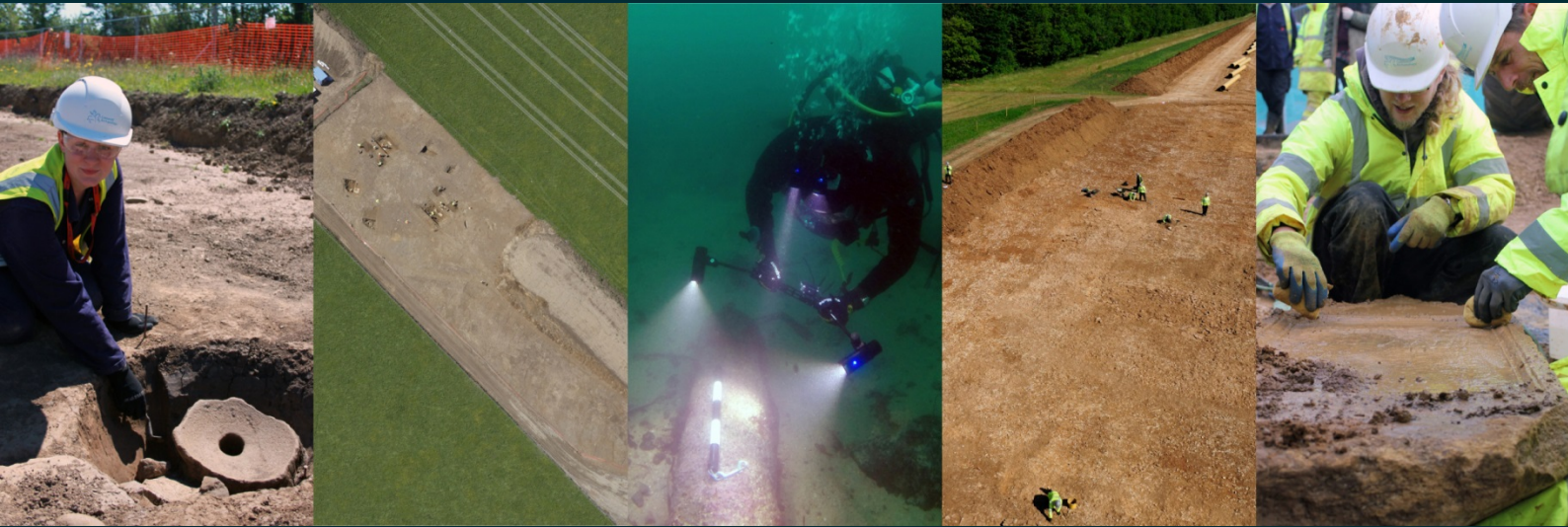


Land North of Bitham Park, Westbury, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
CgMs

on behalf of
Barrett/David Wilson Homes

CA Project: 770502
CA Report: 17030

January 2017



Land North of Bitham Park,
Westbury,
Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation

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Summary

Project Name:	Land North of Bitham Park
Location:	Westbury, Wiltshire
NGR:	(centred on) ST 8752 7213
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	9 – 13 January 2017
Planning Reference:	14/09262/OUT, APP/Y3940/W/15/31300433
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum
Site Code:	BIT 17

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in January 2017 at land North of Bitham Park, Westbury, Wiltshire. 20 trenches were excavated across the site in what represented a second phase of trenching at the site.

A moderate number of ditches and postholes were recorded in the west of the site, indicative of settlement activity within the vicinity.

The first phase of trenching in 2014 recorded five trenches in the west of the site which contained a moderate number of shallow ditches and gullies of an Iron Age / Romano-British date. The current fieldwork examined the possibility that the archaeological activity identified might continue beyond the areas identified during the first evaluation. The results of the current survey demonstrate the presence of a concentration of archaeological activity, recorded on a north – south axis to the west of the site, but did not produce any evidence of Iron Age or Romano-British activity, despite many of the features appearing to be continuation of those found in the previous phase of works.

The presence of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation in 13 out of the 20 excavated trenches demonstrates the site has been subjected to prolonged and intensive agricultural practises in the past which may have truncated or displaced features and artefacts and account for the lack of Iron Age or Romano-British finds recovered during the current evaluation.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In January 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation at the request of CgMs Consulting Ltd on the behalf of Barrett/David Wilson Homes on land North of Bitham Park, Westbury, Wiltshire (centred on NGR: ST 8752 7213; Fig. 1). Planning permission for 300 dwellings, the creation of a new roundabout access from Trowbridge Road, creation of a new emergency/cycle and pedestrian access from coach road, open space, drainage works and ancillary works was granted on appeal by Wiltshire Council (WC) (ref: 14/09262/OUT, APP/Y3940/W/15/3130433), conditional on a programme of archaeological work.

Condition 11 states:

No development shall take place on the site until a programme of archaeological work with a written scheme of investigation has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall take place in accordance with the approved programme of archaeological work.

- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2016) and approved by Rachel Foster. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). It was monitored by Rachel Foster, including site visits on 11 January 2017.

THE SITE

- 1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 10.8 ha in size and comprises four fields set to pasture. The Site slopes very gently from 60m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the east to 57m aOD in the west.
- 1.4 The underlying geology of the Site is mapped by the British Geological Survey as a boundary between Cretaceous Greensand to the south, and Jurassic Clay, Mudstone and Sandstone to the north.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological background provided below is a summary of the archaeological background taken from an evaluation previously conducted on the site, prepared by Wessex Archaeology (WA 2014)
- 2.2 Westbury's iconic landmark, the White Horse on the slopes of Bratton Camp, partially overlooks the Site. Though often thought to possibly have been cut to commemorate King Alfred's victory in AD 878 over the Danes at the battle of *Eðandun* (Edington), it is generally held to be an 18th century creation, with no documentary evidence to indicate its presence before the 1720's.
- 2.3 By the 15th century, Westbury was an important town for the wool trade, with documentary references to several fulling mills in the town. This relatively prosperous boom for the town lasted through until the early part of the 17th century, though important events associated with the wool trade, such as the Sheep Fair, persisted through until the 20th century.
- 2.4 Evidence for archaeological activity in the immediate area of the Site is sparse. Large sub-circular/ovate cropmarks of uncertain date and origin on aerial photographs covering Bitham Park, including one in the south-west corner of the site have been suggested to have been clay quarry pits (WA 2015).
- 2.5 Construction work for Bitham Brook Primary School in the early 1990s revealed the remains of two Romano-British burials (WA1993). In 1993 an evaluation and subsequent excavation on land immediately south of Bitham Park revealed evidence for medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, with associated field boundary ditches. Prehistoric activity in the general vicinity was also suggested through the recovery of broadly undiagnostic worked flint, and a fragment of saddle quern (WA 1993).
- 2.6 In 2004 (WA 2004) an evaluation in advance of the proposed Westbury Bypass identified a high density of substantial pits and ditches/gullies of predominantly Early Iron Age date to the southeast of the Site.
- 2.7 A magnetometer survey directly to the west of the site was undertaken in May 2013 (ASD 2013), a subsequent 14 trench evaluation (HA 2013) found a number of pits, postholes and ditches containing abraded worked flint, but no dating evidence. The features were assumed to be prehistoric. A further evaluation and subsequent strip,

map and record excavation on the site (WA 2014a, 2015) encountered a number of undated land management features.

PREVIOUS EVALUATION

- 2.8 Works carried out in July 2014 (WA 2015) on the current Site, identified a series of gullies, ditches and pits concentrated in the western portion of the site. Pottery from these features suggested two distinct phases of activity, pertaining to the Early/Middle Iron Age and Romano-British periods, suggesting settlement in the general area.
- 2.9 A geophysical survey (HA 2014) did not detect the Iron Age and Romano-British remains, which were found in the evaluation.

