



Sherecroft Farm, Botley, Hampshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report



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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Tetra Tech, on behalf of Abri Group Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of an 8 ha parcel of land located in Sherecroft Farm, Botley, Hampshire,

The evaluation, comprising thirty trial trenches (each measuring 50 m by 2 m) was carried out between 6 and 24 April 2023. Despite inclement weather, which resulted in the flooding of a number of trenches, and awkward conditions for recording, extensive investigation could still be undertaken across most of the site. However, only limited investigation could be undertaken in trenches 1 to 4 with the majority of the features revealed being mapped only.

Twenty one of the thirty excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, demonstrating archaeological remains are present across the site. A total of 44 features, comprising ditches, gullies, pits, a possible posthole and a number of other features, represented four periods of activity: Late Bronze Age, Late Iron Age/early Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval, though most of the features remain of uncertain date.

The evaluation was able to demonstrate extent, character, date, condition and quality of the archaeological remains, and although there was a paucity of dating evidence it was able to show evidence of activity from Late Bronze Age through to the post-medieval.

The correlation between the geophysical survey and the results of the evaluation was mixed. There was limited confidence in the results and the more definite anomalies were confirmed but often not in multiple locations. And the features with the clearest dating did not correspond with the survey.

None of the feature in trench 9 match the geophysics, nor do they do they continue into other trenches, which suggests they form a fairly discrete area. Ditches 909 and 913 are 17.5 m apart centre to centre and pit 906 is equidistant between them. They are parallel and not on the same alignment as the trench so they may form or be part of a square enclosure. Pottery suggests ditch 913 is significantly older than ditch 909 but ditch 909 has residue artefacts from the same period. So it is possible that the Late Bronze Age material in ditch 913 is residual, as assumed in ditch 909, and that all three features are contemporary and date to the Late Iron Age/early Romano-British period.

The environmental evidence from the feature 1504 contained a high proportion of oak which is not typical of domestic refuse, and it has been suggested that it could be associated with a cremation burial rite. A Middle Bronze Age placed urn deposit was identified to the west of the site during archaeological work on the line of the proposed Botley bypass, although the deposit was shown to not contain any cremated remains.

Pottery from ditch 1508 is also Late Iron Age or early Romano-British but is described as more Romanised and therefore possible a later than that in trench 9. Again there is no obvious continuation of the ditch beyond trenches 8 or 10, although there is a possible connection with undated ditch 10604 from the Botley bypass investigations to the east, and two waterholes that were shown to date to the Romano-British period.

Environmental evidence in ditch 1508 is typical of a Late Iron Age/Romano-British site and is likely to reflect background settlement 'noise', suggesting that the ditch is located near to settlement features where domestic refuse was discarded.

A spread of material, 1104, contained High Medieval pottery. It appears to be isolated but could be related to ditch 1204 to the west which contained medieval/post-medieval tile. Neither corresponds to the geophysical survey result.



There are few clear continuations of ditches between trenches. Ditches 2003 and 2110 appear to be part of the same feature as undated ditch 10304 from the Botley bypass investigations and they all correspond to the geophysics. Otherwise, a number of ditches could be related but this remains unclear and cannot be fully inferred by the results of the geophysical survey.

Overall the results of the evaluation corroborate that of previous archaeological work undertaken to the north and east within the line of the Botley by pass. The current evaluation has further identified archaeological features dating to the Bronze Age, which as in the previous work would appear to be isolated features rather than indicating a concentration of activity dating to this period. The archaeological features dating to the Late Iron Age / Romano-British period would appear to indicate wider evidence of activity dating to this period building on the two waterholes previously identified in the bypass investigations. The current evaluation would appear to indicate an extension and possibly boundary of this activity to the west and could be an indication of settlement activity dating to this period. The evaluation has also further established the likely post medieval landscape, with a series of ditches relating to former field boundaries that have been removed in more recent times to leave the current setting of the site.

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Sherecroft Farm, Botley, Hampshire

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Tetra Tech, on behalf of Abri Group Ltd ('the client'), to undertake an archaeological evaluation of an 8 ha parcel of land located in Sherecroft Farm, Botley, Hampshire, SO30 2TP, centred on NGR 451829 113141.
- 1.1.2 A planning application (20/00494/FUL) submitted to Winchester City Council, was granted 27 August 2021, subject to conditions. Conditions 7, 8 and 26 relate to archaeology:

Condition 7

No development or any works of site preparation shall take place until the applicant or their agents or successors in title have implemented a programme of archaeological assessment (comprising geophysical survey and trial trenching) in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation that has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing.

Reason: *To assess the extent, nature and date of any archaeological deposits that might be present and the impact of the development upon these heritage assets. Policy DM26 Winchester District Local Plan Part 2; Policy CP20 of the Winchester District Joint Core Strategy.*

Condition 8

No development or any works of site preparation shall take place until the applicant or their agents or successors in title have implemented a programme of archaeological mitigation works, based on the results of the trial trenching, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation that has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. No development or site preparation shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved by the LPA. The Written Scheme of Investigation shall include:

- *The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording*
- *Provision for post investigation assessment, reporting and dissemination*
- *Provision to be made for deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation (archive)*
- *Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.*

Condition 26

Following completion of archaeological fieldwork, within 9 months (unless otherwise agreed in writing) a report will be produced in accordance with an approved programme including where appropriate post-excavation assessment, specialist analysis and reports and publication. The report shall be submitted to and approved by the local planning authority.



- 1.1.3 A scheme of archaeological investigation in the form of trial trench evaluation was required in order to identify and record potential remains of archaeological and historical significance at the above site, to part-discharge condition 7, 8 and 26 of the Hybrid Planning Permission 20/00494/FUL; only relating to the residential component of the application. A further submission will be required prior to development of any other part of the site. These conditions have been approved by Winchester District Council.
- 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 Winchester City Council Historic Environment Team (HET) approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 1.1.5 The evaluation, comprising thirty trial trenches (each measuring 50 m by 2 m), was carried out between 6 and 24 April 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 eastern end of Botley, 10 km east of central Southampton, Hampshire. The site comprised an irregularly shaped parcel of land, with the River Hamble to the western boundary of the site, and Bottings (Industrial) Estate to the north-eastern boundary. Botley Village and Conservation Area are located to the west of the site. The majority of the site consists of pasture and grassland.
- 1.3.2 Existing ground levels undulate from 8 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to 15 m aOD.
- 1.3.3 The bedrock geology is Wittering Formation, Sand, Silt and Clay Sedimentary Bedrock. In the centre of the site, the bedrock is overlaid by superficial River Terrace Deposits, Sand and Gravel. Towards the western boundary of the site, superficial alluvium, Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel deposits are present (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 DBA (WYG 2020), which considered the recorded historic environment resource within a 1 km study area of the proposed development. A summary of the results is presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the Winchester Historic Environment Record (WHER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

2.2 Previous investigations

Magnetometer Survey (2023)

- 2.2.1 Ahead of this evaluation, a magnetometer survey was carried out by Archaeological Surveys Ltd (2022). The results indicate the presence of a rectilinear anomaly in the eastern part of the site with a number of other positive and negative anomalies in the vicinity. However, the origin of the anomalies cannot be confidently determined. Elsewhere the anomalies generally lack a coherent morphology, although a small group of positive anomalies in the central part of the site and another close to the western edge appear to relate to magnetically enhanced features that may be associated with anthropogenic features.

Archaeological Evaluation and Mitigation (2020–2022)

- 2.2.2 Various phases of archaeological works have been carried out in association with Botley bypass, to the west, east and within the application area (Wessex Archaeology 2020a, 2020b and 2022). Across the works Bronze Age, Late Iron Age/early Romano-British, post-medieval and modern features have been investigated. The archaeological results outlined below are located adjacent to Station Hill, near the southern end of the application area, where both archaeological evaluation and excavation have been carried out.

- 2.2.1 The earliest recorded human activity within the previously evaluated area consisted of the base of a Middle Bronze Age placed bucket urn (trench 113). Whilst very small fragments of burnt bone were recovered from the fill of the urn none were identifiable to species. This vessel was not used as a cremation urn, but the presence of fuel ash and burnt flint suggests it may be connected with cremation rite. Two post-medieval ditches were also investigated within the trench. An excavation area (Area C) was extended around the trench which recorded the base of a second Middle Bronze Age urn, with no identifiable remains and the continuation of the post-medieval ditches.
- 2.2.2 Later prehistoric to early Romano-British utilisation of the land was demonstrated in the evaluation and excavation by two possible waterholes (trench 109 and Area B), from which a total of 16 sherds of Late Iron Age/early Romano-British pottery were recovered. Two parallel ditches and two pits that were recorded were of uncertain date. A pair of post-medieval ditches were also investigated in this area.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Prehistoric (970,000 BC–AD 43)

- 2.3.1 Two assets dating to the Mesolithic and Neolithic period are located within the study area; two flint surface scatters located to the north-west corner of the application site (31055, 31056). One asset dating between the Neolithic and Iron Age is located within the study area, an Acheulean hand axe, identified in surface gravel in 1969, to the north-east of the application site (MWC1650).
- 2.3.2 Four assets of Bronze Age date are located within the study area, including the remains of a possible Bronze Age barrow and a small ring-ditch measuring 9.5m across, and a ribbed palstave identified at Fairthorne Manor to the south-east of the site (MWC7740, 169664, MWC1628), and a collection of prehistoric flints and two worked flints, with one Bronze Age scraper, and six burnt flint pieces to the north-west of the study area (58170).
- 2.3.3 A number of other broadly prehistoric features have been identified to the north-west of the study area; a possible curvilinear enclosure and linear ditch has been identified to the north-east of the application site (MWC7736), with an enclosure of possible prehistoric date

located to the east of the application site (MWC1645). A rectilinear ditched feature, thought to be a ditched enclosure, which may have possible prehistoric origin, is located to the south-east of the application site, at Fairthorne Manor (169659).

Romano-British (AD 43–410)

- 2.3.4 Very little Romano-British activity has been recorded in the study area. The closest projected Roman road, as mapped by Margary is the Winchester to Wickham road (420), located 4 km to the north-east of the study area. One sherd of Roman pottery has been identified within the study area, to the north-west of the study area (58170). Two watering holes from the Botley Bypass investigation were recorded to the north-east of the site.

