Cotswold Archaeology

Land South of Leigh Road, Wimborne Minster, Dorset, Phase II

Archaeological Evaluation

for
CgMs Consulting Limited

on behalf of
Gleeson Strategic land

CA Project: 770341
CA Report: 16184

March 2016

Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes

Land South of Leigh Road
Wimborne Minster
Dorset
Phase II

Archaeological Evaluation

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CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land South of Leigh Road
Location:	Wimborne Minster, Dorset
NGR:	SZ 03009 99465
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	29 February – 4 March and 18th March 2016
Location of Archive:	Dorset County Museum, Dorchester
Site Code:	LRW 16

A first phase of evaluation (CA 2015b) of Land South of Leigh Road, Wimborne Minster, Dorset was undertaken in August 2015 which identified three main phases of activity. Activity dating to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age transition was recorded in the form of a pit; evidence of Late Iron Age/Romano-British transitional agricultural settlement was recorded including a possible corn-dryer/pottery kiln, and a field system; dating to the later Roman period (3rd Century AD) a system of enclosure ditches was recorded.

A second phase of archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in February/March 2016. Twenty one trenches were excavated. One trench revealed a large, possibly prehistoric quarry pit. Two other undated pits were noted, one containing large quantities of crushed burnt flint which would appear to have had an as yet unknown industrial function, but also probably dating to the prehistoric period. An arc of seven postholes possibly forming a section of a roundhouse structure and seven undated ditches were also recorded. **Trench 19** was excavated across a Scheduled Ancient Monument (MDO5439) revealing a pair of parallel flanking ditches and a thin sorted gravel layer, forming the metalling of a remnant Roman road. Moderate quantities of burnt and worked flint were recovered from all but one of the trenches.

In terms of correlation with the Phase 1 trenching there is little from which one can draw comparison. For example in the Phase 1 evaluation Trenches 13, 14 and 15 closest to the Roman road alignment produced as one might expect, Roman pottery. However in the Phase II evaluation, just to the south of these trenches, Trenches 6 and 10 identified features or deposits from which only prehistoric material was recovered. These prehistoric finds could be residual, but it is odd that neither of these trenches produced any Roman

material whatsoever. Obviously the presence and survival of the Roman road as identified within the scheduled area (Trench 19), provides a link and a focus for settlement activity during that period, and it is possible (but by no means certain) that it may survive further west (albeit most probably heavily truncated) within the Phase 1 footprint. Although the density of Phase II trenching was lower than that of the Phase 1 programme, the evidence would appear to suggest that there is a much lower density of archaeological activity within Phase II compared with Phase 1.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 During February/March 2016, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out the second phase of an archaeological evaluation of Land South of Leigh Road, Wimborne Minster, Dorset (centred on NGR: SZ 03009 99465; Figure 1, hereafter referred to as the site) on the behalf of CgMs Consulting Ltd, acting on behalf of Gleeson Strategic Land.

1.2 Gleeson Strategic Land is proposing to submit a planning application for residential and associated leisure and recreational facilities to East Dorset District Council (EDDC). In order to fully inform EDDC regarding the archaeological potential of the Site, the Senior Archaeologist (SA) for DCC, archaeological advisor to EDDC has requested that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken to support any future planning application for the development. Previous investigations pertaining to the site include a Desk-Based Assessment (DBA; CgMs 2014), a Geophysical Survey (PCG 2014) and the first phase of the current archaeological evaluation (CA 2015).

1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2015) and approved by Steve Wallis. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 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).

The site

1.3 The entire proposed development area comprises *c*. 29ha, lies to the south-east of Wimborne Minster, and is the former site of the recently demolished Park Farm, located to the south of Leigh Road. It predominately comprises arable land, with a small field set to pasture in the north-eastern corner. A track way extends south-eastwards across the site, from Wimborne Road West to Park Farm, which was situated in the central part of the site. A rectangular block of land to the east of Park Farm has been designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (MDO5439). This was excluded from the 2014 geophysical survey. The solid geology of the site comprises London Clay Formation (clay, silt and sand), overlain by river terrace

deposits of sand and gravel (BGS 2016). The site occupies a slight south-facing slope at *c*.15m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The following section is a summary of the Desk Based Assessment (CgMs 2014). A section of Roman road is located 150m to the south of Park Farm cottages. A small but relatively distinct length of agger is present, possibly part of a Roman road between Otterbourne and the New Forest. This section of Roman road is a designated Scheduled Monument, however the HER notes that the condition of the monument is poor, and little of it survives intact. An archaeological excavation (EWX973) took place near the demolished Park Farm buildings along the projected course of the Roman road. No evidence of the Roman road was found, and probing was inconclusive.

2.2 The geophysical survey (PCG 2014) showed a number of ephemeral linear anomalies, possibly ditches indicative of traces of early occupation, including a potential small enclosure within 50m of the Roman road.

2.3 The first phase of evaluation (CA 2015b) identified three main phases of activity. A late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit, a Late Iron Age/Romano-British agricultural settlement, with possible corn-dryer/pottery kiln, and field system; enclosure ditches broadly dated to the 3rd Century AD.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to assess whether Roman remains associated with the road and its projected alignment survived within the site. These may take the form of a roadside settlement or isolated roadside burials. The evaluation sought to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality.

3.2 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 Senior Archaeologist for Dorset County Council and archaeological advisor to EDDC 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.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 21 trenches in the final locations shown on the attached plan and which comprised 18 *(no)* trenches which measured 30m in length x 1.8m in width and 2 *(no)* 80m in length x 1.8m in width (Fig. 2). **Trench 17** could not be excavated in the original proposed location due to the presence of overhead services, an existing hedgerow and a mettled trackway. As a consequence **Trench 17** was relocated to the south-west. Several other trenches were slightly readjusted on site with the approval of Steve Wallis to provide a safe working zone close to overhead services. **Trench 19** located across the footprint of the scheduled monument measured 30m in width by 3.6m in width and was excavated following receipt of the appropriate Scheduled Monument Consent. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and were surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*. All trenches were scanned for live services by trained Cotswold Archaeology staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the Cotswold Archaeology *Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services.*

4.2 All trenches were excavated by a 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 palaeo-environmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* and as a consequence a single reference

sample was taken and processed from pit 1003. 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 Dorset County Museum 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 (FIGURES 2-8)

5.1 The topsoil across site comprised mid-grey/brown clay/sand/silt with an average depth of 0.20m. Red/brown silt/clay subsoil was recorded up to 0.30m in depth. The natural substrate consisted of a yellow/brown silt/sand with flint gravel inclusions. The following trenches were devoid of archaeological features and are summarised in appendix A: **Trenches 1** - **4**, **8**, **9**, **12**, **15** -**18**. Three ditches could not be fully excavated due to localised waterlogging caused by the high water table. After initial attempts excavation ceased. These features were located in **Trenches 11**, **13** and **20**, and were as a consequence mapped only in plan.

Trench 5 (Figures 2 & 3)

5.3 A shallow undated ditch, **503**, measuring 0.8m in width and 0.17m in depth and with an uneven base crossed **Trench 5** and was filled with **504**, mid-brown sand/silt.

Trench 6 (Figures 2 & 4)

5.4 **Trench 6** contained a small undated oval pit which extended out of the trench to the north. The pit, **603**, measured 1.02m by at least 0.73m and 0.21m in depth and was filled with **604**, grey/brown sand/clay with charcoal inclusions. A transverse Neolithic flint arrowhead was recovered from the topsoil of **Trench 6**.

Trench 7 (Figures 2 & 5)

5.5 **Trench 7** contained seven postholes or small pits arranged in an arc and which appeared to extend northwards out of the trench. The features **703**, **705**, **707**, **709**, **711**, **713** and **715** were either circular or oval in plan and each contained a single fill.

The sizes ranged from 0.40m in diameter up to 0.82m and with depths ranging from 0.06 to 0.29m. The concentration of these features is suggestive of a round-house structure although no associated drip gully was evident within the trench.

Trench 10 (Figures 2 & 6)

5.4 **Trench 10** contained two features. An undated rectangular pit, **1003**, had a probable industrial function and measured 1.74m by 0.72m by 0.32m in depth and contained two fills. On the base of the pit, roughly in the centre of the feature running west-east was narrow strip of clay, **1009** measured 0.10m in width by 0.10m in depth and was covered by the main pit fill **1004**, which consisted of gravels which contained a large quantity of crushed, burnt flint. The fill appeared sorted with the larger gravels towards the base and the smaller crushed fragments towards the surface. Environmental sample <1> was retained from this context.