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 *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). In particular the evaluation sought to identify whether further Iron Age / Romano-British activity continued beyond the areas identified during the previous evaluation. This information will enable Wiltshire Council 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).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork comprised the excavation of 20 trenches measuring 30m in length by 1.9m in width, with the final 'as dug' locations shown on the attached plan (Figure 2). The position of **Trench 2** was moved on site to avoid the location of a fence and a borehole; several other trenches were moved slightly prior to the evaluation to avoid overhead powerlines with the approval of Rachel Foster. 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. Several archaeological features could not be excavated due to localised flooding caused by the seasonally high water table, these and all other features were fully planned and recorded 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* and as a result five deposits were sampled and processed (the results are summarised in Appendix C). 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 Wiltshire Heritage 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 2-14)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are to be found in Appendices A, B and C respectively. The topsoil recorded within all twenty trenches consisted of a dark grey clayey silt with an average depth of 0.25m and which overlay a pale grey brown silty clay subsoil with an average depth of 0.35m. The natural substrate, observed in all trenches consisted of a yellowy grey silty clay with common, degraded, chalk flecks. The high water table varied across the site with a number of trenches succumbing to localised flooding.

5.2 The following trenches were devoid of archaeological activity and are summarised only in Appendix A; **Trenches 2, 3, 5, 7, 8**. Additionally the following trenches contained at least one furrow of a probable medieval or later medieval date and are also only summarised in Appendix A; **Trenches 6, 9, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19 and 20**. The observed furrows were typically broad, shallow features comprised of a dark grey silty clay with degraded chalk inclusions.

Field 1, Trench 1 (Figures 2 & 5)

5.3 **Trench 1** contained a visible north-east / south-west orientated ridge / embankment **103**, towards the centre of the trench. The ridge, a former field boundary shown extant on the 1887 Ordnance Survey map, measured some 3.5m in width and was formed from grey silty clay some 0.4m in height. A cattle metatarsal displaying clear chop marks suggestive of an origin in butchery waste was recovered from the fill of this feature. Immediately to the south-east of the bank was ditch **104**, on the same alignment of the bank and which measured 1.2m in width. The fill consisted of a dark grey silty clay. Immediately to the north of the bank the ground fell away into a hollow, a possible furrow, which measured some 3m in width. None of the features could be excavated due to localised flooding within the trench.

Field 1-Trench 4 (Figures 2 & 6)

5.4 **Trench 4** contained a single circular pit (**403**) extending east out of the trench measured 1.5m in length by at least 0.8m in width and contained a light grey silty clay. Due to localised flooding this feature could not be excavated. A single west - east furrow was also recorded to the northern end of the trench.

Field 2, Trench 10 (Figures 3, 7-9)

5.5 A large roughly north – south orientated ditch **1003 / 1005** was located at the east end of **Trench 10**. Ditch **1003**, is a stepped, steep sided, flat bottomed ditch 0.9m in width by 0.52m in depth and which contained a single grey brown clayey silt fill **1004**. The ditch has been partially recut by **1005**, a broad flat bottomed ditch 1.83m in width by 0.55m in depth and which contained a primary sandy clay **1006**, up to 0.24m in depth, this was sealed by **1011** a yellow brown sandy clay with common chalk inclusions and **1013**, a grey silty clay up to 0.39m in depth. Close to the

surface another chalk rich band of silty clay **1012**, ran up to 0.1m in depth. Both ditches **1003** and **1005** were sealed by **1014**, a dark grey clayey silt 0.11m in depth and 4m in width and which extended east out of the trench. This deposit is likely the result or persistent localised flooding events over a wide period of time. While no pottery was recovered from this ditch it likely represents the continuation of the Romano British ditch **810** identified during the course of the earlier evaluation. Prehistoric worked flint recovered from the fill of this ditch is likely to be residual having been deposited by medieval activity on the site. Fragments of animal bone were recovered from layers 1001 and 1014, but were not identifiable.

- 5.6 A third ditch **1007** crosses the trench on the same alignment and close to **1003** /**1005** and is likely the continuation of a Romano British ditch (**815**) identified during the earlier evaluation. This flat bottomed feature measured 1.28m in width by 0.23m in depth and contained single fill, **1008**, a grey brown silt/clay. Kennet valley ware from the late medieval/early post-medieval period was recovered from the fill of this ditch, again this is likely to have been deposited during later medieval activity. Only one fragment of animal bone, partial cattle radius, was recovered from this feature. No evidence of butchery in the form of cut and/or chop marks were present.
- 5.7 At the western end of the trench an undated construction cut **1009**, containing three post holes was recorded. A fourth post hole **1015**, on the same alignment, was recorded extending out of the trench to the south. The construction cut which extended north out of the trench measured 1.98m in length by 1m in width by 0.20m in depth and contained three circular post holes; **1018**, **1020** and **1023**. The postholes measured between 0.33 – 0.50m in diameter and 0.07 – 0.24m in depth. Prehistoric worked flint recovered from the fill of posthole **1023** is likely to be residual having most likely been deposited by medieval activity on the site.

Field 2, Trench 11 (Figures 2 & 10)

- 5.6 A single undated, flat bottomed ditch (**1103**) crossed **Trench 11** on a west-east alignment, measured 0.65m in width by 0.13m in depth, it was filled by a single fill **1104**, a pale brown silt/clay. Three furrows also crossed the trench on a similar orientation.

Field 2, Trench 12 (Figures 2 & 11)

- 5.7 Ditch (**1203**) crossed **Trench 12**, on a north/south alignment and measured at least 3m in length by 0.76m wide. The single fill, **1204**, comprised brown silt/clay and contained post-medieval ceramic building material and measured 0.14m in depth. A furrow also crossed the trench to the north.

Field 3, Trench 14 (Figures 2, 4, 12-13)

- 5.8 **Trench 14** excavated through slight, ridge and furrow earthworks recorded a pit and a posthole at the southern end of the trench. Pit **1404**, oval in plan measured 1.05m in length by 0.9m in width by 0.28m in depth. The single fill, **1405**, comprised grey silt/clay and contained residual worked flint. Next to the pit, an oval posthole, **1406**, (0.38m in diameter) contained a charcoal rich silt/clay fill. This fill was 100% excavated and retained as sample number <2>. Both the pit and post hole and the base of the southern half of the trench were sealed by a dark 'occupation' soil, **1403**; the dark grey clay/silt (with chalk inclusions) was up to 0.20m in depth and sealed by the subsoil. Two large furrows were also recorded in the trench which corresponded with visible earthworks. A third possible furrow on a differing north-west / south-east orientation was partially examined with a hand dug test pit (TP1) but had to be abandoned due to localised flooding.

Field 4, Trench 18 (Figures 2 & 14)

- 5.9 **Trench 18**, which flooded rapidly following excavation, contained two parallel ditches on a north-west / south-east alignment. The two unexcavated ditches **1804** and **1806** measured 3m and 3.5m in width respectively. The fills consisted of a very dark silt/clay. Surface finds recovered from the trench, consisted of middle Neolithic, medieval and post-medieval pottery. Two partial horse molars from deposit 1807 were the only identifiable fragments of animal bone from this feature. South of the ditches a dark occupation soil (**1803**) measured at least 5m in length, this soil consisted of very dark grey silt/clay in excess of 0.25m in depth. Only one fragment of animal bone, a sheep/goat radius, was recovered from this feature. No evidence of butchery in the form of cut and/or chop marks were present.

