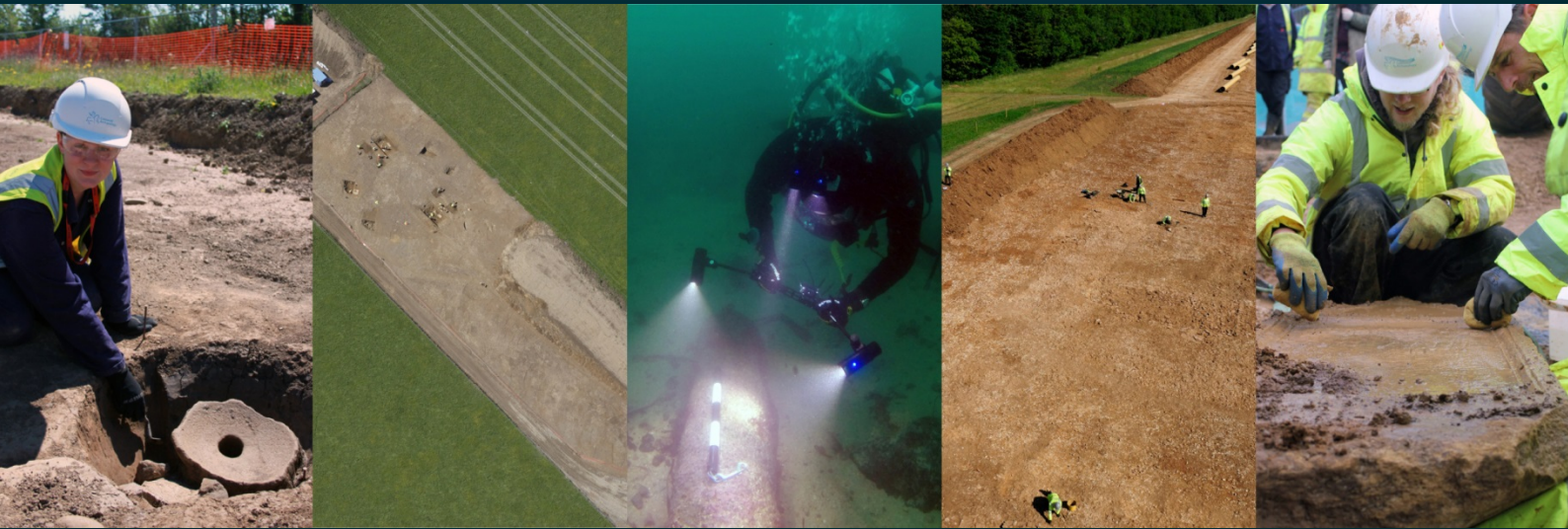


**Land at Rowden Park, Redcliffe Site  
Chippenham  
Wiltshire**  
*Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation Report*



for  
Redcliffe Homes

CA Project: 6349  
CA Report: 17556

November 2017



# Land at Rowden Park, Redcliffe Site Chippenham Wiltshire

## Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation Report

CA Project: 6349  
CA Report: 17556



Document Control Grid						
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
A	18.09.2017	Tony Brown	Richard Greatorex	Internal Review	General Edit	Richard Greatorex
B	21.11.2017	Tony Brown	Richard Greatorex	Following client review	Update text	Richard Greatorex

*This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.*

## CONTENTS

SUMMARY .....	2
1. INTRODUCTION .....	3
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND .....	4
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES .....	6
4. METHODOLOGY .....	8
5. RESULTS (FIGS 1-8) .....	9
6. THE FINDS .....	10
7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE.....	11
8. DISCUSSION.....	13
9. CONCLUSION .....	13
10. CA PROJECT TEAM .....	14
11. REFERENCES .....	14
<b>APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>APPENDIX B: THE FINDS.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM .....</b>	<b>22</b>

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

Figure 2 Trench and Area location plan (1:2,000; 1:250)

Figure 3 **Trench 168**, section and photographs (1:10)

Figure 4 **Area 2**, sections and photographs (1:10)



## SUMMARY

<b>Project Name:</b>	Land at Rowden Park, Redcliffe Site
<b>Location:</b>	Chippenham, Wiltshire
<b>NGR:</b>	391097 172291
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	31 August – 6 September 2017
<b>Planning Reference:</b>	14/12118/OUT
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	Chippenham Museum
<b>Site Code:</b>	ROWP17

An archaeological evaluation and excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in August and September 2017 at Rowden Park, off Patterdown Road, Chippenham, Wiltshire. The works comprised three trenches and two stripped areas, across two fields.

**Trench 168** contained a single ditch, possibly of prehistoric date. **Trenches 167** and **169** contained no features. **Area 1** also contained no archaeological features. **Area 2** contained possible remnant bases of a posthole and a stakehole. These features contained no artefacts. These features could have been associated with the cremation identified during the evaluation phase.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In August and September 2017 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation and excavation for Redcliffe Homes at Rowden Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire (centred at NGR: 391097 172291; Figure 1). The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Condition 6 attached to planning permission 14/12118/OUT to prepare and implement a written programme of archaeological investigation at the site, for the development of a Mixed Use Urban Extension, including dwellings, public open spaces, access roads and a primary school.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI), produced by CA (2017), and approved by Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA). The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014). It was monitored by Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger.

