



Rushmore Park Parking Bays Tollard Royal, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation Report





**RUSHMORE PARK PARKING BAYS,
TOLLARD ROYAL,
WILTSHIRE**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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On behalf of:
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June 2010

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QUALITY ASSURANCE

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|---------------------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------|--|
| SITE CODE | 73792 | ACCESSION CODE | | CLIENT CODE | |
| PLANNING APPLICATION REF. | | NGR | 395397, 117460 | | |

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* I= INTERNAL DRAFT E= EXTERNAL DRAFT F= FINAL

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

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- Figure 1** Site and trench location plan
Figure 2 Trenches 2 to 4: plans and sections

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Savills on behalf of the Trustees of MALF Pitt Rivers and Sandroyd School, to undertake an archaeological field evaluation along a number of passing bays positioned adjacent to an access track within Rushmore Park, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire, located at National Grid Reference (NGR) 395397, 117460.

A Desk-Based Assessment carried out by Wessex Archaeology in 2010 focused on a Study Area of 500m either side of the access track and identified numerous sites and find spots, ranging in date from the prehistoric to modern periods.

In total 31 passing bays were proposed along approximately 4km of the access track and the Assistant County Archaeologist requested an archaeological evaluation of four of the passing bays, given the close proximity of known archaeological features. The archaeological evaluation consisted of four 15m x 2m trenches positioned in four of the passing bays (Nos. 4, 5, 7 and 20).

Trench 1, located at Passing Bay 20 was not excavated as it was positioned under the canopy of a mature beech tree. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded in the remaining three trenches and no surface or topsoil finds were retrieved.

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Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by Savills on behalf of Trustees of MALF Pitt Rivers and Sandroyd School and Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Ruth Mason in this regard. Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank Clare King of Wiltshire Council, who monitored the project, for her advice and assistance.

The fieldwork was directed by Jon Martin, assisted by Ben Cullen who also surveyed the trenches. The report was researched and compiled by Jon Martin. The drawings were prepared by Kenneth Lymer. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Sue Farr and Paul White.

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Archaeological Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Savills on behalf of the Trustees of MALF Pitt Rivers and Sandroyd School, to undertake an archaeological field evaluation along a number of passing bays positioned adjacent to an access track within Rushmore Park, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire, located at National Grid Reference (NGR) 395397, 117460 hereafter 'the Site' (**Figure1**).

1.1.2 The area surrounding the Site has previously been identified as archaeologically significant, containing seven Scheduled Monuments and eight Grade II Listed Buildings.

1.1.3 The proposed works will require planning permissions and although an application has not yet been submitted, the Assistant County Archaeologist at Wiltshire Council had advised that an archaeological evaluation would be required ahead of the determination of the application to provide further information on the archaeological potential of the Site.

1.2 The Site, location and geology

1.2.1 Proposals for the Site comprise formalising passing bays adjacent to the main access track to Sandroyd School and the Rushmore Park Golf Club. In total 31 passing bays are proposed along approximately 4km of the access track. Three of the passing bays (21, 22 and 23) are located within the scheduled area of South Lodge, an important late prehistoric landscape, which includes a settlement enclosure and numerous burial mounds.

1.2.2 The Site is located on Upper Chalk, which was laid down as sedimentary deposits during the Upper Cretaceous period (Geological Survey of Great Britain (England & Wales) 1:50,000 sheet 314).

1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 A previous desk-based assessment (Wessex Archaeology, 2010) focused on a Study Area of 500m either side of the access track and identified numerous sites and find spots, ranging in date from the prehistoric to modern periods. A summary of these results is provided below.

Designated Sites

1.3.2 There are five Scheduled Monuments within the Study Area, although these lie in seven different Scheduled areas. The access road is partially

positioned with the Scheduled Monument of South Lodge Camp (SM 33564) which comprises a field system and barrow cemetery.

- 1.3.3 There are eight Grade II Listed Buildings within the Study Area, all of which are 19th century in date.
- 1.3.4 The entire Site lies within the Grade II Registered Park and Garden around Rushmore Park. The park incorporates a 17th century enclosure and a medieval deer park.

Previous Fieldwork

- 1.3.5 Various archaeological monuments within the Rushmore Estate were investigated by Augustus Lane-Fox Pitt-Rivers who inherited the land in 1880. He opened a number of barrows as well as investigating the Carrion Tree Rack boundary dyke and South Lodge Bronze Age camp
- 1.3.6 South Lodge camp was re-excavated between 1977 and 1981 and the phasing of the site was found to comprise of two distinct periods of activity during the Bronze Age (Barrett *et al*, 1991).
- 1.3.7 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken in 2007 by Wessex Archaeology during the installation of an electricity cable. Five ditches were located to the south of Park House, and although no dating evidence was collected, a prehistoric date was considered highly likely. One of the ditches encountered appeared to follow the projected line of the Scheduled Carrion Tree Rack (Wessex Archaeology 2007).

