

**Archaeological Watching Brief Report**

**Chilbolton WTW, Coley Lane  
Chilbolton, Hampshire, SO20 6AZ**

**NGR: 438790 139227  
(SU 38790 39227)**

**ASE Project No: 160473  
Site Code: CBO 17**

**ASE Report No: 2017467  
OASIS ID: archaeol6-299960**

**By Simon Stevens BA MCI(A)**

# Archaeological Watching Brief Report

**Chilbolton WTW, Coley Lane  
Chilbolton, Hampshire, SO20 6AZ**

**NGR: 438790 139227  
(SU 38790 39227)**


**ASE Project No: 160473  
Site Code: CBO 17**

**ASE Report No: 2017467  
OASIS ID: archaeol6-299960**

**By Simon Stevens BA MCI(A)**

**With contributions by**

**Karine Le Hégarat, Luke Barber,  
Trista Clifford and Elke Raemen**

<b>Prepared by:</b>	Simon Stevens	Senior Archaeologist	
<b>Reviewed and approved by:</b>	Andy Margetts	Project Manager	
<b>Date of Issue:</b>	December 2017		
<b>Revision:</b>	1		

**Archaeology South-East  
Units 1 & 2  
2 Chapel Place  
Portslade  
East Sussex  
BN41 1DR**

**Tel: 01273 426830  
Fax: 01273 420866  
Email: [fau@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:fau@ucl.ac.uk)**

**Abstract**

*Archaeology South-East was commissioned by MGJV on behalf of Southern Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Chilbolton WTW, Coley Lane, Chilbolton. Hampshire (NGR 438790 139227). The work involved the laying of a new water main along Coley Lane and then across West Down Nature Reserve, formerly the site of RAF Chilbolton.*

*A limited range of deposits relating to the use of the airfield during the 1940s, with some evidence of decommissioning of buildings was encountered and recorded, as well as the subsequent use of the site for landfill during the 1970s. A background scatter of prehistoric flintwork was recovered from the topsoil.*

## **CONTENTS**

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 The Finds**
- 6.0 Discussion and Conclusions**

**Bibliography**  
**Acknowledgements**

**Appendix 1 - Hampshire County Council HER Data**

**HER Summary**  
**OASIS Form**

## **FIGURES**

- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: Site plan showing local HER data
- Figure 3: Site plan showing local pipeline route overlain on plan of airfield features
- Figure 4: Selected photographs

## **TABLES**

- Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive
- Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples
- Table 3: List of recorded contexts in manually excavated test-pits
- Table 4: List of recorded contexts in mechanically excavated test-pits
- Table 5: List of recorded contexts at new reservoir
- Table 6: List of recorded contexts in access lane to Nature Reserve
- Table 7: List of recorded contexts in easement and pipe trench at car park
- Table 8: List of recorded contexts in easement and pipe trench in Nature Reserve
- Table 9: List of recorded contexts in pasture
- Table 10: Overview of the finds assemblage

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Background**

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA) at the Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by MGJV on behalf of Southern Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief for the creation of a new reservoir and associated connections to Chilbolton Water Supply Works (WSW), Coley Lane, Chilbolton. Hampshire (NGR 438790 139227; Figure 1).

1.1.2 The scheme involved the creation of a new reservoir at Chilbolton WSW, and provision of a link to an existing water main in Coley Lane by the excavation of a pipe trench across West Down Nature Reserve and along Coley Lane.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

1.2.1 The site is located on the eastern slopes of the Test Valley, and consisted of groundworks in the carriageway of Coley Lane, within the boundaries of the West Down Nature Reserve and at a new reservoir at Chilbolton WSW, all linked by open cut trenching.

1.2.2 According to current data from the British Geological Survey, the underlying geology consists of Seaford Chalk Formation with some superficial deposits of River Terrace Gravel and Clay-with-Flints (BGS 2017)

### **1.3 Planning Background**

1.3.1 As Permitted Development under the terms of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015, the scheme falls outside of the usual Local Planning Authority framework(s).

1.3.2 However, following consultation between Southern Water, ASE and David Hopkins, County Archaeologist at Hampshire County Council, it was agreed that archaeological monitoring of the groundworks associated with the scheme would be prudent, given the proximity of known archaeological remains.

1.3.3 Subsequently a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) for the archaeological work was prepared by ASE. The document outlined the methodologies to be used on-site and in the reporting and archiving of the results of the monitoring of the groundworks (ASE 2017).

### **1.4 Scope of Report**

1.4.1 This report details the results of the archaeological monitoring of groundworks at the site undertaken between May and September 2017 by Simon Stevens (Senior Archaeologist). The project was managed by Neil Griffin (Project Manager) and by Jim Stevenson and Andy Margetts (Post-excavation Managers).

---

## 2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following background information and research aims are taken directly from the WSI (ASE 2017). The background summarises the known information relating to designated and non-designated heritage assets within approximately 1km of the scheme and is derived from Historic Environment Record (HER) data held by Hampshire County Council. The HER data is tabulated in Appendix 1 and shown on Figure 2.

### 2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 The Palaeolithic period was the earliest and longest phase of human history. A scatter of isolated finds of handaxes of Lower and Middle Palaeolithic date have been made from the sandy gravel deposits between the Test Valley and the chalk, concentrating in the area around Ashfield and Crampmoor, south-east of Romsey and at Ampfield. These mostly represent secondary material, but they do suggest the presence of human groups exploiting the wider watershed plateau between the Test and Itchen valleys. Two Palaeolithic flint implements, '*from Chilbolton*' (HCC25198/ HCC29974) are held by Winchester City Museum.

2.2.2 The Mesolithic saw the return of human communities to the area in response to improving post-glacial climatic conditions. The warming climate led to the spread of a succession of woodland types, culminating in a mixed broad-leaved forest dominated by oak but including elm, ash, alder, lime and hazel. Human communities exploited this woodland and the rich resources of the river valleys, with pollen analysis at Testwood charting the clearance of the woodland and the associated increase in alluviation within the valley deposits. Settlements comprised semi-permanent base camps occupied during the winter months and a series of seasonal hunting camps, although evidence for such settlements is scarce. The bulk of the evidence for this period comprises flint scatters. Evidence for the later Mesolithic period is less forthcoming (a few late Mesolithic/early Neolithic worked flints area recorded on the opposite side of the River Test - HCC29997), although it is likely that small-scale clearance of the woodland, together with a certain level of manipulation of animal populations as part of an increasingly efficient hunting strategy laid the foundations for the adoption of agriculture.

2.2.3 The Neolithic saw the development of agriculture and the first evidence for large-scale communal activity. New ideas relating to the domestication of animals and, probably later, the cultivation of cereals, were adopted by indigenous human communities, together with new technologies such as pottery. Environmental evidence indicates a major phase of woodland clearance taking place at this time, as land was opened up to provide fields and sacred spaces. Evidence for Neolithic settlements is sparse, and tends to be concentrated on the downland, with the lowland areas to the south through which the proposed pipeline runs less settled. The burial places of these farming communities are represented by Long barrows, earthen or drystone mounds with flanking ditches. Where investigated, long barrows appear to have been used for communal burial, often with only parts of the human remains having been selected for interment.

- 2.2.4 Certain sites provide evidence for several phases of funerary monument preceding the barrow and, consequently, it is probable that long barrows acted as important ritual sites for local communities over a considerable period of time. No such monuments are recorded within the study site itself, but several examples are recorded within 5km of the site, including one at Waters Down to the west, one near Middlebarn Farm, and two near Moody's Down Farm, to the east. Within the study area, flint (form not known) probably of late Mesolithic/early Neolithic date, has been recovered from a trench at Watch Cottage, on the opposite bank of the Test, northwest of the site (HCC29997).
- 2.2.5 The Bronze Age is characterized by the introduction of metals, firstly gold and copper and later bronze. The earliest metals are generally associated with a new type of pottery, Beaker Ware, as well as the construction of a new type of ceremonial site, the round barrow. These monuments heralded a new way of thinking about society as they represented the burial of individuals rather than the communal burials of the preceding period. This is probably linked with the emergence of social elites. The barrows are found in large numbers across the chalk downland, often forming linear cemeteries on ridges, but also across areas of former heathland where they may have represented an assertion of exploitation rights rather than formal settlement
- 2.2.6 The Middle Bronze Age (from c.1500BC) saw a dramatic change in emphasis away from the ceremonial and monumental landscape. Large-scale evidence for farming appeared with the creation of field systems defined by earthwork banks and ditches (and probably hedges). Small settlements of round houses representing farmsteads set within groups of paddocks are found across the chalk downs and into the river valleys. The Late Bronze Age (from c.1000BC) saw further changes with the disappearance of the round barrow burial tradition, the development of a settlement pattern characterised by unenclosed settlements, the creation of major linear earthworks carving the landscape into territories (especially evident in the cross-ridge dykes found on the downland) and the appearance of large defended enclosures (hillforts), such as that at Barksbury Hill (c.6.3km northwest of the site). A linear group of at least five round barrows, including a bowl barrow, lie on undulating ground to the south of Waters Down Farm, c.4km west of the site, and a group of three round barrows are located southwest of Newton Down Farm, c.3km to the east. No definite evidence of Bronze Age activity has been recorded within closer proximity to the site; while many undated cropmarks have been recorded within, and adjacent to, the site itself, these are more likely relate to Iron Age or early historic settlement (see below).
- 2.2.7 The Early and Middle Iron Age (up to c.100BC) saw a continuation of trends developed in the Late Bronze Age, with increasing numbers of open settlements and defended enclosures evident, the latter perhaps representing focal points for a number of different activities rather than purely acting as military citadels or refuges. Known settlements are again largely confined to the chalklands and river valleys, with defended sites having a wider distribution, with examples in the wider vicinity of the site at Woolbury Ring (c.3km to the south) Danebury (c.6km to the west) and Bury Hill (c.6km to the northwest). A large curvilinear ditched enclosure (130m across), of possible Early Iron Age date, is visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs within Chilbolton Airfield (HCC29505).

