Aldermaston Road Triangle
Basingstoke
Hampshire

Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

for

CgMs Consulting

on behalf of

Bovis Homes Ltd

CA Project: 770515/779030

CA Report: 17116

April 2017

Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes

Aldermaston Road Triangle
Basingstoke
Hampshire

Post-Excavation Assessment
and
Updated Project Design

CA Project: 770515/779030
CA Report: 17116

prepared by	Jeremy Clutterbuck, Supervisor
date	11.04.2017
checked by	Jacek Gruszczynski, Assistant Project Manager
date	13.04.2017
approved by	Karen E Walker Principal Post-excavation Manager
date	13.04.2017
issue	01

This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

SUMMARY

Site Name:	Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke
Location:	Hampshire
NGR:	SU 62335 53963
Type:	Excavation
Date:	April 2017
Location of archive:	Hampshire County Council Museums and Archives Service
Accession Number:	A 2017.06
Site Code:	ARB 17

A programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in February 2017 at Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire at the request of CgMs on behalf of Bovis Homes. Two areas comprising *c*. 0.36ha were excavated within the development area.

Five ditches (A, B, C, D and E) were found. Ditches A and B were located in Area 1 and Ditches C-E in Area 2. Ditch B was a continuation of a known Prehistoric 'Wessex Linear' boundary aligned north-east/south-west which went out of use with the cultivation of land to the north in the late Roman period. Ditch A was a later Prehistoric boundary that was cut by Ditch B. Ditch C was undated by artefacts. Ditches D and E were part of medieval/post-medieval field systems.

A small artefactual assemblage was recovered from the excavation and the sampling strategy recovered environmental evidence consistent with results previously obtained through excavation of the 'Wessex Linear' boundary ditch.

This document presents a quantification and assessment of the evidence recovered from the excavation. The additional information recovered from this excavation is considered to be of local significance. A short summary statement in the local archaeological journal is proposed to draw attention to this report which will be made available on-line.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 During February 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological excavation at the Aldermaston Road Triangle, (centred on NGR: SU 62335 53963; Figure 1). The work was undertaken at the request of CgMs Consulting on behalf of Bovis Homes. It was carried out in accordance with a brief for archaeological recording prepared by David Hopkins (County Archaeologist), the archaeological advisor to Hampshire County Council (HCC), and with a subsequent detailed WSI produced by CA (2017) and approved by HCC acting on the advice of David Hopkins. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (CIfA 2014), the HCC's *Archaeology and Planning: Guidance for Contractors* (HCC 2013), the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide (Historic England 2015a) and accompanying PPN3: Archaeological Excavation (Historic England 2015b). It was monitored by David Hopkins on 14 February 2017.

Site location, topography and geology

1.2 The proposed development encloses an area of 2.3ha, and comprises a triangular parcel of land, bounded to the east by Aldermaston Road, and to the west and south by Priestly Road. The site lies at approximately 105m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) with a slight incline to the south, where the height varies by 12m from the northern end.

1.3 The underlying bedrock geology is mapped as Lewes Chalk without superficial deposits being recorded (BGS 2017). A borehole and test pit survey by RSK (RSK 2014) revealed that the site is typically overlain by a topsoil of between 0.20m-0.50m with a maximum depth of 0.80m. The topsoil is characterised as brown slightly gravelly clay with flint and chalk inclusions. It was observed on site that there was a subsoil of mid brown clayey silt in places as well.

Archaeological background

1.4 The archaeological background given below is a succinct summary of information contained within a *Heritage Desk Based Assessment* by Archaeology South East (ASE 2016) and the results of an evaluation of the site by Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd. (TVAS 2007).

1.5 Two previous phases of archaeological evaluation have taken place within the site. The first was conducted in 1998 by CKC Archaeology (Currie 1998) within the

south of the site, finding evidence of possible Prehistoric activity (a substantial ditch, an undated pit and several struck flints). The substantial ditch may correlate with the 'Wessex Linear' found on the opposite side of Aldermaston Road (Wright *et al*. 2009). The second archaeological evaluation was conducted within the north of the site by Thames Valley Archaeological Services in 2007 (TVAS 2007), revealing a small number of undated features (two gullies, a pit and a posthole) interpreted as being possibly Prehistoric.

Prehistoric

1.6 Prehistoric activity is fairly intensive in the Basingstoke area. There is only limited evidence of Palaeolithic activity in the area of the Borough of Basingstoke and Deane, consisting of isolated lithic finds along river valleys and the chalk downlands. Likewise, there is only limited evidence for Mesolithic settlement within the Borough, reflecting the likely nomadic lifestyle of Mesolithic communities - with finds focussed within what have been attributed as seasonal encampments. Neolithic settlement is often far more visible than that of the preceding periods, with evidence indicating a focus of settlement on the chalk downlands. Neolithic monumental sites often remain in the landscape, such as the long barrow at Woodcott.

1.7 The Bronze Age saw widespread land clearance, and the establishment of formulised field systems - evidenced by aerial photographs and excavations. Settlement remained focused within the chalk downlands, with settlements situated amongst the surrounding fields.

1.8 The Iron Age saw continuation of earlier processes of settlement intensification and landscape alteration. Larger permanent settlements are recorded within the Borough, such as the settlement at Battle Down Farm immediately west of Basingstoke, and Winklebury hillfort a little to the east of Battle Down Farm (Basingstoke and Deane 2001). Excavations at the site of the former Park Prewett Hospital (Coles *et al.* 2011) to the northeast of the site produced limited evidence for earlier Prehistoric (Neolithic or Bronze Age) worked flints.

1.9 Twenty-four Prehistoric find-spots or sites have been recorded within 1km-radius from the site:

- Flint debitage recovered from Park Prewett;
- Neolithic or Bronze Age flint scatter;

- Neolithic polished axe findspot;
- A surface scatter of Iron Age/Roman pottery;
- A scatter of flint debitage;
- A surface scatter of Iron Age/Roman pottery;
- Neolithic or Bronze Age flint scatter;
- Fragments of Iron Age or Roman pottery, Weybrook Farm - Field 1;
- A surface scatter of flints;
- A small number of flint flakes, Weybrook Farm - Field 1;
- A small number of flint flakes, Weybrook Farm - Field 2;
- Possible Iron Age occupation site;
- Prehistoric and Roman features, Park Prewett Hospital;
- Possible Banjo Enclosure, Greatfield Farm;
- Two phases of Iron Age settlement, as well as earlier occupation evidence;
- Ring Ditch, Greatfield Farm;
- Prehistoric features, Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke;
- Two opposed sub-rectangular enclosures;
- Ring Ditch, Greatfield Farm;
- Possible Iron Age settlement site west of Wellfield Farm, Popley;
- Possible remains of field system at WellfieldFarm, North Popley;
- Bronze Age and Iron Age finds and features, Wellfield Farm;
- Linear features attributed to Bronze Age; and
- Prehistoric and Roman Features, Park Prewett Hospital.

Romano-British

1.10 The focus of Roman settlement within the region was at Silchester (*Calleva Atrebatum*), from which ran the Roman road to Winchester. The road marks the western limit of Basingstoke. Evidence of extant Roman walls remain at Silchester. Settlement was distributed across the landscape, focused at villa sites, and facilitated by new agricultural methods (Basingstoke and Deane 2001). Excavations to the north-west at the former park Prewett Hospital (Coles *et al*. 2011) revealed evidence for a middle to later Roman (late 2nd/3rd and 4th centuries AD) rectangular ditched enclosure with corn driers.

1.11 Nine Romano-British sites are recorded within 1km-radius from the site:

- 4th Century pie dish;

- A total of 27 animal bones found in deposits mainly of Roman date, Park Prewett Hospital;
- Fragments of Iron Age or Roman pottery, Weybrook Farm - Field 1;
- Roman pottery thrown out by rabbits on south side of Basingstoke-Kingsclere road;
- Roman tiles and tesserae recovered from Elm Bottom between Sherborne St. John and Park Prewett;
- Roman activity, foundations of Park Prewett Hospital;
- Prehistoric and Roman features, Park Prewett Hospital;
- Prehistoric and Roman Features, Park Prewett Hospital; and
- Silchester to Winchester Roman Road.

Early medieval

1.12 There is little direct evidence of early medieval settlement within 1km-radius from the site. There was a large estate at Old Basing by the middle of this period.

1.13 Although a few sherds of handmade Saxon pottery were recovered from excavations at the former Park Prewett Hospital (Coles *et al.* 2011) there is no substantial evidence for early medieval sites recorded within 1km-radius from the site.

Medieval

1.14 The Domesday Book of 1086 records a settlement in Basingstoke. The settlement is listed as *Basingestoches* - meaning 'Basa's stockade'. The settlement is listed as having a population of some 57 households incorporating 2 villagers, 4 smallholders and 1 priest. The land was valued at £4.3 in 1086. The manor was held in the time of Edward the Confessor by the Bishop of Hereford, and after by the Abbey of Mont-Saint-Michel. Basingstoke received a royal charter in 1257, at which time the town had a population of between 600 and 700 people. The town's industry was focused on wool production. In 1392 Basingstoke was severely damaged by fire.

