

T H A M E S V A L L E Y

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**9 Easterton Lane, Pewsey,
Wiltshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

by David Platt

Site Code: ELP12/156

(SU 1675 6006)

**9 Easterton Lane, Pewsey,
Wiltshire**

**An Archaeological Evaluation
for Mr and Mrs C Wootton**

by David Platt
ThamesValleyArchaeologicalServices
Ltd

SiteCodeELP12/156

September 2012

Summary

Site name: 9 Easterton Lane, Pewsey, Wiltshire

Grid reference: SU 1675 6006

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 26th September 2012

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: David Platt

Site code: ELP12/156

Area of site: c. 0.18ha

Summary of results: No finds or features of archaeological significance were uncovered. The site is considered to have no archaeological potential

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Wiltshire Heritage Museum in due course.

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Report edited/checked by:	Steve Ford ✓ 28.09.12 Steve Preston ✓ 27.09.12
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9 Easterton Lane, Pewsey, Wiltshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by David Platt

Report 12/156

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at 9 Easterton Lane, Pewsey, Wiltshire (SU 1675 6006) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by ms Rebecca Skinner of Fowler Architecture and Planning , 19 High Street, Pewsey Wiltshire, SN9 5AF on behalf of Mr and Mrs C Wootton, 4 The Ridge, North Street, Pewsey, Wiltshire, SN9 5ER.

A planning application (app no (E/2012/0941/FUL) has been made to Wiltshire Council to demolish existing structures at 9 Easterton Lane, Pewsey, Wiltshire (SU1675 6006) and replace them with new chalet-style houses. As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits on the site which may be damaged or destroyed by groundworks, fieldwork has been requested in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) and the Council's policies on archaeology. This to determine the archaeological potential of the site and if necessary, inform a mitigation strategy for the project. A single component of work was proposed; field evaluation by means of machine trenching. Further fieldwork may be required if archaeological deposits are encountered.

The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Ms Clare King, Assistant County Archaeologist for Wiltshire Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by David Platt and Kyle Beaverstock on 26th September 2012 and the site code is ELP12/156. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Wiltshire Heritage Museum in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The town of Pewsey is located c. 9km south-west of Marlborough and is bordered by the river Avon to the north and south and Ford Brook to the west (Fig. 1). The site is located on the eastern side of Easterton Lane and consists of a bungalow, garage, shed and a garden totalling c. 0.18ha in total (Fig. 2). The underlying geology consists of Upper Greensand (BGS 1952). This was observed in the trenches as a pale greenish grey sand with frequent sandstone inclusions. The site lies at a height of 116m above Ordnance Datum on land that generally rises to the north.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site has been highlighted by Ms Clare King of Wilshire Council Archaeology Service. In summary the site lies within the historic core of Pewsey. The Vale of Pewsey is regarded as being archaeologically rich with, for example, the important Neolithic causewayed enclosure at Knap Hill to the north west. A variety of prehistoric struck flints are recorded from various locations within Pewsey itself. The settlement has late Saxon origins with 9th-century features present within the parish church and other Saxon finds including a gold pendant recorded. The settlement is recorded in Domesday Book (Williams and Martin 2002). Various archaeological fieldwork within the settlement has recorded medieval and post-medieval remains such as at Ball House Farm on the east of the village (Lewis 2011).

Objectives and methodology

The purpose of the evaluation was to determine the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological deposits within the area of development.

The specific research aims of this project are:

- To determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on the site;
- To determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;
- To determine if any Late Saxon or medieval deposits are present on the site;
- To provide information in order to draw up an appropriate mitigation strategy if required; and
- To report on the findings of the evaluation.

It was proposed to dig four trenches, two of which were to be 10m long and two 5m long. All trenches were to be 1.4-1.6m wide. It was proposed to target the footprint of the proposed buildings and driveways. Topsoil and any other overburden were to be removed by a mini-digger fitted with a toothless ditching bucket to expose archaeologically sensitive levels, under constant archaeological supervision. Excavation of exposed archaeological features was to be carried out by hand and spoil heaps were to be searched for artefacts. Where archaeological features are certainly or probably present, the stripped areas were to be cleaned using appropriate hand tools. Sufficient of the archaeological features and deposits exposed were to be excavated or sampled by hand to satisfy the aims of the brief, without compromising the integrity of any features that might warrant preservation *in situ* or might better be investigated under the conditions of full excavation.

