## THAMES VALLEY

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL

## SERVICES

## Land at Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire

**Archaeological Evaluation** 

by Andy Weale

Site Code: WIC13/128

(SU 1320 8290)

## Land at Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire

## An Archaeological Evaluation

for Peter Brett Associates

by Andrew Weale

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code WIC13/128

January 2015

#### **Summary**

Site name: Land at Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire

Grid reference: SU 1320 8290

Site activity: Evaluation

Date and duration of project: 30th July 2013 to 25th July 2014 in two phases

Project manager: Andrew Weale

**Site supervisor:** Andrew Weale

Site code: WIC 13/128

**Area of site:** *c.* 11.6ha

**Summary of results.** A large number of trenches were excavated but only three undated deposits of possible archaeological interest were revealed. Most of the trenches revealed deep alluvium above the natural geology with many trenches also buried by modern made ground. No pre-modern artefacts were recovered. On the basis of these results, the site is considered to have no archaeological potential.

**Location and reference of archive:** The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, South West in Taunton and will be deposited at Swindon Museum and Art Gallery in due course

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Steve Preston ✓ 12.01.15

#### Land at Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire An Archaeological Evaluation

by Andrew Weale

**Report 13/128b** 

#### Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation carried out at Land at Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire (SU 1345 6285) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Daniel Hayes of Peter Brett Associates LLP, Caversham Bridge House, Waterman Place, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 8DN.

Planning permission (ref S/02/2000MITW) has been gained from Swindon Borough Council for the erection of housing and associated works. The consent is subject to a condition (36) relating to archaeology. The site lies on the southern margins of Swindon north of the M4 to the west of West Leaze Farm and occupies an area of *c*. 13ha. Fieldwork on one part of this area (around 1.9 ha) has already been reported on (Weale 2013). As a consequence of the possibility of archaeological deposits on the rest of the site, which may be damaged or destroyed, fieldwork has been requested as detailed in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012, para 128) and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Ms Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, County Archaeologist for Wiltshire Council and monitored by Ms Claire King, Archaeological Officer for Wiltshire Council, acting as advisers to Swindon Borough Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Andrew Weale, Steve Ford, Dan Bray and Tom Stewart from 30th July to 5<sup>th</sup> August 2013 and 15<sup>th</sup> to 25th July 2014 and the site code is WIC 13/128. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services and will be deposited with Swindon Museum and Art Gallery in due course.

#### Location, topography and geology

The site was spread over eight separate areas (Areas A-H) located at to the south of the old centre of Swindon (Fig. 1). The Wilts and Berks Canal divided the southern part of the site, with areas A-F to the west of the canal and Areas G and H to the east. The river Ray lies just to the north and the M4 to the south, a former railway line, now replaced with a road, also divided the site. Prior to development all the areas were under grass except Area H which was overgrown. Area A was a flat field with spoil heaps along its southern edge. A recent large spoil heap of overburden occupied a large part of Area C (Pl. 1). Area D had very large spoilheaps of overburden in

the northern part of the area which had to be moved before the evaluation could take place. Area H was a small area sloping down from the east to west and was overgrown. The underlying geology is mapped as Jurassic Ampthill Clay Formation and Kimmeridge Clay Formation (Mudstones) (BGS 1992). A mixture of alluvial deposits were observed within the trenches with gravel beneath.

#### Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the proposal site has been summarized in a brief for the project prepared by Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service. In summary, immediately to the east and confirmed by trial trenching is the site of the deserted medieval village of West Leaze, which is a Scheduled Monument (SAM 1016361): Fig. 1). The village does not appear to have Saxon origins and is not mentioned in Domesday Book of AD1086. Just to the east of the site, watching brief and recording action carried out during construction of the distributor road revealed deposits predominantly of later Roman date (Hood 2009). These features comprised a large number of shallow pits, possibly dug for clay and several gullies. A small volume of prehistoric pottery and flintwork, early Saxon and medieval pottery was also recovered.

An archaeological recording action (Weale 2013) was undertaken in the food store area, covering around 1.9ha between areas D and G and south of Area H. Topsoil only was removed from the main part of the site prior to the laying of hardcore. No archaeological deposits were revealed.

#### Objectives and methodology

The aims of the evaluation will be to determine the presence/ absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological or palaeoenvironmental deposits within the area of development. The general objectives of the project were to:

excavate and record all archaeological deposits and features within the areas threatened by the proposed development;

produce relative and absolute dating and phasing for deposits and features recorded on the site; establish the character of these deposits in attempt to define functional areas on the site such as industrial, domestic, etc.; and

produce information on the economy and local environment and compare and contrast this with the results of other excavations in the region.

The specific research aims of this project are:

to determine if archaeologically relevant levels have survived on this site;

to determine if archaeological deposits of any period are present;

to determine if any Roman occupation or landscape deposits are present on the site; 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.

A total of 85 trenches 20m long and 2m wide were proposed to be excavated across the eight site Areas (A-H).

Due to the possible presence on site of protected Great Crested Newts, vegetation and topsoil was removed in an area around each trench and spoil heap areas to insure that no newts were present before each trench was excavated (Pl. 2). This was carried out under the supervision of an ecological consultant.

Remaining topsoil, and any other overburden was removed by a 360° tracked machine under constant archaeological supervision. A toothless ditching bucket was used to expose archaeologically sensitive levels,. Where archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains were exposed, these were cleaned by hand investigated, recorded and sampled.

A programme of environmental sampling was to take place should sufficient well stratified subsoil deposits be located and metal detectors were to be used to enhance the recovery of metal finds. This work was to be carried out in a manner which would not compromise the integrity of archaeological features or deposits which might warrant preservation *in situ*, or might better be excavated under conditions pertaining to full excavation.

#### Results

Some 81trenches were eventually excavated. Due to changes in the southern boundary of the earlier recording action (Weale 2013) trenches 78-81 were not excavated as they were now no longer within the evaluation area. The other trenches were distributed as follows (Figs 3 and 4): Area A, Trenches 1–4; Area B, Trenches 5–12; Area C, Trenches 13–15; Area D, Trenches 19–62; Area E, Trenches 63–6; Area F, Trench 67; Area G, Trenches 68–77 and 82–5; Area H, Trenches 16–18.

Trenches 1-4 in Area A were excavated as intended to the bottom of the alluvial sequence. However, this revealed very unstable ground conditions with each trench collapsing during or shortly after excavation. As ordinary backfilling would have caused structural problems for any future building on the site, each trench had to be widened so the resulting spoil could be replaced in layers and restore by a compacting machine. All other trenches (Trenches 5-77 and 82–5) were shortened in length and widened so that the compacting machine could

enter after recording, and each trench was backfilled before the next trench was excavated unless archaeological features were present. This was done after consultation with Ms Pomeroy-Kellinger.