1.15 The site lies adjacent to Prevet(t) Park, created by John St. John, lord of the manor of Sherborne St. John, prior to 1302. He was granted the right by Edward I as the land lay within the royal forest of Pamber, in an area of woodland and pasture: parks were often located on less productive agricultural land within a manor (Page 1911). The site lies close to a parish boundary, and liminal areas of

parishes such as this were also often relatively poor land. The name survived until recently as Park Prewett Farm.

1.16 Three medieval sites are recorded within 1km-radius from the site:

- A surface scatter of medieval pottery;
- Park Pale of Privet Deer Park; and
- Privet Deer Park.

Post-medieval

1.17 Basingstoke remained a small town through to the mid-20th century. During the English Civil War Basingstoke was sympathetic to the parliamentarians, serving as a base for their forces during the siege of Basing House (a Royalist base). Basing House held off parliamentary forces from 1643 to 1645 when it finally fell to forces led by Cromwell.

1.18 In 1961 Basingstoke was designated as an overspill town for London, calling for some 37,000 people to be moved to the town (increasing the town's population from 16,000 to 75,000 people by 1981).

1.19 The site lies immediately adjacent to the Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital, founded in 1969. Further to the west was the site of the Park Prewett Hospital, a psychiatric institution opened in 1917 and used until 1919 as No.4 Canadian General Hospital. It was commandeered again as a military hospital in the Second World War and finally closed in 1997.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 The aims of the excavation were to establish the character, quality, date, significance and extent of any archaeological remains or deposits surviving within the site. This information will assist the Local Planning Authority in making an informed judgement on the likely impact upon the archaeological resource by the proposed development.

2.2 The objectives of the excavation were laid out in a project design produced by CA (2017) and were as follows:

- record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered;

- assess the overall presence, survival and potential of structural and industrial remains; and
- assess the overall presence, survival, condition, and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains.

2.3 The specific aims of the work were to:

- record any evidence of past settlement or other land use;
- recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past settlement that may be identified;
- sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy; and
- examine the linear ditch in the southern excavation area to understand the nature of land division through time, based on the assumption that it may be a Prehistoric boundary of landscape significance.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The archaeological excavation was undertaken throughout the areas as per the plan agreed between the client and HCC. It consisted of two areas totalling 3,623m2. The northern Area 2 was 2807m2 and the southern Area 1 was 797m2. Excavation areas were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using a Leica GPS, and scanned for live services by trained staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the Cotswold Archaeology *Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services.* The position and size of excavation areas was adjusted on site to account for metal barriers on the east side of Area 1 but also to encompass an area over and above the area that needed to be stripped for Area 2, which had been stripped prior to the start of excavation. Following the consultation with the County Archaeologist of Hampshire County Council (CAHCC), archaeological advisor to the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC), it was decided to re-strip this area under archaeological supervision in order to ascertain its archaeological potential. The final 'as dug' areas were recorded with GPS (Figure 2). A number of test pits had also been dug by the developer prior to the excavation commencing. The locations of these were recorded (Figure 2, Areas 3-7) but it was noted that they contained no archaeological finds or features.

3.2 The archaeological features exposed were hand-excavated to the bottom of archaeological stratigraphy. All funerary/ritual activity and domestic/industrial deposits were **100%** excavated. All discrete features (post holes, pits) were sampled by hand excavation (average sample unlikely to exceed **50%**) unless their common/repetitious nature suggested they were unlikely to yield significant new information. All linear features (ditches, pathways etc.) were sampled to a maximum of **10%**. The linear features in the southern excavation area were sampled to a maximum of **20%**, sufficient to allow us to understand its role as a land division in consultation with CgMs and the CAHCC. All features were planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (CA 2013). Deposits were assessed for their environmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The taking and processing of environmental and other samples from archaeological sites* (CA 2012). All artefacts recovered from the excavation were retained in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of finds immediately after excavation* (CA 1995).

4 RESULTS

Fieldwork summary

4.1 This section provides an overview of the excavation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (biological evidence) are to be found in Appendices 1 and 2 respectively.

4.2 Five archaeological features were revealed in **Areas 1 and 2**. **Ditches A and B** associated with a previously known north-east/south-west aligned 'Wessex Linear' ditch in the southern Area 1 and **Ditches C, D and E** in the northern Area 2. Visibility of features was good on the chalk geology and it was clear there were a substantial number of tree throw holes in Area 2 as well, some of which were excavated.

4.3 **Ditches B, D and E** could in part be assigned to phases based on dates of the artefacts found in their fills. **Ditch A** was assigned to **Phase 1** by its stratigraphic relationship to **Ditch B**. The phasing of **Ditches A and B** might also be extrapolated by the fact that these features follow the same alignment and morphology as the 'Wessex Linear' ditch that continues eastward for 1.2km on the opposite side of Aldermaston Road. Wessex Archaeology recovered from within

this feature a hearth deposit, which indicates that the ditch was dug by the 5th century and possibly in the 6th century BC based on radiocarbon determination (Wright *et al*. 2009, 17-19). **Ditch C** had no stratigraphic relationships and produced no artefacts, therefore could not be dated.

4.4 The ditches were assigned to the following phases:

Phase 1: later Prehistoric
Phase 2: Romano British
Phase 3: medieval/post-medieval
Phase 4: post-medieval

Natural geology

4.5 The natural geology comprised slightly weathered chalk with periglacial striations (**1002**/**2002**) and a reddish-brown silty-clay (**1003**/**2003**) respectively, though predominantly the former. The natural geology was overlain by a mid-brown clayey-silt (**1001**, **2001**) in places reaching 0.22m thick. In turn this deposit was sealed by up to 0.36m of mid-greyish-brown clayey-silt topsoil (**1000**, **2000**).

Phase 1: Later Prehistoric

4.6 The later Prehistoric phase was represented by **Ditch A** (**1017**/**1042**) and it is not unlikely that Ditch B, dated by pottery found in it uppermost fill to the Romano-British period, also originated in this period. Both features were found in Area 1 following a north-east/south-west alignment at the southern end of the site. **Ditch A** was cut by **Ditch B** and followed the same alignment for 12m before it was completely truncated away. **Ditch A** had a deep, steep v-shaped profile measuring more than 1.56m wide and 1m deep. The ditch contained two primary fills (**1019**/**1044**, **1021**), two secondary fills (**1018**/**1045**, **1020**) and a tertiary fill (**1022**) at its deepest extent. No finds were recovered from the ditch, but it is likely that it was part of the same feature as the later Prehistoric 'Wessex Linear' (cf. Section 4.2).

Phase 2: Romano -British

4.7 Romano-British is represented by **Ditch B**, whose lower tertiary fill (**1004**/**1025**/**1033**/**1048**) which produced pottery of the 1st century and a copper alloy coin dated to 260-296 AD amidst frequent ≤200mm flint. **Ditch B** followed a north-east/south-west alignment across Area 1 in the southern half of the site, extending from the western baulk to the northern baulk for 32m. It had a steep-

sided v-shaped profile that was 3.4m wide and 1.36m deep at its largest extent. It consistently had a primary (**1009**/**1041**/**1050**), secondary (**1008**/**1040**/**1049**) and two tertiary fills (**1005**/**1027**/**1039**/**1047**- upper fill). An Early Neolithic flint blade and seven flakes were also recovered from a further tertiary fill (**1006**) in cut **1004** of **Ditch B**, probably representing a residual deposit, although in good condition.

Phase 3: medieval/post medieval

4.8 **Ditch D** (**2012**/**2014**) represented the medieval/post-medieval phase of site crossing Area 2 with a north-east/south-west alignment. It ran for 28m extending from the western baulk. It was a shallow but steep-sided ditch with a flat base measuring 1.16m wide by 0.26m deep at its largest extent. It contained a single secondary fill of dark brown sandy clay which produced medieval/post medieval CBM (**2015**) and a residual sherd of Prehistoric pottery (**2013**).

Phase 4: post-medieval

4.9 The post-medieval phase on site was associated with **Ditch E** (**2004**/**2006**) which ran on the same north-west/south-east alignment as Priestly road immediately to the west of site. The ditch extended from the baulk in the north-west corner of Area 2 for 10m before it terminated. The ditch was very shallow with a flat base and a mostly imperceptible profile measuring 0.7m wide by 0.06m deep at its largest extent. It was filled by a single secondary fill (**2005**/**2007**) from which mid-16th to 18th century pot was recovered (**2005**).

Undated

4.10 The only undated feature was **Ditch C** (**2008**/**2018**/**2021**) running north-east from the north-western baulk of Area 2 for 21m before terminating. It had a steep-sided, slightly asymmetrical profile measuring 1.08m wide by 0.43m deep at its largest extent and was filled by primary (**2009**/**2010**/**2019**/**2022**) and secondary deposits (**2011**/**2020**/**2023**).

5 FACTUAL DATA AND STATEMENTS OF POTENTIAL

Stratigraphic Record: factual data

5.1 Following the completion of the fieldwork an ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive was compiled in accordance with specifications presented in the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (Historic England 2015a). A database of all contextual

and artefactual evidence and a site matrix was also compiled and cross-referenced to spot-dating. The fieldwork comprises the following records:

Context sheets	68
Plans (1:10, 1:20, 1:100)	0
Sections (1:10, 1:20)	13
Sample sheets	10
Monochrome Films	0
Digital photographs	100
Matrices	0

5.2 The survival and intelligibility of the site stratigraphy was good with archaeological remains having survived as negative features. Despite a relative paucity of stratigraphic relationships, most features have been assigned a preliminary period based on context dates and/or spatial association.

