

**Field House Farm  
Ladwell, Winchester  
Hampshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief Investigation



*for*  
**ReneSola UK Ltd**


CA Project: 770154  
CA Report: 14619  
**WINCM: AY550**

May 2015

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CA Report: 14619

prepared by	Sam Wilson, Archaeologist
date	23/12/14
checked by	Damian De Rosa, Project Manager
date	09/01/2015
approved by	Richard Greatorex Principal Fieldwork Manager
signed	
date	12/01/2015
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<p><b>Cirencester</b> Building 11 Kemble Enterprise Park Kemble, Cirencester Gloucestershire, GL7 6BQ t. 01285 771022 f. 01285 771033</p>	<p><b>Milton Keynes</b> 41 Burners Lane South Kiln Farm Milton Keynes MK11 3HA t. 01908 564660</p>	<p><b>Andover</b> Stanley House Walworth Road Andover, Hampshire SP10 5LH t. 01264 347630</p>
e. <a href="mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk">enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk</a>		

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## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** Field House Farm  
**Location:** Ladwell, Winchester  
**NGR:** SU 42770 23412  
**Type:** Watching Brief  
**Date:** 13 November - 4 December 2014  
**Location of Archive:** Winchester Museum Services  
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**Site Code:** FHFA14

An archaeological watching brief investigation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology on behalf of ReneSola UK Ltd during groundworks associated with the construction of a solar farm at Field House Farm, Ladwell, Winchester, Hampshire.

The investigation followed a trial trench evaluation which had identified a series of features including a substantial ditch which formed part of a possible enclosure and evidence for settlement activity dating to the Late Iron Age/Romano British period. A good assemblage of pottery was recovered, dating from this period during the course of the investigation and previous trial trench evaluation.

A number of features of archaeological interest were observed during groundworks, with recovered pottery from the Middle to Late Bronze Age to Late Romano British period. The Romano-British pottery recovered during the watching brief investigation is largely later in date than identified during the evaluation, and would appear to indicate that activity within the site and its vicinity spans a wider period than previously indicated. The archaeological features recorded consisted of a series of ditches, one previously identified during the trial trench evaluation and geophysical survey, and two which were previously unknown, although indicated by minor geophysical anomalies. The ditches are likely to form boundaries or enclosures within the wider periphery of small scale settlement, which is likely to lie beyond the northern boundary of the site.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 In November 2014 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief investigation for ReneSola UK Ltd at Field House Farm, Ladwell Winchester (centred on NGR: SU 42770 23412; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 The investigation was undertaken to fulfil the archaeological conditions (20 and 21) attached to planning permission (ref: 14/00813/FUL) for the construction of a solar farm, comprising the erection of solar arrays of photovoltaic panels, inverter and transformer sheds, fencing, site storage cabin, switchgear housing, internal gravel access road, and associated equipment, granted by Winchester City Council, the Local Planning Authority (LPA).
- 1.3 The archaeological conditions and agreed programme of investigation followed consultation by the LPA with their archaeological advisor, Tracy Matthews, of the Winchester City Council Historic Environment Team (HET). The archaeological conditions and agreed programme of investigation were informed by a programme of archaeological investigation comprising a Heritage Desk-Based Assessment (CA 2013), Geophysical Survey (WYAS 2014) and Trial Trench Evaluation (CA 2014a)
- 1.4 The archaeological investigation was undertaken in accordance with a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2014b) and approved by the HET prior to the commencement of fieldwork. The fieldwork also followed the Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching brief and excavation (IfA 2009), the Management of Archaeological Projects 2 (English Heritage 1991), and the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide (English Heritage 2006).]

### ***The site***

- 1.5 The proposed development is located within the hamlet of Ladwell, approximately 1.2km to the south of the village of Hursley and approximately 240m to the north of the northern outskirts of Chandler's Ford. The Site comprises an irregular parcel of land of approximately 15.31ha and occupies two large pasture fields (see Figure 1).

- 1.4 The site is located to the east of the B3043. Its southern boundary is demarcated by Hocombe Plantation, with farmland and large tree copses, Barn Copse and Ryder's Row, to the east. An east to west aligned power line, beyond which further pasture fields are situated, marks the northern limits of the site. The majority of the boundaries of the site are demarcated by dense trees or hedges, with the exception of the northern boundary. The Site occupies gentle, generally south and south-east facing slopes of a hill separating two valleys of small watercourses feeding into the Monks Brook, located c. 1.4km to the south. The land falls from approximately 80m above Ordnance Datum in the north to c. 55m above Ordnance Datum in the south-east.
- 1.5 The underlying geology within the proposed development comprises sand and gravelly sand of the Whitecliff Sand Member, with clay, silt and sand of the Nursling Sand Member to the east, formed approximately 23 to 66 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period (BGS online). During the trial trench evaluation colluvial deposits were identified throughout Trench 1 and 2, within the southern half of Trench 5, the eastern half of Trench 6 and 7, the southern half of Trench 8 and the south-eastern half of Trench 9, with greater depth of colluvium of between 1m and 1.3m within Trench 5 and Trench 8. A natural substrate of gravel was identified throughout Trench 4 and part of Trench 10.

### ***Archaeological background***

- 1.6 A desk-based assessment (DBA) was undertaken (CA 2013), which set out the archaeological and historical background of the site. A brief summary of this is presented below:
- 1.7 No designated assets were recorded within the Site prior to the evaluation. Non designated assets consisted of a potential late prehistoric or Roman period settlement enclosure, identified on aerial photographs. No trace of this enclosure could be found during the evaluation within **Trench 1** and **2**. The remains of a modern reservoir and associated wind pump were also noted. Below ground remains associated with a barn and field system were observed on the 1839 Tithe map and identified during the evaluation within **Trench 4**.
- 1.8 The desk-based assessment (DBA), (CA 2013) indicated Bronze Age activity within the vicinity of the Site associated with funerary remains. No evidence for this was

identified during the evaluation. A potential for the presence of further Bronze Age remains within the site, including features associated with possible settlement or farming was recognised and it is possible a north/south orientated linear boundary identified during the evaluation may date to this period but was not confirmed. Additional Iron Age or Romano-British remains, such as features related to agricultural and possible settlement activity indicated in the (DBA), (CA 2013) were present within the site and recorded within the wider environs.

- 1.9 Following the woodland clearance, which commenced in the Hursley parish in the medieval period, the site is considered to have been in agricultural use. Buried remains associated with agricultural features of medieval or later date, such as land drainage and field boundaries were identified during the evaluation within **Trench 10** (CA 2014a).

### ***Geophysical Survey***

- 1.10 A geophysical survey of the site was undertaken (WYAS 2014) prior to the trial trench evaluation (CA 2014a) in order to further establish the sites archaeological potential. The results of the survey were used to target the locations of the trial trenches. A summary of the results is presented below and identified anomalies and interpretative results shown on Figure 2.
- 1.11 The geophysical survey identified anomalies in the main suggestive of an agricultural landscape as depicted on historical mapping as shown in the DBA. Demolition material from a former barn and anomalies locating former field boundaries were identified. No anomalies of archaeological potential were identified in the vicinity of the potential late prehistoric or Roman settlement enclosure within the south-east of the site, as had been identified within the DBA. However, anomalies suggestive of ditches, possibly forming an irregularly-shaped enclosure were identified towards the top of the hill at the north of the site.

### ***Trial trench evaluation results***

- 1.12 Prior to the approval of planning permission and commencement of the development a trial trench evaluation was undertaken at the site (CA 2014a) comprising the excavation of ten trenches (Trenches 1 to 10) (Fig. 2). The trial trench evaluation revealed correlation between the linear anomalies identified in the geophysical survey and the archaeological features identified within **Trench 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10** (see Figure 2). Further archaeological features were revealed during the

evaluation within **Trench 7, 8 and 9** that were not identified during the geophysical survey. The depth of colluvial deposits found in these locations measured up to 1.3m in depth. A potential Late Prehistoric or Roman period settlement enclosure, observed on aerial photographs and identified in the DBA (CA 2013) in the location of **Trench 1 and 2** was not identified. A large amorphous anomaly identified during the geophysical survey and visible on historic mapping within the location of **Trench 4** corresponded to the foundations and destruction debris of a 19th century AD building.

- 1.13 Excavation of the north/south orientated anomaly identified during the geophysical survey within **Trench 3** established a ditch (**303**) with a U-shaped profile, with gradually sloping sides and a flat base, with a width of up to 3.5m metres and a depth of 1.3m. No datable evidence was identified from its primary fill. A monolith sample taken from **Ditch 303** identified cultural material of flint flakes, possibly debitage, and fragments of charcoal from ditch fills **309, 308, 305 and 306**. The potential of the sediments sampled from the ditch in the monolith were identified as low both palaeoenvironmentally and archaeologically and the flint flakes can only be dated as broadly prehistoric.
- 1.14 Within **Trenches 6, 7 and 9** to the north of Trench 3 ditches **605, 705 and 917** also with U-shaped profiles and a width of up to 3.6m were identified on a similar north-south alignment to ditch **303**. Excavation of **Ditch 917 and 705** (Ditch **605** remained unexcavated) revealed a similar U-shaped ditch profile and it is possible that **Ditch 303, 605, 705 and 917** could be contemporary, defining a linear ditch system of prehistoric date. No datable evidence was identified from the primary fills from the linear ditch excavated within **Trench 3, 7 and 9**. However the upper tertiary fills of **Ditch 605 and 705** can be dated to the late prehistoric and 1st century AD respectively.
- 1.15 The evaluation report (CA 2014a) interpreted the morphology of the linear feature principally in Trench 3, its setting within the landscape, following the crest of an east facing slope as being similar to Neolithic linear earthworks dated to 3600BC at Hambleton Hills, North Yorkshire (English Heritage, 2011a). However, the interpretation that Ditch 303 could be contemporary with **Ditches 917, 605 and 705** and indicate a land division founded in the Neolithic period and extending into the late prehistoric and Romano-British periods cannot be proven. The morphology of the fills in Ditch **303** does not provide an indication that the ditch was open for a long



period of time, and without firm dating evidence cannot be seen as indicative of a certain period based on its morphology alone. The natural (i.e. the bedrock) at the site is generally composed of sand, and thus the fills of the ditch are generally sandy (i.e. they are derived from material eroded from the sides etc). Given the sandy nature of the fills, it would seem logical to suppose that the fills would have accumulated fairly rapidly since a ditch cut into sand would erode fairly easily. If the ditch would have been open for a very long period of time, there would be evidence for recutting or a fairly clear stabilisation surface, such as a palaeosol. There is however no evidence of this within Ditch **303**, so it is unlikely that the ditch would have been in use right the way from the Neolithic up to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period. With the upper tertiary fills of Ditch **605** and **705** being dated to the late prehistoric and 1st century AD respectively it is far more likely that these ditches along with Ditch **917** are contemporary with the establishment of an enclosure within the northern part of the site (**Field 1**) dating to the Late Iron Age to Romano-British periods. The enclosure was further identified in Trenches 8, 9 and 10 and corresponds to the geophysical survey evidence. Ditch **303** also lies c. 200m to the south of Ditch **917** and the geophysical survey evidence, which was found across the site to have a good degree of accuracy, does not indicate an anomaly that fully extends between these two areas, beyond a short section extending northwards for c.40m from Trench 3.

- 1.16 Between **Trench 3** and **9** the ground drops gradually eastwards into an area of woodland located to the east of the Site between **Field 1** and **2**. Substantial colluvial deposits were identified within **Trench 5, 6, 7** and **9** and these appear to continue eastwards towards a spring located at the west end of the wooded copse known as 'Ryder's Row'. It is possible that the colluvial deposits mask the line of the linear ditch between **Trench 3** and **9**.
- 1.17 The north-west/south-east orientated linear anomaly identified during the geophysical survey within **Trench 8** was confirmed as a substantial ditch during the evaluation. Excavation revealed **Ditch 810** to comprise a well-defined V-ditch profile measuring 3.8m wide and 1.7m in depth with evidence for possible bank erosion from the north. No datable material was identified within the primary fills and can only be dated to the Late Prehistoric period, with evidence for Late Iron Age pottery within the tertiary fills and 1st century AD Romano-British domestic activity accumulating within the upper ditch fill during the ditches final demise. Evidence was also identified for a continuation of **Ditch 810** south-east within **Trench 9**. This was

shown by the location of **Ditch 911** and **Ditch 909**. However their physical relationship was only identified in plan. Although these ditches were truncated by a later feature they appear to follow, truncate and incorporate the earlier linear boundary ditch system identified within **Trench 9**.