2.2.8 The Late Iron Age saw the abandonment of many of the hillforts, with a handful of major sites dominating the landscape, none of which lie within the Study Area (including an oppidum at Winchester). Increasing numbers of settlements are known from this period, including increasingly complex ditched enclosures and the distinctive 'banjo enclosures'. Increasing levels of trade with the Continent, both with native communities and with the expanding Roman Empire, brought a range of fine imports into the area, and the period saw the first evidence for centralized pottery production. As stated above, numerous crop marks are recorded within the study area; indicative of enclosures and field systems. Artefactual evidence suggests that at least some of them are of Romano-British date (see below), however, they may have had later prehistoric antecedents.

## 2.3 Romano-British

2.3.1 The Roman invasion of AD43 saw little immediate change to the landscape of the area. The area was occupied by the Atrebates tribe, whose largely pro-Roman sympathies spared them the ferocious assault suffered by the tribes further west at the hands of Vespasian's legions. In fact, ordinary life appears to have changed little for the bulk of the population, with the field systems, roundhouses and farmsteads continuing in use, particularly on the downland. The process of Romanisation is largely evident further up the social scale, where people acquired those elements of the Roman lifestyle 'package' they felt most comfortable with, merging them with elements of their own culture to produce a Romano-British hybrid. This is manifested in the landscape in the appearance of rectangular stone or timber multi-roomed buildings, generally known as villas, and often developing on pre-existing settlement. The villa estates lay within extensive arable field systems, many surviving as terraced earthworks, interspersed with sheepwalk, and further pressure was put on woodland resources by the increased need for fuel, both for domestic use and to supply an increasing number of industrial concerns such as pottery kilns. The estates subsequently formed the basis of the later landscape, informing the boundaries and internal layouts of the Saxon and medieval manorial and parochial landscapes.

2.3.2 The area around the site contains a variety of evidence for Romano-British activity. It lay approximately 3km west of the road from Venta Belgarum (Winchester) to Corinium (Cirencester). The site itself encompasses what appears to be a Romano-British settlement site (HCC24827) comprised of rectilinear cropmarks with evidence of associated field systems (HCC24885, HCC29976) and finds of pottery (HCC29977), faunal remains, oyster shells and pieces of daub and other objects. The southern part of the area has been damaged by quarrying and building work.

2.3.3 Further enclosures of likely Romano-British date (HCC25325 (Scheduled Monument 1015679), HCC29504, HCC29507, HCC58814, HCC58815) are situated to the south and east of the site, on the east side of the Test, and finds of coins, of predominately 3<sup>rd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> century date, have been found throughout the study area (HCC25211, HCC31139, HCC51489). In addition, a builder is recorded as having found white ashes and human bones in Chilbolton in 1891 (HCC 25210); no further details are known and this cremation burial may be prehistoric or Romano-British in date.



## 2.4 Anglo-Saxon

- 2.4.1 The decline of Roman authority created a power vacuum in which the local Romanised elites competed for power. The chaotic situation coincided with movements of people from the Germanic lands to the east (modern Germany and Denmark), who were able to settle in increasing numbers along the eastern and southern seaboard of England. Hampshire was traditionally targeted by the Jutes, penetrating via river valleys such as the Meon and Itchen. Early Saxon settlements are rare, with most evidence for this period derived from cemeteries, although work at Chalton suggests that the earliest settlements were established on the upper reaches of the chalk dip slope.
- 2.4.2 By the 9th century, the original settlements had been abandoned, or had shrunk to individual farmsteads, and new daughter settlements were established in the river valleys, along the dip slope and as a string of villages along the Greensand, exploiting the spring line at the foot of the scarp slope. These villages were associated with an expanding system of common fields, and had become identified as manorial centres by the time of the Domesday Survey in the late 11th century. From the late 10th century, these estates began to be formalised into a developing system of ecclesiastical parishes, many of which comprised long strips of territory extending from the chalk ridge down into the Weald.
- 2.4.3 Away from the chalk, the settlement pattern was more dispersed, with small individual scattered farmsteads set within patches of farmland cleared from the woodland. The area later fell under forest law, and it is likely that some level of pre-Conquest hunting took place on the heaths and woodlands, which may have been extensive.
- 2.4.4 It is generally considered that the name 'Chilbolton' may derive from three Anglo Saxon words: 'Chil' meaning chalk stream, 'Bol' (or 'Bal') meaning barley and 'Tun' meaning enclosure, farm or village (The settlement is also noted in 909AD as *Coelboldingtun*, meaning 'Ceolbeald's Farm', thought to relate to a local chieftain named Ceobald (Coates 1989). An Anglo-Saxon shield boss and a spearhead of 6th century date were unearthed from a gravel pit within the site in 1931; these finds probably represent an inhumation burial (HCC24889).

## 2.5 Medieval

- 2.5.1 The Norman Conquest saw the imposition of a foreign nobility on England. Hampshire lay astride the strategic route linking London and Normandy and was subjected to tight royal control, with up to half the county covered by royal forests. Many of the major manors were retained in royal or ecclesiastical hands, particularly strategic locations like Winchester, the effective capital of England. Smaller market towns such as Chilbolton (HCC Conservation Area 2653) grew wealthy on the proceeds of agriculture, particularly the wool trade, and were soon transformed by the construction of well-appointed houses for merchants.

2.5.2 At the time of the Domesday Survey, the Manor of Chilbolton belonged to the Church at Winchester, (having been granted to the clerics by King Athelstan, a descendant of King Alfred the Great in 934 AD). The survey showed that there was a mill in the village valued at fifteen shillings, along with a Church. Richard Sturmy also owned part of the estate at the time. During the middle ages the Manor was leased to tenant farmers and the village prospered through sheep farming. Fourteenth century accounts record a substantial income from the sale of wool (Test Valley Borough Council 2008). Finds of medieval pottery (HCC54633) have been found within the village. A removed ditch (HCC29510), aligned with the western site limit, represents the Parish boundary, which is of medieval origin.

## **2.6 Post-Medieval**

2.6.1 The post-medieval period saw the emergence of a modern market economy. Major changes took place as a result of an increasing population and a more flexible land market, including the sale of former monastic land as a result of the Dissolution. The early open field parcels around settlements were enclosed in the 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> centuries to form irregular blocks of fields with sinuous boundaries, with the open heathlands enclosed later with a geometric pattern of quickthorn hedgerows. Most of the arable land had been enclosed piecemeal by the end of the 17th century, resulting in a distinctive landscape of small irregular fields enclosed by planted hedgerows. Many of the smaller farmsteads began to be amalgamated as landowners built up larger estates.

2.6.2 The later 18th century saw the development of 'New Farming'. This saw the heyday of the sheep-corn husbandry system on the downland and river valleys, boosted by the buoyant economy resulting from the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. A further period of prosperity followed in the 1840s, lasting for thirty years and often referred to as the period of High Farming.

2.6.3 Riverside water meadows, known as Bedworks, became popular from the 17th century onwards as a means of improving relatively flat, alluvial, river valley meadows (Historic England 2014). Examples of these riverside water meadows are visible within the study area as crop marks on the western side of the Test (HCC58817). Gravel extraction was also carried out within the study area, as represented by an extractive pit (HCC58816) identified through aerial photography.