Early medieval/Anglo-Saxon (AD 410–1066)

- 2.3.5 No assets dating to the early medieval/Anglo-Saxon period were identified within the study area. Bishops Waltham located 8 km to the north-west, has Saxon origins and is recognised as having been acquired by the Bishop of Winchester in AD 904. Bishops Waltham was the site of a monastery by the early 8th century and regarded as the mother church of the whole of the Hamble Valley. Hampshire was largely established during the Anglo-Saxon period, with the place name of Botley being attributed to this period.

Medieval (1066 –1500)

- 2.3.6 Undesignated assets within the study area include a single sherd of medieval pottery identified during works to the north-west of the study area (58170), as well as a surface scatter dating to the medieval period to the west of the application site (31051). Evidence of agricultural use of the area at this time has been identified to the north-west of the site, at Maddoxford Farm, which was first documented in 1228 as Mattukesford, with the adjacent farmhouse dating to the 15th century. Medieval documentary evidence also mentions the possible site of a mill located here (38733, 42357). And a number of possible medieval cultivation marks and ridge and furrow have been identified to the south-west and south-east of the application site (59057, MWC7737, 169657). Medieval ditches were recorded during the Botley Bypass investigations.
- 2.3.7 Botley is mentioned in the Domesday Book, with 16 households recorded in 1086. Trade at this time was located at Botley Harbour, on the River Hamble to the west of the application site was in use for timber trade during this time. Navigable access to the River Hamble is noted to the south-west of the application site.

Post-medieval –modern (1500–present)

- 2.3.8 A number of agricultural features thought to date from the post-medieval period are located within the study area, including a drainage system and water meadows to the north of the application site (169647, MWC7733), and cultivation marks located to the south-west boundary and north-west of the study area, identified during a watching brief (59080, 57414, 169658), including evidence of parallel ridging to the south-east of the site (169660). Further assets include a number of possible post-medieval quarries identified in aerial photographs, located to the north of the site, and to the south-east boundary (169646, 169672, MWC7731, 169663).
- 2.3.9 Further possible post-medieval features include the site of a small copse, with a number of rectilinear ditched features visible as cropmarks, as well as evidence of a charcoal burning platform identified to the south-east boundary of the study area (MWC7738). Two further assets thought to date to the post-medieval period are a ditched feature and possible historic trackway, located to the north-eastern boundary of the study area (169652, MWC7734).



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 of the evaluation are to:

- test the results of the geophysical survey (Archaeological Surveys 2022).

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.

4.2 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 many of the trenches had to be moved slightly because of obstacles such as trees and located services (Figure 1).

4.2.2 Thirty trial trenches, each measuring 50 m in length and 2 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.
- 4.2.5 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and the HET 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.
- 4.2.6 Inclement weather resulted in the flooding of a number of trenches, and awkward conditions for recording, although extensive investigation could still be undertaken across most of the site. However, only limited investigation could be undertaken in trenches 1 to 4 with the majority of the features revealed being mapped only, but with fills scanned for any surface finds to aid dating. No finds however were noted prior to water ingress.

Recording

- 4.2.7 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.
- 4.2.8 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.
- 4.2.9 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 The HET monitored the evaluation on behalf of the LPA, which included an on-site monitoring meeting undertaken on 20 April 2023.



5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Twenty one of the thirty excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, demonstrating archaeological remains are present across the site (Figure 2).
- 5.1.2 A total of 44 features, comprising 28 ditches, 2 gullies, 7 pits, a possible posthole and 4 other features, represented four periods of activity: Late Bronze Age, Late Iron Age/early Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval, though most of the features remain of uncertain date.
- 5.1.3 The following section presents the results of the evaluation with archaeological features and deposits discussed by period.
- 5.1.4 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (Appendix 1). Figure 2 shows all archaeological features recorded within the trenches, together with the preceding geophysical survey results (Archaeological Surveys Ltd 2022). Figure 3 details drawn sections of significant features.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The evaluation took place across three fields previously laid to pasture and the topsoil was consistent across the trenches, a greyish brown clay silt or silty clay with common rooting from the turf at the surface and a clear boundary to the subsoil. The depth varied across the site but was generally 0.2 m to 0.25 m and covered a mid-brownish grey, silty clay subsoil also 0.2 to 0.25 m thick (Figures 4 and 5). A few trenches had no discernible subsoil.
- 5.2.2 The natural geology consisted of a yellowish brown silty clay mottled in places with bluish grey silty clay and containing fine to coarse gravels (Trenches 6 and 7).

5.3 Late Bronze Age (1000 BC – 600 BC)

- 5.3.1 A large south-east/north-west aligned ditch, 913, was recorded in trench 9. It was 1.67 m wide by 0.39 m deep, irregular in shape but convex on the lower section of north-east side. It had a single fill that contained worked flint, burnt flint and Late Bronze Age pottery (Figures 3 and 8).

5.4 Late Iron Age/early Romano-British (200 BC – AD 410)

- 5.4.1 A possible pit, 906, was found partially in the trench side and disturbed by rooting. An estimate of its size suggests it was 1.2 m wide by 0.57 m deep, with steep, concave sides and base and with two fills (Figures 3, 9 and 10). The fills contained a small flint flake and a backed knife, burnt flint and Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery
- 5.4.2 Ditch 909 was also orientated south-east/north-west but was much larger at 2.18 m wide by 0.67 m deep, with the north-west side concave and steepening near base, the south-west side convex and the base flat (Figures 3 and 11). The ditch contained three fills, with the upper two, 910 and 911, containing burnt flint, and pottery dating to the Late Bronze Age and Late Iron Age/early Romano-British, the former presumably residual.
- 5.4.3 A substantial ditch, 1508, was recorded in trench 15. It was 0.9 m wide by 0.47 m deep and on a north-east/south-west alignment, with two fills, and most likely served as a drainage ditch and field boundary (Figures 3 and 12). Pottery recovered from its fills securely dates to the Late Iron Age/early Romano-British, but more Romanised than the other pottery. The ditch can be seen to terminate, 1004, in trench 10. The terminus had been cut on its north-

west side by a small root-bowl but could be seen to be 0.45 m wide by 0.17 m deep (Figures 3 and 13). It had also been cut just south of the intervention by a small, shallow linear feature, 1511, of undetermined date (Figure 14). Environmental evidence for spelt wheat and the exploitation of heathy vegetation for fuel in ditch 1508 is typical of a Late Iron Age/Romano-British site. The sample was likely to reflect background settlement 'noise', suggesting that it was located near to settlement features where domestic refuse was discarded (i.e., hearth sweepings, crop-processing debris).

5.5 Medieval (AD 1066 – AD 1500)

5.5.1 Feature 1104 was an 8 m wide, shallow, irregular spread of disturbance to the underlying natural geology (Figure 15). It contained unspecific medieval to post-medieval tile and high medieval sandy ware pottery sherds.

5.6 Post-Medieval (AD 1500 – AD 1800)

5.6.1 A large linear ditch, 1306, was not excavated as late 18th to 19th century pearlware pottery was recovered from the surface of the fill. It was 1.7 m wide.

5.6.2 A large, linear feature, 2304, was recorded in trench 23. It was steep sided and irregular, 2.45 m wide by 0.25 m deep, increasing to 0.35 m at its south-eastern end, which made it look as if it could be two features (Figures 3 and 16). Sherds from a pancheon bowl date it to between AD 1500 and AD 1800. Slightly curved, probably tile roof was also recovered.

5.6.3 Three other features contained generic medieval/post medieval tile. Ditch 103 had a shallow flat profile on the western side, which dipped into a deeper U-shaped channel on the eastern side. It was approximately 1.4 m wide and 0.5 m deep, with a single fill (Figure 17). Ditch 1204 was orientated north-east/south-west, U-shaped and 1.87 m wide by 0.39 m deep (Figure 18). And a possible pit, 1506, measured 0.36 m by 0.55 m by 0.07 m deep (Figure 19).

5.7 Uncertain date

5.7.1 The remaining 34 features were undated. Eleven of these were not excavated as the features were inundated due to heavy rain and ground water before they could be properly investigated and characterised. Six were linear features in trenches 2 and 3, the remainder were ditches 105, 1804, 2003, 2110 and 2603 (Figures 20 – 23). The geophysical survey possibly suggested that ditch 2603 was a continuation of undated ditch 2504, although ditch 2504 does not wholly align with the linear anomaly.

5.7.2 Two further features, 1407 and 2104, resolved to be naturally occurring bioturbation. Two areas of burning were uncovered. A lens, 804, of heat affected natural, probably from an open fire, contained burnt flint but had no obvious cut visible in section. A small and insubstantial feature, 1504, was thought to be a truncated hot dump of burnt material as evidenced by the reddish heat discolouration of the natural clay. Environmental evidence from feature 1504 suggests that the wood used is not typical of domestic use.

5.7.3 Five undated discrete features were recorded as pits and a possible posthole. Pit 504 was 0.56 m by only 0.09 m deep, with concave base and sides. Feature 506 was 0.3 m wide by 0.68 m long and 0.31 m deep, with straight sides. It had a teardrop shape that may suggest a post pull but there were no other postholes nearby. Pit 1304 was 1.02 m in diameter but very shallow at 0.09 m, although it should be noted that natural was heavily truncated by the excavator and the pit was probably much deeper. Pit 2108 is quite small at 0.62 m wide by 0.84 m long and 0.12 m deep.