5.5 The eastern third of **Trench 10** consisted of a large, probable quarry pit, **1005** which measured in excess of 10m in length and extended out of the trench to the north, south and west. A hand dug slot and a test pit (TP1) were excavated through this feature and which revealed a depth of at least 0.66m in depth. The fills consisted of **1006**, grey/brown clay/sand 0.22m in depth which underlay fill **1007**, which comprised dark grey clay/sand with charcoal flecks 0.13m in depth. The uppermost fill **1008** consisted of brown/grey clay/sand up to 0.40m in depth. Worked and burnt flints were recovered from both **1006** and **1008** and may indicate a prehistoric date for this feature.

Trench 11 (Figure 2)

5.6 **Trench 11** contained a single ditch **1103**, which crossed the trench on a north-east/ south-west orientation. This feature (1.2m in width) could not be fully excavated due to the high water table, but the fill consisted of a grey/brown sand/clay, **1104**. Worked flint was collected from the feature indicating a possible prehistoric date.

Trench 13 (Figure 2)

5.7 A north-south orientated ditch, **1303**, was encountered at the western end of **Trench 13** and which appeared to be cut through the subsoil indicating a probable post medieval date. Due to rapid localised flooding caused by the high water table this

feature could not be excavated although it measured 3.5m in width by at least 0.40m in depth. The fill **1304** consisted of brown/grey clay/sand.

Trench 14 (Figures 2 & 7)

5.8 A broad U-shaped ditch, **1403**, orientated north-south crossed **Trench 14** and measured 1.10m in width by 0.48m in depth. It was filled with **1404**, grey/brown sandy silt that remains undated.

Trench 19 (Figs 2 & 9)

5.9 **Trench 19** was excavated across a Scheduled Ancient Monument (MDO5439) and contained a thin band of pea grit/fine sorted gravels **1908** up to 0.10m in depth flanked by a pair of parallel ditches; **1903** a broad U-shaped ditch 1.36m in width and 0.42m in depth was filled with **1904**, a grey/brown silt/sand 0.30m in depth, which underlay **1905**, a mid-grey/brown sand/silt up to 0.12m in depth; ditch **1906**, steep sided with a concave base measured 0.90m in width by 0.48m in depth and was filled with **1907** a yellow/brown silt/sand. Whilst no datable evidence was obtained it is likely the pair of ditches and the thin sorted gravel layer, formed the drainage and metalling of a remnant Roman road.

Trench 20 (Figure 2)

5.10 **Trench 20** contained a single north-east/south-west orientated ditch. The undated ditch **2003**, weathered out following heavy rain and measured 0.90m in width. Unfortunately due to the subsequent high water table the feature could not be excavated although the fill **2004** consisted of yellow/brown clay/silt.

Trench 21 (Figures 2 & 8)

5.11 Two undated U-shaped ditches were located in close proximity to each other and may form two sides of a related enclosure/field system. Ditch **2103** was orientated west-east and measured 0.94m in width and was filled with **2104**, grey/brown silt/sand. This feature appeared to terminate immediately before ditch **2105**, which was aligned north-south and was filled with **2106**, a grey/brown silt/sand.

6. THE FINDS

6.1 Artefactual material from the evaluation was hand-recovered from 23 deposits (quarry pit and ditch fills, and topsoil). The recovered material dates to the prehistoric period. Quantities of the artefact types recovered are given in Appendix B.

6.2 ***Lithics***

The finds consist entirely of worked flint (69 items, 833g) and burnt, unworked flint (95 pieces, 2885g). All but four of the worked flints were recovered from topsoil and the majority of these are in a heavily rolled (abraded) and edge-damaged condition.

6.3 The assemblage comprises: 54 flakes, one blade, five cores, five scrapers, an awl, a notched flake, a retouched flake and a chisel arrowhead. The tools have been made on flake blanks and all but one are undiagnostic of dating. The chisel arrowhead was retrieved from topsoil **600** and is dateable to the Middle to Late Neolithic (Green 1980, 108). It has been made on a distal flake fragment: the retouch is quite shallow and semi-invasive along the left dorsal edge and it is abrupt on the right dorsal edge.

6.4 Of the five cores, one is a dual platform type and the others are multiplatform. All have been used to produce flakes and most have been rather unsystematically worked.

6.5 Four of the flints were recorded in features: fills 1**006** and **1008** of quarry pit **1005**, and fill **1104** of ditch **1103**. The flake from ditch fill **1104** is in a fresh, undamaged condition – a possible indication that it may be stratified. The three flakes from the quarry pit fills are in variable condition: one moderately edge damaged and two only slightly. The lithics do not provide sufficient evidence to confirm a prehistoric date for this feature.

6.6 Worked flints were recovered from 19 of the trenches, with a widespread distribution and possibly an increased concentration in the area in the centre of the south half of the site.

6.7 The chisel arrowhead, from the topsoil, confirms activity during the Middle or Late Neolithic. The remainder of the flints (which include irregular flakes, unsystematically worked cores and a relative lack of blade technology) would be consistent with this

dating although they may also include later material. There is no clear evidence for Mesolithic or Early Neolithic flintworking amongst the assemblage.

7. THE ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 A single sample (8 litres of soil) was taken from a crushed burnt flint deposit within pit **1003** within Trench 10 to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The sample was processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2). The results are tabulated in Appendix C.

Trench 10

7.2 Fill **1004** (sample 1) within pit **1003** contained a moderate quantity of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm. The charcoal assemblage was dominated by fragments of between 2 and 4mm in size. No plant remains were recorded within this sample. The sample contained a large amount of small crushed burnt flint fragments. The sample assemblage is more likely to be representative of a deposit from an industrial activity rather than domestic/settlement waste. There is no indication of the date of the feature from the environmental remains.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1 Archaeological features were recorded in ten out of the twenty one excavated trenches; the majority of the features were undated with the exception of quarry pit **1005** and ditch **1103** which both contained burnt and worked flints of a prehistoric date. The topsoil from all the trenches (with the exception of **Trench 4**) was found to contain either burnt or worked flints also of a prehistoric date; this demonstrates widespread prehistoric activity across the current evaluation area. The arc of small pits/ postholes recorded in **Trench 7,** are likely to represent the remains of a round-house structure which extends north out of the trench. No dateable finds were recovered from the fills although it is likely they are also of a later prehistoric date. The undated rectangular pit **1003**, in **Trench 10** is likely to relate to an as yet unidentified industrial function, as demonstrated by the quantities of crushed burnt flint.

8.2 **Trench 19** was excavated across the scheduled Roman road that runs between Otterbourne and the New Forest. The sorted pea grit / fine gravel surface probably

represents the remnant Roman road surface and the pair of ditches represents flanking drainage ditches associated with the road. It is also interesting to note however no other evidence of finds or features of a Roman date were encountered within any of the Phase II trenches.

8.3 Seven undated ditches were also recorded from the evaluation; these represent field boundaries/drainage features and an enclosure boundary within **Trench 21** which extends northwards out from the trench.

8.4 In terms of correlation with the Phase 1 trenching there is little from which one can draw comparison. For example in the Phase 1 evaluation Trenches 13, 14 and 15 closest to the Roman road alignment produced as one might expect, Roman pottery. However in the Phase II evaluation, just to the south of these trenches, Trenches 6 and 10 identified features or deposits from which only prehistoric material was recovered. These prehistoric finds could be residual, but it is odd that neither of these trenches produced any Roman material whatsoever. Obviously the presence and survival of the Roman road as identified within the scheduled area (Trench 19), provides a link and a focus for settlement activity during that period, and it is possible (but by no means certain) that it may survive further west (albeit most probably heavily truncated) within the Phase 1 footprint. Although the density of Phase II trenching was lower than that of the Phase 1 programme, the evidence would appear to suggest that there is a much lower density of archaeological activity within Phase II compared with Phase 1.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Joe Whelan, assisted by Steve Bush, Katherine Hebbard, Emily Stynes and Keighley Wasenczuk. The report was written by Joe Whelan. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville and Sarah Wyles respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Leo Heatley. The archive has been compiled by Hazel O'Neil, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard Greatorex.

10. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2015 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geology_viewer_google/googleviewer.html Accessed February 2016

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015a *Land South of Leigh Road, Wimborne Minster, Dorset Phase II*: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015b *Land South of Leigh Road, Wimborne Minster, Dorset: Archaeological evaluation report*, CA Report No. **15695**

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Green, H. S. 1980 *The Flint Arrowheads of the British Isles: A detailed study of materials from England and Wales with comparanda from Scotland and Ireland.* Part i. BAR British Series **75(i).** Oxford

PCG 2014 Land South of Leigh Road, Wimborne Minster, Dorset: Archaeological Geophysical Survey

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

*N.B. All archaeological features and deposits highlighted in **bold.***

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth/ thickness (m)
1	100	Layer	-	Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand, friable, occasional natural flint 5%	-	-	0 – 0.18
1	101	Layer	-	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown clay sand, friable, occasional natural flint 15%	-	-	0.18 - 0.55
1	102	Layer	-	Natural	Mid yellow brown silty sand, natural flint 25% and gravel 50%			0.55+
2	200	Layer	-	Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand, occasional natural flint 5% mixed shape	-	-	0 - 0.18
2	201	Layer	-	Subsoil	Mid red brown clay sand occasional natural flint 15%	-	-	0.18 – 0.51
2	202	Layer	-	Natural	Mid yellow brown silty sand natural flint 25% gravel 50%	-	-	0.51+
3	300	Layer	-	Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand occasional natural flint 5% mixed shape	-	-	0 – 0.15
3	301	Layer	-	Subsoil	Mid red brown clay sand occasional natural flint 15%	-	-	0.15 – 0.42
3	302	Layer	-	Natural	Mid yellow brown silty sand natural flint 25% gravel 50%	-	-	0.42+
4	400	Layer	-	Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand occasional natural flint 5% mixed shape	-	-	0 – 0.15
4	401	Layer	-	Subsoil	Mid red brown clay sand occasional natural flint 15%	-	-	0.15 – 0.43
4	402	Layer	-	Natural	Mid yellow brown sandy silt natural flint 25% gravel 50%	-	-	0.43+
5	500	Layer	-	Topsoil	Mid brown silt loose, 25% sub angular stone/flint, covered by grass	-	-	0 – 0.21
5	501	Layer	-	Subsoil	Mid yellow red brown sandy silt, loose, 35% sub angular flint	-	-	0.21 – 0.45
5	502	Layer	-	Natural	Mid yellow red brown, sandy gravel 95% sub angular flint/gravel	-	-	0.45+
5	**503**	**Cut**	**-**	**Ditch**	Linear NE/SW alignment with gradual gradient sides to a flat but uneven base. Possible field boundary – no dating but possibly prehistoric	1.5	0.8	0.17
5	**504**	**Fill**	**503**	**Ditch fill**	Mid brown sandy silt friable, 75% sub angular flint – no dating but possibly prehistoric	1.5	0.8	0.17
6	600	Layer	-	Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand occasional natural flint 5%	-	-	0 – 0.2

					mixed shape			
Trench No.	**Context No.**	**Type**	**Fill of**	**Context interpretation**	**Description**	**L (m)**	**W (m)**	**Depth/ thickness (m)**
6	601	Layer	-	Subsoil	Mid red brown sandy clay occasional natural flint 15%	-	-	0.2 – 0.75
6	602	Layer	-	Natural	Mid yellow brown silty sand natural flint 25% gravel 50%	-	-	0.75+
6	**603**	**Cut**	**-**	**Pit**	Oval in plan, rounded corners. Sharp sides at the top of slope then gradual to a concave angle at base. Flat base. undated	Ex 1.02	0.73	0.14
6	**604**	**Fill**	**603**	**Pit fill**	Mid grey brown sandy clay friable to compact, occasional flint 5%, small flecks of charcoal	1.02	0.73	0.14
7	700	Layer	-	Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand occasional natural flint 5% mixed shape	-	-	0 – 0.26
7	701	Layer	-	Subsoil	Mid red brown clay sand occasional natural flint 15% mixed shapes	-	-	0.26 – 0.56
7	702	Layer	-	Natural	Mid yellow brown silty sand natural flint 25% gravel 50%	-	-	0.56+
7	**703**	**Cut**	**-**	**Cut of posthole**	Circular cut with sharp angle at top of slope and gradual sides to concave angle at base. Flat base. Undated	0.70	0.61	0.29
7	**704**	**Fill**	**703**	**PH fill**	Mid grey brown silty sand friable. Natural flint 25% gravel 50%. No dating evidence	0.70	0.61	0.29
7	**705**	**Cut**	**-**	**Cut of posthole**	Circular cut with sharp angle at top of slope and gradual sides to concave angle at base. Flat base. Undated	0.44	0.40	0.08
7	**706**	**Fill**	**705**	**PH fill**	Mid grey brown silty sand friable. Natural flint 5%, gravel. No dating evidence	0.44	0.40	0.08
7	**707**	**Cut**	**-**	**Cut of posthole**	Circular cut with sharp angle at top of slope and gradual sides to concave angle at base. Flat base. Undated	0.43	0.40	0.06
7	**708**	**Fill**	**707**	**PH fill**	Mid grey brown silty sand friable. Natural flint 5%, gravel. No dating evidence	0.43	0.40	0.06
7	**709**	**Cut**	**-**	**Cut of posthole**	Circular cut with sharp angle at top of slope and gradual sides to concave angle at base. Flat base. Undated	0.23	0.40	0.21
7	**710**	**Fill**	**709**	**PH fill**	Mid grey brown silty sand friable. Natural flint 5%, gravel. No dating evidence	0.23	0.40	0.21
7	**711**	**Cut**	**-**	**Cut of posthole/pit**	Circular cut with rounded angle at top of slope, steep sides to concave angle at base. Concave base. Undated	0.82	0.67	0.26
7	**712**	**Fill**	**711**	**Pit fill**	Mid grey red brown sandy clay friable. Natural flint 10%, <1% charcoal. No dating evidence. Humic	0.82	0.67	0.26

					content			
Trench No.	**Context No.**	**Type**	**Fill of**	**Context interpretation**	**Description**	**L (m)**	**W (m)**	**Depth/ thickness (m)**
7	**713**	**Cut**	**-**	**Cut of posthole**	Circular cut with rounded angle at top of slope, steep sides to concave angle at base. Concave base. Undated	0.29	0.55	0.19
7	**714**	**Fill**	**713**	**PH fill**	Mid grey red brown sandy clay friable. Natural flint 10%. No dating evidence.	0.29	0.55	0.19
7	**715**	**Cut**	**-**	**Cut of posthole**	Circular cut with sharp angle at top of slope, steep sides to concave angle at base. Flat base. Undated	0.28	0.40	0.21
7	**716**	**Fill**	**715**	**PH fill**	Mid grey brown silty sand friable. Natural flint 5% and gravel. Flecks of charcoal. No dating evidence	0.28	0.40	0.21
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand occasional natural flint 5% mixed shapes	-	-	0 – 0.23
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid red brown clay sand occasional natural flint 15% mixed shapes	-	-	0.23 – 0.54
8	802	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty sand natural flint 25% gravel 50%	-	-	0.54+
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand occasional natural flint 5% mixed shapes	-	-	0 - 0.20
9	901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid red brown clay sand occasional natural flint 15% mixed shapes	-	-	0.20 – 0.47
9	902	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown silty sand natural flint 25% gravel 50%	-	-	0.47+
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay, friable, 10% common flint, humic content	-	-	0 – 0.29
10	1001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid red brown silty clay, friable, 20% common flint	-	-	0.29 – 0.57
10	1002	Layer		Natural	Dark red yellow sandy clay gravel 90% common flint/gravel	-	-	0.57+
10	**1003**	**Cut**		**Pit**	Rectangular pit. 4 corners near right-angle. Vertical sides to base, sharp angle at base near right-angle. Possible Roman date.	1.74	0.72	0.32
10	**1004**	**Fill**	**1003**	**Pit fill**	Black brown mixed gravel, burnt flint, silty clay. Loose 90% charcoal. No finds recovered	1.74	0.72	0.32
10	**1005**	**Cut**		**Quarry pit**	Sub circular with convex top of slope, flat base. Only partially uncovered. Prehistoric date.	>10m Ex 0.7	>1.5	0.66
10	**1006**	**Fill**	**1005**	**Pit fill**	Mid grey brown clay sand, loose, 10% sub angular gravel. Worked flint recovered.			0.22
10	**1007**	**Fill**	**1005**	**Pit fill**	Dark grey black clay sand, friable, 5% sub angular			0.13

