

Land East of Sams Lane Broad Blunsdon Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation



for
Castlewood Commercial Properties Ltd

CA Project: 6760

October 2018



Land East of Sams Lane
Broad Blunsdon
Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land East of Sams Lane
Location:	Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire
NGR:	415448 190638
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	20-28 September 2018
Planning Reference:	S/OUT/18/0405
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Swindon Museum and Art Gallery
Accession Number:	SWIMG:2018.78
Site Code:	SAM 18

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September 2018 on land to the east of Sams Lane, Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire. Twelve trenches were excavated.

The evaluation identified evidence for possible prehistoric and Roman funerary activity on the site. Eighteen probable Roman cremation burials were identified, sixteen of which cut an earlier deposit which could represent the remains of an earlier round barrow. A possible grave, pit and posthole recorded in the vicinity of the cremations are also likely to relate to prehistoric or Roman funerary activity.

Evidence for probable medieval clay extraction was also identified. Following the medieval period the site appears to have been used solely for agricultural purposes. A post-medieval field boundary and evidence for medieval/post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation was identified across the site.

A number of undated features comprising a ditch and pits were also recorded. Whilst it is possible some of the pits are associated with medieval clay extraction, their date and function remains uncertain.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In September 2018 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation for Castlewood Commercial Properties Ltd on land to the east of Sams Lane, Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire (centred at NGR: 415448 190638; Fig. 1). An outline application has been made to Swindon Borough Council (SBC, ref: S/OUT/18/0405) for the development of up to 70 dwellings, a cemetery extension, retail space, public toilets and car parking, with associated open space, landscaping and infrastructure. Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, County Archaeologist, Wiltshire Council (WC), the archaeological advisor to SBC, recommended that a programme of archaeological work, including archaeological evaluation, be undertaken prior to determination of the planning application.
- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2018) and approved by Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014). It was monitored by Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, including site visits on 24 and 27 September 2018.

The site

- 1.3 The proposed development area is approximately 6ha in extent and comprises an agricultural field bounded to the south-west by Sams Lane, to the north-west by residential properties and the existing cemetery and to the north-east and south-east by further agricultural fields. The site lies at approximately 133m AOD.
- 1.4 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Stanford Formation – Limestone, of the Jurassic Period, with no superficial deposits being recorded (BGS 2018). The natural substrate, comprising limestone brash, was identified in all of the excavated trenches.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 An Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (CA 2016) and geophysical survey (AS 2018) have been carried out for the site. Below is a summary of the findings of these assessments and reference should be made to these documents for further details.

- 2.2 The Desk-Based Assessment noted that there are no recorded heritage assets within the site. It also noted that although there has been no archaeological works carried out within the site, pipelines extending along the eastern and southern edges did not reveal any archaeological features within the vicinity (CA 2016). Investigations in the wider area have, however, located a number of archaeological sites and the scheduled monument of Castle Hill Hillfort and Lynchets (HE list entry number: 1016324) is situated 320m to the north-east of proposed development area and dates to the late Bronze Age to early Iron Age (*ibid.*).
- 2.3 The site is likely to have been used for agricultural purposes from at least the medieval period, and Ordnance Survey mapping shows that a north-east to south-west orientated field boundary crossed the site until the late 1960s. In 1970 the field boundary was removed but the field is mapped as containing several mature trees, a line of which still exist in the western part of the site. A 1946 aerial photograph appears to show circular features within the field. It remains to be determined whether these relate to potential prehistoric ring ditches or agricultural features (*ibid.*).
- 2.4 The preceding geophysical survey located a positive rectilinear anomaly in the north-western part of the site, enclosing a group of features interpreted as infilled quarry pits (AS 2018; see Fig. 2 of this report). Further to the east a group of amorphous pit-like anomalies, indicative of ground disturbance, were recorded. They are located within a series of ridge and furrow anomalies; it is not clear if they have been formed during ploughing or if they relate to former quarrying that has been later disturbed by the ridge and furrow. A number of positive responses were identified in the north-eastern corner of the site although it was not possible to determine if they relate to cut features or have an association with the ridge and furrow (*ibid.*).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality. In accordance with *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014), the evaluation has been designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological

remains. The information gathered will enable SBC 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 *Revised National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2018).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 As originally conceived the fieldwork comprised the excavation of twelve trenches, each measuring 50m in length and 2m in width, in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 2). Contingency trenching totalling a further 50m by 2m was subsequently excavated at the request of Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger. The trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4: *Survey Manual*.
- 4.2 All trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machine excavation was undertaken under constant archaeological supervision to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever was encountered first. Where archaeological deposits were encountered they were excavated by hand in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.3 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*. No deposits were identified that required sampling. 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 Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with the Swindon Museum Service, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 2-7)

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the evaluation results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts and finds are to be found in Appendices A and B respectively.
- 5.2 A number of linear anomalies, generally lying on north-west/south-east or north-east/south-west alignments were interpreted as probable furrows associated with the ridge and furrow cultivation that was identified by the geophysical survey. Although some of the furrows were relatively shallow and did not penetrate below the subsoil, a number were identified in the bases of Trenches 2, 3, 6, 9, 11 and 12. A single sherd of pottery of 11th to 13th-century date was recovered from the surface of one such feature, 604, in Trench 6.
- 5.3 No archaeological features or deposits were identified in Trenches 1, 5 and 10. In addition, a large right-angled geophysical anomaly investigated within Trenches 2 and 3 was found to be of geological origin. The archaeological features identified in Trenches 4, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12 all cut the natural substrate and were sealed by subsoil, unless specified below.

Trench 4 (Fig. 2)

- 5.4 Irregularly shaped pit 404 was partially exposed within the trench. It measured at least 1.6m in length, 0.4m in width and was 0.2m deep. It was filled with silty clay deposit 405 which contained a concentration of purplish-red clay and a small amount of charcoal flecks. No finds were recovered from this feature, which is interpreted as an undated tree-throw pit.

Trench 7 (Figs 2 & 3)

- 5.5 North-east/south-west aligned ditch 704/712 was identified towards the north-eastern end of the trench. It was at least 4m long, 0.45m wide and a maximum of 0.15m deep, with a shallow concave profile. It was filled by silty clay deposit 705, derived from gradual silting that contained no finds.
- 5.6 Ditch 704/712 was cut by pit 708/710, one of two similar adjacent, shallow features, partially exposed at the north-eastern end of the trench. Pit 708/710 was oval in plan, 1.4m long, at least 1m wide and 0.1m deep. It had a flat base and contained silty clay deposit 709. Adjacent pit 706 measured 1.8m in length, was at least 0.9m

in width and 0.1m deep. It too had a flat base and was filled by deposit 707, which was similar to context 709. No finds were recovered from either feature.

