



**Overflow Carparking Area  
Beverbrook Sports and Community Facility  
Calne  
Wiltshire**

*Archaeological Watching Brief*

*for*  
Calne Town Council

CA Project: 5456  
CA Report: 15567

September 2015



# OVERFLOW CARPARKING AREA BEVERSBROOK SPORTS AND COMMUNITY FACILITY CALNE WILTSHIRE

## Archaeological Watching Brief

CA Project: 5456  
CA Report: 15567



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Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	9 September 2015	Sikko Van de Brug	Ian Barnes	Internal review		Laurent Coleman

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## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** Overflow Carparking Area, Beversbrook Sports and Community Facility  
**Location:** Calne, Wiltshire  
**NGR:** ST 9998 7271  
**Type:** Watching Brief  
**Date:** 3-9 July 2015  
**Planning Reference:** Wiltshire Council planning ref: 14/11172/FUL  
**Location of Archive:** To be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum  
**Site Code:** BEVE 15

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of the Overflow Carparking Area at Beversbrook Sports and Community Facility, Calne, Wiltshire.

A continuation of the medieval activity previously identified during construction of the tennis courts and the carpark to the north-west was identified. This activity is probably associated with the medieval settlement of *Beversbroc* to the east.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In July 2015 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Calne Town Council at the Overflow Carparking Area, Beversbrook Sports and Community Facility, Calne, Wiltshire (centred on NGR: ST 9998 7271; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition (no 3) attached to planning consent for the construction of an overflow car parking area (Wiltshire Council (WC) planning ref: 14/11172/FUL). The objective of the watching brief was to record all the archaeological remains exposed during the development.

1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2015) and approved by Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, County Archaeologist, WC. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014), the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006).

### **The site**

1.3 The site was approximately 0.1ha in extent and comprised part of an existing sports field. It was bounded to the south by Beversbrook Road, to the west by the access road for Beversbrook Sports Facility, to the north by further sports fields and to the east by a hedge line (Fig. 2). The site lies at approximately 74m AOD and is level.

1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Ampthill Clay and Kimmeridge Clay (mudstone) formations of the Jurassic era. No superficial deposits are recorded (BGS 2014). The natural substrate was exposed in the southern part of the site.

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Archaeological interest in the site primarily arises from its proximity to the Scheduled earthwork remains of the medieval settlement (SM 906) 520m north-east of Lower Beversbrook Farm). The earthworks are linear in plan, with a hollow way running along the south-eastern side of site. A series of long rectilinear platforms are located to the north-west of the hollow way. At the north-eastern end of the hollow way these



broaden into a series of square platforms and enclosures. Most prominent of these is a square platform surviving to 1.5m in height that is surrounded by a probable moat typically measuring 1m in depth and 4m in width. Extant ridge and furrow extend to the north and east of these earthworks, the best preserved of which are included within the scheduling. The village is listed in the Domesday Book (1086) as *Beversbroc* and it was presented a chapel in 1298 (EH 2007).

- 2.2 Archaeological works undertaken during the construction of the existing sports pitches and sports pavilion by CA in 2008 identified three areas of archaeological activity: Area 1, within the footprint of the sports pavilion and access road, contained medieval ditches (representing part of a field system) and a Roman pit. Area 2, to the south-east of the sports pavilion and located within the proposed development site, contained a post-medieval ditch. Area 3, to the north-east of the pavilion, contained ditches dating to the Roman period that possibly formed part of an enclosure (Saunders and Alexander 2011, 127) (Fig.2).
- 2.3 An archaeological evaluation, consisting of seven trenches was undertaken by CA in August 2012 within the western part of the sport facility. The evaluation revealed no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological interest (CA 2012) and no further archaeological works were required in this area during construction.
- 2.4 An archaeological Strip, Map and Sample undertaken by CA in September 2012 to the north of site recorded archaeological features dating to the Early to Middle Bronze Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods along with a number of features which remain undated (CA 2014a).
- 2.5 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken in May 2014 during groundworks resulting from the construction of four tennis courts immediately to the west of the site (Fig.2). A number of 12th to early 15th-century agricultural ditches were revealed. It is probable that these ditches are associated with archaeological features to the north-west, as identified in Area 1 during the excavation in 2008, as described above (CA 2014b).