A gas pipeline within Area D resulted in the location of some trenches being moved and the presence of large spoilheaps of overburden in this area meant that some trenches were excavated after the spoil heaps were removed. Trenches 50 and 58 had to be moved slightly from their intended position due to the presence of protected water voles. The location of trench 67 in Area F had to be moved to the north of its intended location due to the presence in that area of overhead power cables. Trenches 76 and 77 in Area G had to be moved to the east and north due to the presence of an overburden spoil heap in this area.

A complete list of trenches giving lengths, breadths, depths and a description of sections and geology is given in Appendix 1. A complete list of features investigated forms Appendix 2.

Area A (Fig. 4)

#### Trench 1

Trench 1 was aligned W-E was 22.30m long and a maximum of 2.95m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.30m thick beneath which was a yellow sandy clay (alluvium) to a depth of 2.30m. Beneath the yellow clay was a brown yellow clay to a depth of 2.80m which contained lenses of blue grey clay. Beneath the brown yellow clay was a yellow gravelly clayey sand to a depth of 2.95m. Trench 1 proved to be very unstable and collapsed before it could be completed. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trench 2

Trench 2 was aligned WNW - ESE and was 20.40m long and 2.60m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of topsoil which was 0.30m thick beneath which was a yellow sandy clay (alluvium) to a depth of 2.50m. Beneath the yellow clay was a brown yellow clay to a depth of 2.60m which contained lenses of blue grey clay. Beneath the brown yellow clay was the top of the yellow gravelly clayey sand to a depth of 2.65m. Trench 2 also proved to be very unstable, so an attempt was made to excavate the trench as a series of steps but these too collapsed before it could be completed. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trenches 3 and 4 (Pl. 9)

These trenches were only excavated into the yellow sandy clay alluvium.

#### Area B (Fig. 4)

#### Trench 5

Trench 5 was aligned W - E and was 14.3m long, varied from 2.80m wide at the east end to 3.70m wide at the west end and 1.20m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of made ground and 0.30m subsoil overlying yellow gravelly clayey sand to a depth of 1.20m. Natural geology was not seen within Trench 5. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trenches 6-8 and 10-12 (Pl. 10)

These trenches showed similar stratigraphy to Trench 5 with only slight variations (see Appendix 1). No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trench 9

Trench 9 was aligned SE - NW and was 14.2m long, varied from 2.80m wide at the north end to 3.80m wide at the south end at the west end and 0.90m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of subsoil overlying yellow gravelly clayey sand to a depth of 0.60m. Beneath the brown yellow clay was a blue grey clay that was up to a maximum of 0.12m thick, this overlay a hard blue grey clay natural geology that contained stone and decayed fossils to a depth of 0.90m+ below current ground surface. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Area C (Fig. 3)

#### Trench 13

Trench 13 was aligned W- E and was 18.6m long, 2.8m wide and a maximum of 1.20m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 1.00m of made ground, beneath the made ground was a hard blue grey clay natural geology. that contained stone and decayed fossils to a depth of 1.20m+ below current ground surface. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trench 14 (Pl. 11)

Trench 14 was roughly aligned SW–NE and was 17.9m, between 2.5-3.4m wide long and a maximum of 1.80m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.80m of made ground overlying a mixed yellow brown clay up to 0.30m thick. Beneath the mixed yellow brown clay was a mixed dark blue grey clay 0.20m thick. The mixed yellow brown clay was above a hard blue grey clay natural geology. that contained stone and decayed fossils to a depth of 1.80m+ below current ground surface. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trench 15

Trench 15 was roughly aligned SW–NE and was 18.0m, 3.5m wide long and a maximum of 0.80m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of made ground overlying a buried modern topsoil up to 0.15m thick. Beneath the buried modern topsoil was a grey clay 0.07m thick. The grey clay was above a hard red brown grey clay natural geology that contained stone and decayed fossils, to a depth of 0.80m+ below current ground surface. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Area D (Fig. 3)

#### Trench 19 (Figs 3, 5 and 6; Pls 7 and 8)

Trench 19 was aligned WNW - ESE and was 22.0m long, 1.80m wide and 1.20m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of yellow brown clay, beneath which was 0.40m of a light blue grey clay (alluvium). Beneath the light blue grey clay was a dark blue clay. A single possible post hole (10) was cut into the dark blue grey clay. Post hole 10 was circular in plan, 0.40m in diameter and 0.07m deep and contained a mid yellow brown silty clay (150) which contained no datable artefacts.

#### Trench 20

Trench 20 was aligned roughly W - E and was 20.40m long, 1.80m wide and 1.18m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.29m of made ground, beneath which was 0.89m of a yellow brown clay (alluvium). Natural geology was not seen within Trench 20. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trenches 21-22 and 36-37

These trenches were in a similar location to Trenches 19 and 20 in an area that had previously been covered with a large modern spoil heap. No archaeological features or artefacts were observed within these trenches.

#### Trench 23

Trench 23 was aligned roughly N-S and was 15.90m long, 3.10m wide and 1.01m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.25m of made ground, beneath which was 0.27m of subsoil. Beneath the subsoil was a yellow brown clay 0.38m deep. Beneath the yellow brown clay was a brown grey clay 0.09m deep. Beneath the brown yellow clay was a grey brown clay to a depth of 1.01m. Natural geology was not seen within Trench 23. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trenches 24–31(Fig. 3, Pl. 12)

These trenches were in a similar location to Trench 23 in an area that had previously been covered with a large modern spoil heap and it environs. No archaeological features or artefacts were observed from within these trenches.

#### Trench 32 (Fig. 3)

Trench 32 was aligned roughly W - E and was 20m long, 1.80m wide and 1.50m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.32m of made ground, beneath which was 0.28m of yellow brown clay. Beneath the yellow brown clay was a dark blue grey clay 0.40m deep. Beneath the dark blue grey clay was a dark yellow brown clay up to 0.50m deep. Natural geology was not seen within Trench 32. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trenches 33, 41-44

These trenches were in a similar location to Trench 32 in an area that had previously been covered with a large modern spoil heap. No archaeological features or artefacts were observed from within these trenches and their stratigraphy can be seen within Appendix 1. The extension of the gas pipe observed within Trench 27 was not seen within the area of Trenches 33, 41-44.

#### Trench 34

Trench 34 was roughly aligned W- E and was 12.40m long, 3.0m wide and a maximum of 1.20m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.40m of subsoil which overlay 0.80m+ of a yellow brown clay Natural geology was not seen within Trench 34. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### <u>Trenches 35, 45-50</u>

These trenches were in a similar location to Trench 35 in an area that was to the south of areas of modern spoil dumping and slightly overgrown with scrub no archaeological features or artefacts were observed from within these trenches.