6. THE FINDS



- 6.1 Artefact material from evaluation was recovered, via hand excavation and bulk soil sampling, from 15 deposits (ditch, pit and posthole fills, layers, buried soil, subsoil and topsoil). The recovered material dates to the prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval periods. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric.

Pottery: Early prehistoric

- 6.2 Two joining sherds in a flint-tempered fabric (FL, 4g), in a heavily abraded condition, were retrieved from buried soil **1803**. Traces of impressed decoration suggest this pottery belongs to the Impressed Ware/Peterborough Ware tradition which was in use across most of Britain during the Middle Neolithic (Gibson 2002, 78).

Medieval

- 6.3 Two abraded sherds of medieval date (11g) were recorded. An unfeathered bodysherd of Kennet Valley ware (KVA) (East Wiltshire ware), from fill **1805** of ditch **1804**, is dateable to the late 11th to 15th centuries. This type of pottery was manufactured in the Savernake/Braydon Forest region (Mellor 1994, 100–6). The bodysherd from fill **1008** of ditch **1007** was in particularly poor condition and is tentatively identified as also representing Kennet Valley ware.

Post-medieval/modern

- 6.4 Pottery from this date range totalled five sherds (174g) from four deposits: condition ranged from poor to good. Four sherds of glazed earthenware (GRE) were dateable to the mid 16th to 18th centuries. A sherd of refined whiteware (REFW) from topsoil deposit **1200** dates to the late 18th to 19th centuries.

Lithics

- 6.5 A total of 13 worked flints (61g) was retrieved from five deposits. The assemblage comprised five flakes, three chips, one core, one piece of shatter and two miscellaneous items. All but one of the flakes were very small. The spurred piece from **1013** was made on a thermal blank, as were the miscellaneous items. The miscellaneous example from **1405** displayed small flake scars along one convex edge. That from **1013** featured several small, steep removals on a portion of one edge. As the assemblage is very small and features no chronologically diagnostic tools or debitage, secure dating is not possible. However, the relatively high proportion of miscellaneous pieces and items made on thermal blanks (rather than

on flakes) is most suggestive of Bronze Age flintworking. None of the flint-bearing deposits contained pottery.

Ceramic building material

- 6.6 The site produced five fragments of ceramic building material (264g). Two were broadly categorised as flat roof tile and one, from **1401**, was peg tile. These were all in use during the late medieval and post-medieval periods. The remaining two fragments were too small for further classification but are likely to be post-medieval in date.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bone

- 7.1 A total of 7 fragments (410g) of animal bone were recovered from six deposits. The bone was very poorly preserved and highly fragmented, displaying surface erosion due to exposure to the elements as well as historical and modern damage. However, it was possible to identify the presence of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) and horse (*Equus caballus*).

Medieval

- 7.2 A single fragment (19g) was recovered from deposit **1008**, the fill of ditch **1007** and identified as a partial cattle radius, a bone of the lower leg. No evidence of butchery in the form of cut and/or chop marks were present.

Late medieval/early post-medieval

- 7.3 Two fragments of bone (193g) were recovered from layer **103** and buried soil **1803**. Identified respectively as a cattle metatarsal and a sheep/goat radius, each a bone of the lower leg and with the former displaying clear chop marks suggestive of an origin in butchery waste.

Undated

- 7.4 A further four fragments (51g) were recovered from layers **1001** and **1014** and deposit **1807** the fill of ditch **1806**, all of which remain undated. Of these, two partial horse molars from deposit **1807** were the only identifiable fragments.

Environmental



- 7.5 A series of five environmental samples (37 litres of soil) were taken from a range of pits, postholes and a layer within two trenches to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains across the area and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).
- 7.6 Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 1 in Appendix C, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary et al (2012) for cereals. The presence of mollusc shells has also been recorded in Table 2 in Appendix C, Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).
- 7.7 The flots were generally moderately small with around 60 -75% rooty material and modern seeds. The charred material comprised varying levels of preservation.

Trench 10

- 7.8 A few fragments of charcoal greater than 2mm but no charred plant remains were recovered from layer **1014** (sample 3). There is no indication of date of this layer from the environmental remains.
- 7.9 The moderate mollusc assemblage included shells of the open country species *Vallonia costata*, *Vallonia excentrica*, *Helicella itala* and *Vertigo pygmaeum*, the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*, *Punctum pygmaeum* and *Cepaea* spp., shade-loving species *Carychium tridentatum*, *Discus rotundatus* and *Aegopinella nitidula*, and aquatic species *Anisus leucostoma* and *Galba truncatula*. The land snail assemblage appear to be indicative of a well-established open landscape with perhaps some longer grass and rougher ground in the vicinity. *Anisus leucostoma* and *Galba truncatula* are species typically indicative of aquatic environments of occasional flooding and seasonal desiccation.
- 7.10 Fills **1019** (sample 5) of posthole **1018** and **1024** (sample 6) of posthole **1023** contained very small quantities of charcoal fragments and no charred plant remains. Again there is no indication of date of these features from the environmental results.
- 7.11 A few shells of the open country species *Vallonia excentrica* and the shade-loving species *Carychium tridentatum* were noted from posthole **1023**.

Trench 14

- 7.12 A few indeterminate grain fragments and charcoal fragments were recorded from fill **1405** of undated pit **1404** and a moderate quantity of charcoal but no plant remains were recovered from fill **1407** of undated pit **1406**. This may be representative of dispersed settlement material but there is no indication of the date of these features from the environmental remains.
- 7.13 The moderately small mollusc assemblages included shells of the open country species *Vallonia excentrica*, *Vallonia costata* and *Vertigo pygmaea* and the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*. Again these appear to be indicative of a well-established open downland environment.

Summary

- 7.14 The low levels of charred remains recovered in these samples provide no indication of specific domestic settlement activities taking place in the immediate vicinity and no indication of the date of these features. This was also the case with the environmental results from the previous evaluation on the site (WA 2014).
- 7.15 The mollusc assemblages appear to be indicative of a well-established open downland environment with some areas of longer grass and occasional flooding and seasonal desiccation.



8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The current report represents a second phase of trenching on the site. The first phase in 2014 recorded five trenches to the west of the site which contained a moderate number of shallow ditches and gullies of an Iron Age / Romano-British date. The current fieldwork examined the possibility that the archaeological activity previously identified might continue beyond the areas identified during the first evaluation. The results of the current survey demonstrate the presence of an Iron Age / Romano-British activity within the vicinity recorded on a north – south axis to the west of the site. A number of aligned post holes within **Trench 10** are suggestive of a possible structure. The remaining features in **Trench 10** also appear to be continuations of ditches and gullies identified in the 2014 evaluation.
- 8.2 **Trench 1** contains a ditch and bank shown on the 1887 and later Ordnance survey maps as a field boundary. None of the other probable field boundary ditches correspond with mapped features.
- 8.3 The presence of ridge and furrow cultivation in 13 out of the 20 excavated trenches demonstrates the site has been subjected to prolonged and intensive agricultural practises in the past which may have truncated or displaced features and artefacts.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Joe Whelan, assisted by Jeremy Clutterbuck, Ed Grenier and Georgina Johnston. The report was written by Joe Whelan. The finds, animal bone and biological evidence reports were written by Jacky Sommerville, Andrew Clare and Sarah Wyles respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Andrew Donald. The project was managed for CA by Ray Kennedy.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No	Context	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Greyish brown silty clay, rare chalk flecking, rooting, turfed with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.2
1	101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid greyish silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.2 - 0.6
1	102	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish brownish grey clay, abundant chalk gravel and abundant chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.6>
1	103	Layer		Deposit	Ridge or bank, possibly related to ditch 104	3.5	1.8	-
1	104	Cut		Ditch	SW/NE aligned ditch	1.8	1.2	-
1	105	Fill	104	Fill of ditch	Grey sandy-silt	1.8	1.2	-
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Greyish brown black silty clay, rare chalk flecking, rooting, turfed with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.1
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.1 - 0.35
2	203	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish brownish grey clay, abundant chalk gravel and abundant chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.35>
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Greyish black silty clay, moderate chalk flecking, rooting, turfed with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.2
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.2 - 0.45
3	302	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish brownish grey clay, abundant chalk gravel and abundant chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.45>
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Greyish black silty clay, moderate chalk flecking, rooting, turfed with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.2
4	401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.2 - 0.45
4	402	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish brownish grey clay, abundant chalk gravel and abundant chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.45>
4	403	Cut		Pit	Cut of Pit, unexcavated	1.5	0.8	n/a
4	404	Fill	403	Secondary Fill	Light grey silty clay	1.5	0.8	n/a
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay with rare sub rounded flint and clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.2