2 AIMS

2.1 Aims of the Evaluation

- 2.1.1 The aims of the archaeological field evaluation were to:
- Clarify the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains within the Site that may be threatened by development.
 - Identify, within the constraints of the evaluation, the date, character, condition and depth of any surviving remains within the Site.
 - Assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits.
 - Produce a report which will present the results of the evaluation in sufficient detail to allow an informed decision to be made concerning the Site's archaeological potential

3 EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 Although the WSI proposed the machine excavation of four trial trenches (15m x 1.8m) positioned on the locations of proposed Passing Bays 4, 5, 7

and 20, one of these, Trench 1 (bay 20), could not be completed due to its location beneath a tree canopy.

3.1.2 All works were undertaken in accordance with the standards set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

3.1.3 All works were conducted in compliance with the standards outlined in the Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations* (as amended 2008).

3.2 Health and Safety

3.2.1 All work was carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety (H&S) at Work Act 1974 and the Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992, and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time. An H&S Risk Assessment was produced by Wessex Archaeology prior to the commencement of the fieldwork.

3.3 Service Location and Tree Canopies

3.3.1 All evaluation trench locations were scanned before and during excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) in order to verify the absence of any live underground services. Where necessary, trenches were repositioned or shortened to avoid damaging cables and water pipes.

3.3.2 No trench was located or excavated within the canopy of a tree.

3.4 Mechanical Excavation

3.4.1 The trial trenches were excavated using a JCB excavator using a toothless bucket and under constant supervision by Wessex Archaeology. Machine excavation continued to a depth at which the top of archaeological levels, or the top of natural deposits, were exposed, whichever was the higher.

3.4.2 Trenches were fenced using road pins and barrier tape.

3.4.3 Recorded trenches were backfilled using the excavated material in the approximate order in which they were excavated by Wessex Archaeology and left level on completion. There was no other reinstatement or surface treatment. Digital photographs were taken of the backfilled trenches.

3.5 Excavation

3.5.1 Each trench was cleaned by hand where appropriate. A representative section (no less than 1m in length) of deposits through each trench from ground surface to the top of the natural geology was recorded.

3.6 Recording

3.6.1 All recording was undertaken using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording sheets and recording system.

3.6.2 A complete drawn record of trenches was compiled. This included both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and with reference to a site grid tied to the Ordnance Survey

National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all trenches was calculated and plans/sections were annotated with OD heights.

- 3.6.3 A full photographic record was maintained during the evaluation using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images will be subject to managed quality control and curation processes which will embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the images.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 A total of three trenches (approximately 15m x 1.8m) were mechanically excavated and positioned at the locations of proposed Passing Bays 4, 5 and 7. Trench 1 located at Passing Bay 20 was not excavated as it extended under the canopy of a mature beech tree. None of the trenches revealed any archaeological features or deposits.

4.2 Trench Descriptions

- 4.2.1 Trench 2 (**Figure 1**) was located at Passing Bay 7 and was orientated from north-north-east to south-south-west. It measured 15.70m long by 2.00m wide and had a depth of 0.30m. Greyish brown silt loam topsoil overlay reddish brown clay with flint natural which was reached at a depth of 0.12m. A modern water pipe was positioned across the centre of the trench on an east to west alignment. A modern service trench was also visible, extending from the water pipe on a north to south alignment.
- 4.2.2 Trench 3 (**Figure 1**) was positioned at Passing Bay 5 and was orientated from north-east to south-west. It measured 14.50m long by 1.75m wide with a depth of 0.28m. Greyish brown silt loam topsoil overlay the natural at a depth of 0.20m. The natural comprised weathered chalk interspersed with small areas of reddish brown clay with flint, indicative of periglacial features. A modern roadside ditch cut along the length of the trench, parallel with the eastern section and measured 0.55m wide. A narrow, north to south aligned service trench was also recorded, which extended from under the eastern trench section for a distance of 8.80m then exited the trench under the western section.
- 4.2.3 Trench 4 (**Figure 1**) was located at Passing Bay 4 and was aligned from north-north-east to south-south-west. It was 15.30m long by 1.90m wide with a depth of 0.39m. Greyish brown silt loam topsoil overlay the natural at a depth of 0.30m. The natural comprised weathered chalk interspersed with small areas of reddish brown clay with flint. A modern roadside ditch (as identified in Trench 3) was visible cut into the natural. It was aligned north-north-east to south-south-west and extended along the entire length of the trench.