Stratigraphic record: statement of potential

5.1 While the stratigraphic record forms a complete record of the archaeological features uncovered, the relative lack of inter-relationships between these features, and the limited amount of dating evidence available from other datasets, limits the potential for fully elucidating the function and development of the site.

5.2 The excavation succeeded in providing evidence for the construction and abandonment of the 'Wessex Linear' ditch recorded previously to the east of the site, and for medieval/post-medieval field system, despite significant truncation in the post-medieval period. It is unlikely that any further work would provide meaningful stratigraphic evidence.

Artefactual record: factual data

5.3 All finds collected during the excavation have been cleaned with the exception of the coin. marked, quantified and catalogued by context. All metalwork has been x-rayed and stabilised where appropriate.

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	*Prehistoric*	*1*	*1*
	Roman	*10*	*262*
	Post-medieval/modern	*2*	*28*
	Total	13	291
Flint	Worked	20	224
	Burnt	33	921
Fired Clay	All	6	1
Brick/tile	All	25	648
Coins	Roman	1	
Slag		1	14
Stone	Object	1	258

5.4 A small amount of finds were recovered during the excavation (table above). The assemblage ranges in date from the Early Neolithic to the post-medieval period. All finds have quantified by material type in each context. The condition of the material ranges from poor to good, and is discussed below. Most of the finds derive from ditches, with some unstratified pieces from the topsoil.

***Lithics** by Jacky Sommerville*

5.5 A total of 21 worked lithics (229g) was hand recovered from four ditches and two topsoil deposits. Assemblage groups were small, with the largest group (eight lithics) recorded from ditch **1004** (fill **1006**). Pottery was absent from the ditch fills which contained lithics, so these deposits remain undated. In addition, 33 pieces of burnt, unworked flint (921g) were retrieved and discarded after recording. The lithics were recorded according to broad artefact/debitage type and catalogued directly onto a Microsoft Access database. Reduced recording was carried out due to the very small assemblage size. Attributes recorded included: raw material; weight; colour; cortex description; degree of edge damage (microflaking), rolling (abrasion) and recortication (a surface discoloration resulting from burial environment (Shepherd 1972, 109); and for debitage: butt and termination type, and evidence of preparation of the striking platform.

Raw material and condition

5.6 The raw material was flint in all cases. Cortex was present on 16 flints and all was chalky in texture. This indicates a primary source, which is likely to be relatively local chalk or clay-with-flints. Almost half of the lithics (453) were retrieved from topsoil. Moderate to heavy edge damage, and moderate to heavy rolling, was recorded on 48% of the flints. However, the eight items from ditch **1004** were in a considerably better condition, a possible indication that this material might be stratified. Only three items did not demonstrate recortication and it was noted as

moderate to heavy on 81% of the flints. This most likely results from of the chalky soils in the area.

Range and variety

5.7 The assemblage comprised: 16 flakes, three blades and two retouched tools.

Primary technology

5.8 The 16 flakes recovered were not chronologically diagnostic. Of the three blades, one had been struck from a dual, opposed-platform core. Blades were most common during the Mesolithic and Early Neolithic periods.

Secondary technology

5.9 A microdenticulate from topsoil **2000** had been made on a small flake with the tip missing. Very fine serrations had been formed along the right dorsal edge and there was evidence of preparation of the striking platform. Despite its redeposition, this item was in a relatively undamaged and unabraded condition. Microdenticulates are most typical of the Early Neolithic period (Richards 1990, 18) and preparation of core platforms was also in use during that period.

5.10 Topsoil deposit **2000** also produced a flake with regular, semi-abrupt retouch along the dorsal distal edge. This was one of only three unrecorticated flints from the site and it was also in a completely undamaged and unabraded condition. Edge retouched tools were very common during all of the Prehistoric periods (barring the Iron Age) so this item cannot be closely dated. However, it appears quite distinct from the rest of the assemblage, due to its extremely fresh condition despite its redeposition.

Pottery *by Grace Jones*

5.11 The pottery (13 sherds, 291g) was recovered from four ditches and the topsoil. A basic record has been made of the material, in accordance with the Standard for pottery analysis (Barclay *et al*. 2016).

5.12 A tiny, abraded piece of fine, flint-tempered pottery, from **Ditch D** (**2012**), is of later Prehistoric or early Roman date.

5.13 Nine sherds (247g) from a wide-mouthed, necked, cordoned bowl/jar were recovered from **Ditch B** (cut **1038**, fill **1033**). Its surfaces are abraded but the sherds are quite large, with a number of pieces re-joining. The vessel is in a grog-tempered fabric and dates from the 1st century AD. Similar vessels have been

recorded from Popley, Basingstoke (Seager Smith 2009, 31) and Silchester (Timby 2000, 229, form J7). A flat rim, probably from a bowl, was also recovered from **Ditch B** (cut **1046**, fill **1048**). It cannot be assigned to form but is of Roman date.

5.14 Two sherds of post-medieval redware pottery were recorded from post-medieval boundary ditch **2004** and the topsoil.

Copper alloy *by Katie Marsden*

5.15 A single Roman coin, Ra. 1 a radiate of uncertain emperor, was recovered from **Ditch B** (cut **1038**, fill **1033**) and is of PAX AVG reverse type, depicting Pax standing. This reverse type is issued by several emperors and so cannot be more closely dated that 260-296 AD.

Ceramic building material (CBM) and fired clay *by Grace Jones*

5.16 The ceramic building material (25 fragments, 648g) derives predominantly from the topsoil, with one piece from **Ditch D** (cut **2014**). Most are undiagnostic plain, flat tile or brick fragments, with the exception of one perforated, peg tile fragment. The assemblage is of medieval to post-medieval date. Six tiny pieces (1g) of fired clay were recorded from tree throw **2024**.

Stone and slag *by Grace Jones*

5.17 A piece of fine-grained sandstone, recovered from **Ditch B** (cut **1004**), has traces of polish on one surface, suggesting use as a polishing or grinding stone. No pottery was recovered from this feature and but a group of eight lithics also came from the same context (Somerville, above). A single piece of iron-working slag (14g) was recorded from the topsoil.

Artefactual record: statements of potential

Lithics

5.18 The lithic assemblage from Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke is very small and almost half is known to have been redeposited. It is, therefore, not suitable for meaningful comparison with other lithic assemblages in the vicinity. The good condition of the blade and seven flakes from **Ditch B** (**1004**) suggests these may represent stratified finds, however, close dating for this debitage is not possible. The presence of a microdenticulate and three blades hint at Early Neolithic dating for at least some of the recovered flints.

5.19 The level of recording carried out for the purpose of this assessment is sufficient for the archive. A short note on the lithics should be included in any publication as evidence of Prehistoric activity on the site. No illustrations are necessary.

Pottery

5.20 The pottery assemblage is very small but includes forms and fabrics that are typical of the region. It has been sufficiently recorded and no further work is required.

Other finds

5.21 The coin is indicative of 3rd century activity on the site, and the relationship between the possible stone processor and the lithics in **Ditch B** (cut **1004**) is of interest. The other categories of finds can offer little to the site narrative. All have been sufficiently recorded at this stage, and no further work is considered necessary.

Biological record: factual data

5.22 A series of four bulk environmental bulk samples (51 litres of soil) were taken from **Ditch B** cuts (**1004** and **1038**) and sequences of 18 mollusc samples taken from **Ditch A** (cut **1017**) and **Ditch B** (cut **1038**) with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of domestic or industrial activity on the site and also ascertaining information on the nature of the surrounding landscape. It was hoped that data from the mollusc samples would provide a picture of nature of the local environment and some comparison with other mollusc sequences through the 'Wessex Linear' ditch in the area. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures for bulk samples and for mollusc samples (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

5.23 Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 1 in Appendix 2, following nomenclature of Stace (1997). The mollusc samples were assessed and have been recorded in Tables 2 and 3 in Appendix 2. Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999), Evans (1972) and Davies (2008).

5.24 The flots varied in size with generally relatively low quantities of rooty material and modern seeds.

Charred Plant Remains

5.25 A single seed of ivy-leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*) was recorded from fill **1006** (sample 1) of cut **1004** of **Dich B**. Very low numbers of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm were recovered from fills **1006** (sample 1) and **1008** (sample 2) of cut **1004** and from fill **1033** (samples 15 and 16) of cut **1038** of **Ditch B**. There is no evidence from these assemblages of any settlement activities taking place in the immediate vicinity of this ditch.

Mollusc Remains

Ditch A, cut **1017**

5.26 **Ditch A** is thought to be Prehistoric in date and a series of nine samples were examined from the sequence of four fills.

5.27 A few shells of the intermediate species *Cochlicopa* sp. and *Cepaea/Arianta* sp. were noted from the basal fill **1018**.