- 1.18 The morphology of the ditch located within **Trenches 8** and **9**, the location within its landscape setting, enclosing an area of high ground to the north within **Field 1**, and the possible re-use of an earlier linear boundary is considered to be suggestive of a late prehistoric defended enclosure typical throughout the British Isles (Cunliffe, 2005). **Ditch 1002** identified within **Trench 10** was not excavated but measured 3.2m wide and may be associated with the possible defended enclosure adding an internal element. A single 1st century AD potsherd was recovered from the upper fill. Very little evidence for internal features was identified within the projected area of the enclosure, such as hearths, pits or post-holes, except for a narrow linear ditch located west of **Ditch 705**, which is dated to the 1st century AD, and an undated **Pit 607** located west of **Ditch 605**. This lack of evidence could be due to extensive agricultural activity upon the high ground during the historic period, shown by the presence of plough scars and a land drain identified within **Trench 10**. Equally it could be that such features do not exist and the nature of the use of the possible enclosure or the purpose of the ditches and their interpretation remains open.
- 1.19 Artefacts associated with domestic activity dating to the Late Iron Age and 1st to 2nd centuries AD were recovered from the upper fills of **Ditch 605, 705, 822, 911** and **1002**. This included a large assemblage of Roman ceramic building material consisting of brick, tegula and box-flue tile fragments and a copper-alloy bow brooch, of uncertain type recovered from topsoil **700**, but for which a later 1st to 2nd century AD date is probable. Two soil samples were recovered from **Ditch 810** which contained a small assemblage of well-preserved oak charcoal. A soil sample was also taken from **Ditch 705** which identified charcoal indicating possible waste material from a domestic hearth.
- 1.20 Further Iron Age activity can be found within **Trench 5, 7** and **8**. **Ditch 515** corresponded to a north-east/south-west orientated geophysical anomaly. **Ditch 805** appears to run parallel with **Ditch 810**. **Ditch 823** was located centrally within **Trench 8** and perpendicular to **Ditch 810** on the south side. An undated small sub-oval pit was located between **Ditch 810** and **Ditch 805**. No datable artefactual evidence was recovered from these features. **Ditch 805** and **823** are likely to be

contemporary with each other, forming an enclosure with perhaps an internal element. **Ditch 805** post-dates a Late Iron Age colluvial deposit **803** and may fit within a Late Iron Age/Romano-British “transitional period”.

### ***Archaeological objectives***

1.21 The objectives of the archaeological works were:

- To monitor groundworks associated with the proposed development that may adversely affect buried archaeological remains comprising the inverter, control room and substation buildings, major cable trenching, cabling between panels (where this requires below ground excavation), the temporary access to be created and compound area.
- Where significant archaeological features and deposits are encountered that cannot be characterised within the confines of the groundwork areas to undertake limited excavation through extension of areas, so that the nature of any archaeological features and or deposits can be properly determined.
- To provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality
- Further identify and record archaeological features and deposits which can add to and enhance the results of the previously undertaken geophysical survey and evaluation.
- Identify where possible further evidence which may provide for a better understanding and dating of the significant land division boundary that was identified in the evaluation.
- Record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered.
- Assess the overall presence, survival and potential of structural and industrial remains
- Assess the overall presence, survival, condition, and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains.
- At the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

- 1.22 The investigations were undertaken with reference to the wider research aims as set out in the Solent Thames Research Framework. Based on the current understanding of the site as a result of the evaluation (CA 2014a) this will be with particular reference to; The Neolithic and Early Bronze Age (Bradley, 2010); The Roman Period (Fulford 2010) and Hampshire – The Roman Period: 50BC-AD 410 (Massey 2006).

### ***Methodology***

- 1.23 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2014b), and comprised of the monitoring of groundworks associated with the proposed development that could adversely affect buried archaeological remains. This comprised of the monitoring of the inverter, control room and substation buildings, major cable trenching, cabling between panels (where this required below ground excavation), and the temporary access to be created and compound area
- 1.24 An archaeologist from Cotswold Archaeology was present during all intrusive groundworks that could adversely affect buried archaeological remains.
- 1.25 Two mechanical excavators equipped with toothless buckets of 0.60m and 1m in width respectively were employed to undertake the excavation work.
- 1.26 During and following completion of the machine excavation the plan of excavated areas and any exposed surfaces or features were be cleaned by hand and planned and mapped using a Leica 1200 series SmartRover GPS.
- 1.27 All archaeological features revealed were planned and recorded in accordance with Technical Manual 1 Fieldwork Recording Manual (CA 2013) and detail set out in the WSI (CA 2014b). Each context was recorded on a pro-forma context sheet by written and measured description; principal deposits were recorded by drawn plans (scale 1:20 or 1:50, or electronically using Leica 1200 series GPS or Total Station (TST) as appropriate) and drawn sections (scale 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate). Detailed feature planning undertaken using GPS/TST was carried out in accordance with Technical Manual 4 Survey Manual (CA 2012). Photographs (digital colour) were taken as appropriate. and the photographic record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the principal features, finds excavated, and the Site as a whole.

- 1.28 The generated excavated spoil was monitored in order to recover artefacts and a metal detector was employed to enhance artefact recovery.
- 1.29 The archive and artefacts from the watching brief are currently held by CA at their offices in Andover. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Hampshire Cultural Trust under accession number WINCM: AY550 along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 2. RESULTS (FIG 2)

- 2.1 A series of cable trenches and substation/inverter footprints were excavated and monitored across the site, the nomenclature for which follows directly on from the evaluation trench numbering. Due to the extensive number of rods (supports for the solar panel frames) that had been rammed into the ground prior to excavation taking place it was not possible to excavate or extend outside of the footprint of the cable trenches or substation/inverter locations.
- 2.2 The excavation for the access roads and compound area comprised of topsoil stripping only and building/stoning up on the exposed surface. This work was initially monitored to establish the methodology by which this was undertaken to ensure that excavation did not go to a depth which could have adversely affected buried archaeological remains.
- 2.3 The natural geological substrate consisted of differing deposits of sand across the site containing varying concentrations of rounded pebbles at an average depth of 0.6m below present ground level. Sandy and silty clay was encountered to the east of the site in **Trench 17** and **18**. This was overlain in some trenches by greyish brown sand subsoil averaging 0.2m in thickness, which was in turn sealed by 0.3m of topsoil and turf. Two colluvial deposits were identified in **Trench 16** and a single colluvial layer within **Trench 17, 18** and **19**.
- 2.4 **Trench 12** and **Trench 20** contained no features or artefacts of archaeological significance. A large portion of **Trench 20** was located along the edge of a post

medieval sand pit and as such there is unlikely to be any survival of archaeological features in this area.

### ***Trench 11***

2.5 **Ditch 1102** (Fig 2 and 3) was located at the northern end of **Trench 11**, coincidentally at the junction of a turn in the cable trench. This feature was linear in plan and visible in section to the machined depth of 1m below present ground level. The ditch was not excavated beyond this depth on health and safety grounds, so it was not possible to determine its full depth and profile. However, as recorded the ditch had moderately sloping and largely symmetrical sides. Two fills were identified within Ditch **1102**, a light greyish brown fine sand lower fill **1103** and a mid greyish brown coarse sand upper fill **1104**. Although not fully excavated, it is likely that **1103** is a secondary fill and **1104** a tertiary fill. **Ditch 1102** was not previously identified from the evaluation or geophysical survey. It is possible that a minor linear anomaly, identified by the geophysical survey as a geological trend, corresponds to this feature. Fill **1103** contained flint tempered pottery and both worked and burnt flint, dating to the Middle to Late Bronze Age.

2.6 **Ditch 1105** (Fig 2 and 3) was fully visible in section having been truncated obliquely by **Trench 11**. It had steeply sloping sides with a concave, U-shaped base and contained secondary fill **1106** and tertiary fill **1107**. No primary fill was visible. No finds were recovered from **1105**, although the similarity of fills with **Ditch 1102** perhaps suggests a broadly similar Middle to Late Bronze Age date. Ditch **1105** was further identified in additional trenching to be the same feature as **1303**, **1402** and **1503**. This ditch was previously unknown, having not been identified during the geophysical survey and hence not targeted by the evaluation.

### ***Trench 13***

2.7 **Ditch 1303** (Fig 2) was located towards the eastern end of **Trench 13**, directly on the intersection with **Trench 11**. This resulted in heavy and irregular truncation during machining, meaning it was not possible to perform more than a cursory recording. A single mid greyish brown coarse sand fill **1304**, was identified. **Ditch 1303** was additionally identified as feature **1105**, **1402** and **1503**. Topsoil **1300** contained three fragments of Romano British ceramic building material.

### ***Trench 14***

- 2.8 **Ditch 1402** (Figs 2 and 4) was identified at the western end of **Trench 14**, visible in section to a machined depth of 0.8m. The single fill identified **1403**, consisted of a mid greyish brown coarse sand with abundant inclusions of rounded pebbles. The alignment of **1402** confirmed that it was the same feature as **1105**, **1303** and **1503**.

### ***Trench 15***

- 2.9 Trench 15 (Fig 2) contained ditch **1503**, the continuation of ditches **1105**, **1303** and **1402**. A single fill **1504**, was identified from which no finds were recovered.

### ***Trench 16***

- 2.10 **Ditch 1605** (Figs 2 and 4) was identified at the northern end of **Trench 16**, corresponding with a known north west-south east geophysical anomaly and the unexcavated **Ditch 1002** identified during the evaluation. The ditch was linear in plan with concave, moderately sloping sides. It was largely visible in section but only excavated to a machined depth of 1m resulting in the full profile and nature of the ditch base not being fully determined. Ditch **1605** contained a lower, possibly secondary fill **1606**, and an additional secondary fill **1607**. Fill **1607** contained a good assemblage of late Romano British pottery dated to the third-fourth century and two fragments of ceramic building material. A greyish brown sandy silt tertiary fill **1608** was also identified. Given that ditch **1002** to the south east remained unexcavated during the evaluation, the locating of the possible continuation of the ditch during the investigation has provided important information about its character, size and date. This is especially the case as during the evaluation a pot sherd recovered from the surface of ditch **1002** was dated to the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. Investigation of Ditch **1605** has shown that the ditch was going out of use in the late 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD.
- 2.11 Two deposits of colluvium **1603** and **1609**, were identified in Trench 16. **1603** consisted of a sterile mid greyish brown clayey silt only visible in the south of **Trench 16** overlain by **1609**. Topsoil **1600** contained a worked flint flake of broadly prehistoric date and two fragments of Romano British ceramic building material.
- 2.12 **Trench 16** bisected evaluation **Trench 8**, although this was only visible as an area of recent disturbance and it was not possible to identify anything further than the features identified in **Trench 8**.

### ***Trench 17***

- 2.13 No features of archaeological significance were identified in **Trench 17**, although colluvium layer **1701**, averaging 0.7m in thickness, contained charcoal fragments, Prehistoric and Romano British pottery and CBM. Post medieval brick however, was also recovered from colluvium layer **1701**.
- 2.14 The geophysical survey identified a north-south linear anomaly subsequently located during the evaluation as **Ditch 705**. **Trench 17** crossed this anomaly, although the extremely oblique angle at which it did so, coupled with the narrow confines of the cable trench, meant that it could not be further identified in **Trench 17**.
- 2.15 **Trench 17** crossed evaluation **Trench 6** and **7**, identified in section as areas of recent disturbance.
- 2.16 Topsoil deposit **1700** contained a significant number of CBM fragments, including imbrex, dating to the Romano British period. These were noted to be particularly concentrated at the extreme northern end of the trench. Topsoil **1700** also contained Prehistoric and Romano British pottery, including three sherds of Hampshire grog-tempered ware, dating to the late third-fourth century.

### ***Trench 19***

- 2.17 **Trench 19** contained no features of archaeological interest but clipped the entire eastern edge of evaluation **Trench 5**. The recent backfilling of this trench created instability of **Trench 19** in this area resulting in immediate collapse of the trench sides. This meant it was not possible to locate a continuation of **Ditch 505** or **515**.
- 2.18 Moderate quantities of Post Medieval ceramic building material were noted within topsoil deposit **1900**, although these were not retained. They are certain to relate to the Post Medieval farm building less than 100m to the west as identified in **Trench 4** during the evaluation, having likely been spread through the topsoil by ploughing.



### 3. FINDS

3.1 The following section includes the combined finds results from the trial trench evaluation (CA 2014a) and watching brief investigation to provide a better overview of the results without recourse to the evaluation report. Finds recovered from the evaluation and investigation includes pottery, ceramic building material and worked flint. Codings for Roman fabrics, where possible, correspond to those defined in the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998).

#### *Pottery: Prehistoric*

3.2 A total of 40 unfeathered bodysherds of pottery, recovered from eleven deposits (Table 1), was identified as broadly late prehistoric (the period spanning the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age) in date. The fabrics represented were flint-tempered and quartz sand-and-flint tempered. Of these, nine from ditch fill **520** and colluvium **803** were considered likely to date to the Iron Age on the basis of inclusion coarseness. Two sherds in a handmade grog-tempered fabric were also recorded in subsoil **1701**. Dating across the Middle to Late Bronze Age is suggested for the pottery from ditch fill **1103**, which was recovered in association with worked flint of probable Bronze Age date.

#### *Iron Age/Early Roman transition*

3.3 Ditch fill **713** produced three unfeathered bodysherds of pottery in quartz sand-tempered and quartz sand-and-flint tempered fabrics in 'transitional' (Late Iron Age to Early Roman) types, which span the early to middle 1st century AD.

#### *Roman*

3.4 A rimsherd from a North Gaul mortarium, manufactured from the mid to late 1st century AD (Rigby 1982, 159), was recorded in ditch fill **822**.