#### Trench 51

Trench 51 was roughly aligned SSW- NNE and was 15.2m long, 2.9m wide and a maximum of 0.95m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.40m of subsoil overlying yellow brown clay to a depth of 0.30m thick. Beneath yellow brown clay was a mid brown grey clay 0.37m thick beneath which was a grey brown clay over 0.05m

thick. Natural geology was not seen within Trench 51. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trenches 52-62 (Pl. 13)

Like Trench 31, Trenches 52-62 were within a large open field currently under pasture although there appeared to be slight evidence of ridge and furrow present. No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trenches.

#### Area E (Fig 3)

#### Trench 63

Trench 63 was roughly aligned SW- NE and was 20.0m, long 1.80m wide long and a maximum of 1.40m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.10m of topsoil beneath which was 0.40m of a friable light to mid blue grey clay. The light to mid blue grey clay was overlying a sticky mid blue grey clay which was up to 0.40m thick, beneath which was a yellow brown clay up to 0.40m thick. Beneath the yellow brown clay was a grey blue clay up to 0.08m thick which in turn overlay a yellow brown clay. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trenches 64-66 (Pl. 14)

Like Trench 63, Trenches 65 and 66 were within a small open field currently under pasture although there appeared to be slight evidence of ridge and furrow present within the field. No archaeological feature or artefacts were present within the trenches. Trench 64 was just outside the small field but within the same field as Areas D and F. No archaeological features or artefacts were present within the trenches and their stratigraphy can be seen within Appendix 1.

#### Area F (Fig. 3)

#### Trench 67 (Pls 15 and 16)

Trench 67 was roughly aligned SE- NW and was 15.4m long, 2.80m wide long and a maximum of 1.90m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.27m of topsoil beneath which was 0.13m of subsoil. Beneath the subsoil was a yellow brown clay up to 0.32m thick which overlay a mid blue grey clay which was up to 0.48m thick. Beneath the mid blue grey clay was a dark blue grey clay up to 0.40m thick which overlay a mixed blue grey clay with yellow brown clay that appeared to have an organic content. At the base of the trench there was a mixed layer of dark grey clay with patches of white clay with some organic content. A test pit was excavated within Trench 67,

at 13-15.50m from the SE end in which showed that the basal layer of the trench continued to at least a depth of 1.90m+. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

Area G (Fig. 3)

#### Trench 69

Trench 69 was aligned W- E and was 16.30m long, 2.80m wide and a maximum of 1.20m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20m of made ground beneath which was 0.30m of subsoil. Beneath the subsoil was a yellow brown clay which was a maximum 0.50m deep. Beneath the yellow brown clay was a brown yellow clay with stone fragments which was a 0.20m+ thick.

#### Trenches 68, 70-73, 76-77, 82-85 (Pl. 17)

These trenches were in a the same field as trench 69 that had areas of modern spoil dumping within it as well as isolated areas still under pasture. No archaeological features or artefacts were observed from within these trenches.

#### <u>Trench 74</u> (Figs 3, 5 and 6; Pls 3 and 4)

Trench 74 was aligned S- N and was 17.0m long, 2.20m wide and a maximum of 1.35m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of made ground beneath which was 0.30m of subsoil. Beneath the subsoil was a yellow brown clay which was a maximum 0.50m deep. Beneath the yellow brown clay was a brown yellow clay with stone fragments into which was cut a ditch. Ditch 2 was aligned west to east, was a maximum of 0.65m wide, 0.48m deep and filled with a mixed yellow brown silty clay (53) which contained no datable artefacts.

#### Trench 75 (Figs 3, 5 and 6; Pls 5 and 6)

Trench 75 was aligned SW-NE and was 15.37m long, 2.60m wide and a maximum of 1.25m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.30m of made ground beneath which was 0.35m of subsoil. Beneath the subsoil was a yellow brown clay which was a maximum 0.50m deep. Beneath the yellow brown clay was a brown yellow clay with stone fragments, into which was cut Ditch 3 which was aligned roughly west to east almost due north to south, ie perpendicular to ditch 2, suggesting they may be contemporary. Ditch 3 was a maximum of 0.58m wide, 0.52m deep and filled with a mixed yellow brown silty clay (54) which contained no datable artefacts.

#### Area H (Fig. 3)

#### <u>Trench 16</u> (Pl. 18)

Trench 16 was aligned W-E and was 16.70m long, 3.60m wide and a maximum of 2.58m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.60m of made ground beneath which was 1.00m of a mixed yellow clay with modern debris which also appeared to be made ground. Beneath this layer was a dark brown clay up to 0.30m thick which overlaid a blue grey clay which was 0.30m thick. Beneath the blue grey clay was a yellow brown clay which was 0.30m thick beneath which was a hard blue grey clay with stone fragments natural geology. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trench 17

Trench 17 was aligned SW- NE and was 15.80m long, 3.60m wide and a maximum of 1.70m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.20 of topsoil beneath which was 0.30m of subsoil. Under the subsoil was 0.60m of yellow brown clay which overlaid a hard blue grey clay with stone fragments natural geology. A test pit was excavated by machine to a further depth of 0.40m into this layer with no change of geology. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Trench 18

Trench 18 was aligned NW- SE and was 23.00m long, 1.80m wide and a maximum of 2.00m deep. The stratigraphy consisted of 0.60m of made ground beneath which was 0.80m of a mixed yellow clay with modern debris which also appeared to be made ground. Beneath this layer was a dark brown clay up to 0.20m thick which overlaid a blue grey clay which was 0.20m thick. Beneath the blue grey clay was a yellow brown clay which was 0.10m thick beneath which was a hard blue grey clay with stone fragments natural geology. No archaeological features were present and no finds were recovered.

#### Conclusion

During the course of the evaluation it was observed that large parts of the site had experienced the dumping of modern made ground (Areas A, B, C, the northern half of Area D, Area G and Area H). No surface finds from what would have been the topsoil layers were kept in these areas as they appeared to relate to these periods of made ground dumping. Within Areas A, C and the northern part of Area D, the made ground was in the form of large spoil heaps up to 5m high. In Areas, B and G it appeared to be a thin layer spread across the site. The

artefacts within the made ground all appeared to be from periods that could relate to the building of the canal, the railway, the M4 or the more modern road and enabling works for the construction of the Wichelstowe development itself. The only parts of the site that did not appear to show signs of made ground were the southern parts of Area D together with Areas E and F. In these areas once the vegetation and topsoil had been removed the remains of what appear to be ridge and furrow were observed however no artefacts were present within the furrows or the topsoil within these areas.

The evaluation has highlighted that a very limited number of archaeological features exist across the site, however they are at a depth below a thick layer of what appears to be alluvial clay and are all undated. The absence of artefacts also suggests that much of the site may have been used as pastoral land due to the lack of any evidence of manuring, a common practice on arable land from the Roman period and throughout the Medieval period, although the presence of what appeared to be ridge and furrow in the southern part of the site shows that in the later periods (Medieval and possibly post-medieval) this part of the site was ploughed.