5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay rare sub rounded flint and clear horizons	30	1.8	0.2 - 0.38
5	502	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light grey brown silty clay rare sub rounded flint and chalk	30	1.8	0.38>
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty clay rare sub angular flint, sharp horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.15
6	601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey brown silty clay rare sub rounded flint and clear horizons contains sparse amounts of chalk and rare sub rounded flints	30	1.8	0.15 - 0.35
6	602	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light grey brown silty clay rare sub rounded flint and chalk	30	1.8	0.35>
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Greyish black silty clay, moderate chalk flecking, rooting, turfed with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.2
7	701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.2 - 0.6
7	702	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light brownish yellow grey clay with band of chalk flecking gravel through, rare sub angular flint	30	1.8	0.6>
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Greyish black silty clay, moderate chalk flecking, rooting, turfed with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.3
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.3 - 0.5
8	802	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light brownish yellow grey clay with band of chalk flecking gravel through, rare sub angular flint	30	1.8	0.5>
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Greyish black silty clay, moderate chalk flecking, rooting, turfed with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.35
9	901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.35 - 0.5
9	902	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light brownish yellow grey clay with band of chalk flecking gravel through, rare sub angular flint	30	1.8	0.5>
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Greyish black silty clay, moderate chalk flecking, rooting, turfed with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.2
10	1001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.2 - 0.6
10	1002	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light brownish yellow grey clay with band of chalk flecking gravel through, rare sub angular flint	30	1.8	0.6>
10	1003	Cut		Ditch	NW-SE aligned ditch	2>	0.9>	0.52
10	1004	Fill	1003	Secondary Fill	Dark greyish brown and mid brownish grey silty clay	2>	0.9>	0.52
10	1005	Cut		Ditch	NW-SE aligned ditch	2>	1.83	0.53

10	1006	Fill	1005	Secondary Fill	Light yellowish brown sandy clay	2	1.51	0.24
10	1007	Cut		Ditch	NW-SE aligned ditch	1.9>	1.28	0.23
10	1008	Fill	1007	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown silty clay	1.9>	1.28	0.23
10	1009	Cut		Beam Slot	N-S aligned construction cut possible beam slot	1.98>	1	0.2
10	1010	Fill	1009	Fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay	1.98	1	0.2
10	1011	Fill	1005	Primary Fill	Light yellowish brown with white flecks, sandy clay	2>	0.82	0.2
10	1012	Fill	1005	Primary Fill	Light yellowish brown sandy clay with common amounts of chalk	2?	0.45	0.1
10	1013	Fill	1005	Secondary Fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay	2>	1.26	0.39
10	1014	Layer		Deposit	Dark brownish grey clay silt	1>	4>	0.11
10	1015	Cut		Post Hole	Round, steep sided with a flat base	0.34	0.12>	0.2
10	1016	Fill	1015	Deliberate Backfill	Light yellowish brown silty clay, possible packing fill	0.25	0.12>	0.1
10	1017	Fill	1015	Degraded Post	Dark brownish grey and black silty clay - possible part of degraded post	0.34	0.12>	0.1
10	1018	Cut		Post Hole	Circular post hole, concave profile	0.33	0.3	0.08
10	1019	Fill	1018	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown silty clay, rare charcoal flecks	0.33	0.3	0.08
10	1020	Cut		Post Hole	Circular post hole, concave profile	0.5	0.44	0.24
10	1021	Fill	1020	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown silty clay, rare charcoal flecks	0.5	0.44	0.24
10	1022	Fill	1020	Secondary Fill	Mid grey brown silty clay	0.44	0.4	0.24
10	1023	Cut		Post Hole	Circular post hole, concave profile	0.37	0.3	0.07
10	1024	Fill	1023	Secondary Fill	Dark grey brown silty clay, rare charcoal flecks	0.37	0.3	0.07
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Blackish grey silt clay, rare sub angular flint and chalk flecks with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.15
11	1101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.15 - 0.5
11	1102	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish grey clay with moderate amounts of chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.5+
11	1103	Cut		Ditch	NE-SW aligned ditch	0.99>	0.65	0.13
11	1104	Fill	1103	Fill	Light greyish brown silty clay, containing moderate amounts of flint and limestone flecks	0.99>	0.65	0.13
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Blackish grey silt clay, rare sub angular flint and chalk flecks with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.15
12	1201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.15 -0.5
12	1202	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish grey clay with moderate amounts of chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.5>
12	1203	Cut		Ditch	N-S aligned ditch	3.1	0.76	0.14

12	1204	Fill	1203	Fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay	3.1	0.76	0.14
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Blackish grey silt clay, rare sub angular flint and chalk flecks with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.2
13	1301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.2 - 0.6
13	1302	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish grey clay with moderate amounts of chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.6>
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	Blackish grey silt clay, rare sub angular flint and chalk flecks with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.2
14	1401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.2 - 0.6
14	1402	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish grey clay with moderate amounts of chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.6>
14	1403	Layer		Buried Soil	Very dark grey silty clay with chalk flecks	5>	1.8>	0.2
14	1404	Cut		Pit	Circular pit with a concave profile	1.05	0.9	0.28
14	1405	Fill	1404	Secondary Fill	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint 0.01< and chalk flecking	1.05	0.9	0.28
14	1406	Cut		Pit	Oval pit with concave profile	0.38	0.31	0.12
14	1407	Fill	1406	Secondary Fill	Dark blackish grey silty clay	0.38	0.31	0.12
14	1408	Layer		Layer	Unexcavated layer - possible hollow-way		2>	0.2
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	Blackish grey silt clay, rare sub angular flint and chalk flecks with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.25
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.25 - 0.45
15	1502	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish grey clay with moderate amounts of chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.45
16	1600	Layer		Topsoil	Blackish grey silt clay, rare sub angular flint and chalk flecks with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.15
16	1601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.15 - 0.4
16	1602	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish grey clay with moderate amounts of chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.4>
17	1700	Layer		Topsoil	Blackish grey silt clay, rare sub angular flint and chalk flecks with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.25
17	1701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.25 - 0.7
17	1702	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish grey clay with moderate amounts of chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.7