5.28 The small assemblage from the lower part of context **1020** (sample 10) included shells of open country, intermediate and shade-loving species. Shell numbers increase up through this fill (samples 9 and 8) and the assemblage from sample 8 is dominated by shells of the intermediate species *Pomatias elegans* and the shade-loving species *Carychium tridentatum* and *Discus rotundatus*. There were also species present indicative of woodland environments, *Acanthinula aculeata, Ena montana* and *Merdigera obscura*.

5.29 Shell numbers were high in the basal sample 7 from fill **1021** and decreased to moderate numbers in samples 6 and 5. The assemblage from sample 7 was dominated by shells of *Carychium tridentatum* and *Discus rotundatus* with moderate numbers of the intermediate shells *Pomatias elegans* and the shade-loving species *Acanthinula aculeata* and *Aegopinella nitidula*. The assemblage from sample 6 was dominated by shells of *Discus rotundatus* with moderate numbers of intermediate species *Pomatias elegans* and the shade-loving species *Acanthinula aculeata* and *Vitrea* sp., while the assemblage from sample 5 was just dominated by shells of *Discus rotundatus*.

5.30 Moderate numbers of shells were recorded from fill **1022** (samples 4 and 3). The assemblage from sample 4 was dominated by shells of *Pomatias elegans* and *Discus rotundatus* with moderate numbers of the open country species *Vallonia costata, Vallonia excentrica* and *Helicella itala* and the shade-loving species

Carychium tridentatum and *Aegopinella nitidula*. Whereas the assemblage from sample 3 was dominated by shells of Pomatias elegans with moderate numbers of the open country species *Vallonia costata, Vallonia excentrica, Pupilla muscorum* and *Helicella itala* and the shade-loving species *Discus rotundatus*.

Ditch B, cut **1038**

5.31 **Ditch B** cuts **Ditch A** and is thought to be Prehistoric in origin with upper fills of Romano-British date. A series of nine samples were examined from the sequence of four fills.

5.32 The relatively small assemblage recovered from the lower sample 20 of basal fill **1041** was dominated by shells of the shade-loving species, particularly those of Discus rotundatus. It included shells of *Acanthinula aculeata*, *Ena montana* and *Merdigera obscura*. The high number of shells recorded from the upper part of this fill (sample 19) was dominated by those of *Pomatias elegans, Carychium tridentatum, Discus rotundatus, Vitrea* sp. and *Aegopinella nitidula*, with moderate quantities of those of *Helicella itala and Acanthinula aculeata*.

5.33 Fill **1040** (samples 18 and 17) contained large quantities of shells. Sample 18 was dominated by shells of *Pomatias elegans, Carychium tridentatum, Discus rotundatus*, *Vitrea* sp., *Aegopinella pura* and *Aegopinella nitidula* with shells of the shade-loving species *Acanthinula aculeata* and *Oxychilus cellarius* and the intermediate species *Cepaea/Arianta* sp. and *Deroceras/Limax*. Sample 17 was dominated by shells of *Pomatias elegans, Carychium tridentatum, Discus rotundatus*, *Vitrea* sp., *Vallonia costata, Vallonia excentrica, Aegopinella nitidula* and *Deroceras/Limax* with shells of the shade-loving species *Acanthinula aculeata*, *Aegopinella pura and Clausilia bidentata* and the intermediate species *Cochlicopa lubrica* and *Cepaea/Arianta* sp. and the open country species *Helicella itala.* There were a few shells of the rarity species *Azeca goodalli* within both samples. This species is found in moss litter and leaf litter in woodlands, scrub and hedgerows (Davis 2008).

5.34 High numbers of shells were recovered from fill **1033** (samples 16 and 15), which is dated to the Romano-British period. The assemblages were dominated by shells of *Pomatias elegans, Carychium tridentatum, Discus rotundatus, Vitrea* sp. *Aegopinella pura, Aegopinella nitidula* and *Deroceras/Limax* with lower numbers of the shells of the shade-loving species *Acanthinula aculeata* and *Clausilia bidentata*, the intermediate species *Cochlicopa lubrica* and *Cepaea/Arianta* sp.,

and the open country species *Vallonia costata, Vallonia excentrica* and *Helicella itala*. There were also a few shells of *Azeca goodalli, Ena montana* and *Merdigera obscura*.

5.35 The upper ditch fill **1039** (samples 14, 13 and 12) contained high numbers of shells. The lower assemblages (samples 14 and 13) were dominated by shells of *Pomatias elegans, Carychium tridentatum, Discus rotundatus, Aegopinella nitidula, Vitrea* sp. and *Deroceras/Limax*, with shells of the shade loving species *Aegopinella pura* and *Acanthinula aculeata*, the intermediate species *Cochlicopa* sp. and *Trochulus hispidus* and the open country species *Helicella itala*. While the upper assemblage (sample 12) was dominated by shells of *Pomatias elegans* and *Helicella itala*, with moderate numbers of shells of the shade-loving species *Carychium tridentatum* and *Discus rotundatus*, the intermediate species *Deroceras/Limax* and the open country species *Pupilla muscorum, Vallonia costata* and *Vallonia excentrica.*

Ditch B, cut **1004**

5.36 The range of mollusc species present in the two bulk samples from section 1004 of **Ditch B** was recorded. The species included shade-loving, intermediate and open country species and were similar in composition to those seen from the other ditch sections. They included high numbers of shells of *Pomatias elegans* and *Discus rotundatus*. There were also shells of species indicative of woodland environments including *Azeca goodalli*, *Acanthinula aculeata*, *Merdigera obscura* and *Ena montana* within both assemblages.

Discussion

5.37 The ditch assemblages are generally dominated by the shade-loving and intermediate species with a rise in the open country species within the upper fills.

5.38 The generally high level of the shade-loving species within the assemblages is indicative of the presence of shady environments in the vicinity of the ditches rather than reflecting the exploitation of shady micro-habitats within the ditches themselves. *Discus rotundatus, Carychium tridentatum* and the Zonatids (*Aegopinella nitidula, Aegopinella pura* and *Vitrea* sp.) thrive in leaf litter in open deciduous woodland and are also found in long grassland. There were also species within the assemblages indicative of woodland environments, such as *Azeca goodalli, Acanthinula aculeata, Merdigera obscura* and *Ena montana*. *Pomatias elegans* is a species indicative of disturbed ground and bare earth and

as it was recovered in high numbers in the majority of the samples it may be indicative of clearance taking place in the vicinity.

5.39 The open country species are indicative of the presence of some open areas such as short grazed grassland or arable environments. *Vallonia excentrica, Helicella itala* and *Trochulus hispidus* can be indicative of cultivation (Evans 1972).

5.40 These assemblages are indicative of the presence of some kind of woodland, rather than hedgerow, in the vicinity throughout the history of the ditches with possibly some areas of long grass alongside the ditches. There is likely to have been some clearance taking place. As the ditches filled up, there is an increase in evidence for a more open landscape.

5.41 These assemblages show similarities with those analysed from the 'Wessex Linear' ditch C1 from the excavation nearby (Wright *et al* 2009). The mollusc evidence from that ditch was indicative of the presence of a woodland environment within an open landscape, probably of short turved grassland, with the possibility of some clearance taking place in the area. Again there was an increase in the evidence for a more open landscape as the ditch fell into disuse (Wyles 2009). The results from Aldermaston Road Triangle suggest that the ditches from this site were closer to the area of woodland and further from the well-established open environments.

Biological record: statements of potential

Animal bone

5.42 There is no further potential due to the small assemblage recovered.

Plant macrofossil and charcoal

5.43 There is no potential for further work, due to the paucity of charred material recovered.

Mollusc Remains

5.44 Although further analysis has the potential to assist in defining the nature of the open landscape in more detail, the assessment has addressed the key question of whether these assemblages were similar to those seen from the previous work at Popley (Wright *et al.* 2009). Therefore no further work is proposed on these samples.

6 SUMMARY STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

6.1 The current excavation exposed five features of archaeological nature – **Ditches A, B, C, D and E**. It confirmed the presence of the 'Wessex Linear' boundary ditch (**Ditches A and B**) that was uncovered at 1.2km distance on the opposite side of Aldermaston Road by Wessex Archaeology (Wright *et al.* 2009). Although it did not produce any material which could confirm the dating of the Iron-Age origins of the feature, crucially it provided a date for the abandonment of this boundary in the Late Roman period. The dating evidence in the form of a 3rd-century coin alongside 1st century Romano-British pottery sherds was retrieved from a fill, which was similar to a 'plough-washed derived tertiary fill' with 'high concentrations of flint nodules' recorded to previously to the east (*ibid*., 18). The relatively large number of tree throws recorded by this excavation further supports the environmental data from this current work and that of Wessex Archaeology (*ibid*.) that the 'Wessex Linear' boundary was spatially in proximity to woodland in an open landscape. The current site was however closer to the area of woodland and further from the well-established open environments than the area to the east at Popley (*ibid*. see also section 5.4 above). No evidence was found at the northern end of site in Area 2 for any features pre-dating the limited medieval/post-medieval field systems (Ditches D and E).