The presence across the whole site of a series of clays of varying depths above natural geology, where seen, suggests that the site was wet and marginal land throughout most of its history and may have only been drained to become usable arable farm land in the medieval or later periods. On the basis of these results, the site appears to have no archaeological potential.

#### References

BGS, 1992, *British Geological Survey*, 1:50000, Sheet 252, Solid and Drift Provisional Edition, Keyworth Hood, A, 2009, 'Land at Mill Lane, Swindon, Wiltshire, Archaeological excavation and associated watching briefs (phase 3), post-excavation assessment', Foundations Archaeology report 646, Swindon NPPF 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, Dept Communities and Local Government, London Weale, A, 2013, 'Land at Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire, An Archaeological Recording Action', TVAS unpubl rep 13/128, Reading

**APPENDIX 1:** Trench details

#### 0m at South, West or South West end

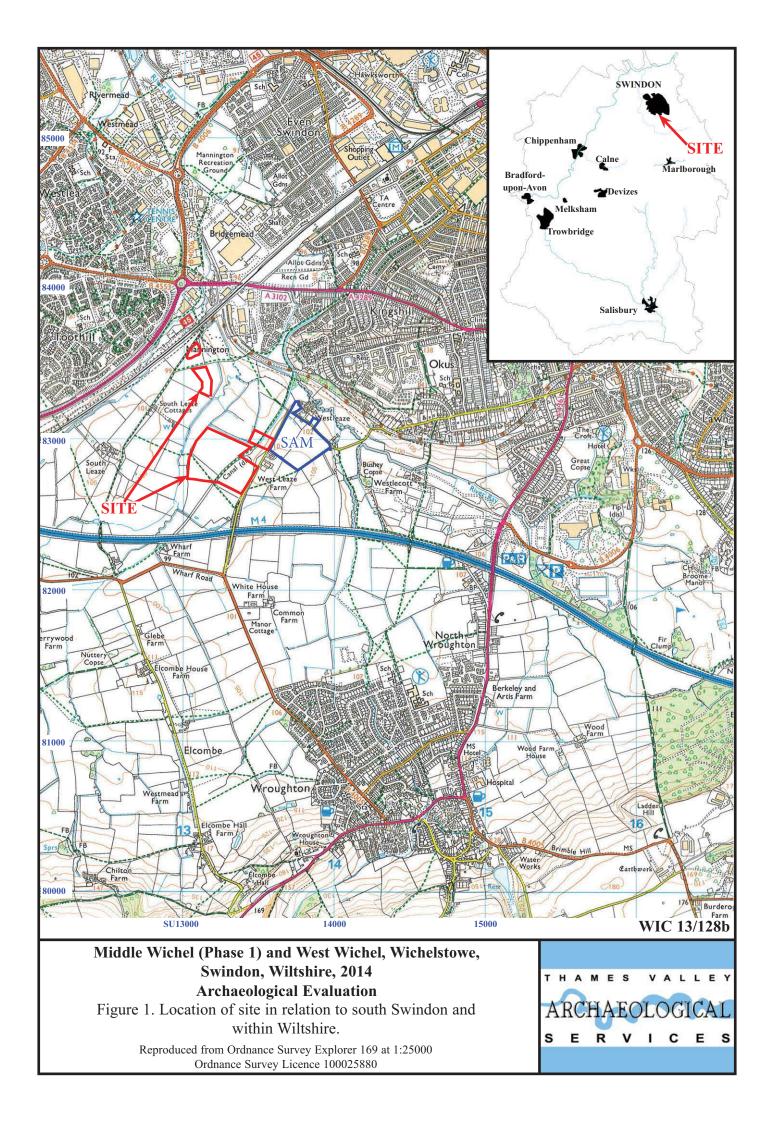
Trench	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Comment	
1	22.30	1.80	2.95	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Yellow clay 0.30-2.30m. Brown yellow clay 2.30-2.80m. Yellow gravelly clayey sand 0.80-2.95m+ (Natural Geology?)	
2	20.40	1.80	2.60	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Yellow clay 0.30-2.50m. Brown yellow clay 2.30-2.60m+, natural geology not seen	
3	20.50	1.80	1.00	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Yellow clay 0.30-1.00m+. Natural geology not seen [Pl. 9]	
4	20.80	1.80	1.30	Subsoil 0-0.30m. Yellow clay 0.30-0.80m. 0.80-1.30m~+ Blue Grey Clay, natural geology not seen	
5	14.30	2.80-3.70	1.20	Made ground 0-0.20m. Subsoil 0.20-0.50m. Yellow brown clay 0.50-1.10m+. Natural geology not seen	
6	15.60	4.10	1.10	Made ground 0-0.05m. Buried modern topsoil 0.05-0.35m. Subsoil 0.35-0.50m. Yellow brown clay 0.50-1.10m. Natural geology not seen	
7	13.80	3.30	1.10	Made ground 0-0.25. Subsoil 0.25-0.40. Yellow brown clay 0.40-1.10m+. Natur geology not seen	
8	13.80	3.80	0.90	Subsoil 0-0.20m. Yellow brown clay 0.20-0.80m+. Natural geology not seen	
9	14.20	2.80-3.80	0.90	Subsoil 0-0.20m. Brown yellow clay 0.30-0.60m. Blue grey clay 0.60-0.72m. Hard blue grey clay with fragments of stone and fossils 0.72-0.90m (natural geology?)	
10	14.1	3.40	0.90	Subsoil 0-0.30m. Brown yellow clay 0.30-0.60m. Blue grey clay 0.20-0.50m. Blue grey clay 0.50-0.85m Hard blue grey clay with fragments of stone and fossils 0.85-0.90m+natural geology?	
11	14.20	2.90-3.20	1.00	Made ground 0-0.20m. Subsoil 0.20-0.40m. Brown yellow clay 0.40-0.55m. Blue grey clay 0.55-0.80m. Hard clay with fragments of stone 0.80-1.00m+ (natural geology?)	
12	14.50	3.0-3.50	1.10	Made ground 0-0.10m. Subsoil 0.10-0.30m. Yellow brown clay 0.30-0.70m. Light blue grey clay with gravel 0.70-1.00m. Grey sandy clay with yellow sandy clay with gravel 1.00-1.10m+ [Pl. 10]	