18	1800	Layer		Topsoil	Blackish grey silt clay, rare sub angular flint and chalk flecks with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.15
18	1801	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.15 - 0.35
18	1802	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish grey clay with moderate amounts of chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.35
18	1803	Layer		Buried Soil	Greyish black silty clay	N/A	N/A	0.25
18	1804	Cut		Ditch	Unexcavated due to flooding	1.8	3	N/A
18	1805	Fill	1805	Secondary Fill	Unexcavated due to flooding	1.8	3.5	N/A
18	1806	Cut		Ditch	Unexcavated due to flooding	1.8	3.5	N/A
18	1807	Fill	1806	Secondary Fill	Unexcavated due to flooding	1.8	3.5	N/A
19	1900	Layer		Topsoil	Blackish grey silt clay, rare sub angular flint and chalk flecks with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.25
19	1901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.25 - 0.5
19	1902	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish grey clay with moderate amounts of chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.5>
20	2000	Layer		Topsoil	Blackish grey silt clay, rare sub angular flint and chalk flecks with clear horizons	30	1.8	0 - 0.2
20	2001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid grey silty clay, occasional sub angular flint <0.01m diameter occasional chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.2 - 0.5
20	2002	Layer		Natural Substrate	Light yellowish grey clay with moderate amounts of chalk flecking	30	1.8	0.5>

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
103	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile		1	56	Late medieval/post-medieval
601	Post-medieval pottery	Glazed earthenware	GRE	1	2	MC16-C18
1008	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	KVA	1	3	LC11-LC15
1013	Worked flint	Miscellaneous, spurred piece		2	15	-
1014 <3>	Worked flint	Flake, chip, shatter		3	1	-
1024 <6>	Worked flint	Flake, core		2	15	-
1200	Post-medieval/modern pottery	Refined whiteware	REFH	1	<1	LC18-C19
1204	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Flat roof tile		1	15	Late medieval/ post-medieval
1301	Post-medieval pottery	Glazed earthenware	GRE	2	156	MC16-C18
1401	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Peg tile		1	167	Late medieval/ post-medieval
1405	Worked flint	Flake, miscellaneous		2	29	-
<1>	Worked flint	Flake		2	<1	-
1407 <2>	Worked flint	Chips		2	<1	-
<2>	Fired clay			5	2	-
1701	Post-medieval pottery	Glazed earthenware	GRE	1	16	MC16-C18
1803	Early prehistoric pottery	Impressed ware	FL	1	4	Late medieval/post-medieval
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Fragment		1	<1	
1805	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	KVA	1	8	Late medieval/post-medieval
	Post-medieval ceramic building material	Fragment		1	16	

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 1: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	EQ	MM	Total	Weight (g)
Medieval							
1007	1008		1			1	166
Late Medieval/early post-medieval							
	103		1			1	190
	1803			1		1	3
Subtotal			1	1		2	193
Undated							
	1001		1			1	19
	1014				1	1	1
1806	1807				2	2	31
Subtotal			1		2	1	4
Total			3	1	2	1	7
Weight			375	3	31	1	410

BOS = cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; EQ = horse; MM = sheep size mammal

Table 2: Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Trench 10 Undated layer											
	1014	3	4	10	60	-	-	-	-	*/*	Moll-t (***) Moll-f (**)
Trench 10 Undated postholes											
1018	1019	5	1	5	75	-	-	-	-	-/*	-
1023	1024	6	5	15	75	-	-	-	-	-/*	Moll-t (*)
Trench 14 Undated pits											
1404	1405	1	19	20	75	*	-	Indet. grain frag	-	-/*	Moll-t (**)

1406	1407	2	8	30	10	-	-	-	-	**/**	Moll-t (**)
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Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 5–19 items; *** = 20–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items, Moll-t = land snails, Moll-f = aquatic snails

Table 3: Assessment table of the molluscan remains

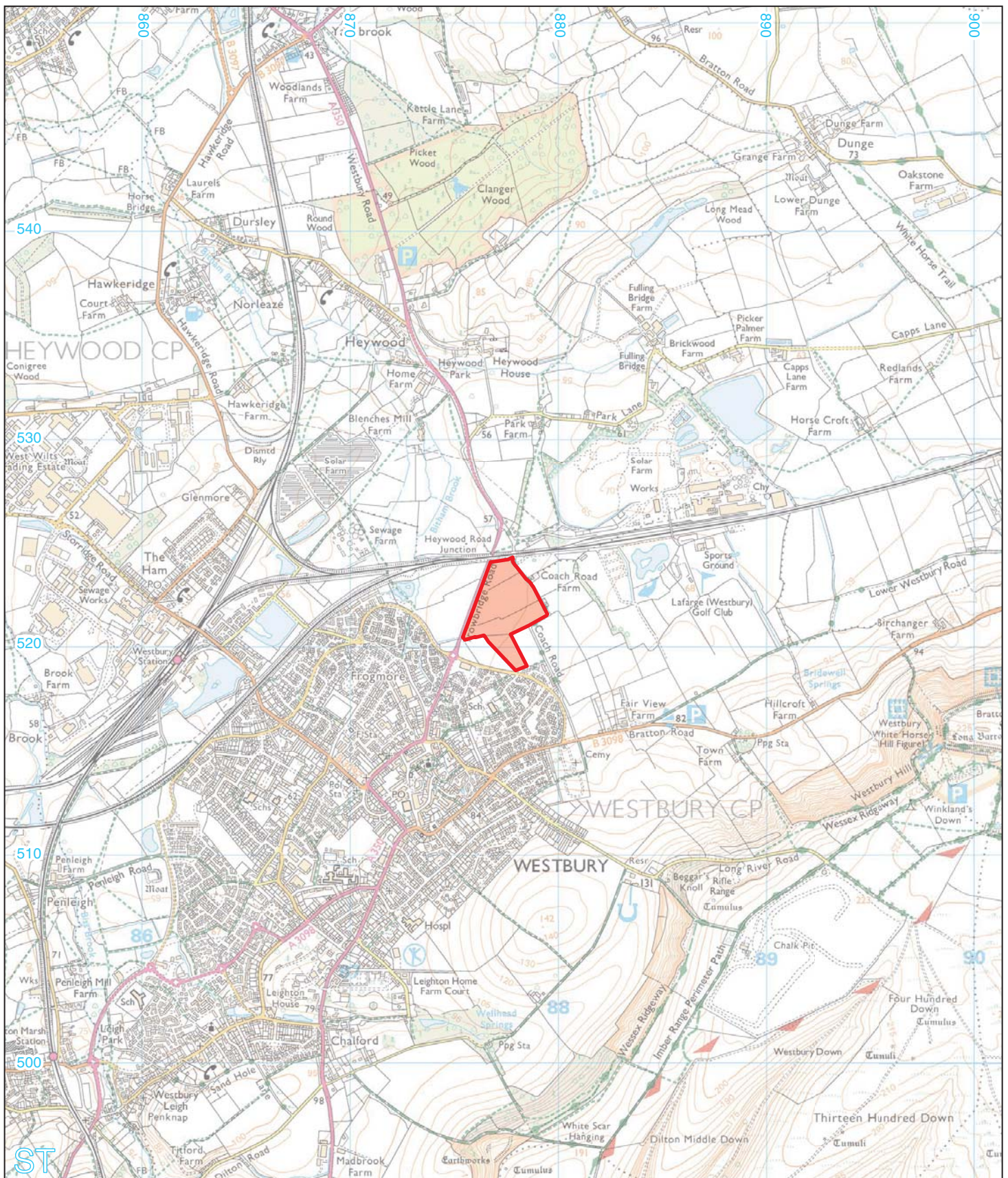
Area	Tr 10			Tr 14	
	Layer	Postholes		Pits	
Feature		1018	1023	1404	1406
Context	1014	1019	1024	1405	1407
Sample	3	5	6	1	2
Vol (L)	4	1	5	19	8
Open country species					
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i>	X	-	-	X	-
<i>Helicella itala</i>	X	-	-	-	-
<i>Vallonia costata</i>	X	-	-	X	-
<i>Vallonia excentrica</i>	X	-	X	X	X
Intermediate species					
<i>Trochulus hispidus</i>	X	-	-	X	X
<i>Cepaea</i> spp.	X	-	-	-	-
<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i>	X	-	-	-	-
Shade-loving species					
<i>Carychium tridentatum</i>	X	-	X	-	-
<i>Discus rotundatus</i>	X	-	-	-	-
<i>Aegopinella nitidula</i>	X	-	-	-	-
Aquatic species					
<i>Galba truncatula</i>	X	-	-	-	-
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i>	X	-	-	-	-
Approx totals	Moll-t (***), Moll-f (**)	-	Moll-t (*)	Moll-t (**)	Moll-t (**)