### *The site (Figures. 1 & 2)*

- 1.3 The proposed wider development area comprises approximately 47.8ha, with flood compensation areas and attenuation basins enclosing an additional c.3.7ha. The development area for the Redcliffe Homes site is approximately 7ha, and comprises two fields. The first field contains **Trenches 167 and 168**), and excavation **Areas 1 and 2**. This field is enclosed by the B4643 to the west, Rowden Lane and Coppice Close to the north, and Pudding Brook's main course to the south. All boundaries are marked by mature hedges and vegetation. The second field contains **Trench 169** only, and is bounded by Pudding Brook and the first field to the west, Pudding Brook's main course to the south, and further fields to the north and east. The boundaries are also marked by mature hedges. The northernmost point of the site lies at approximately 60m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), with the ground dropping away to the east, south and west, to c.50m aOD at Pudding Brook.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the site is mapped as Kellaways Formation – a combination of Sandstone, Siltstone and Mudstone of the Jurassic Period (164 to 166 million years ago) and Cornbrash Formation – Limestone – to the extreme northwest (164 to 168 million years). No superficial deposits are recorded (BGS, 2017).

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The following information has been taken from the Overarching Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Works for the wider Land at Rowden Park site (CA, 2017).
- 2.2 The archaeological background and potential of the site and its environs was investigated by an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA, CgMs 2014), which also drew upon the results of an archaeological evaluation and excavations at land to the south-west of the site (Young and Hancocks 2006) undertaken by Cotswold Archaeological Trust (now Cotswold Archaeology, CA) in 1999. In 2014 CA undertook an archaeological evaluation within the site (CA, 2014). A succinct summary of the results is provided below.
- 2.3 Previous archaeological investigations, to the south-west of the site opposite side of the B4528 at Showell Farm (Fig. 1; Young and Hancocks, 1999), recovered a single Mesolithic flint blade, seven Mesolithic bladelets and a possible fifteen flint blades or bladelets of potential Mesolithic Age, however, the excavators thought the Mesolithic component of the flint assemblage recovered may have been under-estimated. The evidence indicated the presence of a short-term 'camp site' occupation.
- 2.4 Evidence for late Neolithic and early Bronze Age activity in the form of two ring ditches and widespread finds distribution was also encountered during the 1999 archaeological works. These ring ditches (one of which may be penannular), have been interpreted as funerary or ritual, as supported by their prominent position on a promontory overlooking the River Avon. A number of individual Neolithic and Bronze Age finds were listed in the Historic Environment Record (HER) within the immediate environs of the site, including late Neolithic pottery and worked flint from a curvilinear ditch at Showell Nurseries, and a Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead to the east of the site. Early Bronze Age finds comprise beaker-type pottery recorded during the 1999 archaeological investigation, a poorly provenanced late Bronze Age dagger, Bronze Age flint tools, worked flint, and possible Prehistoric earthworks. The 1999 structural evidence dated to the late 3rd millennium BC uncovered in 1999 comprised two ring ditches, which were interpreted as funerary or ritual monuments



rather than roundhouses. Late Neolithic and Bronze Age settlement has been suggested both to the north and the west of Showell Farm.

- 2.5 The 1999 archaeological investigations south of the B3458 recorded limited evidence for Late Iron Age, but Roman field systems and enclosures representative of a small-scale farmed landscape with settlement foci to the north-west of the excavated Roman field systems. These field systems were modified with the deletion and addition of boundaries, track ways and agricultural structures such as corn drying ovens. A small number of cremation and inhumation burials were also recorded. This agricultural activity appears to have terminated during the third century AD, perhaps replaced with a pastoral farming regime. Roman activity around Showell's Nurseries at the southern boundary of the site (originally identified through cropmarks) were investigated in 1991 through trial trench evaluation and revealed from trackways, boundary ditches and gullies with domestic debris including pottery and animal bone dated principally to the late 1st to 2nd century AD.
- 2.6 Two geophysical surveys undertaken in July (PCG 2014a) and November (PCG 2014c) identified limited evidence for potential archaeological remains, predominately situated in the north-western and southern areas of the site. Potential ditches were identified in the western and north-western parts of the Redcliffe Homes Rowden Park Phase 1 Development, and the Crest Nicholson Phase 1 Development across Pudding Brook to the south. Potential ditches and pits were identified in several fields in the southern half of the wider development area. The authors indicated that some of these features possibly relate to early occupation, but the majority was of recent origin, feasibly including field boundaries associated with the current agricultural landscape and possible quarry sites. Several potential pits and isolated ditches in the central and eastern areas of the wider development area were also identified.
- 2.7 The geophysical surveys were followed by an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CA (2014). Only 37 trenches contained archaeological features which included ditches, pits and postholes. These ranged from early Prehistoric to the modern period. Field 1 (Redcliffe Homes Rowden Park Phase 1 Development) contained a cremation (Bronze Age/Iron Age; Trench 13) and undated pits and postholes (Trench 7). Field 2 (Crest Nicholson Phase 1 Development) contained a substantial Iron Age enclosure ditch and a less substantial Romano-British ditch. The centre of the wider development area contained several undated ditches, a post-medieval

ditch (Trenches 99 and 103), and an Early to Middle Bronze Age ditch (Trench 56), in addition to a cluster of unexcavated postholes forming two parallel groups of four post holes (Trench 90). These remain undated, but may represent part of a structure. The southernmost field of the wider development site contained the highest concentration of archaeological features. Twenty trenches within it contained archaeology dating from the Early Bronze Age to modern period. Trench 146 contained a pit which produced the cremated remains of an adult (Bronze Age/Iron Age). The majority of remains recorded in this field were deemed as associated with Iron Age and Roman livestock and/or field enclosures separated by a series of drove ways.

2.8 In August 2014 a geological survey was undertaken within the footprint of the proposed attenuation basins (PCG 2014b). The survey detected traces of probable ditches and pits, a former boundary, remains of ploughed out ridge and furrow and miscellaneous 'ferrous' debris or features. Some natural responses included weak variation indicative of probable palaeo-channels.