					gravel			
Trench No.	**Context No.**	**Type**	**Fill of**	**Context interpretation**	**Description**	**L (m)**	**W (m)**	**Depth/ thickness (m)**
10	**1008**	**Fill**	**1005**	**Pit fill**	Light brown grey clay sand, friable, 3% sub angular gravel			0.25
10	**1009**	**Fill**	**1003**	**Pit fill**	Mid yellow clay, firm. Running E-W in the centre of the pit	1.74	0.07	0.06
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand, friable, natural flint inclusions 5% sub angular	-	-	0 – 0.24
11	1101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellow red brown clay sand, friable, natural flint inclusions 15% sub angular	-	-	0.24 – 0.67
11	1102	Layer		Natural	Mid red yellow brown sandy silt, friable, 80% gravel, 10% natural flint	-	-	0.67+
11	**1103**	**Cut**		**Ditch**	Linear ditch running SE-NW. Not fully excavated due to high water table. Prehistoric	-	1.2	-
11	**1104**	**Fill**	**1103**	**Ditch fill**	Mid grey brown sandy clay, 10% natural flint. Burnt flint recovered. Not excavated due to high water table.	-	1.2	-
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand, friable, occasional sub angular natural flint inclusions 5%	-	-	0 – 0.29
12	1201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid red brown clay sand, friable, natural flint inclusions 15% sub angular	-	-	0.29 – 0.58
12	1202	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown sandy silt, friable, 80% gravel, 5% natural flint	-	-	0.58+
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay, friable, gravel inclusions. Signs of rooting and agricultural disturbance	-	-	0 – 0.3
13	1301	Layer		Subsoil	Light grey brown clay sand, loose, 25% sub angular gravel	-	-	0.3 – 0.53
13	1302	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown sandy gravel with mid yellow brown sandy clay bands 80% sub angular gravel	-	-	0.53+
13	**1303**	**Cut**		**Ditch**	Linear ditch running SW-NE. possible boundary ditch, unexcavated due to rising water	>2.5	3.5	>0.4
13	**1304**	**Fill**		**Ditch fill**	Mid brown grey clay sand, friable, 40% inclusions of sub angular gravel. No dating evidence. Unexcavated.	>2.5	3.5	>0.4
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand, friable, occasional sub angular natural flint inclusions 5%. Layer of	-	-	0 – 0.20

					modern deposit			
Trench No.	**Context No.**	**Type**	**Fill of**	**Context interpretation**	**Description**	**L (m)**	**W (m)**	**Depth/ thickness (m)**
14	1401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid red yellow brown clay sand, friable, natural flint inclusions 15% sub angular	-	-	0.20 – 0.58
14	1402	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow red clay sand, friable, 80% gravel, 10% natural flint	-	-	0.58+
14	**1403**	**Cut**		**Ditch**	Linear ditch running N-S, sharp angle at top of slope, gradual sides to concave angle at base. Flat base.	>2	1.40	0.48
14	**1404**	**Fill**	**1403**	**Ditch fill**	Mid grey brown sandy silt, friable, natural flint 25% gravel inclusions. No dating evidence	>2	1.40	0.48
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand, friable, natural flint inclusions 5%.	-	-	0 – 0.40
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid red yellow brown clay sand, friable, natural flint inclusions 15% sub angular	-	-	0.40 – 0.58
15	1502	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow red sandy with clay bands, friable, 80% gravel, 10% natural flint	-	-	0.58+
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown sandy clay, friable, natural flint inclusions 5%. Signs of rooting	-	-	0 – 0.20
16	1601	Layer		Subsoil	Light grey brown clay sand, loose, 25% inclusions of sub angular gravel flint	-	-	0.20 – 0.40
16	1602	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow red sandy gravel 80% sub angular gravel and flint			0.40+
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand, loose, natural flint inclusions 10%. Signs of rooting	-	-	0 – 0.35
17	1701	Layer		Subsoil	Light grey brown clay sand, loose, 30-40% inclusions of sub angular gravel flint	-	-	0.35 – 0.52
17	1702	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow red sandy gravel with mid yellow brown sandy clay 80% gravel	-	-	0.52+
18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand, loose, less than 3% inclusions of sub angular flint. Signs of rooting and modern agriculture disturbance	-	-	0 – 0.30
18	1801	Layer		Subsoil	Light grey brown clay sand, loose, less than 5% inclusions of sub angular flint.	-	-	0.30 – 0.58
18	1802	Layer		Natural	Mid red brown sandy gravel, clay sand, solid. 80% gravel	-	-	0.58+

19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt with abundant gravel, friable	-	-	0.0 – 0.26
19	1901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey yellow brown sandy silt with abundant gravel. compact	-	-	0.26 – 0.46
19	1902	Layer		Natural	Mid yellow brown sandy silt with abundant gravel	-	-	0.46+
19	**1903**	**Cut**		**Ditch**	Linear ditch running NE-SW. Moderate sloping slides with gentle breaks and a flat bottom.	>3.6	1.36	0.32
19	**1904**	**Fill**	**1903**	**Fill of ditch**	Mid grey brown with dark red brow mottling silty sand. Compact with abundant gravel inclusions	>3.6	1.36	0.32
19	**1905**	**Fill**	**1903**	**Fill of ditch**	Mid grey brown with dark red brown mottling sandy silt, compact with occasional small stones	>3.6	1.36	0.12
19	**1906**	**Cut**		**Gully**	Linear gully running W-E with steep sides onto a concave base	>3.5	0.90	0.48
19	**1907**	**Fill**	**1906**	**Fill of gully**	Yellow brown clay silt sand with occasional flint gravel inclusions. Fill becomes blue grey towards base	>3.5	0.90	0.48
19	1908	Layer		Gravel surface	Yellow brown fine sandy grit silt. Firm pea grit	2.10	>1	0.10
Trench No.	**Context No.**	**Type**	**Fill of**	**Context interpretation**	**Description**	**L (m)**	**W (m)**	**Depth/ thickness (m)**
20	2000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown clay sand, loose, 15% sub angular gravel flint. Signe of modern agricultural disturbance	-	-	0 – 0.28
20	2001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand, loose, 25% sub angular gravel flint	-	-	0.28 – 0.40
20	2002	Layer		Natural	Light grey brown clay sand, loose, 80% flint gravel. Occasional bands of mid brown grey sand clay	-	-	0.4+
20	**2003**	**Cut**		**Ditch**	Linear NE-SW, crossing Tr 20, unexcavated due to high water table. Feature was not initially visible, but weathered after rain.	1.40	0.90	-
20	**2004**	**Fill**	**2003**	**Ditch fill**	Yellow brown gritty clay silt, inclusions of common flint gravel. Unexcavated.	1.40	0.90	-
21	2100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid brown clay sand, loose, 15% sub angular gravel flint. Signe of modern agricultural disturbance	-	-	0 – 0.28
21	2101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown clay sand, loose, 25% sub angular gravel flint	-	-	0.28 – 0.38
21	2102	Layer		Natural	Light grey brown clay sand, loose, 80% flint gravel. Occasional bands of mid brown grey sand clay	-	-	0.38+
21	**2103**	**Cut**		**Ditch**	Linear ditch running E-W, sharp angle at the top of slope, gradual gradient sides to concave angle at base. Flat base. Ditch	>1.5	0.94	0.56

					terminus respects the curvature of [2105] undated			
21	**2104**	**Fill**	**2103**	**Ditch fill**	Mid grey brown silty sand, friable, natural flint inclusions 25%, gravel inclusions 50% undated	>1.5	0.94	0.56
21	**2105**	**Cut**		**Ditch**	Linear ditch running N-S, sharp angle at the top of slope, gradual gradient sides to concave angle at base. Flat base. Undated	>2.5	1	0.44
21	**2106**	**Fill**	**2105**	**Ditch fill**	Mid grey brown silty sand, friable, natural flint inclusions 25%, gravel inclusions 50% undated	>2.5	1	0.44