Results

All trenches were dug as intended, they ranged in length from 5m to 10m and in depth from 0.65m to 1.30m. A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1.

Trench 1 (Figs 3 and 4; Pl. 1)

Trench 1 was aligned SE - NW and was 10m long and 0.65m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil and 0.30m subsoil overlying natural sand geology. No finds or features were uncovered.

Trench 2 (Figs 3 and 4)

Trench 2 was aligned E - W and was 10m long and 0.75m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil and 0.40m subsoil overlying natural geology. No finds or features were uncovered.

Trench 3 (Fig 3; Pl. 2)

Trench 3 was aligned SSE - NNW and was 5m long and 0.65m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil and 0.30m subsoil overlying natural geology. A single pit (1) was uncovered at the NNW end of the trench, this contained pottery and ceramic building material of late post medieval/modern date.

Trench 4 (Fig 3)

Trench 4 was aligned ENE - WSW and was 5m long and 1.30m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of topsoil and 0.38m subsoil overlying 0.52m of brownish grey clayey sand made ground, this overlay the natural geology. A single pit (2) was found cutting this made ground, this contained three pieces of partially burnt coal and four pieces of brick/tile of post-medieval/modern date.

Finds

No finds of archaeological interest were recovered. All of the late post-medieval/modern finds were retained on site.

Conclusion

The evaluation revealed that archaeologically relevant levels have survived on the site, however no deposits or artefacts of archaeological interest were found. Two of the trenches revealed features that were of late post-medieval or modern in date. Trench 4 had 0.52m of made ground, most likely laid down during the construction

of the bungalow, in order to level the garden in the NE corner, where it naturally slopes down into the valley of the River Avon. On the basis of this evaluation it is considered that the site has no archaeological potential.

References

- BGS, 1959, *British Geological Survey*, 1:63360, Sheet 282, Drift Edition, Keyworth
- Lewis, J, 2011, Land at Ball House Farm, Milton Road, Pewsey, Wiltshire, Thames Valley Archaeological Services report 11/51, Reading
- NPPF 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Department of Communities and Local Government, London (TSO)
- Williams, A and Martin, G H, 2002, *Domesday Book, a complete translation*, London