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological mitigation are to:

- Assess, investigate and record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered;
- Assess, investigate and record the overall presence, survival and potential of structural and industrial remains;
- Assess, investigate and record the overall presence, survival, condition and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains.

3.2 The objectives of the evaluation are 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). The evaluation will inform the need for further mitigation, in those areas which have not previously been subject to intrusive evaluation survey. Dependent on the development programme, mitigation (following



agreement on the scope with the County Archaeologist for Wiltshire Council) may follow straight after the trenching.

3.3 The specific aims of the work are to:

- Record any evidence of past settlement or other land use;
- Recover artefactual evidence to date and evidence of past settlement that may be identified;
- Sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy.

3.4 Research aims identified from the regional research framework South West Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF) include:

- Research Aim 10: Address lack of understanding of key transitional periods;
- Research Aim 14: Widen our understanding of Later Bronze Age and Iron Age material culture;
- Research Aim 21a: Development of field systems and intensification of agriculture in the Bronze and Iron Ages;
- Research Aim 21b: Medieval and Post-Medieval agriculture; identify any changes of landscape transition;
- Research Aim 29: Improve understating of non-villa Roman rural settlement;
- Research Aim 57a: Widen understanding of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age mortuary practice.



## 4. METHODOLOGY

### ***Archaeological Mitigation Methodology***

- 4.1 The archaeological mitigation phase comprised the excavation of two areas of 225m<sup>2</sup> (Areas 1 and 2), based on the results of archaeological evaluation trenching (CA, 2014), in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). Areas 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 Both areas were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* and were sampled and processed. 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 Chippenham 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.

### ***Archaeological Evaluation Methodology***

- 4.5 Three trenches, **167**, **167** and **169** (30m x 1.85m), were excavated, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). All 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*.

- 4.6 Trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.7 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 none were identified. All artefacts recovered were processed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.8 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 Chippenham 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 (FIGS. 2-4)

- 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.
- 5.2 Trenches **167** and **169**, and Area **1**, contained no archaeological features. Trench **168** contained a single ditch, and Area **2** contained a posthole and a stakehole.

### **Trench 168 (Figs. 2 & 3)**

- 5.3 Trench **168** (Fig. 3), orientated northwest-southeast, measured 35.5m by 1.85m, with a maximum depth of 0.62m. The topsoil **16800** consisted of mid greyish-brown sandy silt, with an average thickness of 0.23m, which overlay dark yellowish-brown clayey silt subsoil **16801**, with an average thickness of 0.36m. The natural geology **16802** consisted of fractured limestone with light yellowish-brown clayey sand. A single feature, ditch **16803** (Fig. 3), was revealed, orientated north-south at the

south-eastern end of the trench. The trench was extended by 5.5m to fully expose this feature. Ditch **16803** was linear in plan, with a steep eastern side and moderately sloping western side, meeting at a rounded base. It contained a single fill **16804**, consisting of mid yellowish-brown silty clay, with occasional limestone fragments, at a thickness of 0.29m.

### **Area 2 (Figs. 2 & 4)**

- 5.4 Area 2 (Figs. 2 & 4) measured 15m by 15m, covering 225m<sup>2</sup>, and to a maximum depth of 0.52m. The topsoil **20000** consisted of dark greyish-brown sandy silt, with an average thickness of 0.2m, which overlay mid yellowish-brown clayey silt subsoil **20001**, with an average thickness of 0.26m. The natural geology **20002** consisted of light yellowish-brown silty clay. One possible posthole **20003** (Fig. 4) was revealed to the north of cremation pit **1303** from the evaluation trench (CA, 2014), with gently sloping sides and a slightly rounded base, being 0.05m in depth. The single fill **20004** of mid greyish-brown silty clay contained occasional charcoal flecks but no artefacts. A stakehole **20005** (Fig. 4) was discovered to the southwest of the cremation pit, with steep sides and a rounded-point base, containing a single fill **20006** of mid brownish-grey sandy clay, with rare charcoal flecks and no artefacts. This was 0.06m in depth.

## **6. THE FINDS**

- 6.1 Artefactual material recovered from the excavation is listed in Appendix B. The assemblage is limited and no finds of archaeological potential were recovered. Items with dating potential are discussed below.

### **Metalwork**

- 6.2 Three iron nail shanks were recovered from subsoil deposit **10001**. Hand-forged nails were introduced in the Roman period and continued largely unchanged until industrialisation in the post-medieval period. Consequently, these nails cannot be closely dated.
- 6.3 Ten fragments of concrete tile, dateable to the modern period, were recovered from topsoil deposit **16700**.

**Table 1: Finds Concordance**

Context	Material	Description	Ct.	Wt. (g)
10001	Fired clay		10	46
	Iron	Nail	3	22
	Flint		4	9
	CBM		1	8
16700	Concrete	Modern tile	10	81
16804	Flint		2	3
16901	Fired clay		3	17

## 7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

A single environmental sample (2 litres of soil) was taken from posthole **20003** in Area **2** to with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of domestic, industrial or funerary activity on the site. A cremation related deposit 1304 was recorded close by during the evaluation. The sample was processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

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 flot was small with around 20% of root material and modern seeds. The charred material comprised varying levels of preservation.

### **Area 2**

The fill 20004 (sample 1) within posthole **20003** contained a small quantity of charred remains. These included grain fragments of hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*). There were also a small number of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm, including mature wood pieces, recovered.

