

# Land at Redlands Airfield Wanborough Swindon

*Archaeological Evaluation*



for  
Ecus Ltd

CA Project: 5500  
CA Report: 15665

September 2015



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## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Land at Redlands Airfield
<b>Location:</b>	Wanborough, Swindon
<b>NGR:</b>	SU 420342 184668
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	13 – 17 July, 2015 and 17 – 21 August 2015
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	Swindon Museum and Art Gallery
<b>Accession Number:</b>	SWIMG: 2015.023
<b>Site Code:</b>	RAS15

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in July 2015 at Redland Airfield. Twenty-nine trenches were excavated.

Across the western part of site, a small number of Mesolithic and Neolithic worked flints were recovered. In the central area of the site, focused on Trenches 18 and 19, there was evidence for Middle Iron Age occupation, although it is currently unclear how many of the ditches in this area date to this period.

To the west of the site, on the northern side of the Roman road, Ermin Street, a number of ditches and possible rectilinear enclosures were seen in both the geophysical survey and evaluation. These date from the Roman to medieval periods, although currently there is no clear idea as to the development of the area. In the centre of this area were two possibly three large late medieval pit or quarries. Mid-16th to 18th century ridge and furrow covered most of the site.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In July and August 2015 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out a two stage archaeological evaluation for Ecus Ltd at Land at Redlands Airfield, Wanborough, Swindon (centred on NGR: SU 420342 184668; Fig. 1). The targeted archaeological trial evaluation was undertaken to assess the archaeological potential of land at Redlands Airfield. The trenches targeted the results of a recent geophysical survey (Cranfield University 2015). As part of the assessment process for the site, an archaeological desk-based assessment for the Site is in preparation (Ecus Ltd. 2015). The location of the trenches were confirmed with Melanie Pomeroy-Killenger (County Archaeologist for WC), prior to commencement of fieldwork, and she also reviewed and approved the WSI.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2015) and approved by Melanie Pomeroy-Killenger. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006). It was monitored by Melanie Pomeroy-Killenger, including a site visit on 15 July 2015 and a site visit by Clare King on 20 August 2015.

### **The site**

- 1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 17.2ha, and comprises land currently set to pasture. The site is bordered to the west and north by farmland to the east by the airfield terminus and take-off and landing strips and to the south by Wanborough Road. Wanborough Road is on the alignment of a former Roman Road. The site is a relatively flat area approximately 96m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) with a slight rise of 1metre in the central area.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as the West Walton Formation, Ampthill Clay Formation And Kimmeridge Clay Formation (undifferentiated) which comprises, Mudstone, Siltstone And Sandstone. This is a Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 151 to 161 million years ago in the Jurassic Period. Local environment was previously dominated by shallow seas.

Superficial deposits of yellow brown/brown silt/clays were encountered in the base of all trenches.

## **2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The following historical and archaeological information is taken from the desk based assessment for the site (ECUS. 2015 – in preparation).
- 2.2 There are no recorded prehistoric heritage assets within the site. The closest asset to the site belonging to this period comprises ring ditches situated to the north-west of Breach Farm, approximately 56m east of the site at its closest point. Immediately to the east of this location are undated cropmarks and a large pit, which may have an association with the ring ditches. Similar features are recorded c. 250 to 400m to the west, south-west of the site, located to the north and south of Foxbridge Farm. The ring ditches were recorded during a programme of geophysical survey carried out on 'Land East of Swindon' by Archaeological Services - Durham University in 2006. Although unlikely, it is possible that the features represent the ploughed-out remains of round barrows, whereby the barrow mound has completely disappeared, leaving only the in-filled former quarry ditch.
- 2.3 Four undated flint flakes showing possible signs of working have been recorded approximately 270m west of the site; one of possible Palaeolithic date.
- 2.4 A low level of Mesolithic to Neolithic activity is recorded within 1km of the site in the form of four flint tool and microlith findspots. The closest recorded feature, approximately 165m to the south of the site, comprised a single Mesolithic microlith recorded in association with an area of potential contemporary features. A further Mesolithic scraper was recorded approximately 320m south of the group. Two polished Neolithic axes have also been found within 1km of the site, possibly indicating early hunter gatherer activities or ritual practices in the area.
- 2.5 There are no indications from aerial photographs viewed at the NMRC, Swindon as part of this study for prehistoric settlement or field-systems in the site, or the area immediately surrounding it.

- 2.6 Within the wider context, evidence of prehistoric activity and occupation is recognised through the Iron Age hillfort remains of Liddington Castle or Camp situated approximately 4.5km south of the site. The Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age Hillfort is sited on a commanding high point (277m AOD) close to the Ridgeway and covers an area of c.3ha. Liddington Castle comprises one of the earliest hillforts in Britain, with first occupation dating to the 7th century BC.
- 2.7 The village of upper Wanborough sits astride The Icknield Way, an ancient track following the contours along the chalk scarp of the Ridgeway. It is generally acknowledged as one of the oldest roads in Great Britain, being one of the few long-distance trackways to have existed before the Romans occupied the country.

### ***Romano-British (AD 43 to 410)***

- 2.8 There are no recorded Romano-British heritage assets within the site. Probably the most significant recorded heritage asset within 1km of the proposed development is the site of the Roman town of *Durocornovium*. The Scheduled Monument covering the Roman town occupies an area of c.25ha and is situated approximately 730m north of the site, to the centre of the scheduled area. The presence and extent of this settlement, which includes buildings, streets and boundaries, focused on the line of Wanborough Road (Ermin Street), has been established through a series of archaeological investigations throughout the latter 20th century. These investigations have confirmed that the site was extensively occupied from the 1st to 4th century AD.
- 2.9 *Durocornovium* is likely to have been in the territory and under the control of the native tribe known as the *Dobunni* whose centre of government under the Roman occupation was at Cirencester (*Corinium*), situated approximately 24km to the north-west. It would seem that *Durocornovium* is first mentioned in the Antonine Itinerary, a Roman document dating to the 3rd Century AD giving routes throughout the Roman Empire and the distances between the various named settlements on those routes.
- 2.10 The most substantial phase of archaeological investigation at the town occurred in the 1960s and 70s under the direction of John Wachter, for a period of 10 years. It concentrated on a section of Ermin Street close to the centre of the town, and



revealed details of the highway, the associated street grid forming the *insulae* or blocks of the town, and the nature of the buildings fronting the Roman highway

- 2.11 Ermin Street which linked *Glevum* (Gloucester) to *Corinium* (Cirencester) and onto *Calleva* (Silchester) forms the western boundary of the site for a short stretch, which makes it the closest recorded Romano-British asset to the site. A second Roman road is present approximately 570m west of the site at its closest point. The road runs along the route of the present day A419 and comprises the Roman road from *Cunetio* (Marlborough) to Durocornovium. An excavation at the Commonhead Roundabout on the A419 in 2005 produced evidence of the use of the route in the Middle Bronze Age, and indicated that it was re-surfaced in the medieval period.
- 2.12 A single Romano-British building is recorded approximately 270m west of the site, to the north of Fox Bridge. A pipe trench was cut in 2002 for the Swindon to Wanborough gas pipeline, which revealed the remains of a building comprised of chalk walls and floors. It is suggested that the original National Grid Reference is incorrect and that the building is located further to the north-west, closer to Durocornovium.
- 2.13 A cemetery was revealed during construction work at the southern end of the Roman town between 1965 and 1970, to the north of Dorcan Stream. The cemetery contained seven urned cremation burials, six being in vessels dated to the mid-2nd century AD. An unspecified number of other, undated burials have been recovered from a hedgerow ditch in the vicinity of Durocornovium, although were found with no grave goods to aid in identification.
- 2.14 Various quantities of Romano-British pottery dating from the late 1st to the 4th century AD have been found within 1km of the site, predominantly to the north of the River Cole tributary. The types of pottery found include Samian ware, colour-coated ware from Oxford or Andoversford kilns, Savernake wares, black-burnished wares and other local (West Swindon) grey coarse wares were encountered. Large numbers of coins, including hoards dating from the 2nd to the 4th century AD have also been recovered, which have mainly been found by metal detection. Coins noted include those of *Agrippa* (c. 45 BC – 12 BC), *Claudius* (AD 41 – 54) and *Commodus* (AD 180 – 193).

- 2.15 Several enclosures, ditches and other rectilinear features have been noted within the vicinity of the Roman town, identified through various geophysical surveys. It is very likely that the features are associated with the town, as small, sub-settlements and enclosures often develop on the outskirts of Roman towns, for example merchants and traders selling their wares to legionaries and travelling officials (roadside commerce) would often settle on the edge of towns.
- 2.16 Archaeological activity associated with the roadside settlement appears to be largely limited to the extent of the scheduled area, with little evidence for significant activity extending south towards the application site at Redlands Airfield.
- 2.17 After the removal of Roman legions from Britain at the beginning of the 5th century AD, the civil administration collapsed within fifty years. With no economy to support the town, it was quickly abandoned and Saxon settlers used Durocornovium as a source of building material when they settled on Swindon Hill.

#### ***Anglo-Saxon to Medieval (410 to 1540)***

- 2.18 There are no recorded Anglo-Saxon to medieval heritage assets within the site. The Saxons built a farming community based on the top of Swindon Hill, the name of which is historically recorded as *Suindone* which originates from the Old English for pig or swine (*swīn*) and hill (*dūn*), thus 'pig hill'. Anglo-Saxon pottery and cloth finds suggest the town was occupied throughout the 6th and 7th centuries (Child, 2002). Wanborough (Wiltshire) is first mentioned in a charter of King Ethelwulf (854) as *Waenbeorgon*, meaning "Place at the tumour-shaped mounds", taken from the OE *wenn* (tumour) and *beorg* (mound) (Mills, 1998). These tumour shaped mounds may represent round barrows. Potential evidence for Saxons utilising the land immediately surrounding the site comprises one sherd of organic tempered pottery of probable Saxon origin found approximately 270m west of the site.
- 2.19 Wanborough is listed as *Wemberge* in the Domesday Book (AD 1086) and belonged to the Bishop of Winchester; its income was 'for the sustenance of the monks'. At this time Wanborough and Little Hinton (Hinton Parva) together formed a single estate.
- 2.20 Anglo-Saxon features were revealed during a watching brief and excavation carried out at Earls court Manor to the northeast of the site between 1999 and 2001. A large ditch was uncovered approximately 900m north-east of the site, which may

represent an early moat or enclosure ditch. Ten sherds of Anglo-Saxon pottery were found, securely dating the feature to between the 10th and mid-12th centuries. The feature comprises part of a late Anglo-Saxon to early medieval manor or farmstead at Earls court. The manor was apparently in the hands of Stigand, Bishop of Winchester (c. 1043– 1053), but before the Conquest came into the hands of Earl Odo. In 1086 it was held by Stephen the Carpenter, one of the King's sergeants. The overlordship probably descended with that of the manor of Wanborough, for both were in the hands of Geoffrey (III), Count of Perche, at the beginning of the 13th century.

- 2.21 The medieval settlement of Wanborough would appear to have been preferentially located along the line of the Roman road (Ermin Street), with occasional dispersed farmsteads such as that at Slate Farm on Rotten Row. This historic street has probable medieval origins, bordering what was once 'common land'. The distinction between East and West Wanborough occurs by the end of the 13th century, and suggests that Lower (presumably East) Wanborough was then of reasonable size. Some other areas of settlement in the parish probably precede this division, for example Horpit dates from the middle of the 13th century (Dunning *et al*, 1970). The nearby Breach Farm also has medieval origins and was the home of John atte Breche in 1332.
- 2.22 By the 14th century Wanborough was one of the most important villages (in economic terms) in northeast Wiltshire. In 1334 the village was assessed as the fifth most highly-rated fiscal unit in the county. Just east of the main village lie the remains of a medieval mansion-house known as Hall-Place (NHLE: 1016325). The Scheduled Monument includes three large level platforms, on one of which a house was located. It was the home of the wealthy Polton family in the 15th century and there is a local tradition that a chapel dedicated to St Ambrose was attached to the house which has left traces in a field called 'Ambrose', showing visible evidence of disturbance.
- 2.23 Approximately 500m north-west of Wanborough and 550m south-west of the site, are the remains of a medieval moated site on Wanborough Marsh. The moated area measuring 135ft by 100ft was probably the site of a house owned by the Lovell family and the site of the chapel of St Katherine, which was demolished c. 1540. During excavations at Marsh Farm in 2007, two medieval ditches (containing medieval pottery) and an undated gully were uncovered. The ditches are dated to

the 13th to 15th centuries and it is likely that they represent field or paddock boundaries and may be related to the nearby moated site.