6.2 A modest assemblage of finds was recovered from the excavations. These included a small number of worked flints, which may hint at an Early Neolithic date for at least some of the recovered flints, and otherwise suggest some use of the landscape over a long period. The ceramic evidence is also sparse, comprising just 13 sherds which confirm the use of the landscape in the Later Prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval periods. None of the finds can add substantially to our existing corpus of knowledge. The environmental evidence is of interest in that it shows similarities with samples analysed from the 'Wessex Linear' ditch C1 from the excavation nearby (*ibid*).The current excavation successfully addressed the aims and objectives outlined in Section 2 above, however the near absence of stratigraphic relationships and low quantity and quality of the surviving artefactual evidence means that any further analysis would be unlikely to further elucidate the development and nature of the site.

6.3 The results from the investigations of the project are of local significance and a short note in *Hampshire Studies: Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society* is proposed.

7 STORAGE AND CURATION

7.1 The archive is currently held at CA offices, Andover. Upon completion of the project and with the agreement of the legal landowners, the site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited with Hampshire County Council Museums and Archives Service (accession number: A 2017.06), which has agreed in principle to accept the complete archive upon completion of the project.

REFERENCES

Anderson, R. 2005 'An annotated list of the non-marine Mollusca of Britain and Ireland', *Journal of Conchology* **38**, 607-637

Archaeology South East (ASE), 2016 *Land West of Aldermaston Road (A340) and East of Priestley Road (Triangle Site), Basingstoke,* Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

Baker, P. and Worley, F. 2014 Animal bones and archaeology: Guidelines for best practice Swindon, English Heritage

Barclay, A. Knight, D., Booth, P., Evans, J., Brown, D., and Wood, I., 2016. A standard for pottery studies in archaeology, Medieval Pottery Research Group

Basingstoke and Deane 2001. *Landscape Assessment*

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2017 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html Accessed 5 January 2017

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 *Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Excavation*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 1995 *Treatment of finds immediately after excavation: Technical Manual No. 3*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2012 *The taking and processing of environmental and other samples from archaeological sites: Technical Manual No. 2*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 *Fieldwork Recording Manual Technical Manual No. 1*

CIfA (Chartered Institute of Archaeologists) 2014 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*

Coles, S, Lowe, J, and Ford S, 2011 'Excavation of a Roman Enclosure at Park Prewett Hospital, Basingstoke, Hampshire' *Proc. Hampshire Field Club Archaeol. Soc.* 66, 39-74

Currie, C, 1998, '*An archaeological evaluation of land adjoining Aldermaston and Priestly Roads, Sherborne St. John, near Basingstoke, Hampshire'*, CKC Archaeology, Chandlers Ford

Davies, P. 2008 *Snails Archaeology and Landscape Change*, Oxford, Oxbow Books

DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government) 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*

Evans, J.G. 1972 *Land Snails in Archaeology*, London, Seminar

Fulford, M., and Timby, J., 2000 *Late Iron Age and Roman Silchester, excavations on the site of the Forum-Basilica 1977, 1980-86*, London: Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies, Britannia Monograph Series 15

HCC (Hampshire County Council) 2013 *Archaeology and Planning: Guidance for Contractors*

Historic England 2015a *The Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MORPHE Project Manager's Guide*

Historic England 2015b *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment. PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation*

Kerney, M.P. 1999 *Atlas of the Land and Freshwater Molluscs of Britain and Ireland*, Colchester, Harley

RSK, 2014, *Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke Geo-environmental Site Investigation*

Seager Smith, R., 'Late Iron Age and Romano-British pottery' in Wright et al. 2009, 30-36

Stace, C. 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press Books

Timby, J., 2000 The pottery, in Fulford, M., and Timby, J., 2000 180-312

TVAS (Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd.), 2007, *Aldermaston Triangle, Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire: An Archaeological Evaluation*

Wright, J, Powell, A.B, Barclay, A. 2009. *Excavation of Prehistoric and Romano British Sites at Marnel Park and Merton Rise (Popley) Basingstoke, 2004-8* Salisbury: Wessex Archaeology Ltd.

Wyles, S.F. 2009 'Molluscs' in Wright, J., Powell, A.B. and Barclay, A.B. '*Excavations of Prehistoric and Romano-British Sites at Marnel Park and Merton Rise (Popley) Basingstoke, 2004-8*', Wessex Archaeology Report Part 2: Environmental Remains http://www.wessexarch.co.uk/projects/hampshire/popley

APPENDIX 1: STRATIGRAPHIC ASSESSEMENT

A total of 76 contexts were recorded during the excavations as detailed below:-

Context Register			
Context	**Context type**	**Fill of**	**Context Description**
1000	layer		Topsoil: Mid greyish brown clayey silt.
1001	layer		Subsoil: Mid brown clayey silt.
1002	layer		Natural: Weathered chalk
1003	layer		Natural: soliflucted chalk-reddish brown silty clay.
1004	cut		Cut of possible boundary ditch. Linear in plan, irregular sides with moderate sloping. V-shaped concave base. SE-NW orientation. Same as [1046], [1032] and [1023].
1005	fill	1004	Uppermost tertiary fill. Dark brown, firm silty clay. Common sub-angular flint
1006	fill	1004	Mid brown, firm, silty clay. Occasional Chalk and angular flint
1007	fill	1004	Possible remains of collapsed bank. Mid brown, compact, silty clay. 50% sub-angular flint
1008	fill	1004	Light brown, loose, silty clay. Common crushed chalk, occasional sub-angular flint
1009	fill	1004	Light brown, friable, silty clay. Abundant crushed chalk. Occasional sub-angular stone
1010	cut		Cut of pit of possible tree throw. Sub oval in plan, steep sides with uneven base. N-S orientation.
1011	fill	1010	Fill of possible pit/tree throw. Dark blackish brown, soft, clayey silt. Occasional sub-angular flint
1012	cut		Cut of freeze thaw action. Sub oval in plan, irregular sides with irregular base.
1013	fill		Mid reddish brown, firm, clayey silt. Good horizon clarity. Same as (1003).
1014	cut		Sub-oval in plan, rounded corners, irregular sides with irregular base.
1015	fill	1014	Light yellowish brown, firm, silty clay. Poor horizon clarity.
1016	fill	1014	Secondary fill of tree throw. Dark brown, firm, clayey silt. Poor horizon clarity.
1017	cut		Linear in plan. Possibly rounded to a terminus. Steep V-shaped sides with flat base. E-W orientation. Same as [1042].
1018	fill	1017	Light yellowish brown, compact, silty clay w/20% chalk. Good horizon clarity.
1019	fill	1017	White, soft, chalk. Good horizon clarity.
1020	fill	1017	Mid yellowish brown, firm, clayey silt. 10% chalk, 1% sub-rounded flint
1021	fill	1017	Light yellowish brown, firm, silty clay w/25% chalk. 1% Angular flint
1022	fill	1017	Mid brown, soft, clayey silt. 1% sub-angular flint
1023	cut		Cut of possible boundary ditch. Linear in plan, rounded corners. Steep v-shaped sides and flat base. SW-NE orientation. Same as [1046], [1004], [1032] and [1038].

Context Register			
Context	**Context type**	**Fill of**	**Context Description**
1024	fill	1023	Mid brown, firm, silty clay. 10% chalk, 1% sub angular flint
1025	fill	1023	Mid brown and grey, compact, clayey silt. 50% sub-angular flint
1026	fill	1023	Mid brown, firm, clayey silt. 2% chalk. Good horizon clarity.
1027	fill	1023	Dark grayish brown, firm, clayey silt. Rare chalk, occasional charcoal flecks. Good horizon clarity. Same as [1047], [1039] and [1005].
1028	cut		Sub-oval in plan, rounded corners, irregular sides and uneven base.
1029	fill	1028	Mid brownish grey, firm, silty clay with moderate chalk. Moderate horizon clarity.
1030	cut		Sub circular in plan, rounded corners, shallow sides with irregular base.
1031	fill	1030	Mid brown and white, firm, silty clay and chalk. Moderate horizon clarity.
1033	fill	1038	Mid reddish brown, compact, sandy clay. 60% flint
1034	cut		Irregular plan, rounded corners, shallow sides with irregular base.
1035	fill	1034	Mid reddish brown, greyish brown and yellowish brown, firm, silty clay. Moderate horizon clarity.
1036	cut		Circular plan, rounded corners, irregular shallow sides with concave stepped base.
1037	fill	1036	Mid brown/light yellowish brown firm silty clay. Moderate horizon clarity.
1038	cut		Linear plan, sharp rounded concave sides with moderate slope, rounded concave base. SW-NE orientation. Same as [1032] and [1023].
1039	fill	1038	mid reddish brown compact sandy clay. 5% chalk
1040	fill	1038	Mid greyish brown friable silty clay. 10% flint
1042	cut		Linear plan, steep sides with flat/irregular base. E-W orientation. Same as [1017]
1043	fill	1042	Mid reddish brown friable clayey silt. Common sub angular flint
1044	fill	1042	Light greyish white compact chalk. Rare flint
1045	fill	1042	Mid yellowish brown friable clayey silt. Good horizon clarity.
1046	cut		Linear plan with rounded south-turning corner, rounded concave sides with flat base. NE-SW orientation. Same as [1004], [1038] and [1023].
1047	fill	1046	Mid reddish brown compact silty clay. 10% sub rounded chalk
1048	fill	1046	Mid greyish brown comparct silty clay. Abundant sub angular flint
1049	fill	1046	Reddish brown compact silty clay. Abundant sub rounded chalk
1050	fill	1046	Light whitish brown compact silty clay. Abundant sub-rounded chalk
1941	fill	1038	Light greyish brown friable silty clay. 20% chalk
2000	layer		Topsoil: Mid greyish brown clayey silt.
2001	layer		Subsoil: Mid brown clayey silt.
2002	layer		Natural: Weathered chalk
2003	layer		Natural: soliflucted chalk-reddish brown silty clay.
2004	cut		Cut of very shallow ditch, possible post-medieval boundary which may cut through the above layers. Same as [2005]. Steep side at west, gradual side at east with flat/irregualr base. N-S orientation.
2005	fill	2004	Dark brown sandy clay, compact. Rare sub-angular small stones