There is no evidence for any cremation or industrial related activities from the assemblage and it is likely to be representative of dispersed domestic hearth waste. Hulled wheats were the predominant wheats in southern Britain during the prehistoric and Romano-British period s (Greig 1991).

### ***Potential***

There is no potential for obtaining detailed information through further analysis of the assemblage due to the paucity of material recovered. No further work is proposed.



## 8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 A total of three trenches and two areas were opened over two fields. Of these, only one trench (**168**) and one area (**2**) contained archaeological features.
- 8.2 **Area 1** centred on three small undated features identified in Trench 7 from an earlier phase of archaeological evaluation (CA, 2014). The interpretation of these was subsequently revised, to reveal them as geological features within the natural substrate.
- 8.3 **Area 2** was focussed on an unurned cremation burial 1303 from Trench 13, excavated during the same archaeological evaluation (CA, 2014). One posthole **20003** and one stakehole **20005** were identified and excavated, the former having a sample retained, processed and proven to contain no fragments of cremated bone. Neither feature contained dateable evidence, however, their proximity to the cremation burial may link them to Bronze Age or Iron Age funerary activity.
- 8.4 **Trench 168** contained a single north-south aligned ditch **16803**, which contained a single fill **16804**. This feature was not present in nearby Trench **167**, or nearby **Trenches 1, 3, 4 & 5** from the earlier evaluation (CA, 2014). It is not represented in maps of the area dating back to 1773 (CgMs, 2014) and likely pre-dates this. Two struck flint flakes were recovered from the fill; however, they cannot be closely dated and may be residual.

## 9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The archaeological potential in the Redcliffe Homes Rowden Park Phase 1 Development footprint (Figure 1) has been shown to be very limited and dispersed; this maybe as a result of the topography and/or subsequent farming methods. The single undated ditch identified in **Trench 168**, is quite substantial in comparison with the other features identified across this development footprint. It looks as if it continues directly towards the Pudding Brook to the south, clearly draining the land on the higher ground, immediately to the north-west. It is likely that Field 1 has never previously been deemed attractive for settlement. The isolated nature of the unurned cremation (recorded during the evaluation) also indicates that it may also not have been an attractive site for burial of the dead, perhaps for only lower status members



of society. All the features in Area 2 were very shallow and covered by less than 0.5m of overburden (topsoil/subsoil) and it would therefore appear that they have been heavily truncated perhaps as a result of subsequent farming activity and/or erosion.

- 9.2 The significance of the cremation **1303 (Area 2)** and the ditch in Trench **168** will be considered within the wider Rowden Park context in the assessment report for the Crest Nicholson Phase 1 Development where two Bronze Age barrows, a crouched burial, a group of cremation burials and a series of enclosure ditches have been identified. Cremated bone from cremation **1303** will be sent away for C14 dating along with samples from the other cremations to ascertain whether they represent burials connected to a specific period of settlement or were buried over an extended period of time.

## 10. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Tony Brown, assisted by Agata Kowalska. The report was written by Tony Brown. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Katie Marsden and Sarah Wyles, respectively. The illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The project was managed for CA by Richard Greatorex.

## 11. REFERENCES

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2015 *Geology of Britain Viewer* <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 18 September 2017.

CgMs Ltd. 2014. *Archaeological Desk-based Assessment: Land at Rowden Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 2NN. CgMs Ref. DH/KB/16305.*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). 2014. *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation.*

Cotswold Archaeology, 2014. *Rowden Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation.* CA typescript report **14584.**

Cotswold Archaeology, 2017. *Land at Rowden Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire: Overarching Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Works*. CA Project number **6208**.

Greig, J. 1991 'The British Isles' in van Zeist, W., Wasylikowa, K. and Behre, K-E. (eds), 229-334

PCG (Pre-Construct Geophysics) 2014a *Archaeological Geophysical Survey, Land at Rowden Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire*.

PCG (Pre-Construct Geophysics) 2014b *Archaeological Geophysical Survey, Off Site Works, Land at Rowden Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire*.

PCG (Pre-Construct Geophysics) 2014c *Archaeological Geophysical Survey, Off Site Works (Phase 2), Land at Rowden Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire*.

van Zeist, W., Wasylikowa, K. and Behre, K-E. (eds) 1991 *Progress in Old World Palaeoethnobotany*, Rotterdam Balkema

Young, R. and Hancocks, A. 1999/2006. 'Early Bronze Age Ring Ditches and Romano-British agriculture at Showell Farm, Chippenham. Excavations in 1999', in *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine* 99, pp. 10-50.



## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No	Context	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Context Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)
167	16700	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish-brown sandy silt, with occasional modern rubble. Friable.	29.5	1.85	0-0.26
167	16701	Layer		Natural	Fractured, angular limestone, with light yellowish-brown clayey sand. Compact.	29.5	1.85	0.26-0.35+
168	16800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish-brown sandy silt. Friable.	35.5	1.85	0-0.23
168	16801	Layer		Subsoil/colluvium	Dark yellowish-brown clayey silt, with abundant manganese flecks. Compact.	35.5	1.85	0.23-0.59
168	16802	Layer		Natural	Fractured, angular limestone, with light yellowish-brown clayey sand. Compact.	35.5	1.85	0.59-0.62+
168	16803	Cut		Ditch	<b>Linear-in-plan, N-S aligned ditch, with steep/moderately sloping sides and a slightly rounded base.</b>	<b>&gt;2.1</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>0.29</b>
168	16804	Fill	16803	Secondary fill	<b>Mid yellowish-brown silty clay, with occasional limestone fragments. Compact.</b>	<b>&gt;2.1</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>0.29</b>
169	16900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish-brown sandy silt. Friable.	30	1.85	0-0.18
169	16901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish-brown clayey silt, with abundant manganese flecks and rare, angular flint. Compact.	30	1.85	0.18-0.4