Trench 8 (Figs 2 & 4)

- 5.7 Deposit 804, comprising mid brown clay with abundant limestone fragments, was identified within the northern part of the trench, where it extended for a distance of 12.8m. Eighteen sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from the surface of this deposit. It was cut in places by a number of pits containing very dark, carbon-rich fills which, upon closer inspection, also included quantities of cremated bone. In a number of instances the bone was contained within a pottery vessel within the pit. The largest of these pits appeared to straddle the southern edge of deposit 804 with a further similar feature cut directly into the natural substrate, approximately 7m further to the south. In all, six pits containing cremated remains were identified within the initial trench.
- 5.8 Upon the identification of the cremation pits, Ms Pomeroy-Kellinger was informed and, following a monitoring visit, she invoked part of the contingency trenching and requested a number of short trenches be excavated off the main trench to try and define the limit of deposit 804 and to identify any further cremation burials. A series of six trenches were duly excavated, with three off either side of Trench 8, revealing that deposit 804 was sub-circular in plan, with a diameter of 12.4m.
- 5.9 The excavation of the additional trenching identified a further 11 cremation pits, giving a total of 18 exposed altogether, including a further example to the west, beyond the limit of deposit 804.
- 5.10 At the northern end of the trench, a number of fragments of likely human skull were identified within a disturbed area of natural substrate, which may indicate the presence of a grave cut. Immediately south of this was a small oval pit. A small circular feature, most probably a posthole, was identified approximately 3m beyond the southern extent of deposit 804.
- 5.11 It was agreed with Ms Pomeroy-Kellinger that none of the archaeological features or deposits within Trench 8 should be investigated at this stage, rather they should be re-buried. As such, the interpretation of some features remains tentative.

Trench 9 (Figs 2 & 5)

- 5.12 A section was mechanically excavated across the former field boundary ditch 905 and the earlier furrow, 903, through which it was cut. Ditch 905 was steep sided and measured 2.2m wide and 0.7m deep. It had been cut through the subsoil and was filled by dark brown silty clay deposit 906, which was devoid of finds.

Trench 11 (Figs 2 & 6)

- 5.13 Rectangular pit 1114 and the north-eastern part of pit 1106/1109 were exposed towards the south-eastern end of the trench. At Ms Pomeroy-Kellinger's request, the trench was extended to expose the remainder of pit 1106/1109. This feature was rectangular in plan with rounded corners. It measured 2.25m in length, 0.9m in width and was 0.45m deep (Fig. 7; section HH and II). It was investigated through the excavation of opposing quadrants, which demonstrated that it was steep sided with a flat base. It contained two silty clay fills; primary deposit 1105/1108, from which one sherd of Roman pottery and one sherd of medieval pottery were recovered, and secondary deposit 1104/1107, which contained no finds.
- 5.14 Pit 1114 lay adjacent to pit 1106/1109 and, whilst being a similar rectangular shape to its counterpart, it was somewhat wider, at 1.1m. It measured 2.1m in length and was 0.4m deep, with steep sides and a flat base (Fig. 7; section GG). It contained a single fill, 1115, derived from gradual silting, from which no finds were recovered.
- 5.15 Pit 1114 cut earlier feature 1116, which was only partially exposed along the north-eastern edge of the trench (Fig. 7; section GG). This feature, which contained no artefactual material, may represent an earlier pit or a natural geological anomaly.
- 5.16 Pit 1112 extended beyond the south-western edge of the trench. The exposed part of the feature was rounded in plan and measured 2.05m across, with a maximum depth of 0.5m (Fig. 7; section FF). It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base and was filled by a single deposit of silty clay, 1113, from which a single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered.
- 5.17 Pit 1119 extended beyond each side of the trench and measured at least 7.5m across. The rounded south-eastern corner of the feature was excavated and this demonstrated that it was at least 0.15m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base (Fig. 7; section EE). It contained silty clay fill 1118 that was devoid of finds.

6. THE FINDS

6.1 Artefactual material was hand-recovered from six deposits (pit and furrow fills, a deposit and topsoil). The recovered material dates to the Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods. Quantities of the artefact types are given in Appendix B. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric and Roman pottery fabric codes are equated to the Wanborough type series (Seager Smith 2001). Fabric codes for medieval pottery have been devised for the purpose of this report.

Pottery: Roman

6.2 A total of 19 sherds (195g) of Roman pottery was recorded from two deposits. Seventeen base and bodysherds of fine sandy buff ware (F91) from deposit 804 are likely to derive from a single vessel, however, its form could not be identified. This fabric is dateable to the late 1st to 2nd centuries (Seager Smith 2001, 250). Of broad Roman date are unfeathered bodysherds of fine micaceous orange ware (F84) also from deposit 804 and sandy orange ware (F72) from fill 1105 of pit 1106.

Medieval

6.3 Medieval pottery totals three sherds (16g). Unfeathered bodysherds of Cotswold oolitic limestone-tempered ware (COT, 11th to 13th centuries) and Minety ware (MIN, mid 12th to 15th centuries) were recovered from fill 605 of furrow 604 and fill 1108 of pit 1109 respectively. A base sherd from a vessel of medieval date, from fill 1113 of pit 1112, presented in an oxidised fabric tempered with sparse limestone, quartz and shell (LQS). The origin of this fabric is uncertain and dating is likely to be in the 12th to 15th century range.

Other finds

6.4 A copper alloy thimble (2g) was retrieved from topsoil deposit 601. It is a cast type with machine knurled indentations, which allows dating to the 17th to 18th centuries (Holmes 1988).

7. DISCUSSION

7.1 The evaluation has identified archaeological features within the centre of the development area. The results of the evaluation indicate human activity on the site dating from the Roman, medieval and post-medieval/modern periods. Undated

features were recorded in Trenches 4, 7, 8 and 11, and whilst it is likely these features predominantly relate to the Roman, medieval and post-medieval use of the site, it is probable deposit 804 in Trench 8 pre-dates the Roman period (the pottery recovered being intrusive), and may be indicative of prehistoric funerary activity on the site.