2.6.4 The scheme lies within a WWII airfield (opened in 1940) with numerous associated crop marks visible in aerial imagery, and a number of associated buildings and structures are extant in the surrounding area (Figures 2 and 3), although many wartime structures are no longer standing. The HER lists an anti-aircraft gun mounting (HCC 37836) within the site and the extant Water Treatment Works (WTW) itself originated as a sewage disposal site for the airfield. The airfield was released from military control in 1946 but functioned as a private airfield for testing aircraft manufactured by Vickers Supermarine and Folland Aircraft until the early 1960s. The former airfield is now largely put to agricultural use with some light industrial reuse of a number of wartime buildings and hangars. An observatory occupies a central position on the former main runway and a local flying club still operates approximately 2.4km to the southeast of the scheme.

2.6.5 The 1870 Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping shows that the scheme lies within a large area of open heath/rough pasture ('West Down'). A small gravel pit is illustrated immediately north of West Down on the 1890 OS and a further gravel pit is illustrated to its south, within and adjacent to the northern boundary of West Down on the 1910 OS. This gravel pit lies immediately north of the existing WTW. Both during and immediately after the Second World War, much of the area of West Down was used for gravel extraction. In the 1960s and 1970s, the resultant gravel pits were used by Andover Town Council and its successors for disposal of household rubbish. West Down is now a Nature Reserve managed by Chilbolton Parish Council.

## 2.7 Research Aims and Objectives

2.7.1 The site specific aim of the archaeological watching brief given in the WSI (ASE 2017) was to:

*'record archaeological deposits exposed by the groundworks associated with the laying of the new water main and reservoir.'*

2.7.2 A number of other research objectives were formulated with reference to the [Solent Thames Archaeological Research Framework](#) (Hey and Hind 2014; which covers the counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight). Specific research questions detailed in this agenda had the potential to be addressed are identified by citation and / or paragraph reference, e.g. RA: 4.1.1.

- *To assess the Palaeolithic potential of any river terrace gravel deposits encountered. In the event that Palaeolithic artefacts are retrieved, to optimise dating strategies including the location of the finds within closely mapped stratigraphic sequences with a view to meeting the following research objective:*
- *To aid in establishing an improved chrono-stratigraphic framework for the Paleolithic, both for sets of deposits within clearly defined zones such as specific river valleys, and between sets of deposits in, for instance, different valley systems (RA: 4.1.1)*
- *To assess the evidence for later prehistoric (Neolithic – Bronze Age) activity which may have prefigured possible Iron Age land use in the locality.*
- *An Early Iron Age date is proposed for a large curvilinear ditched enclosure visible as cropmarks on the adjacent Chilbolton Airfield. To assess evidence for the developing use / or occupation of the surrounding landscape in possible association with this feature, and / or into the later Iron Age. Depending on the identification of the enclosure, this may contribute to RA: 10.5.7*
- *The site and wider landscape contains evidence of probable Romano-British settlement and associated field systems, pottery and other material culture remains. To identify any features of this date and obtain dating evidence from secure contexts. In the event of deposits of both late Iron*

*Age and Roman date, to assess the evidence for continuity of occupation and local tradition. Sampling strategies should ensure that as wide a range of contexts are sampled as possible (RA: 12.2.1). In the event of 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> century deposits, opportunities should be sought for radiocarbon dating to help understand change between the Iron Age and Roman periods (RA: 12.2.2)*

- *Evidence of probable Saxon burial exists within the site, and Chilbolton is thought to be an Anglo-Saxon Place name. To assess any evidence for continuity between Roman-British and early medieval occupation (RA 14.2.4)*
- *The site contains military buildings relating to the wartime use of Chilbolton airfield. To identify any further war-time buildings remains or associated structures (services, ancillary structures) and to better understand the disposition of any defensive structures (gun emplacements, air-raid trenches, barrage balloon anchors) relating to the wartime use of the site.*

### 3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 Manual excavation of test-holes and mechanical ground reduction and trench excavation were monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist. All sections were examined for archaeological deposits and all spoil was scanned for the presence of archaeological artefacts, both visually and with a metal detector.
- 3.1.2 Although a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey had been undertaken to establish the presence (or otherwise) of buried masonry along the route (Survatech Ltd. 2017), the archaeological watching brief was maintained in all areas in case other non-masonry archaeological remains were present.
- 3.1.3 All encountered deposits were recorded according to accepted professional standards using standard Archaeology South-East context record forms. Deposit colours were recorded by visual inspection and not by reference to a Munsell Colour chart. A full photographic record of the monitoring was maintained.
- 3.1.4 The fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with the preceding WSI (ASE 2017) the ClfA *Code of Conduct* (ClfA 2014a) and *Standards, and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (ClfA 2014b).

#### 3.2 Fieldwork Constraints

- 3.2.1 There were no physical constraints to the archaeological monitoring of the groundworks; all machining was closely observed, all sections were examined and all spoil was scanned for the presence of archaeological artefacts.

#### 3.3 The Site Archive

- 3.3.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be offered to Hampshire Museums and Archive Service in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Context sheets	41
Section sheets	0
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	163
Context register	2
Drawing register	0
Watching brief forms	27
Trench Record forms	0

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box )	0
Registered finds (number of)	
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	0
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

- 3.3.2 The finds and environmental samples ultimately deposited as part of the archive are dependent on specialist recommendations and regional archive requirements.

## 4.0 RESULTS (Figures 3 and 4)

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The watching brief was carried out between May and September 2017. Initial monitoring was undertaken during manual excavation of test-pits at the site of the new reservoir at Chilbolton WSW, and on the route of the new main between the reservoir and Coley Lane. Subsequent monitoring was undertaken on the mechanical excavation of test pits in the carriageway of Coley Lane.

4.1.2 Mechanical excavations on the main scheme were closely monitored and included observation of the excavation of the new reservoir and the associated pipe trench across the West Down Nature Reserve, which involved the creation of c.3m wide easement, followed by excavations for laying the new water main.

### 4.2 Test-Pits at Chilbolton WSW and West Down Nature Reserve

Context	TP No.	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness m
[1/001]	1	Layer	Made Ground	c.1.50
[1/002]	1	Layer	Chalk	-
[2/001]	2	Layer	Made Ground	c.1.60
[2/002]	2	Layer	Chalk	-
[3/001]	3	Layer	Topsoil	0.49
[3/002]	3	Layer	Made Ground	>0.52
[4/001]	4	Layer	Topsoil	0.90
[5/001]	5	Layer	Topsoil	0.80

Table 3: List of recorded contexts in manually excavated test-pits

4.2.1 Test-pits within the compound of Chilbolton WSW at the site of the proposed new reservoir and along the proposed route of the new water main were monitored on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017. The irregularly shaped test-pits at the WSW were manually excavated initially followed by further excavation using a Dando drilling rig.

4.2.2 The two test pits (TP1 and TP2) in the WSW compound showed deep deposits of highly mixed mid-brown silty clay made ground (contexts [1/001] and [2/001]) containing brick, concrete and tarmac rubble. This deposit lay directly over the 'natural' chalk (context [1/002] and [2/002]).

4.2.3 Clearly the area had seen extensive earthmoving in the relatively recent past, undoubtedly as a result of the construction and use of the WSW.

4.2.4 TP3 was entirely manually excavated on the proposed alignment of the new connection. Two layers were encountered in the test-pit, a mid-brown silty clay topsoil, context [3/001], which overlay a deposit of orangey brown silty clay made ground [3/002], the full thickness of which was not ascertained at the maximum (c.1m) depth of the test-pit.

4.2.5 The remaining test-pits on the route (TP4 and TP5) revealed only thick layers of mid-brown silty clay topsoil, contexts [4/001] and [5/001] respectively.

### 4.3 Test-Pits at Coley Lane

Context	TP No.	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness m
[100]	6	Layer	Road Surface	0.18
[101]	6	Layer	Crushed Stone	0.09
[102]	6	Layer	Made Ground	0.65
[103]	6	Layer	Chalk	-
[104]	7	Layer	Road Surface	0.17
[105]	7	Layer	Crushed Stone	0.09
[106]	7	Layer	Made Ground	0.71
[107]	7	Layer	Chalk	-

Table 4: List of recorded contexts in mechanically excavated test-pits

- 4.3.1 Two potential launch pits for directional drilling (recorded as TP6 and TP7) were mechanically excavated into the existing carriageway of Coley Lane on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017. The deposits were found to be similar at both locations.
- 4.3.2 A surface layer of tarmac, contexts [100] and [104], overlay a sub-base of crushed stone, contexts [101] and [105], which overlay deposits of orangey brown silty clay made ground, contexts [102] and [106], which contained brick rubble. The made ground directly overlay the 'natural' chalk, contexts [103] and [107].
- 4.3.3 A decision was taken to abandon directional drilling owing to the character of the underlying deposits. The open cut in the carriageway was not monitored given the presence of made ground over the surface of the chalk (and consequent absence of potentially archaeologically significant River Terrace Deposits), suggesting truncation/levelling during earthmoving for the road construction/repair in the recent past.