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
100	Burnt flint		2	181	-
200	Worked flint Burnt flint	End scraper	1 3	15 120	-
300	Worked flint Burnt flint	Flakes, core, awl	5 11	107 230	-
500	Worked flint Burnt flint	Flakes, blade, core, retouched flake	6 11	70 299	-
600	Worked flint Burnt flint	Flakes, core, chisel arrowhead	11 4	109 62	-
700	Worked flint Burnt flint	Flakes, end scraper	5 5	27 119	-
800	Worked flint Burnt flint	End scraper	1 19	17 503	-
900	Worked flint Burnt flint	Flake	4 7	38 230	-
1006	Worked flint	Flake	1	10	-
1007	Burnt flint		12	433	-
1008	Worked flint	Flake	2	16	-
1100	Worked flint	Core	1	24	-
1104	Worked flint Burnt flint	Flake	1 1	12 25	-
1200	Worked flint	Flake	4	31	-
1300	Worked flint	Flake	4	24	-
1400	Worked flint	Flake	1	10	-
1500	Worked flint Burnt flint	Flakes, core	5 4	118 97	-
1600	Worked flint	Flake, notched flake	2	32	-
1700	Worked flint Burnt flint	Flake	1 1	10 30	-
1800	Worked flint Burnt flint	Flake	2 5	22 159	-
1900	Worked flint	Flake	2	11	-
2000	Worked flint Burnt flint	Flakes, end scraper, side scraper	8 4	114 136	-
2100	Worked flint Burnt flint	Flake	2 6	16 261	-

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 1 Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

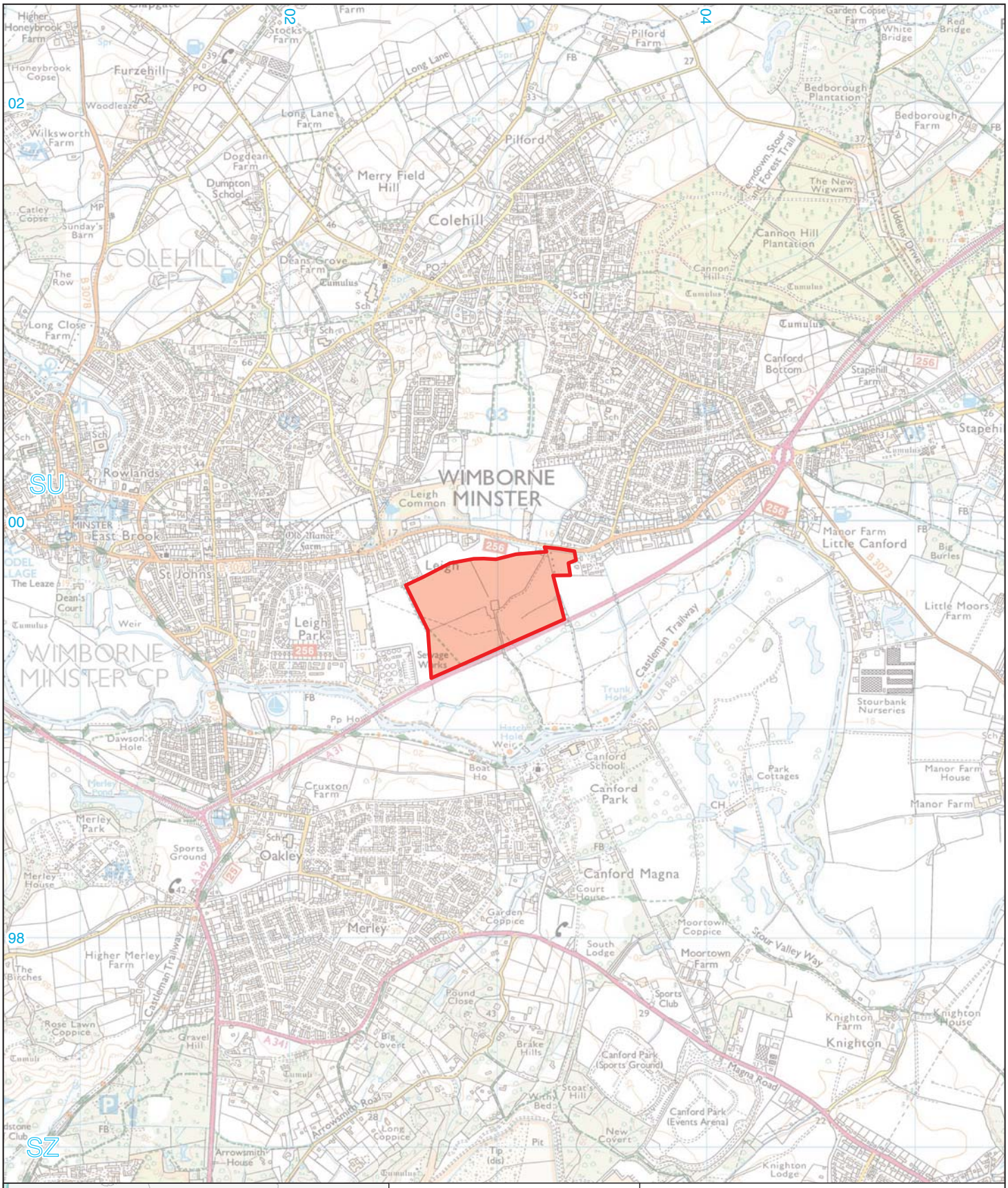
Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Charred Other	Charcoal	Other
Trench 10 ?Romano-British Pit										
1003	1004	1	8	5	10	-	-	-	+++	-

Key: + = 1–4 items; ++ = 4–20 items; +++ = 21–49 items; ++++ = 50–99 items; +++++ = >100 items

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land south of Leigh road, Wimborne Minster, Dorset. Phase II	
Short description (250 words maximum)	A second phase of archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in February/March 2016. Twenty one trenches were excavated. One trench revealed a large, possibly prehistoric quarry pit. Two other undated pits were noted, one containing large quantities of crushed burnt flint which would appear to have had an as yet unknown industrial function, but also probably dating to the prehistoric period. An arc of seven postholes possibly forming a section of a roundhouse structure and seven undated ditches were also recorded. **Trench 19** was excavated across a Scheduled Ancient Monument (MDO5439) revealing a pair of parallel flanking ditches and a thin sorted gravel layer, forming the metalling of a remnant Roman road. Moderate quantities of burnt and worked flint were recovered from all but one of the trenches.	
Project dates	29 February – 4 March 2016	
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Evaluation	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	Geophysical survey CgMs 2014 Field evaluation – phase 1 (CA 2015)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Park Farm, Leigh Road, Wimborne Minster, Dorset	
Study area (M^2/ha)	29ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SZ 03009 99465	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Greatorex	
Project Supervisor	Joe Whelan	
MONUMENT TYPE	S.A.M Roman Road	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	none	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.) Recipient of each type of archive Dorset County Museum	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc) Indicate the contents of each archive box
Physical		Worked and burnt flint
Paper		Trench and Context sheets
Digital		Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2016 *Land south of Leigh road, Wimborne Minster, Dorset. Phase II:* Archaeological Evaluation. CA typescript report