Prehistoric (2400 BC – AD 43) to Roman (AD 43 – AD 410)

- 7.2 Deposit 804, located in Trench 8, may represent the remains of a prehistoric round barrow. The site is situated approximately 320m to the south-west of Castle Hill Hillfort, which dates to the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age, and it is possible that such a barrow may be broadly contemporary. If it is accepted that deposit 804 represents a prehistoric round barrow, then the identification of at least 16 probable Roman cremation burials suggests the feature was still visible in the landscape, and identifiable as a funerary site, in the Roman period. However, the possibility that it represents a funerary monument of Roman date cannot be discounted, and has been noted for example at excavations at Overton Down (VCH 1980). A further two probable cremation burials were identified to the west and south of deposit 804. It is likely the possible grave, pit and posthole, along with the fragments of human skull, observed within Trench 8, also relate to prehistoric or Roman funerary activity.

Medieval (AD 1066 – AD 1539)

- 7.3 Five pits identified in Trench 11 may relate to medieval clay extraction within the site. These shallow pits broadly correspond to anomalies identified by the preceding geophysical survey (AS 2018). Eleventh to thirteenth-century pottery was recovered from the fills of two of the probable quarry pits, 1106/1109 and 1112. It is likely the Roman pottery sherd also recovered from pit 1106/1109 is residual.

Post-medieval (AD 1540 – AD 1800) to Modern (AD 1801 – present)

- 7.4 Furrows of late medieval/post-medieval date were recorded in Trenches 2, 3, 6, 9, 11 and 12. Whilst a single sherd of pottery of 11th to 13th-century date was recovered from the surface of one such feature, 604 in Trench 6, it is probable this find is residual in a later feature.
- 7.5 A former north-east/south-west aligned field boundary was recorded in Trench 9. This boundary is depicted on 19th-century historic mapping and had been removed by 1970.

Undated

- 7.6 Undated features comprising a probable tree-throw pit in Trench 4, a ditch and pits in Trench 7, and pits in Trench 11 were also recorded during the evaluation. The undated pits recorded in Trench 11 (pits 1114, 1116, 1119) share similar form and fill characteristics with pits 1106/1109 and 1112, which date to the medieval period, and are therefore likely to be contemporaneous. The date and function of the features in Trench 7 remain uncertain, though they share characteristics with the features recorded in Trench 11. They are tentatively identified as similar date, though an earlier date cannot be entirely discounted.

8. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Mark Brett, assisted by Jack Harrison, Nick Jones, Dan Sausins, Peter Searle and Sue Walker. The report was written by Mark Brett and Charlotte Haines. The finds report was written by Jacky Sommerville. The illustrations were prepared by Esther Escudero. The archive has been compiled by Mark Brett, and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

9. REFERENCES

AS (Archaeological Surveys Ltd) 2018 *Land East of Sams Lane, Broad Blunsdon, Swindon: Magnetometer Survey Report*, ref. no. **J755**

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2018 *Geology of Britain Viewer* <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> Accessed 18 September 2018

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2018 *Land East of Sams Lane, Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation*,

CA 2016 *Land East of Sams Lane, Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire: Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*, CA report no. **16418**

Holmes, E. F. 1988 *Sewing Thimbles* Datasheet **9**. Finds Research group 700–1700

MHCLG 2018 (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government) 2018 *Revised National Planning Policy Framework*.

Seager Smith, R. 2001 'The Coarse Pottery', in Anderson *et al.* 2001, 232–300



APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
1	101	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay.	>50	>1.8	0.28	
1	102	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		
2	201	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay.	>50	>1.8	0.22	
2	202	Layer		subsoil	light grey brown silt clay	>50	>1.8	0.08	
2	203	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		
2	204	Cut		geological feature	SW/NE aligned, steep sides, concave base	>1.8	2.1	0.84	
2	205	Fill	204	fill of geological feature	mid grey brown clay	>1.8	2.1	0.84	
2	206	Cut		furrow	SW/NE aligned, not excavated	>1.8	0.98		
2	207	Fill	206	fill of furrow	mid grey brown clay	>1.8	0.98		
3	301	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay	>50	>1.8	0.31	
3	302	Layer		subsoil	mid brown slit loam	>50	>1.8	0.09	
3	303	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		
3	304	Cut		furrow	NW/SE aligned, not excavated	>1.8	1.98		
3	305	Fill	304	fill of furrow	light grey yellow brown	>1.8	1.98		
4	401	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay	>50	>1.8	0.2	
4	402	Layer		subsoil	mid yellow brown clay	>50	>1.8	0.1	
4	403	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		
4	404	Cut		pit	irregular shape in plan, gently sloping sides, concave base	1.6	0.4	0.21	
4	405	Fill	404	fill of pit	mid grey brown clay	1.6	0.4	0.21	
5	501	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay	>50	>1.8	0.2	
5	502	Layer		subsoil	mid yellow brown clay	>50	>1.8	0.1	
5	503	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		
6	601	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay	>50	>1.8	0.2	
6	602	Layer		subsoil	mid yellow brown clay	>50	>1.8	0.1	
6	603	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		
6	604	Cut		furrow	NW/SE aligned, not excavated	>1.8	0.3	0.3	
6	605	Fill	604	fill of furrow	mid orange brown clay	>1.8	0.3	0.3	C11-C13
7	701	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay	>50	>1.8	0.4	
7	702	Layer		subsoil	mid yellow brown clay	>50	>1.8	0.15	
7	703	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		
7	704	Cut		ditch	NE/SW aligned, gently sloping sides, concave base	>1.8	0.45	0.14	
7	705	Fill	704	fill of ditch	mid grey brown silty clay	>1.8	0.45	0.14	
7	706	Cut		pit	oval, gently sloping sides, flat base	1.88	0.60	0.16	
7	707	Fill	706	fill of pit	mid grey brown silt clay	1.88	0.60	0.16	
7	708	Cut		pit	oval, gently sloping sides, flat base	0.81	0.55	0.11	
7	709	Fill	708	fill of pit	mid grey brown silt clay	0.81	0.55	0.11	
7	710	Cut		pit	same as 708	0.81	0.55	0.11	
7	711	Fill	710	fill of pit	same as 709	0.81	0.55	0.11	
7	712	Cut		ditch	same as 704	>1.8	0.45	0.14	
7	713	Fill	712	fill of ditch	same as 705	>1.8	0.45	0.14	
8	801	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay	>50	>1.8	0.2	
8	802	Layer		subsoil	mid orange brown clay	>50	>1.8	0.25	
8	803	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		
8	804	Deposit		possible barrow	mid brown clay with abundant limestone, charcoal and flint	12.8	12.4		LC1-C2