13	18.60	2.8	1.20	Made ground 0-1.0m. Hard blue grey clay with fragments of stone and fossils 1.0-1.20m+. Natural geology? natural geology not seen	
14	17.9	2.50-3.4	1.80	Made ground 0-0.80m. Mixed brown clay 0.80-1.10m. Mixed dark blue grey clay 1.10-1.50m. Brown yellow clay 1.50-1.70m. Hard grey clay with fragments of stone 1.70-1.80m+. Natural geology? [Pl. 11]	
15	18.0	3.5	0.80	Made ground 0-0.20m. Topsoil (modern) 0.20-0.35m. Grey clay 0.35-0.42m. Red brown grey clay 0.42-0.80m. Hard clay with fragments of stone 0.80m+. Natural geology?	
16	16.70	3.60	2.58	Made ground 0-0.60m. Made ground 0.60-1.60m. Dark brown clay 1.60-1.90m. Blue grey clay 1.90-2.20m. Yellow brown clay 2.20-2.50m. Hard grey clay with fragments of stone 2.50-2.58m+ (natural geology?)	
17	15.80	3.60	1.70	Topsoil 0-0.20m. Subsoil 0.20-0.50m. Yellow clay 0.50-1.10m Hard grey clay with fragments of stone 1.10-1.50m+ (natural geology?)	
18	23.00	1.80	2.00	Made ground 0-0.60m, 0.60-1.40m made ground, 1.40-1.60m dark brown clay. 1.60-1.80m yellow clay. Natural geology not seen [Pl. 18]	
19	22.0	1.80	1.20	Yellow brown clay 0-0.30. Light blue grey clay 0.30-0.70m Dark blue grey clay 0.70-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen. Post hole 10 [Pls 7 and 8]	
20	20.40	1.80	1.18	Made ground 0-0.29m. Yellow brown clay 0.29-1.18m+. Natural geology not seen	
21	21.0	1.80	1.20	Made ground 0-0.20m Light yellow brown clay 0.27-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen	
22	21.20	1.80	1.20	Made ground 0-0.30m. Dark yellow brown clay 0.30-0.70m. Light yellow brown clay 0.70-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen.	
23	15.90	3.10	1.012	Made ground 0-0.25. Subsoil 0.25-0.52. Yellow brown clay 0.52-0.90. Brown grey clay 0.90-0.99. Grey brown clay 0.99-1.01m	
24	11.80	3.00	1.10	Topsoil 0-0.10. Subsoil 0.10-0.30. yellow brown clay 0.30-1.10m+. Natural geology not seen	
25	13.50	3.40	0.86	Topsoil 0-0.26. Subsoil 0.26-0.40. yellow brown clay 0.40-0.86m+. Natural geology not seen	
26	14.00	3/10	1.10	Topsoil 0-0.20. Subsoil 0.20-0.45. Yellow brown clay 0.45-0.90m. light grey clay 0.90-1.10m+. Natural geology not seen	
27	15.00	3.10	0.45	Topsoil 0-0.20. Subsoil 0.20-0.45 Mains gas pipe present within trench.	
28	13.80	3.10	1.03	Topsoil 0-0.29m. Subsoil 0.29-0.50m. Yellow brown clay 0.50-0.95. light grey clay 0.95-1.03m+. Natural geology not seen	
29	13.20	3.10	1.02	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.42m. Yellow brown clay 0.42-0.92. light grey clay 0.92-1.02m+. Natural geology not seen	
30	14.40	3.30	114	Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.58m. Yellow brown clay 0.58-1.10. light grey clay 1/10-1.14m+. Natural geology not seen	
31	14.50	3.10	1.24	Topsoil 0-0.15m. Subsoil 0.15-0.30m. Yellow brown clay 0.30-0.80. light grey clay 0.60-1.24m+. Natural geology not seen [Pl. 12]	
32	20.00	1.80	1.50	Made ground 0-0.32m. Yellow brown clay 0.32-0.60m. Dark blue grey clay 0.60-1.00m. Dark yellow brown clay 1.00-1.50m+. Natural geology not seen	