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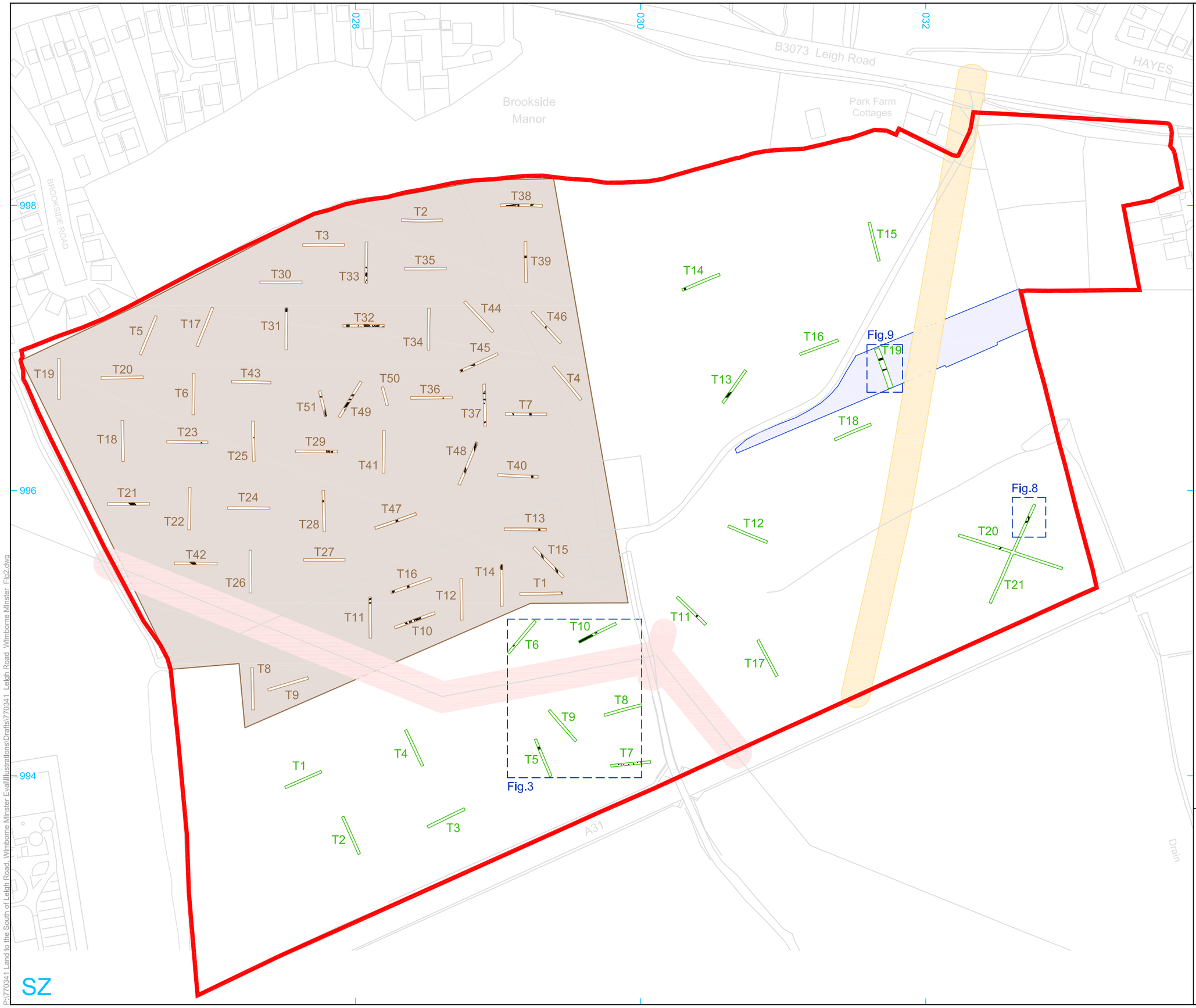
PROJECT TITLE

Land South of Leigh Road
Wimborne Minster, Dorset Phase II

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	**LJH**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770341**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**14/03/16**	**1**
APPROVED BY	**REG**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:25,000**	



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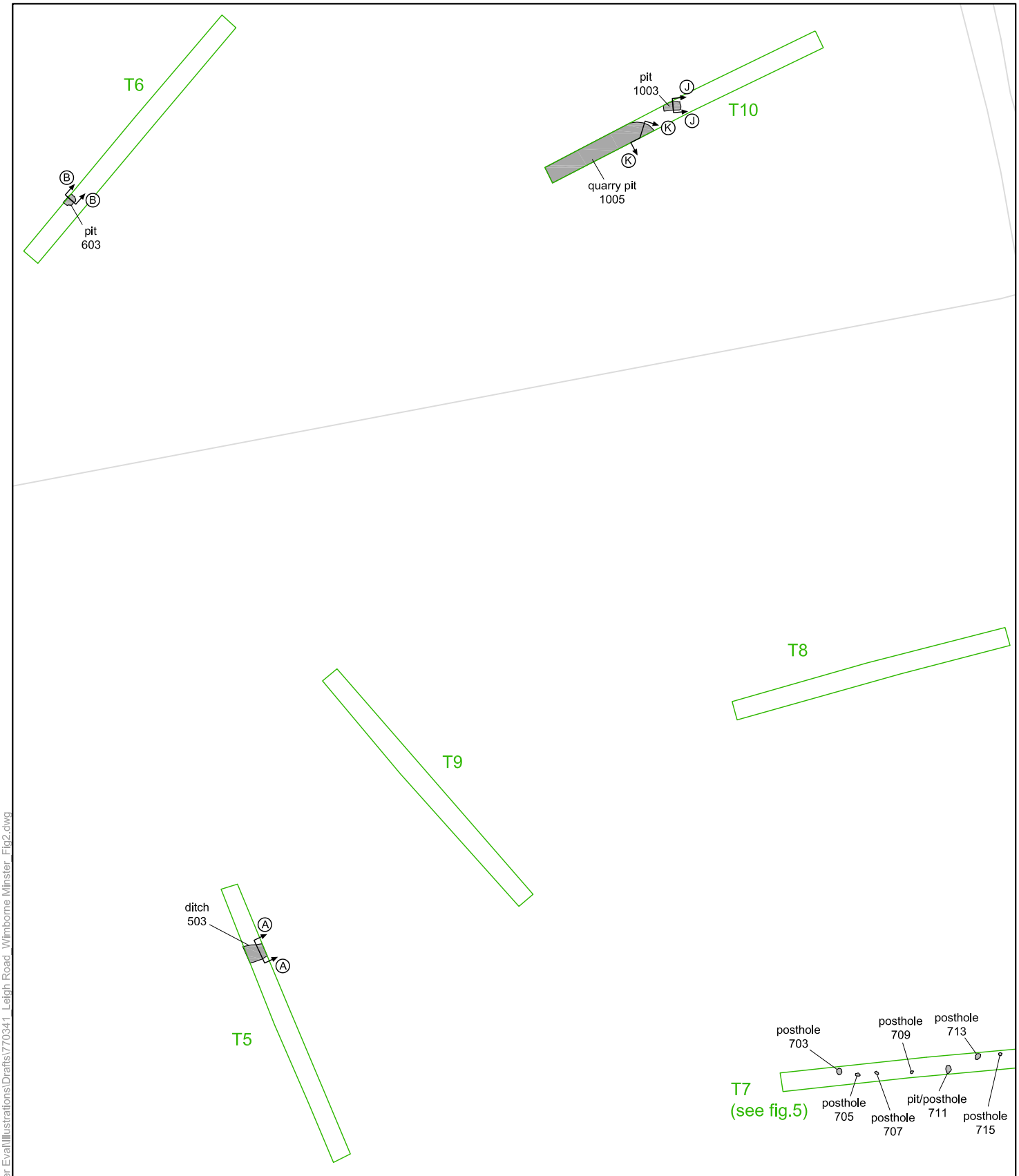
PROJECT TITLE
Land South of Leigh Road, Wimborne Minster
Dorset Phase II

FIGURE TITLE
Trench location plan showing archaeological features

DRAWN BY	LJH	PROJECT NO.	770341	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	07/04/2016	2
APPROVED BY	REG	SCALE@A3	1:2500	

P:\770341 Land to the South of Leigh Road, Wimborne Minster Eval\Illustrations\Drafts\770341 Leigh Road Wimborne Minster Fig2.dwg



evaluation trench

archaeological feature

B B section drawing

N

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PROJECT TITLE

Land South of Leigh Road
Wimborne Minster, Dorset Phase II

FIGURE TITLE

Trenches 5 to 10 showing archaeological features

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	07/04/2016	3
APPROVED BY	REG	SCALE@A3	1:500	

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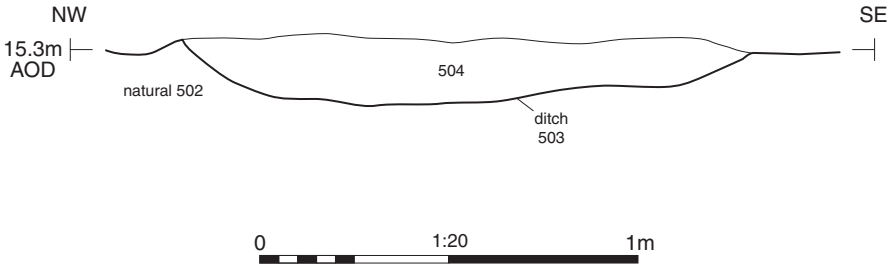

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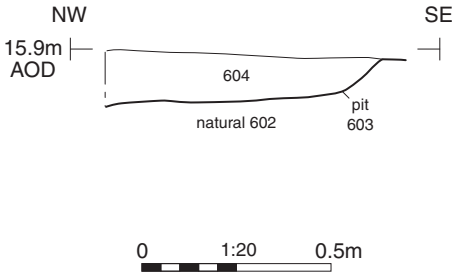