### **3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological works were:

- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks;
- 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.

### **4. METHODOLOGY**

4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2015). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising the reduction of an area to allow for the construction of an overflow car parking area (Fig. 2).

4.2 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2013).

4.3 The archive and artefacts from the watching brief are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum under accession number, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

### **5. RESULTS (FIS 2-4)**

5.1 This section provides an overview of the results of the watching brief results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A and B.



- 5.2     The area of the carpark was stripped to the required formation level (c. 0.18m below present ground level (bpgl)). In the northern part of the site topsoil, 100, and made ground deposits, 124, were identified at this depth. In the southern part of the site the natural substrate, 101, comprising mid grey silty clay, was exposed at the required formation level. A number of archaeological features were recorded across the southern part of the site; all cut the natural substrate and the fills were overlain by topsoil 100 (Fig. 2).
- 5.3     A south-east/north-west aligned ditch, 102 was identified in the eastern part of the site. It measured 1.02m in width and 0.42m in depth (Fig. 3, Section AA) and contained two fills, 103 and 104. Pottery dating to the 13th to 16th centuries was recovered from both fills.
- 5.4     Ditch 115 was located c. 6m to west of ditch 102 and was on a similar alignment, It measured c. 0.6m in width and 0.14m in depth. Pottery dating to the 11th to 16th centuries was recovered from single fill 116. To the south, ditch 115 was truncated by a plough scar but a further southward continuation is represented by ditch 122.
- 5.5     Two intercutting ditches, 105 and 110, (and a posthole, 108) were identified at the southern edge of the site; both ditches, 105 and 110, were orientated north-east/south-west (Fig 4, Section BB).
- 5.6     Posthole 108 was c. 0.3m in diameter but the upper part of the feature had been truncated by later activity. The single fill, 109, was undated. Ditch 105 was 1.45m in width and 0.62m in depth. The primary fill, 106, was undated whilst the secondary fill, 107, contained pottery dating to the 13th to 16th centuries as well as residual Roman material (2 sherds of pottery and a fragment of roof tile). Fills 109 (posthole 108) and 107 (ditch 105) were truncated by ditch 110. This ditch was 2.44m in width and 0.68m in depth. Primary fill 111 was undated; secondary fill 112 contained pottery dating to the medieval period (13th to 16th centuries) as well as residual flint flake and Roman pottery.
- 5.7     Ditch 117 was identified towards the south-western corner of the site. It was 0.72m in width and 0.18m in depth and primary fill 118 contained a sherd of Roman pottery (presumably residual). Secondary fill 119 was undated.





### ***The finds evidence***

- 6.1 Artefactual material from the watching brief was hand-recovered from seven fill deposits. The recovered material dates to the prehistoric, Roman and 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.

#### *Pottery: Roman*

- 6.2 A total of five unfeathered bodysherds (30g) of Roman pottery was recovered as residual finds in fills 107, 112, 118 and 123, respectively of ditches 105, 110, 117 and 122. Condition ranges from poor to moderate, with some edge abrasion, and an average sherd weight of 6g, indicating a high degree of fragmentation. The fabrics represented are greyware and fine, oxidised fabrics, which are of probable local manufacture and cannot be dated more precisely than to the Roman period.

#### *Medieval*

- 6.3 Pottery of this date totals 27 sherds (164g), recorded in five fills. This material is also highly fragmented, with an average sherd weight of 6g. Sherds in good condition include; those from fill 104 (ditch 102), the majority of which exhibit minimal edge abrasion; and one from fill 112 (ditch 110) with the glaze surviving in very good condition. The remainder vary from poor to good condition, with some rounding of edges and loss of glaze. A total of six sherds from fill 104 (ditch 102) display limescale deposits and one from fill 116 (ditch 115) retains burnt food residue.
- 6.4 The assemblage comprises two unfeathered bodysherds of Kennet Valley ware (East Wiltshire ware) and 25 sherds of Lacock-Nash Hill ware. The former ware type was manufactured in the Savernake/Braydon Forest region and it is commonly found in Wiltshire and Oxfordshire dating to the 12th to early-15th centuries (Mellor 1994, 100–6). Lacock-Nash Hill ware was manufactured in Wiltshire from the late 13th to 16th centuries (McCarthy 1974, 100–1). Identifiable forms in this fabric include a jug with a thumbled base from deposit 104 and an everted rim jar from deposit 112 (ditch 110).