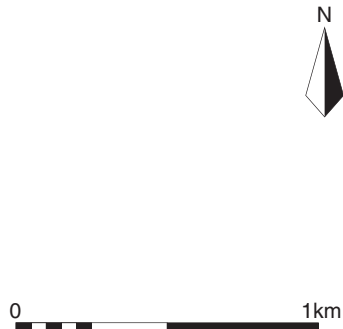
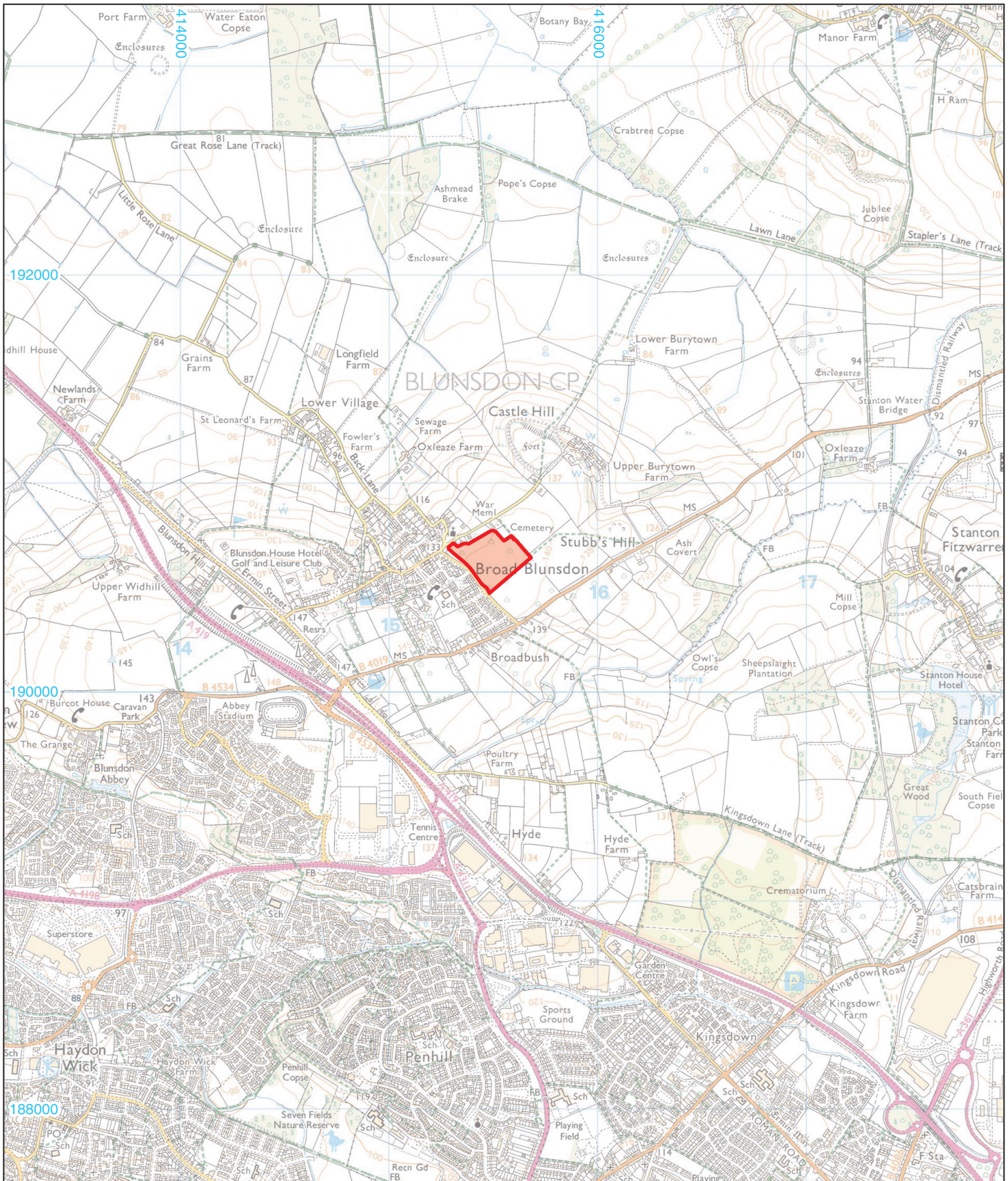
9	901	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay	>50	>1.8	0.34	
9	902	Layer		subsoil	mid orange brown clay	>50	>1.8	0.04	
9	903	cut		furrow	NE/SW aligned	>1.8	1.3	0.18	
9	904	fill	903	fill of furrow	orange brown silty clay	>1.8	1.3	0.18	
9	905	cut		ditch	NE/SW aligned, steeply sloping sides, concave base	>1.8	1.3	0.18	
9	906	fill	905	fill of ditch	mid brown grey clay	>1.8	1.3	0.18	
9	907	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		
10	1001	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay	>50	>1.8	0.3	
10	1002	Layer		subsoil	mid orange brown clay	>50	>1.8	0.17	
10	1003	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		
11	1101	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay	>50	>1.8	0.18	
11	1102	Layer		subsoil	mid orange brown clay	>50	>1.8	0.18	
11	1103	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		
11	1104	fill	1106	fill of pit	dark brown silt clay	>1.08	>0.47	0.13	
11	1105	fill	1106	fill of pit	mid brown silt clay	>1.05	>0.45	0.32	Roman
11	1106	cut		pit	sub rectangular pit, steeply sloping sides, flat base	2.24	0.88	0.45	
11	1107	fill	1109	fill of pit	same as 1104	>1.17	>0.39	0.14	
11	1108	fill	1109	fill of pit	same as 1105	>1.15	>0.37	0.32	MC12-C15
11	1109	cut		pit	same as 1106	2.24	0.88	0.45	
11	1110	cut		pit	oval, irregular edges, not excavated	1.8	1.0		
11	1111	fill	1110	fill of pit	mid brown grey silt clay	1.8	1.0		
11	1112	cut		pit	sub oval, sloping sides, flat base	2.05	>1	0.5	
11	1113	fill	1112	fill of pit	light yellow brown silty clay	2.05	>1	0.5	C12-C15
11	1114	cut		pit	sub oval, gently sloping sides, concave base	2	1.42	0.38	
11	1115	fill	1114	fill of pit	mid grey brown silt clay	2	1.42	0.38	
11	1116	cut		pit	sub oval, steep sides, concave base	2	1.28	0.45	
11	1117	fill	1116	fill of pit	mid grey brown silt clay	2	1.28	0.45	
11	1118	cut		pit	oval, sloping sides, flat base	7	1.48	0.14	
11	1119	fill	1118	fill of pit	mid grey brown silt clay	7	1.48	0.14	
12	1201	Layer		topsoil	mid grey brown silt clay	>50	>1.8	0.22	
12	1202	Layer		subsoil	mid orange brown clay	>50	>1.8	0.14	
12	1203	Layer		natural substrate	light grey yellow limestone	>50	>1.8		