3.5 Ditch fill **912** produced a single bodysherd from an amphora of uncertain classification. This is likely to date to the 1st to 3rd centuries.

3.6 A total of 20 sherds of greyware was recorded in seven deposits. Identifiable forms included: neckless, everted rim jars from ditch fills 706 and 822; a reeded-rim bowl or dish from fill 822; and a necked, lid-seated jar from ditch fill 912. The latter form probably dates to the late 1st to 2nd centuries and the reeded-rim vessel to the late 1st to 3rd centuries.

- 3.7 A total of 19 sherds of pottery in a grog-tempered fabric, which typically dates to the 1st century AD, were recovered from four deposits.
- 3.8 Pottery broadly dateable to the Romano British period includes: six unfeathered bodysherds in a black-firing, sand-tempered fabric recovered from three deposits; 11 unfeathered bodysherds in a fine, whiteware fabric from ditch fill 708; and an unfeathered bodysherd in a fine, oxidised fabric from subsoil 800.
- 3.9 Ditch fill **914** produced three sherds of pottery in a grog-and-flint tempered fabric, including a rimsherd from a neckless jar with everted rim. This pottery type is mid to late 1st century in date
- 3.10 A bodysherd of denuded (i.e. no slip remains) central Gaulish samian (LEZ SA2) was recorded in ditch fill **1607**. This pottery type was exported to Britain during the 2nd century (Webster 1996, 2–3).
- 3.11 Ditch fill **1607** produced seven sherds of New Forest Colour-coated wear (NFO CC), which was manufactured at a number of kilns in the New Forest during the late 3rd to 4th centuries (Fulford 1975, 39-40). Included was one rimsherd from a flanged bowl in imitation of a samian Drag. 38.
- 3.12 A total of 14 sherds of Hampshire Grog-tempered ware were recorded in ditch fill **1607**, topsoil **1700** and subsoil **1701**. This ware type was produced during the late 3rd and 4th centuries at sites including the north of the Isle of Wight (Millett 1986, 81; Tomber and Dore 1998, 139).
- 3.13 Pottery of broad Romano-British date includes: three unfeathered bodysherds of greyware from ditch fill **1607** and subsoil **1701**; and single, unfeathered bodysherds in oxidised fabrics from ditch fill **1607** and topsoil **1700**. By association it could be suggested that these bodysherds also date to the 3rd and 4th centuries.
- 3.14 The more closely dateable Roman pottery from the watching brief investigation was mostly later in date (late 3rd to 4th centuries) than much of that recovered from the evaluation (Cotswold Archaeology project number 770092). The evaluation suggested that the site may have been a transitional Late Iron Age / Romano British site extending into the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD before falling out of use. The results of the investigation would appear to show that activity at the site extends across much of

the Roman period although whether there was a hiatus in activity cannot be clearly demonstrated. The results of the watching brief investigation may also indicate that pottery broadly dated in the evaluation to the 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries could indeed date to the later rather than earlier Roman period.

*Post-medieval/modern*

- 3.8 A single bodysherd of refined whiteware, dating to the late 18th to 19th centuries, was recorded in topsoil 900. Single sherds in a flowerpot fabric of 19th to 20th century date were recovered from topsoil deposits 1400 and 1700.

*Ceramic building material*

- 3.9 A total of 78 fragments of Roman ceramic building material was recorded in twelve deposits. Identifiable fragments included: brick from subsoil 702, and ditch fills 822, 905, 912 and 1607 and topsoil 1700 and subsoil 1701; box flue tile from ditch fills 606, 706 and 822; imbrex from topsoil 1700; tegulae from fills 706 and 822 and other tile from fills 706 and 822, topsoil deposits 1300 and 1700, and subsoil 1701.
- 3.10 Fragments of ceramic building material of late medieval or post-medieval date, totalling 62 fragments, were recovered from thirteen deposits. These included: brick from topsoil 100, 200, 400, 800 and 1400 and subsoil 1701; peg tile from topsoil 900; flat roof tile from topsoil 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 700, 800, 900, 1000, 1700, 1800 and 1900; and a fragment of roof furniture (a finial or louvre fragment) from topsoil 200

*Worked flint*

- 3.11 A total of 46 worked flint items was recovered from 14 deposits, in addition to a total of 379 pieces of burnt, unworked flint weighing a total of 2.770kg, from 23 deposits. Of the latter, 632g was recovered from bulk soil sampling of five deposits
- 3.12 The worked flints comprised 34 flakes, two chips and eight cores/core fragments. There were no retouched tools, although several flakes displayed evidence of utilisation. Almost all were residual items, recovered from topsoil or from deposits containing Iron Age or Roman dated material. All of the cores featured multiple working platforms and had been used to produce flakes. The unsystematic working of these cores, along with the chunky proportions of many of the flakes, suggests that a Bronze Age date is most likely for the bulk of the worked flints recovered. The flakes from fill 1103 were mostly thick and one was made on a reused, corticated flake. A date in the Bronze Age is most likely for the flints from this deposit, which is

supported by the associated pottery. These flints compare with those recovered from the evaluation

#### *Glass*

- 3.13 Subsoil 100 produced a single fragment of blue-coloured, modern vessel glass.

#### *Clay tobacco pipe*

- 3.14 Single fragments of clay tobacco pipe stem were recovered from subsoil 200 and 700. These were in use from the late 16th to late 19th centuries.

#### *Metal objects*

- 3.15 Topsoil 700 produced a fragment from a copper-alloy bow brooch, of uncertain type, but for which a later 1st to 2nd century date is probable. Only the bow portion remained and it could not be determined whether the mechanism was sprung or hinged.
- 3.16 A fragmentary, pegged, leaf-shaped copper-alloy spearhead, missing a large portion of the blade, was recovered from topsoil deposit 800. A portion of the wooden shaft has been preserved within the socket. The presence of the wooden shaft and the good surface condition of the spearhead suggest that it may have been recently disturbed from a sealed deposit. Pegged spearheads were manufactured during the Late Bronze Age and a similar (but complete) find from Brockenhurst, Hampshire has been dated to 1150-800 BC (<http://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/604655>).
- 3.17 A total of 22 iron objects were recorded in nine deposits. The majority were nails, but also included were a disc from topsoil 800 and several unclassifiable fragments.

## **4. PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL**

- 4.1 During the course of the watching brief investigation it was not possible to retrieve suitable bulk samples and the results of the evaluation are therefore reproduced below to provide context for the discussion of the overall results without recourse to the evaluation report. Four environmental samples (65 litres of soil) were retrieved from four deposits during the course of the evaluation (CA 2014a) with the intention of recovering evidence of industrial or domestic activity and material for radiocarbon

dating. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2). A monolith sample was also taken from Trench 3 in order to establish the geoarchaeological potential of the large ditch (**303**) identified within this part of the site.

### ***Late Prehistoric***

- 4.2 Two samples were recovered from tertiary fills **813 (sample 1105)** and **820 (sample 1106)** within **Ditch 810**. Fill **820** contained no plant macrofossil or charcoal material. Fill **813** did not contain any plant remains, however did contain a small assemblage of moderately well-preserved oak (*Quercus*) charcoal. Oak has a high calorific value so burns efficiently and at high temperatures. Its sole presence within a context is often associated with activities that require high temperatures such as metal working or cremating human remains. The absence of metal working residues or cremated remains means that it is unlikely these activities were taking place and the charcoal may simply represent a single oak branch that had been burnt.

### ***Undated***

- 4.3 Secondary fill **309** was recovered from undated **Ditch 303**. No plant macrofossil material was recovered however the charcoal was moderately abundant and was identified as well-preserved alder/hazel (*Alnus glutinosa/Corylus avellana*) fragments. The absence of any dating evidence or other ecofactual/artefactual material means no further interpretative information can be gained from this sample other than the use of alder/hazel wood as fuel.
- 4.2 Tertiary fill **716** within **Ditch 705** contained no plant macrofossil material. Charcoal was however moderately abundant and well preserved consisting of maple (*Acer campestre*), alder/hazel, oak, ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and hawthorn/rowan/crab apple (*Crataegus monogyna/Sorbus/Malus sylvestris*) fragments. Where a mixture of species are identified, this often relates to waste from a domestic hearth although the absence of any ecofactual or artefactual material means this assertion cannot be confirmed.
- 4.3 Upper fill **807** of undated **Ditch 805** contained no plant macrofossil or charcoal material.

### ***The geoarchaeological assessment of the monolith sample***

- 4.4 A single monolith sample measuring 0.90 x 0.06 x 0.06m was taken from the base of a 4m wide by 2m deep ditch, **Ditch 303**, from **Trench 3** a summary of the results is presented below. The geoarchaeological work outlined here was undertaken and written by ARCA, University of Winchester, Hampshire (Appendix C).

### ***Geology***

- 4.5 The British Geological Survey (BGS) maps the site as lying on the junction between the Nursling Sand Member and the Whitecliff Sand Member of the London Clay Formation which dates to the Ypresian Age of the Palaeogene 49.5-54.8 million years ago. The London Clay comprises poorly laminated, blue-grey or grey-brown, silty clay with some sand. Thin beds of carbonate concretions, pyrite, shell and sand can occur and occasionally gravel beds of black rounded flint. Neither the lithology of the Nursling Sand Member nor the Whitecliff Sand Member are described by the BGS, but as their names indicate they will be mappable sandy facies of the London Clay Formation (BGS, 2014).

### ***Monolith Stratigraphy***

- 4.6 Table 1 - Appendix C reports the stratigraphy recorded in the monolith sample:

The relationship of the depths of the monolith sample to context numbers is as follows:

<b>Depth (m)</b>	<b>Context</b>		
0.00-0.23	<b>(306)</b>	4th fill	(Uppermost)
0.23-0.42	<b>(305)</b>	3rd fill	(Tertiary)
0.42-0.52	<b>(308)</b>	2nd fill	(Secondary)
0.52-0.60	<b>(309)</b>	1st fill	(Primary)
0.60-0.90	<b>(302)</b>	Natural	Bedrock

- 4.7 The ditch deposit was a well sorted fine to medium sand which shows a cultural input at 0.59m and above. There was no evidence of a prolonged period of stabilization within the deposits which suggests they accumulated fairly rapidly. The ditch would not have held standing water due to the porous nature of the underlying Nursling and Whitecliff Sand Members. This implies that hydrology was not a factor

in its construction. Under ordinary circumstances, the sorting and homogeneity of the sand would imply a continuous deposition under a relatively high energy fluvial regime. In this case though, the source of the sand is the banks and environs and it need not have travelled far. The sorting of the sand, too, may well reflect a lithological characteristic of the Nursling and Whitecliff Sand Members rather than a product of fluvial transport during the Holocene. Nor does it seem necessary to invoke the need for a significant body of moving water to entrain the sand particles, sheet wash from storms would be sufficient. The finest sand fraction may also contain an Aeolian component (see Table 1 - Appendix C)

- 4.6 The coarse grained nature of the ditch deposits - it is sand-sized rather than clay-sized- precludes the presence of microscopic plant remains (pollen) even though the sediments are siliceous and compatible with their preservation. Bioturbation in the upper fraction and the porosity of the sediments auger against the presence of waterlogged macroscopic plant remains, none of which were identified to be present in any case. Charcoal is the only ecofact recorded and then in only a very small amount. There is evidence of human activity in the form of granular to fine pebble-sized flint fragments. These are very angular and are too large to have been transported with the sediments which implies that their source is the immediate locality of the ditch, however, they occur only infrequently.
- 4.7 The morphology of the fills in Ditch **303** does not provide an indication that the ditch was open for a long period of time, and without firm dating evidence cannot be seen as indicative of a certain period based on its morphology alone. The natural at the site is generally composed of sand, and thus the fills of the ditch are generally sandy, i.e. they are derived from material eroded from the sides. Given the sandy nature of the fills, it would seem logical to suppose that the fills would have accumulated fairly rapidly since a ditch cut into sand would erode fairly easily. If the ditch would have been open for a very long period of time, there would be evidence for recutting or a fairly clear stabilisation surface, such as a palaeosol. There is however no evidence of this within Ditch **303**, so it is unlikely that the ditch would have been in use right the way from the Neolithic up to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period.
- 4.8 It was considered that the palaeoenvironmental potential of the sediments sampled from the ditch was low and the archaeological potential considered moderate to low.

The bedrock into which the ditch was cut is of Palaeogene age and considered to have no palaeoenvironmental or archaeological potential

## 5. DISCUSSION

5.1 The trial trench evaluation on the site had already identified features of an archaeological significance within the area of the solar farm development, with a particular concentration in the northern part of the site. The watching brief investigation during the course of the groundworks identified a number of archaeological remains including hitherto unknown features. It confirmed the findings of the evaluation in that the archaeology is focussed towards the northern end of the site. The features identified were of a similar nature to those recorded during the evaluation but have broadened the general understanding of the site layout. The location of the observed groundworks has demonstrated that the archaeological remains are not present towards the eastern or western boundaries of the site and are concentrated in the northern field, in a manner which corresponds to the topography of the site. It is clear that, from the dating of the pottery that the site has seen a long period of occupation from the Middle to Late Bronze Age to the Late Romano British period. The topography is such that it remained a logical place to have a defended rural settlement, the hill in the centre of the site providing a natural defensive position which encourages the circumvallation by ditches. The presence of a spring at the bottom of the hill would have also provided an essential source of water. The presence of Romano-British pottery and substantial CBM is possibly indicative of a building, perhaps a villa or at the very least, a moderate farmstead. Topographically, it seems highly probable that such a building is beyond the northern boundary of the site, perhaps on the southward facing slope immediately to the north or towards the top of the slope where it may have been quarried away during the excavation of the sandpit quarry in the post medieval period. The ditches identified are likely to be within the periphery of such a building forming boundaries, enclosures or land divisions.