- 5.7.4 Pit 1404 is quite substantial at 0.92 m wide by at least 1.5 m in diameter and 0.42 m deep, with concave sides and base and two fills. It was initially thought to be a terminus but it appears to bowl inwards before it is obstructed by the trench edge. Ditch terminus, 1206, was more securely interpreted. It was aligned north/south, U-shaped, steep-sided, 0.48 m wide by 0.24 m deep with a concave end extending 0.8 m into the trench.
- 5.7.5 A small linear gully 3003 of undetermined date and purpose was recorded in trench 30 but did not appear in neighbouring trench 90 from the previous evaluation. It was V-shaped, 0.21 m wide and 0.12 m deep, with a single fill.
- 5.7.6 The remaining twelve features were all excavated, but undated, ditches. Ditch 904 was 0.9 m wide by 0.31 m deep, concave sides and base, single fill. Ditch 1409 was 1.5 m wide by 0.2 m deep with concave sides and flat base and north-west/south-east aligned. Ditch 1511 is discussed in 5.4.3 as cutting ditch 1508. Ditch 1513 was 1.36 m by 0.41 m deep with two fills and on an east/west alignment. Ditch 1602 was north/south aligned, 0.66 m wide and 0.18 m deep with concave sides and a flat base. Ditch 1605 was north-east/south-west aligned, U-shaped and 0.62 m wide by 0.2 m deep.
- 5.7.7 Ditch 2106 was north-west/south-east aligned, 0.92 m wide by 0.25 m deep with straight sides and a flat base. Ditch 2112 was also north-west/south-east aligned, 0.70 m by 0.11 m deep with concave base and sides. Ditch 2306 was 2.5 m wide by 0.35 m deep and aligned east/west. Ditch 2404 was north-east/south-west aligned, U-shaped. 0.86 m wide by 0.21 m deep. Ditch 2504 was north/south aligned, 0.5 m wide by 0.29 m deep with concave base and sides. And ditch 2704 ran north/south along the trench edge for 9 m. The trench was widened to show that the ditch was 1.2 m wide and 0.16 m deep.

6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 Finds amounting to 1.2 kg were recovered, spanning the late prehistoric to post-medieval periods. The finds have been cleaned, with the exception of the metal items, and quantified by material type (Table 1) within each context.

Table 1 Summary of finds by material and count/weight in grammes

Material Count/Weight (G)	Animal Bone	Burnt flint	CBM	Flint	Pottery	Grand total
Feature						
Ditch 103			1 / 140			1 / 140
Heat affected natural 804		1 / 13				1 / 13
Pit 906		19 / 17		3 / 30	5 / 11	27 / 58
Ditch 909		14 / 4			5 / 48	19 / 52
Ditch 913		1 / 31		2 / 16	1 / 6	4 / 53
Disturbance 1104			1 / 3		2 / 5	3 / 8
Ditch 1204	1 / 6		1 / 41			2 / 47
Ditch 1306					1 / 3	1 / 3
Ditch 1409		33 / 21				33 / 21
'Hot dump' 1504		16 / 22				16 / 22
Pit/rooting 1506			1 / 10			1 / 10
Ditch 1508		4 / 48			6 / 60	

Uncategorised feature 2304			4 / 466		1 / 192	5 / 658
Grand Total	1 / 6	88 / 156	9 / 708	5 / 46	21 / 325	124 / 1241

6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 The pottery (Table 2) assemblage amounts to 21 sherds (325 g) which have been recorded according to accepted guidelines (Barclay *et. al.* 2016, section 2.4.6) aimed at providing a characterisation of the assemblage. Sherds were quantified by count and weight (in grammes) by broad ware type (e.g. greyware) or known fabrics (e.g. Verwood ware) within each context. Variables such as form, rim morphology, diameter and percentage, decoration and evidence for use were recorded where applicable.
- 6.2.2 The condition of the assemblage is generally poor with small, abraded sherds. One sherd of post-medieval pottery weighs 192 g, which artificially inflates the mean sherd weight, and when this is excluded, the group has a mean sherd weight of just 6.6 g. Just three rim sherds were recovered.

Table 2 Summary of pottery by date and fabric type

Period	Fabric type	Count	Weight (g)
Late Prehistoric	Flint-tempered	2	24
Late Iron Age/Early Roman	Fine sand and flint-tempered	5	20
	Flint and sand-tempered (coarse)	1	15
	Greyware	6	60
	Sandy ware	3	6
Medieval		2	5
Post-medieval	Verwood earthenware	1	192
	Pearlware	1	3
	Grand total	21	325

- 6.2.3 The earliest material comprises flint-tempered sherds which have a long tradition in the area. Whilst the sherds are unfeathered, which limits tight dating, the thickness of the walls (c. 10 mm) and the coarse flint-tempering suggests a Late Bronze Age date. One sherd came from ditch 913, the other was found residually with later pottery in ditch 909.
- 6.2.4 A small group of sand and flint-tempered fabrics (Table 2) came from Trench 9 and were divided based on the frequency and size of the flint inclusions. These fabrics are well known components of Late Iron Age/Early Roman assemblages in the area (c.f. Seager Smith 2021, 14; Seager Smith 2000; Clelland 2012, 154). The group had just one rim sherd, occurring in the finer fabric (ditch 909). It is broken close to the short, out-turned rim, which does not help to refine dating. Sherds in a more Romanised, but still broadly dated, sandy greyware fabric came from Trench 15 (ditch 1508), including a small, everted ware jar rim sherd.
- 6.2.5 Two glazed sandy ware sherds, probably South Hampshire redwares of High Medieval (13th/14th century AD) date, were recovered from disturbance 1104. Post-medieval sherds are limited to an 18th century Verwood earthenware pancheon and a small unfeathered sherd of late 18th to 19th century pearlware from ditch 1306.

6.3 Flint

- 6.3.1 The flint collection was limited to items from Trench 9 and comprises a secondary flake and a tertiary blade from ditch 913, a chip, a small flake and a backed knife from ditch 906. The blade and knife form the most distinctive features. The blade contains features which indicate that the core was prepared using abrasion to strengthen the edge of the striking platform before the blade was detached. This was achieved using a soft (softer than the flint) hammer. The knife 'edge' is straight and is characterised by a thin band of silica gloss which can be traced along the entire length of the blade. This suggests that the implement may have been used as a sickle or put to comparable use cutting silica rich stems. The opposite edge was retouched to provide a convex blunt edge which may have been inserted in a handle.
- 6.3.2 Burnt flint was recovered from seven deposits, amounting to 88 pieces (156 g). Whilst burnt flint is often an indicator of prehistoric activity, where it has a variety of uses included as pottery temper and for heating water, only the pieces from ditches 906, 909 and 913 are associated with dateable material. Of these features, only ditch 914 had late prehistoric material, whilst ditches 906 and 909 contained Late Iron Age or Early Romano-British material. Burnt flint can also occur as the accidental result of agricultural activity which may be the case in features with an absence of any other prehistoric evidence.

6.4 Animal bone

- 6.4.1 A single adult cattle tooth, with slight wear, came from undated ditch 1204.

6.5 Ceramic building material

- 6.5.1 Ceramic building material (Table 1) was limited to roof tile fragments in a hard, sandy fabric and all of medieval or later date, from six deposits. Only two deposits also produced pottery, medieval sherds from disturbance 1104 and a post-medieval sherd from uncategorised feature 2304.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 Eight bulk sediment samples were taken from Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British and undated features, including pits, ditches, and natural deposits/bioturbation. The samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of environmental evidence.

7.2 Aims and methods

- 7.2.1 The aim of this assessment is to determine the nature and significance of the environmental remains preserved at the site. This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with Historic England's guidelines outlined in *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-Excavation* (English Heritage 2011).
- 7.2.2 The size of the bulk sediment samples varied between 6 and 17 litres, with an average volume of approximately 10 litres. The samples were processed by standard flotation methods on a Siraf-type flotation tank, with the flot retained on a 0.25 mm mesh and the residues retained on 4 mm and 1 mm meshes. The coarse fractions of the residues (>4 mm) were sorted by eye for artefactual and environmental remains.
- 7.2.3 The fine residue fractions and the flots were examined using a stereomicroscope at up to 40x magnification for wood charcoal, charred/uncharred plant remains, and other

environmental remains. Plant remains were identified through comparison with modern reference material held by Wessex Archaeology and relevant literature (Cappers *et al.* 2006). The volume of wood charcoal (>2 mm) in the flots was recorded and selected fragments were identified. Wood charcoal fragments were identified through examination of the transverse, tangential longitudinal, and radial longitudinal sections at up to 400x magnification with comparison to Wessex Archaeology's reference collection and keys (Gale and Cutler 2000; Hather 2000; Schweingruber 1990). The presence of recent material within the flots was noted as appropriate, including modern roots, modern seeds, earthworm eggs, soil fungus sclerotia, and shells of the burrowing blind snail (*Cecilioides acicula*) which was introduced in the medieval period. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997) for wild plants and Zohary *et al.* (2012) for cereals (using traditional names).

- 7.2.4 Remains were recorded semi-quantitatively on an abundance scale: C = <5 ('Trace'), B = 5-10 ('Rare'), A = 10-30 ('Occasional'), A* = 30-100 ('Common'), A** = 100-500 ('Abundant'), A*** = >500 ('Very abundant/Exceptional').

7.3 Results

- 7.3.1 The results are presented in **Appendix 2**. Very little environmental evidence has been recovered from the site. Most of the features sampled produced very small flots which contain trace quantities of highly fragmented charcoal and coal. Two exceptions to this are the samples from Late Iron Age ditch 1508 and undated pit 1504.

- 7.3.2 The sample from Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British ditch 1508 contains low concentrations of charred plant remains and wood charcoal. This includes spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) chaff, heath-grass (*Danthonia decumbens*) caryopses, rhizomes/tubers, heather-type (*Calluna vulgaris* tp.) stems, birch (*Betula* sp.) charcoal and oak (*Quercus* sp.) charcoal.

- 7.3.3 One sample from pit 1504 produced a very large, charcoal-rich flot which is dominated by oak (*Quercus* sp.) stemwood/heartwood. Burnt flint was recorded in the sample residue.

7.4 Conclusions

- 7.4.1 The assessment indicates that there is low to moderate potential for the preservation of charred plant remains and wood charcoal at the site.

- 7.4.2 Evidence for spelt wheat and the exploitation of heathy vegetation for fuel (e.g., heath-grass, heather, birch) in ditch 1508 is typical of a Late Iron Age/Romano-British site (Carruthers and Hunter-Dowse 2019; Hall and Huntley 2007). The sample is likely to reflect background settlement 'noise', suggesting that it is located near to settlement features where domestic refuse was discarded (i.e., hearth sweepings, crop-processing debris).