- 2.24 Houses such as Hall Place and the one at Wanborough Marsh were the product of a particular historical period in which newly-emerged elite of lawyers, courtiers, diplomats and other officials, mostly with close contacts at court, competed with each other to demonstrate wealth, taste and loyalty to the sovereign, often overstretching themselves financially.
- 2.25 The closest recorded medieval asset to the site comprises an 80m long bank at Foxbridge Farm, which when sectioned in 1991, was found to contain 14th century 'Minety' type pottery in the ditch. The bank and ditch feature was interpreted as a late medieval field boundary. Other finds of medieval pottery found close to the site include two sherds of Tudor Green, found approximately 270m west of the site during a programme of fieldwalking in 2000. This type of pottery is common in towns, but rare in the countryside, where only the richer inhabitants probably used it.
- 2.26 A small collection of medieval coins and tokens were recovered during a metal detectorist rally, approximately 500m west of the site, slightly south of Durocornovium, on Ermin Street in 2000. About six coins, a silver love token and a jetton (trade token) were found.

### ***19th century and Modern changes (1801 – present)***

- 2.27 The WSHER has one recorded 19<sup>th</sup> century heritage asset within the site, in the form of an outfarm south-east of Wanborough House. The redeveloped 19th century outfarm is of a loose courtyard plan, two sides of which are formed by working agricultural buildings (present day Redlands Farm). While the farmstead survives, it has been completely altered from its historic form.

## **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality. In accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (IfA 2009), the evaluation has been designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to

archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable the County Archaeologist to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

- 3.2 Specifically, attention was paid to identifying prehistoric activity associated with the Icknield Way. Specific attention was paid to identifying any Roman activity funerary and/or associated settlement activity which might be located close to the Roman Road. In addition attention was paid to identifying any early medieval activity that may be located within the site.
- 3.3 The evaluation also aimed to establish the nature and significance of the potential archaeological features identified by the geophysical survey.

#### **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 29 trenches all 1.8m wide. Trenches numbered 1 to 17 and 20 to 29 were 30m in length, trench 18 was 10m in length and trench 19 was 20m in length. As viewed in the attached plan (Fig. 2), Trenches 1 to 10 were situated in the southern field abutting the known Roman road. Trenches 11 to 17 were situated in the field to the north west of the site. Trenches 18 to 29 were placed to the east of site. Trenches 1, 5, 6 and 17 were moved to avoid services. This was approved by the curator, Melanie Pomeroy-Killenger. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*.
- 4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*. A single sample was taken from a carbon rich fill 1906 from ditch 1903, Trench 19. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.4 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Andover. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Swindon Museum and Art Gallery under accession number reference SWING: 2015.023 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.

## 5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-12)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A and B
- 5.2 The natural substrate, within all twenty-nine trenches was recorded as yellowish brown/brown silt clays which were overlain by a clay silt relict ploughsoil associated with east/west orientated ridge and furrow. It ranged in depth from 0.14m to 0.31m and was sealed by clay silt topsoil between 0.15m to 0.27m thick.
- 5.3 Trenches 9 to 14, 16, 17, and 20 to 29 only contained relic ploughsoil and were devoid of archaeological features.
- 5.4 The correlation between the results of the geophysical survey and the evaluation were patchy, suggesting that the soil conditions for the geophysical survey were not ideal.

### ***Trench 1 (Figures 2 and 3)***

- 5.5 Three ditches and two furrows were recorded in Trench 1. The most southerly, ditch **103** was not excavated. It was orientated north-east/south-west and was 11.2m long with a width of 0.96m and its clay silt fill **104**. A substantial quantity Roman pottery was retrieved from the surface of the fill. However, its proximity to a geophysical

anomaly on the same alignment leaves open the possibility that this feature is modern and pottery residual

- 5.6 To the north was east/west ditch **107**. It was >1.8 long by 1.03m wide and 0.37m deep containing a single fill **108**, from which six sherds of Roman pottery were retrieved. Just to the south of the ditch were two broad shallow features (**109** and **111**) interpreted as furrows, from there fills (**110** and **112**) Roman and medieval pottery was retrieved. These were on a north-east/south-west alignment, differing from the extant furrows observed through the rest of the site.
- 5.7 East/west ditch **105** in the north of the trench corresponded to a geophysical anomaly interpreted as a rectilinear enclosure. It was >1.8m long by 1.1m and was not excavated. However from the surface of its fill (**106**) a sherd of medieval pottery (Kennet Valley ware) and two Roman sherds were retrieved, suggesting a possible late 11th to late 15th century date for the feature.

#### ***Trench 2 (Figures 2, 3 and 6)***

- 5.8 Just to the north of Trench 1, in Trench 2, there were two ditches. The earliest was north/south orientated ditch **203**. It was >1.8m long by 0.92m wide by 0.13 deep and contained the single fill **204**. Cutting **204** at its northern extent was east/west ditch **205**. It was >3.1m long by >1.09m wide by 0.70m deep and contained two clay silt fills **206** and **207**. From the upper one (**207**), one very small sherd of Cotswold Oolitis limestone tempered ware was retrieved suggesting a possible 11th to 13th century date for this deposit.
- 5.9 A large possible pit **208** was uncovered at the eastern end of the trench. It was 4.5m long by >1.8m wide and contained dark grey silty clay fill **209**. This feature was not excavated, but a substantial quantity of pottery was retrieved from its surface suggesting its fill dated to the late 13th to 16th centuries. Similar features were observed in Trenches 3 and 4.

#### ***Trench 3 (Figures 2 and 3)***

- 5.10 In the centre of Trench 3 there was a large (unexcavated) pit like feature **303**, which may be a continuation of **414** in Trench 4. It was >1.8m long by >13m wide and contained the fill **304**, from the surface of which Roman and medieval pottery was retrieved suggesting a date of late 11th to 15th century for its final filling. To the

south of **303**, was furrow **305**, from which a small quantity of roman pottery was retrieved

#### **Trench 4 (Figures 2, 3 and 7)**

- 5.11 In the centre of Trench 4 a complex of intercutting ditches (**404**, **407**, **409**, and **411**) and an earlier posthole **412**, was uncovered. They seem to correspond to ditch like anomalies on the geophysical survey. Unfortunately, it is unclear which of these ditches belongs to a possible southern boundary of a rectilinear enclosure and which continues to the south-east. Fills **406** (upper fill of **404**) and **408** (fill of **407**) three sherds of Roman pottery were retrieved, suggesting the possibility that these features may be Roman in date.
- 5.12 To the east of the ditch complex Pit **414** was located. It was >11.0m long by >1.8m wide by 0.7m deep with a single machine excavated dark grey silt clay fill **415**, containing pottery spot dated to late 13th to 16th centuries. It seems likely that this pit is a continuation of **303** in Trench 3 and that its size suggests it and possibly **208** in Trench 2 may be quarry pits for the extracting the natural clay and less likely ponds.
- 5.13 At the western end of the trench there was an unexcavated layer of dark grey brown silt clay soil (**416**) underlying relic ploughsoil **401**. It was very similar to fill **415** at the eastern end of the trench and contained one sherd of Roman pottery and may be a relic soil horizon or another pit.

#### **Trench 5 (Figures 2, 3 and 8)**

- 5.14 In Trench 5 two ditches were uncovered. Linear **503** was a north-west/south-east orientated ditch located in the south of the trench. It was >1.8m long by 0.91m wide by 0.22m deep and contained the single silt clay fill **504**. From this fill a small shard of Roman pottery was retrieved. East/west orientated ditch **505** was >1.8m long by 0.99m wide by 0.71m deep and contained two fills **506** and **507**.

#### **Trench 6 (Figures. 2, 3 and 8)**

- 5.15 Towards the western end of Trench 6 were two undated short east/west orientated shallow ditch fragments **603** and **608**. These were between 0.36 and 0.4m wide but only 0.05m deep with single silt clay fills **604** and **609** respectively. Their shallow nature means that they could be the last remnant of a ditch or an east-west orientated furrow. It was cut by north/south ditch **605**, which was >1.8m long by



0.57m wide by 0.29m deep and contained two silt clay fills **606** and **607**. The function and date of this ditch are debatable, but if cut **603/608** is a furrow then it would make ditch **605** a medieval or more likely a post-medieval field ditch.

#### ***Trench 7 (Figures 2, 3 and 9)***

- 5.16 Trench 7 contained four small ditches. North-east/south-west orientated ditch **709** was >1.8m long by 0.88m wide by 0.36m deep and contained the single undated fill **710**. Fill **710** was cut by ditch **707**. It seems to be a northern continuation of a geophysical anomaly and was >3.32m long by 0.9m wide by 0.42m deep. It contained the single dark fill **708**, containing one sherd of Kennet Valley ware suggesting a Late 11th to 15th century date for its filling.
- 5.17 To the west of **707** was the north/south ditch **705**. It was >1.8m long by 0.27m wide by 0.06m deep with a single fill **706** containing two small fragments of Roman and medieval pottery. At the western end of the trench was ditch **703**, which was >1.8m long by 0.86m wide by 0.17m deep, containing the single fill **704** from which a residual Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date notched blade was retrieved.

#### ***Trench 8 (Figures 2 and 3)***

- 5.18 A pair of ditches were recorded in the southern end of Trench 8. The east/west ditch **803** was >1.8m long by 1.38m wide by 0.68m deep. It contained a single silt fill with a single small sherd of Kennet Valley ware dating to the late 11th to 15th centuries. North-west/south-east ditch **805** was located just to the north of **803**. It was >1.9m long by 1.35m wide by 0.5m deep and contained two undated silt fills **806** and **807**.

#### ***Trench 15 (Figs. 2, 4, and 10)***

- 5.19 A single ditch (**1503**) crossed Trench 15. It was roughly orientated east/west and was >2m long by 0.39m wide by 0.29m deep. It contained the single clay silt fill 1504 from which a number of possibly residual flint flakes were retrieved.

#### ***Trench 18 (Figures 2, 5 and 11)***

- 5.20 Trench 18 contained two ditches that corresponded to geophysical anomalies. The earliest was the north-east/south-west orientated ditch **1803**. It was >3.13m long by 0.67m wide by 0.32m deep and contained the two silt clay fills **1804** and **1805**. Fragments of late prehistoric pottery was recovered from both deposits. The unexcavated, north-east/south-west orientated ditch **1806** cut ditch **1803** at its

southern extent. It was >1.8m long by 4.5m. A large fragment of Roman tile retrieved from the surface of its fill **1807**.