169	16902	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish-brown silty clay, with light grey mottling and rare, angular flint. Compact.	30	1.85	0.4-0.45+
Area 1	10000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish-brown sandy silt. Friable.	15	15	0-0.22
Area 1	10001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish-brown clayey silt, with very rare angular stones. Compact.	15	15	0.22-0.44
Area 1	10002	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish-brown silty clay, with occasional patches of light grey sandy clay, and light grey mottling. Compact.	15	15	0.44-0.57+
Area 1	10003	Deposit		Geology/bioturbation	Light grey sandy clay, in irregular deposits within the natural geology.			
Area 2	20000	Layer		Topsoil	Dark greyish-brown sandy silt. Friable.	15	15	0-0.2
Area 2	20001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid yellowish-brown clayey silt, with very rare angular stones. Compact.	15	15	0.2-0.46
Area 2	20002	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish-brown silty clay, with light grey mottling. Compact.	15	15	0.46-0.52+
Area 2	20003	Cut		Posthole	<b>Sub-rounded-in-plan possible remnant base of a posthole, with gently sloping sides and a rounded base.</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.24</b>	<b>0.05</b>
Area 2	20004	Fill	20003	Secondary fill	Mid greyish-brown silty clay, with occasional charcoal flecks. Compact.	0.3	0.24	0.05

Area 2	20005	Cut		Stakehole	Rounded-in-plan possible stakehole, with steep sides and a rounded base.	0.1	0.09	0.06
Area 2	20006	Fill	20005	Secondary fill	Mid brownish-grey sandy clay, with rare charcoal flecks. Compact.	0.1	0.09	0.06
Area 2	20007	Cut		Tree throw	Irregular-in-plan tree throw, with irregular sides and base.	3.84	1.4	0.09
Area 2	20008	Fill	20007	Fill	Mid yellowish-grey sandy clay, with occasional manganese and rare charcoal flecks. Compact.	3.84	1.4	0.09

**APPENDIX B: THE FINDS**

- 6.1 Artefactual material recovered from the excavation is listed in Appendix B. The assemblage is limited and no finds of archaeological potential were recovered. Items with dating potential are discussed below.
- 6.2 Three iron nail shanks were recovered from subsoil deposit **10001**. Hand-forged nails were introduced in the Roman period and continued largely unchanged until industrialisation in the post-medieval period. Consequently, these nails cannot be closely dated.
- 6.3 Ten fragments of concrete tile, dateable to the modern period, were recovered from topsoil deposit **16700**.

**Table 2: Finds Concordance**

<b>Context</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Wt. (g)</b>
10001	Fired clay		10	46
	Iron	Nail	3	22
	Flint		4	9
	CBM		1	8
16700	Concrete	Modern tile	10	81
16804	Flint		2	3
16901	Fired clay		3	17

## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

A single environmental sample (2 litres of soil) was taken from posthole **20003** in **Area 2** to with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of domestic, industrial or funerary activity on the site. A cremation related deposit **1304** was recorded close by during the evaluation. The sample was processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

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 flot was small with around 20% of root material and modern seeds. The charred material comprised varying levels of preservation.

### *Area 2*

The fill **20004** (sample 1) within posthole **20003** contained a small quantity of charred remains. These included grain fragments of hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*). There were also a small number of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm, including mature wood pieces, recovered.

There is no evidence for any cremation or industrial related activities from the assemblage and it is likely to be representative of dispersed domestic hearth waste. Hulled wheats were the predominant wheats in southern Britain during the prehistoric and Romano-British period s (Greig, 1991).

### *Potential*

There is no potential for obtaining detailed information through further analysis of the assemblage due to the paucity of material recovered. No further work is proposed.



**Table 1** Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol(L)	Flot size (m)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal >4/2mm	Other
Area 2 Undated Posthole											
20003	20004	1	2	20	20	*	-	-	Hulled wheat grain frag	**/**	-

Key: \* = 1-4 items; \*\* = 5-19 items; \*\*\* = 20-49 items; \*\*\*\* = 50-99 items; \*\*\*\*\* = >100 items

Greig, J. 1991 'The British Isles' in van Zeist, W., Wasylikowa, K. and Behre, K-E. (eds), 229-334