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PROJECT TITLE

Land South of Leigh Road
Wimborne Minster, Dorset Phase II

FIGURE TITLE

Ditch 503 and pit 603: sections

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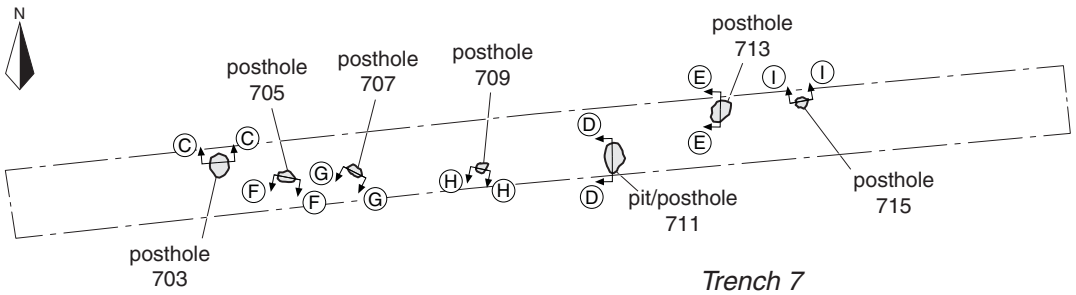
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**21/03/16**	**4**
APPROVED BY	**REG**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	



Trench 7

0 1:200 10m

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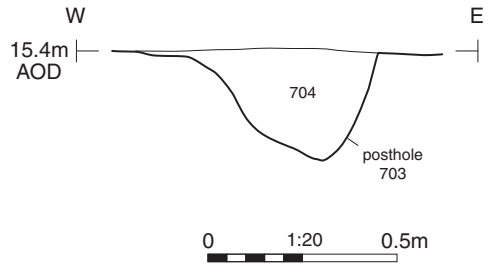

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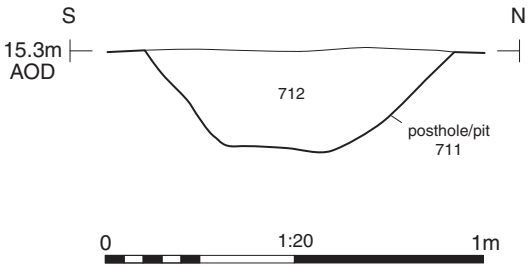

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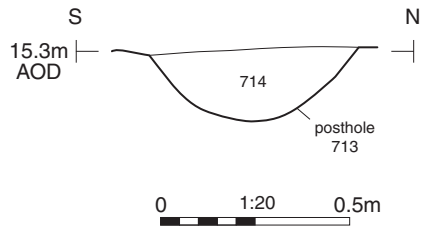

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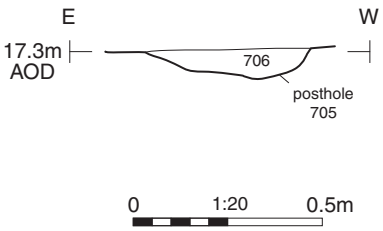

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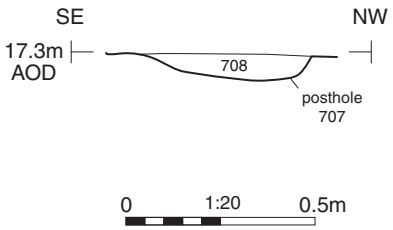

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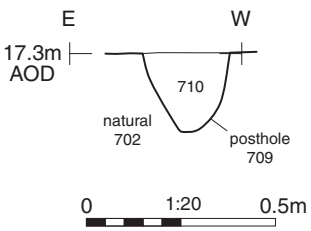

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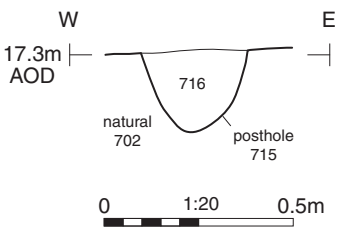

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PROJECT TITLE

Land South of Leigh Road
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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 7: plan and sections

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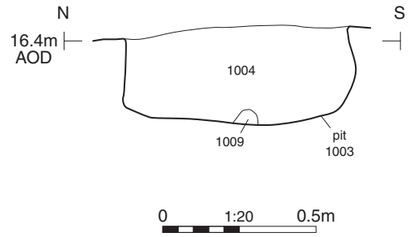
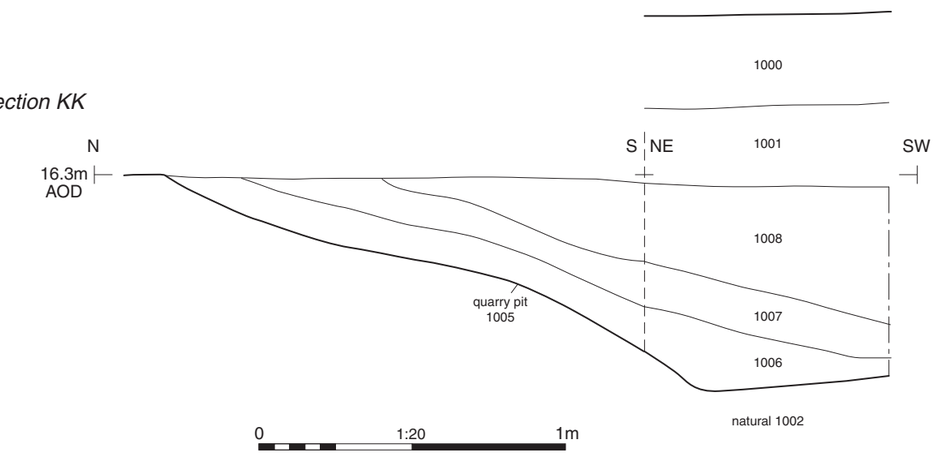


Pit 1003 looking east (0.4m scale)

Section KK



Quarry pit 1005 looking south-east (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land South of Leigh Road
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FIGURE TITLE

Pit 1003 & quarry pit 1005: sections and photographs

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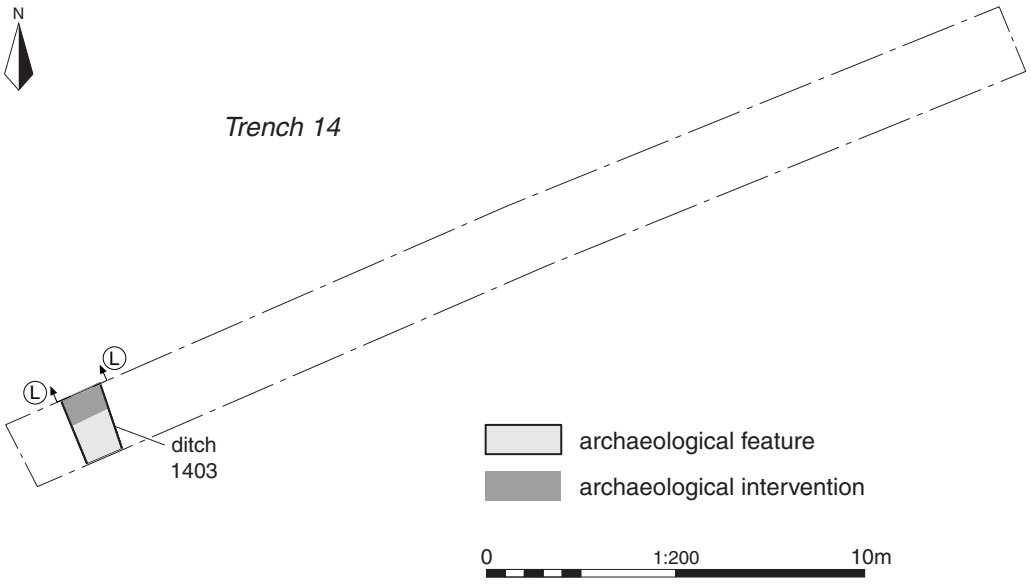
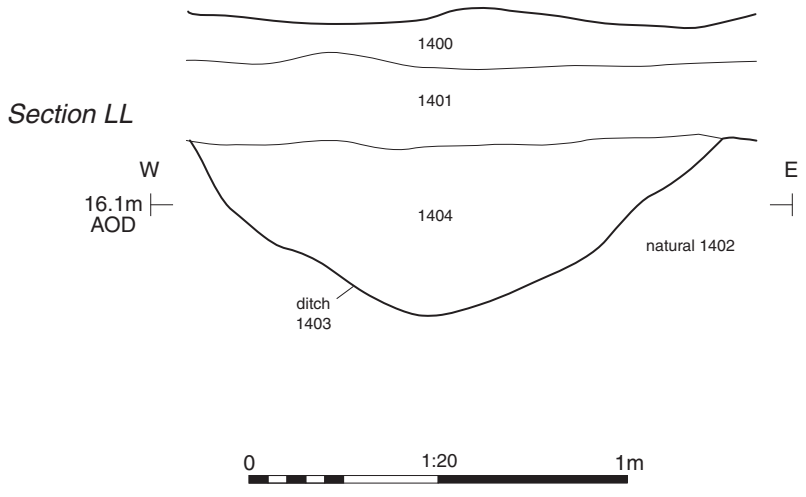
APPROVED BY	**REG**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	