5.2 The newly identified features, both ditch **1102** and **1105**, **1402**, **1303**, **1503** correspond with minor linear anomalies on the geophysical survey plot, which were previously interpreted as geological. A possible reason for this is the nature of the geology in the western half of the northern field; a coarse sand with extremely abundant rounded pebbles which is dramatically different from the almost pure sand



across the remainder of the site. It is possible that the nature of the geology had an adverse effect on the geophysical survey results, meaning that these features were previously unidentified or misinterpreted.

- 5.3 It seems likely that **Ditch 1102** forms part of a substantial boundary for settlement to the north. Its close proximity to the large enclosure ditch identified by the geophysical survey and evaluation in Trench 8 (ditch **810**) suggests that perhaps the western boundary of the enclosure was further to the west than previously thought. Although, given the mid to late Bronze Age date of pottery in Ditch **1102**, it is possible that the substantial outer ditch of the settlement was re-dug and re-positioned during the Iron Age/Romano British period. No continuation of Ditch **1102** was identified in **Trench 20** and it is assumed that the ditch turned in a northerly direction, closely following the contours of the hill and was subsequently truncated by the excavation of the post medieval sandpit quarry.
- 5.4 The ditch identified in **Trench 11, 13, 14** and **15** is likely to have formed a minor boundary on the periphery of the settlement, perhaps of a field or small enclosure. The lack of dating evidence from this feature however means it is not possible to indicate which period of occupation it dates from.
- 5.5 The number of sherds of Romano-British pottery within **Ditch 1605**, coupled with the significant number of pottery and ceramic building material fragments recovered from the north of **Trench 17**, indicate that the area just to the north of **Trench 16** and **17** is likely to be the focus of settlement in the area.
- 5.6 The fieldwork at Field House Farm can be seen to contribute towards the 'Solent Thames Framework Research Agenda for The Roman Period' (Fulford 2010; Massey 2006), in particular the following:
- 5.7 *Patterns of development and abandonment:* the (differential) development of 'villas', representing a concentration of resources in the countryside, suggests an associated re-organisation of settlement and the wider, associated (managed) landscape. Preliminary survey of the evidence on chalk and gravel suggests that the first centuries BC and AD were a period of increased rural settlement, but that this was followed by settlement desertion in the first/second century AD. At the end of the Roman period the lack of dated material culture has led to the assumption of widespread settlement desertion after the early fifth century AD.

- 5.8 The material evidence from the site at Field House Farm indicates that the above suggested desertion of settlement in the first/second century may not have occurred and occupation continued, into the late third/fourth century. However, it is also likely that there could have been a hiatus between these two periods with a reestablishment of occupation in a favourable location. It does however, seem to support the theory that the settlement had fallen into disuse by the late fourth/fifth century.
- 5.9 The investigation of a low status Romano-British settlement is of both local and regional significance (Massey 2006). It is clear that the settlement pattern changed and evolved during a number of centuries from the Late Bronze Age to Late Roman period. Of particular interest is the evolution from the Late Iron Age to Early Roman period and how this relates to wider changes in the socio-political system and its location in the hinterland of Roman Winchester. Any future investigation in the vicinity of the site and potential locating of dwellings or other structures may help to clarify this. It is possible that the site underwent a period of 'Romanisation' in either site layout, social practice and/or material culture, as the same parcel of land was handed down through a number of generations.
- 5.10 The date and nature of the abandonment of the site needs to be considered. Although the site has a long history of development, it is uncertain whether settlement stopped in the third or carried on into the fourth century AD. There is certainly no evidence for late Roman occupation into the fifth century.
- 5.11 It also remains unclear whether occupation of the site was continuous throughout the Roman period or whether there was a hiatus. The trial trench evaluation appeared to indicate that activity did not extend beyond the mid-2<sup>nd</sup> century AD and that this activity relates to the establishment or reestablishment of an Iron Age enclosure ditch following the natural topography of the hilltop in the northern part of the site. The evidence dating to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries is almost wholly confined to Ditch 1605 aside from topsoil finds in Trench 17. This may be an indication that this ditch represents a reoccupation of the hill top rather than an indication of continuous occupation. The evidence already suggests that the northern part of the site was seen as a favourable location from the Middle Bronze Age through to the late Roman period, but there is no suggestion that this was continuous and highly likely that periods of hiatus may have occurred.

- 5.12 No further evidence of the ditch (**303**) identified within Trench 3 could be identified, which may have been able to provide a date for the establishment of this feature, its extent or relationship to ditches identified in Trenches 6, 7 and 9 to the north. The overall results of the fieldwork undertaken at the site cannot therefore determine whether a land boundary became established in the Neolithic period and extended into the Late Iron Age / Romano-British periods. On the basis of morphology alone it has been concluded that it is not possible to date Ditch 303 and dating from within ditches in Trenches 6 and 7 suggests that these features are likely to belong solely to the Late Iron Age / Romano-British enclosure established within the northern part of the site. The geophysical survey evidence would also appear to suggest that a ditch extending from Trench 3 to Trench 9 approximately 200m to the north does not exist.
- 5.13 The extensive programme of archaeological investigation undertaken at the site has contributed significantly to the archaeological resource in this part of Hampshire. It has been able to identify possible hitherto unrecorded settlement activity dating from the Bronze Age period through to the late 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century Roman-British period. The activity identified particularly in regard of the Roman period would appear to be suggestive of a defended enclosure and series of boundaries with evidence of settlement activity. This may possibly be a farmstead or villa, although the evidence would appear to suggest that the actual settlement or building most probably lies outside of the site to the north. Beyond the recovery of a good amount of building material no actual evidence of settlement or industrial features such as pits, hearths, or features such as postholes or walls which would indicate structural remains was identified. This was also reflected in the palaeoenvironmental results from the evaluation, which were unable to identify evidence indicative of hearth activity or metal working residues.

## **6. CA PROJECT TEAM**

Watching brief Fieldwork was undertaken by Sam Wilson and Joe Whelan. Evaluation fieldwork was undertaken by Matt Nichol, assisted by CA site personnel, Chris Ellis, Colin Forrestal and Jon Kaines. This report was written by Sam Wilson. The illustrations were prepared by Leo Heatley. The archive has been compiled by Sam Wilson and Matt Nichol, and prepared for deposition by Adam Howard. The project was managed for CA by Damian De Rosa.

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS TRENCHES 1 TO 20

### Trial Trench Evaluation - Trenches 1 to 10

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>50	>1.8	>0.2
1	101	Layer		Subsoil/ Colluvium	Mid yellowish brown sandy/silty clay	.50	>1.8	>0.5
1	102	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish orange sand	>50	>1.8	>0.7
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>50	>1.8	>0.2
2	201	Layer		Subsoil/ Colluvium	Mid yellowish brown sandy/silty clay	>50	>1.8	>0.7
2	202	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish orange sand	>50	.1.8	>0.9
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay	>20	1.8+	>0.3
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Light brownish grey silty clay	>20	1.8+	>0.65
3	302	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown sand	>20	1.8+	>1.85
3	303	Cut		Cut of ditch	U-Shaped ditch with gradual to steep sides and flat base	6+	3.54	>0.95
3	304	Fill	303	4th fill of ditch	Light greyish sand	6+	>0.6	>0.3
3	305	Fill	303	5th fill of ditch	Dark grey silty sand	6+	>0.8	>0.35
3	306	Fill	303	6th fill of ditch	Light greyish yellow silty sand	6+	>1.6	>0.50
3	307	Fill	303	4th fill of ditch	Mid yellowish brown silty sand	6+	>2.2	>0.5
3	308	Fill	303	3rd fill of ditch	Light grey yellowish sand	6+	>3	>0.2
3	309	Fill	303	2nd fill of ditch	Dark grey silty sand	6+	>2.7	>0.45
3	310	Fill	303	1st fill of ditch	Mid yellowish brown silty sand	6+	>0.65	0.3
1	400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay	>50	1.8	>0.15
1	401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>50	1.8	>0.39
2	402	Layer		Natural	Mid grey sand/gravel	50	1.8	>0.54
2	403	WALL 1		Brick wall – external yard wall	East/west orientated frogged and unfrogged red brick wall construction bonded with yellowish sand mortar	1.8+	>0.33	>0.28
4	404	WALL 2		Brick wall located north and south with modern concrete infill – main building	East/west orientated frogged and unfrogged red brick wall construction bonded with yellowish sand mortar	1.8+	>4	>0.54
4	405	Cut		Cut of pit	Unexcavated circular pit		>0.8	
4	406	Cut		Cut of ditch	Unexcavated linear field boundary ditch, east/west orientated	1.8+	>1.4	
4	407	Fill	406	Fill of ditch	Mid brown silty clay	1.8+	>1.4	
4	408	Cut		Cut of ditch	Unexcavated linear field boundary ditch, east/west orientated	1.8+	>1.1	
4	409	Fill	408	Fill of ditch	Mid brown silty clay	1.8+	>1.1	
4	410	Fill	405	Fill of pit	Unexcavated pit fill, dark greyish black silty clay containing a red brick fragment of similar		>0.8	

					composition to WALL 1 & 2			
4	411	Deposit		Yard surface/ destruction deposit, located between WALL 1 & 2	Mid to dark blackish brown silty clay with re- deposited natural gravel, post-medieval CBM fragments and charcoal	1.8+	>6	>0.2
4	412	Deposit		Trackway - metalled surface butting south side of WALL 2	Unexcavated compact light brown clay with re- deposited gravel	1.8+	>2.5	>0.2
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown silty sand	>50	>1.8	>0.26
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Light brownish brown sandy clay	>50	>1.8	
5	502	Layer		Colluvium	Mid brown silty sand	14+	>1.8	
5	503	Layer		Colluvium	Mid brown silty sand	14+	>1.8	
5	504	Layer		Natural	Light orangey brown silty sand	>50	>1.8	
5	505	Cut		Cut of ditch	U-Shaped ditch with gradual sides and flat base	1.8+	0.78	>0.22
5	506	Fill	505	Fill of ditch	Light yellowish brown silty sand	1.8+	0.78	>0.22
5	507	Cut		Tree-throw	Bowl shaped tree throw	1.44	>1.15	>0.49
5	508	Fill	507	3rd fill of tree- throw	Light yellowish brown sandy silt		>1.15	>0.2
5	509	Fill	507	2nd fill of tree- throw	Yellowish white sand		>1.1	>0.2
5	510	Fill	507	1st fill of tree- throw	Light orangey brown clayey silt		>0.8	>0.09
5	511	Cut		Tree-throw	Curvilinear with irregular sides and base	>2.6	>0.96	>0.3
5	512	Fill	511	3rd fill of tree- throw	Mid brown silty sand		>0.6	>0.3
5	513	Fill	511	2nd fill of tree- throw	Light brown sandy silt		>0.96	>0.3
5	514	Fill	511	1st fill of tree- throw	Light orangey brown sandy silt		>0.52	>0.22
5	515	Cut		Cut of ditch	U-Shaped ditch	2.7+	>1.7	>0.73
5	516	Fill	515	1st fill of ditch	Light yellowish brown silty sand		>1.3	>0.3
5	517	Fill	515	1st fill of ditch	Light brown sandy clay		>0.4	>0.25
5	518	Fill	515	2nd fill of ditch	Mid brown sandy clay		>1.3	>0.25
5	519	Fill	515	2nd fill of ditch	Light yellowish brown silty sandy clay		>1	>0.3
5	520	Fill	515	3rd fill of ditch	Mid brown sandy clay		>1.5	>0.25
5	521	Fill	515	3rd fill of ditch	Mid brown silty sand		>1.3	>0.28
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown silty sandy clay	>50	>1.8	>0.22
6	601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt	>50	>1.8	>0.16
6	602	Layer		Colluvium	Light greyish brown silty sand	1.8+	>3.6	>0.22
6	603	Layer		Natural	Mid orangey brown sandy silt	>50	>1.8	>0.12
6	604	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown sandy silt	>50	>1.8	>0.12
6	605	Cut		Cut of ditch	Unexcavated ditch	1.8+	3.6	>0.22
6	606	Fill	605	Unexcavated upper fill of ditch	Light greyish brown silty sandy clay	1.8+	>7.5	>0.22
6	607	Cut		Cut of pit	East/west orientated sub-oval pit with u- shaped profile, gradual sides and a flat base	>2.27	>1.13	>0.62
6	608	Fill	607	Fill of pit	Light yellowish brown silty sand	>2.27	>1.13	>0.62
6	609	Layer		Colluvium	Light orangey brown silty clay	1.8+	30+	>0.36

