffer
- ▭ Retained Land

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Scale: 1:750 at A3	Revision: 0	

Figure 2: Evaluation trenches, archaeological and geophysical survey results



- ▭ Site Area
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- Section line
- ▬ Archaeology
- ▭ Disturbance
- ▭ Agricultural
- ▭ Possible Archaeology
- ▭ Former Field Boundary
- ▭ Archaeology
- ▭ Ferrous
- ▭ Increased Magnetic Response
- Trend
- - - Ridge and Furrow/Ploughing
- ▭ Public Right of Way Buffer

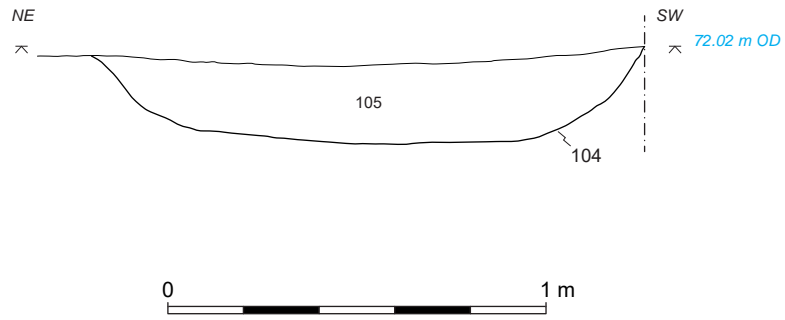


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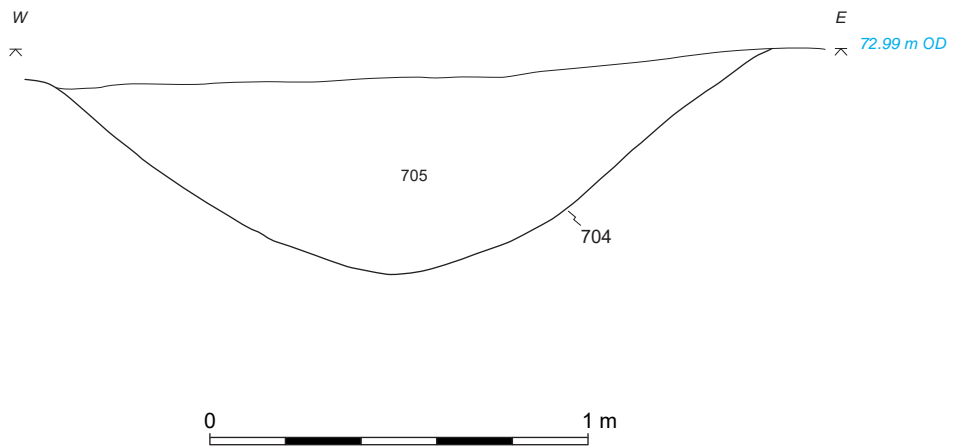
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Figure 3: Evaluation trenches, archaeological and geophysical survey results

a) South-east facing section of pit 104



b) South-facing section of pit 704



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Scale: 1:20 at A4

Figure 4: Section drawings





Figure 5: North-east facing section of trench 1. 1 m scale.



Figure 6: South-facing section of trench 7. 1 m scale.



Figure 7: View of trench 1 from the north-west. 2 m and 1 m scales.



Figure 8: View of trench 7 from the south. 2 m and 1 m scales.



Figure 9: South-east facing section of pit 104. 1 m scale.



Figure 10: View of pit 104 from the south-east. 1 m scale.



Figure 11: Oblique view of south-facing section of pit 704. 1 m scale.



Figure 12: Ditches 2204 and 2206 prior to water ingress. View looking east



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