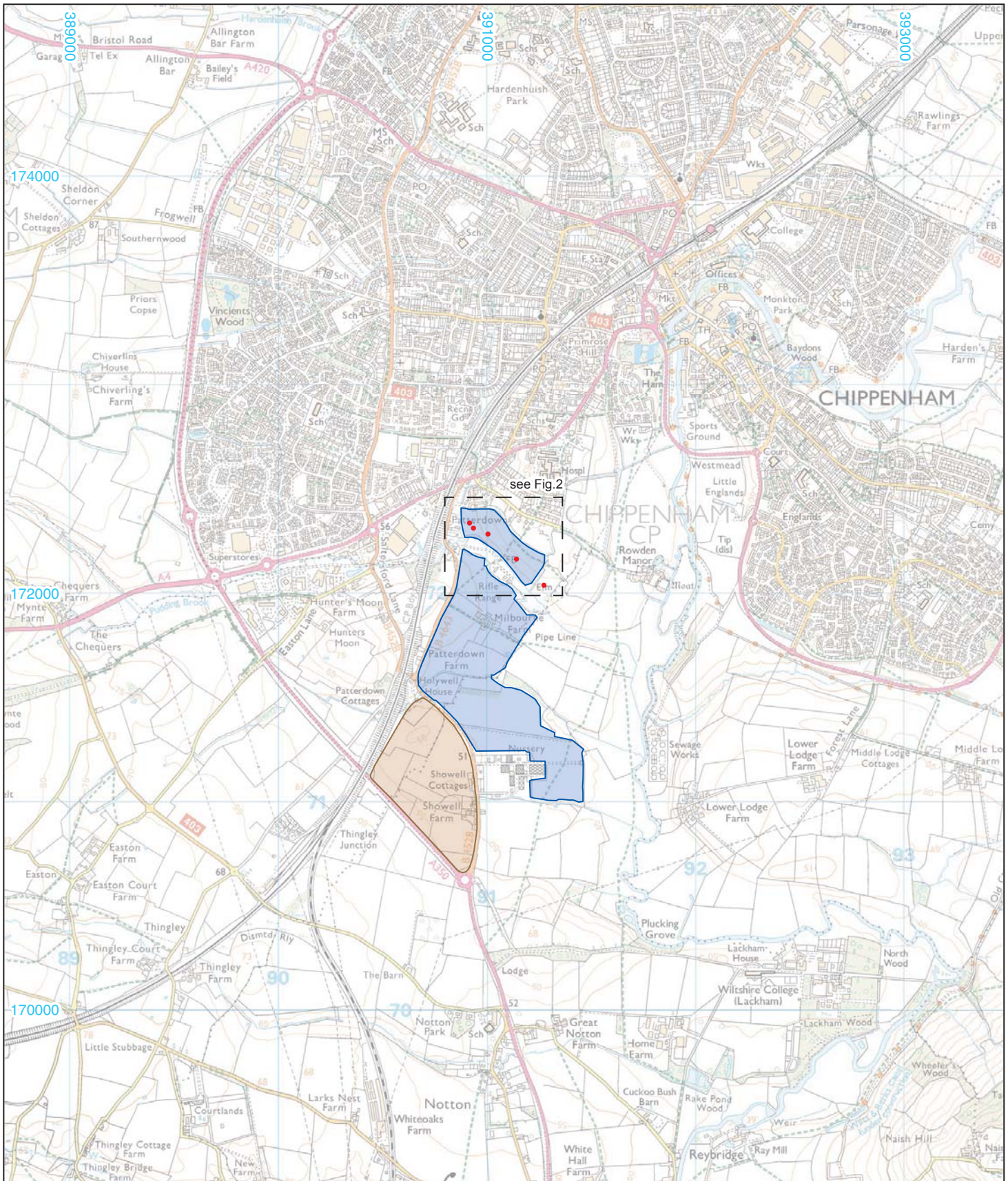
Stace, C. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press Books

van Zeist, W., Wasylikowa, K. and Behre, K-E. (eds) 1991 *Progress in Old World Palaeoethnobotany*, Rotterdam Balkema

Zohary, D., Hopf, M. and Weiss, E. 2012 *Domestication of plants in the Old World: the origin and spread of cultivated plants in West Asia, Europe, and the Nile Valley*, 4th edition, Oxford, Clarendon Press

## APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land at Rowden Park, Redcliffe Site, Chippenham, Wiltshire	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation and excavation was undertaken at Rowden Park, off Patterdown Road, Chippenham, Wiltshire. The works comprised three trenches and two stripped areas, across two fields. <b>Trench 168</b> contained a single ditch, possibly of prehistoric date. <b>Trenches 167</b> and <b>169</b> contained no features. <b>Area 1</b> also contained no archaeological features. <b>Area 2</b> contained possible remnant bases of a posthole and a stakehole. These features contained no artefacts.	
Project dates	31 August – 6 September 2017	
Project type	Archaeological evaluation and excavation	
Previous work	Field evaluation (CA, 2014) Desk-based assessment (CgMs, 2014) Geophysical survey (PCG, 2014)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Rowden Park, Patterdown Road, Chippenham, Wiltshire	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	c. 7ha	
Site co-ordinates	391097 172291	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	N/A	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Greatorex	
Project Supervisor	Tony Brown	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.) Chippenham Museum	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc) 1 File
Physical		Fired clay, worked flint, metal objects, residues, flint
Paper		Context sheets, trench sheets, photo registers, sample registers
Digital		Evaluation and excavation report Finds report Environmental report
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 <i>Land at Rowden Park, Redcliffe Site, Chippenham, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation Report</i> . CA typescript report <b>17556</b>		



N

- Archaeological works
- Development area
- Showell Farm site, Young & Hancocks (1999)

0 1km

Reproduced from the digital Ordnance Survey Explorer map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright  
Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109