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

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project Name	Land North of Bitham Park, Westbury, Wiltshire
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in January 2017 at land North of Bitham Park, Westbury, Wiltshire. 20 trenches were excavated across the site in what represented a second phase of trenching at the site.</p> <p>A moderate number of ditches and postholes were recorded in the west of the site, indicative of settlement activity within the vicinity.</p> <p>The first phase of trenching in 2014 recorded five trenches in the west of the site which contained a moderate number of shallow ditches and gullies of an Iron Age / Romano-British date. The current fieldwork examined the possibility that the archaeological activity identified might continue beyond the areas identified during the first evaluation. The results of the current survey demonstrate the presence of a concentration of archaeological activity, recorded on a north – south axis to the west of the site, but did not produce any evidence of Iron Age or Romano-British activity, despite many of the features appearing to be continuation of those found in the previous phase of works.</p> <p>The presence of medieval ridge and furrow cultivation in 13 out of the 20 excavated trenches demonstrates the site has been subjected to prolonged and intensive agricultural practises in the past which may have truncated or displaced features and artefacts and account for the lack of Iron Age or Romano-British finds recovered during the current evaluation.</p>
Project dates	9 – 13 January 2017
Project type	Field evaluation
Previous work	Geophysical survey (Headland 2014) Field evaluation (WA 2014)
Future work	Unknown
PROJECT LOCATION	
Site Location	Land North of Bitham Park, Westbury, Wiltshire

Study area (M ² /ha)	10.8 ha	
Site co-ordinates	ST 8752 7213	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator		
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Ray Kennedy	
Project Supervisor	Joe Whelan	
MONUMENT TYPE	none	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	none	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	ceramics, animal bone
Paper	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	Context sheets, Registers
Digital	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 <i>Land North of Bitham Park, Westbury, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i>. CA typescript report 17030</p>		



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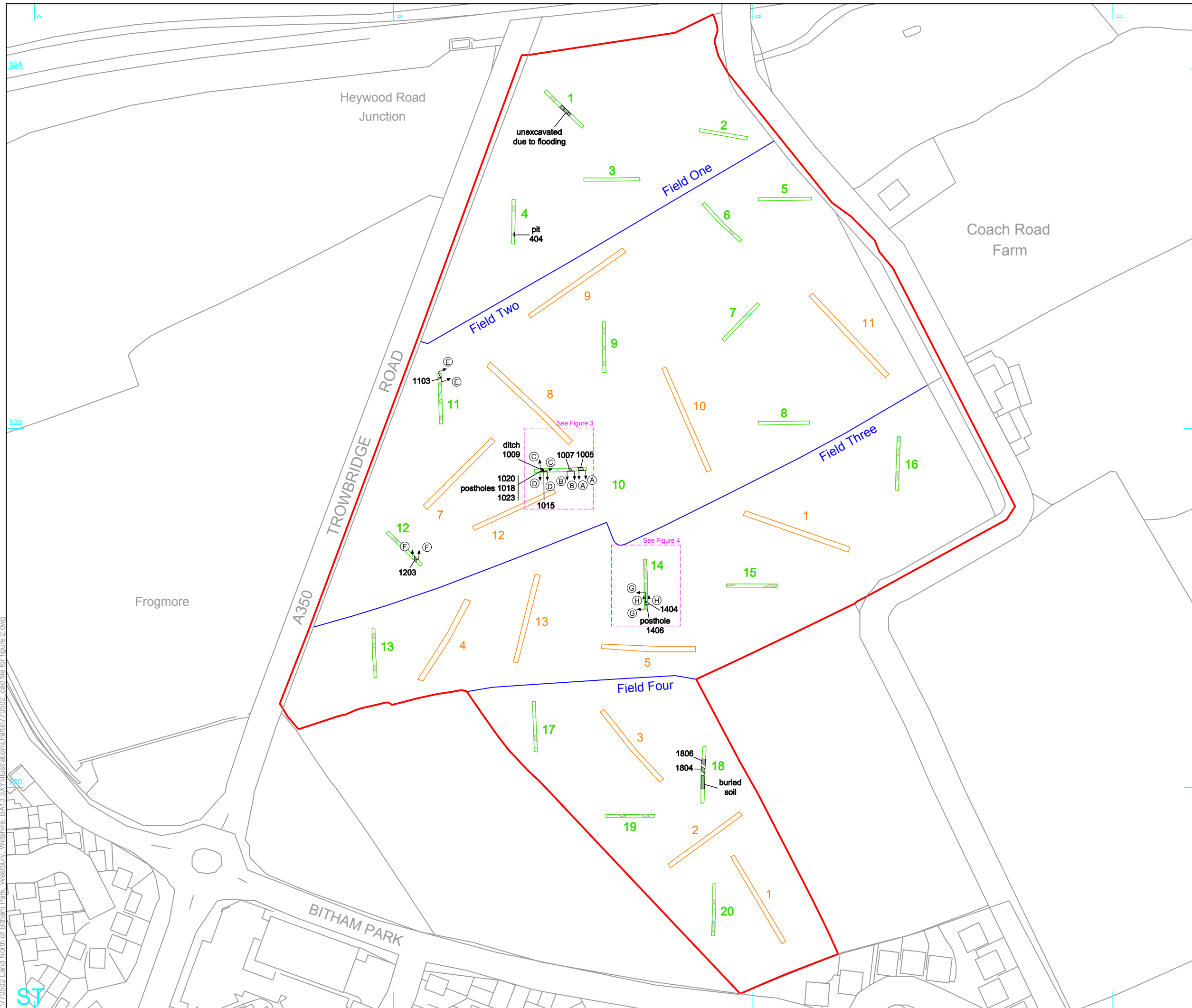
PROJECT TITLE
 Land North of Bitham Park, Westbury
 Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan



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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	27/01/2017	
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- site boundary
- evaluation trench
- 2014 evaluation trench
- field boundary
- archaeological feature
- furrow
- field drain
- section location