- 7.4.3 The sample from undated pit 1504 is very rich in oak stemwood/heartwood charcoal and the feature also contained some burnt flint. Whilst this evidence is not diagnostic of a particular period, small pits containing charcoal-rich fills and burnt cracked stone are often prehistoric in date. The high proportion of oak within the sample is not typical of domestic refuse, and it could be associated with a cremation burial rite. It is therefore notable that a Middle Bronze Age placed urn deposit has been identified within the area (Wessex Archaeology 2020b).

Recommendations

- 7.4.4 If further fieldwork is undertaken at the site, sampling should continue to follow Wessex Archaeology's in-house guidance. Bulk sediment samples for the recovery of charred plant



remains and wood charcoal should be 40–60 litres where possible. The samples should be taken from well-sealed features and deposits, covering as wide a range of phases as possible.

- 7.4.5 Further investigation and sampling of features within the vicinity of Trench 15 is recommended.

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Summary

- 8.1.1 Twenty one of the thirty excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, demonstrating archaeological remains are present across the site.
- 8.1.2 A total of 44 features, comprising ditches, gullies, pits, a possible posthole and a number of other features, represented four periods of activity: Late Bronze Age, Late Iron Age/early Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval, though most of the features remain of uncertain date.
- 8.1.3 The evaluation was able to demonstrate extent, character, date, condition and quality of the archaeological remains, and although there was a paucity of dating evidence it was able to show evidence of activity from Late Bronze Age through to the post-medieval.
- 8.1.4 The corroboration with the geophysical survey was mixed. There was limited confidence in the results and the more definite anomalies were confirmed but often not in multiple locations. And the features with the clearest dating did not correspond with the survey.

8.2 Discussion

- 8.2.1 None of the features in trench 9 match the geophysics, nor do they do they continue into other trenches, which suggests they form a fairly discrete area. Ditches 909 and 913 are 17.5 m apart centre to centre and pit 906 is equidistant between them. They are parallel and not on the same alignment as the trench so they do not form a circular feature. Pottery evidence suggests ditch 913 is significantly older than ditch 909 but ditch 909 has residue artefacts from the same period. So it is possible that the Late Bronze Age material in ditch 913 is residual, as assumed in ditch 909, and that all three features are contemporary and Late Iron Age/early Romano-British.
- 8.2.2 The environmental evidence from the feature 1504 contained a high proportion of oak which is not typical of domestic refuse, and it has been suggested that it could be associated with a cremation burial rite. A Middle Bronze Age placed urned deposit was identified to the west of the site by the Botley bypass investigations.
- 8.2.3 Pottery from ditch 1508 is also Late Iron Age or early Romano-British but is described as more Romanised and therefore possible a little later than that in trench 9. Again there is no obvious continuation of the ditch in trenches 8 or 10 within the site, although there is a possible connection with undated ditch 10604 from the Botley bypass investigations.
- 8.2.4 Environmental evidence in ditch 1508 is typical of a Late Iron Age/Romano-British site and is likely to reflect background settlement 'noise', suggesting that the ditch is located near to settlement features.
- 8.2.5 Two watering holes were dated to this same period by the Botley bypass investigations are located 100 m south-east of ditch 1508 and 150 m east of the features in trench 9. They too have ditches either side of them.



- 8.2.6 A spread of material, 1104, contained High Medieval pottery. It appears to be isolated but could be related to ditch 1204 to the west which contained medieval/post-medieval tile. Neither corresponds to the geophysical survey result.
- 8.2.7 There are few clear continuations of ditches between trenches. Ditches 2003 and 2110 appear to be part of the same feature as undated ditch 10304 from the Botley bypass investigations and they all correspond to the geophysics. Otherwise, a number of ditch could be connected but it is never clear nor are they confirmed by the geophysics.
- 8.2.8 Overall the results of the evaluation corroborate that of previous archaeological work undertaken to the north and east within the line of the Botley by pass. The current evaluation has further identified archaeological features dating to the Bronze Age, which as in the previous work would appear to be isolated features rather than indicating a concentration of activity dating to this period. The archaeological features dating to the Late Iron Age / Romano-British period would appear to indicate wider evidence of activity dating to this period building on the two waterholes previously identified in the bypass investigations. The current evaluation would appear to indicate an extension and possibly boundary of this activity to the west and could be an indication of settlement activity dating to this period. The evaluation has also further established the likely post medieval landscape, with a series of ditches relating to former field boundaries that have been removed in more recent times to leave the current setting of the site.

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. Winchester City Museum has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code AY795. 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 Winchester City Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014c; SMA 1995).

- 9.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the 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 Animal bone (1 fragment): single element from undated ditch fill, no further potential, discard.
- 9.3.6 Burnt flint (88 pieces): no further potential, discard.
- 9.3.7 Ceramic building material (9 pieces): medieval or later roof tile, no further potential, discard.
- 9.3.8 Flint (5 items): evidence of probable Neolithic date, retain.
- 9.3.9 Pottery (21 sherds): small group of mixed date pottery. Retain and review alongside any assemblages recovered from further mitigation in the proposed development area.

Palaeoenvironmental material

- 9.3.10 All of the bulk sediment samples taken have been processed and the sample residues were discarded after sorting. The flots and extracted remains from Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British ditch 1508 and undated 1504 are recommended for retention. The remaining flots can be discarded since they have no further research potential. Recommendations for long-term storage should be reviewed following further fieldwork within the proposed development area.

Documentary records

- 9.3.11 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

- 9.3.12 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 3). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the HET 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 50 m		Width 2.20 m		Depth 0.35 m	
Easting			Northing			m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
101		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay silt with moderate rooting from turf. Very wet, saturated ground. Clear boundary to natural.			0–0.35	
102		Natural	Yellowish clay with occasional patches of greyish silty clay.			0.35+	
103	104	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N S with moderate, stepped sides and an u-shaped base.				
104	103	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown with occasional yellowish brown mottling clayey silt with 7% fine to coarse gravel sized sub-angular flint, 1% cobble sized sub-rounded flint				
105	106	possible ditch terminus	Not excavated due to flooding of trench.				
106	105	Secondary fill	Light yellowish grey clay silt.				

Trench No 2		Length 50 m		Width 2 m		Depth 0.42 m	
Easting			Northing			m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
201		Topsoil	Friable, mid-greyish brown, silty clay with common rooting.			0 – 0.12	
202		Subsoil	Friable, mid-brownish grey, silty clay.			0.12 – 0.33	
203		Natural	Firm, mid-orangish brown, clay.			0.33+	
204	205	Ditch	Unexcavated. E-W aligned				
205	204	Fill	Fill of unexcavated ditch. Mid grey brown silty clay				
206	207	Ditch	Unexcavated. E-W aligned				
207	206	Fill	Fill of unexcavated ditch. Mid grey brown silty clay				
208	209	Ditch	Unexcavated. E-W aligned				
209	208	Fill	Fill of unexcavated ditch. Mid grey brown silty clay				

Trench No 3		Length 50 m		Width 2 m		Depth 0.41 m	
Easting			Northing			m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
301		Topsoil	Friable, mid-greyish brown silty clay with common rooting.			0 – 0.10	
302		Subsoil	Friable, mid-brownish grey, silty clay.			0.10 – 0.32	
303		Natural	Firm, mid-orangish brown, clay.			0.32+	



304	305	Ditch	Unexcavated. SSE-NNW aligned	
305	304	Fill	Fill of unexcavated ditch. Mid grey brown silty clay	
306	307	Ditch	Unexcavated. SSE-NNW aligned	
307	306	Fill	Fill of unexcavated ditch. Mid grey brown silty clay	
308	309	Ditch	Unexcavated. SSE-NNW aligned	
309	308	Fill	Fill of unexcavated ditch. Mid grey brown silty clay	

Trench No 4		Length 50 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.37 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
401		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clay silt. 3% fine to medium gravel sized sub-angular flint.	0-0.35
402		Natural	Light yellowish grey silty clay with 15% fine to coarse gravel sized sub-angular flint. patches of gravel throughout the trench.	0.35+

Trench No 5		Length 50 m	Width 2.30 m	Depth 0.61 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
501		Topsoil	Mid orangish brown silty clay loam, 20% medium gravel sized sub-angular flint, 20% fine gravel sized sub-angular flint	0-0.31
502		Subsoil	Medium orangish brown clay loam, 5% medium gravel sized sub-angular flint, 10% fine gravel sized sub-angular flint	0.31-0.52
503		Natural	Light orangish brown clay loam, 3% medium gravel sized sub-angular flint	0.52+
504	505	Pit	Oval pit aligned NW / SE with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 0.50 m. Width: >0.56 m. Depth: 0.09 m.	
505	504	Primary fill	5% medium gravel sized sub-angular flint silty clay loam with 5% medium gravel sized sub-angular flint	
506	507	Posthole	Sub-oval posthole aligned NE / SW with moderate, straight sides and a flat base. Length: 0.50 m. Width: >0.68 m. Depth: 0.31 m.	
507	506	Secondary fill	Mid orangish brown silty clay loam	



Trench No 6		Length 50 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.30 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clay-silt, root-turbated beneath pasture, medium to light compaction, occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded gravel $\leq 0.1\text{m}\varnothing$	0–0.10
602		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown clay-silt with diffuse FE mottling due to waterlogging. Very sparse gravels as in 601, medium compaction.	0.1–0.3
603		Mid to light yellowish brown clay with frequent gravel patches		0.3+

Trench No 7		Length 49.90 m	Width 2.30 m	Depth 0.38 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
701		Topsoil	Dark brown silty loam with abundant bioturbation and 10% sparse rounded gravel 1-10mm.	0–0.14
702		Subsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay, quite compact, with rare bioturbation and 10% sparse rounded and sub-angular gravel 1-10mm, poorly sorted.	0.14–0.30
703		Natural	Mid yellow sandy clay with multiple patches of dark grey sandy gravel. 40-50% abundant rounded and sub-angular gravel 1-10mm.	0.30+