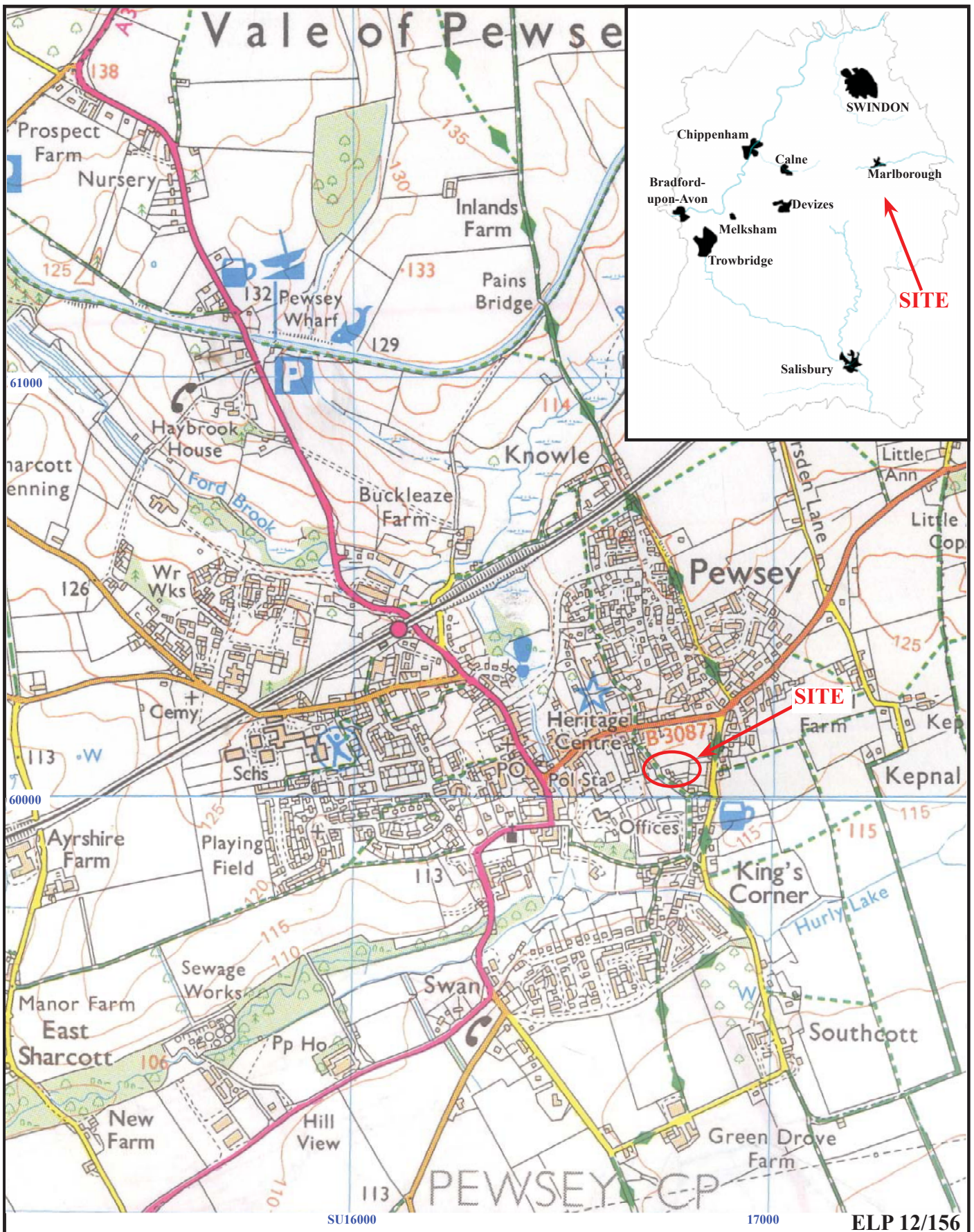
APPENDIX 1: Trench details

0m at SE or W end

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Length (m)</i>	<i>Breadth (m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
1	10.0	1.5	0.65	0–0.30m topsoil, 0.30-0.60m dark brownish grey sandy silt subsoil, 0.60m + natural sand and sandstone geology. [Pl. 1]
2	10.0	1.5	0.75	0–0.30m topsoil, 0.30-0.70m dark brownish grey sandy silt subsoil, 0.70m + natural sand and sandstone geology.
3	5.0	1.5	0.65	0–0.30m topsoil, 0.30-0.60m dark brownish grey sandy silt subsoil, 0.60m + natural sand and sandstone geology. [Pl. 2]
4	5.0	1.5	1.30	0–0.30m topsoil, 0.30-0.68m dark brownish grey sandy silt subsoil, 0.68-1.20m pale brownish grey clayey sand made ground, 1.20m + natural sand and sandstone geology.

APPENDIX 2: Feature details

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>
3	1	52	Pit	Post medieval/modern	Pottery
4	2	53	Pit	Post medieval/modern	Brick/tile



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Figure 1. Location of site within Pewsey and Wiltshire.