### **Trench 19 (Figures 2, 5 and 12)**

- 5.21 Located at the southern end of trench 19, the North-east/south-west orientated ditch **1903** was an eastwards continuation of ditch **1803** in Trench 18. It was >2.25m long by 3.75m wide by 0.89m deep, and contained the four silt clay fills **1904**, **1905**, **1906**, and **1909**. From these deposits, along with other late prehistoric pottery, 59 sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery were retrieved. There are three possible interpretations; the ditch may be of Middle Iron Age date with the fragment of Tegula from the upper fill of **1806** (Trench 18) being intrusive, or the Tegula may belong to an unrecognised later fill, or the Middle Iron Age pottery is residual but indicating Middle Iron Age occupation in the area.
- 5.22 The undated, North-west/south-east orientated ditch **1910** also corresponded to geophysical anomaly. It was >2.0m long by >1.4m wide by 0.52m deep and contained a similar fill sequence to **1903**, with four silt clay fills **1911**, **1912**, **1913**, and **1914**.
- 5.23 Within the centre of the trench was the undated north-east/south-west orientated ditch **1907**. It was >2.86m long by 0.85m wide by 0.16m deep and contained the single silt clay fill **1908**.

## **6. THE FINDS**

- 6.1 Artefactual material from evaluation was hand-recovered from 48 deposits: ditch fills, pit fills, relict ridge-and-furrow soil and topsoil. The recovered material dates to the prehistoric (including Middle Iron Age), Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric. Recording also included form/rim morphology and any evidence for use in the form of carbonised/other residues. Where possible Late prehistoric pottery fabric codes are equated to the type series established for Groundwell West, Wiltshire (Timby 2001) and Roman pottery fabrics to the Wanborough type series (Seager Smith 2001). Where applicable, National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes are also given in Appendix B (Tomber and Dore 1998).

**Pottery: Late prehistoric**

- 6.2 Handmade, undecorated pottery dating to this period (which spans the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age) amounts to 178 sherds (982g) from nine deposits. Condition is mostly moderate and carbonised residues were recorded on 59 sherds across fills **1905**, **1906** and **1909** of ditch **1903**. The average sherd weight of 6g demonstrates a moderate degree of fragmentation.
- 6.3 The bulk of this pottery (164 sherds) presents in a fine quartz-tempered fabric which appears to accord with Timby's QU1 from Groundwell West (2001, 20). Other fabrics represented include those tempered with coarser quartz (QU2), grog (GR) and flint (FL). A rimsherd from a barrel-shaped jar with a simple, upright rim in Fabric QU1 is more closely dateable to the Middle Iron Age (Harding 1972). Similar vessels were recorded at Groundwell West (Timby 2001, 21).

**Roman**

- 6.4 Roman pottery totals 60 sherds (523g) from 17 deposits. The assemblage is moderately fragmented, as indicated by the average sherd weight of 9g. In eight deposits the pottery is residual in medieval-dated features. The condition of sherds in the Roman-dated deposits (in terms of edge abrasion and surface preservation) is mostly moderate to good.
- 6.5 Two continental imports are present. An unfeathered bodysherd of south Gaulish amphora from fill 104 of ditch 103 is of mid 1st to mid 3rd century date. A bodysherd from a Drag. 27 cup in south Gaulish (La Graufesenque) samian, from fill 106 of ditch 105, would have been imported during the late 1st to early 2nd centuries (Webster 1996, 2–3).
- 6.6 The assemblage also includes a small number of regional imports. Fill **104** of ditch **103** produced three sherds of Dorset Black-burnished ware (F54). Black-burnished ware was produced near Poole in Dorset, and when found outside the county it typically dates to the second to fourth centuries (Davies *et al.* 1994, 107). A bodysherd of Oxford Red-slipped ware (F68) from fill **706** of ditch **705**, which features rouletted decoration, is dateable to the mid rd to 4th centuries (Young 1977, 123–4). A base sherd from a beaker in New Forest Colour-coated ware (F74) was retrieved from fill **415** of Pit **414**. This ware type was manufactured at a number of kilns in the New Forest during the late 3rd to 4th centuries (Fulford 1975). A total of

nine unfeathered bodysherds of Severn Valley ware are broadly Romano-British in date.

- 6.7 Seven sherds of Savernake Grog-tempered ware (F1) were recovered from five deposits. The only recognisable form is a large storage jar from furrow deposit **305**. This type of pottery was produced at Savernake Forest and other sites in north Wiltshire during the 1st and earlier 2nd centuries AD (Tomber and Dore 1998, 191). Also of probable local manufacture (and of broad Roman date) is a range of sandy coarsewares (36 sherds), many of which are reduced-fired (F17, F21, F26 and F53), but also including some oxidised fabrics (F13 and F72). Several necked jars are represented in the sandy (F26) and fine (F53) greyware fabrics.

### ***Medieval***

- 6.8 A total of 32 sherds (257g) of medieval pottery was retrieved from 11 deposits. Condition is poor to moderate and the degree of fragmentation is high (average sherd weight 8g).
- 6.9 The majority of the medieval pottery is of relatively local origin. Eight sherds of 'Cotswold type' oolitic limestone-tempered ware are of 11th to 13th century date. Kennet Valley ware (East Wiltshire ware), manufactured in the Savernake/Braydon Forest region and dating to the 12th to early 15th centuries, totals ten sherds (Mellor 1994, Fabric OXAQ, 100–6). Six sherds of Lacock-Nash Hill ware were recovered, which was produced in Wiltshire from the late 13th to 16th centuries (McCarthy 1974, 100–1).
- 6.10 Topsoil **1600** produced four glazed bodysherds of Brill Boarstall ware, which was manufactured at Brill and Boarstall in Buckinghamshire during the 13th and 14th centuries (Mellor 1994, Fabric OXAW, 111–40). A small bodysherd of Tudor Green (TUD) from the Hampshire/Surrey border, dateable to the 14th to 16th centuries, was recovered as an intrusive find in Middle Iron Age ditch fill **1909**.

### ***Post-medieval***

- 6.11 Pottery of this date totals four sherds (22g) from three relict ploughsoil deposits. All are in glazed earthenware fabrics, dating to the mid 16th to 18th centuries, and are in moderate condition.

### ***Lithics***

- 6.12 A total of 55 worked flints (269g) was recorded in 20 deposits, in addition to five pieces of burnt, unworked flint (195g). The lithics comprise 33 flakes; nine blades; two bladelets; five cores; one core fragment; and five retouched tools (Table 1). Many of the lithics were recovered as residual finds in features dated to the Roman and Medieval periods by associated pottery.
- 6.13 Two of the cores are clearly Mesolithic in date: a single-platform type from Trench 13 and one with dual-opposed platforms from relict ridge and furrow soil **1401**. Both feature flake, blade and bladelet scars. In addition, fragmentary bladelets (typically Mesolithic débitage) were recorded in fill **806** of ditch **805** and relict ploughsoil **1501**.
- 6.14 Of the reworked tools, only the notched blade from fill **704** of ditch **703** is a dateable type. This, along with the unretouched blades, is of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. The lithics provide evidence of Mesolithic activity on the site, and some items may also derive from later prehistoric periods.

### ***Ceramic building material***

- 6.15 Six fragments of ceramic building material, all of Roman date, were recovered from three deposits. The only classifiable fragment was of tegula from fill **1807** of ditch **1806**.

### ***Metal objects***

- 6.16 Six corroded fragments of iron were retrieved from four deposits. The three from fill **304** of pit **303**, and possibly that from fill **804** of ditch **803**, are from nails of uncertain date. The fragment from fill **415** of pit **414** may be part of a broad blade.
- 6.17 Pit fill **304** also produced an unclassifiable, amorphous lead alloy fragment.

### ***Worked stone***

- 6.18 Two stone fragments were recorded, both from fill **1906** of the possible Middle Iron Age ditch 1903. A small and burnt fragment (421g) in hard and dense sandstone (possibly Old Red Series) is identifiable as coming from a rotary quern, probably of Later Iron Age type. The second fragment, also of sandstone, is seemingly not worked but is worn, possibly from use as flooring or as a threshold stone.

## 7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

### *Animal Bone*

- 7.1 A total of 11 fragments (60g) of poorly preserved animal bone were recovered from the fills of five deposits (Appendix C). The only identifiable skeletal elements were loose, molar teeth. Cattle (*Bos taurus*) was identified in Iron Age deposits **1803** and **1903** while in the medieval period, cattle and sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) were identified from deposits **208**, **414** and **705**. A further sheep/goat molar was recovered from deposit 505, but not in association with any datable artefacts.
- 7.2 The potential amount of useful interpretative data to be gleaned from such a small assemblage is extremely limited. The fact that only molars, those most robust elements of the skeleton were recovered, suggests that while there may be an origin in domestic waste, any other material has been removed by taphonomic actions and the assemblage is now more than likely residual in nature.

## 8. DISCUSSION

### *Mesolithic/Neolithic*

- 8.1 Activity from this period is marked by 55 residual worked flints in 20 deposits, predominately in the west of the site. Two of the cores (Trenches 13 and 14) and the fragmentary bladelets, which were recorded in fill **806** of ditch **805** and relict ploughsoil **1501** are Mesolithic in date. The notched blade from fill **704** of ditch **703** is of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. It is unclear how many of the other flint items derive this period or belong from later prehistoric periods. However it suggests the potential for further evidence for Mesolithic and Neolithic activity in the western portion of the site

### *Late prehistoric (Early/Middle Iron Age)*

- 8.2 The excavated contexts in Trenches 18 and 19 produced a large quantity of Middle Iron Age and late prehistoric pottery and artefacts (Figs, 2 and 5). This suggests that there is probably a Middle Iron Age/late prehistoric occupation focus in this area of the site. However it is unclear from the evaluation whether all of the excavated ditches and those shown on the geophysical survey belong to this period. This is because a single large fragment of Tegula from fill **1807** was retrieved from the surface of the unexcavated fill of the later north-east/south-west orientated ditch

**1806** in Trench 18. This ditch from the geophysical survey looks like a continuation of ditch **1903**, so either the Roman tile is intrusive, or belongs to a later unrecognised fill or feature, or this ditch (**1806/1903**) is Roman and the substantial quantity of Middle Iron Age pottery is residual.

### ***Roman/medieval***

- 8.3 There were a number of ditches in the west of the site which have been spot dated to the Roman and medieval periods; and in some cases these features correspond to geophysical anomalies. Unfortunately, within the limits of the evaluation and geophysical survey, it is difficult to interpret the results beyond saying that the Roman Road, Ermin Street is believed to run along the southern boundary of the site and that the roman finds in the area are consistent with low level activity alongside this road. However it is not known how many, if any, of the enclosures and ditches shown on the geophysical survey and subsequent evaluation belong to this period. But it seems likely that at least some of these ditches and enclosures are medieval or early post-medieval in date, especial the two large pits **208** and **303/414** in Trenches 1, 3, and 4, which may be 13th to 16th century in date. The size of these pits (over 16m long by 13m wide by 0.7m deep), suggests that they may be clay quarries or just possibly a pond(s).

### ***Post-medieval***

- 8.4 East/west orientated extant ridge and furrow is visible across the central portion of the site and it is probably related to the relict ploughsoil seen across the whole site, immediately below modern topsoil. Finds retrieved from the relict ploughsoil in the eastern portion of the site suggest that it is mid 16th to 18th century in date, although, the ploughsoil in the western portion of the site might possibly be medieval in date. In addition the slight nature of the ridge and furrow, the lack of any evidence for slighting, and the wet nature of the pasture in the eastern portion of the site (*pers. comm.* The Farmer), suggests the possibility that some of it at least may have been to improve drainage rather than arable cultivation.