6	610	Cut		Re-cut of pit	East/west orientated sub-oval re-cut of pit with u-shaped profile, steep sides and a flat base	>1.3	>0.7	>0.33
6	611	Fill	610	Fill of pit	Mid yellowish brown silty sand	>1.3	>0.7	>0.33
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown silty sandy clay	>40	>1.8	
7	701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt	>40	>1.8	
7	702	Layer		Colluvium	Light greyish brown silty sand	>40	>1.8	
7	703	Layer		Colluvium	Light orangey brown silty clay	>40	>1.8	
7	704	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish brown sandy silt	>40	>1.8	
7	705	Cut		U-Shaped ditch	North/south orientated ditch with u-shaped profile with gradual sides and flat base	1.8+	>3.1	>1.3
7	706	Fill	705	9th fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty sand	1.8+	>2.5	>0.2
7	707	Cut		U-Shaped ditch	North/south orientated ditch with gradual sides and concave base	1.8+	>0.9	>0.4
7	708	Fill	707	2nd fill of ditch	Light greyish brown sandy clay	1.8+	>0.75	>0.25
7	709	Fill	707	3rd fill of ditch	Light yellowish brown silty clay	1.8+	>0.3	>0.15
7	710	Fill	707	1st fill of ditch	Light orangey brown sandy silt	1.8+	>0.68	>0.12
7	711	Fill	705	8th fill of ditch	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt	1.8+	>1	>0.15
7	712	Fill	705	7th fill of ditch	Dark blueish grey sandy clay	1.8+	>0.5	>0.06
7	713	Fill	705	6th fill of ditch	Light yellowish brown sandy silt	1.8+	>0.8	>0.15
7	714	Fill	705	5th fill of ditch	Light brown sandy silt	1.8+	>0.9	>0.1
7	715	Fill	705	4th fill of ditch	Light brown silty sandy clay	1.8+	>1.25	>0.1
7	716	Fill	705	3rd fill of ditch	Light brown silty sand	1.8+	>0.9	>0.05
7	717	Fill	705	2nd fill of ditch	Light blueish grey silty sand	1.8+	>0.3	>0.15
7	718	Fill	705	1st fill of ditch	Light yellowish brown sandy silt	1.8+	>0.7	>0.1
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay	>50	1.8+	>0.28
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown silty clay	>50	1.8+	>0.61
8	802	Layer		Colluvium	Dark greyish brown silty clay	>20	>1.8	>0.94
8	803	Layer		Colluvium	Dark greyish brown silty clay	>10	>1.8	>1.2
8	804	Layer		Natural	Mid brownish yellow silty clay and sand	>50	1.8+	>1.3
8	805	Cut		Cut of v-ditch	North-west/south-east orientated ditch, v-ditch with gradual sides	>2.7	>1.4	>0.6
8	806	Fill	805	1st fill of ditch	Mid yellowish brown silty clay	>2.7	>1.15	>0.3
8	807	Fill	805	2nd fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>2.7	>1.25	>0.3
8	808	Cut		Cut of pit	Unexcavated sub-circular pit	>0.4	>0.25	
8	809	Fill	808	Fill of pit	Mid yellowish brown silty clay	>0.4	>0.25	
8	810	Cut		Cut of v-ditch	North-west/south-east orientated v-ditch with gradual sides	7+	>3.8	>1.7
8	811	Fill	810	1st fill of ditch	Light orangey brown sand	2+	>0.5	>0.25



8	812	Fill	810	2nd fill of ditch	Light orangey brown sand	2+	>3.8	>0.4
8	813	Fill	810	3rd fill of ditch	Light orangey grey sandy silt	2+	>1.1	>0.3
8	814	Fill	810	4th fill of ditch	Light orangey brown silty sand	2+	>2	>0.5
8	815	Fill	810	5th fill of ditch	Light orangey grey silty sand	2+	>1.1	>0.15
8	816	Fill	810	6th fill of ditch	Light brownish grey silty silty sandy clay	2+	>0.9	>0.3
8	817	Fill	810	7th fill of ditch	Light orangey brown silty sandy clay	2+	>1.7	>0.2
8	818	Fill	810	8th fill of ditch	Light greyish brown silty sandy clay	2+	>0.9	>0.15
8	819	Fill	810	9th fill of ditch	Light greyish brown silty sandy clay	2+	>1.4	>0.18
8	820	Fill	810	10th fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty sandy clay	2+	>1.2	>0.15
8	821	Fill	810	11th fill of ditch	Light orangey brown silty sandy clay	2+	>2.2	>0.3
8	822	Fill	810	12th fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty sandy clay	7+	>1.9	>0.1
8	823	Cut		Cut of ditch	Unexcavated south-west/north-east orientated ditch butting south side of V-Ditch 810. Relationship unknown	>2.1	>1.3	
8	824	Fill	823	Fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown silty clay	>2.1	>1.3	
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silty clay	>40	1.8+	>0.21
9	901	Layer		Colluvium	Light orangey brown sandy silty clay	15+	>1.8	>0.22
9	902	Layer		Colluvium	Light orangey brown silty sandy clay	15+	>1.8	>0.19
9	903	Layer		Natural	Light orangey yellow sand with light brown clay	>40	1.8+	>0.72
9	904	Cut		Cut of v-ditch PHASE 3	North/south orientated v-ditch, with gradual sides, same as Ditch 907, 913	10+	>0.78	>0.45
9	905	Fill		2nd fill of ditch	Mid yellowish brown silty and	10+	>0.78	>0.2
9	906	Fill		1st fill of ditch	Mid yellowish greyish brown silty sand	10+	>0.5	>0.28
9	907	Cut		Cut of ditch PHASE 3	Unexcavated north-west/south-east orientated ditch, same as Ditch 904, 913	3+	>0.5	
9	908	Fill	907	Unexcavated fill	Same as 905	3+	>0.5	
9	909	Cut		Cut of ditch PHASE 2	Unexcavated north-east/south-west orientated ditch, same as Ditch 911. Possibly re-cut of earlier PHASE 1 Ditch 917	2+	>0.75	
9	910	Fill	909	Unexcavated fill	Unexcavated dark greyish brown silty sandy clay with charcoal, same as fill 912	2+	>0.75	
9	911	Cut		Cut of ditch PHASE 2	Unexcavated east/west orientated ditch, same as Ditch 909	4+	>2.3	
9	912	Fill	911	Unexcavated fill	Unexcavated dark greyish brown silty sandy clay with charcoal, same as fill 910	4+	>2.3	
9	913	Cut		Cut of ditch PHASE 3	Unexcavated north-west/south-east orientated ditch,	4+	>0.5	

					same as Ditch 904, 907			
9	914	Fill	913	Unexcavated fill	Same as 905	4+	>0.5	
9	915	Cut		Cut of ditch PHASE 1	Unexcavated north-west/south-east orientated ditch, same as 917	5+	>1.5	
9	916	Fill	915	Unexcavated fill	Mid brownish yellow silty sand	5+	>1.5	
9	917	Cut		Cut of ditch PHASE 1	North-east/south-west orientated ditch with u-shaped profile, gradual sides and flat base, same as 915	7+	>1.9	>0.62
9	918	Fill	917	2nd fill of ditch	Mid brownish yellow silty sand	7+	>1.9	>0.4
9	919	Fill	917	1st fill of ditch	Mid yellowish grey silty sand	7+	>1.7	>0.22
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty sandy clay	>40	>1.8	>0.27
10	1001	Layer		Natural	Mid orangey brown sand with gravel	>40	>1.8	>0.27
10	1002	Cut		Cut of ditch	Unexcavated north-west/south-east orientated ditch	1.8+	>3.2	
10	1003	Fill	100	Unexcavated upper fill	Mid greyish brown silty sandy clay	1.8+	>3.2	

### Watching Brief Investigation: Trenches 11 to 20

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silty sand		>1	0-0.3
11	1101	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish orange fine sand		>1	0.3+
11	1102	Cut		Cut of ditch	<b>Substantial linear boundary ditch, not fully excavated</b>	>1	3	>1
11	1103	Fill	1102	Lower fill of ditch	Light grey brown fine sand	>1	2.7	>0.35
11	1104	Fill	1102	Upper fill of ditch	Mid grey brown coarse sand	>1	3	0.5
11	1105	Cut		Cut of ditch	Cut of linear ditch. Steep concave sides with U-shaped base. Same as 1303, 1402 and 1503	>2	1	0.55
11	1106	Fill	1105	Lower fill of ditch	Light grey brown fine sand	>2	0.8	0.32
11	1107	Fill	1105	Upper fill of ditch	Mid grey brown coarse sand	>2	1	0.25
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silty sand		>1	0-0.3
12	1201	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow orange fine sand		>1	0.5+
12	1202	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown sand with abundant pebbles		>1	0.3-0.5
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silty sand		>1	0-0.3
13	1301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown sand with abundant pebbles		>1	0.3-0.5
13	1302	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow orange fine sand with patches of abundant pebbles		>1	0.5+
13	1303	Cut		Cut of ditch	<b>Heavily truncated ditch, same as 1105, 1402 and 1503</b>	>2	1	0.55
13	1304	Fill	1303	Upper fill of ditch	Mid grey brown coarse sand	>2	1	0.25
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silty sand		>1	0-0.4
14	1401	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow orange fine sand		>1	0.4+
14	1402	Cut		Cut of ditch	Cut of linear ditch. Steep concave sides with U-shaped	>1	1.6	>0.4

					<b>base. Same as 1105, 1303 and 1503</b>			
14	1403	Fill	1402	Upper fill of ditch	Mid grey brown coarse sand	>1	1.6	>0.4
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silty sand		>1	0-0.35
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown sand with abundant pebbles		>1	0.35-0.65
15	1502	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow orange fine sand with patches of abundant pebbles		>1	0.65+
15	1503	Cut		Cut of ditch	<b>Heavily truncated ditch. Same as 1105, 1303 and 1402</b>	>1	1.6	>0.4
15	1504	Fill		Upper fill of ditch	Mid grey brown coarse sand	>1	1.6	>0.4
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silty sand		>1	0-0.3
16	1601	Layer		Natural	Mid grey brown silty sandy with abundant pebbles. Only present in N end of trench	>10	>1	0.3-0.8
16	1602	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow orange coarse sand with abundant pebbles. Only present at N end of trench	>10	>1	0.8+
16	1603	Layer		Colluvium	Mid grey brown clayey silt. Only present in S half of trench	>40	>1	0.3+
16	1604	Layer		Natural	Bright orange coarse sand. Only present in S half of trench	>40	>1	0.8+
16	1605	Cut		Cut of ditch	<b>Linear boundary ditch. Moderate concave sides, not fully excavated</b>	>1	1.7	>0.6
16	1606	Fill	1605	Lower fill of ditch	Mid grey brown coarse sand	>1	1.2	>0.18
16	1607	Fill	1605	Secondary fill of ditch	Dark brown sandy silt	>1	1.6	0.28
16	1608	Fill	1605	Tertiary fill of ditch	Mid grey brown very sandy silt	>1	1.7	0.12
16	1609	Layer		Colluvium	Orang brown clayey silt. Only present at S end of trench above 1603	>40	>1	0.3-0.5
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silty sand		>1	0-0.25
17	1701	Layer		Colluvium	Mid grey brown clayey silt with pebbles and charcoal		>1	0.25-0.95
17	1702	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow orange silty sand		>1	0.95+
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown silty sand		>1	0-0.3
18	1801	Layer		Colluvium	Mid grey brown clayey silt with pebbles		>1	0.3-0.9+
18	1802	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow orange silty clay with blue mottling and gravel patches		>1	0.7+
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown silty sand with pebbles		>1	0-0.2
19	1901	Layer		Colluvium	Light grey brown sandy silt with pebbles		>1	0.2-0.9
19	1902	Layer		Natural	Mid orange yellow sandy clay becoming coarse sand to S end of trench. Root disturbance throughout		>1	0.9+
20	2000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty sand		>0.5	0-0.2
20	2001	Layer		Subsoil	Dark grey brown silty sand		>0.5	0.2-0.4
20	2002	Layer		Colluvium	Mid orang brown clayey silt		>0.5	0.4+
20	2003	Layer		Natural	Bright orange coarse sand		>0.5	1+