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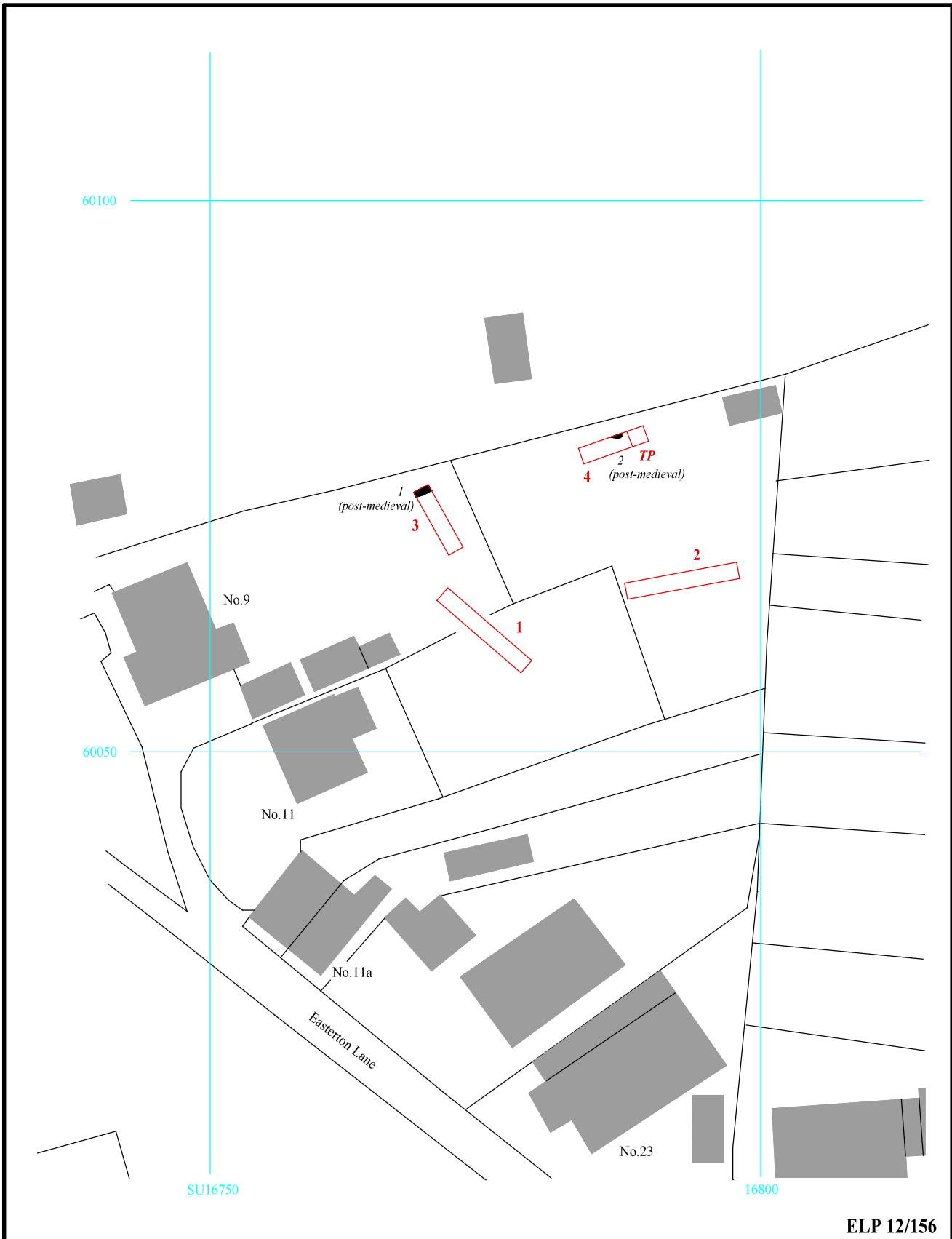


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Figure 2. Detailed location of site off Easterton Lane.

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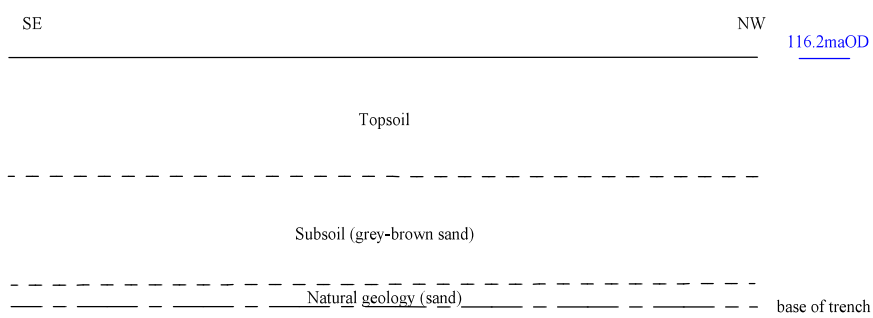
**9 Easterton Lane, Pewsey, Wiltshire, 2010
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Figure 3. Location of trenches.

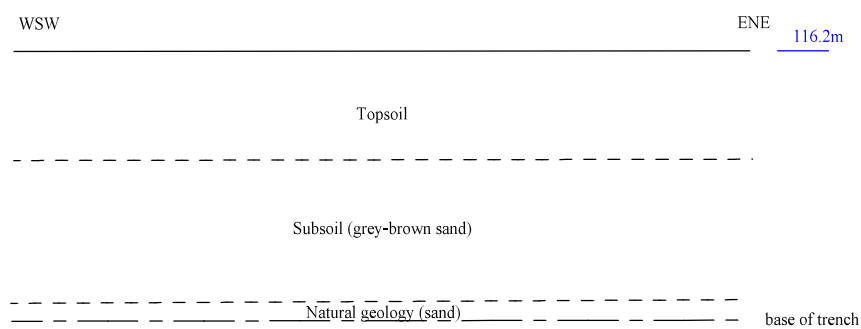


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Trench 1



Trench 2



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Figure 4. Representative sections.



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Plate 1. Trench 1, looking north west, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 2. Trench 3, looking north, Scales: 2m, 1m and 0.5m.