**Cotswold Archaeology**

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

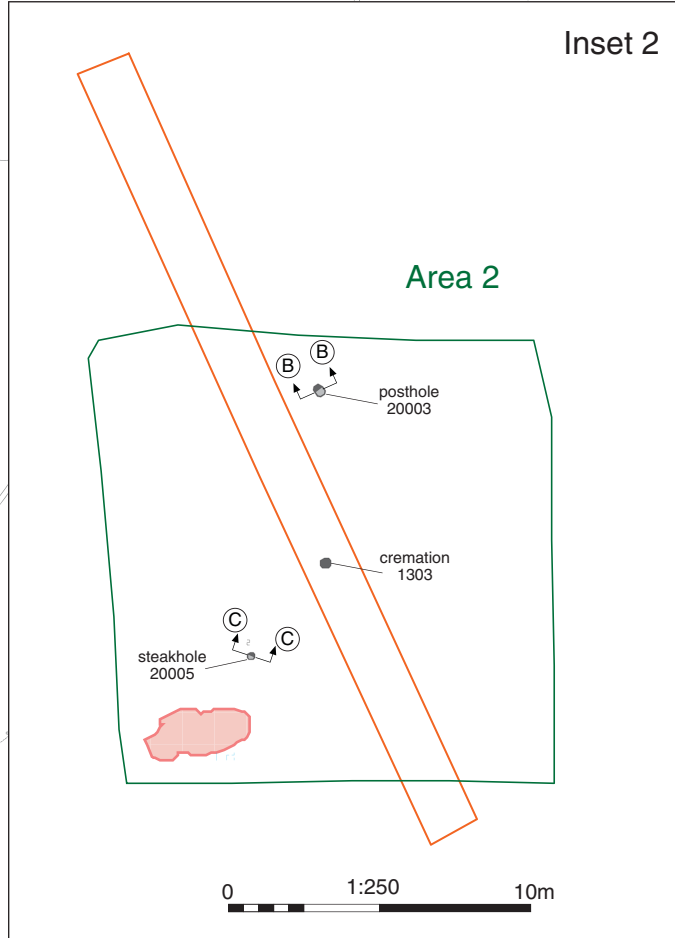
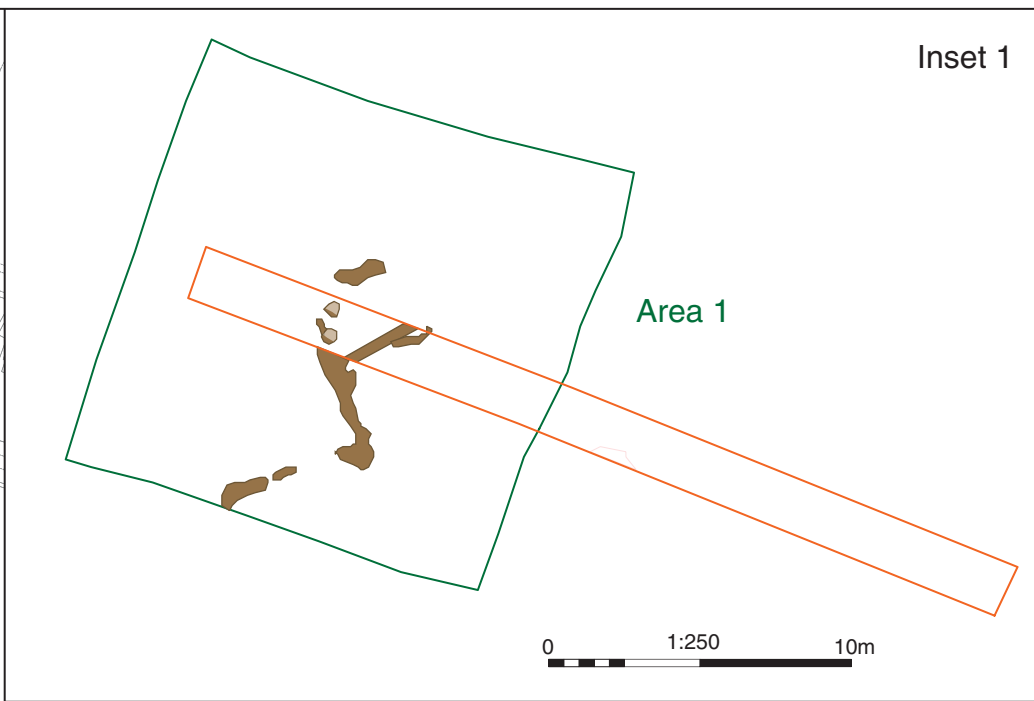
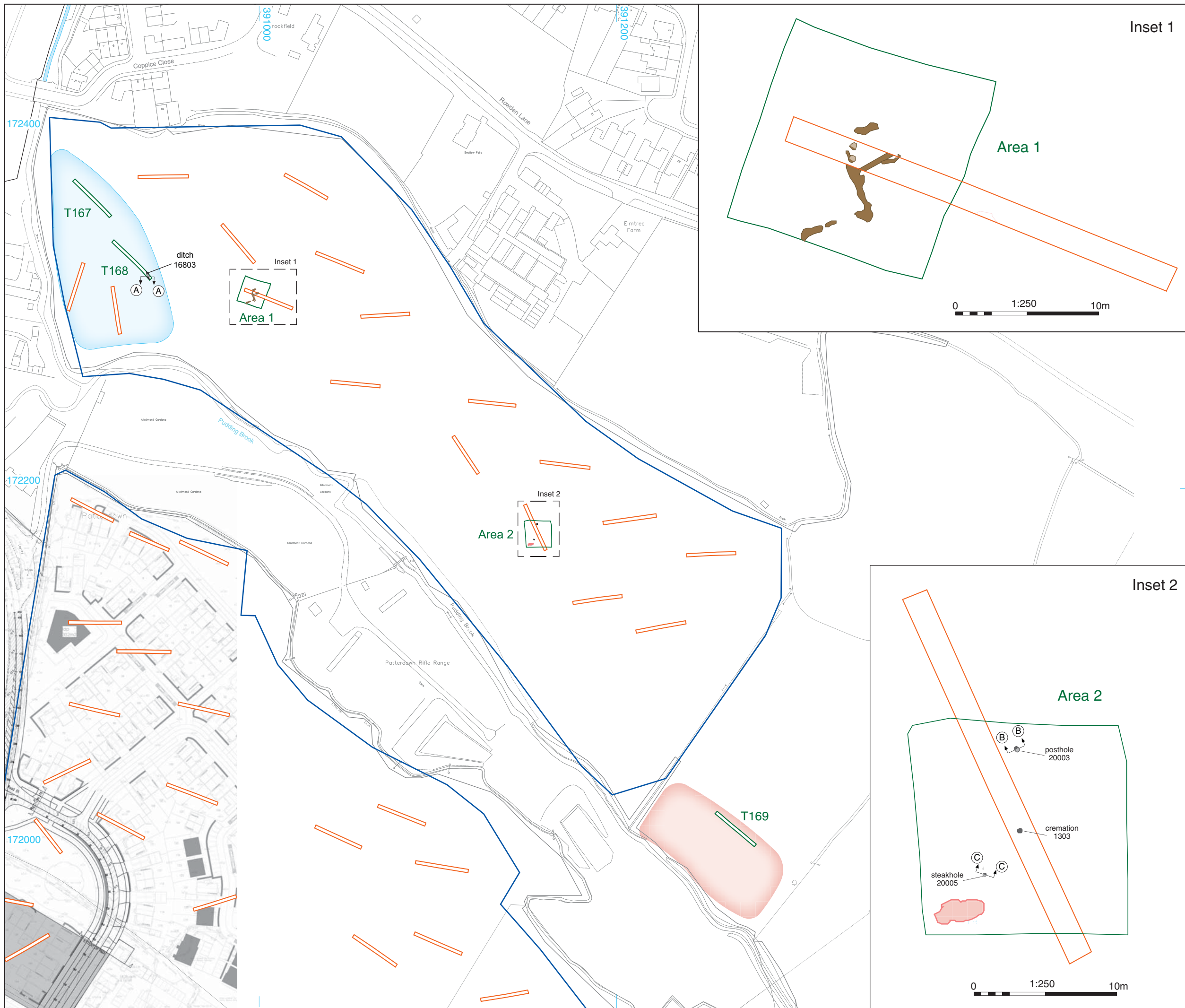
**PROJECT TITLE**  
Land at Rowden Park, Redcliffe Site, Chippenham, Wiltshire