### 4.4 New Reservoir at Chilbolton WSW

Context	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness m
[200]	Layer	Made Ground	1.50
[201]	Layer	Clay-with-Flints	0.15
[202]	Layer	Chalk	-

Table 5: List of recorded contexts at new reservoir

- 4.4.1 An area measuring 13m by 13m for a new reservoir was mechanically reduced on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August 2017. The stratigraphic sequence was similar to that seen in the test-pits monitored in August 2017, with a thick deposit of made ground, context [200], and 'natural' chalk, context [202]. However, there was also a highly intermittent/rare layer of brownish orange silty clay, context [201], probably a surviving element of 'natural' Clay-with-Flints geology overlaying the chalk.



#### 4.5 Pipe Trench in Access Lane to Nature Reserve

Context	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness m
[300]	Layer	Topsoil	0.51
[301]	Layer	Clay-with Flints	0.16
[302]	Layer	Chalk	-

Table 6: List of recorded contexts in access lane to Nature Reserve

- 4.5.1 Excavation of the pipe trench along the access road to the Nature Reserve was monitored on 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017. The trench was a maximum of 900mm deep and a maximum of 450mm wide.
- 4.5.2 The stratigraphic sequence was similar to that seen at the excavation for the new reservoir; a mid-brown silty clay topsoil, context [300], which contained metal objects and glass, overlay an intermittent deposit of 'natural' brownish orange Clay-with-Flints, context [301], which in turn overlay the 'natural' chalk, context [302].
- 4.5.3 As at the reservoir, the limited earlier test-pitting (TP4 and TP5) did not show the presence of the thin layer of geological Clay-with-Flints seen in these more extensive monitored excavations for the laying of the new service.

#### 4.6 Easement and Pipe Trench at West Down Nature Reserve Car Park

Context	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness m
[400]	Layer	Bank	c.1.00
[401]	Layer	Topsoil	0.52
[402]	Layer	Clay-with-Flints	0.50

Table 7: List of recorded contexts in easement and pipe trench at car park

- 4.6.1 The edge of the Nature Reserve was marked by an earthen bank at the point where the pipe trench crossed into the area, adjacent to the Reserve's car park. Recorded as context [400], it consisted of a c.1m high, c.4m wide bank made up of mid-brown silty clay topsoil, laid directly over the pre-existing mid-brown silty clay topsoil, context [401], which overlay the brownish orange Clay-with-Flints, context [402].
- 4.6.2 The groundworks consisted of the mechanical stripping of a c.3m to c.4m wide easement (which removed only c.250mm of context [400]) followed by the mechanical excavation of a trench to a maximum depth of c.1m and a maximum width of c.600mm. The work in this area was undertaken on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017.
- 4.6.3 The topsoil, context [401] and 'natural' Clay-with-Flints, context [402] were the only deposits encountered within the c.10m stretch of groundworks between the outer bank, context [400] and a second bank, which marked the edge of the existing car park.

#### 4.7 Easement and Pipe Trench across West Down Nature Reserve

Context	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness m
[500]	Layer	Topsoil	0.31
[501]	Masonry	Concrete	0.16
[502]	Layer	Bank	0.90
[503]	Masonry	Concrete	0.19
[504]	Layer	Made Ground	0.32
[505]	Layer	Clay-with-Flints	0.25
[506]	Layer	1970s Landfill	>1.00
[507]	Layer	Concrete (broken)	0.30
[508]	Layer	Brick Rubble	0.31
[509]	Layer	Brick Rubble	0.32

Table 8: List of recorded contexts in easement and pipe trench in Nature Reserve

- 4.7.1 The bank marking the edge of the car park, context [502] consisted of a 900mm high, c.2.5m wide dump of mid-brown topsoil laid directly onto the existing mid-brown silty clay topsoil, context [500], which extended across all of the area of the Nature Reserve through which the easement and pipe trench were excavated. Unstratified finds of metal objects, a 1976 ten pence piece, glass, post-medieval pottery, a modern plastic Father Christmas and prehistoric flintwork in poor condition were recovered from topsoil [500].
- 4.7.2 The other layer seen through the entire length of the trench across the Nature Reserve was made ground directly below the topsoil, and the 'natural' Clay-with-Flints. Context [504] was a highly mixed deposit of gravel-rich silty clay varying in colour between mid-greyish brown and mid-brown. It contained occasional pieces of brick and concrete rubble, and was probably imported into the site as a levelling deposit. The brownish orange Clay-with-Flints seen below the made ground was recorded as context [505].
- 4.7.3 An area of concrete, context [501] was encountered c.9m to the south of the car park, overlain by 190mm of topsoil context [500]. Apparently laid on a roughly north-south orientation, the northernmost element was revealed in the easement and measured 7.3m by 2.8m.
- 4.7.4 It had been laid directly onto made ground [504]; the material resembled the grey colour and smooth texture of much of the other concrete seen at the site of the former airfield. The position loosely matched the location of a structure seen on a contemporary plan of the airfield features; it was thereby confirmed as far as possible as a buried element of the WW2 era airfield, and that the area of made ground probably dates from earthmoving at the site for the creation of that facility.
- 4.7.5 Another area of concrete was encountered in the easement to the south. Concrete [503] was encountered below 260mm of topsoil context [500], again laid onto the surface of made ground [504]. The strip of concrete ran broadly east to west across the easement and was 6.5m wide, and of a similar smooth,

grey type material to context [501]. This did not correspond to any obvious feature on the 1940s plan.

- 4.7.6 Further to the south, a thick deposit of 1970s domestic landfill debris was encountered. The deposit, context [506] consisted almost entirely of clothing, nappies, plastic bags, glass and plastic bottles, crisp packets, electrical goods and other day-to-day detritus. The isolated dump of material clearly marks an outlier from the main tip known to have been located to the north.
- 4.7.7 Another WW2 era feature was located further to the south. Context [507] consisted of a c.3m wide band of broken up concrete running from east to west across the easement, mostly mixed in with the topsoil context [500], but with some fragments laying directly on the surface of made ground [504], apparently *in situ*. It clearly represented the remains of a track/road shown on cartographic sources as a WW2 era feature.
- 4.7.8 Another discrete spread of rubble encountered in the easement was of a notably different character. Context [508] consisted of a concentration of brick and bitumen rubble within topsoil context [500] occupying a c.5m length of the easement. A copper alloy tap was recovered from this deposit, which taken with the nature of the deposit suggested the former presence of a demolished structure of some kind. There was a close correlation with a group of buildings shown on the 1940s plan.
- 4.7.9 A discrete c.6m wide spread of brick, tarmac and concrete rubble, context [509] was recorded adjacent to the existing trackway to Chilbolton WSW. This appeared to be the remains of a track/road originally dating from the airfield era, but subsequently used as the start of a footpath leading from the track across the nature reserve

#### 4.8 Pasture adjacent to Chilbolton WTW

Context	Type	Description	Max. Deposit Thickness m
[510]	Layer	Topsoil	0.29
[511]	Layer	Subsoil	0.32
[512]	Layer	Tarmac/Concrete	0.19
[513]	Layer	Tarmac/Concrete	0.17
[514]	Layer	Tarmac/Concrete	0.19
[515]	Layer	Natural	-

Table 9: List of recorded contexts in pasture

- 4.8.1 Again the groundworks consisted of the mechanical strip of a c.3m wide easement followed by the excavation of a pipe trench a maximum depth of c.1m and a maximum width of c.600mm. This work was undertaken 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> September 2017.
- 4.8.2 Again the stratigraphic sequence was straightforward, consisting of a humic, silty clay topsoil, context [510], which overlay a yellowish brown silty clay subsoil, context [511], which itself overlay the brownish orange clay 'natural', context [515]. Unstratified finds of prehistoric flintwork and sherds from a

refined whiteware cylindrical mug (with a date range consistent with the operation of the airfield) were recovered from context [510].

- 4.8.3 There were three discrete areas of crushed tarmac, brick and concrete, each laying on top of the subsoil, each running broadly east to west across the easement; contexts [512], [513] and [514], which were 5.2m wide, 3.9m wide and 4.6m wide respectively. These clearly represent the remains of paths or trackways leading to WW2 era aircraft dispersal areas and runways to the east, two of which are shown on the 1940s plan.

## 5.0 THE FINDS

### 5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the watching brief. All finds were washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context. Hand-collected bulk finds are quantified in Table 10. All finds have been packed and stored following ClfA guidelines (2014c).

Context	Lithics	Wt (g)	Pottery	Wt (g)	Iron	Wt (g)	Metal	Wt (g)	Composite	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	Other	Wt (g)
300					4	348	1	19	1	90			1	75		
500	14	377	2	72	26	2157	2	66	1	166	2	154	4	343	1	4
508							1	420								
510	5	192	2	48												
Total	19	569	4	120	30	2505	4	505	2	256	2	154	5	418	1	4

Table 10: Overview of the finds assemblage

### 5.2 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 The watching brief produced 13 pieces of flint considered to be humanly struck weighing 341g as well as two fragments of burnt unworked flint weighing 154g. The small assemblage was recovered from the topsoil (contexts [500] and [510]).