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
601	Copper alloy	Thimble		1	2	C17-C18
605	Medieval pottery	Cotswold oolitic limestone-tempered ware	COT	1	7	C11-C13
804	Roman pottery	Fine sandy buff ware	F91	17	179	LC1-C2
	Roman pottery	Fine micaceous orange ware	F84	1	15	RB
1105	Roman pottery	Sandy orange ware	F72	1	1	RB
1108	Medieval pottery	Minety ware	MIN	1	5	MC12-C15
1113	Medieval pottery	Limestone, quartz and shell tempered fabric	LQS	1	4	C12-C15

APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land East of Sams Lane, Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation	
Short description	<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in September 2018 on land to the east of Sams Lane, Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire. Twelve trenches were excavated. The evaluation identified evidence for possible prehistoric and Roman funerary activity on the site. Eighteen probable Roman cremation burials were identified, sixteen of which cut an earlier deposit which could represent the remains of an earlier round barrow. A possible grave, pit and posthole recorded in the vicinity of the cremations are also likely to relate to prehistoric or Roman funerary activity.</p> <p>Evidence for probable medieval clay extraction was also identified. Following the medieval period the site appears to have been used solely for agricultural purposes. A post-medieval field boundary and evidence for medieval/post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation was identified across the site.</p> <p>A number of undated features comprising a ditch and pits were also recorded. Whilst it is possible some of the pits are associated with medieval clay extraction, their date and function remains uncertain.</p>	
Project dates	20-28 September 2018	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (CA 2016)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land East of Sams Lane, Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	6 ha	
Site co-ordinates	415448 190638	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Mark Brett	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive:	Content:
Physical	Swindon Museum and Art Gallery SWIMG:2018.78	Pottery, metalwork,
Paper	Swindon Museum and Art Gallery SWIMG:2018.78	Trench recording forms, context sheets, drawings photographic registers
Digital	Swindon Museum and Art Gallery SWIMG:2018.78	Digital photographs, survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2018 <i>Land East of Sams Lane, Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> CA typescript report 18493		



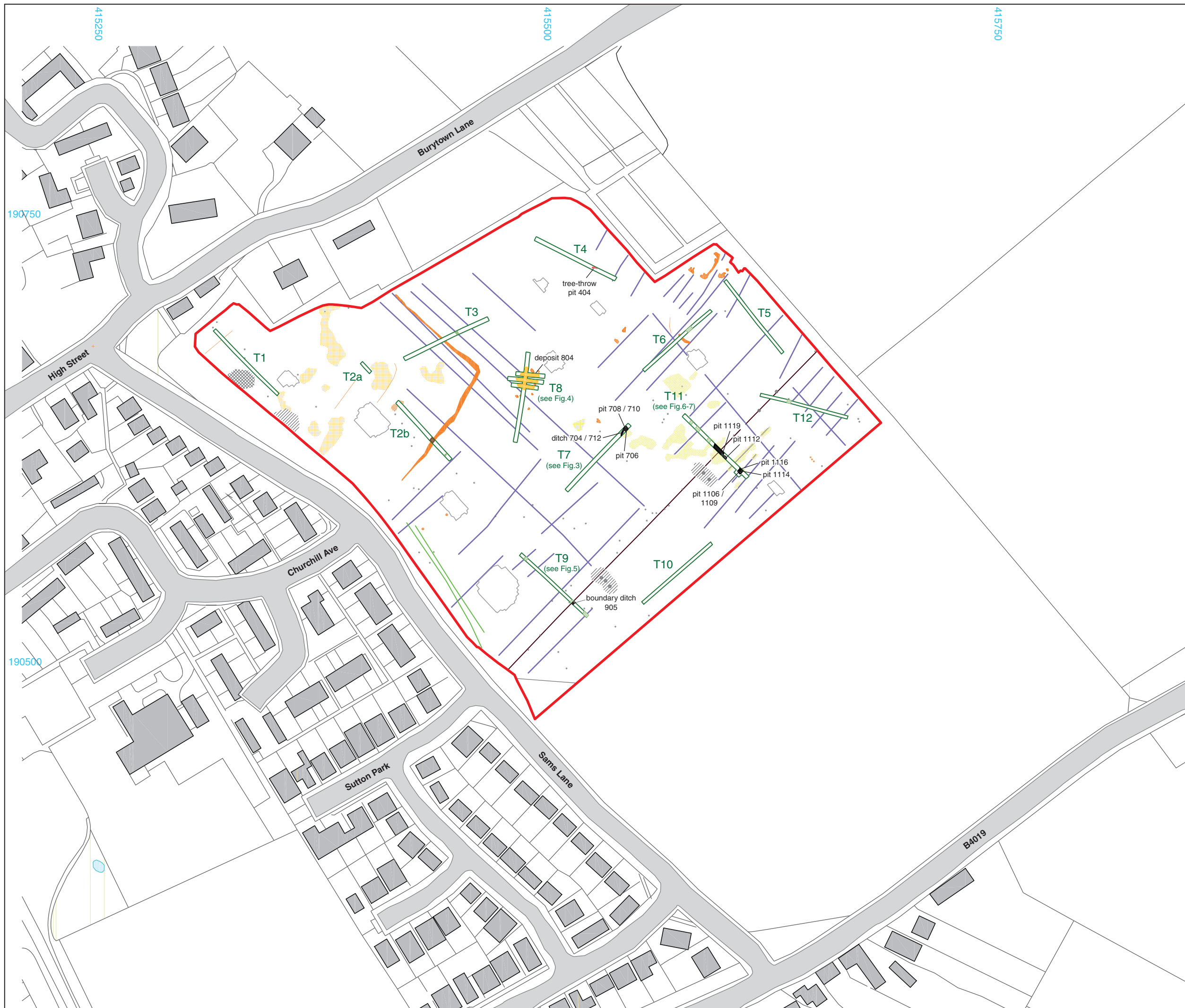
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PROJECT TITLE
 Land East of Sams Lane,
 Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