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

**Table 1: Finds concordance**  
**Evaluation: Trenches 1 to 10**

Context	Description	Count	Weight(g)	Spot-date
100	Post-medieval ceramic building material: tile, brick	3	139	Modern
	Modern glass: vessel	1	<1	
	Worked flint: flakes	3	19	
	Burnt flint	2	109	
200	Post-medieval ceramic building material: tile, brick, finial	9	217	Late medieval/ post-medieval
	Clay tobacco pipe: stem	1	3	
	Burnt flint	1	24	
300	Post-medieval ceramic building material: tile	1	34	Post-medieval
	Worked flint: flakes, core	3	91	
306	Burnt flint	2	554	-
309	Fired clay	2	<1	-
	Worked flint: flakes, chips, chunks	12	8	
	Burnt flint	57	59	
	Coal	2	<1	
400	Post-medieval ceramic building material: tile, brick	7	8928	Post-medieval
	Slate: roof tile	2	103	
500	Post-medieval ceramic building material: tile	6	134	Post-medieval
	Iron object	1	28	
	Worked flint: flakes	2	135	
	Burnt flint	1	25	
506	Iron object: nail	1	16	-
	Burnt flint	1	13	
513	Burnt flint	1	7	-
518	Burnt flint	1	7	-
520	Late prehistoric pottery: flint-tempered fabric; fine, quartz sand-and-flint tempered fabric	7	26	IA?
	Worked flint: flakes	3	78	
	Burnt flint	5	125	
600	Roman pottery: greyware	1	6	RB
	Iron objects: nail, fragment	2	21	
606	Late prehistoric pottery: flint-tempered fabric	2	25	RB
	Roman pottery: greyware; black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	4	24	
	Roman ceramic building material: box flue tile	5	224	
608	Iron object: nail	1	22	-
	Worked flint: flake	1	12	
609	Late prehistoric pottery: quartz sand-and-flint tempered fabric	1	3	Late Prehistoric
611	Iron object: nail	4	50	
700	Post-medieval ceramic building material: tile	1	27	Post-medieval
	Clay tobacco pipe: stem	1	2	
	Copper alloy object: brooch	1	4	
	Iron object: nail, fragment	2	89	
	Worked flint: core	1	80	
702	Roman ceramic building material: brick	1	141	RB
706	Late Prehistoric pottery: flint-tempered fabric	4	21	RB
	Roman pottery: greyware; grog-tempered fabric; black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	5	34	
	Roman ceramic building material: tegula, box flue, tile	19	1804	
	Fired clay	2	17	
	Worked flint: core	1	222	
	Burnt flint	11	336	
708	Roman pottery: coarse greyware; fine whiteware	12	14	RB
	Worked flint: flakes	2	21	
	Burnt flint	1	14	
713	Late Prehistoric/Early Roman pottery: quartz sand-and-flint tempered fabric; quartz sand-tempered fabric	3	11	IA/RB

716	Burnt flint	82	139	-
800	Roman pottery: greyware; grog-tempered fabric; fine, oxidised fabric Post-medieval ceramic building material: tile, brick Copper alloy object: spearhead Iron object: nails, disc Worked flint: core fragments Burnt flint	6 10 1 6 2 1	133 567 42 124 317 77	Post-medieval
803	Late prehistoric pottery: fine, flint-tempered fabric Fired clay Worked flint: flake, core Burnt flint	2 1 2 2	7 8 95 18	IA?
806	Burnt flint	4	105	-
807	Fired clay Burnt flint	2 82	18 272	-
813	Burnt flint	65	116	-
820	Late prehistoric pottery: quartz sand-and-flint tempered fabric Burnt flint	2 46	6 136	Late Prehistoric
822	Roman pottery: North Gaulish mortarium; greyware; coarse, grog-tempered fabric; black-firing, sand-tempered fabric Roman ceramic building material: tegula, box flue, tile, brick Iron object: nail Burnt flint	26 18 1 1	450 1434 24 70	MC1-LC1
900	Post-medieval pottery: refined whiteware Late medieval/post-medieval ceramic building material: peg tile, flat roof tile Worked flint: flakes, tested nodule Burnt flint	1 2 6 3	5 66 449 38	LC18-C19
905	Roman ceramic building material: brick	5	280	RB
912	Roman pottery: amphora; coarse greyware Roman ceramic building material: tegula, brick	3 5	163 586	C1-C2
914	Roman pottery: grog-and-flint tempered fabric	3	36	MC1-LC1
918	Worked flint: flake	1	42	-
1000	Roman ceramic building material Post-medieval ceramic building material: tile Iron object: nails, fragment Worked flint: flake, core Burnt flint	1 8 4 2 5	24 160 129 247 488	Post-medieval
1003	Roman pottery: grog-tempered fabric Burnt flint	1 4	12 129	MC1-LC1
	Worked flint: flake Burnt flint	4 2	127 19	

### Watching Brief Investigation: Trenches 11 to 20

Context	Description	Count	Weight(g)	Spot-date
1103	Prehistoric pottery: fine flint-tempered fabric; coarser flint-tempered fabric; fine flint-and-quartz tempered fabric	11	89	BA
1300	Roman ceramic building material: tile	3	363	RB
1400	Modern pottery: flowerpot Post-medieval ceramic building material: brick	1 3	59 1244	C19-C20
1600	Roman ceramic building material Post-medieval ceramic building material Worked flint: flake	2 1 1	257 18 27	Post-medieval
1603	Prehistoric pottery: flint-and-quartz tempered fabric	2	2	Prehistoric
1607	Roman pottery: Samian; New Forest Colour-coated ware; Hampshire Grog-tempered ware; greyware; fine oxidised fabric	21	490	C4

	Roman ceramic building material: brick	2	356	
1700	Prehistoric pottery: flint-tempered fabric	2	51	C19-C20
	Roman pottery: Hampshire Grog-tempered ware; sandy, oxidised fabric	3	65	
	Modern pottery: flowerpot	1	11	
	Roman ceramic building material: tile, imbrex, brick	9	782	
	Post-medieval ceramic building material: flat roof tile	7	255	
1701	Prehistoric pottery: coarse, flint-tempered fabric; grog-tempered fabric	4	33	Post-medieval
	Roman pottery: Hampshire Grog-tempered ware; greyware	3	54	
	Roman ceramic building material: brick, tile	8	963	
	Post-medieval ceramic building material: brick	1	654	
1800	Post-medieval ceramic building material: flat roof tile	1	21	Post-medieval
1900	Post-medieval ceramic building material: flat roof tile	3	72	Post-medieval

## APPENDIX C: GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT



University of Winchester  
West Hill  
Winchester  
SO22 4NR  
Tel: +44 1962 827554  
Web: <http://www.ARCAUK.com>

### FIELD HOUSE FARM, LADWELL, HAMPSHIRE: GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF MONOLITH SAMPLE

Nick Watson  
June 2014

#### Introduction

This document reports on the stratigraphy of a monolith collected from an archaeological excavation carried out by Cotswold Archaeology at Field House Farm, Ladwell, Hampshire NGR: SU 42770 23412. A single monolith sample measuring 0.90x0.06x0.06m was taken from the base of a 4m wide by 2m deep ditch possibly dated to the Late Neolithic period. The geoarchaeological work outlined here was commissioned by Cotswold Archaeology. The report is intended to address the following aims:

1. To determine the manner in which stratigraphic units exposed in the monolith sample;
2. To assess the archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential of the units encountered in the monolith sample;
3. To provide recommendations for analytical work that could usefully be undertaken to better understand the archaeological stratigraphy and palaeoenvironments on the site.

#### Geology

The British Geological Survey (BGS) map the site as lying on the junction between the Nursling Sand Member and the Whitecliff Sand Member of the London Clay Formation which dates to the Ypresian Age of the Palaeogene 49.5-54.8 million years ago. The London Clay comprises poorly laminated, blue-grey or grey-brown, silty clay with some sand. Thin beds of carbonate concretions, pyrite, shell and sand can occur and occasionally gravel beds of black rounded flint. Neither the lithology of the Nursling Sand Member nor the Whitecliff

Sand Member are described by the BGS, but as their names indicate they will be mappable sandy facies of the London Clay Formation (BGS, 2014).

## Methodology

The monolith sample 1102 was delivered to the ARCA laboratory at the University of Winchester on 4 June 2014 by Jennie Hughes of Cotswold Archaeology. It was described according to standard geological criteria (Tucker 1982, Jones *et al.* 1999, Munsell Color 2000) and then stored pending decisions on analytical works that might be carried out.

## Monolith stratigraphy

The sample details were as follows:

Code:	FFW14
Sample	<1102>
	PN 770092
Context Cut	[303]

Table 1 reports the stratigraphy recorded in the monolith sample:

The relationship of the depths of the monolith sample to context numbers is as follows:

Depth (m)	Context
0.00-0.23	(306)
0.23-0.42	(305)
0.42-0.52	(308)
0.52-0.60	(309)
0.60-0.90	(302)

## Discussion

The basal Unit [3, context (302)] of the monolith sample is composed of alternating beds of yellowish brown to grey, fine to medium sand. The interbedding is only distinguishable on the basis of colour and *not* particle size, and the unit is a well sorted homogenous sand stratum. The yellowish brown colour is the result of iron oxide staining and is probably post depositional in origin although the bedrock source of the sand (the local Nursling and Whitecliff Sand Members) is rich in iron oxide. There is no evidence of human input into the unlithified sediment. With reference to a photograph of the site and the Trench 3 Section Drawing. Unit 1 [context (302)] would appear to be the solid geology and the ditch is recorded as “overcut”.



A diffuse boundary separates Unit 3 from Unit 2 [approximately contexts (308) and (309)]. The unlithified nature of the bedrock means that it may mix with the lowest ditch fill under in the presence of water or through bioturbation and the overlying deposit (2) is distinguished by a change in colour to 2.5 YR 4/3 Olive brown that denotes a small silt/clay component to the sand. Angular flint flakes - possibly debitage - and rare coarse sand-sized fragments of charcoal are present in the deposit both of which are indicative of human action that suggest an encroachment towards the source of the sand and/or the banks of the ditch which are, in fact, be one and the same.

The uppermost Unit in the monolith sample [1, context (306) and part of (305)] is also a well sorted fine to medium sand, light greyish brown in colour, and shows evidence of bioturbation by plant roots. Cultural material (flint and charcoal) continues to be present in low frequency. There is only occasional iron oxide staining in this Unit (although it reappears in topmost 0.05m as possibly an incursive sand lens derived from the bank) and Unit 2. The reason for this is not clear although post depositional iron oxide mottling is unlikely to occur because standing water/a fluctuating water table are unlikely due to the porous nature of the deposits and the bedrock. One would expect iron oxide stained sands to colour the Unit yellowish brown though. There must be subtleties in the hydrology and chemistry of the ditch-the mechanics of transport and deposition and redox reactions – that result in less iron oxide retained/redeposited in the deposit than is present in the bedrock source.

In conclusion, the ditch deposit is a well sorted fine to medium sand which shows a cultural input at 0.59m and above (Units 1 and 2). There is no evidence of a prolonged period of stabilization within the deposits which suggests they accumulated fairly rapidly. The ditch would not have held standing water due to the porous nature of the underlying Nursling and Whitecliff Sand Members. This implies that hydrology was not a factor in its construction. Under ordinary circumstances, the sorting and homogeneity of the sand would imply a continuous deposition under a relatively high energy fluvial regime. In this case though, the source of the sand is the banks and environs and it need not have travelled far. The sorting of the sand, too, may well reflect a lithological characteristic of the Nursling and Whitecliff Sand Members rather than a product of fluvial transport during the Holocene. Nor does it seem necessary to invoke the need for a significant body of moving water to entrain the sand particles, sheet wash from storms would be sufficient. The finest sand fraction may also contain an aeolian component.

## Assessment

The coarse grained nature of the ditch deposits - it is sand-sized rather than clay-sized- precludes the presence of microscopic plant remains (pollen) even though the sediments are siliceous and compatible with their preservation. Bioturbation in the upper fraction and the porosity of the sediments auger against the presence of waterlogged macroscopic plant remains, none of which were identified to be present in any case. Charcoal is the only ecofact recorded and then in only a very small amount. There is evidence of human activity in the form of granular to fine pebble-sized flint fragments. These are very angular and are too large to have been transported with the sediments which implies that their source is the immediate locality of the ditch, however, they occur only infrequently.

For the reasons given above the palaeoenvironmental potential of the sediments sampled in from the ditch (Units 1 and 2) is **low** and the archaeological potential is considered **moderate to low**.

Unit 1 which is the bedrock into which the ditch is cut is of Palaeogene age and has **no** palaeoenvironmental nor archaeological potential.

## Recommendations

No further works are recommended on the monolith sample taken through the ditch fill. It is recommended, however, that a geoarchaeologist visit the site to characterise the morphology and geology and advise as to the potential for environmental sampling within the archaeological landscape as a whole.