4.3 Finds

- 4.3.1 No finds were retrieved during the evaluation.

4.4 Environmental Sampling

- 4.4.1 No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were identified during the course of the evaluation.

5 DISCUSSION

- 5.1.1 Although no archaeological features or deposits were revealed by the evaluation trenches, the Site lies within an area that contains a high density of previously recorded sites and monuments and it is possible that further construction works associated with the passing bays may reveal areas of archaeological interest.

6 ARCHIVE

- 6.1.1 The project archive is currently held at Wessex Archaeology's Salisbury office, under the Site code 73792. The archive, including copies of all photographs will be deposited with the Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum.
- 6.1.2 The completed project archive will be prepared in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Appendix 3 of Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991) and in accordance with the Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (UKIC 1990).
- 6.1.3 Details of the Site will be submitted online to the OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) database.

7 REFERENCES

- Barrett, J. Bradley, R and Green, M 1991 *Landscape, monuments and society. The prehistory of Cranborne Chase*. CUP, Cambridge
- Wessex Archaeology 2007 *Minchington E1L5 11kv Electricity Cabling Refurbishment, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire*. Report Reference: 66650.01.
- Wessex Archaeology 2010 *Rushmore Park Parking Bays, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire. Archaeological Desk-based Assessment 73791*
- Wessex Archaeology, 2010, *Written Scheme of Investigation, Method Statement for an Archaeological evaluation*, Unpublished Client Report, 73792.01

8 APPENDIX I TRENCH SUMMARY TABLES

| | | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Trench 2 | Ground Level 177.98 aOD. | Dimensions(m): 15.70 x 2.00 Max. depth(m): 0.30 |
| Context | Description | Depth (m) |
| 201 | Turf and topsoil, dark greyish brown silt loam, flint and chalk inclusions | 0-0.12m |
| 202 | Natural, dark reddish brown clay with flints | 0.12+ |

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Trench 3 | Ground Level 185.64 aOD. | Dimensions(m): 14.50 x 1.75 Max. depth(m): 0.28 |
| Context | Description | Depth (m) |
| 301 | Turf and topsoil dark greyish brown silt loam, flint and chalk inclusions | 0-0.30m |
| 301 | Natural, weathered chalk with areas of dark reddish brown clay with flints. | 0.20m+ |

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Trench 4 | Ground Level 188.41 aOD. | Dimensions(m): 15.30 x 1.90 Max. depth(m): 0.39 |
| Context | Description | Depth (m) |
| 401 | Turf and topsoil, dark greyish brown silt loam, flint and chalk inclusions | 0-0.30m |
| 401 | Natural, weathered chalk with areas of dark reddish brown clay with flints. | 0.30m+ |

9 OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: ENGLAND

9.1 OASIS ID: wessexar1-78698

Project details

Project name Rushmore Park Parking Bays, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire

Short description of the project Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Savills on behalf of the Trustees of MALF Pitt Rivers and Sandroyd School, to undertake an archaeological field evaluation along a number of passing bays positioned adjacent to an access track within Rushmore Park, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire, located at National Grid Reference (NGR) 395397, 117460. A Desk-Based Assessment carried out by Wessex Archaeology in 2010 focused on a Study Area of 500m either side of the access track and identified numerous sites and find spots, ranging in date from the prehistoric to modern periods. In total 31 passing bays were proposed along approximately 4km of the access track and the Assistant County Archaeologist requested an archaeological evaluation of four of the passing bays, given the close proximity of known archaeological features. The archaeological evaluation consisted of four 15m x 2m trenches positioned in four of the passing bays (Nos. 4, 5, 7 and 20). Trench 1, located at Passing Bay 20 was not excavated as it was positioned under the canopy of a mature beech tree. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded in the remaining three trenches and no surface or topsoil finds were retrieved.