#### *Lithics*

- 6.5 A residual flint flake, of broad prehistoric date, was retrieved from deposit 112 (ditch 110). The raw material is fine grained and derives from a pebble: condition is moderate with a little rolling and edge abrasion.



*Worked stone*

- 6.6 A fragment of roof tile made of sandstone, potentially sourced from the Bristol or Forest of Dean areas, was recorded in deposit 107 (ditch 105). This is likely to be of Roman date.

## **8. DISCUSSION**

- 8.1 The small quantity of residual Roman pottery recovered suggests some Roman activity nearby, which is consistent with the results of the previous investigations.
- 8.2 All of the identified ditches date to the medieval period (13th to 16th centuries) and are likely to have served agricultural functions such as drainage and enclosure of fields/paddocks. The identified remains are therefore contemporary with the adjacent sites and the ditches are generally on similar alignment (or represent the continuation of previously identified features).
- 8.3 It is probable that the remains identified during the archaeological works represent agricultural activity on the western edge of the adjacent medieval settlement of *Beversbroc*, and a further continuation of the contemporary field system identified in Area 1 of the 2008 excavations.

## **9. CA PROJECT TEAM**

Fieldwork was undertaken by Sikko van der Brug assisted by Jeremy Clutterbuck. The report was written by Sikko van der Brug. The finds evidence report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Aleksandra Osinska. The archive has been compiled by Sikko van der Brug and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Laurent Coleman.



## 10. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2014 <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>  
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CA 2012 *Beversbrook Sports Facility, Calne, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation*. CA typescript report **12212**

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2014a *Calne Tennis Club, Beversbrook, Calne, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

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Mellor, M. 1994. 'A Synthesis of Middle and Late Saxon, Medieval and Early Post-medieval Pottery in the Oxford Region'. *Oxoniensia*. **LIX**, 17-217.

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth /thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		topsoil	dark-brown silt			0.18	
1	101	Layer		natural	mid-grey silt-clay with yellow-orange mottling			0.15	
1	102	Cut		ditch	u-shaped ditch, north-west to south-east aligned	17	1.02	0.42	
1	103	Fill	102	primary fill	light grey and yellow silty clay	17	0.4	0.06	LC13-C16
1	104	Fill	102	secondary fill	dark grey-brown silty clay with mid red-brown mottling	>1.8	1.02	0.36	LC13-C16
1	105	Cut		ditch	ne-sw aligned ditch, u-shaped	>10	1.45	0.62	
1	106	Fill	105		light grey silty clay with light yellow-orange mottling	>10	0.75	0.08	
1	107	Fill	105		dark grey silty clay with red-brown mottling	>10	1,48	0.57	LC13-C16
1	108	Cut		posthole	circular posthole with steep sides	0.3	0.3	0.2	
1	109	Fill	108		light grey silty clay with yellow-orange mottling	0.3	0.3	0.2	
1	110	Cut		ditch	ne-sw aligned ditch with a flat base	>10	2.44	0.68	
1	111	Fill	110	primary fill	light grey silty clay with yellow-orange mottling	>10	1.18	0.17	
1	112	Fill	110	secondary fill	dark grey silty clay with red-brown mottling	>10	2.44	0.39	LC13-C16
1	113	Cut		Plough scar	nw-se aligned ditch, flat base	>5	>0.15	0.16	
1	114	Fill	113		light yellow-brown and mid grey clay	>5	>0.15	0.16	
1	115	Cut		ditch	n-s aligned ditch, flat base	6	>0.6	0.14	
1	116	Fill	115		light yellow-brown clay	6	>0.6	0.14	LC11-16
1	117	Cut		ditch	nw-se aligned ditch, flat base	21	0.72	0.18	
1	118	Fill	117	primary fill	Light grey silty clay with yellow and red mottling	21	0.43	0.08	Roman
1	119	Fill	117	secondary fill	Mid grey silt-clay with red-brown mottling	21	0.72	0.11	
1	120	Cut		ditch	n-s aligned ditch, flat base	6	0.48	0.14	
1	121	Fill	120		Light brown clay	6	0.48	0.14	
1	122	Cut		ditch/treethrow	Possible ditch with asymmetrical sides and base, nw-se aligned	3	0.7	0.14	
1	123	Fill	122		Dark grey clay with red-brown mottling	3	0.7	0.14	Roman
1	124	Layer		redeposited natural	mid-grey silt-clay with yellow-orange mottling			>0.18	