Context Register			
Context	**Context type**	**Fill of**	**Context Description**
2006	cut		Cut of very shallow ditch terminus. Same as [2004]. Gradual sloping sides. Flat/Irregular base. N-S orientation.
2007	fill	2006	Single secondary fill of ditch terminus. Possibly the same as (2005) fill. Dark brown sandy clay. Very rare sub-angular stones
2008	cut		Cut of possible boundary/drainage ditch. Very steep sides with rounded base. NE-SW orientation.
2009	fill	2008	Primary fill of ditch. Light greyish brown silty clay/chalk, friable. 50% chalk nodules. Good horizon clarity.
2010	fill	2008	Mid greyish brown silty clay/chalk, firm.
2011	fill	2008	Mid reddish brown silty clay, friable. 20% chalk nodules, charcoal flecks. Good horizon clarity.
2012	cut		Cut of linear ditch. North side stepped, south side concave. Flat/concave base. E-W orientation. Possibly part of a field system. Same as [2014].
2013	fill	2012	Dark brown sandy clay, compact-friable. Frequent sub-squared flint/stones
2014	cut		Cut of possible field system. N side sharp slope, S side gradual slope. Irregular base. E-W orientation.
2015	fill	2014	single fill of ditch. Dark brown silty clay, compact-friable. Frequent chalk stones
2016	cut		Cut of tree throw butting up against [2018] ditch. Irregular shape, irregular/concave sides, irregular base with rooting.
2017	fill	2016	Dark red brown with patches of dark red blak silty clay, friable. Angular flint inclusions, charcoal flecks and common rooting. Good horizon clarity.
2018	cut		Linear in plan, rounded slightly convex sides with flat base. N-S orientation. Same as [2008].
2019	fill	2018	Mid reddish brown with chalk white silty clay/chalk, firm. 50% chalk with occasional charcoal. Good horizon clarity.
2020	fill	2018	Dark reddish brown silty clay, friable. Angular flint with occasional charcoal flecks. Good horizon clarity.
2021	cut		Cut of possible boundary ditch. Linear in plan, Straight/slightly rounded concave sides with flat base. E-W orientation.
2022	fill	2021	Light greyish brown silty clay/chalk, soft. 70% chalk
2023	fill	2021	Mid greyish brown silty clay, soft. 50% chalk
2024	cut		Oval in plan, rounded concave sides with rounded uneven base.
2025	fill	2024	Mid reddish brown sandy clay, friable. 5% chalk

APPENDIX 2: PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 1 Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Processed vol (L)	Unprocessed vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Ditch B												
1004	1006	1	18	20	200	20	-	-	*	*Veronica*	*/*	Moll-t (*****)
	1008	2	18	20	250	10	-	-	-	-	-/*	Moll-t (*****)
1038	1033	15	8	0	150	5	-	-	-	-	-/*	Moll-t (*****)
	1033	16	7	0	170	7	-	-	-	-	-/*	Moll-t (*****)

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 5–19 items; *** = 20–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items, Moll-t = land snails,

Table 2 Assessment table of the mollusc assemblages from Ditch A

Phase		Prehistoric								
Feature		Ditch A Section 1017								
Context		1018	1020			1021			1022	
Sample		11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
Depth (M)		0.37-0.50M	0.31-0.37M	0.26-0.31M	0.22-0.26M	0.17-0.22M	0.12-0.17M	0.07-0.12M	0.05 - 0.07M	0 - 0.05M
Volume (L)		1100g	900g	1345g	1500g	1060g	1500g	1500g	1500g	1500g
Molluscs	Group									
Pomatias elegans (Müller)	I	-	-	C	A	B	B	C	A	A
Carychium tridentatum (Risso)	S	-	C	C	A	A	C	-	B	-
Carychium spp.	S	-	C	C	B	B	C	C	B	-
Cochlicopa lubrica (Müller)	I	-	-	C	C	-	-	-	C	C
Cochlicopa lubricella (Porro)	I	-	-	-	C	-	-	-	-	-
Cochlicopa spp.	I	C	-	-	C	C	C	C	C	-
Vertigo pygmaea (Draparnaud)	O	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	C	-
Vertigo spp.	O	-	-	-	-	-	-	C	-	-
Pupilla muscorum (Linnaeus)	O	-	-	-	-	-	C	C	C	B
Vallonia costata (Müller)	O	-	C	-	C	C	C	C	B	B
Vallonia excentrica Sterki	O	-	C	-	-	C	C	C	B	B
Acanthinula aculeata (Müller)	S	-	-	C	C	B	B	C	C	-
Ena montana (Draparnaud)	S	-	-	C	C	-	-	-	-	-
Merdigera obscura (Müller)	S	-	C	C	C	-	-	-	-	-
Punctum pygmaeum (Draparnaud)	I	-	C	-	C	C	-	-	C	C
Discus rotundatus (Müller)	S	-	C	B	A	A	A	A	A	B
Vitrina pellucida (Müller)	I	-	C	-	-	C	-	-	-	-
Vitrea sp.	S	-	C	B	B	C	B	-	C	-
Aegopinella pura (Alder)	S	-	-	C	C	C	C	C	C	-
Aegopinella nitidula (Draparnaud)	S	-	-	B	B	B	C	C	B	C
Oxychilus cellarius (Müller)	S	-	-	-	C	C	-	-	C	-
Deroceras/Limax	I	-	-	-	C	C	-	C	C	-
Cecilioides acicula (Müller)	B	-	-	-	A	C	B	A	A	B
Cochlodina laminata (Montagu)	S	-	-	-	-	C	-	-	C	-

Clausilia bidentata (Ström)	S	-	-	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
Helicella itala (Linnaeus)	O	-	C	C	C	C	-	C	B	B
Trochulus hispidus (Linnaeus)	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	C	C	C
Helicigona lapicida (Linnaeus)	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Cepaea/Arianta sp.	I	C	+	-	+	C	+	+	C	C
Approx Total		2	17	30	85	100+	45	30	45	55

Key: O = open country species, I = intermediate species, S = shade-loving species, B = burrowing species, C = 1–4 items; B = 5–1=9 items; A= 10+ items, + = frags

Table 3 Assessment table of the mollusc assemblages from Ditch B

Phase		Prehistoric				RB					?Prehistoric	
Feature group		Ditch B										
Feature		1038									1004	
Context		1041		1040		1033		1039			1008	1006
Sample		20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	2	1
Depth (M)		0.84-1.02M	0.74-0.84M	0.65-0.74M	0.58-0.65M	0.46-0.58M	0.39-0.46M	0.20-0.39M	0.10-0.20M	0-0.10M		
Weight (G)/Volume (L)		1500g	1500g	1500g	1500g	1500g	1500g	1500g	1500g	1500g	19 L	18 L
Molluscs	Group											
Pomatias elegans (Müller)	I	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	X	X
Carychium tridentatum (Risso)	S	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	X	X
Carychium spp.	S	-	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C	X	X
Azeca goodalli (Férussac)	S	-	-	C	C	C	C	-	-	-	X	X
Cochlicopa lubrica (Müller)	I	-	-	C	B	B	C	C	C	-	X	X
Cochlicopa lubricella (Porro)	I	-	-	-	C	C	C	C	C	-	X	X
Cochlicopa spp.	I	-	C	C	B	B	B	B	B	C	X	X
Vertigo pygmaea (Draparnaud)	O	C	-	-	C	C	-	C	C	C	X	X
Vertigo spp.	O	-	-	-	-	C	C	-	C	C	X	X
Pupilla muscorum (Linnaeus)	O	-	-	C	-	C	C	C	C	B	X	X
Vallonia costata (Müller)	O	-	C	C	A	B	B	C	B	B	X	X
Vallonia excentrica Sterki	O	C	C	C	A	B	B	C	B	B	X	X
Acanthinula aculeata (Müller)	S	C	B	B	B	B	C	B	C	C	X	X
Ena montana (Draparnaud)	S	C	C	C	-	C	-	-	-	-	X	X
Merdigera obscura (Müller)	S	C	C	C	C	C	C	-	-	-	X	X
Punctum pygmaeum (Draparnaud)	I	-	-	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	X	X
Discus rotundatus (Müller)	S	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	X	X
Vitrea sp.	S	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	C	X	X
Aegopinella pura (Alder)	S	C	C	A	B	A	C	B	B	C	X	X
Aegopinella nitidula (Draparnaud)	S	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	C	X	X
Oxychilus cellarius (Müller)	S	-	C	B	C	C	C	B	C	-	X	X
Deroceras/Limax	I	-	C	B	A	A	A	A	A	B	X	X
Cecilioides acicula (Müller)	B	-	-	-	A	A	A	B	B	A	X	X