Trench No 8		Length 49.80 m	Width 2.30 m	Depth 0.59 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
801		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty loam, moderate compaction with abundant bioturbation and 10% sparse rounded gravel 1-10mm	0–0.22
802		Subsoil	Mid brown sandy Clay, Very compact with sparse bioturbation and 10% sparse rounded gravel 1-10mm	0.22–0.51
803		Natural	Mid yellow brown sandy Clay gravel, with multiple Dark grey patches. 50-60% abundant rounded gravel 1-10mm.	0.51+



804		Heat affected natural	Mid reddish brown sandy clay	
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Trench No 9		Length 50 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.38 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
901		Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown silty loam, abundant bioturbation. 10% fine gravel sized sub-rounded flint, 5% medium to coarse gravel sized sub-rounded flint.	0–0.32
902		Subsoil	Greyish brown silty clay loam p, 10% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint.	0.32–0.38
903		Natural	Yellowish brown sandy clay. 7% fine to medium gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 7% coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint.	0.38+
904	905	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.70 m. Width: 1.09 m. Depth: 0.31 m.	
905	904	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with very rare <1% sub-angular and sub-rounded flinty gravel <=30 mm	
906	907, 908	Pit?	Possible incomplete pit aligned N / A with steep, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.80 m. Width: >1.20 m. Depth: 0.57 m.	
907	906	Pit?	Bluish grey silty clay with 3% rare fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint	
908	906	Pit?	Bluish grey silty clay with 7% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 5% medium to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint, abundant ferrous and manganese flecks	
909	910, 911, 912	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW-SE with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 1.00 m. Width: 2.18 m. Depth: 0.67 m.	
910	909	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay	
911	909	Secondary fill	Light grey silty clay with river stones and natural flint ferrous flecking	
912	909	Primary fill	Light grey and orange mottled silty clay with common natural flint inclusions	



913	914	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW-SE with moderate, concave sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: 1.00 m. Width: 1.70 m. Depth: 0.40 m.	
914	913	Secondary fill	Mid grey silty clay with river stones and natural flint ferrous flecking	

Trench No 10		Length 49.60 m	Width 2.30 m	Depth 0.46 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1001		Topsoil	Dark grey Brown Silty Loam. Moderate compaction, Abundant bioturbation. 10% sparse rounded gravel 1-10mm	0-0.30
1002		Subsoil	Shallow lens of Mid brown Silty Clay.	0.30-0.38
1003		Natural		0.38+
1004	1005	Ditch terminal	Linear ditch terminal aligned NE-SW with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >15.00 m. Depth: 0.15 m.	
1005	1004	Secondary fill	Mid-light brown with subtle orange mottling silty clay with extremely sparse sub-rounded gravel	

Trench No 11		Length 50 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.53 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1101		Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown silty loam, abundant bioturbation. 10% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 5% medium to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint. Plastic.	0 - 0.39 m
1102		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown silty clay. 10% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 5% medium to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint. Some bioturbation.	0.39 - 0.53 m
1103		Natural	Yellowish brown sandy silt clay. 7% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 10% medium to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint.	0.53 m+
1104		Disturbance	Mid greyish brown silty clay with rare 2% flinty gravel, sub-angular and sub-rounded <= 50 mm	0.39 - 0.82 m



Trench No 12		Length 50 m		Width 2.20 m		Depth Unknown	
Easting			Northing			m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
1201		Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown silty loam, abundant bioturbation. 10% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 5% medium to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint. plastic and CBM			0-0.33	
1202		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown silty clay loam. 10% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 7% medium to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint. Some bioturbation.			0.33-0.39	
1203		Natural	Reddish brown sandy silt clay, mottled with bluish / greenish grey. 10% Fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint. 15% medium to coarse gravel sized irregular and sub-rounded flint.			0.39+	
1204	1205	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned SE-NW with shallow, concave sides and a u-shaped base. Length: >0.70 m. Width: 1.87 m. Depth: 0.39 m.				
1205	1204	Secondary fill	Dark brown silty clay with abundant stone and flint inclusions				
1206	1207	Ditch terminal	Terminus				
1207	1206	Secondary fill	Dark brown silty clay with common stone and flint inclusions				

Trench No 13		Length 49.78 m		Width 2.30 m		Depth 0.62 m	
Easting			Northing			m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
1301		Topsoil	Dark brown silty loam, moderate compaction with abundant bioturbation. 10% sparse rounded gravel, 1-10mm			0.22	
1302		Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay, quite compact, with rare bioturbation, and 10% sparse rounded gravel 1-10mm			0.22-0.46	
1303		Natural	Mid reddish brown sandy clay gravel with multiple patches of dark grey sandy gravel. 50-60% sub-rounded gravel, 1-10mm.			0.46+	
1304	1305	Pit	Circular pit with shallow, stepped sides and a u-shaped base. Length: 1.02 m. Width: 0.90 m. Depth: 0.12 m.				
1305	1304	Deliberate backfill	Dark grey brown silt				



1306	1307	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned East- West. Width: 1.70 m.	
1307	1306	Secondary fill	Mid grey sandy clay with	

Trench No 14		Length 50 m	Width 2.30 m	Depth 0.64 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1401		Topsoil	Mid orangish brown silty clay loam, 10% fine gravel sized sub-angular flint, 5% medium gravel sized sub-angular flint, 1% coarse sized sub-rounded flint	0 –
1402		Subsoil		
1403		Natural	Light orangish brown clay loam, 30% medium gravel sized sub-angular flint, 20% fine gravel sized sub-angular flint	
1404	1405, 1406	pit?	Possible irregular pit aligned N / S with moderate, concave sides and an u-shaped base. Length: 1.61 m. Width: 0.92 m. Depth: 0.42 m.	
1405	1404	Primary fill	Light orangish brown silty clay loam with 10% medium gravel sized sub-angular flint	
1406	1404	Secondary fill	Medium orangish brown silty clay loam with 10% medium gravel sized sub-rounded flint	
1407	1408	Cut of natural feature / tree throw (?)	Sub-oval unidentified feature aligned SSW-NNE with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.99 m. Width: 1.13 m. Depth: 0.30 m.	
1408	1407	Fill of shrub hollow.	Mid greyish brown, fading to a mid yellowish brown on the wnw side fine silty clay fine silty clay with rare 2% sub-angular and sub-rounded flinty gravels <= 20 mm	
1409	1410	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NW-SE with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >0.90 m. Width: 1.06 m. Depth: 0.19 m.	
1410	1409	Secondary fill	Light greyish brown slightly sandy, fine silty clay with very rare <1% sub-angular and sub-rounded flinty gravels	



Trench No 15		Length 50 m		Width 2.20 m		Depth Unknown	
Easting			Northing			m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
1501		Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown silty loam, abundant bioturbation, 7% fine gravel sized sub-rounded flint. 5% medium gravel sized irregular shaped flint.			0–0.34	
1502		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay loam, some bioturbation. 10% Sparse Fine-medium gravel sized sub-rounded flint.			0.34–0.46	
1503		Natural	Yellowish brown sandy clay, mottled with grey. 7% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint. 5% medium to coarse gravel sized sub-rounded flint.			0.46+	
1504	1505	hot dump	Sub-circular hot dump with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.48 m. Width: 0.48 m. Depth: 0.08 m.				
1505	1504	burnt deliberate dump	Mid brown clay-silt				
1506	1507	Truncated pit or rooting	Sub-oval truncated pit or rooting with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Length: 0.36 m. Width: 0.55 m. Depth: 0.07 m.				
1507	1506	Truncated pit or rooting	Dark yellowish brown sandy silt clay with 10% fine to medium gravel sized sub-rounded flint				
1508	1509, 1510	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE-SW with steep, straight sides and a flat base. Length: >8.00 m. Depth: 0.47 m.				
1509	1508	Primary fill	Light grey mottled with light orange / brown slightly silty clay with very sparse sub-rounded gravel				
1510	1508	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown clay silt with very sparse sub-rounded gravel ≤0.09mø				
1511	1512	Linear feature	Linear feature aligned ESE-WNW Length: >2.20 m. Width: 0.35 m. Depth: 0.14 m.				
1512	1511	Secondary fill	Mid greyish brown clay silt				
1513	1514, 1515	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned E-W with moderate, straight sides and a concave base. Length: >2.20 m. Depth: 0.41 m.				
1514	1513	Primary fill	Pale brownish grey with natural pale orange-brown mottling slightly silty clay				



1515	1513	Secondary fill	Pale - mid greyish brown clay silt	
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Trench No 16		Length 50 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.64 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1601		Topsoil	Top soil. dark brown silty clay. common pebble inclusions.	0 – 0.30 m
1602		Natural	Mid brownish yellow silty clay.	0.50 m+
1603	1604	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N S with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >7.00 m. Width: 0.66 m. Depth: 0.18 m.	
1604	1603	Secondary fill	Dark brownish grey clay silt with 10% fine to coarse gravel sized sub-angular flint	
1605	1606	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE-SW with irregular, concave sides and an u-shaped base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.62 m. Depth: 0.20 m.	
1606	1605	Secondary fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with river stones common	
1607		Natural slumping\patch of geology		
1608		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown, Silty clay. Sparse 4% flinty gravel inclusions, with a well-defined horizon onto the flinty gravel (patchy sand) natural below.	0.30 – 0.50 m

Trench No 17		Length 50 m	Width 2.30 m	Depth Unknown
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1701		Topsoil	Moderately compact, Dark yellowish brown silty loam, abundant bioturbation, 7% fine gravel sized sub-rounded flint. 5% medium gravel sized irregular shaped flint.	0–0.29
1702		Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay loam, some bioturbation. 10% Sparse Fine-medium gravel sized sub-rounded flint.	0.29–0.36
1703		Natural	Yellowish brown silty clay, mottled with grey. 7% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint. 5% medium to coarse gravel sized sub-rounded flint.	0.36+

Trench No 18		Length 50.20 m	Width 2.30 m	Depth 0.69 m
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Easting		Northing		m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL	
1801		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty loam. Abundant bioturbation, moderate compaction and 20% moderate rounded gravel 1-10mm.	0-0.30	
1802		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown Silty Clay, very compact with 10% sparse rounded gravel 1-10mm and rare bioturbation.	0.30-0.66	
1803		Natural	Mid reddish brown sandy Clay gravel, with multiple Dark grey patches. 50% abundant rounded gravel 1-10mm.	0.66+	
1804		Ditch	Completely flooded through groundwater as uncovered, so unexcavated.		
1805		Fill	Fill of ditch.		