5.2.2 The pieces of struck flint were quantified by piece count and weight and were individually classified using standard set of codes and morphological descriptions (Butler 2005; Ford 1987; Inizan *et al.* 1999). The flints were catalogued directly into an Excel spreadsheet table.

5.2.3 The condition of the flintwork was relatively poor with the majority of the pieces exhibiting extensive edge chipping. High degree of wear is expected in topsoil deposits, and the iron marks recorded on several pieces could be associated with plough damage. The raw material selected for the manufacture of the struck flints is mostly light to mid grey. The cortex is principally stained and abraded. Six pieces were broken, and three pieces were entirely recorticated white.

5.2.4 The assemblage is entirely composed of unmodified débitage, with flakes being the only removal type represented. These flakes are irregular. The majority are crudely made. Where present, the platforms are often plain and unprepared. But a few flakes display evidence of edge preparation as well as thin flake scar removal on the dorsal face.

5.2.5 The assemblage provides limited evidence for prehistoric presence in the landscape. It consists of knapping waste in a poor condition. A large proportion of the flakes display characteristics of late prehistoric (Middle Neolithic to Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age) flake-orientated industry. But a few are more carefully worked; they suggest a Middle Neolithic / Early Bronze Age date.

### **5.3 The Pottery** by Luke Barber

5.3.1 Just four sherds of post-Roman pottery, weighing 120g, were recovered during the archaeological work. Context [500] produced two of these: one sherd (18g) from the base of a foot-ringed tea cup in bone china (the base with faint transfer print 'Warranted // England // Bone China'), the other (54g) from a dish or shallow bowl in modern buff stoneware (with an all over brown glaze). Although the former could be of any date after c. 1800, the latter is of mid/late 20th-century origin. Context [510] produced the final two sherds, both coming from the same refined whiteware cylindrical mug. A date between c. 1910 and 1950 is considered most likely, but a slightly earlier or later date cannot be entirely ruled out.

5.3.2 The post-Roman pottery is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and has been discarded

### **5.4 The Metalwork** by Trista Clifford

5.4.1 A small assemblage of 36 metal objects weighing a total of 3266g was recovered from three separate contexts. The assemblage is entirely made up of modern objects and includes iron nails, strips and plate fragments as well as more diagnostic pieces.

5.4.2 Few objects appear to be related to the WWII airfield. A piece of iron sheeting perforated with rows of circular holes may have held a function similar to Marston Mat, providing a solid surface for vehicles to travel on over grass, although the holes are not large enough or arranged in the same way for this to have derived from military issue planking. A fragment of aluminium sheeting may be also be aeroplane related but the piece is too small to be certain. Both were recovered from topsoil [500]. This context also produced a right hood hook lever from a Lambretta scooter, a spark plug, and several iron objects including large chisel, a key, a hinge and a window stay. A 1976 ten pence piece was also recovered.

5.4.3 Topsoil [300] produced four conjoining pieces from a circular dished iron object with a central circular piercing. The function of this object is not known. A white metal ?pulley component attached to a perforated base plate from the same context is likely part of a meccano or similar construction toy.

5.4.4 Lastly, rubble deposit [508] produced a complete modern copper alloy tap.

## **5.5 The Glass** by Elke Raemen

- 5.5.1 A small assemblage comprising five fragments of glass (weight 418g) was recovered from two different contexts. Included is the base from a small wine bottle dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century as well as a body shard from a green embossed (“[...]S” and “[...]N”), panelled bottle. The latter is of later 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Finally, two conjoining fragments from a faceted, crystal (?dessert) bowl were also found. They are of mid 19<sup>th</sup>- to early 20<sup>th</sup>-century date.
- 5.5.2 Context [300] contained the base (diameter 75mm) from an amber beer bottle dating to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## **5.6 Other Finds** by Trista Clifford

- 5.6.1 A modern plastic Father Christmas figurine weighing 4g was recovered from topsoil [500].

## 6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### 6.1 Overview of stratigraphic sequence

- 6.1.1 A limited range of remains relating to the use of the site over a period ranging from the prehistoric to the late post-medieval periods were encountered and recorded. Despite considerable earthmoving in the recent past, buried remains of WW2 features were encountered, as well as background scatter of prehistoric material.

### 6.2 Deposit survival and existing impacts

- 6.2.1 Clearly groundworks associated with the creation of the airfield, its subsequent decommissioning and the creation of the West Down Nature Reserve had led to a considerable mixing of deposits, and potential truncation of earlier archaeological deposits. A limited range of buried remains associated with the airfield had survived, and were recorded.

### 6.3 Discussion of archaeological remains by period

#### 6.3.1 *Prehistoric*

The flintwork recovered from the topsoil is indicative of prehistoric activity in the general area, dating as early as the Neolithic period, and perhaps continuing through the Bronze Age and on into the Iron Age. However, there were no tools in the assemblage, with only a range of waste flakes recovered, and any further discussion on the nature of activity, or changes of landuse at the site over time is rather hamstrung by this paucity of material, and arguably by the extensive mixing of deposits.

#### 6.3.2 *Late Post-Medieval - RAF Chilbolton*

Although a number of elements of the airfield infrastructure were seen in the easement and pipe trench, little could be learnt from the limited exposures of these deposits. The *in situ* deposits of concrete suggest that many of the bases of structures may survive below ground right across the site, as does the partial survival of paths and trackways. Given the absence of demolition rubble associated with the concrete bases, it is presumed that some of the buildings were wooden huts or Nissan shelters built on the firm concrete bases and later dismantled. In addition, there were clearly more substantial buildings (some standing, some surviving only as demolition rubble) and below ground shelters dating from the airfield era extant across the landscape.

#### 6.3.3 *Late Post-Medieval - ?Decommissioning of RAF Chilbolton*

There was also clear evidence of demolition of some buildings - for instance brick rubble context [508], which included a water tap presumably from the demolished building; arguably the presence of running water suggesting a more permanent structure, and therefore the need for demolition rather than simpler dismantling of a wooden or metal structure.

#### 6.3.4 *Late Post-Medieval - 1970s Landfill*

The uncovering of a substantial area of 1970s landfill, recorded as context [506] was an unexpected, and somewhat unpleasant element of the work. Clearly such material had been dumped away from the known tip to the north, either as planned levelling, or simply in a convenient location.



## **6.4 Consideration of research aims**

- 6.4.1 The overarching research aim was met in that archaeological deposits were encountered, recognised and recorded. However, it proved difficult to address any of the other agenda, given the paucity of pre-airfield deposits, and the limited range/character of the WW2 era and later features that were encountered.

## **6.5 Updated research agenda**

- 6.5.1 Perhaps an attempt to integrate the below ground remains (those seen during the watching brief, those detected in the GPR survey, and those unknown elsewhere at the site) with the isolated standing structures and shelters belonging to RAF Chilbolton would provide a clearer insight into the organisation airfield during its use, and arguably into the process of its decommissioning.
- 6.5.2 A systematic study of the surviving above- and below-ground remains of any WW2 era airfield has yet to be published, and would be a welcome addition to the limited corpus of available data. To date, the majority of published work has related to individual crash sites rather than airfields (de la Bédoyère 2000, 95-122).

## **6.6 Conclusions**

- 6.6.1 The archaeological monitoring of the groundworks at Chilbolton resulted in the recognition of a number of airfield-era and later deposits at the West Down Nature Reserve, and adjacent to Chilbolton WSW, as well as the recovery of a background scatter of prehistoric flintwork from the overburden.
- 6.6.2 Although little of substance can be said about the prehistoric material, the recording of the WW2-era deposits provided an all-to-rare opportunity to record material from this somewhat neglected period, especially the airfields, a rapidly disappearing archaeological resource (cf. Hawkinge aerodrome; de la Bédoyère 2000, 135).