**FIGURE TITLE**  
Site location plan

**DRAWN BY** EE     **PROJECT NO.** 6349     **FIGURE NO.**  
**CHECKED BY** DJB     **DATE** 15/11/2017  
**APPROVED BY** RG     **SCALE@A4** 1:25,000


**1**








- Development area
- Evaluation trench/Excavation area
- Proposed pond basin
- Proposed flood compensation area
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Bioturbation (excavated/unexcavated)
- Tree-throw
- Previous evaluation trenches (CA 2014)



Reproduced from the digital Ordnance Survey Explorer map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109



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

---

**PROJECT TITLE**  
 Land at Rowden Park, Redcliffe Site,  
 Chippenham, Wiltshire

---

**FIGURE TITLE**  
 Trench and Area location plan

---

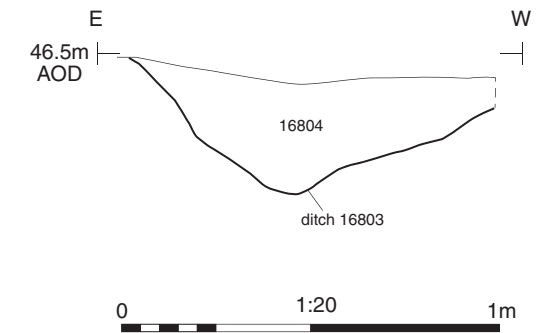
DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6349	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	15/11/2017	<b>2</b>
APPROVED BY	RG	SCALE@A3	1:2,000 / 1:250	





Ditch 16803, looking south (0,5m scale)

Section AA



Trench 168, looking north-west (1m scale)


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

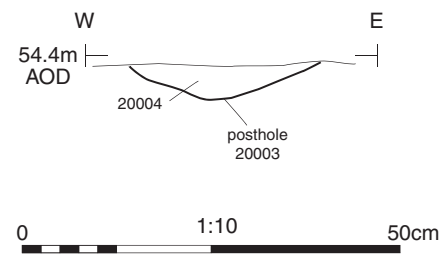
PROJECT TITLE  
 Land at Rowden Park, Redcliffe Site,  
 Chippenham, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 168, section and photographs**

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6349	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	15/11/2017	
APPROVED BY	RG	SCALE	A3	NA

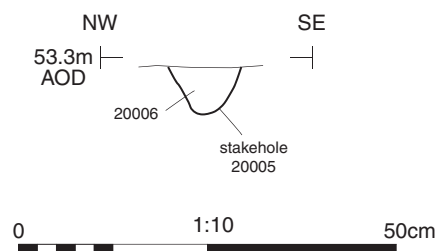


Section BB



Posthole 20003, looking north (0.2m scale)

Section CC



Stakehole 20005, looking north-east (0.2 scale)



Area 2, looking north-east (1m scales)


**Cotswold Archaeology**  
 Andover 01264 347630  
 Cirencester 01285 771022  
 Exeter 01392 826185  
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660  
[www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)  
[enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)

PROJECT TITLE  
**Land at Rowden Park, Redcliffe Site,  
 Chippenham, Wiltshire**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Area 2, sections and photographs**

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6349	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	15/11/2017	<b>4</b>
APPROVED BY	RG	SCALE@A3	1:10	

### **Andover Office**

Stanley House  
Walworth Road  
Andover  
Hampshire  
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

### **Cirencester Office**

Building 11  
Kemble Enterprise Park  
Cirencester  
Gloucestershire  
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

### **Exeter Office**

Unit 53  
Basepoint Business Centre  
Yeoford Way  
Marsh Barton Trading Estate  
Exeter  
EX2 8LB

t: 01392 826185

### **Milton Keynes Office**

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

t: 01908 564660