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 Ordnance Survey 0100031673

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6760	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	04/10/2018	1
APPROVED BY	REY	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature
- Deposit
- Furrow
- Tree-throw
- Geology

- Geophysical Survey Results
by Archaeological Surveys Ltd, 2018**
- Positive linear anomaly - possible ditch-like feature
 - Linear anomaly - ridge and furrow
 - Positive linear anomaly - former field boundary
 - Linear anomaly - of agricultural origin
 - Discrete positive response - possible pit-like feature
 - Positive anomaly - magnetically enhanced material
 - Magnetic response - associated with infilled quarrying
 - Magnetic response - ground disturbance associated with ridge and furrow / possible quarrying
 - Magnetic debris - spread of magnetically thermoremanent / ferrous material
 - Magnetic disturbance from ferrous material
 - Strong multiple dipolar linear anomaly - pipeline
 - Strong dipolar anomaly - ferrous object



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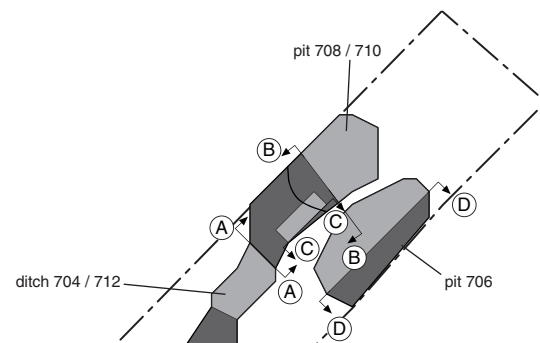
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PROJECT TITLE
 Land East of Sams Lane,
 Broad Blunston, Wiltshire

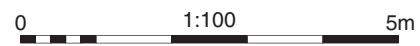
FIGURE TITLE
 Trench location plan, showing
 archaeological features and
 geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6760	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	04/10/2018	
APPROVED BY	REY	SCALE@A3	1:2,000	2

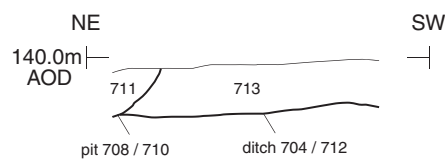
Trench 7



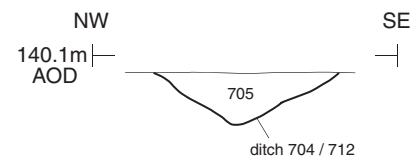
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Section location



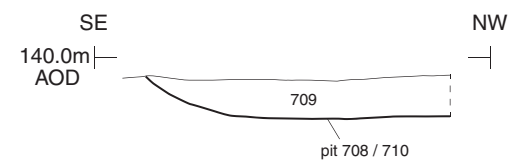
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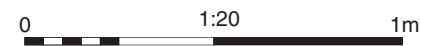
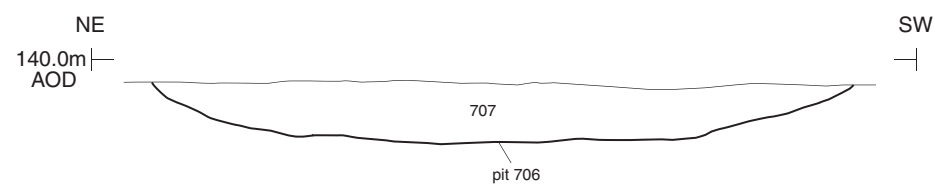
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Section BB



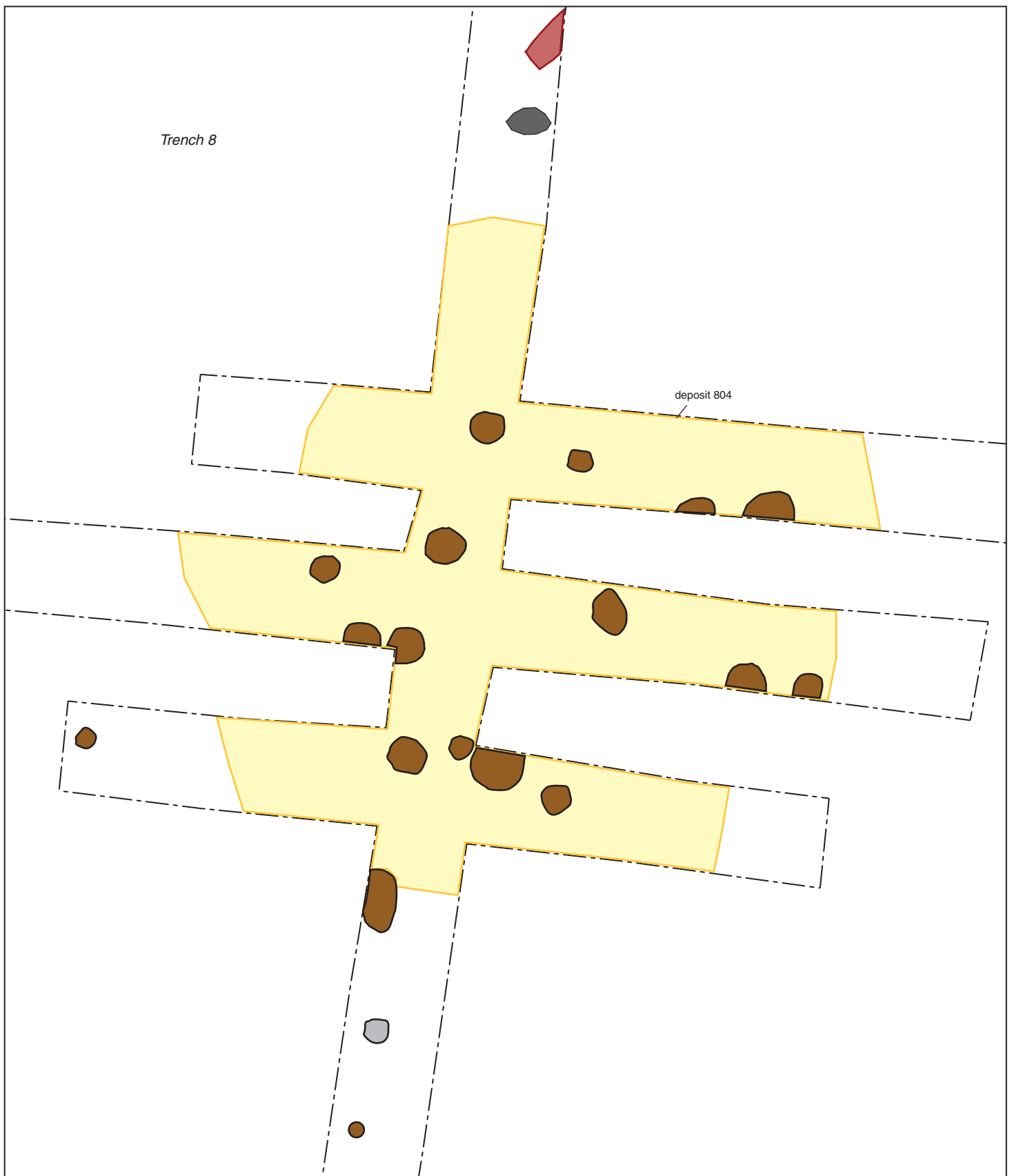
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PROJECT TITLE
 Land East of Sams Lane,
 Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE
Trench 7, plan and sections