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

ASE 2017. *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief at Chilbolton WTW, Chilbolton, Hampshire, SO20 6AZ*. Archaeology South-East unpublished document

BGS 2017. British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer, accessed 31.10.2017  
<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

Butler, C. 2005. *Prehistoric Flintwork*. Tempus; Stroud

ClfA 2014a. *Code of Conduct*. Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists

ClfA 2014b. *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief*. Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists

ClfA 2014c. *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*. Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists

Coates, R. 1989. *The Place-Names of Hampshire*, Batsford; London

de la Bédoyère, G. 2000. *Battles Over Britain: The Archaeology of the Air War*. Tempus; Stroud

Ford, S, 1987. Chronological and functional aspects of flint assemblages, in A. Brown and M. Edmonds (eds.) *Lithic analysis and Later British Prehistory*, 67-81

Hey, G. and Hind, J. 2014. *Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment Resource Assessments and Research Agendas*. Oxford Wessex

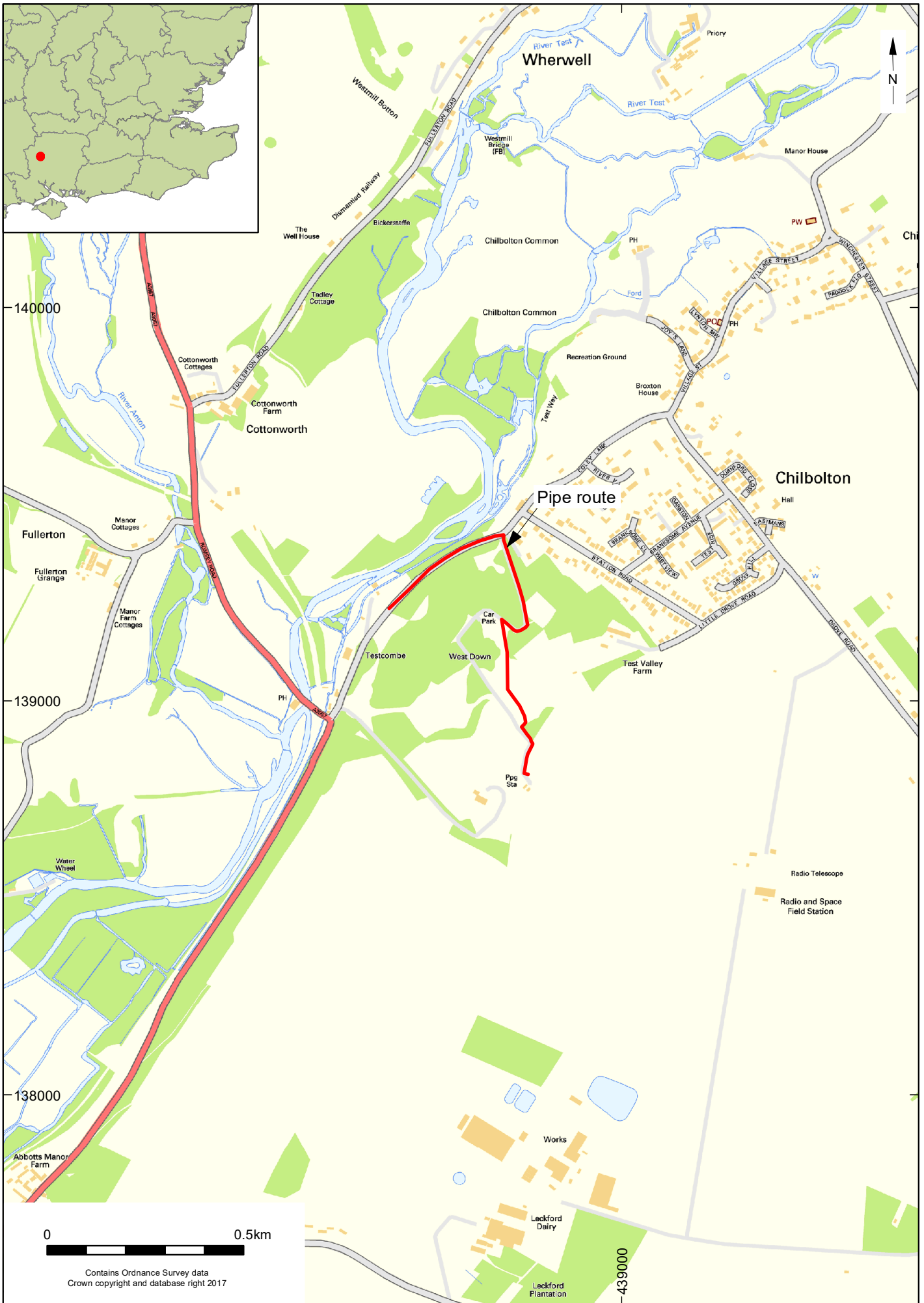
Historic England 2014, *Conserving Historic Water Meadows*

Inizan, M-L, Reduron-Ballinger, M, Roche, H, & Tixier, J, 1999. *Technology and Terminology of Knapped Stone*. Tome 5. Cercle de Recherches et d'Études Préhistoriques (CREP), Nanterre

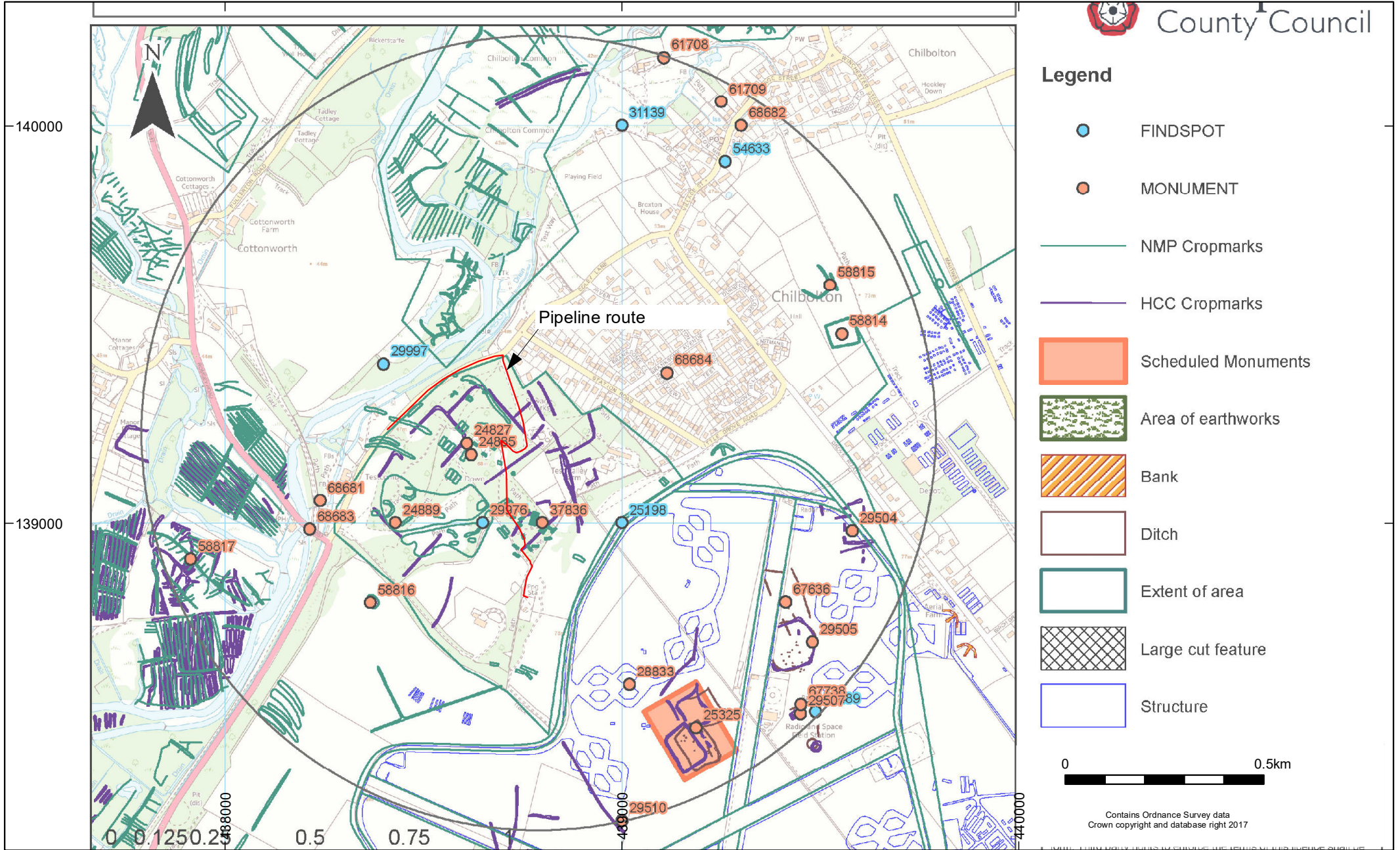
Survatech Ltd. 2017. *MGJV Water Main GPR Plan*. Unpub. site survey data












## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

ASE would like to thank MGJV for commissioning the archaeological work, and David Hopkins, County Archaeologist at Hampshire County Council for his input at all stages of the project. Thanks are also due to the groundworkers for their co-operation and hospitality.