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PROJECT TITLE

Land South of Leigh Road
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FIGURE TITLE

Ditch 1403: plan and section

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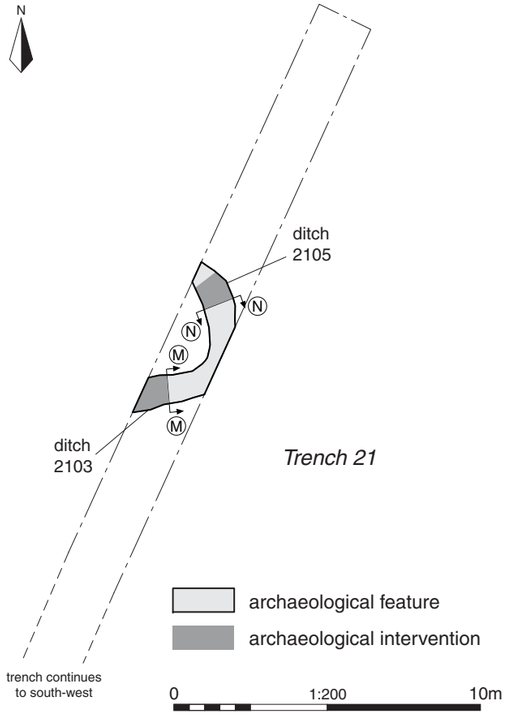
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	21/03/16	7
APPROVED BY	REG	SCALE@A4	1:20 & 1:200	



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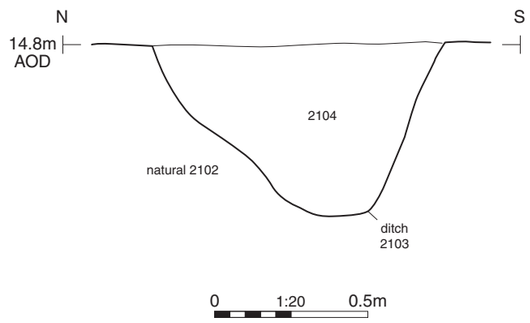
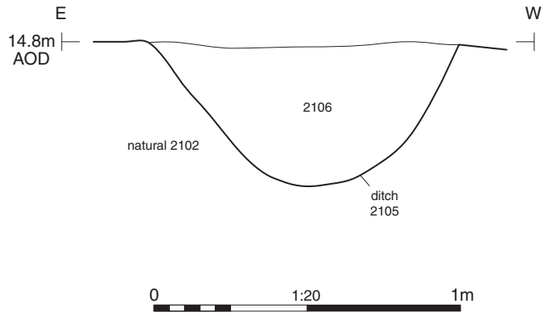


Trench 21 looking south-west (1m scales)

Section NN



Ditch 2105 looking south-west (1m scale)

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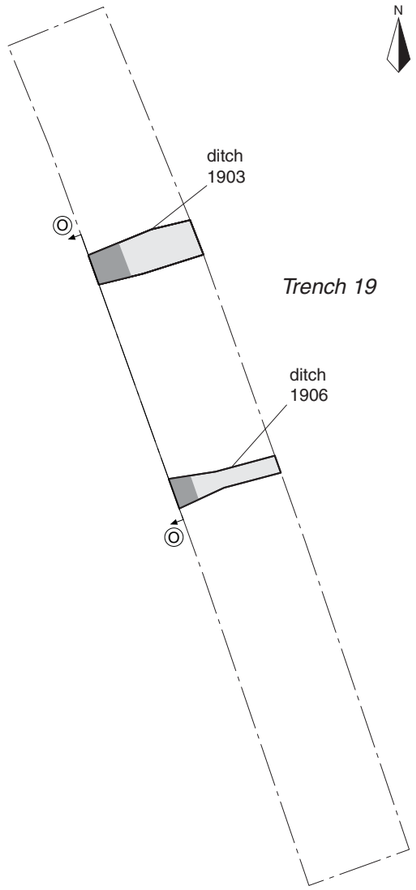
PROJECT TITLE

Land South of Leigh Road
Wimborne Minster, Dorset Phase II

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 21: plan, sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	**LJH**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770341**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**04/04/16**	**8**
APPROVED BY	**REG**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20 & 1:200**	

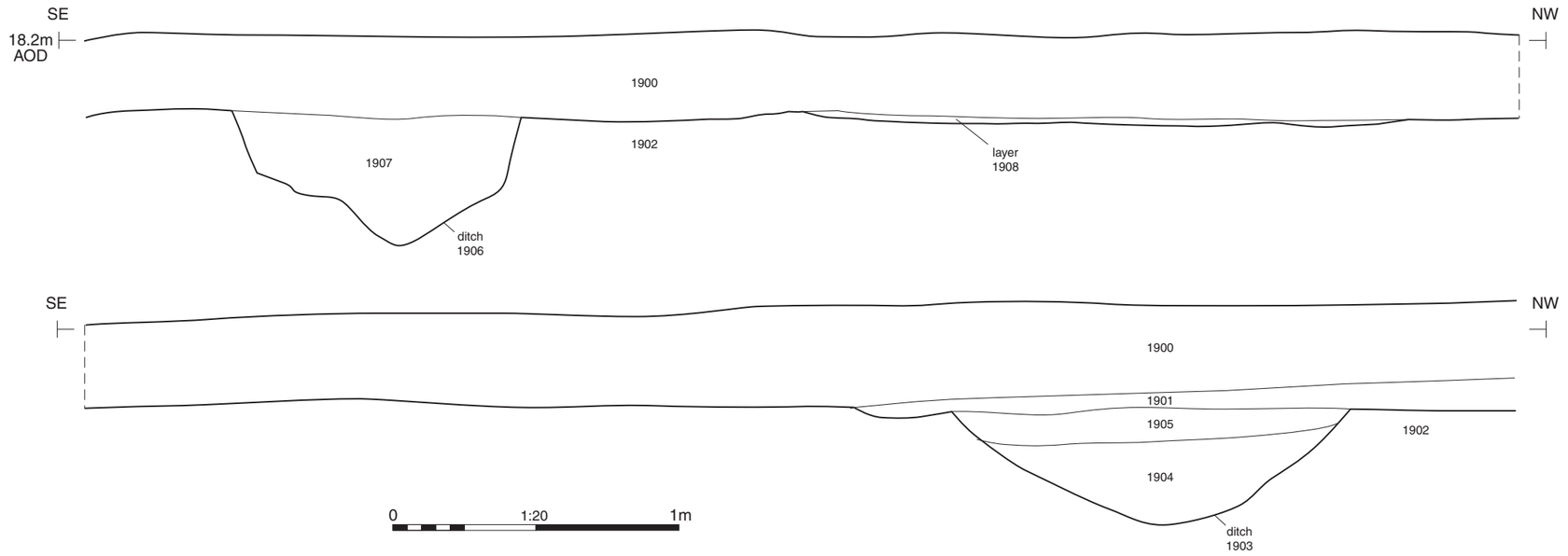


archaeological feature

archaeological intervention

0 1:200 10m

Section OO



Section across Scheduled Monument showing ditches 1903 and 1906, looking south-west (1m scales)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land South of Leigh Road
Wimborne Minster, Dorset Phase II

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 19: plan, section and photograph

DRAWN BY	**LJH**	*PROJECT NO.*	**770341**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**04/04/16**	**9**
APPROVED BY	**REG**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20 & 1:200**	

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