## Bibliography

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0.00-0.36	Unit 1	10 YR 6/2 Light greyish brown well sorted fine to medium sand with rare, very angular, granular to fine pebble-sized white flint (debitage) and rare medium sand-sized charcoal fragments. Occasional 10 YR 4/3 Brown vertical granular-sized mottling (root hole). Diffuse boundary to:
0.36-0.59	Unit 2	2.5 YR 4/3 Olive brown fine to medium sand with rare to occasional silt/clay. Rare, very angular, granular to fine pebble-sized, white flint (debitage) and rare coarse sand-sized charcoal fragments. Gradual boundary to:
0.59-0.90	Unit 3	10 YR 5/8 Yellowish brown and 2.5 Y 6/2 Light brownish grey, horizontal and well sorted fine to medium sand: iron staining in horizontal beds on a 10mm scale (Bedrock)

**Table 1 Stratigraphy recorded in the monolith sample**

**APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>	
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Project dates	13 November - 4 December 2014
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Watching Brief
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	Trial Trench Evaluation CA Project No. 770092 WINCM: AY550
Future work	No
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	
Site Location	Field House Farm, Ladwell, Winchester, Hampshire
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	15.31ha
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SU 42770 23412
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>	
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Brief originator	Winchester City Council
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Manager	Damian De Rosa
Project Supervisor	Sam Wilson
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	
	Ditch – Neolithic/Bronze Age Ditch – Bronze Age Ditch – Late Iron Age / Roman Ditch – Roman Pit – Roman Wall – Post medieval
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	
	Pottery – Bronze Age Pottery – Iron Age Pottery – Roman CBM – Roman CBM – Post-medieval Flint – Prehistoric Bronze spear head – Middle Bronze Age

<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>	Hampshire Cultural Trust WINCM: AY550	Content
Physical	Hampshire Cultural Trust WINCM: AY550	burnt flint, worked flint, ceramics, Roman CBM
Paper	Hampshire Cultural Trust WINCM: AY550	Context sheets, matrices etc
Digital	Hampshire Cultural Trust WINCM: AY550	Database, digital photos etc
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014 <i>Field House Farm, Ladwell, Winchester, Archaeological Watching Brief</i>. CA typescript report <b>14619</b>. Project No. <b>770154</b></p>		

## APPENDIX C: GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT



University of Winchester  
West Hill  
Winchester  
SO22 4NR  
Tel: +44 1962 827554  
Web: <http://www.ARCAUK.com>

### FIELD HOUSE FARM, LADWELL, HAMPSHIRE: GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF MONOLITH SAMPLE

Nick Watson  
June 2014

#### Introduction

This document reports on the stratigraphy of a monolith collected from an archaeological excavation carried out by Cotswold Archaeology at Field House Farm, Ladwell, Hampshire NGR: SU 42770 23412. A single monolith sample measuring 0.90x0.06x0.06m was taken from the base of a 4m wide by 2m deep ditch possibly dated to the Late Neolithic period. The geoarchaeological work outlined here was commissioned by Cotswold Archaeology. The report is intended to address the following aims:

1. To determine the manner in which stratigraphic units exposed in the monolith sample;
2. To assess the archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential of the units encountered in the monolith sample;
3. To provide recommendations for analytical work that could usefully be undertaken to better understand the archaeological stratigraphy and palaeoenvironments on the site.

#### Geology

The British Geological Survey (BGS) map the site as lying on the junction between the Nursling Sand Member and the Whitecliff Sand Member of the London Clay Formation which dates to the Ypresian Age of the Palaeogene 49.5-54.8 million years ago. The London Clay comprises poorly laminated, blue-grey or grey-brown, silty clay with some sand. Thin beds of carbonate concretions, pyrite, shell and sand can occur and occasionally gravel beds of black rounded flint. Neither the lithology of the Nursling Sand Member nor the Whitecliff

Sand Member are described by the BGS, but as their names indicate they will be mappable sandy facies of the London Clay Formation (BGS, 2014).

## Methodology

The monolith sample 1102 was delivered to the ARCA laboratory at the University of Winchester on 4 June 2014 by Jennie Hughes of Cotswold Archaeology. It was described according to standard geological criteria (Tucker 1982, Jones *et al.* 1999, Munsell Color 2000) and then stored pending decisions on analytical works that might be carried out.

## Monolith stratigraphy

The sample details were as follows:

Code:	FFW14
Sample	<1102>
	PN 770092
Context Cut	[303]

Table 1 reports the stratigraphy recorded in the monolith sample:

The relationship of the depths of the monolith sample to context numbers is as follows:

Depth (m)	Context
0.00-0.23	(306)
0.23-0.42	(305)
0.42-0.52	(308)
0.52-0.60	(309)
0.60-0.90	(302)

## Discussion

The basal Unit [3, context (302)] of the monolith sample is composed of alternating beds of yellowish brown to grey, fine to medium sand. The interbedding is only distinguishable on the basis of colour and *not* particle size, and the unit is a well sorted homogenous sand stratum. The yellowish brown colour is the result of iron oxide staining and is probably post depositional in origin although the bedrock source of the sand (the local Nursling and Whitecliff Sand Members) is rich in iron oxide. There is no evidence of human input into the unlithified sediment. With reference to a photograph of the site and the Trench 3 Section Drawing. Unit 1 [context (302)] would appear to be the solid geology and the ditch is recorded as “overcut”.

A diffuse boundary separates Unit 3 from Unit 2 [approximately contexts (308) and (309)]. The unlithified nature of the bedrock means that it may mix with the lowest ditch fill under in the presence of water or through bioturbation and the overlying deposit (2) is distinguished by a change in colour to 2.5 YR 4/3 Olive brown that denotes a small silt/clay component to the sand. Angular flint flakes - possibly debitage - and rare coarse sand-sized fragments of charcoal are present in the deposit both of which are indicative of human action that suggest an encroachment towards the source of the sand and/or the banks of the ditch which are, in fact, be one and the same.

The uppermost Unit in the monolith sample [1, context (306) and part of (305)] is also a well sorted fine to medium sand, light greyish brown in colour, and shows evidence of bioturbation by plant roots. Cultural material (flint and charcoal) continues to be present in low frequency. There is only occasional iron oxide staining in this Unit (although it reappears in topmost 0.05m as possibly an incursive sand lens derived from the bank) and Unit 2. The reason for this is not clear although post depositional iron oxide mottling is unlikely to occur because standing water/a fluctuating water table are unlikely due to the porous nature of the deposits and the bedrock. One would expect iron oxide stained sands to colour the Unit yellowish brown though. There must be subtleties in the hydrology and chemistry of the ditch-the mechanics of transport and deposition and redox reactions – that result in less iron oxide retained/redeposited in the deposit than is present in the bedrock source.

In conclusion, the ditch deposit is a well sorted fine to medium sand which shows a cultural input at 0.59m and above (Units 1 and 2). There is no evidence of a prolonged period of stabilization within the deposits which suggests they accumulated fairly rapidly. The ditch would not have held standing water due to the porous nature of the underlying Nursling and Whitecliff Sand Members. This implies that hydrology was not a factor in its construction. Under ordinary circumstances, the sorting and homogeneity of the sand would imply a continuous deposition under a relatively high energy fluvial regime. In this case though, the source of the sand is the banks and environs and it need not have travelled far. The sorting of the sand, too, may well reflect a lithological characteristic of the Nursling and Whitecliff Sand Members rather than a product of fluvial transport during the Holocene. Nor does it seem necessary to invoke the need for a significant body of moving water to entrain the sand particles, sheet wash from storms would be sufficient. The finest sand fraction may also contain an aeolian component.



## Assessment

The coarse grained nature of the ditch deposits - it is sand-sized rather than clay-sized- precludes the presence of microscopic plant remains (pollen) even though the sediments are siliceous and compatible with their preservation. Bioturbation in the upper fraction and the porosity of the sediments auger against the presence of waterlogged macroscopic plant remains, none of which were identified to be present in any case. Charcoal is the only ecofact recorded and then in only a very small amount. There is evidence of human activity in the form of granular to fine pebble-sized flint fragments. These are very angular and are too large to have been transported with the sediments which implies that their source is the immediate locality of the ditch, however, they occur only infrequently.

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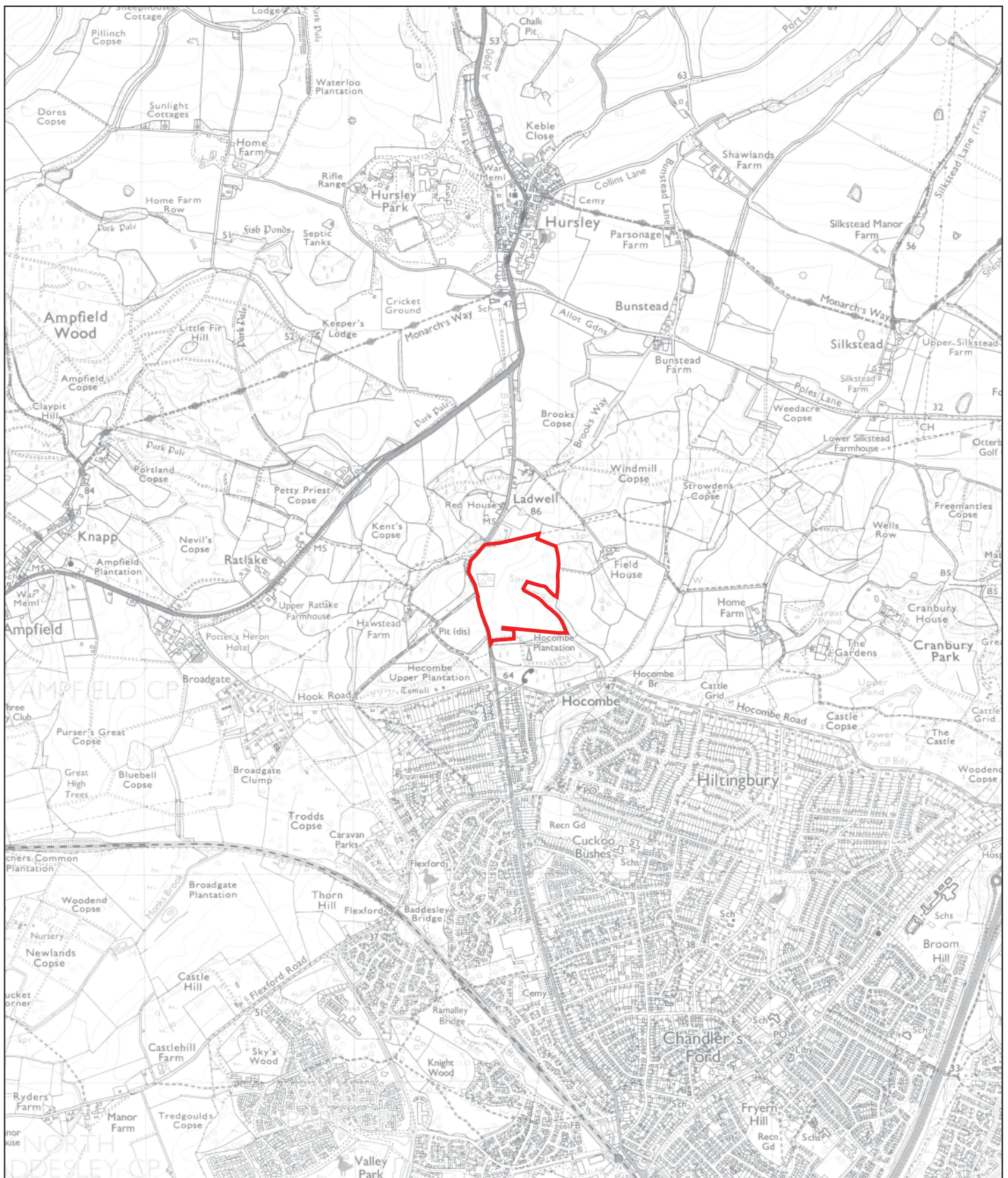
0.00-0.36	Unit 1	10 YR 6/2 Light greyish brown well sorted fine to medium sand with rare, very angular, granular to fine pebble-sized white flint (debitage) and rare medium sand-sized charcoal fragments. Occasional 10 YR 4/3 Brown vertical granular-sized mottling (root hole). Diffuse boundary to:
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Future work	No
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Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	15.31ha
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Cirencester 01285 771022  
 Milton Keynes 01908 218320  
 Andover 01264 347630  
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Field House Farm, Ladwell  
 Winchester, Hampshire