Project dates Start: 21-05-2010 End: 25-06-2010

Previous/future work Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference codes 73792.03 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Other 12 - Verge

Monument type NONE None

Significant Finds NONE None

Methods & 'Sample Trenches'
techniques

Development type New passing bays adjacent to existing road

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Position in the Pre-application
planning process

Project location

Country England

Site location WILTSHIRE SALISBURY TOLLARD ROYAL Rushmore Park
Pasing Bays

Postcode SP5 5QA

Study area 59500.00 Square metres

Site coordinates ST 850 173 50.9543881043 -2.213579053230 50 57 15 N 002 12
48 W Point

Lat/Long Datum Unknown

Height OD / Depth Min: 177.98m Max: 188.41m

Project creators

Name of Wessex Archaeology
Organisation

Project brief Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory
originator body

Project design Wessex Archaeology
originator

Project director/manager Sue Farr

Project supervisor J Martin

Type of Developer
sponsor/funding
body

Name of Savills on behalf of the Trustees of MALF Pitt Rivers and Sandroyd
sponsor/funding School
body

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

Digital Archive Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum
recipient

Digital Contents 'Stratigraphic','Survey'

Digital Media 'Images raster / digital photography','Survey','Text'
available

Paper Archive Salisbury and South Wilts Museum
recipient

Paper Contents 'Stratigraphic'

Paper Media 'Context sheet','Drawing','Notebook - Excavation',' Research','
available General Notes','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey
,','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Rushmore Park Parking Bays, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire