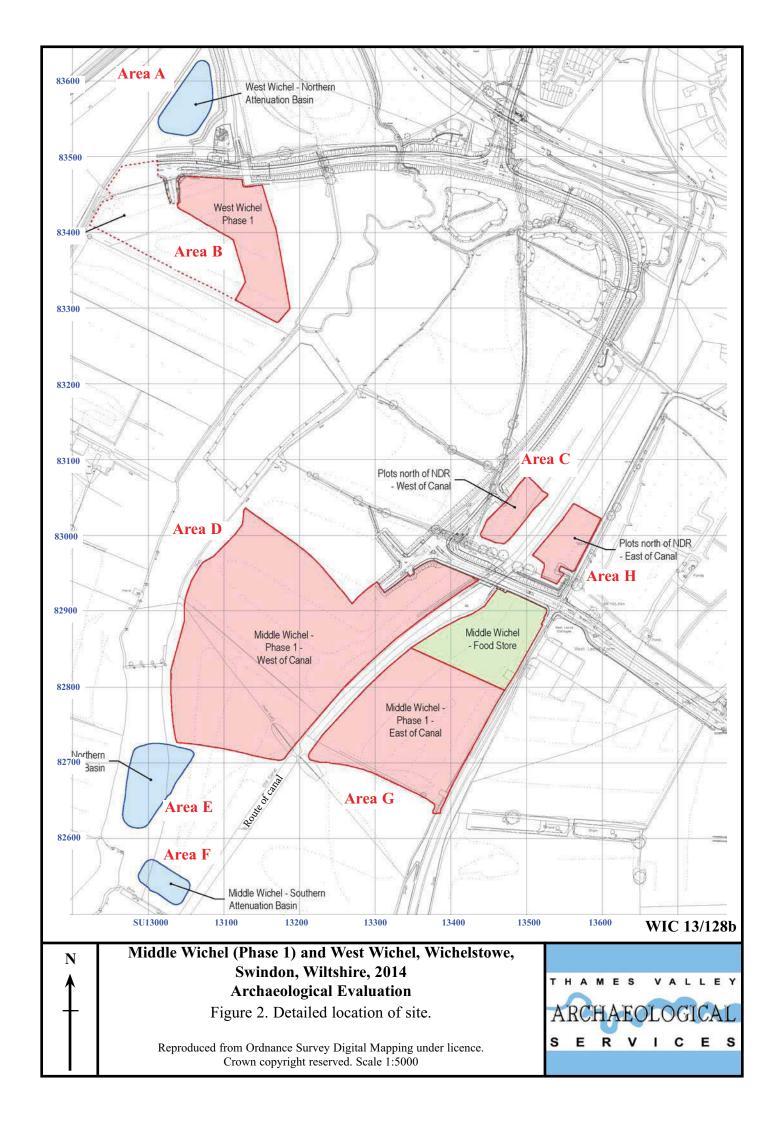
Trench	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
33	18.50	1.80	1.20	Made ground 0-0.37m. Yellow brown clay 0.37-0.80m. Dark yellow brown clay 0.80-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen
34	12.40	3.00	1.20	Subsoil 0-0.40m. Yellow brown clay 0.40-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen
35	15.30	3.30	1.13	Topsoil 0-0.24m. Subsoil 0.24-0.54m. Yellow brown clay 0.54-0.98. Brown clay 0.98-1.10m. Gravel with grey clay 1.10-1.35m+. Natural geology not seen
36	22.0	1.80	1.20	Made ground 0-0.26m. Dark yellow brown clay 0.26-0.80m. Light yellow brown clay
37	20.40	1.80	1.19	0.80-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen  Made ground 0-0.25m. Light yellow brown clay 0.25-0.60m. Light blue grey clay
38	15.60	3.25	1.10	0.60-0.90. Dark yellow brown clay 0.90-1.19m+. Natural geology not seen  Topsoil 0-0.22. Subsoil 0.22-0.62m. Yellow brown clay 0.62-1.00m. brown clay
39	14.30	3.10	1.10	1.00-1.10m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.28m. Subsoil 0.28-0.60m. Yellow brown clay 0.60-0.95m. brown clay
40	15.30	3.50	1.23	0.95-1.10m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.2m7. Subsoil 0.27-0.62m. Yellow brown clay 0.62-1.02m. brown clay
41	19.70	1.80	1.25	1.02-1.23m+. Natural geology not seen  Made ground 0-0.35m. Yellow brown clay 0.35-0.50m. Dark blue grey clay 0.50-
42	19.80	1.80	1.20	0.85m. Red brown clay 0.85-1.25m+. Natural geology not seen  Made ground 0-0.20m. Blue grey clay 0.20-0.40m Mid red brown clay 0.40-0.80.
43	17.80	1.60	1.20	Grey blue clay with gravel 0.80-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen  Dark blue grey clay 0-0.30m. Yellow brown clay 0.30-0.60m. Dark blue grey clay
44	19.0	1.80	1.10	0.60-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen  Made ground 0-0.30m Yellow brown clay 0.30-0.80m. Mid blue grey clay 0.80-
45	14.40	3.20	1.30	1.10m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.25m. Subsoil 0.25-0.51m. Yellow brown clay 0.51-0.90m. Brown clay
46	14.10	3.50	1.20	0.90-1.20m. light grey clay 1.20-1.30m+. Natural geology not seen  Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.65m. Yellow brown clay 0.65-1.05m. Brown clay
47	15.50	3.30	1.20	1.05-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.30m. Subsoil 0.30-0.65m. Yellow brown clay 0.65-1.00m. Brown clay
48	14.40	3.10	1.40	1.00-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.35m. Subsoil 0.35-0.65m. Yellow brown clay 0.65-1.15m. Brown clay
49	14.30	3.30	1.13	1.15-1.40m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.23m. Subsoil 0.23-0.61m. Yellow brown clay 0.61-0.90m. Brown clay
50	15.30	3.40	1.11	0.90-1.05m. grey brown clay with gravel 1.05-1.10m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.25m. Subsoil 0.25-0.53m. Yellow brown clay 0.53-0.78m. Brown clay
51	15.20	2.90	0.95	0.78-1.02m. grey brown clay 1.02-1.11m+. Natural geology not seen Subsoil 0-0.30m. Yellow brown clay 0.30-0.60. Brown clay 0.60-0.90m. grey brown
52	14.90	3.20	0.96	clay with gravel 0.90-0.95m+. Natural geology not seen Subsoil 0-0.32m. Yellow brown clay 0.32-0.68m. Grey brown clay 0.68-0.92m. Light
53	13.80	3.50	1.10	grey clay 0.92-0.96m+. Natural geology not seen Subsoil 0-0.32m. Yelloo brown clay 0.32-0.68m. Light grey clay 0.68-0.92m. gravel
54	14.40	3.80	1.10	with grey clay 0.92-0.98m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.20m. Subsoil 0.20-0.45m. Yellow brown clay 0.45-0.65m. Light grey
55	14.40	3.50	1.17	clay 0.65-0.80m. light blue clay 0.80-1.10m +. Natural geology not seen  Topsoil 0-0.27m. Subsoil 0.27-0.52m. Yellow brown clay 0.52-0.90m. Grey brown
56	14.40	3.50	1.04	clay 0.90-1.10m. light grey clay with gravel 1.10-1.17m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.25m. Subsoil 0.25-0.56m. Yellow brown clay 0.56-0.80m. Grey brown
57	16.20	2.80	1.10	clay 0.80-1.00m. light grey clay with gravel 1.00-1.04m+. Natural geology not seen Subsoil 0-0.30m. Yellow brown clay 0.30-0.60m. Brown clay 0.60-0.97m. grey
58	14.30	3.10	1.00	brown clay with gravel 0.97-1.10m+. Natural geology not seen  Subsoil 0-0.40m. Yellow brown clay 0.40-0.70m. Brown clay 0.70-0.90m. grey
59	15.30	2.70	0.95	brown clay with gravel 0.90-1.00m+. Natural geology not seen Subsoil 0-0.40m. Yellow brown clay 0.40-0.90m. yellow brown clay with gravel
60	14.30	3.30	1.10	0.90-0.95m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.25m. Subsoil 0.25-0.40m. Yellow brown clay 0.40-0.90m. Grey brown
61	14.20	3.80	1.20	clay 0.90-1.05m. Light grey clay with gravel 1.05m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.23m. Subsoil 0.23-0.58m. Yellow brown clay 0.58-0.91m. Light grey
62	14.00	3.30	113	clay with gravel 0.91-1.20m. Gravel with grey clay 1.20m+. Natural geology not seen Topsoil 0-0.24m. Subsoil 0.24-0.52m. Yellow brown clay 0.52-1.00m. Light grey
				clay with gravel 1.100-1.13m. Gravel with grey clay 1.13m+. Natural geology not seen [Pl. 13]
63	20.00	1.80	1.40	Topsoil 0-0.10m. Friable light to mid blue grey clay 0.10-0.50m. Mid blue grey clay with some gravel 0.50-0.90m. Yellow brown clay 0.90-1.30m. Mid blue clay 1.30-1.38m. Yellow brown 1.38-1.40m+. Natural geology not seen
64	15.30	2.80	2.10	Topsoil 0-0.20m Subsoil 0.20-0.60m. Yellow brown clay 0.60-1.00m. Yellow grey clay 1.00-1.30m. Light grey clay 1.30-1.60m Dark grey clay with lens of peaty clay 1.60-1.90m. Black clay with white clay also with an organic content 1.90-2.00m+. Natural geology not seen
65	17.50	2.80	1.60	Topsoil 0-0.20m. Dry mid brown grey clay 0.20-0.50m.Wet mid brown grey clay 0.50-1.65m. Mid blue grey clay (within test pit 1.65-1.80m+ mid blue grey clay). Natural geology not seen
66	15.10	3.00	1.30	Topsoil 0-0.15m. Dry mid brown grey clay 0.15-0.50m. Wet mid brown grey clay 0.50-1.30m+. Natural geology not seen [Pl. 14]
67	15.40	2.80	1.90	Topsoil 0-0.27m. Subsoil 0.27-0.40m. Yellow brown clay 0.40-0.72m. Mid blue grey