## **9. CA PROJECT TEAM**

- 9.1 Phase 1 fieldwork was undertaken by Joe Whelan, assisted by Tony Brown, Stephen Bush, Andrew Donald, Jeremy Clutterbuck, Jack Martin-Jones and Christopher Whitehead; and Phase 2 by Peter Busby assisted Noel Boothroyd and

Franco Vartuca. The report was written by Peter Busby, Joe Whelan and Andrew Donald. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville and Andy Clarke respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Leo Heatley. The archive has been compiled by Andrew Donald and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard Greatorex

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Grey brown clay silt	>31.8	>1.8	0.27	
1	101	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Dark grey silty clay	>31.8	>1.8	0.18	
1	102	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Mix of yellow and grey silt clay	>31.8	>1.8	>0.13	
1	103	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW linear in plan. Unexcavated	>11.2	0.96		
1	104	Fill	103	Ditch fill	Dark grey clay silt. Unexcavated	>11.2	0.96		C2
1	105	Cut		Ditch	E/W linear in plan. Unexcavated	>2	1.1		
1	106	Fill	105	Ditch fill	Dark grey silt clay. Unexcavated	>2	1.1		LC11-LC15
1	107	Cut		Ditch	E/W linear in plan with moderate sloping symmetrical convex sides and flat base	>1.8	1.03	0.37	
1	108	Fill	107	Ditch fill	Grey silt clay	>1.8	1.03	0.37	RB
1	109	Cut		Furrow	NE/SW linear in plan with shallow sloping sides and concave base	>1.8	0.74	0.04	
1	110	Fill	109	Furrow fill	Light brownish grey clayey silt	>1.8	0.74	0.04	LC11-LC15
1	111	Cut		Furrow	NE/SW linear in plan with shallow sloping sides and concave base	>1.8	0.66	0.05	
1	112	Fill	111	Furrow Fill	Light grey clay silt. Compact	>1.8	0.66	0.05	RB
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Grey brown clay silt	>30	>1.8	0.18	
2	201	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Dark grey silt clay	>30	>1.8	0.26	
2	202	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Mix of yellow and grey silt clay	>30	>1.8	>0.15	
2	203	Cut		Ditch	N/S linear in plan with shallow concave sides and flat base	>1.1	0.92	0.13	
2	204	Fill	203	Ditch fill	Grey brown silt clay	>1.1	0.92	0.13	
2	205	Cut		Ditch	E/W linear in plan. South side excavated revealed moderate convex side and concave base	>3.1	>1.09	0.70	
2	206	Fill	205	Lower ditch fill	Grey with light yellowish grey patches clay silt.	>0.8	>1.9	0.25	
2	207	Fill	205	Upper ditch fill	Dark grey brown silt clay with 5% charcoal flecks	>3.1	>1.09	0.47	C11-C13
2	208	Cut		Pit	Curved edge of large feature at western end of Trench 2. Unexcavated	>4.5	>1.8		
2	209	Fill		Pit fill	Dark grey silt clay. Unexcavated	>4.5	>1.8		LC13-C16
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Light brown grey clay silt	>30.4	>1.8	0.23	
3	301	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Brown grey silt clay	>30.4	>1.8	0.28	
3	302	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Light brown grey clay	>30.4	>1.8	>0.16	
3	303	Cut		Pit	NE/SW linear. Unexcavated	>1.8	>1.3		
3	304	Fill		Pit fill	Dark grey silt clay. Unexcavated	>1.8	>1.3		LC11-LC15
3	305	Layer		Furrow	E/W linear. Unexcavated	>1.8	2.24		MC1-C2
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	As 300	>30	>1.8	0.17	
4	401	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Light grey brown clay silt	>30	>1.8	0.14	
4	402	Fill	404	Upper Ditch fill	Dark grey with frequent yellow streaks silt clay	>4.0		0.43	
4	403	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Light brown clay silt	>30	>1.8	>0.15	
4	404	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE to NE/SW curvilinear with steep sides down to concave base	>12	1.5	0.6	
4	405	Fill	404	Lower ditch fill	Grey clay	>1	0.5	0.08	
4	406	Fill	404	Upper ditch fill	Grey silt clay	>12	1.5	0.4	MC1-C2
4	407	Cut		Ditch/pit	A possible NW/SE linear with shallow sides. Base not seen	>5	>2.0	0.34	
4	408	Fill	407	Ditch/pit fill	Grey silt clay	>5	>2.0	0.34	RB

4	409	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE linear in plan with moderate concave sloping sides and concave base	>2	0.9	0.27	
4	410	Fill	409	Ditch fill	Grey silty clay	>2	0.5	0.7	
4	411	Fill	409	Ditch fill	Dark brown black silt clay. Soft.	>2	0.9	0.25	
4	412	Cut		Posthole	Circular in plan with vertical sides and flat base.	0.2	0.2	0.29	
4	413	Fill	414	Posthole fill	Grey silt clay	0.2	0.2	0.29	
4	414	Cut		Pit	Large, curved edge cut in eastern extent of trench. Machine excavated.	>11.0	>1.8	0.7	
4	415	Fill	414	Pit fill	Dark grey silt clay	<11.0	>1.8	0.7	LC13-C16
4	416	Layer		Soil horizon	Dark grey brown silt clay. Unexcavated	>3.6	>1.8	-	RB
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Grey brown silt clay	>24.1	>1.8	0.25	
5	501	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Dark grey silt clay	>24.1	>1.8	0.31	
5	502	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Yellowish brown silt clay	>24.1	>1.8	>0.25	
5	503	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE linear in plan with shallow concave sides and base	>1.8	0.91	0.22	
5	504	Fill	503	Ditch fill	Grey brown silt clay	>1.8	0.91	0.22	RB
5	505	Cut		Ditch	E/W Linear with steep sides and a concave base	>1.9	0.99	0.71	
5	506	Fill	505	Lower ditch fill	Dark grey silt clay	>1.9	0.59	0.10	
5	507	Fill	505	Upper ditch fill	Dark grey silt clay	>1.9	0.99	0.62	
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Greyish brown clay silt	>27	1.8	0.22	
6	601	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Light brown grey silt clay	>27	1.8	0.18	
6	602	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Yellowish brown clay	>27	1.8	>0.3	
6	603	Cut		Ditch	E/W linear in plan with shallow sides and flat base.	>1.4	0.36	0.05	
6	604	Fill	603	Ditch fill	Dark grey silty clay	>1.4	0.36	0.05	
6	605	Cut		Ditch	N/S linear in plan with vertical/moderate slightly concave sides and concave base	>1.8	0.78	0.29	
6	606	Fill	605	Lower ditch fill	Yellow brown silt clay	>1.8	0.53	0.15	
6	607	Fill	605	Upper ditch fill	Dark grey silt clay	>1.8	0.78	0.14	
6	608	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE linear with a shallow sloping eastern side. Base and western side truncated by 610	>1.32	0.4	0.05	
6	609	Fill	608	Ditch fill	Same as 607	>1.32	0.4	0.05	
6	610	Cut		Ditch	Same as 605	>0.37	>0.57	>0.29	
6	611	Fill	610	Ditch fill	Dark grey silt clay	>0.37	>0.57	>0.29	
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Light grey silt	>30	>1.8	0.27	
7	701	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Light grey brown clay silt	>30	>1.8	0.28	
7	702	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Light grey clay silt.	>30	>1.8	>0.45	
7	703	Cut		Ditch	E/W linear in plan with moderately sloping concave sides with concave base	>1.8	0.86	0.17	
7	704	Fill	703	Ditch fill	Dark grey silt clay	>1.8	0.86	0.17	
7	705	Cut		Ditch	N/S linear in plan with moderately sloping concave sides and W profiled base	>1.8	0.27	0.06	
7	706	Fill	505	Ditch fill	Dark grey clay silt	>1.8	0.27	0.06	C11-C13
7	707	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW linear in plan with steep/vertical sides. W side has a flat steep towards the base. The base is slightly concave	>3.32	0.9	0.42	
7	708	Fill		Ditch fill	Dark grey clay silt	>3.32	0.9	0.42	LC11-LC15
7	709	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW linear with steep/moderate sides and concave base.	>1.8	0.88	0.36	
7	710	Fill	709	Ditch fill	Dark grey clay silt	>1.8	0.88	0.36	

8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Brown silt	>30	>1.8	0.2	
8	801	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Grey brown clay silt.	>30	>1.8	0.2	
8	802	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Mid – light yellow brown clay silt	>30	>1.8	>0.35	
8	803	Cut		Ditch	E/W linear in plan with moderately sloping sides and concave base	>1.8	1.38	0.68	
8	804	Fill	803	Ditch fill	Grey brown silt	>1.8	1.38	0.68	LC11-LC15
8	805	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE linear in plan with vertical/steep sides and flattish base	>1.9	1.35	0.5	
8	806	Fill	805	Lower ditch fill	Bluish grey/yellow brown silt	>1	1.35	0.5	
8	807	Fill	805	Upper ditch fill	Bluish grey silt .	>1.9	0.85	0.30	
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown clay silt	>30	>1.9	0.16	
9	901	Layer		Relic plough soil	Yellow brown silty clay	>30	>1.9	0.4	
9	902	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Red brown silty clay	>30	>1.9	0.56+	
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	As 900	>30	>1.9	0.17	
10	1001	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 901	>30	>1.9	0.36	
10	1002	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Yellow brown silt clay	>30	>1.9	>0.11	
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	As 900	>30	>1.9	0.14	
11	1101	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 901	>30	>1.9	0.16	
11	1102	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 1002	>30	>1.9	0.06	
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	As 900	>30	>1.9	0.16	Late prehistoric
12	1201	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 901	>30	>1.9	0.16	
12	1202	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 1002	>30	>1.9	0.40+	
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	As 900	>30	>1.9	0.23	
13	1301	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 901	>30	>1.9	0.11	
13	1302	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 1002	>30	>1.9	>0.08	
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	As 900	>30	>1.9	0.23	
14	1401	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 901	>30	>1.9	0.19	
14	1402	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 1002	>30	>1.9	>0.27	
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	As 900	>30	>1.9	0.17	
15	1501	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 901	>30	>1.9	0.11	
15	1502	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 1002	>30	>1.9	>0.07	
15	1503	Cut		Ditch	E/W linear in plan with steep sides and concave base	>2	0.39	0.29	
15	1504	Fill	1503	Ditch fill	Yellow brown clay silt	>2	0.39	0.29	
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	As 900	>30	>1.9	0.22	C13-C14
16	1601	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 901	>30	>1.9	0.15	
16	1602	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 1002	>30	>1.9	>0.06	
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil	As 900	>30	>1.9	0.16	
17	1701	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 901	>30	>1.9	0.2	
17	1702	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 1002	>30	>1.9	>0.04	
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown clay silt	>10.3	>1.8	0.29	
18	1801	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Brown grey silt clay	>10.3	>1.8	0.19	
18	1802	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 1002	>10.3	>1.8	>0.25	
18	1803	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW linear in plan with steep, steeped sides and flat base	>3.13	0.67	0.32	
18	1804	Fill	1803	Lower ditch fill	Light grey silt clay	>1	0.35	0.04	Late prehistoric
18	1805	Fill	1803	Upper ditch fill	Dark grey silt clay	>3.13	0.67	0.28	Late prehistoric