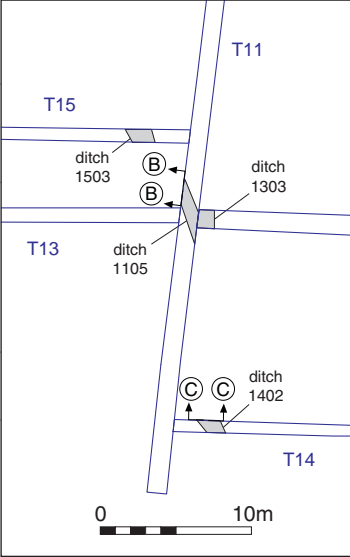
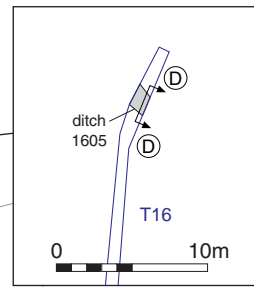
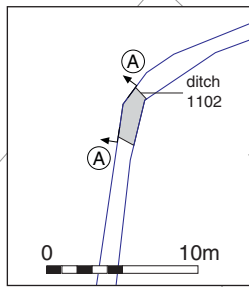
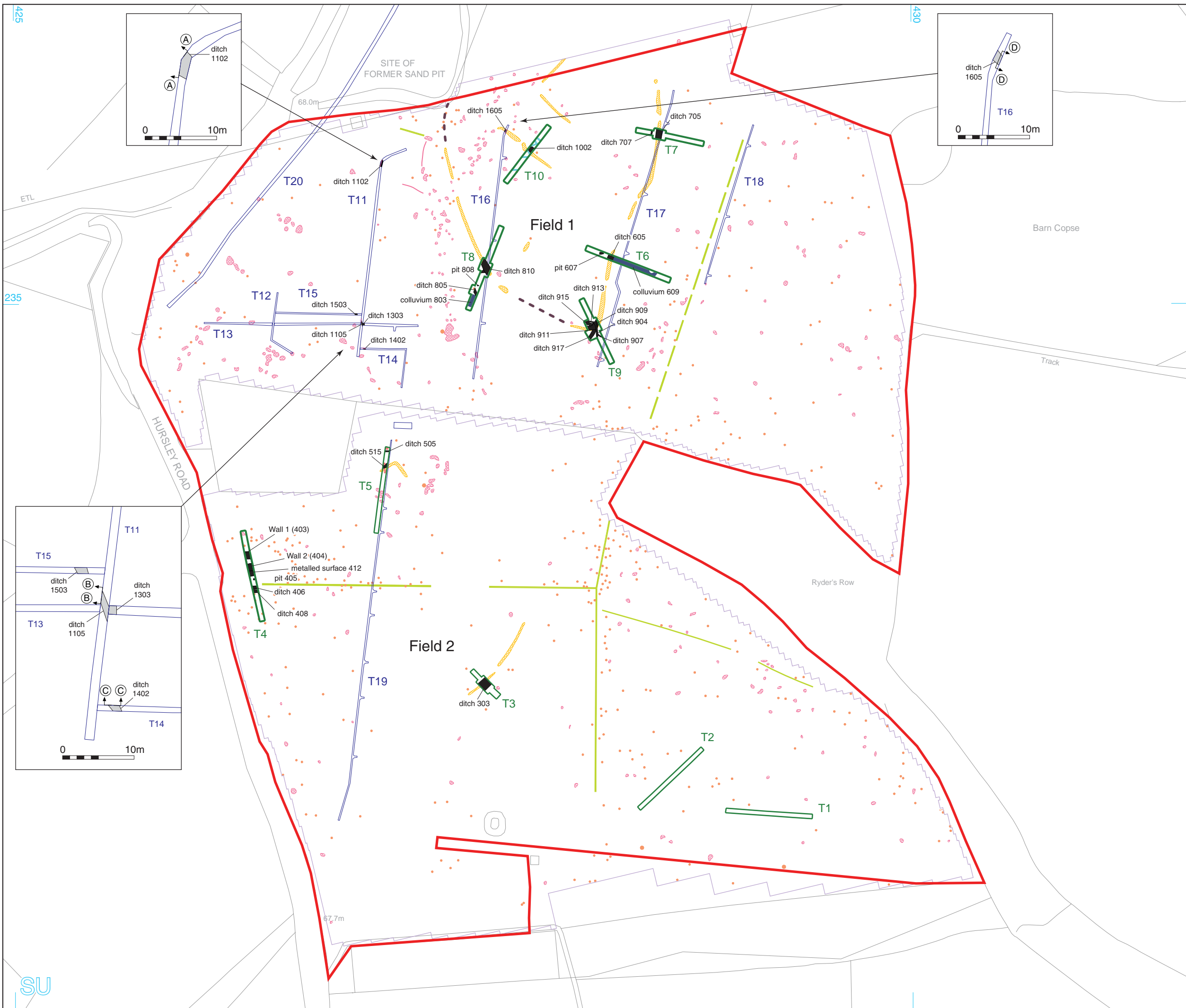
**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan



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PROJECT NO. 770154 DATE 09/12/2014  
 DRAWN BY LJH REVISION 00  
 APPROVED BY JB SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.  
**1**



- site
- evaluation trench
- watching brief trench
- archaeological feature
- colluvium
- modern
- treethrow
- projected line of enclosure

**geophysical survey results (WYAS 2014)**

TYPE OF ANOMALY	INTERPRETATION
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<span style="color: orange;">●</span> DIPOLAR ISOLATED	TELEGRAPH POLE
<span style="color: black;">—</span> DIPOLAR LINEAR	SERVICE PIPE
<span style="background-color: purple; border-radius: 50%; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> MAGNETIC DISTURBANCE	FERROUS MATERIAL
<span style="color: green;">—</span> LINEAR TREND	AGRICULTURAL
<span style="color: red;">—</span> LINEAR TREND	GEOLOGY
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<span style="background-color: yellow; border-radius: 50%; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> MAGNETIC ENHANCEMENT	ARCHAEOLOGY?



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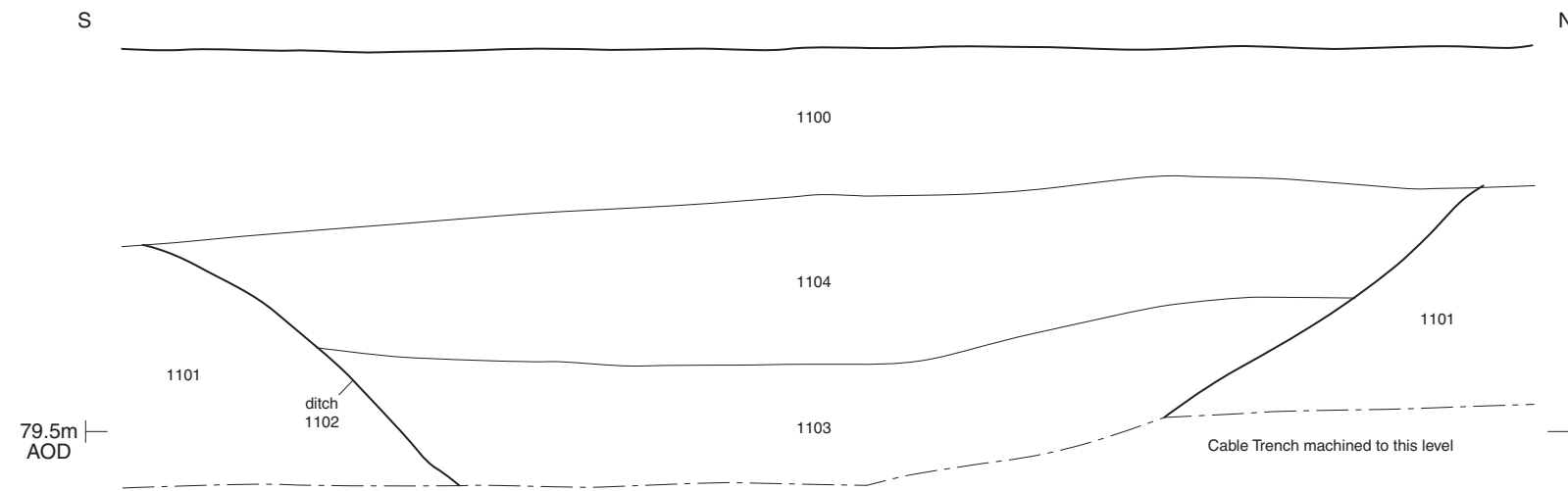
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
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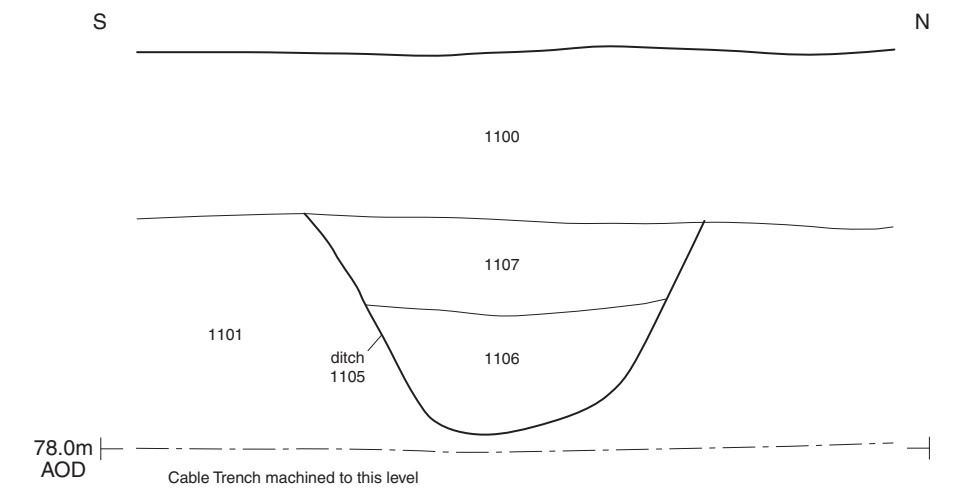
**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench location plan showing archaeological features and geophysical survey results

PROJECT NO. 770154 DATE 21/04/2015 FIGURE NO.  
 DRAWN BY AO/LJH REVISION 03  
 APPROVED BY JB SCALE@A3 1:2,000 & 1:500 **2**

Section AA



Section BB



East facing section of ditch 1102 (1m scale)



East facing section of ditch 1105 (1m scale)



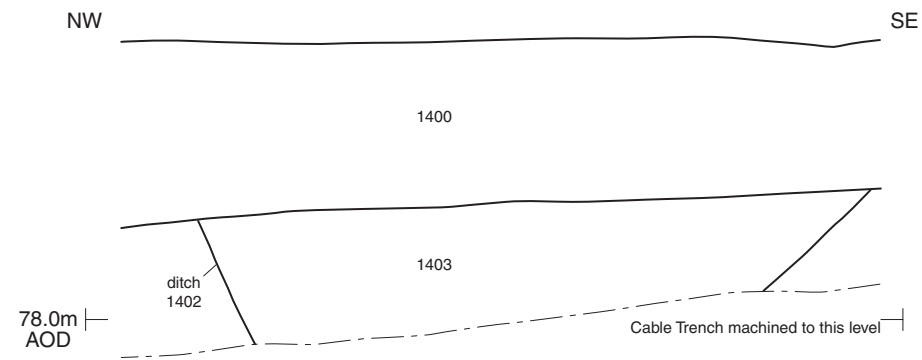
**Cotswold Archaeology**  
 Cirencester 01285 771022  
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
 Andover 01264 347630  
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PROJECT TITLE  
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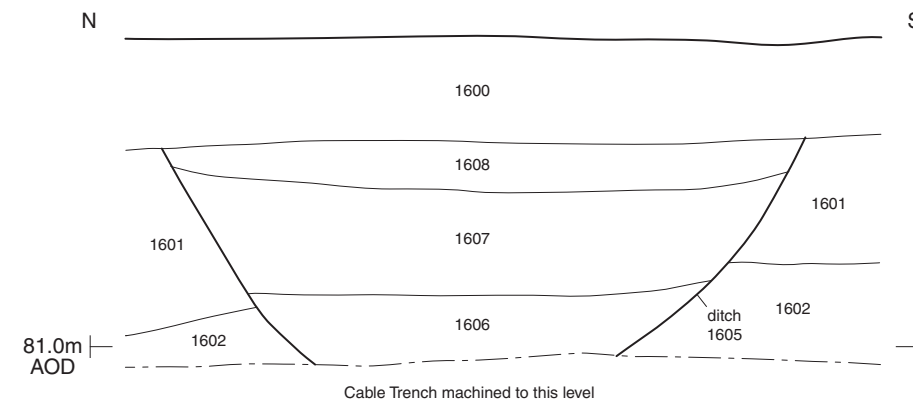
FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 11: sections and photographs**

PROJECT NO. 770154 DATE 11/12/2014 FIGURE NO.  
 DRAWN BY LJH REVISION 01  
 APPROVED BY JB SCALE@A3 1:20 **3**

Section CC



Section DD



South west facing section of ditch 1402 (1m scale)



West facing section of ditch 1605 (1m scale)



**Cotswold Archaeology**  
 Cirencester 01285 771022  
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PROJECT TITLE  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trenches 14 and 16: sections and  
 photographs**

PROJECT NO. 770154 DATE 11/12/2014 FIGURE NO.  
 DRAWN BY LJH REVISION 01  
 APPROVED BY JB SCALE@A3 1:20 **4**





5

**5 View north of trench 16, post excavation**



Cirencester 01285 771022  
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
 Andover 01264 347630  
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
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*PROJECT TITLE*

Field House Farm, Ladwell, Winchester  
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*FIGURE TITLE*

**Photograph**

PROJECT NO.	770154	DATE	10/12/2014	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	LJH	REVISION	00	<b>5</b>
APPROVED BY	JB	SCALE@A4	N/A	



6



7

6 View south west of trench 18, machining

7 View south of trench 19, machining



Cirencester 01285 771022  
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PROJECT TITLE

Field House Farm, Ladwell, Winchester  
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FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

PROJECT NO. 770154 DATE 10/12/2014  
 DRAWN BY LJH REVISION 00  
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FIGURE NOS.

6 & 7



8



9

8 View north across site, north field

9 View south across site, south field, showing stripping of turf for access road



Cirencester 01285 771022  
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
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[www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)  
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PROJECT TITLE

Field House Farm, Ladwell, Winchester  
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FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

PROJECT NO. 770154 DATE 10/12/2014  
 DRAWN BY LJH REVISION 00  
 APPROVED BY JB SCALE@A4 N/A

FIGURE NOS.

8 & 9



10 Site conditions after heavy rain, north field



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PROJECT TITLE

Field House Farm, Ladwell, Winchester Hampshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph

PROJECT NO.	770154	DATE	10/12/2014	FIGURE NO.
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APPROVED BY	JB	SCALE@A4	N/A	