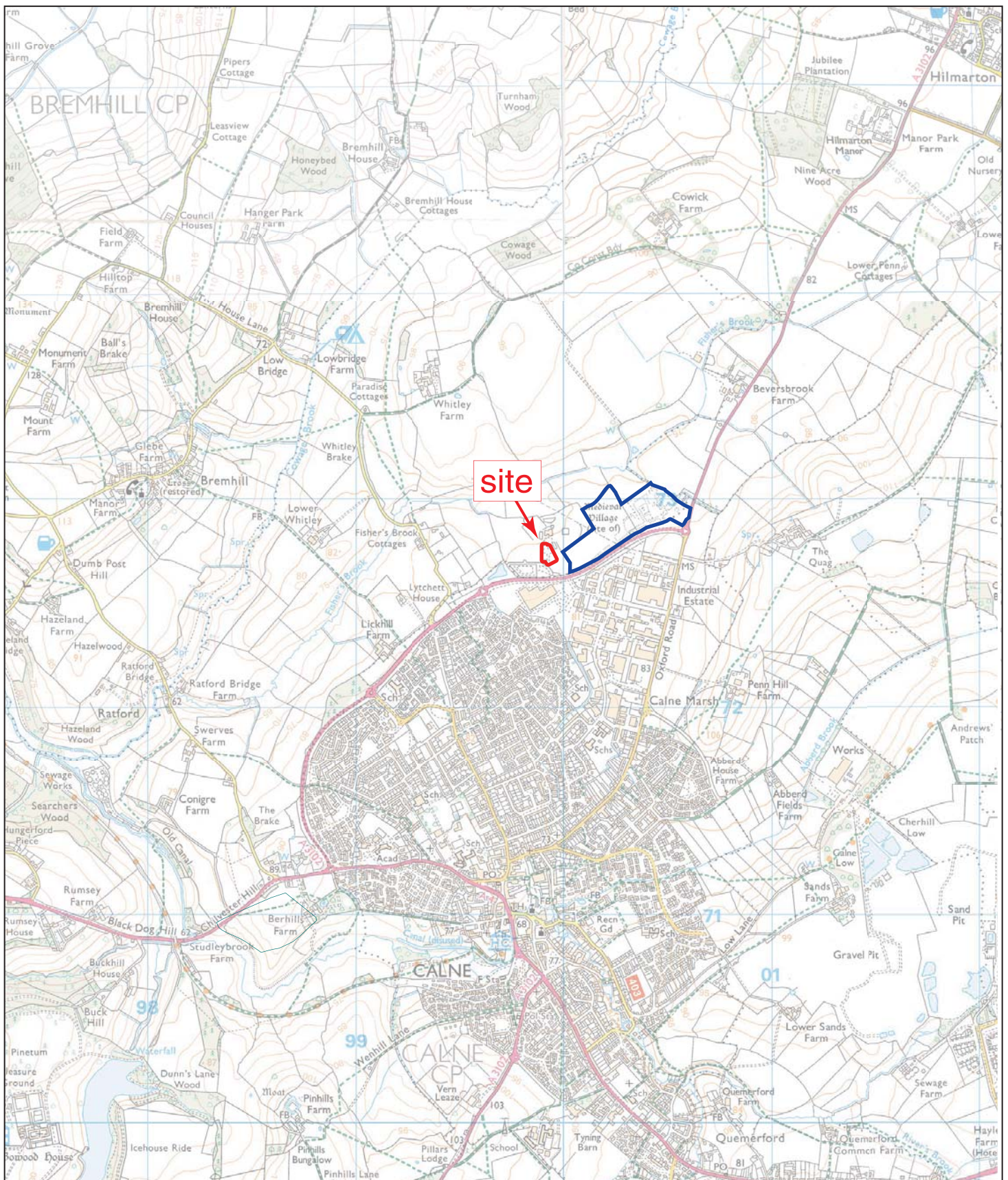
**APPENDIX B: THE FINDS**

Table 1: Finds concordance

<b>Context</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>	<b>Spot-date</b>
103	Medieval pottery	Lacock-Nash Hill ware	2	6	LC13-C16
104	Medieval pottery	Lacock-Nash Hill ware	11	74	LC13-C16
107	Roman pottery	Fine oxidised fabric	2	10	RB
	Medieval pottery	Lacock-Nash Hill ware	4	9	LC13-C16
	Worked stone	Sandstone roof tile	1	147	RB
112	Roman pottery	Greyware	1	7	RB
	Medieval pottery	Lacock-Nash Hill ware	6	33	LC13-C16
	Worked flint	Flake	1	13	Prehistoric
116	Medieval pottery	Lacock-Nash Hill ware	2	24	LC13-C16
	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	2	18	LC11-LC15
	Fired clay		1	<1	-
118	Roman pottery	Greyware	1	<1	RB
123	Roman pottery	Greyware	1	13	RB

## APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Overflow Carparking Area, Beversbrook Sports and Community Facility, Calne, Wiltshire	
Short description	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of the Overflow Carparking Area at Beversbrook Sports and Community Facility, Calne, Wiltshire.</p> <p>A continuation of the medieval activity previously identified during construction of the tennis courts and the carpark to the north-west was identified. This activity is probably associated with the medieval settlement of <i>Beversbroc</i> to the east.</p>	