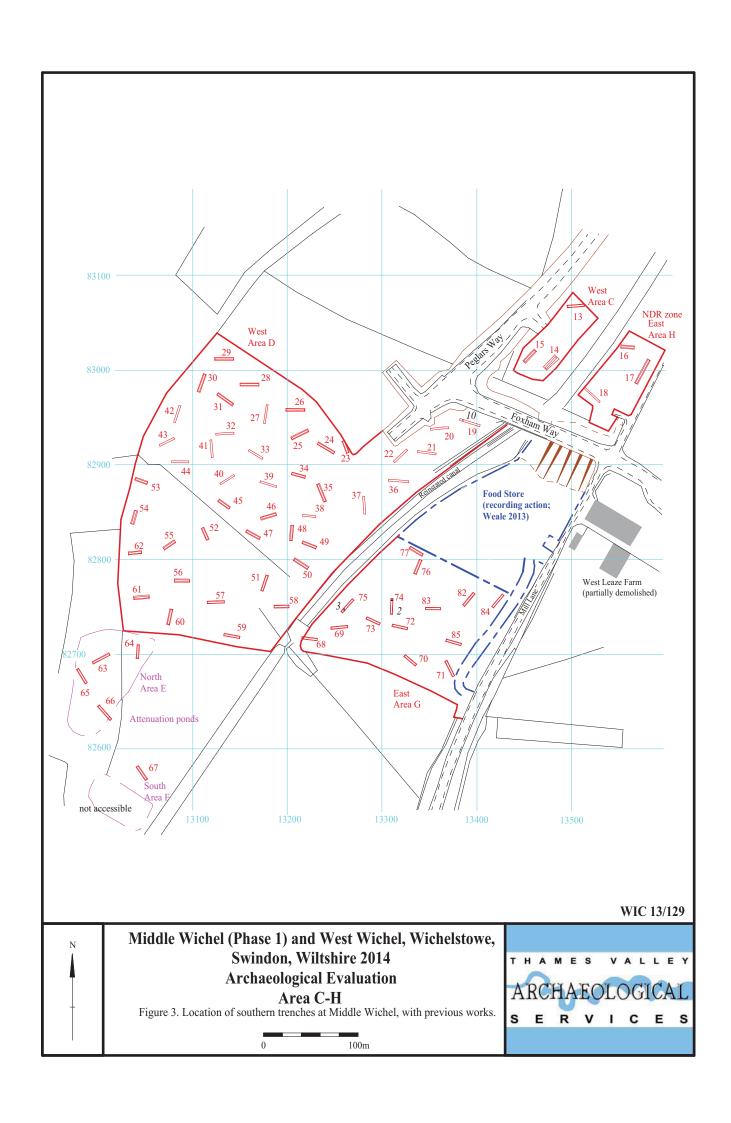
Trench	Length (m)	Breadth (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
				clay 0.72-1.20m. Dark blue grey clay 1.20-1.60m. Mixed blue grey clay with some
				organic content 1.60-1.90m black clay with white clay also with an organic content
				1.90m+. Natural geology not seen [Pls 15 and 16]
68	15.50	2.80	1.20	Made ground 0-0.22m. Subsoil 0.22-0.60m. Yellow clay 0.60-0.72m. Yellow brown
				clay brown 0.72-1.10m. Yellow clay 1.00-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen
69	16.30	2.80	1.20	Made ground 0-0.20m. Subsoil 0.20-0.50m. Brown yellow clay 0.50-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen
70	15.80	3.10	1.30	Subsoil 0-0.40m. Yellow brown clay 0.32-0.90. Brown yellow clay 0/90-1.25m+
71	14.80	2.60	1.25	Subsoil 0-0.32m. Yellow clay 0.32-0.90m. Yellow brown clay brown 0.90-1.10m. yellow clay 1.00-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen natural geology not seen [Pl 17]
72	15.90	2.90	1.20	Made ground 0-0.27m. Subsoil 0.27-0.55m. Yellow clay 0.55-1.10m. Brown yellow
				clay 1.10-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen
73	15.80	2.60	1.30	Made ground 0-0.45m. Subsoil 0.45-0.80. Yellow clay 0.80-1.20m. Brown yellow
				clay 1.20-1.30m+. Natural geology not seen
74	17.00	2.20	1.35	Made ground 0-0.30. Subsoil 0.30-0.60. Yellow brown clay 0.60-1.10m. Brown
				yellow clay with stone 1.10-1.30m+ Ditch 2 [Pls 3 and 4]
75	15.37	2.60	1.25	Made ground 0-0.30. Subsoil 0.30-0.65m. Yellow brown clay 0.65-1.00m. Brown
				yellow clay with stone 1.00-1.25m+ Ditch 3 [Pls 5 and 6]
76	15.50	3.08	1.20	Subsoil 0-0.40m. Yellow brown clay 0.40-0.90m. Brown clay 0.90-1.20m+
				waterlogged and unstable. Natural geology not seen
77	15.50	2.90	1.20	Made ground 0-0.25m. Subsoil 0.25-0.60m Yellow brown clay 0.60-0.90m. Brown
				yellow clay with gravel and waterlogged unstable 0.90-1.20m+. Natural geology not
70				seen
78				Now outside area, within area previously monitored to north: not required.
79				Now outside area, within area previously monitored to north: not required.
80				Now outside area, within area previously monitored to north: not required.
81	1		1.50	Now outside area, within area previously monitored to north: not required.
82	16.50	3.10	1.20	Subsoil 0-0.27m. Yellow brown clay 0.27-1.00m. Grey brown clay 1.00-12.10m+.
02	1400	2.00	1.00	Natural geology not seen
83	14.90	2.80	1.20	Subsoil 0-0.30m. Yellow brown clay 0.30-0.80m. Grey brown 0.80-1.10m. Brown
0.4	15.10	2.70	1.27	grey clay 1.10-1.20m+. Natural geology not seen
84	15.10	2.70	1.37	Topsoil 0-0.27m Subsoil 0.27-0.57m. Yellow brown clay 0.57-1.12m. Grey brown
85	16.30	3.00	1.30	clay 1.12-1.37m+. Natural geology not seen  Subsoil 0-0.30m. Yellow brown clay 0.30-0.80m. Brown yellow clay 0.80-1.20m.
02	10.30	3.00	1.30	
				Brown clay with gravel 1.20-1.30m+. Natural geology not seen