18	1806	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW linear in plan. Unexcavated	>1.8	4.5		
18	1807	Fill	1806	Ditch fill	As 1909. Unexcavated	>1.8	4.5		RB
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Brown clay silt	>20	>1.8	0.22	
19	1901	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Light brown yellow clay silt	>20	>1.8	0.18	EIA-MIA
19	1902	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Light brown yellow clay	>20	>1.8	>0.12	
19	1903	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW linear in plan with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Not completely excavated.	>2.25	3.75	0.89	
19	1904	Fill	1903	Ditch fill	Grey silt clay	>1	1.4	0.95	Late prehistoric
19	1905	Fill	1903	First ditch fill	Brown red brown silt clay	>1	>0.74	0.3	MIA
19	1906	Fill	1903	Ditch fill	Light grey silt clay	>1	>1.1	0.22	MIA
19	1907	Cut		Ditch	NE/SW linear in plan with a moderately sloping northern side and a more gently sloping southern side; and a slightly concave base	>2.86	0.85	0.16	
19	1908	Fill	1907	Ditch fill	Red brown silt clay	>2.86	0.85	0.16	
19	1909	Fill	1903	Final ditch fill	Dark grey silt clay	>2.25	3.95	0.44	MIA
19	1910	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE linear in plan with moderately sloping sides and concave base. Not fully excavated	>2.0	>1.4	0.52	
19	1911	Fill	1910	First ditch fill	Brown clay silt	>1.3	>1.3	0.58	
19	1912	Fill	1910	Ditch fill	Red brown clay silt	>1.3	>0.8	0.15	
19	1913	Fill	1910	Final ditch fill	Dark brown silty clay	>2	1.4	0.26	
19	1914	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Dark grey clay silt			0.3	
20	2001	Layer		Topsoil	Grey brown silt clay	>30	>1.8	0.3	
20	2002	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	Orange brown clay	>30	>1.8	0.15	RB
20	2003	Layer		Natural (Drift)	Bright orange brown/brown clay	>30	>1.8	>0.35	
21	2101	Layer		Topsoil	As 2001	>30	>1.8	0.3	
21	2102	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 2002	>30	>1.8	0.25	MC16-C18
21	2103	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 2003	>30	>1.8	>0.2	
22	2201	Layer		Topsoil	As 2001	>30	>1.8	0.15	
22	2202	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 2002	>30	>1.8	0.2	
22	2203	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 2003	>30	>1.8	>0.10	
22	2204	Layer		Dump	Light yellow brown silt clay containing plastic drainage pipe fragments not retrieved	>12.2	>1.8	>0.2	
23	2301	Layer		Topsoil	As 2001	>30	>1.8	0.2	
23	2302	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 2002	>30	>1.8	0.15	
23	2303	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 2003	>30	>1.8	>0.07	
24	2401	Layer		Topsoil	As 2001	>30	>1.8	0.2	
24	2402	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 2002	>30	>1.8	0.2	
24	2403	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 2003	>30	>1.8	>0.1	
25	2501	Layer		Topsoil	As 2001	>30	>1.8	0.25	
25	2502	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 2002	>30	>1.8	0.2	RB
25	2503	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 2003	>30	>1.8	>0.05	
26	2601	Layer		Topsoil	As 2001	>30	>1.8	0.2	
26	2602	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 2002	>30	>1.8	0.15	MC16-C18
26	2603	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 2003	>30	>1.8	>0.05	
27	2701	Layer		Topsoil	As 2001	>30	>1.8	0.2	

27	2702	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 2002	>30	>1.8	0.15	
27	2703	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 2003	>30	>1.8	>0.1	
28	2801	Layer		Topsoil	As 2001	>30	>1.8	0.25	
28	2802	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 2002	>30	>1.8	0.2	MC16-C18
28	2803	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 2003	>30	>1.8	>0.05	
29	2901	Layer		Topsoil	As 2001	>30	>1.8	0.2	
29	2902	Layer		Relict ploughsoil	As 2002	>30	>1.8	0.15	
29	2903	Layer		Natural (Drift)	As 2003	>30	>1.8	>0.1	

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

## Finds concordance

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code/ NRFC*	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
104	Roman pottery	South Gaulish amphora	<b>GAL AM</b>	1	6	C2
	Roman pottery	Dorset Black-burnished ware	<b>54/DOR BB1</b>	4	21	
	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog-tempered ware	<b>1/SAV GT</b>	2	49	
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley ware	<b>20/SVW OX2</b>	3	17	
	Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	26	5	12	
	Roman pottery	Fine greyware	53	5	29	
	Roman pottery	Fine whiteware	86	1	5	
	Roman ceramic building material	Fragment		4	144	
	Worked flint	Flake, core		2	12	Prehistoric
106	Roman pottery	South Gaulish samian	<b>LGF SA</b>	1	5	LC11-LC15
	Roman pottery	Fine greyware	53	1	8	
	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	OXAQ	1	9	
108	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog-tempered ware	<b>1/SAV GT</b>	1	2	RB
	Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	26	1	1	
	Roman pottery	Black-surfaced greyware	21	1	2	
	Fired clay			1	<1	
	Worked flint	Flake		1	6	
110	Roman pottery	Fine greyware	53	2	9	LC11-LC15
	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	OXAQ	2	12	
	Medieval pottery	Lacock-Nash Hill ware		1	3	
	Worked flint	Flakes, core		3	23	
112	Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	26	1	13	RB
	Roman pottery	Sandy white/orange ware	13	1	<1	
	Iron	Fragment		1	3	
204	Fired clay			1	7	-
207	Medieval pottery	Cotswold Oolitic limestone-tempered ware		2	1	C11-C13
	Fired clay			2	7	
209	Roman pottery	Severn Valley ware	<b>20/SVW OX2</b>	5	26	LC13-C16
	Roman pottery	Fine greyware	53	2	22	
	Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	26	2	28	
	Roman pottery	Coarse, micaceous, sandy greyware	18	1	3	
	Roman pottery	Black-surfaced greyware	21	1	8	
	Medieval pottery	Lacock/Nash Hill ware		2	22	
	Medieval pottery	Cotswold Oolitic limestone-tempered ware		1	3	
	Worked flint	Spurred piece		1	3	
	Burnt flint			1	39	
304	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog-tempered ware	<b>1/SAV GT</b>	2	30	LC11-LC15
	Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	26	1	13	
	Roman pottery	Black-surfaced greyware	21	1	9	
	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	OXAQ	1	20	
	Medieval pottery	Cotswold Oolitic limestone-tempered ware		1	10	
	Roman ceramic	Fragment		2	104	

	building material					
	Iron	Nail		3	21	
	Lead	Fragment		1	6	
305	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog-tempered ware	1/ <b>SAV GT</b>	1	48	MC1-C2
	Roman pottery	Orange sandy ware	72	1	<1	
406	Roman pottery	Savernake Grog-tempered ware	1/ <b>SAV GT</b>	1	39	MC1-C2
408	Roman pottery	Fine greyware	53	1	26	RB
	Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	26	1	<1	RB
411	Fired clay			1	<1	-
415	Roman pottery	New Forest colour-coated ware	74/ <b>NFO CC</b>	1	36	LC13-C16
	Roman pottery	Severn Valley ware	20/ <b>SAV GT</b>	1	3	
	Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	26	2	8	
	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	OXAQ	4	48	
	Medieval pottery	Lacock/Nash Hill ware		3	72	
	Medieval pottery	Cotswold Oolitic limestone-tempered ware		3	24	
	Medieval pottery	Sandy coarseware		1	4	
	Roman ceramic	Fragment		3	92	
	building material					
	Iron	Blade fragment		1	154	
	Worked flint	Flake		1	18	
	Burnt flint			2	128	
416	Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	26	1	20	RB
504	Roman pottery	Orange sandy ware	72	1	7	RB
507	Worked flint	Flake, blade		2	3	-
600	Worked flint	Flake, blade		2	13	-
606	Worked flint	Flake		1	1	-
704	Worked flint	Flake, notched blade, convex scraper		3	18	-
706	Roman pottery	Oxford red-slipped ware	68/ <b>OXF RS</b>	1	4	C11-C13
	Medieval pottery	Cotswold Oolitic limestone-tempered ware		1	5	
	Worked flint	Flake, blades, scraper/spurred piece, core fragment		6	18	
708	Roman pottery	Sandy greyware	26	2	3	LC11-LC15
	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	OXAQ	1	8	
800	Worked flint	Flake		2	10	-
	Burnt flint			1	25	-
804	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	OXAQ	1	4	LC11-LC15
	Iron	Nail?		1	6	
806	Worked flint	Flakes, bladelet		3	3	-
	Burnt flint			1	3	-
1101	Worked flint	Flake		1	2	-
1201	Worked flint	Flakes, blades, notched flake		5	31	-
1200	Late prehistoric pottery	Grog-tempered fabric	GR	2	6	Late prehistoric
	Late prehistoric pottery	Grog-and-quartz tempered fabric		1	5	
1202	Worked flint	Flake, blade, core		3	16	-
1302	Worked flint	Flake, core		2	32	-
1401	Worked flint	Flake, core		2	29	-
1500	Worked flint	Flakes, blades		4	19	-
1501	Worked flint	Flakes, blade, bladelet		6	7	-
1504	Worked flint	Flake		4	4	-
1600	Medieval pottery	Brill Boarstall ware	OXAW	4	5	C13-C14
1804	Late prehistoric pottery	Fine quartz-tempered fabric	QU1	3	3	Late prehistoric



1805	Late prehistoric pottery Fired clay	Fine quartz-tempered fabric	QU1	21	86	Late prehistoric
				5	12	
1807	Late prehistoric pottery Roman ceramic building material	Fine quartz-tempered fabric Tegula	QU1	3	11	RB
				1	214	
1901	Late prehistoric pottery Late prehistoric pottery	Fine quartz-tempered fabric Coarse flint-tempered fabric	QU1 FL	19 1	66 5	EIA-MIA
1904	Late prehistoric pottery	Fine quartz-tempered fabric	QU1	1	5	Late prehistoric
1905	Late prehistoric pottery Late prehistoric pottery	Fine quartz-tempered fabric Coarse flint-tempered fabric	QU1 FL	37 1	211 14	MIA
1906	Late prehistoric pottery Late prehistoric pottery Fired clay Worked stone	Fine quartz-tempered fabric Coarser quartz-tempered fabric Quern fragment, floor fragment	QU1 QU2	39 2 1 2	278 16 4 889	MIA
1909	Late prehistoric pottery Late prehistoric pottery Medieval pottery	Fine quartz-tempered fabric Coarser quartz-tempered fabric Tudor Green	QU1 QU2 TUD	41 7 1	245 31 0	MIA
2002	Roman pottery	Grog-tempered fabric		1	6	C1-C2
2102	Medieval pottery Post-medieval pottery	Limestone-tempered, glazed fabric Glazed earthenware	LS GLEW	2 1	7 5	MC16-C18
2502	Roman pottery Worked flint	Sandy greyware Flake	26	1 1	5 1	RB
2602	Post-medieval pottery	Glazed earthenware	GLEW	1	7	MC16-C18
2802	Post-medieval pottery	Glazed earthenware	GLEW	2	10	MC16-C18

\* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold

## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	MM	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
<b>Iron Age</b>							
1803	1805	1				1	16
1903	1906	1				1	14
<b>subtotal</b>		<b>2</b>				<b>2</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>medieval</b>							
208	209	1				1	21
414	415		1		2	3	6
705	706		1			1	1
<b>subtotal</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>undated</b>							
505	507			1		3	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	
<b>Weight</b>		<b>51</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>60</b>	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; MM = sheep size mammal; Ind = indeterminate

**APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	Land at Redlands Airfield	
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>Across the western part of site, a small number of Mesolithic and Neolithic worked flints were recovered. In the central area of site, focused on Trenches 18 and 19, there was evidence for Middle Iron Age occupation, although it is currently unclear how many of the ditches in this area date to this period.</p> <p>To the west of the site, on the northern side of the Roman road Ermin Street, a number of ditches and possible rectilinear enclosures were seen in both the geophysical survey and evaluation. These date from the Roman to medieval periods, although currently there is no clear idea as to the development of the area. In the centre of this area were two possibly three large late medieval pit or quarries. Mid-16th to 18th century ridge and furrow covered most of the site.</p>	
Project dates	13 – 17 July 2015 and 17 – 21 August 2015	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Geophysical Survey (Cranfield University 2015) Desk-based assessment (Ecus Ltd 2015)	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	Redlands Airfield, Wanborough, Swindon	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	17.2 ha	
Site co-ordinates	SU 420342 184668	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Greatorex	
Project Supervisor	Peter Busby, Joe Whelan	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	None	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Swindon Museum and Art Gallery SWIMG: 2015.023	Ceramics, animal bone, stone
Paper	Swindon Museum and Art Gallery SWIMG: 2015.023	Context and trench sheets
Digital	Swindon Museum and Art Gallery SWIMG: 2015.023	Digital photos and drawings
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 <i>Land at Redlands Airfield, Wanborough, Swindon, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i>. CA typescript report <b>15665</b></p>		