Cochlodina laminata (Montagu)	S	-	C	C	C	C	C	B	C	C	X	X
Clausilia bidentata (Ström)	S	C	C	C	B	B	C	C	C	C	X	X
Helicella itala (Linnaeus)	O	-	B	-	B	B	B	B	B	A	X	X
Trochulus hispidus (Linnaeus)	I	-	-	-	C	C	C	B	B	C	X	X
Helicigona lapicida (Linnaeus)	S	-	-	C	+	C	+	+	+	+	X	X
Cepaea/Arianta sp.	I	-	C	B	B	B	C	C	B	C	X	X
Approx Total		21	100+	100+	100+	100+	100+	100+	100+	100+	100+	100+

Key: O = open country species, I = intermediate species, S = shade-loving species, B = burrowing species, C = 1–4 items; B = 5–1=9 items; A= 10+ items, + = frags, X = pr

APPENDIX 3: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire	
Short description	A programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in February 2017 at Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire at the request of CgMs on behalf of Bovis Homes. An area of 0.36ha was excavated across the development area. Five ditches were found A, B, C, D and E. Ditch B was a continuation of a known Prehistoric 'Wessex Linear' boundary aligned north-east/south-west which went out of use with the cultivation of land to the north in the late Roman period. Ditch A was a later Prehistoric boundary that was cut by Ditch B. Ditch C was undated and ditches D and E were part of medieval/post-medieval field systems.	
Project dates	6th – 17th February 2017	
Project type	Excavation	
Previous work	Archaeology South East (ASE), 2016 Land West of Aldermaston Road (A340) and East of Priestley Road (Triangle Site), Basingstoke, Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment Currie, C, 1998, 'An archaeological evaluation of land adjoining Aldermaston and Priestly Roads, Sherborne St. John, near Basingstoke, Hampshire', CKC Archaeology, Chandlers Ford TVAS (Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd.), 2007, Aldermaston Triangle, Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire: An Archaeological Evaluation	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire	
Study area (M^2/ha)	2.3ha	
Site co-ordinates	SU 62335 53963	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Hampshire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Ray Kennedy	
Project Supervisor	Jeremy Clutterbuck	
MONUMENT TYPE	Wessex Linear – Prehistoric Boundary Ditch	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	Copper-Alloy Coin	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc
Physical	Hampshire Museum Service (A 2017.06)	Pottery, worked flint, worked stone, charred plant remains, *etc*.
Paper	Hampshire Museum Service (A 2017.06)	Context sheets, sections
Digital	Hampshire Museum Service (A 2017.06)	Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 *Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire: Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design.* CA Report No. **17116**		

Legend

site boundary

N

0 1km

Reproduced from the digital Ordnance Survey Explorer map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	**LD**	*PROJECT NO.*	**779030**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DB**	*DATE*	**12-04-2017**	**1**
APPROVED BY	**JG**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:25,000**	

462200
462400
462600
154200
154000
153800
A340
Priestley Road
Area 2
Area 7
Area 3
Area 1
Area 6
Area 5
Area 4
N
Legend
site boundary
archaeology
excavated
registered artefact
bioturbation
treethrow
TVAS - approximate location of evaluation trench
TVAS - archaeology
Wessex Archaeology - treethrow
Wessex Archaeology - archaeology
Wessex Archaeology - 'Wessex linear'
0
100m
Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey Digital mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeological Trust 100002109.
Cotswold Archaeology
Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
PROJECT TITLE
Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire
FIGURE TITLE
Excavation area location and 'Wessex linear' extension from Wessex Archaeology excavation
DRAWN BY LD
CHECKED BY DB
APPROVED BY JG
PROJECT NO 779030
DATE 12/04/2017
SCALE@A3 1:2,000
FIGURE NO. 2

462360

462380

462400

153940

153920

153900

Area 3

Area 1

Area 6

Ditch A

Ditch B

ditch 1023

ditch 1017

ditch 1042

ditch 1004

ditch 1038

ditch 1046

treethrow 1014

treethrow 1010

A

B

C

N

Legend

- site boundary
- phase 1 - later Prehistoric
- phase 2 - Romano British
- excavated
- registered artefact
- bioturbation
- treethrow
- geology

0 10m

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey Digital mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeological Trust 100002109.

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire

FIGURE TITLE

Plan of Area 1

DRAWN BY	LD	PROJECT NO	779030	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DB	DATE	12/04/2017	3
APPROVED BY	JG	SCALE@A3	1:200	

Area 1 looking south-west across Ditch B towards hospital

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire

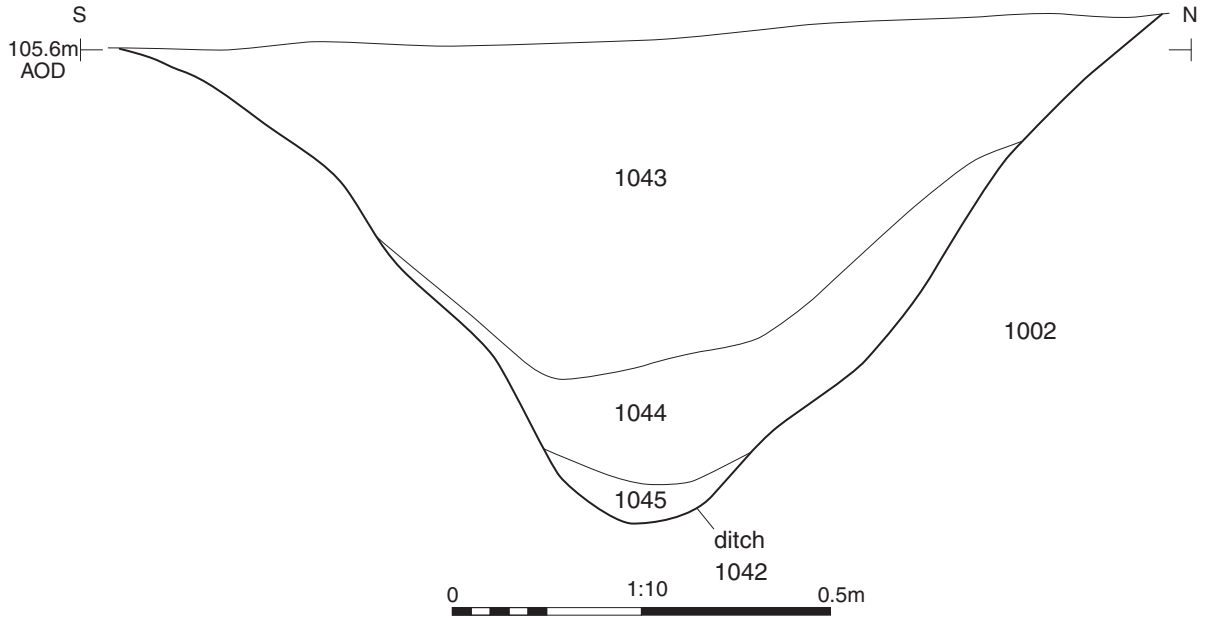
FIGURE TITLE

Photograph of Area 1

DRAWN BY	**LD**	*PROJECT NO.*	**779030**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DB**	*DATE*	**12/04/2017**	**4**
APPROVED BY	**JG**	*SCALE@A4*	**N/A**	

Ditch 1042, looking west (1m scale)

Section AA



Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire

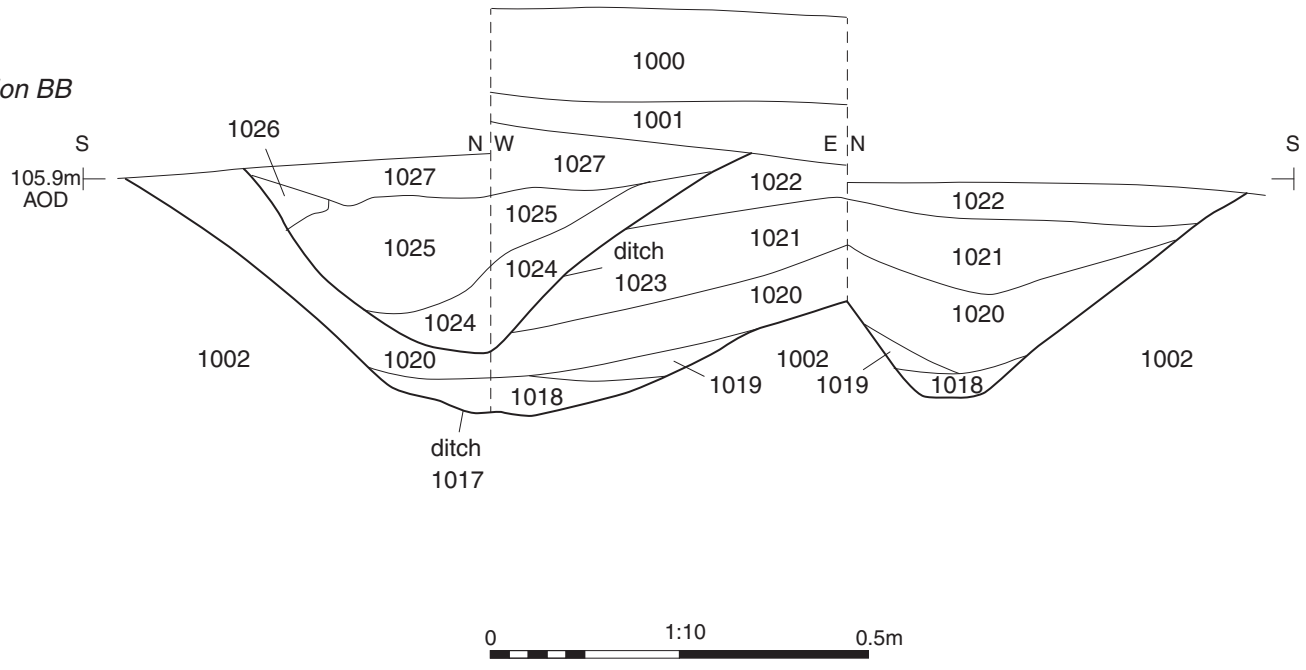
FIGURE TITLE

Photograph and section of ditch 1042

DRAWN BY	**LD**	*PROJECT NO.*	**779030**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DB**	*DATE*	**12/04/2017**	**5**
APPROVED BY	**JG**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:10 (Section AA)**	