Trench No 19		Length 50 m		Width 2.30 m		Depth 1 m	
Easting		Northing		m OD			
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL			
1901		Topsoil	Mid orangish brown silty clay loam, 10% fine gravel sized sub-angular flint, 5% medium gravel sized sub-angular flint, 1% coarse sized sub-rounded flint	0-0.2			
1902		Subsoil	Mid orangish brown clay loam, 10% fine gravel sized sub-angular flint, 3% medium gravel sized sub-angular flint	0.2-0.44			
1903		Natural	Light orangish brown clay loam, 30% medium gravel sized sub-angular flint, 20% fine gravel sized sub-angular flint	0.44+			
1904	1905	Tree Throw	Irregular in shape, slot started 12.4.23 but stopped due to filling up with water. no context sheet				
1905	1904	Fill	Light brown sandy clay silt. no context sheet				



Trench No 20		Length 50 m		Width 2.15 m		Depth 0.40 m	
Easting			Northing			m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
2001		Topsoil	Mid brownish very slightly (very fine) sandy clay with moderate rooting from turf and a clear boundary to natural Very rare small gravel inclusions up to 0.05m in size.			0-0.35	
2002		Subsoil	Mid slightly reddish yellow silty clay with very rare patches of greyer s silty clay			0.35+	
2003	2004	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned West-East.				
2004	2003	Secondary fill	***Soil description could not be reconstructed from the context sheet. Is it really a Fill or Layer?***				

Trench No 21		Length 49.80 m		Width 2.20 m		Depth 0.60 m	
Easting			Northing			m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
2101		Topsoil	Dark brown Slightly sandy (fine) silty clay with common gravel less than 0.08m in size. Moderate rooting from the turf above.			0-0.22	
2102		Subsoil	Mid brown silty clay with a clear horizon to natural. Rare flints less than 0.05m in size			0.22-0.56	
2103		Natural	Most of the trench is a reddish brown sandy gravel with a short patch of yellowish silty clay at North end.			0.56+	
2104	2105	Bioturbation	Slightly irregular but roughly oval shaped feature with irregular base. Water table infilling area with water.				
2105	2104	Pale brownish sandy silty clay	No inclusions.				
2106	2107	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned SSE-NNW with moderate, straight sides and a flat base. Length: >2.00 m. Width: 0.92 m. Depth: 0.16 m.				
2107	2106	Secondary fill	Mid-greyish brown friable, silty clay with common small to medium size stones, common manganese				
2108	2109	Pit	Sub-circular pit with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 0.84 m. Depth: 0.12 m.				
2109	2108	Secondary fill	Dark brown silty clay with 40% abundant rounded flint, 10-40mm				



2110	2111	Ditch	Incomplete ditch aligned North-South with undercut. Width: >0.76 m. Depth: >0.32 m.	
2111	2110	Secondary fill	Mid reddish brown silty clay with 40% abundant rounded stone 10-40mm	
2112	2113	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned Northwest-Southeast with shallow, concave sides and a concave base. Width: 0.70 m. Depth: 0.11 m.	
2113	2112	Secondary fill	Dark grey brown silt with 10% moderate rounded stone- 10-40mm	

Trench No 22		Length Unknown		Width 2.20 m		Depth 0.60 m	
Easting			Northing			m OD 0	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
2201		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay silt with very rare stones less than 0.08m I'm size. heavy rooting from topsoil.			0-0.20	
2202		Subsoil	Mid brown clay silt with very rare small flints less than 0.08m in size and moderate rooting.			0.20-0.50	
2203		Layer	Mid blue grey very slightly very fine sandy clay silt with heavy reddish mottled and sparse manganese.			0.50-0.65	
2204		Natural	Reddish brown silty clay with blueish mottes. heavier clay towards north end of trench.			0.65+	

Trench No 23		Length 50 m		Width 2.20 m		Depth 0.39 m	
Easting			Northing			m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
2301		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty loam, 7% fine gravel sized sub-rounded flint, 3% rare medium to coarse gravel sized sub-rounded flint. Heavy rooting from topsoil.			0-0.29	
2302		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown silty clay, 10% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 5% medium to coarse gravel sized sub-rounded flint.			0.29-0.39	
2303		Natural	Yellowish brown sandy clay, 25% fine gravel sized irregular flint, 10% medium gravel sized sub-rounded flint, 5% coarse to cobble sized sub-rounded flint. Some sandy / silty patches.			0.39+	
2304	2305	Uncategorised feature	Linear uncategorised feature aligned ne sw with steep, straight sides and a flat base. Length: >2.50 m. Width: 2.45 m. Depth: 0.35 m.				



2305	2304	Secondary fill	Grey brown clay sandy silt with occasional flint gravel inclusions	
2306	2307, 2308	Uncategorised feature	Linear uncategorised feature aligned NE SW with moderate, straight sides and an irregular / undulating base. Length: 1.90 m. Width: 2.50 m. Depth: 0.35 m.	
2307	2306	Secondary fill	Grey brown clay sandy silt with few flint gravel inclusions	
2308	2306	Secondary fill	Grey brown clay sandy silt with occasional flint gravel inclusions	

Trench No 24		Length 50 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.45 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2401		Topsoil	Mid brown clay-silt with a slight rusty hue. Friable, quite loose and root-turbated. Very sparse sub-rounded gravel $\leq 0.04m\phi$	0–0.15
2402		Subsoil	Mid brown clay-silt. Sparse sub-rounded gravel mainly along horizon with topsoil. slightly compacted.	0.15–0.45
2403		Natural	Rusty orange-brown clay with frequent gravel throughout.	0.45+
2404	2405	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned NE-SW with moderate, stepped sides and an u-shaped base. Length: >8.00 m. Depth: 0.21 m.	
2405	2404	Secondary fill	Pale greyish brown slightly silty clay with very sparse sub-rounded gravel $\leq 0.09m$	

Trench No 25		Length 50 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.36 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2501		Topsoil	Dark Yellowish brown silty loam, 15% fine to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 7% cobble sized irregular shaped flint. abundant bioturbation.	0–0.15
2502		Colluvium	Bluish grey Silty clay, 60% fine to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 7% cobble sized irregular shaped flint.	0.15–0.36
2503		Natural	Yellowish brown sandy clay. 30% fine to medium gravel sized irregular flint, 7% coarse gravel sized sub-rounded flint, 3% cobble sized sub-rounded flint.	0.36+



2504	2505	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.00 m. Width: 0.50 m. Depth: 0.29 m.	
2505	2504	Ditch	Bluish grey silty clay with 20% coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 40% fine to medium gravel sized sub-rounded flint	

Trench No 26		Length 50 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth 0.32 m
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2601		Topsoil	Dark Yellowish brown silty loam, 15% fine to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 7% cobble sized irregular shaped flint. abundant bioturbation.	0–0.28
2602		Natural	Yellowish brown sandy clay. 30% fine to medium gravel sized irregular flint, 7% coarse gravel sized sub-rounded flint, 3% cobble sized sub-rounded flint.	0.28+
2603	2604	Ditch	Unexcavated. Slightly curvilinear. NW-SE aligned. 0.75 m wide	
2604	2603	Fill	Fill of unexcavated ditch. Mid grey brown silty clay	

Trench No 27		Length 50 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth Unknown
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2701		Topsoil	Yellowish brown Silty clay loam, 10% fine to medium gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 7% coarse cobble sized sub-rounded flint. abundant bioturbation.	0–0.19
2702		Natural	Yellowish brown speckled with bluish grey silty clay. 15% Fine to medium gravel sized irregular flint, 7% coarse cobble sized sub-rounded flint.	0.19+
2703		not used	Not used	
2704	2705	Linear feature	Incomplete linear feature aligned N-S with steep, irregular sides and a flat base. Length: >9.00 m. Depth: 0.17 m.	
2705	2704	Secondary fill	Mid brown silty c mid brown silty clay with very sparse sub-rounded gravel ≤0.08mø	



Trench No 28		Length 50 m		Width 2.20 m		Depth 0.43 m	
Easting			Northing			m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
2801		Topsoil	Dark brown silty loam, abundant bioturbation, 7% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 10% medium to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint.			0-0.04	
2802		Subsoil	Loosely compacted mid yellowish brown sandy silt loam, 5% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 10% medium to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 5% cobble sized irregular shaped flint. Abundant bioturbation.			0.04-0.3	
2803		Buried soil	Buried topsoil. Compacted dark yellowish brown silty clay loam. moderate bioturbation. 7% fine to medium gravel sized irregular shaped flint.			0.3-0.43	
2804		Natural	Bluish grey mottled with yellowish brown silty clay, 20% fine to medium gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 15% coarse-cobble gravel sized irregular shaped flint. signs of bioturbation. CBM			0.43+	

Trench No 29		Length 50 m		Width 2.20 m		Depth Unknown	
Easting			Northing			m OD	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL	
2901		Topsoil	Dark brown silty loam, 5% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint. 5% medium to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint. Abundant bioturbation.			0.24	
2902		Colluvium	Bluish grey silty clay loam, 40% fine-coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint. 5% cobble sized irregular shaped flint.			0.24-0.31	
2903		Natural	Yellowish brown silty clay mottled with bluish grey silty clay, 10% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 15% medium to coarse gravel sized sub-rounded flint.			0.31+	



Trench No 30		Length 50 m	Width 2.20 m	Depth Unknown
Easting		Northing		m OD
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
3001		Topsoil	Dark brown silty loam, 5% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint. 5% medium to coarse gravel sized irregular shaped flint. Abundant bioturbation.	0-0.3
3002		Natural	Yellowish grey clay, 20% fine gravel sized irregular shaped flint, 15% medium to coarse gravel sized sub-rounded flint. abundant bioturbation.	0.3+
3003	3004	Gully	Linear gully with steep, straight sides and a V-shaped base. Length: 1.65 m. Width: 0.21 m. Depth: 0.12 m.	
3004	3004	Secondary fill	Mottled greyish brown very fine slightly sandy clay silt with sparse gravel up to 0.08m in size	