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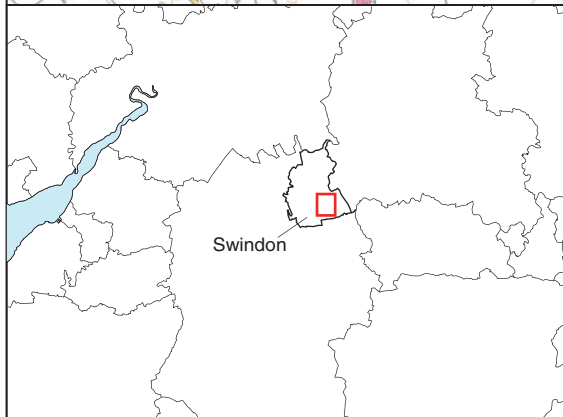
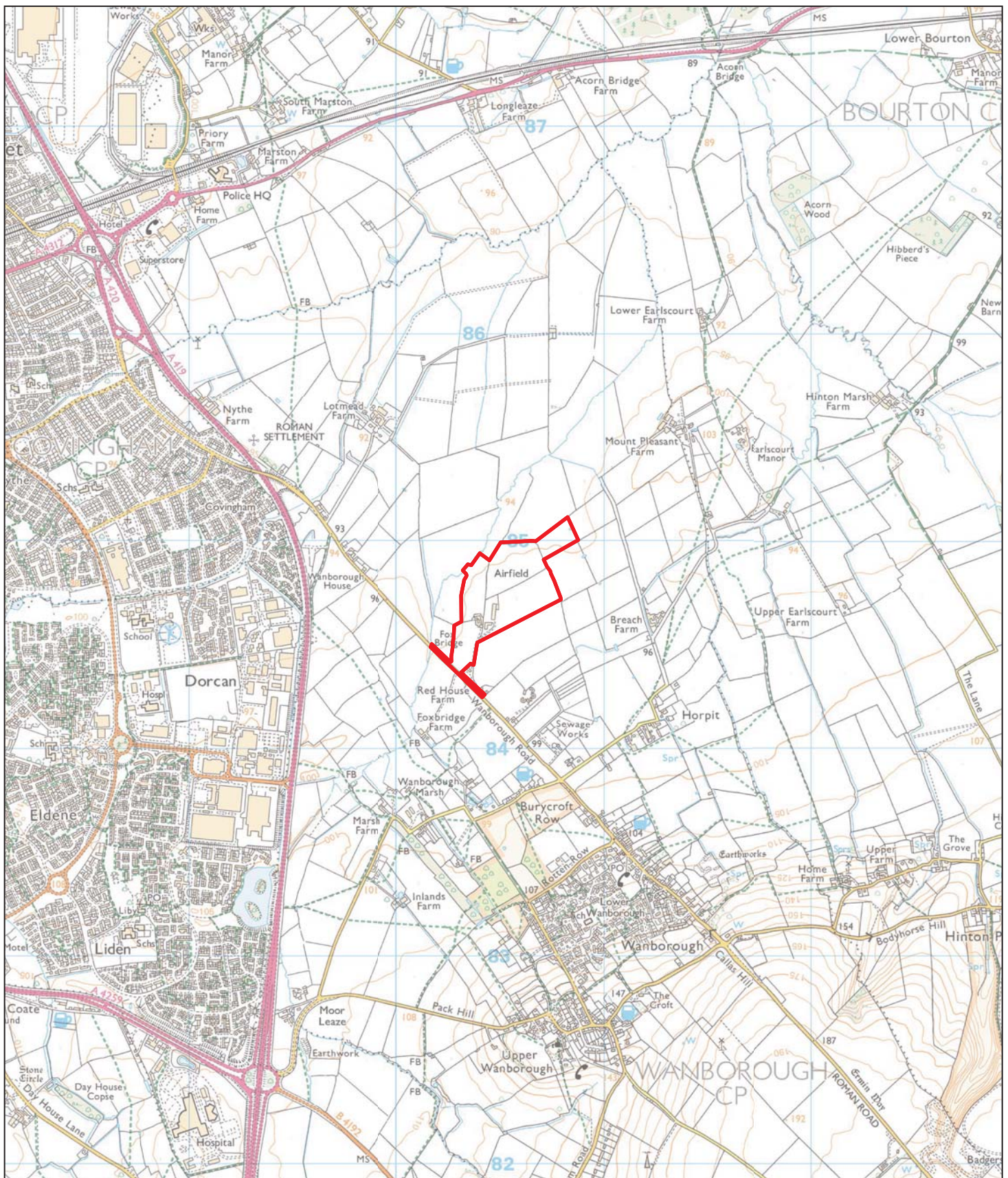
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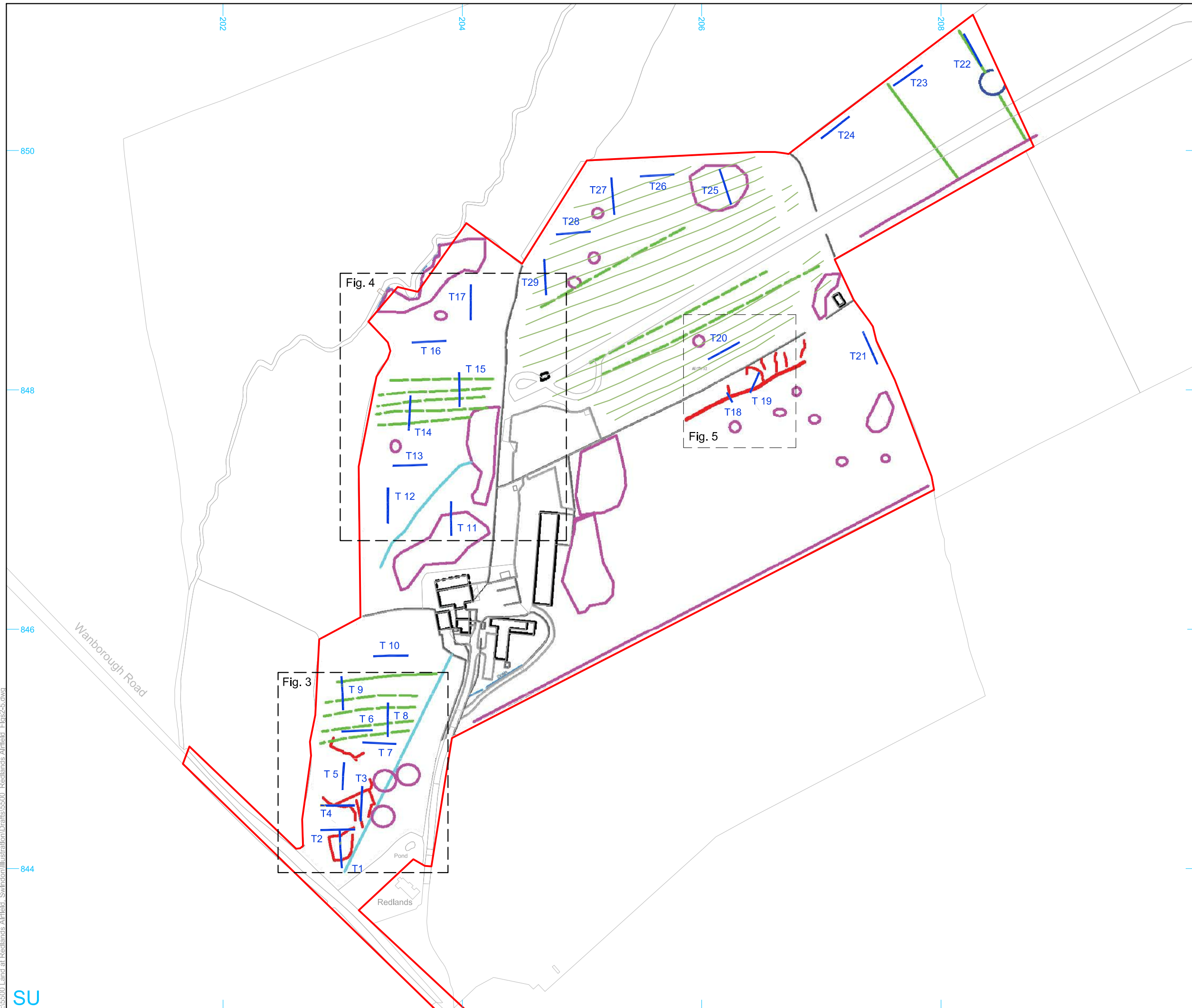


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**PROJECT TITLE**  
Land at Redlands Airfield, Wanborough Swindon

**FIGURE TITLE**  
Site location plan

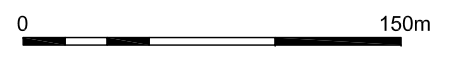
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<b>APPROVED BY</b> REG	<b>SCALE@A4</b> 1:25,000	<b>1</b>



- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- furrow

**Geophysical Survey results  
(Cranfield University 2015)**

- former field boundary
- modern ferrous effects from fences
- traces of ridge and furrow
- modern pipes
- archaeological
- modern ferrous i.e. asphalt/agricultural machinery etc
- former pond
- soakaway



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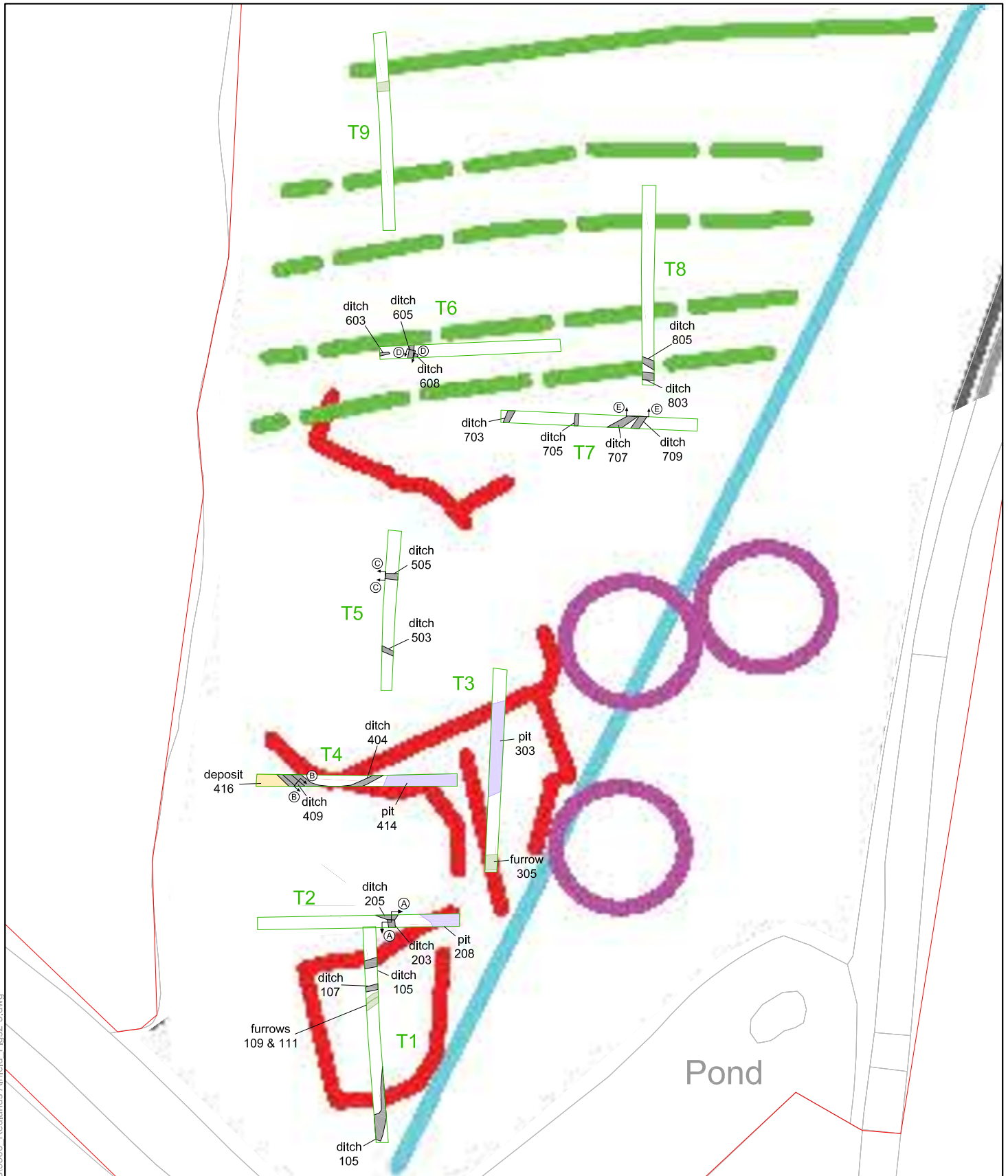
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**Land at Redlands Airfield  
 Wanborough, Swindon**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench location plan**