Project dates	3-9 July	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	CA evaluations in 2008 and 2012 CA SMS in 2012 CA watching brief in 2014	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Beversbrook Sports and Community Facility, Calne, Wiltshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)		
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	ST 9998 7271	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman	
Project Supervisor	Sikko van der Brug	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	Pottery
Paper	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	drawings, registers
Digital	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	Digital photo's
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 <i>Overflow Carparking Area, Beversbrook Sports and Community Facility, Calne, Wiltshire: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> typescript report <b>15567</b>		



site



- site
- Scheduled Monument



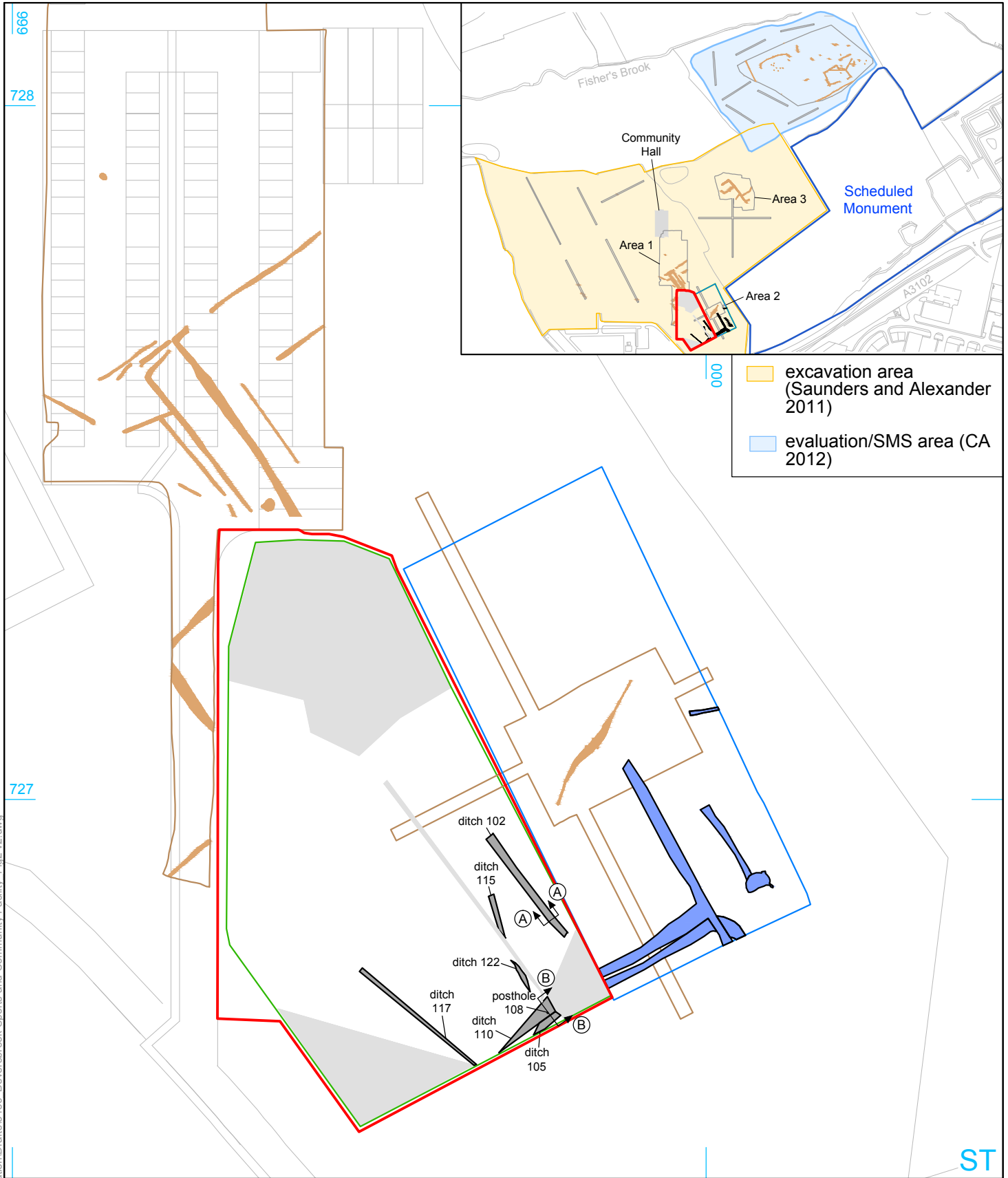
**Cotswold Archaeology**  
 Andover 01264 347630  
 Cirencester 01285 771022  
 Exeter 01392 826185  
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Beversbrook Sports and Community Facility, Overflow Car parking Area Calne, Wiltshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Site location plan