Appendix 2 Environmental Data

Trench	Phase	Feature Type	Feature	Context	Sample Code	Sample vol. (l)	Flot vol. (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other
15	LIA-RB	Ditch	1508	1509	278160_1	8	15	60% roots, modern seeds B	-	C	<i>Triticum</i> sp. glume bases and spikelet forks (inc. <i>T. spelta</i>)	C	<i>Danthonia decumbens</i> , tuber/rhizome	10	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> tp. stems, <i>Betula</i> sp., <i>Quercus</i> sp. stw	Coal (B)
15	Uncertain	Pit	1504	1505	278160_2	6	500	<1% roots, modern seeds C	-	-	-	-	-	400	<i>Quercus</i> sp. stw/hw - vitrification and radial cracking	-
15	Uncertain	Ditch	1513	1514	278160_3	9	5	90% roots, soil fungus sclerotia	-	-	-	-	-	<1	only 2mm present	Coal (C)
14	Uncertain	Pit?	1404	1406	278160_4	10	10	90% roots, modern seeds A, earthworm egg cases	-	-	-	-	-	<1	only 2mm present	Coal (C)
14	Uncertain	Natural - bioturbation	1407	1408	278160_5	8	15	90% roots, modern seeds B, earthworm egg cases	-	-	-	-	-	<1	only 2mm present	Coal (A) Clinker/ cinder (B)
14	Uncertain	Ditch	1409	1410	278160_6	7	15	60% roots, modern seeds C	-	-	-	C	Vicieae	1	-	Coal (B)
9	LIA-RB	Ditch	909	912	278160_7	17	10	80% roots, modern seeds A	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
9	LIA-RB	Pit?	906	908	278160_8	15	20	80% roots, modern seeds C, soil fungus sclerotia	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	Coal, clinker/ cinder (A)

Abundance scale – C = <5 ('Trace'), B = 5-10 ('Rare'), A = 10-30 ('Occasional'), A* = 30-100 ('Common'), A** = 100-500 ('Abundant'), A*** = >500 ('Very abundant/Exceptional');
Wood charcoal – stw = stemwood



Appendix 3 OASIS summary

Summary for wessexar1-516108

OASIS ID (UID)	wessexar1-516108
Project Name	Sherecroft Farm, Botley, Hampshire: Archaeological Evaluation
Sitename	Sherecroft Farm, Botley, Hampshire
Activity type	Trial Trench
Project Identifier(s)	Sherecroft Farm, Botley, Hampshire
Planning Id	20/00494/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Wessex Archaeology
Project Dates	06-Apr-2023 - 24-Apr-2023
Location	Sherecroft Farm, Botley, Hampshire NGR : SU 51829 13141 LL : 50.91541320611705, -1.264103647122853 12 Fig : 451829,113141
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Hampshire District : Winchester Parish : Curdridge
Project Methodology	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Tetra Tech, on behalf of Abri Group Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of an 8 ha parcel of land located in Sherecroft Farm, Botley, Hampshire, The evaluation, comprising thirty trial trenches (each measuring 50 m by 2 m) was carried out between 6 and 24 April 2023.

Project Results

Twenty one of the thirty excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, demonstrating archaeological remains are present across the site. A total of 44 features, comprising ditches, gullies, pits, a possible posthole and a number of other features, represented four periods of activity: Late Bronze Age, Late Iron Age/early Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval, though most of the features remain of uncertain date.

The evaluation was able to demonstrate extent, character, date, condition and quality of the archaeological remains, and although there was a paucity of dating evidence it was able to show evidence of activity from Late Bronze Age through to the post-medieval.

The test of the geophysical survey was mixed. There was limited confidence in the results and the more definite anomalies were confirmed but often not in multiple locations. And the features with the clearest dating did not correspond with the survey.

None of the feature in trench 9 match the geophysics, nor do they continue into other trenches, which suggests they form a fairly discrete area. Ditches 909 and 913 are 17.5 m apart centre to centre and pit 906 is equidistant between them. They are parallel and not on the same alignment as the trench so they are not forming a circle. Pottery suggests ditch 913 is significantly older than ditch 909 but ditch 909 has residue artefacts from the same period. So it is possible that the Late Bronze Age material in ditch 913 is residual, as assumed in ditch 909, and that all three features are contemporary and date to the Late Iron Age/early Romano-British period.

The environmental evidence from the feature 1504 contained a high proportion of oak which is not typical of domestic refuse, and it has been suggested that it could be associated with a cremation burial rite. A Middle Bronze Age placed urn deposit was identified to the west of the site by the Botley bypass investigations.

Pottery from ditch 1508 is also Late Iron Age or early Romano-British but is described as more Romanised and therefore possible a little later than that in trench 9. Again there is no obvious continuation of the ditch beyond trenches 8 or 10, although there is a possible connection with undated ditch 10604 from the Botley bypass investigations.

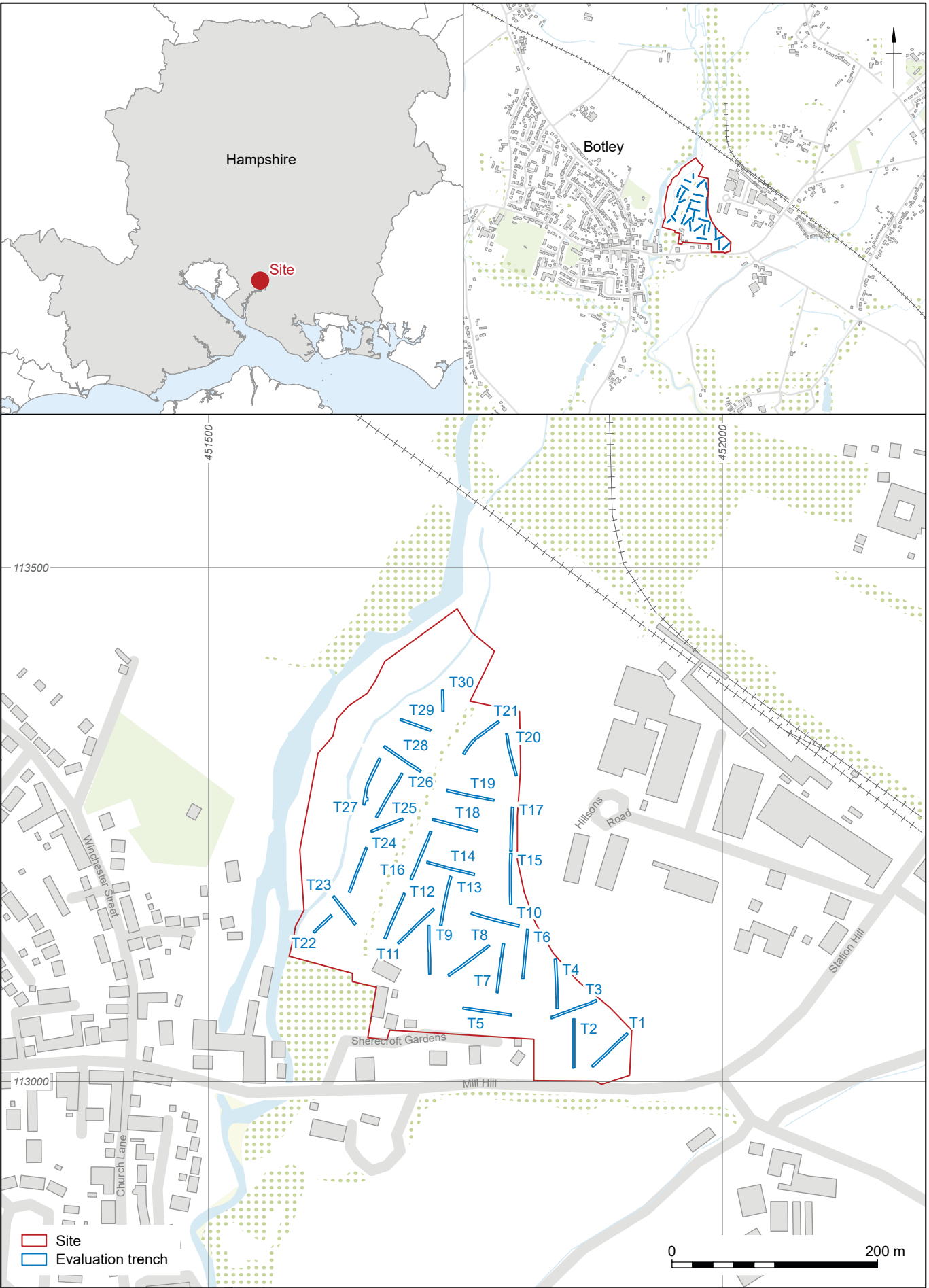
Environmental evidence in ditch 1508 is typical of a Late Iron Age/Romano-British site and is likely to reflect background settlement 'noise', suggesting that the ditch is located near to settlement features where domestic refuse was discarded.

Two watering holes were dated to this same period by the Botley Bypass investigations are located 100 m south-east of ditch 1508 and 150 m east of the features in trench 9. They too have ditches either side of them.

A spread of material, 1104, contained High Medieval pottery. It appears to be isolated but could be related to ditch 1204 to the west which contained medieval/post-medieval tile. Neither corresponds to the geophysical survey result.

There are few clear continuations of ditches between trenches. Ditches 2003 and 2110 appear to be part of the same feature as undated ditch 10304 from the Botley bypass investigations and they all correspond to the geophysics. Otherwise, a number of ditch could be connected but it is never clear nor are they confirmed by the geophysics.