-  Evaluation trench
-  Possible pit
-  Probable cremation
-  Possible grave cut
-  Deposit 804
-  Possible posthole



0 1:100 5m



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PROJECT TITLE

Land East of Sams Lane,
 Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 8, plan

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6760	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	04/10/2018	
APPROVED BY	REY	SCALE@A4	1:20	4



Former field boundary ditch 905, cutting furrow 903, looking north-east (1m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land East of Sams Lane,
Broad Blunsdon, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 9, photograph

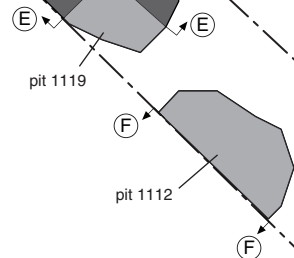
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CHECKED BY DJB DATE 04/10/2018
APPROVED BY REY SCALE@A4 NA

FIGURE NO.

5

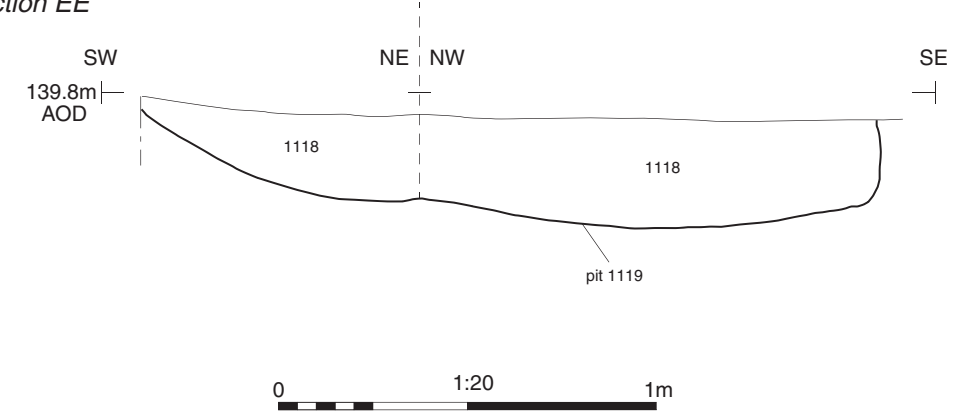


Trench 11

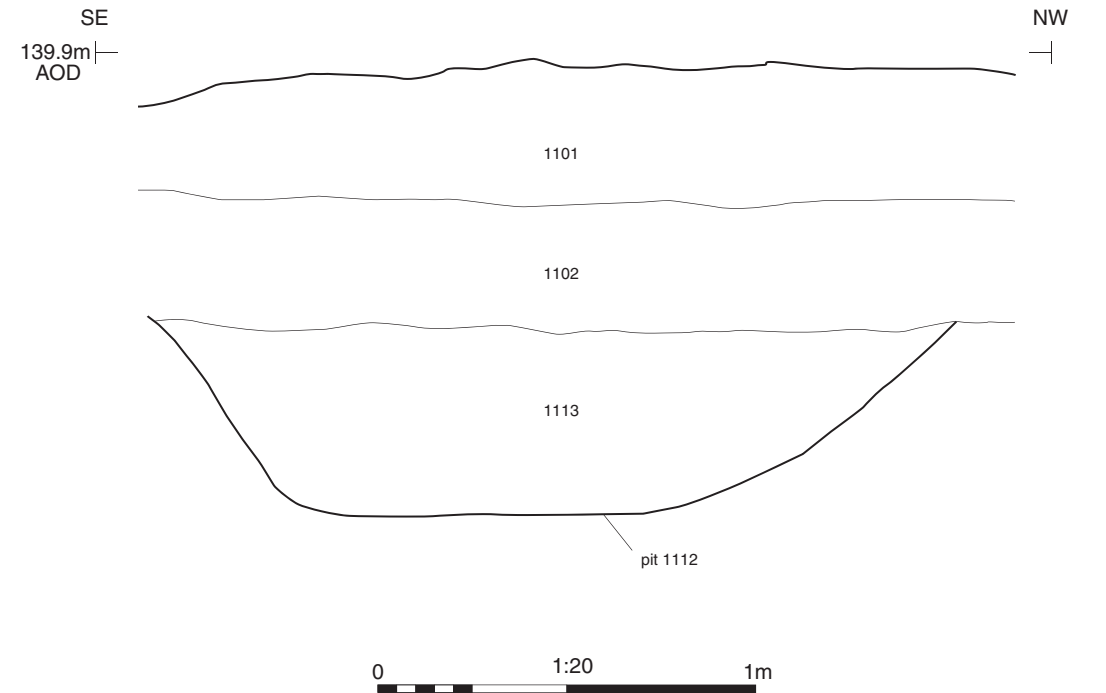


Trench 11, looking north-west (1m scales)