© Archaeology South-East		Chilbolton Water Main, Chilbolton, Hampshire	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 160473	December 2017	Site location	
Report Ref: 2017467	Drawn by: AR		

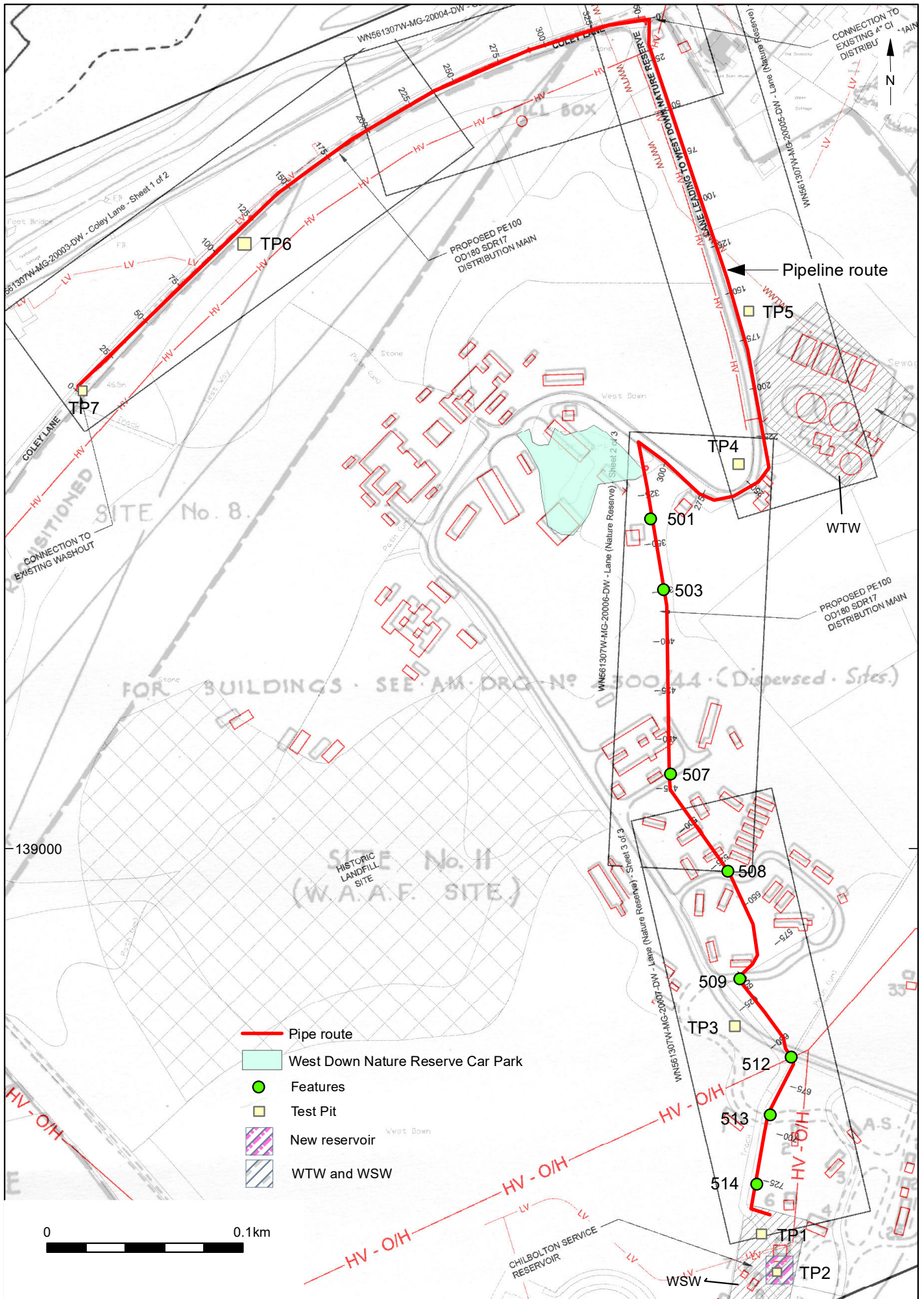


- Legend**
-  FINDSPOT
  -  MONUMENT
  -  NMP Cropmarks
  -  HCC Cropmarks
  -  Scheduled Monuments
  -  Area of earthworks
  -  Bank
  -  Ditch
  -  Extent of area
  -  Large cut feature
  -  Structure



Contains Ordnance Survey data  
Crown copyright and database right 2017

© Archaeology South-East		Chilbolton Water Main, Chilbolton, Hampshire	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 160473	Dec 2017	Site plan showing local HER data	
Report Ref: 2017467	Drawn by: AR		



© Archaeology South-East		Chilbolton Water Main, Chilbolton, Hampshire	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 160473	Dec 2017	Site Plan showing local pipeline route overlain on plan of airfield features	
Report Ref: 2017467	Drawn by: AR		



Excavations for new reservoir, looking north



Context [501], looking south



Context [503], looking south



Context [506], looking south



Contexts [512], [513], [514], looking south-west

**Appendix 1: Hampshire County Council HER Data** (see Figure 2 for locations)

HER/LBS No.	Easting	Northing	Description	Date
25198	439000	139000	Palaeolithic flints (Lower Palaeolithic)	Palaeolithic
29974	439000	139000	Two Palaeolithic implements from Chilbolton. An ovate and a chellian.	Palaeolithic
29997	438400	139400	Flint (form not known) probably of late Mesolithic/early Neolithic date, recovered from a trench at Watch Cottage. Now with Southampton University	Mesolithic- Early Neolithic
25210	439000	139000	Cremation burial. A builder is recorded as having found white ashes and human bones in Chilbolton in 1891.	Prehistoric
29504	439580	138980	Linear Feature. Complex of short linear features.	Prehistoric
67636	439412	138800	Field Boundary, cropmarks	Prehistoric- Saxon
29505	439480	138700	ENCLOSURE. A large curvilinear ditched enclosure (130m across) is visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs within Chilbolton Airfield. Interpreted by R Palmer as being of probable early Iron Age date.	Early Iron Age
29975	438650	139000	Iron Age pottery	Iron Age
25325	439186	138484	ENCLOSURE, Iron Age or Romano-British. A large rectilinear ditched enclosure (110m by 78m) is visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs within Chilbolton Airfield. It is associated with a scatter of internal pits. External ditches may be field boundaries or fragments of a second enclosure (Interpretation by NMP). within the wider environs of Danebury hillfort. The southern enclosure is of simple form, sub-rectangular with rounded corners, c.100m (north west-south east) by 70m and encloses an area of 0.74ha. The northern enclosure appears to be built onto the southern example. It is aligned in a similar direction, irregular in shape, measures a maximum of 80m (north west-south east) by 65m and encloses an area of 0.49ha. There is a gap c.20m wide on the southern corner of this enclosure which may represent an original entrance. <b>Scheduled Monument</b>	Iron Age - Roman

HER/LBS No.	Easting	Northing	Description	Date
29976	438650	139000	Iron Age Field System. Remains of Iron Age/Romano-British field system. ** Probably associated with West Down settlement site - CA **	Iron Age - Roman
58814	439554	139476	A single ditch rectilinear feature is visible on aerial photographs. It is possible that this feature is the remains of an enclosed Iron Age/Romano-British settlement (data and interpretation from NMP).	Iron Age - Roman
58815	439524	139599	DITCH. A single rectilinear feature is visible on aerial photographs. It is possible that this feature is the remains of an enclosed Iron Age/Romano-British settlement (data and interpretation from NMP).	Iron Age - Roman
67738	439451	138543	DITCH. Two short stretches of ditch visible as cropmarks	Iron Age - Roman
24827	438610	139200	Romano-British settlement at West Down. At least five large depressions 30 to 35 ft across sunk to about 4ft in the middle. Lynchets visible on the ground as a series of banks and ditches. There have been finds of pottery (B), faunal remains, oyster shells, pieces of daub and other objects (1955). The southern part of the area has been damaged by quarrying and building work (1966).	Roman period
24885	438621	139172	Field System. A rectangular field system of lynchets and cross banks is visible on west Down, Chilbolton. Much of the system has been destroyed by quarrying and building works (1965).	Roman period
31139	439000	140000	The Old Inn Chilbolton A 3rd Cent Roman Coin retrieved from garden.	Roman period
24889	438430	139000	Possible Saxon burial. An Anglo-Saxon shield boss and a spearhead of 6th century date were unearthed from Testcombe gravel pit in 1931.	Saxon
25211	439000	139000	A roman coin of Constantine was reported as being found by a builder in Chilbolton in 1891. No more details are available.	Roman period
29977	438650	139000	Roman pottery - condition not known	Roman period