<b>DRAWN BY</b>	LJH/AO	<b>PROJECT NO.</b>	5456	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
<b>CHECKED BY</b>	LM	<b>DATE</b>	15/07/15	
<b>APPROVED BY</b>	LECC	<b>SCALE@A4</b>	1:25,000	<b>1</b>

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- site
- observed groundworks
- previous archaeological investigation (Saunders and Alexander 2011)
- previous archaeological watching brief area (CA 2014b)

- archaeological feature
- previous archaeological feature (Saunders and Alexander 2011)
- previous archaeological feature (CA 2014b)
- modern disturbance
- section location



0  25m



Cirencester 01285 771022  
 Milton Keynes 01908 218320  
 Andover 01264 347630  
[www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)  
[enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)

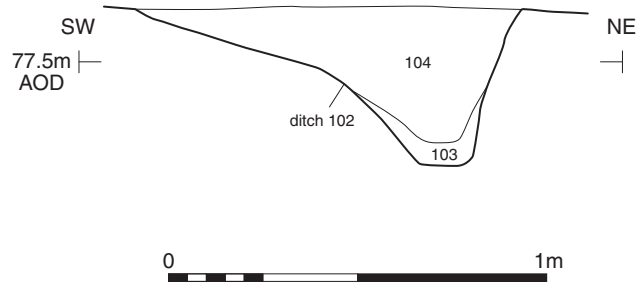
**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Beversbrook Sports and Community Facility, Overflow Car parking Area Calne, Wiltshire

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 The site showing areas of observed groundworks

<b>DRAWN BY</b> LJH/AO	<b>PROJECT NO.</b> 5456	<b>FIGURE NO.</b>
<b>CHECKED BY</b> LM	<b>DATE</b> 29-07-2015	<b>2</b>
<b>APPROVED BY</b> LECC	<b>SCALE@A3</b> 1:750 & inset 1:7500	



Section AA



Ditch 102, looking north-west (scale 1m)