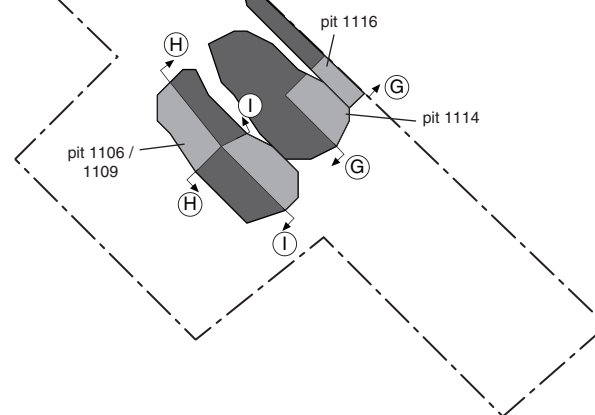
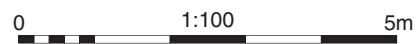
Section EE



Section FF



- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Furrow
- Section location





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PROJECT TITLE
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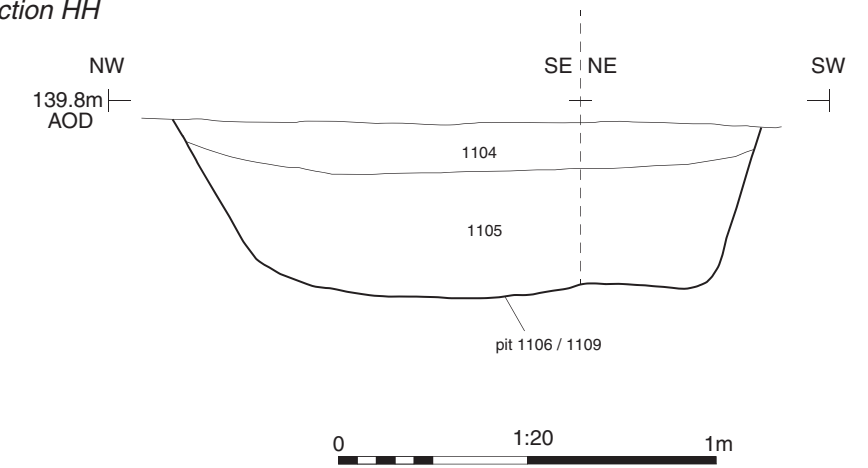
FIGURE TITLE
**Trench 11, plan, sections and
 photographs**

DRAWN BY	EE	PROJECT NO.	6760	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	04/10/2018	6
APPROVED BY	REY	SCALE@A3	1:100 / 1:20	

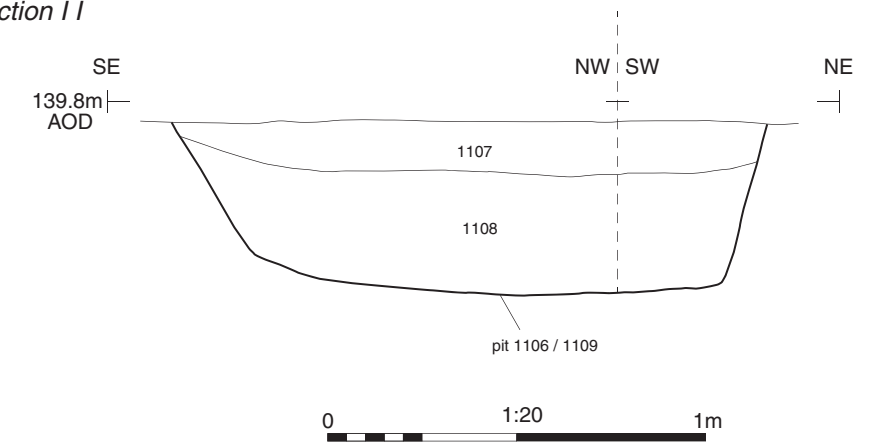


Trench 11, pit 1116 / 1114, looking north-west (1m scale)

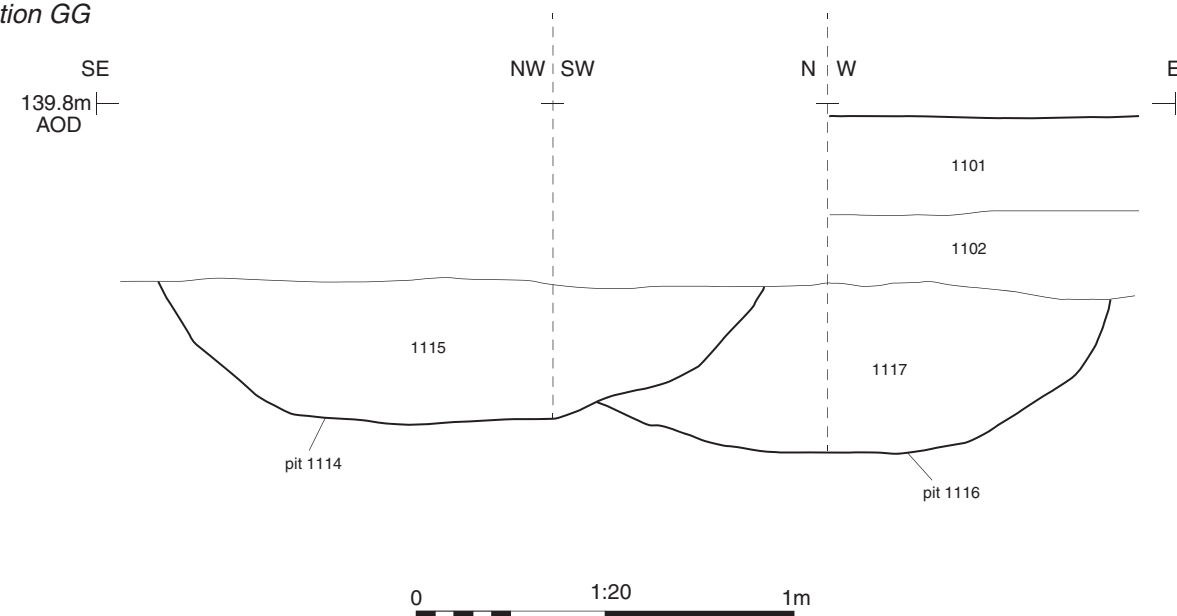
Section HH



Section II



Section GG



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