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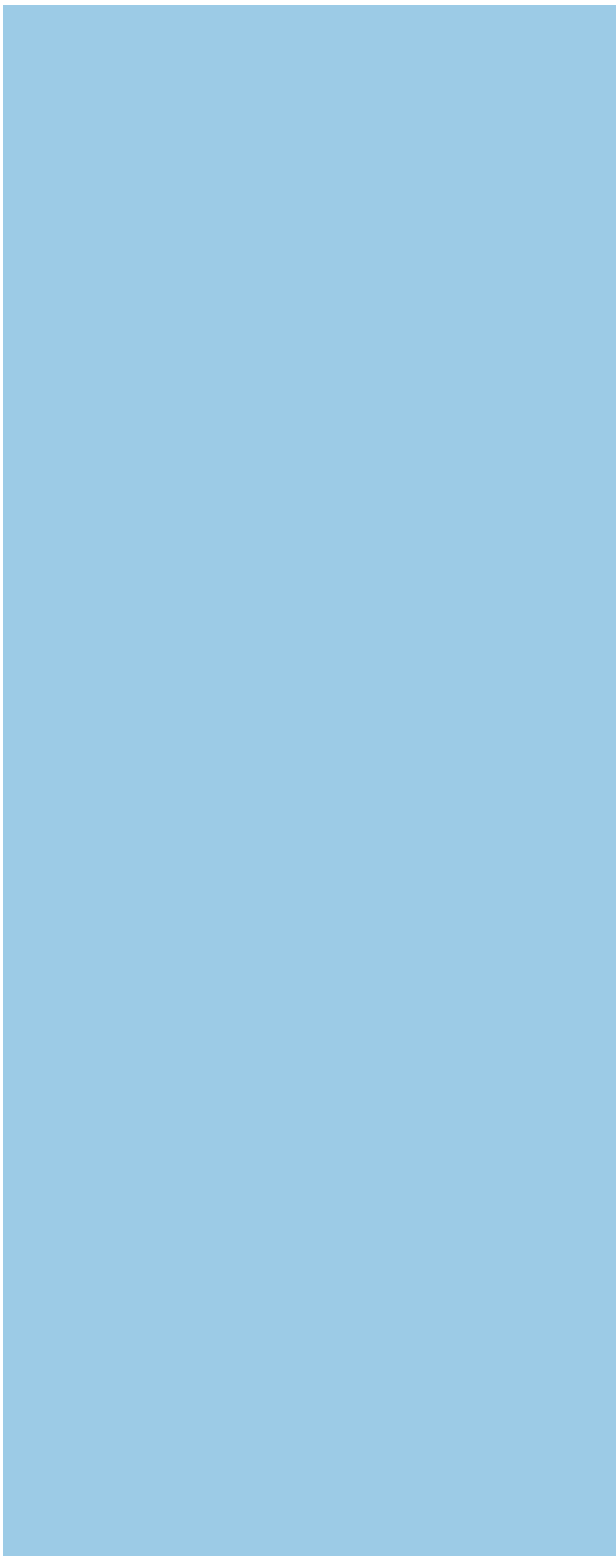
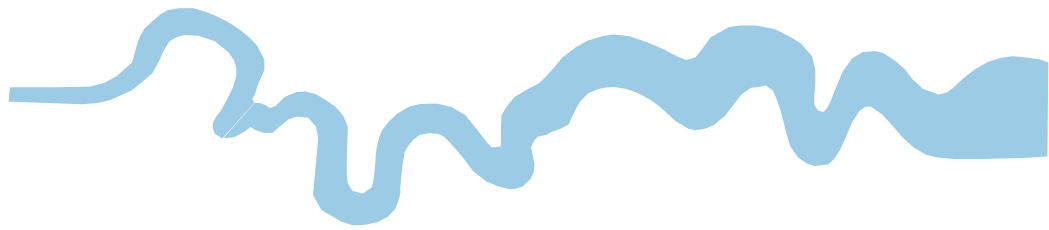
Plates 1 and 2.

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TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
Iron Age _____	BC/AD 750 BC
Bronze Age: Late _____	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle _____	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early _____	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC





**Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd,
47-49 De Beauvoir Road, Reading,
Berkshire, RG1 5NR**

**Tel: 0118 9260552
Fax: 0118 9260553
Email: tvas@tvas.co.uk
Web: www.tvas.co.uk**