Keywords	<p>Boundary Ditch - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Boundary Ditch - MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Rubbish Pit - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p> <p>Sherd - LATE BRONZE AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Sherd - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Sherd - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Lithic Implement - UNCERTAIN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus</p> <p>Ditch - LATE BRONZE AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types</p>
Funder	
HER	Winchester HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	J, Kaines
HER Identifiers	
Archives	Physical Archive, Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Winchester Museums;

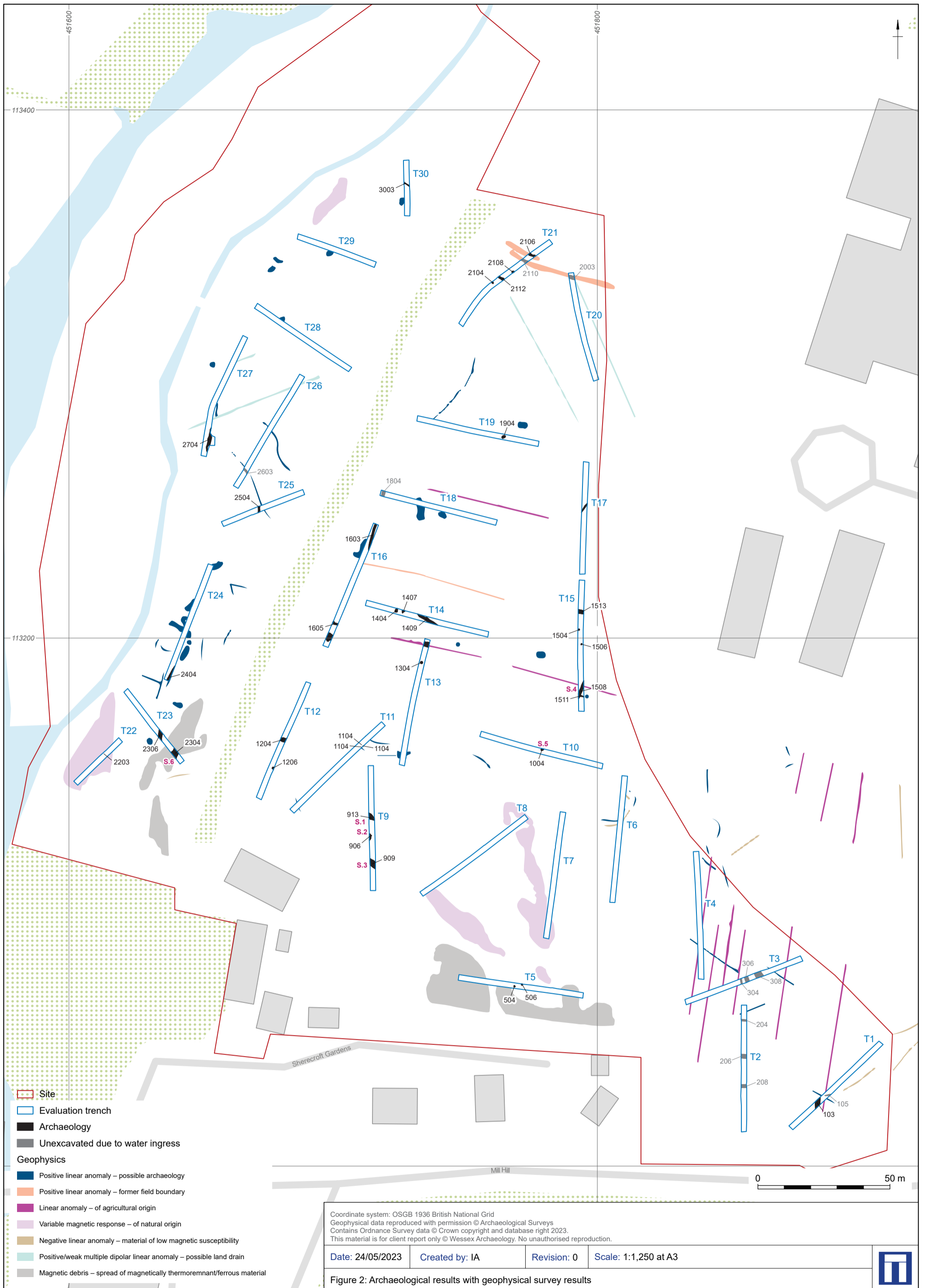


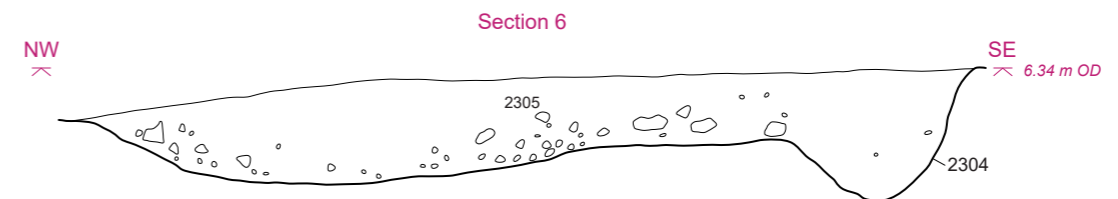
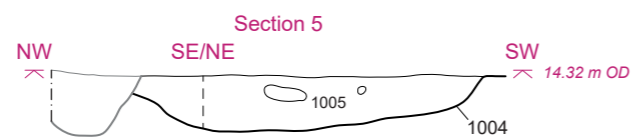
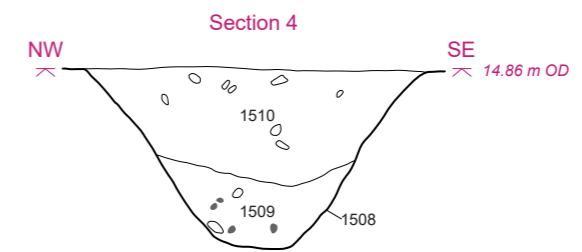
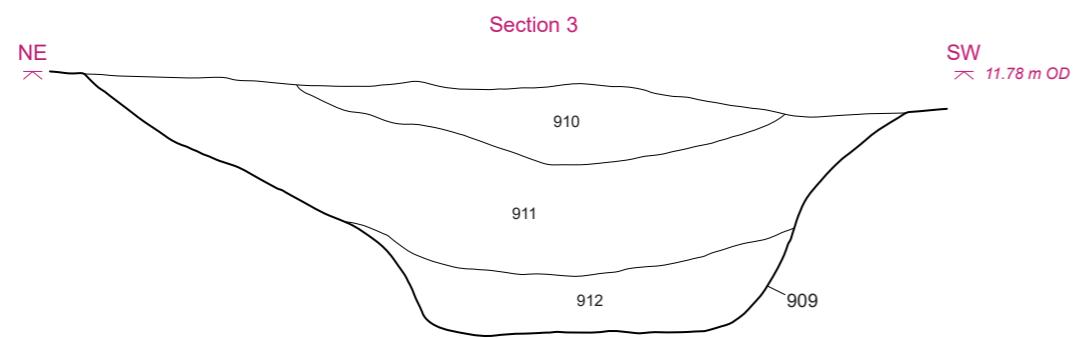
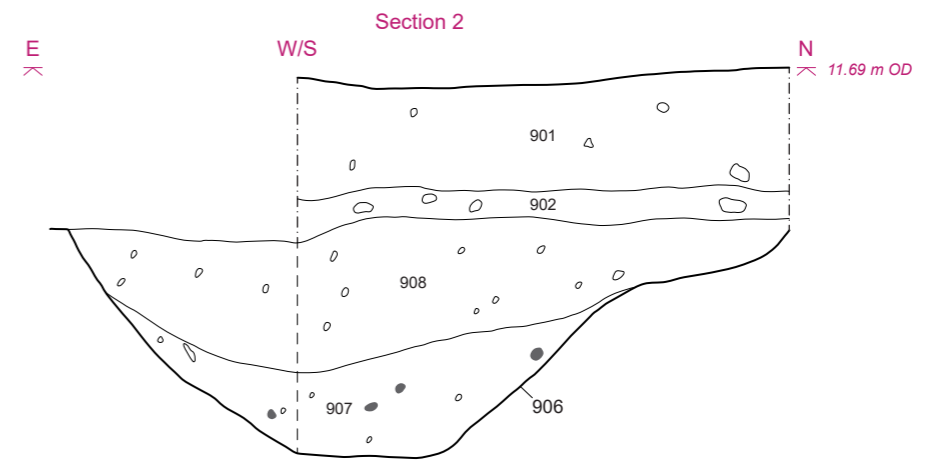
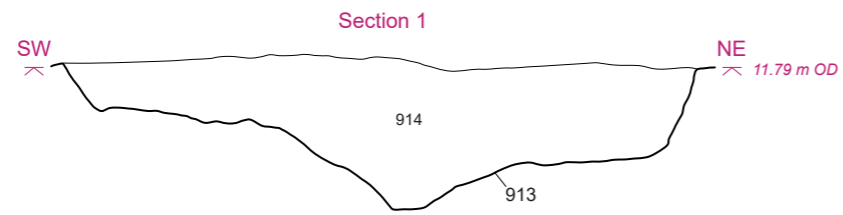
Coordinate system: OSGB 1936 British National Grid
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Figure 1: Site location and trench layout







○ Stone
● Charcoal



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Figure 3: Sections





Figure 4: West facing view through trench 9 (scale 1 m)



Figure 5: South-east facing view through trench 1 (1 m scale)



Figure 6: View of trench 9 from the south (scales 2 m and 1 m)



Figure 7: View of trench 16 from the south-east (scales 2 m and 1 m)



Figure 8: South-east facing section of ditch 913 (1 m scale)



Figure 9: North facing sections of pit 906 (0.5 m scale)



Figure 10: East facing sections of pit 906 (0.5 m scale)



Figure 11: North-west facing section of ditch 909 (1 m scale)



Figure 12: South-west facing section of ditch 1508 (scale 0.5 m)



Figure 13: West Facing longitudinal section of ditch 1004 (0.5 m scale)



Figure 14: South-west facing view of relationship between ditches 1508 and 1511 (scale 0.2 m)



Figure 15: North-west facing section through layer 1104 (2 m scale)



Figure 16: South-west facing section of ditch 2304 (scale 2 m)



Figure 17: South facing section of ditch 103 (1 m scale)



Figure 18: North-west facing section of ditch 1204 (1 m scale)



Figure 19: North-west facing section of pit 1506 (scale 0.2 m)



Figure 20: View of trench 1 from the south



Figure 21: View of trench 6 from the north



Figure 22: View of trench 16 from the north



Figure 23: View of trench 1 from the south



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