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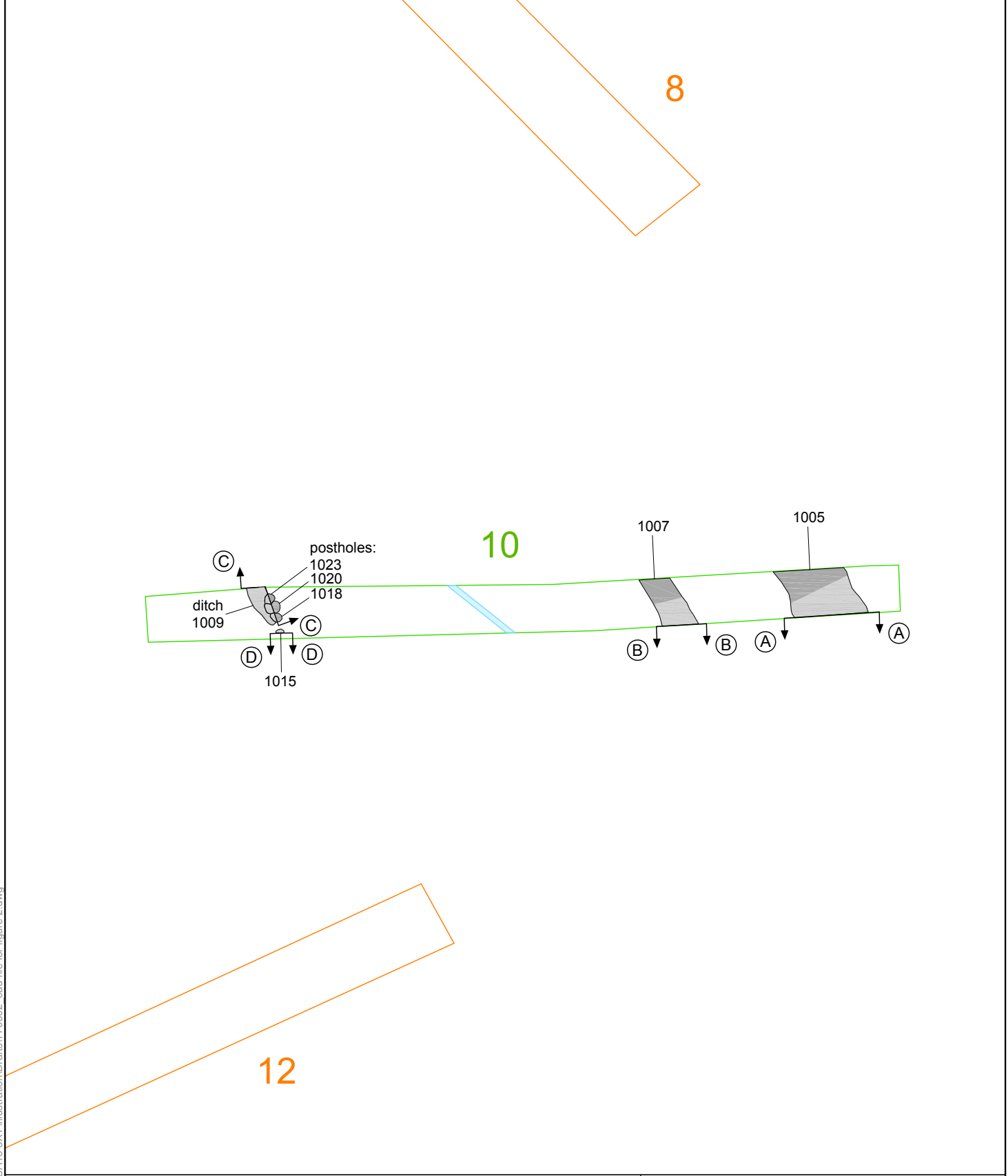
PROJECT TITLE
 Land North of Bitham Park, Westbury
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FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan including 2014
 evaluation trench locations

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	770502	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	27/01/2017	2
APPROVED BY	RK	SCALE@A3	1:2000	

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-  evaluation trench
-  2014 evaluation trench
-  archaeological feature
-  field drain
-  section location



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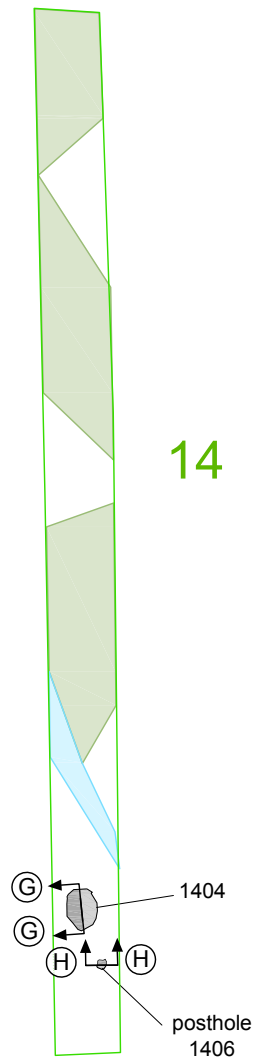
PROJECT TITLE
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

FIGURE TITLE
Trench 10: trench plan

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FIGURE NO.
3

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-  evaluation trench
-  archaeological feature
-  field drain
-  section location



0  10m



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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 14 : trench plan

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FIGURE NO.

4



5

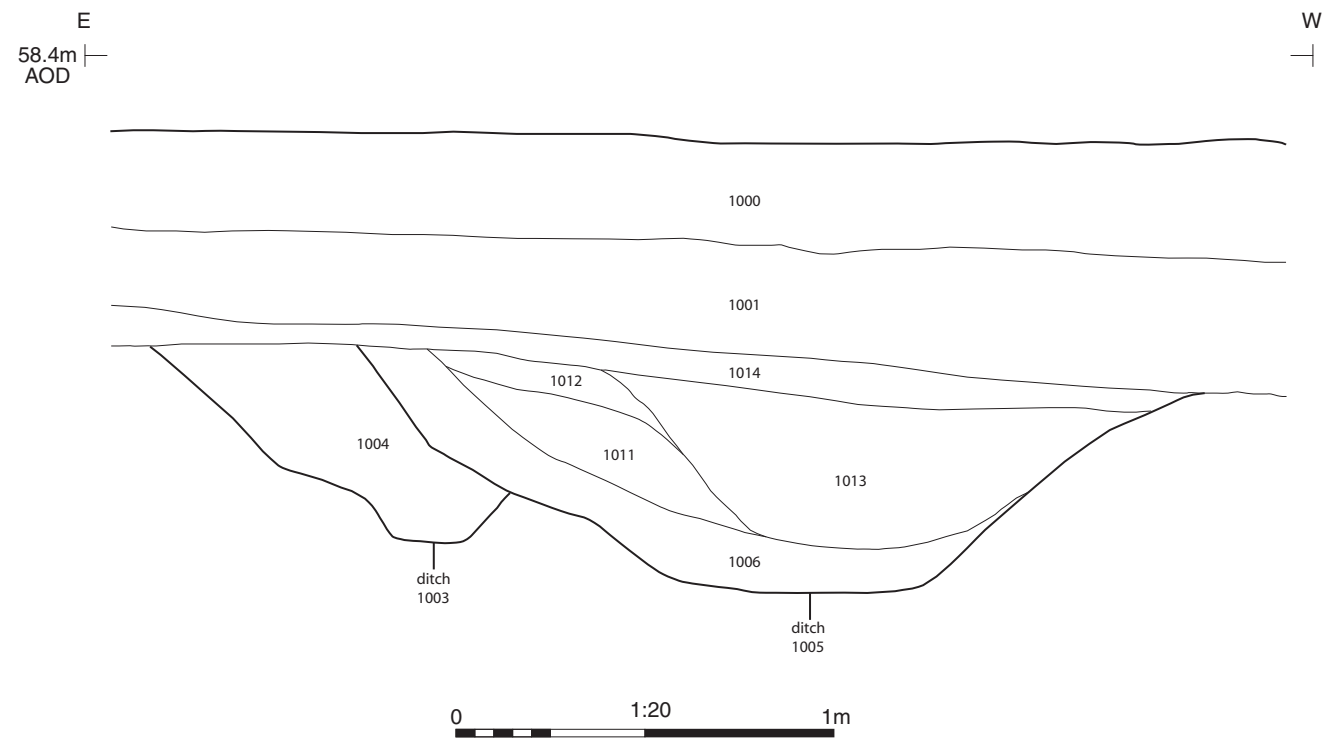
Trench 1, looking north-west (1m scale + 2m scale)