<small>DRAWN BY</small> R.JH/LJH	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> 5500	<small>FIGURE NO.</small>	
<small>CHECKED BY</small> JB	<small>REVISION</small> 02		
<small>DATE</small> 02/09/2015	<small>SCALE@A3</small> 1:3000		<b>2</b>

P:\5500 Land at Redlands Airfield, Swindon\Illustration\Drafts\5500\_Redlands Airfield\_Figs2-5.dwg





- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- layer/deposit
- geological feature
- furrow
- ⓑ ⓐ section location

- Geophysical Survey results**  
(Cranfield University 2015)
- traces of ridge and furrow
  - modern pipes
  - archaeological
  - modern ferrous i.e. asphalt/agricultural machinery etc

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**PROJECT TITLE**  
**Land at Redlands Airfield**  
**Wanborough, Swindon**

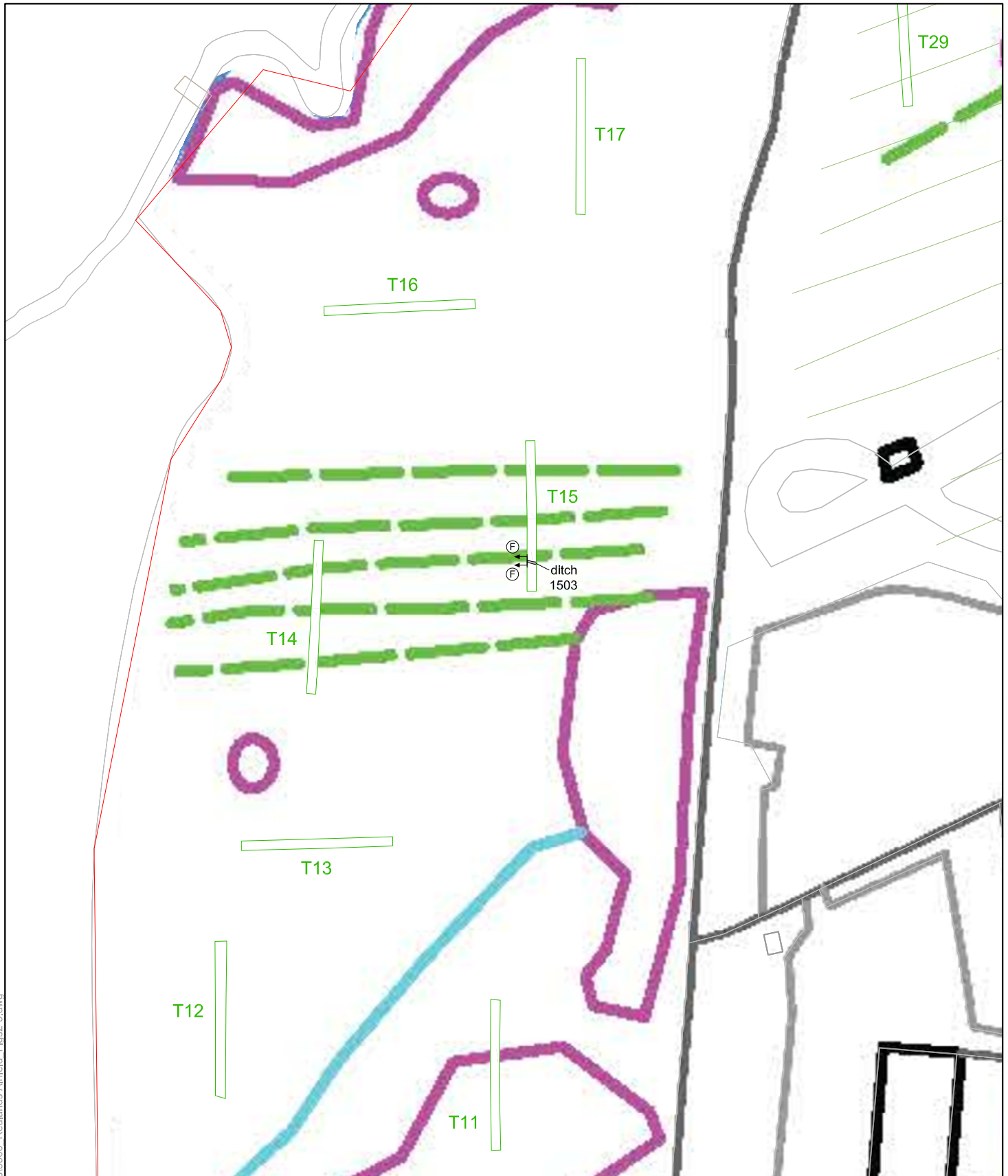
**FIGURE TITLE**  
**Trench location plan showing**  
**observed archaeological features:**  
**south-western field**

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**CHECKED BY** JB **REVISION** 02  
**DATE** 02/09/2015 **SCALE@A4** 1:750

**FIGURE NO.**

**3**





- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- section location

**Geophysical Survey results**  
(Cranfield University 2015)

- traces of ridge and furrow
- modern pipes
- archaeological
- modern ferrous i.e. asphalt/agricultural machinery etc



0  50m

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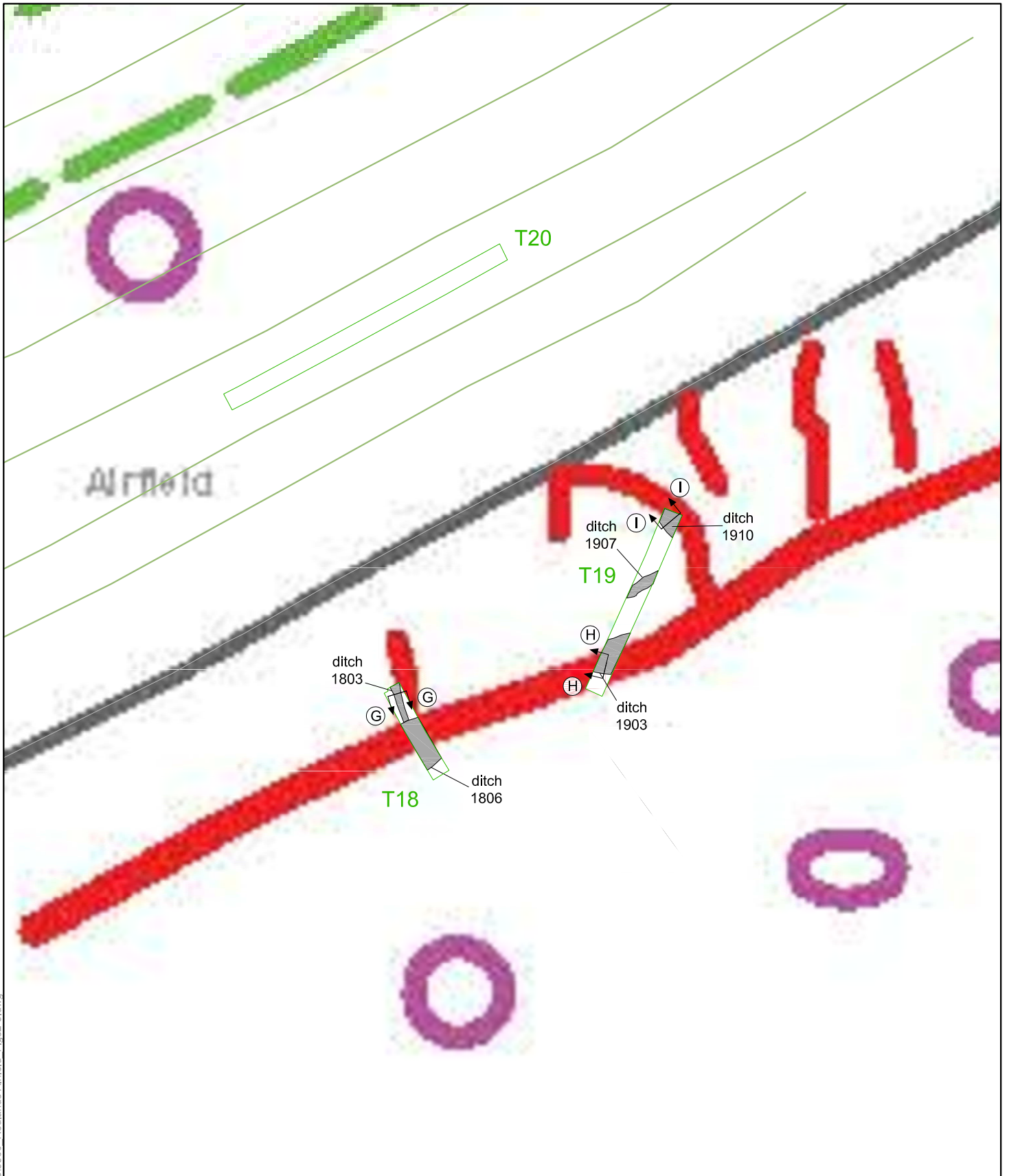
**PROJECT TITLE**  
**Land at Redlands Airfield**  
**Wanborough, Swindon**

**FIGURE TITLE**  
**Trench location plan showing**  
**observed archaeological features:**  
**north-western field.**

**DRAWN BY** TWL/JH **PROJECT NO.** 5500  
**CHECKED BY** JB **REVISION** 02  
**DATE** 26/08/2015 **SCALE@A4** 1:1000

**FIGURE NO.**

**4**



- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- archaeological feature
- furrow
- section location

- Geophysical Survey results**  
(Cranfield University 2015)
- traces of ridge and furrow
  - modern pipes
  - archaeological
  - modern ferrous i.e. asphalt/agricultural machinery etc



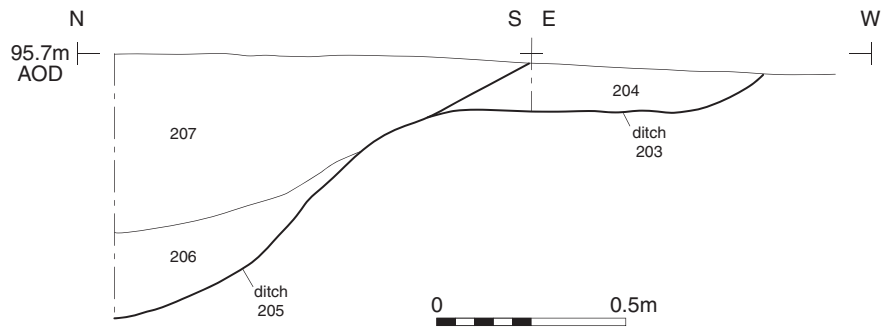
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**PROJECT TITLE**  
**Land at Redlands Airfield**  
**Wanborough, Swindon**