Author(s)/Editor(s) Wessex Archaeology

Other bibliographic 73792.03
details

Date 2010

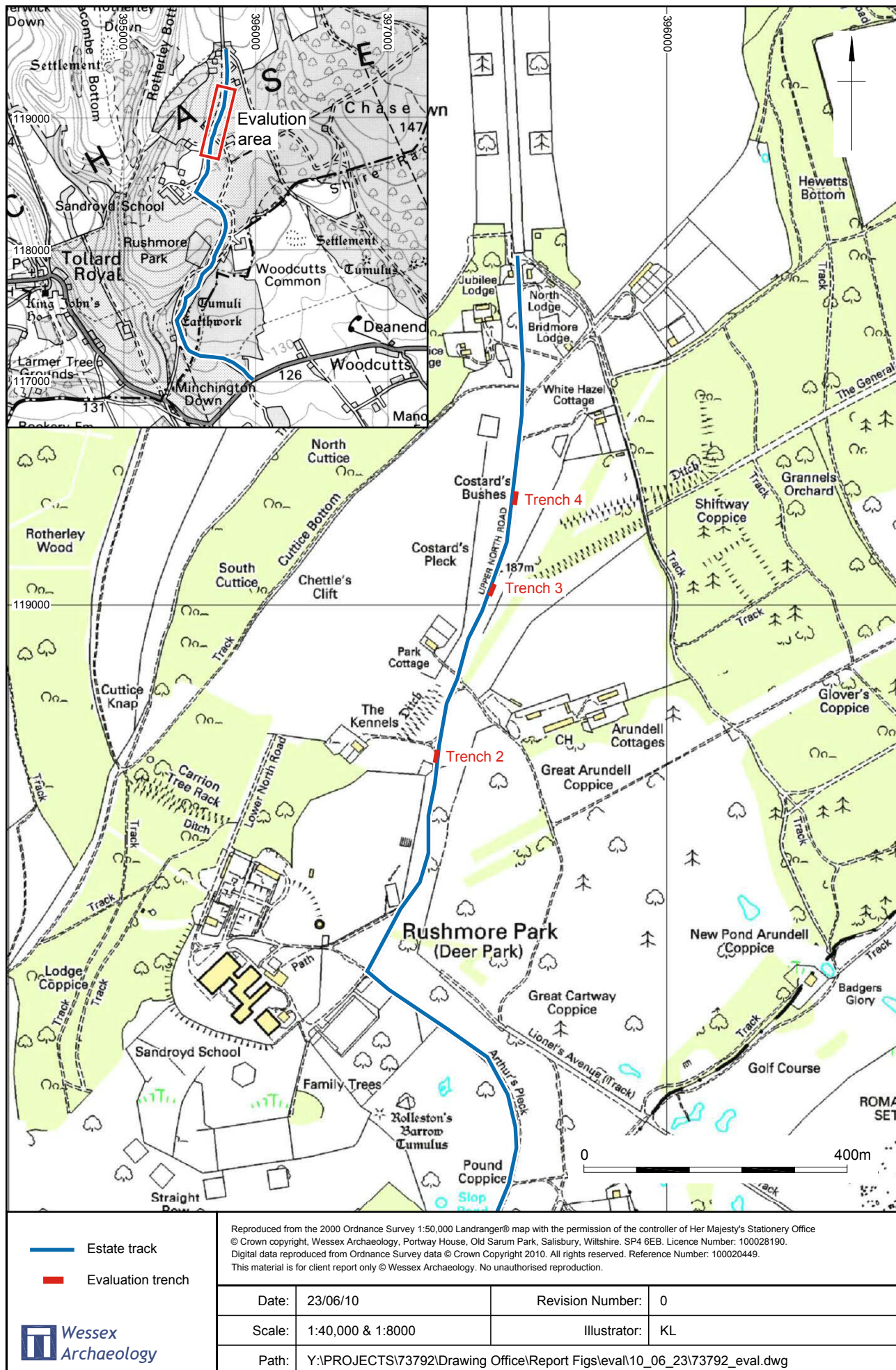
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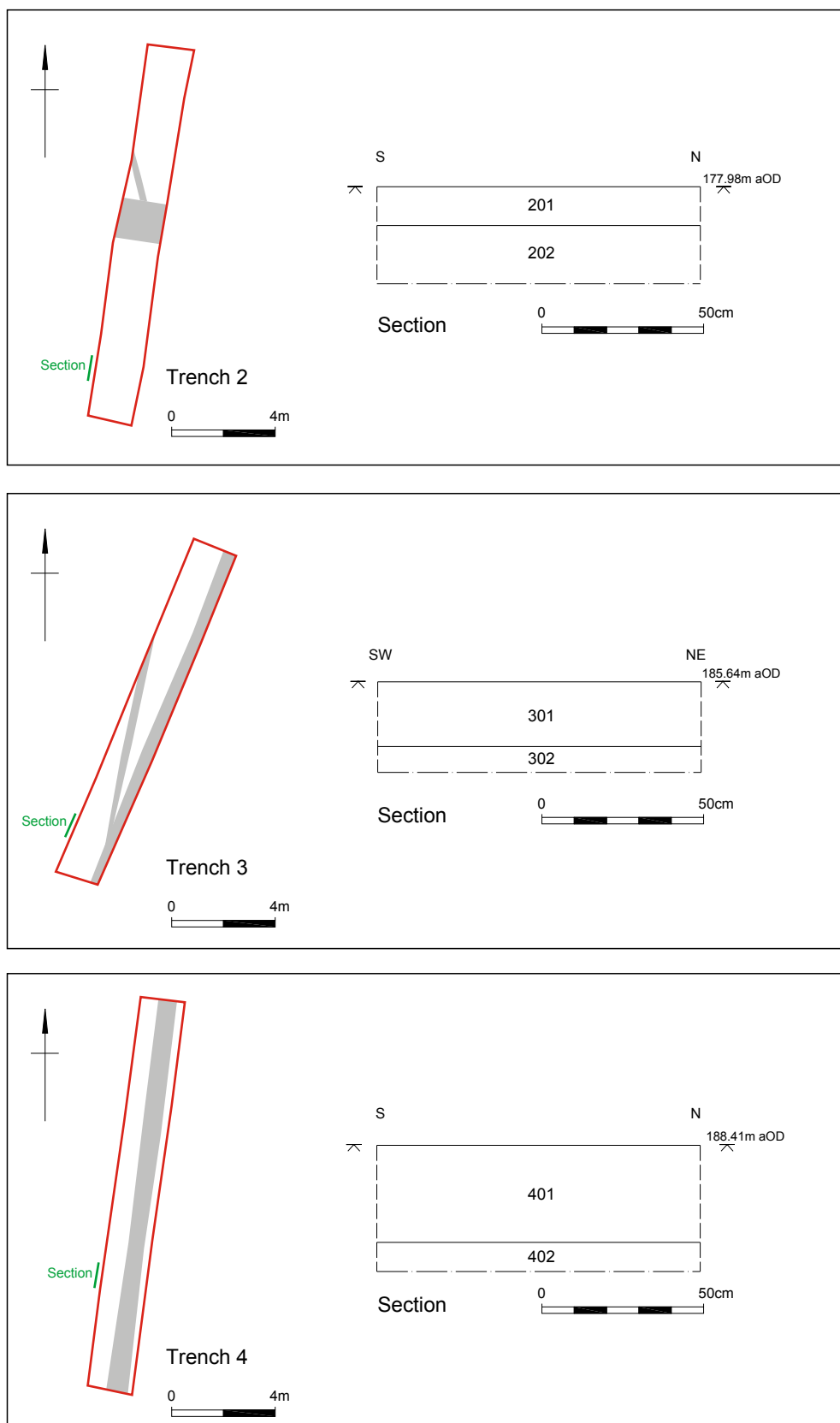
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Entered on 24 June 2010




Site and trench location plan

Figure 1



 Evaluation trench

 Modern disturbance

 **Wessex**
Archaeology

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Revision Number:

0

Scale: Plan 1:250 & Section 1:20

Illustrator: KL

Path: Y:\PROJECTS\73792\Drawing Office\Report Figs\eval\10_06_23\73792_eval.dwg

Trenches 2 to 4: plans and sections

Figure 2



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