6

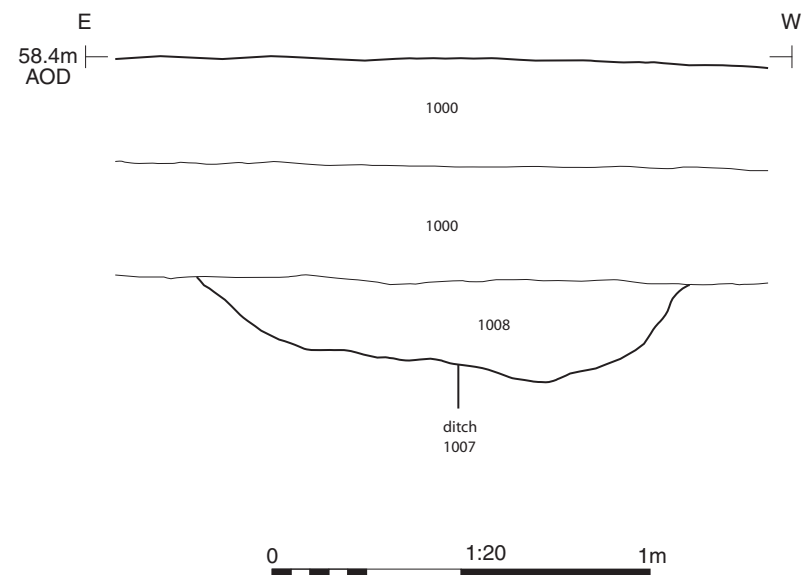
Trench 4, looking north (1m scale + 2m scale)

Section AA



Trench 10, ditches 1003 and 1005 looking south-west (1m scale)

Section BB



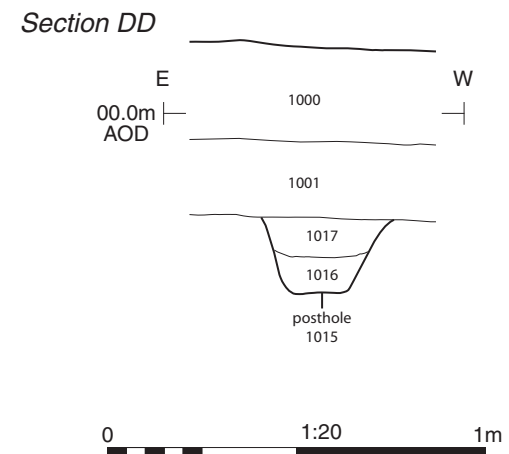
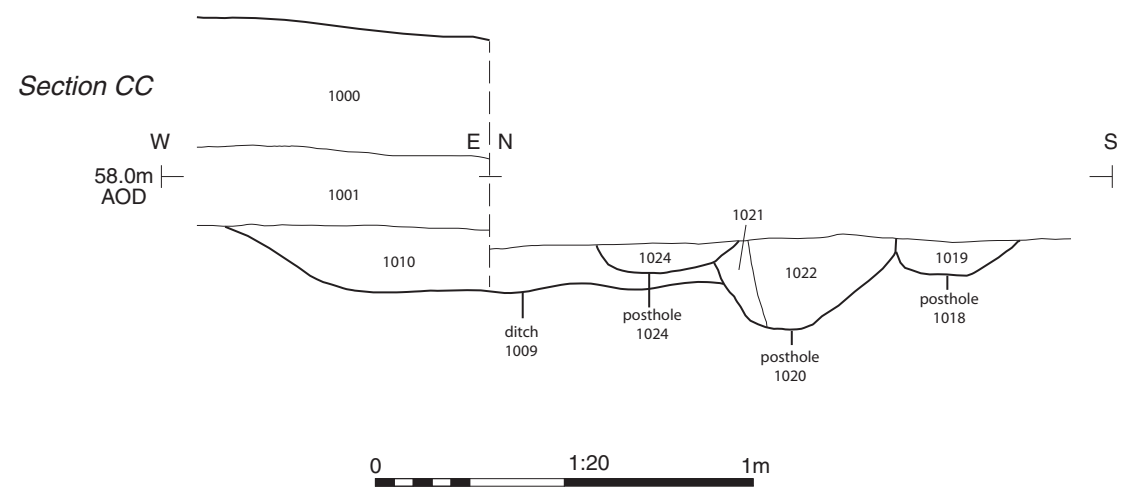
Trench 10, ditch 1007 looking south (1m scale)


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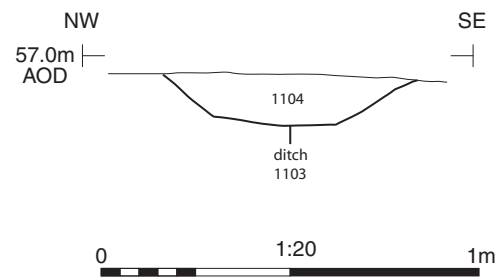
FIGURE TITLE
 Sections and photographs

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	27/01/2017	7 & 8
APPROVED BY	RK	SCALE@A3	1:20	



Trench 10, postholes 1015, 1018, 1020 and 1023 looking south (1m scale)

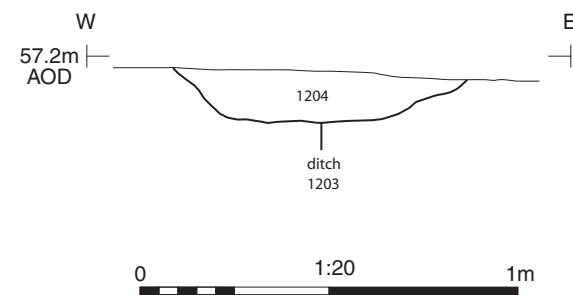
Section EE



10

Trench 11, ditch 1103 looking north-west (0.3m scale)

Section FF



11

Trench 12, ditch 1203 looking north (0.3m scale)

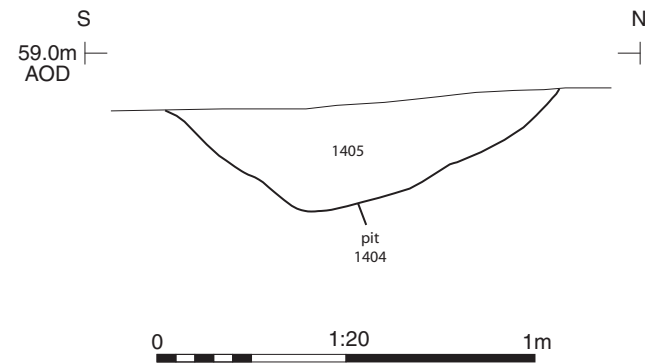

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 Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Sections and photographs

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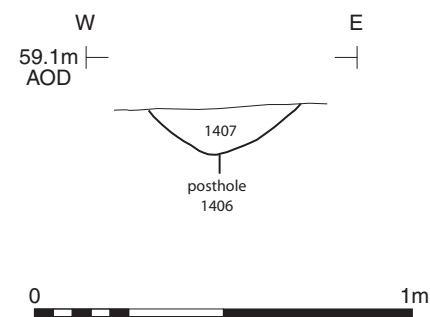
Section GG



12

Trench 14, pit 1404 looking west (1m scale)

Section HH



13

Trench 14, posthole 1406 looking north (0.3m scale)


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Trench 18, looking north (1m scale + 2m scale)



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