HER/LBS No.	Easting	Northing	Description	Date
51489	439488	138525	Roman coins and pottery found whilst metal detector surveys were carried out on the site. A total of 55 Roman coins found on the Chilbolton airfield site over the period 1977 to 1982. Roman coins span the period 220 to 383 AD with the most common being those of Constantinus II, who ruled from 353 until 378 AD.	Roman period
29507	439450	138520	The site of a small rectangular enclosure is visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs to the east of the radio telescope on Chilbolton Airfield. The feature is 16m by 6m in size with an internal subdivision and is probably the foundations of a large building	Roman - early medieval
54633	439260	139910	Medieval pottery, Upcote Cottage. A few Medieval pottery finds found whilst digging for a rainwater soakaway near to Upcote Cottage.	Medieval
29510	439000	138250	Removed Parish Boundary	medieval-post medieval
1299	439263	139999	Abbots Rest. C17, timber-framed structure, with C18 cladding. A deposit including a child's wooden shoe, a small piece of tallow wrapped in hide and fragments of corduroy and hose were found behind a fireplace. These charms were considered to safeguard the house against witches and the supernatural, and were probably inserted in the early 17th century. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
1783	439246	139938	Horseshoe Cottage. C17, with late C19 restoration. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5427	439051	140156	The Old Inn. C17 house, with C18 century extensions. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5428	439064	140159	The Old Inn Cottage. Agricultural Building, now cottage. Late C16 - C17. Largely destroyed by fire in 1999, but rebuilt and enlarged afterwards. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5429	439112	139953	Tudor Cottage. C17, with C19 cladding and features. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5430	439106	139960	Willow Cottage. C17 - C19 house. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5437	439296	140042	Abbots Close. C18 house. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval

HER/LBS No.	Easting	Northing	Description	Date
5438	439255	139961	Post Office. C17, with C20 alterations and additions. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5439	439246	139938	Horseshoe Cottage. C17, with late C19 restoration. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5445	439254	139914	Upcote. House. C17, with late C19 restoration. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5446	439207	139845	St. Michael's Cottage. C17 timber frame with C18 cladding. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5447	439193	139837	Chalkdell. Early C19. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5448	439175	139810	Chalkdell Cottage. Early 19th. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5457	438301	139121	1893. Arts and crafts building in early Tudor style. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5564	437850	139469	Vine Cottage. C18, with a C20 rear extension. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5565	437872	139398	The Mill House, Wherwell. Water mill on an ancient site, with house attached. Late C18, with minor C20 extensions. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
5573	437950	139761	Cottonworth Farmhouse. C17 timber framed house, with C18 cladding. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
14441	439331	140054	Wall at Poplar Dene. Unlisted boundary wall within a Conservation Area.	Post-medieval
14669	438295	139261	Fishing Hut N of Testcombe. Dated 1888. Grade II Listed building	Post-medieval
54531	438946	139984	The Old Cottage. 1540 - 1900. Cob and thatch cottage heavily altered and extended. Unlisted building	Post-medieval
54532	439090	139971	Outbuilding to NW of Willow Cottage. Thatched Building Survey by J.Webb. Unlisted building (Curtilage listed?)	Post-medieval
58816	438367	138798	Post medieval extractive pit. Cropmark	Post-medieval
58817	437914	138909	Post medieval water meadow on Chilbolton Tithe Map	Post-medieval
61708	439105	140171	Site of cottage	Post-medieval
61709	439250	140060	Site of building, interpreted as an outbuilding	Post-medieval
68681	438240	139055	Fullerton Junction station, built in the 1860s.	Post-medieval

<b>HER/LBS No.</b>	<b>Easting</b>	<b>Northing</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
68682	439300	140000	Bannuts Barn. C19 THRESHING BARN. Soldiers were billeted in 'the old threshing barn' during the First World War, as well in local stables and Mr. Dunford's meadow	Post-medieval and modern
56389	439271	140008	K6 Telephone Kiosk, Grindstone Green	Modern
37836	438800	139000	AA Gun Mounting. Mk.II Holdfast mounting (concrete with embedded steel holding-down bolts) on which a 40mm. Bofors AA gun was fixed. Probably included earthworks e.g. low enclosure, slit trenches.	Modern
68683	438214	138984	Titcombe Bridge. Defended Locality. Due to the importance of the railway line, the Titcombe Bridge was placed under the guard of the London Rifles during the First World War.	Modern

## HER Summary

<b>Site code</b>	CBO17					
<b>Project code</b>	160473					
<b>Planning reference</b>	Permitted Development					
<b>Site address</b>	Chilbolton WSW, Coley Lane, Chilbolton					
<b>District/Borough</b>	Test Valley					
<b>NGR (12 figures)</b>	438790 139227					
<b>Geology</b>	Chalk with localized River Terrace Deposits and Clay-with-Flints					
<b>Fieldwork type</b>	Eval	Excav	WB ✓	HBR	Survey	Other
<b>Date of fieldwork</b>	03.05.2017 - 29.09.2017					
<b>Sponsor/client</b>	MGJV on behalf of Southern Water					
<b>Project manager</b>	Neil Griffin					
<b>Project supervisor</b>	Simon Stevens					
<b>Period summary</b>			<b>?Neolithic</b>	<b>?Bronze Age</b>	<b>?Iron Age</b>	
				<b>Post-Medieval</b>	<b>Modern</b>	
<b>Project summary (100 word max)</b>	<p><i>Archaeology South-East was commissioned by MGJV on behalf of Southern Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Chilbolton WTW, Coley Lane, Chilbolton. Hampshire (NGR 438790 139227). The work involved the laying of a new water main along Coley Lane and then across West Down Nature Reserve, formerly the site of RAF Chilbolton.</i></p> <p><i>A limited range of deposits relating to the use of the airfield during the 1940s, with some evidence of decommissioning of buildings was encountered and recorded, as well as the subsequent use of the site for landfill during the 1970s. A background scatter of prehistoric flintwork was recovered from the topsoil.</i></p>					

**OASIS Form**

**OASIS ID: archaeol6-299960**

Project details

Project name Archaeological Watching Brief Report - Chilbolton WSW, Chilbolton, Hampshire

Short description of the project Archaeology South-East was commissioned by MGJV on behalf of Southern Water to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Chilbolton WSW, Coley Lane, Chilbolton. Hampshire (NGR 438790 139227). The work involved the laying of a new water main along Coley Lane and then across West Down Nature Reserve, formerly the site of RAF Chilbolton. A limited range of deposits relating to the use of the airfield during the 1940s, with some evidence of decommissioning of buildings was encountered and recorded, as well as the subsequent use of the site for landfill during the 1970s. A background scatter of prehistoric flintwork was recovered from the topsoil.

Project dates Start: 03-05-2017 End: 29-09-2017

Previous/future work Not known / Not known

Any associated project reference 160473 - Contracting Unit No. codes

Any associated project reference CBO 17 - Sitecode codes

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Monument type AIRFIELD Modern

Significant Finds FLINTWORK Late Prehistoric

Investigation type ""Watching Brief""

Prompt Water Act 1989 and subsequent code of practice

Project location

Country England

Site location HAMPSHIRE TEST VALLEY CHILBOLTON Chilbolton WSW

Study area 3 Hectares

Site coordinates SU 38790 39227 51.150462049674 -1.445345785147 51 09 01 N 001 26 43 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South-East

Project originator brief Southern Water

Project originator design Archaeology South-East

Project director/manager Neil Griffin

Project supervisor Simon Stevens

Type of sponsor/funding body Client

Name of sponsor/funding body Southern Water

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Hampshire County Council Museums Service

Physical Contents "Metal"

Digital Archive recipient Hampshire County Council Museums Service

Digital Contents "other"

Digital available Media "Images raster / digital photography","Text"

Paper Archive recipient Hampshire County Council Museums Service

Paper Contents "other"

Paper available Media "Context sheet","Correspondence","Miscellaneous Material","Notebook - Excavation"," Research"," General Notes","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography  
1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological Watching Brief Report - Chilbolton WSW, Chilbolton, Hampshire

Author(s)/Editor(s) Stevens, S.

Other bibliographic details ASE Report No. 2017467

Date 2017

Issuer or publisher Archaeology South-East

Place of issue or publication Portslade, East Sussex

Description Standard ASE client report. A4-sized with cover logos

Entered by Simon Stevens (simon.stevens@ucl.ac.uk)

Entered on 30 November 2017

**Sussex Office**

Units 1 & 2  
2 Chapel Place  
Portslade  
East Sussex BN41 1DR  
tel: +44(0)1273 426830  
email: [fau@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:fau@ucl.ac.uk)  
[www.archaeologyse.co.uk](http://www.archaeologyse.co.uk)

**Essex Office**

27 Eastways  
Witham  
Essex  
CM8 3YQ  
tel: +44(0)1376 331470  
email: [fau@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:fau@ucl.ac.uk)  
[www.archaeologyse.co.uk](http://www.archaeologyse.co.uk)

**London Office**

Centre for Applied Archaeology  
UCL Institute of Archaeology  
31-34 Gordon Square  
London WC1H 0PY  
tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778  
email: [fau@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:fau@ucl.ac.uk)  
[www.ucl.ac.uk/caa](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/caa)