**FIGURE TITLE**  
**Trench location plan showing**  
**observed archaeological features:**  
**eastern field**

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<b>CHECKED BY</b>	<b>JB</b>	<b>REVISION</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>02/09/2015</b>	<b>SCALE@A4</b>	<b>1:500</b>	

Section AA



Roman ditch [205] looking north-east (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

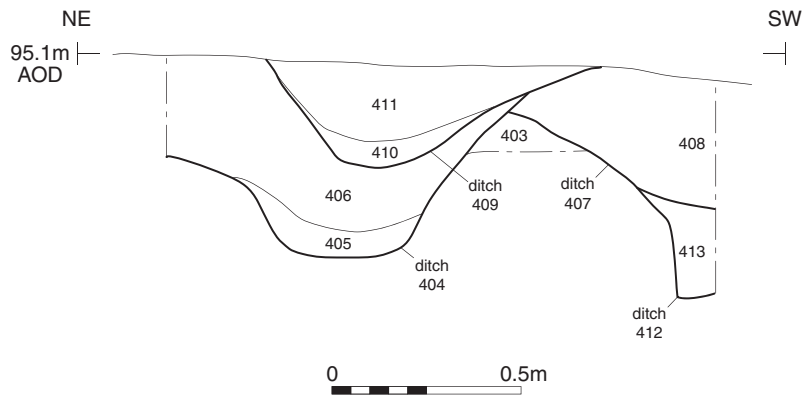
Land at Redlands Airfield, Wanborough Swindon

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 2: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	5500	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	10/08/15	
APPROVED BY	REG	SCALE@A4	1:20	<b>6</b>

Section BB



Section of ditches [404], [407], [409] & [412], looking south-east. (1m scale)



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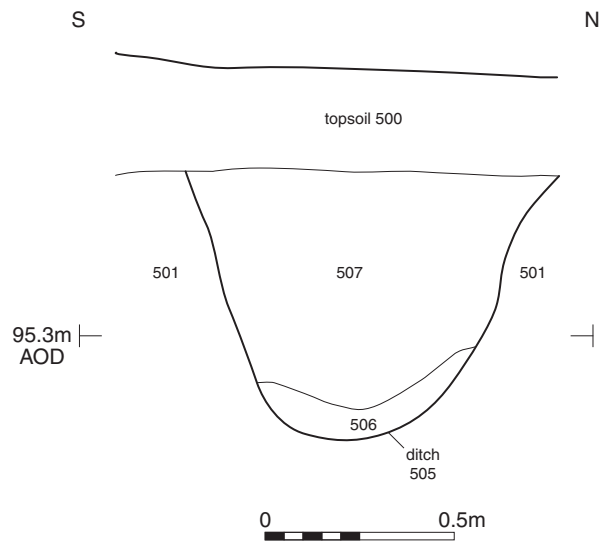
Land at Redlands Airfield, Wanborough Swindon

FIGURE TITLE

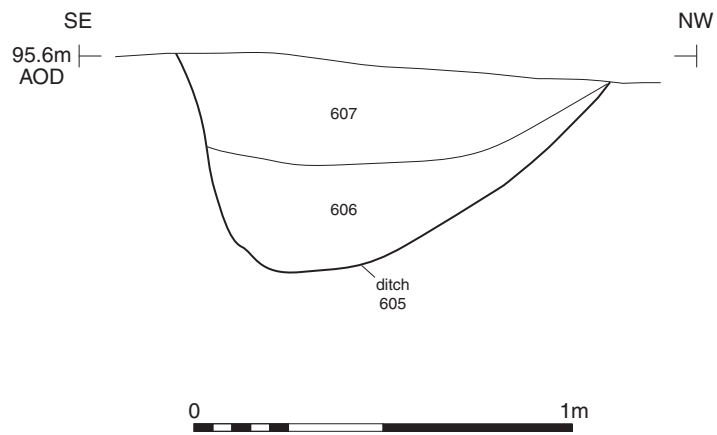
Trench 4: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	5500	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	10/08/15	
APPROVED BY	REG	SCALE@A4	1:20	<b>7</b>

Section CC



Section DD



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

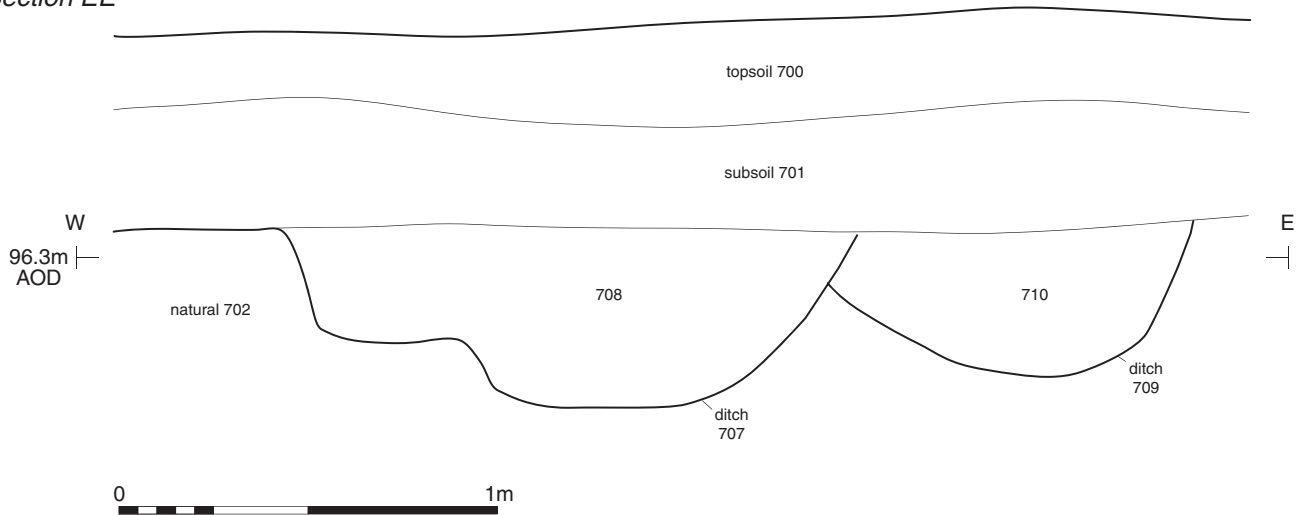
Trenches 5 & 6: sections

DRAWN BY L J H PROJECT NO. 5500  
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FIGURE NO.

8

Section EE



South facing section of ditches [707] & [709] (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

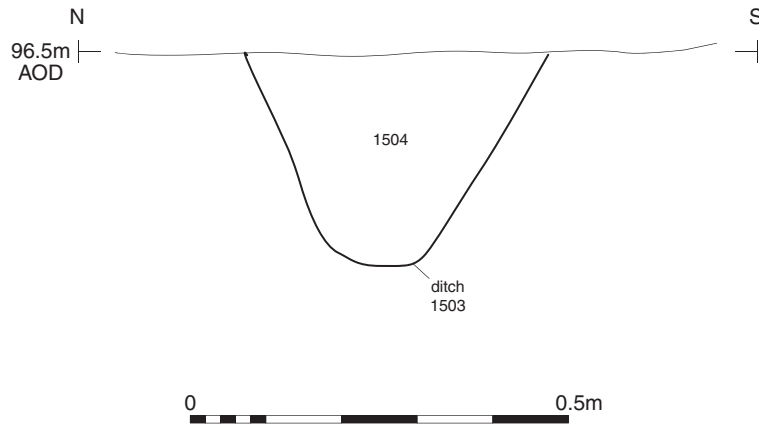
Land at Redlands Airfield, Wanborough Swindon

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 7: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	5500	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	10/08/15	
APPROVED BY	REG	SCALE@A4	1:20	<b>9</b>

Section FF



East facing section of ditch [1503] (0.2m scale)



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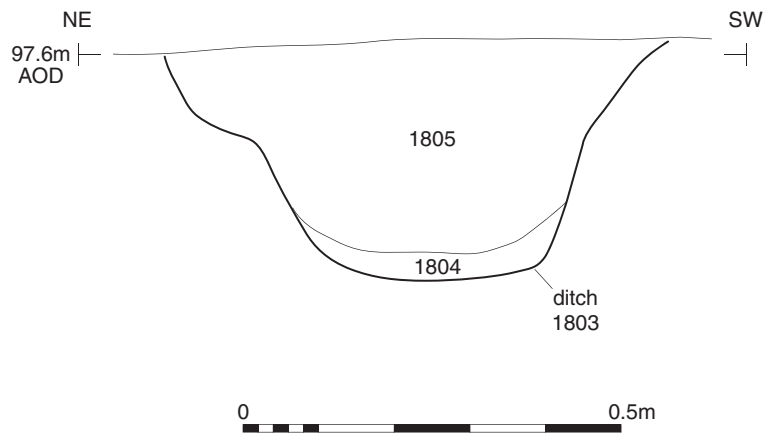
Land at Redlands Airfield, Wanborough Swindon

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 15: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	5500	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	LM	DATE	11/08/15	
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Section GG



Section of ditch, looking south-east [1803] (0.5m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Redlands Airfield, Wanborough Swindon

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 18: section and photograph

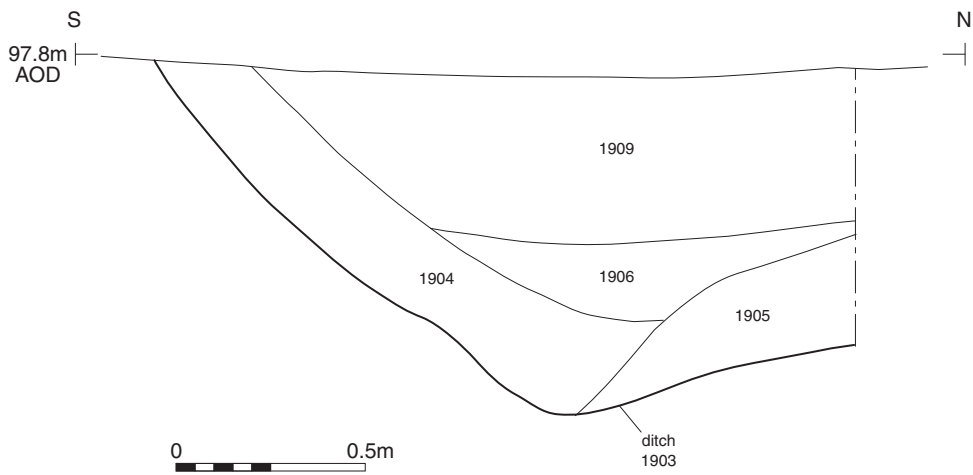
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FIGURE NO.

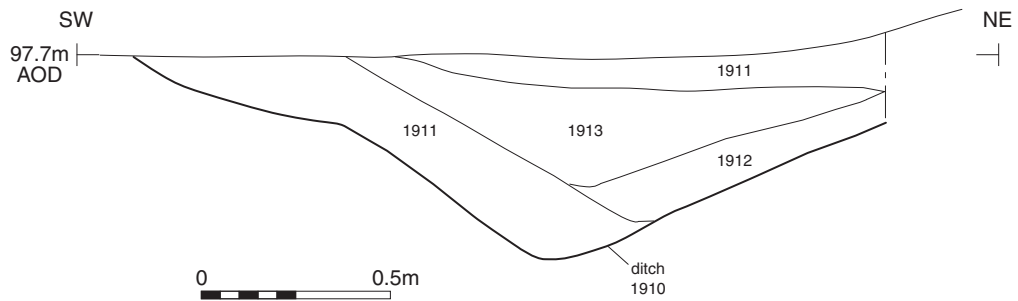
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Section HH



Section II



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Redlands Airfield, Wanborough Swindon

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 19: sections

DRAWN BY LJM PROJECT NO. 5500  
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 APPROVED BY REG SCALE@A4 1:20

FIGURE NO.

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