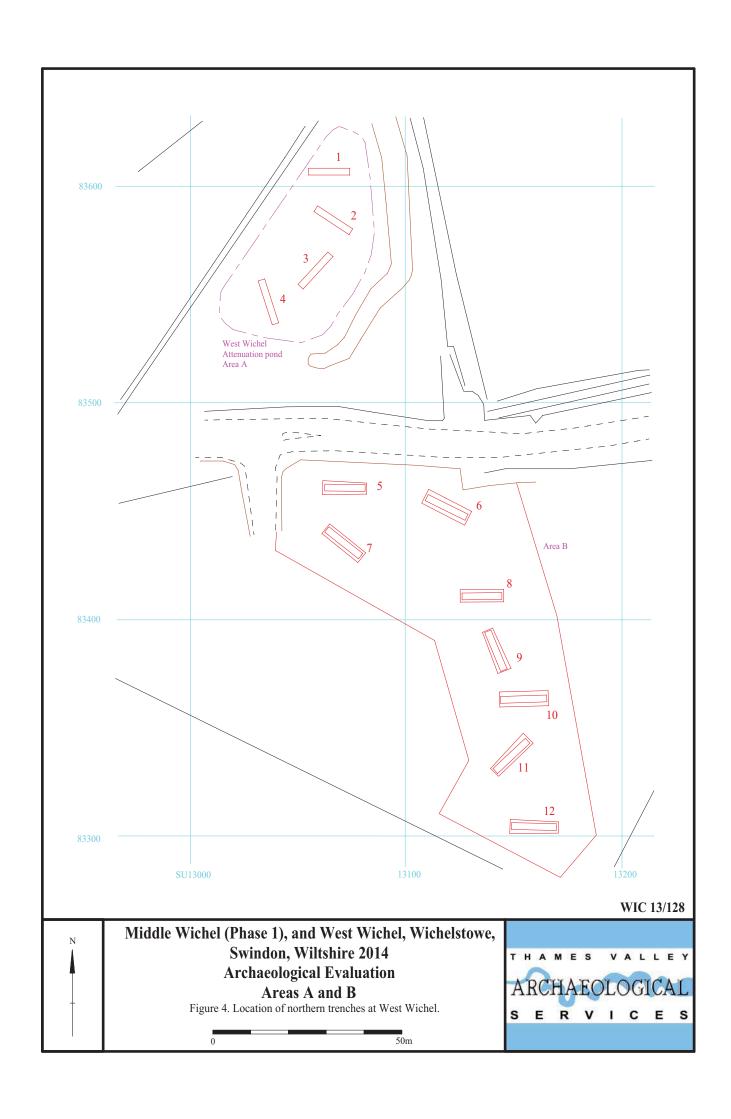
#### **APPENDIX 2**: Feature details

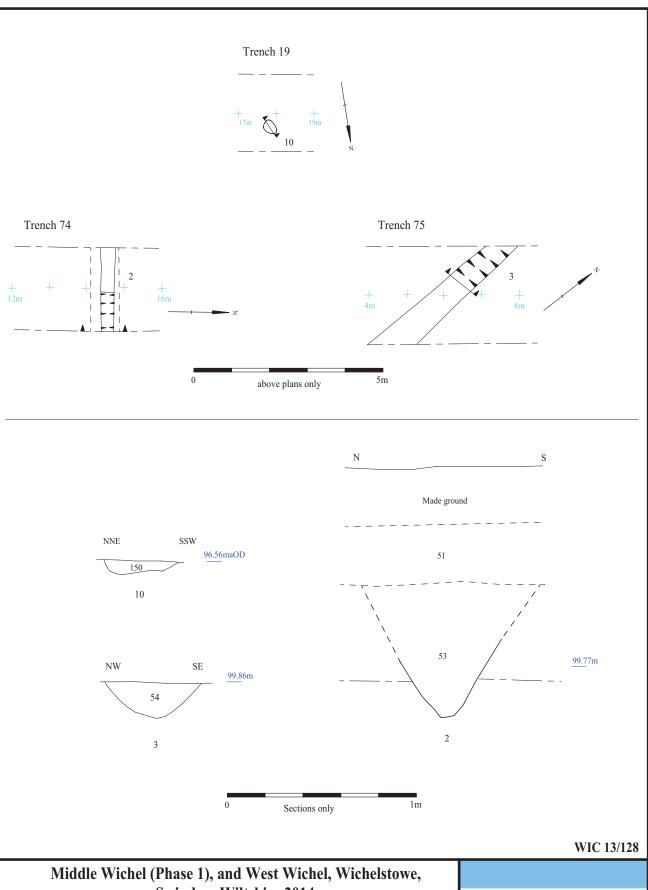
Trench	Cut	Fill (s)	Туре	Date	Dating evidence
74	2	53	Ditch	Undated	None
75	3	54	Ditch	Undated	None
19	10	150	Posthole	Undated	None











Middle Wichel (Phase 1), and West Wichel, Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire 2014 Archaeological Evaluation Areas A and B

Figure 5. Detail of undated features

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES



Plate 1. Area C, looking south-east.



Plate 2. Area D ecologist-supervised topsoil strip around Trench 62, looking east.



Plate 3. Trench 74, looking north, scales 2m, 1m.



Plate 4. Trench 74, ditch 2, looking east; scales 1m, 0.3m.

Middle Wichel (Phase 1) and West Wichel, Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire, 2014 Archaeological Evaluation Plates 1 - 4.





Plate 5. Trench 75, looking north-west; scales 2m, 1m.



Plate 6. Trench 75, looking north-west; scales 2m, 1m.



Plate 7. Trench 19, looking north-west, scales 2m, 1m.



Plate 8. Trench 19, posthole 10, looking east; scale 0.5m.

Middle Wichel (Phase 1) and West Wichel, Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire, 2014 Archaeological Evaluation Plates 5 - 8.





Plate 9. Trench 3, looking north-east; scales 2m, 1m.



Plate 10. Trench 12, looking east; scales 2m, 1m.



Plate 11. Trench 14, looking north-east, scales 2m, 1m.



Plate 12. Trench 31, looking east; scales 2m, 1m.

Middle Wichel (Phase 1) and West Wichel, Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire, 2014 Archaeological Evaluation Plates 9 - 12.





Plate 13. Trench 62, looking east; scales 2m, 1m.



Plate 14. Trench 66, looking south-east; scales 2m, 1m.



Plate 15. Trench 67, looking north-east, scales 2m, 1m.



Plate 16. Trench 67, looking south-east; scales 2m, 1m.

Middle Wichel (Phase 1) and West Wichel, Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire, 2014 Archaeological Evaluation Plates 13 - 16.





Plate 17. Trench 71, looking north-west; scales 2m, 1m.



Plate 18. Trench 18, looking south; scales 2m, 1m.

Middle Wichel (Phase 1) and West Wichel, Wichelstowe, Swindon, Wiltshire, 2014 Archaeological Evaluation Plates 17 - 18.



### **TIME CHART**

#### Calendar Years

Modern	AD 1901
Victorian	AD 1837
Post Medieval	AD 1500
Medieval	AD 1066
Saxon	AD 410
Roman Iron Age	BC/AD
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
<b>Y</b>	▼



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