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

PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

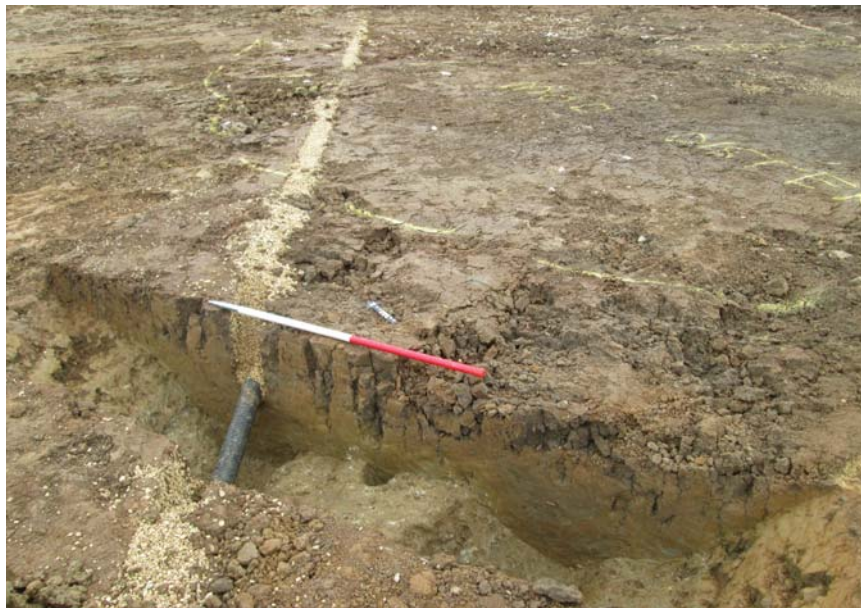
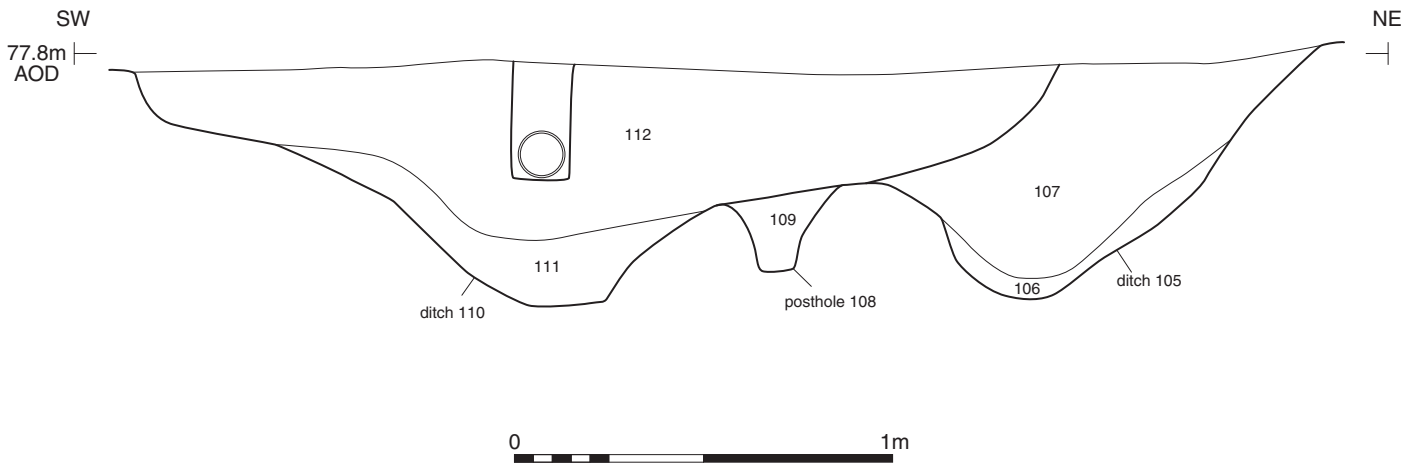
Ditch 102: section and photograph

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FIGURE NO.

3

Section BB



Ditch 105, posthole 108 and ditch 110, looking north-west (scale 1m)



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Cirencester 01285 771022  
Exeter 01392 826185  
Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk  
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

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FIGURE TITLE

Ditch 105, posthole 108 and ditch 110: section and photograph

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FIGURE NO.

4

### **Andover Office**

Stanley House  
Walworth Road  
Andover  
Hampshire  
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

### **Cirencester Office**

Building 11  
Kemble Enterprise Park  
Cirencester  
Gloucestershire  
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

### **Exeter Office**

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

t: 01392 826185

### **Milton Keynes Office**

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

t: 01908 564660