Ditch 1023 and Ditch 1017, looking north (1m scale)

Section BB



Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire

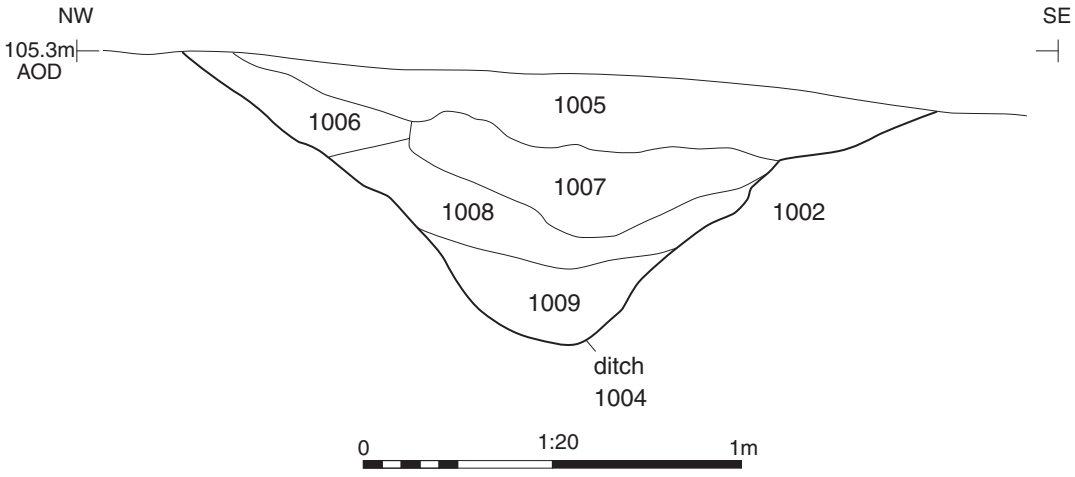
FIGURE TITLE

Photograph and section of ditch 1023 and ditch 1017

DRAWN BY	**LD**	*PROJECT NO.*	**779030**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DB**	*DATE*	**12/04/2017**	**6**
APPROVED BY	**JG**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:10 (Section BB)**	

Ditch 1004, looking north-east (1m scale)

Section CC



Cotswold Archaeology
Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph and section of ditch 1004

DRAWN BY	**LD**	*PROJECT NO.*	**779030**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DB**	*DATE*	**12/04/2017**	**7**
APPROVED BY	**JG**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20 (Section CC)**	

462240
462260
462280
462300
154100
154080
154060
154040

Ditch E
ditch 2004
ditch 2006
ditch 2018
treethrow 2016
Ditch C
ditch 2008
ditch 2021
Area 2
ditch 2012
Ditch D
ditch 2014
treethrow 2024

N

Legend

- site boundary
- phase 3 - medieval to post-medieval
- phase 4 - post-medieval
- undated
- excavated
- treethrow
- geology

0 15m

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey Digital mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeological Trust 100002109.

Cotswold Archaeology
Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

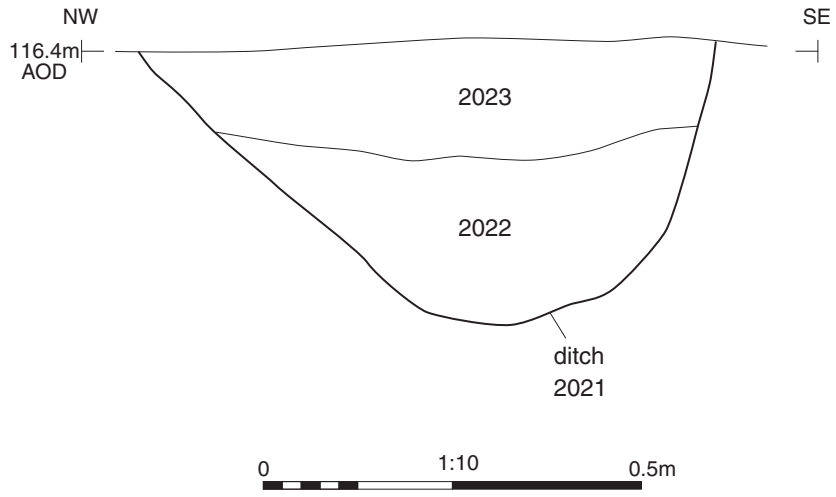
PROJECT TITLE
Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire

FIGURE TITLE
Plan of Area 2

DRAWN BY	**LD**	*PROJECT NO*	**779030**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DB**	*DATE*	**12/04/2017**	**8**
APPROVED BY	**JG**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:250**	

Ditch C (ditch 2018 and treethrow 2016 in foreground), looking south-west (1m scale)

Section DD



Cotswold Archaeology
Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

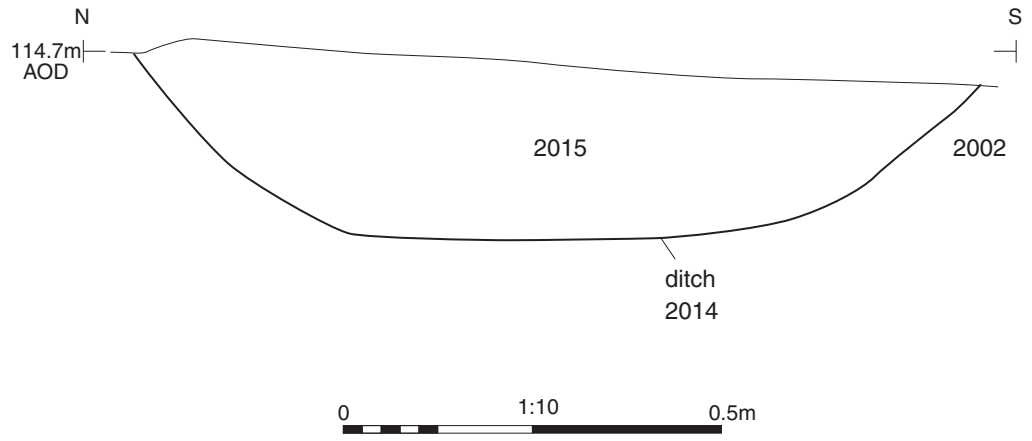
PROJECT TITLE
Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire

FIGURE TITLE
Photograph of Ditch C and section of ditch 2021

DRAWN BY	LD	PROJECT NO.	779030	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DB	DATE	12/04/2017	9
APPROVED BY	JG	SCALE@A4	1:10 (Section DD)	

Ditch D (ditch 2014 in foreground), looking south-west (0.3m scale)

Section EE



Cotswold Archaeology
Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

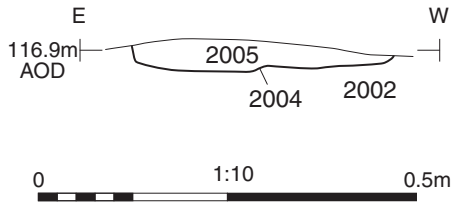
PROJECT TITLE
Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire

FIGURE TITLE
Photograph of Ditch D and section of ditch 2014

DRAWN BY	LD	PROJECT NO.	779030	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DB	DATE	12/04/2017	10
APPROVED BY	JG	SCALE@A4	1:10 (Section EE)	

Ditch E (ditch 2004 in foreground), looking north (0.3m scale)

Section FF



Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 826185
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Aldermaston Road Triangle, Basingstoke, Hampshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph of Ditch E and section of ditch 2004

DRAWN BY	**LD**	*PROJECT NO.*	**779030**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DB**	*DATE*	**12/04/2017**	**11**
APPROVED BY	**JG**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:10 (Section FF)**	

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover Office

Stanley House
Walworth Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

Cirencester Office

Building 11
Kemble Enterprise Park
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

Exeter Office

Unit 53
Basepoint Business Centre
Yeoford Way
Marsh Barton Trading Estate
Exeter
EX2 8LB

t: 01392 826185

Milton Keynes Office

41 Burners Lane South
Kiln Farm
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK11 3HA

t: 01908 564660

e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk