

**City Corner  
Hinton Parva  
Wiltshire**

*Archaeological Evaluation*



*for:*  
Impact Planning Services Ltd

*on behalf of:*  
Mr and Mrs Polatch

CA Project: CR0619  
CA Report: CR0619\_1  
SMAG Accession No: SWIMG: 2021.3

March 2021



# City Corner Hinton Parva Wiltshire

## *Archaeological Evaluation*

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## SUMMARY

<b>Project name:</b>	City Corner
<b>Location:</b>	Hinton Parva, Wiltshire
<b>NGR:</b>	422335 183319
<b>Type:</b>	Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	24 February to 1 March 2021
<b>Location of Archive:</b>	To be deposited with Swindon Museum and Art Gallery and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
<b>Accession Number:</b>	SWIMG: 2021.3
<b>Site Code:</b>	CCHP21

In February 2021, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation at City Corner, Hinton Parva, Wiltshire. Four trenches were excavated.

The evaluation confirmed the presence of archaeological features across the site, including ditches dated to the Roman period, a possible sunken featured building of early post-Roman date, and one ditch of medieval date, along with undated ditches and a posthole.

Earthworks identified through a preceding aerial survey were found to be most likely associated with groundworks for agricultural purposes in the post-medieval/modern period.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In February and March 2021, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation at City Corner, Hinton Parva (centred at NGR: 422335 183319; Fig. 1). This evaluation was undertaken for Impact Planning Services Ltd on behalf of Mr and Mrs Polatch.
- 1.2. The evaluation results will inform a planning application for residential development of the site, which will be made to Swindon Borough Council (SBC).
- 1.3. The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI), prepared by Cotswold Archaeology (2021) and approved by Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, County Archaeologist, Wiltshire Council, the archaeological advisor to SBC.
- 1.4. The evaluation was also in line with *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

### The site

- 1.5. The proposed development site is approximately 0.55ha in extent and lies directly to the south of City Corner road located at the western extent of Hinton Parva. The site currently comprises pastoral land and hard-standing bounded to the south-east and west by wooded areas and to the north-east and south-west by buildings (Fig. 2). The site lies at approximately 130m AOD with land dropping gradually away to the south and east into a wooded valley.
- 1.6. The underlying bedrock geology of the site is mapped as sandstone and siltstone of the Upper Greensand Formation formed during the Cretaceous period (BGS 2021). The natural substrate recorded during the course of the evaluation consisted of silts and siltstone.

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## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The site has previously been the subject of a Heritage Desk-Based Assessment (DBA; CA 2019) and aerial survey (SUMO 2019), which are summarised below.
- 2.2. Prehistoric activity is recorded within the local area with two possible Bronze Age barrows located approximately 410m to the north and 560m to the south-west of the site (CA 2019).
- 2.3. Roman activity is well represented in the vicinity of the site. The Roman road at Ermin Street is located approximately 700m to the south-west of site, with extensive roadside settlement identified along its route. A villa and possible temple have been recorded approximately 680m to the west of the site. Another possible villa site was recorded approximately 450m to the west of site, in the form of two large spreads of Roman building material (CA 2019).
- 2.4. Saxon and early medieval activity in the wider area is less well represented. Two burials have been identified, approximately 650m to the west and 720m to the south-west of the site. The burial to the west was undated but the grave truncated material dating to the Roman period, whilst that to the south-west had accompanying grave goods in the form of a spearhead and knife of Saxon date. Isolated findspots of Saxon material have been recorded c. 730m and c. 920m to the east of the site, and c. 760m to the south-west (CA 2019).
- 2.5. Medieval activity is widely noted in the area. The Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (HER) records an area of earthworks, mapped from the analysis of aerial photographs, that may relate to possible medieval settlement extending towards the south-western corner of the site. A similar area of earthworks pertaining to a deserted medieval village are also located approximately 770m to the east of the site, surrounding St Swithun's church (CA 2019).
- 2.6. A medieval hall is also recorded c. 750m to the north-west of the site. This includes an area of extensive earthworks, two possible ponds, a causeway, building remains and a possible moat (CA 2019).
- 2.7. Continuous blocks of medieval ridge and furrow were also recorded and mapped from aerial photographs in an extensive area to the north of the site and it is likely that the site fell within the agricultural hinterland of the surrounding farms and

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manors in the medieval and post-medieval periods; historic cartographic sources indicate that the site was used as an orchard from at the least the 1830s (CA 2019).

- 2.8. An aerial photogrammetry survey of the site conducted by Sumo Survey/Aerial-Cam (SUMO 2019) recorded several features of potential archaeological interest including two probable earthwork banks, correlating to those mapped by the HER.

### 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1. The general objective of the evaluation was to provide further information on the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date and state of preservation. This information will enable SBC to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposals, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019).
- 3.2. The specific objective of the evaluation was to investigate the earthworks recorded by the HER and aerial photogrammetry survey.

### 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of four trenches measuring 20m in length and 1.8 m in width (Fig. 2). The trenches were located to test the identified earthworks and to provide a representative sample of the rest of the site.
- 4.2. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. Overburden was stripped from the trenches by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological features were first encountered.
- 4.3. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.
- 4.4. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of*

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*Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites.* Two samples were recovered (see Section 7).

- 4.5. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.6. CA will make arrangements with Swindon Museum and Art Gallery for the deposition of the project archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection, under accession number SWIMG: 2021.3. The digital archive will also be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020).
- 4.7. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix D, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## **5. RESULTS**

- 5.1. This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the biological evidence recovered are given in Section 7 and Appendix C.
- 5.2. The general stratigraphic sequence recorded during the evaluation was broadly uniform. The natural substrate was encountered in all trenches, comprising of mixed sandy-silt and siltstone, which was overlain in Trenches 2 and 3 by a buried subsoil/weathered natural horizon. The natural and buried subsoil was typically overlain by between 0.14m and 0.64m of silty-clay subsoil/cultivation soil, which was in turn sealed by 0.22m and 0.56m of silty-clay topsoil. Residual fragments of pottery and flint were recovered from the subsoil/cultivation soil horizons in Trenches 2 and 4.
- 5.3. Archaeological features were identified in all four trenches, where they were all sealed by the subsoil/cultivation soil horizon.
- 5.4. The earthworks identified through the preceding aerial photogrammetry survey were found to comprise either accumulations of subsoil/cultivation soil or dumped made-ground deposits and had no relationship to the underlying archaeological features.



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These deposits were most notable in Trench 2 (Fig. 3, Section EE), Trench 3 (Fig. 8, Section HH) and Trench 4 (Fig. 9, Section JJ) and probably relate to the levelling of the site for its use as an orchard in the post-medieval period.

#### **Trench 1 (Figs 3 and 4)**

- 5.5. Ditch 104 (Fig. 3, Section AA) was identified towards the north-western end of Trench 1, aligned north-east/south-west. It measured 3.55m in width, 0.75m in depth and contained silty clay fill 103, from which a single sherd of pottery, dateable to the 1st to 2nd centuries AD, was recovered. Ditch 104 was re-cut on the same alignment by ditch 108, which measured 2.56m in width, 0.72m in depth and contained fills 107, 106 and 105. Three sherds of 1st to 2nd-century pottery were recovered from fill 105, alongside two residual flints. Ditch 108 was later re-cut by ditch 110, which measured 1.08m in width, 0.66m in depth, and contained silty-clay fill 109 from which two sherds of 1st to 2nd-century pottery and a fragment of animal bone were recovered.
- 5.6. Ditch terminus 112 (Fig. 3, Section BB) was identified in the centre of Trench 1. It was aligned north-west/south-east, measured at least 3.3m in length, 0.70m in width, 0.16m in depth and contained fill 111, from which three sherds pottery, broadly dateable to the Roman period, were recovered.
- 5.7. Ditch 114 was identified to the south-east of the centre of Trench 1. It was aligned north-east/south-west, measured 2.43m in width and contained undated fill 113. It remained unexcavated due to health and safety considerations. It is possible that this feature represents a continuation of ditch 210, recorded to the south-west in Trench 2.
- 5.8. Ditch 116 (Fig. 4, Section CC) was identified towards the south-eastern end of Trench 1. It was aligned north-east/south-west, measured 0.53m in width, 0.14m in depth and contained fill 115, from which three sherds of late 1st to 2nd-century pottery were recovered. Ditch 116 was re-cut on the same alignment by ditch 118, which measured 0.54m in width, 0.33m in depth and contained silty-clay fill 117, from which two sherds of 1st to 2nd-century grog-tempered pottery were recovered, alongside animal bone fragments.
- 5.9. Circular posthole 121 (Fig. 4, Section DD) was identified at the south-eastern end of Trench 1. It measured 0.53m in diameter, 0.30m in depth and contained undated fills 119 and 120, the latter representing a possible postpipe within the posthole. A

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sample taken from fill 120 (Sample 1) could not provide any further indication of dating.

### **Trench 2 (Figs 5 and 6)**

- 5.10. Ditch 205 (Fig. 6, Section FF) was identified towards the eastern end of Trench 2. It was aligned east/west, measured at least 4.2m in length, 0.82m in width and 0.26m in depth, and contained undated fills 204 and 203, from which a single fragment of animal bone was recovered.
- 5.11. Ditch 207 (Fig. 6, Section GG) was identified towards the eastern end of Trench 2. It was aligned north-west/south-east, measured at least 6.5m in length, 1.1m in width, 0.75m in depth and contained undated fill 206, from which three fragments of animal bone were recovered. Full excavation of the ditch was not possible due health and safety considerations due to the depth of the feature and thickness of adjacent overburden.
- 5.12. Ditch 210 (Fig. 5, Section EE) was identified in the centre of Trench 2, cutting buried subsoil/weathered natural horizon 216. It was aligned north-east/south-west, measured 2.9m in width and at least 0.46m in depth. Ditch 210 contained fills 209 and 208, from which a total of three sherds of 1st to 2nd-century pottery were recovered, alongside animal bone fragments. It is possible that ditch 210 represents a continuation of ditch 114 identified in Trench 1 to the north-east. The relationships between ditch 207 and ditches 205 and 210 were not established.
- 5.13. Possible ditch 215 (Fig. 5, Section EE) was partially exposed at the western end of Trench 2, cutting buried subsoil/weathered natural horizon 216. It was aligned north-east/south-west, measured at least 5.02m in width and 0.7m in depth and contained fills 214, 213 and 212. Alongside animal bone fragments, seven sherds of pottery, dateable to the 1st to 2nd centuries, were recovered from lower fills 214 and 213, while pottery recovered from upper fill 212 were dateable to the 3rd to 4th centuries. Ditch 215 was sealed by probable levelling deposit 211, which remained undated but may relate to later levelling/consolidation activities across the site and the associated earthworks.

### **Trench 3 (Figs 7 and 8)**

- 5.14. Ditch 304 (Fig. 7, Section II) was identified in the centre of Trench 3. It was aligned north-east/south-west, measured 0.87m in width, 0.40m in depth and contained fill

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303, from which two sherds of 1st to 2nd-century flint-and-quartz-tempered pottery were recovered, alongside animal bone fragments.

- 5.15. Possible sunken featured building (SFB) 306 (Fig. 8, Section HH) was identified cutting buried soil 305 at the southern end of Trench 3. It was aligned broadly east/west, measured 2.34m in width, 0.56m in depth and contained fills 307, 308, 309 and 310. A total of 16 sherds of organic-tempered pottery, dateable to the 5th to 7th centuries, were recovered from fills 307, 308 and 310, along with 23 sherds of later Roman date. The latter included sherds of Central and East Gaulish samian ware, Southeast Dorset Black-Burnished ware, and Oxford red-slipped ware, all broadly dateable to the 2nd to 4th centuries. An assemblage of 21 fragments of animal bone, displaying butchery marks, was also recovered from these fills. A sample taken from fill 307 (Sample 2) contained material indicative of a dump of domestic settlement waste of later Roman or early post-Roman date.

#### **Trench 4 (Fig. 9)**

- 5.16. Ditch 405 (Fig. 9, Section JJ) was identified to the south of the centre of Trench 4. It was aligned east/west, measured 2.60m in width, 0.22m in depth and contained fills 404 and 403. A single sherd of Kennet Valley ware, dateable to the late 11th to 15th centuries, was recovered from fill 403 along with animal bone and a residual sherd of Roman pottery.
- 5.17. Pit/ditch terminus 407 (Fig. 9, Sections JJ and KK) was identified at the southern end of Trench 4. It was aligned north-east/south-west, measured at least 1.50m in length, 1.4m in width, 0.28m in depth and contained undated fill 406.

## **6. THE FINDS**

- 6.1. Artefactual material was hand-recovered from 20 deposits (fills of ditches and a possible sunken featured building (SFB), and subsoil/cultivation soil). The recovered material dates to the prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods. The pottery has been recorded according to sherd count/weight per fabric (Appendix B). Recording also included form/rim morphology. Where possible Roman pottery fabric codes (those beginning with F in parentheses in the text and Appendix B) are equated to the Wanborough type series (Seager Smith 2001). National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes are also given in Appendix B where applicable (Tomber and Dore 1998). Medieval and additional Roman pottery codes have been devised for the purpose of this report.

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### *Pottery: Roman*

- 6.2. The bulk of the pottery assemblage (58 sherds, 717g) is Roman in date. The average sherd weight (12.4g) indicates a moderate degree of fragmentation. Just over half (30 sherds) has been redeposited in fills of possible SFB 306 and ditch 405, or in subsoil/cultivation soil deposits. The remainder appears likely to be stratified in ditch fills. Most of the fabrics and forms are suggestive of Early Roman dating (1st to 2nd century AD). These include flint-, grog- and quartz-tempered fabrics (F90, FLQZ, GRQZ, GROR, GTGW, SAV GT, QZ, QZGR, QZOR), and a shouldered jar in fabric GTGW from subsoil/cultivation soil deposit 401. Of late Roman date (mid 3rd to 4th century; Young 1977, 123–4) are three sherds of Oxford Red-slipped ware (F68) from fill 212 of ditch 215 and fill 310 of possible SFB 306. Broad Roman dating can be applied to the remaining coarsewares, most of which are represented by unfeathered bodysherds (greyware fabrics F53 and F18, and sandy oxidised fabric F72). The single sherd of Southeast Dorset Black-Burnished ware (F54) is of 2nd to 4th century date (Davies *et al.* 1995, 107). Continental imports consist of single sherds of central and east Gaulish samian (LEZ SA2, EGSAM). These would have been imported to Britain during the 2nd, and mid 2nd to mid 3rd centuries respectively (Webster 1996, 2–3), but both were redeposited in possible SFB fill 308.

### *Early Medieval (Anglo-Saxon)*

- 6.3. Fills 307, 308 and 310 of possible SFB 306 produced a total of 16 sherds (306g) in a chaff-tempered fabric (ORG), which appear to derive from more than one vessel. The 12 sherds from fill 307, however, are likely to represent a single vessel. The latter include a rimsherd from a 'baggy' jar. Organic (chaff)-tempered fabrics were in use from the mid/late 5th to 7th centuries in the Middle and Upper Thames Valley.

### *Medieval*

- 6.4. An unfeathered bodysherd (19g) of Kennet Valley ware, dateable to the late 11th to 15th century, was recovered from fill 403 of ditch 405.

### *Lithics*

- 6.5. A total of five worked flints (74g) was recorded from four deposits. All are residual in deposits containing Roman or later pottery or are from subsoil. The flints comprise two flakes, one piece of burnt shatter, one core and one retouched flake. The core is a non-opposed, dual platform type which had been used to produce flakes. None

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of the lithics are chronologically diagnostic types and only broad prehistoric dating is possible.

#### *Ceramic Building Material (CBM)*

- 6.6. A single fragment of ceramic building material (25g) was retrieved from fill 310 of possible SFB 306. It is too fragmentary for classification but is most likely Roman in date.

## **7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE**

### **Animal bone**

- 7.1. Animal bone amounting to 60 fragments (1693g) was recovered via hand excavation and the processing of bulk soil samples from 15 deposits. Artefactual material dating from the Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods was also recovered (See Table 2, Appendix C). The bone was fragmented but very well preserved making possible the identification of remains of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), horse (*Equus caballus*), dog (*Canis familiaris*) and goose (*Anser sp.*).

#### *Roman*

- 7.2. A total of 33 fragments (1244g) were recovered from ten deposits. Cattle and sheep/goat were identified from six fragments each, an amount normally too low to provide any useful inference. However, the bones of each mainly consisted of meat-poor fragments of the skull, mandible or bones of the lower legs. Chop marks such as those observed on two distal cattle humeri from ditch fill 212 and impact damage were common. The combination of these factors strongly suggest an origin in butchery waste. The remains of horse and dog were also recovered but in numbers too small to provide any information other than species identification.

#### *Anglo-Saxon*

- 7.3. The successive fills of possible SFB 306 yielded 21 fragments of animal bone (364g). Cattle and sheep/goat were identified from four and three fragments respectively. No cut marks were present which, when combined with the low recovery, severely limits what can be inferred. However, in common with the Roman bone described above, the cattle and sheep/goat bone consisted only of the meat-poor fragments of the skull or lower leg, that are common to the waste from the early stages of butchery. A single goose bone was also recovered from ditch fill 307, but it was too fragmented to identify to species level.

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### Undated

- 7.4. Six fragments (85g) were recovered from ditch fills 203 and 206, which remain undated. A fragmented sheep/goat scapula and humerus were the only identifiable fragments.

### Palaeoenvironmental evidence

- 7.5. Two environmental samples (23 litres of soil) were processed from undated posthole 121 in Trench 1 and possible Saxon sunken featured building 306 in Trench 3, to evaluate the preservation of palaeoenvironmental remains in the area and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).
- 7.6. Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 3 (Appendix C), following nomenclature of Stace (1997). The presence of mollusc shells has also been recorded. Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).
- 7.7. The flots varied in size and the charred material comprised varying levels of preservation.

### Trench 1

- 7.8. Sample 1 was taken from possible postpipe 120 within undated posthole 121. The wood remains observed within the sample were woody root fragments rather than the remains of the post. An uncharred seed of elder (*Sambucus nigra*) was also recorded. The small amount of charred material recovered includes hulled wheat (emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*) and free-threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum* type) grain fragments, an emmer wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*) spikelet fork and charcoal fragments. This small assemblage is likely to be representative of dispersed/wind-blown settlement waste material and does not provide any indication of the likely date of this posthole.

### Trench 3

- 7.9. Sample 2 was taken from basal fill 307 of Saxon possible sunken featured building 306. A moderate charred assemblage of plant remains and charcoal fragments was recorded from this deposit. The cereal remains includes spelt (*Triticum spelta*) grains and glume base fragments, and free-threshing wheat grains and rachis fragments. The weed seeds include those of oats (*Avena* sp.), brome grass

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(*Bromus* sp.), cleavers (*Galium* sp.), docks (*Rumex* sp.), corn gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*) and vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.). There was also a fragment of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell. These weed seeds are typical of grassland, field margins and arable habitats. A moderate number of mineralised nodules, possibly indicative of cess deposits, were also noted.

- 7.10. This assemblage may be representative of domestic settlement waste, including crop-processing waste material. Spelt wheat was the predominant wheat in this area during the later prehistoric and Roman periods, while free-threshing wheat became the dominant wheat in the post-Roman period (Greig 1991). The assemblage would generally be compatible with a later Roman or a very early post-Roman date and it is possible it is indicative of a mixed dump of material.
- 7.11. The moderate number of mollusc shells recorded within this sample includes shells of the open country species *Vallonia costata*, *Vallonia excentrica* and *Vertigo pygmaea*, and the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus*. This assemblage is indicative of a well-established open landscape.

#### Summary

- 7.12. The charred plant remains provide some indication of domestic settlement activities taking place in the area during the Roman and Saxon periods.

## 8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1. The evaluation has confirmed the presence of archaeological features across the site. Six ditches were dated to the Roman period, a possible sunken featured building to the post-Roman/early medieval period, and one ditch to the medieval period. Four further ditches and a posthole remained undated. Earthworks identified through aerial survey were found to be most likely associated with levelling of the site in the post-medieval/modern period.

#### Prehistoric

- 8.2. A total of five flints, broadly dated to the prehistoric period, were recovered from four deposits (ditch fills and subsoil/cultivation soil deposits). These were all residual in later deposits and attest to prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site. The nearest known prehistoric remains are the probable barrows to the east of the site (see *Archaeological Background* above) and further interpretation of these residual flints is not currently possible.

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## Roman

- 8.3. Five ditches in Trenches 1, 2 and 3 were dated to the Roman period, with material recovered predominantly dating to the 1st to 2nd centuries. The density of Roman features, and the quantity and quality of the recovered assemblage of dating material is suggestive of an area of domestic settlement within the site, or at the least in the vicinity. The Roman road at Ermin Street is located 700m to the south-west of the site, although Roman villa settlements are located in closer proximity to the site. The site's position on a south-facing valley slope is in an attractive location for a small agricultural settlement.
- 8.4. Evidence of later Roman activity included pottery recovered from a ditch in Trench 2 and from the fills of a possible SFB in Trench 3. The latter included imported and finer wares of 2nd to 4th-century date, possibly providing evidence of a relatively high-status settlement in the vicinity during this period.

## Early medieval/Anglo-Saxon

- 8.5. A possible SFB, partially exposed in Trench 3, contained pottery and environmental evidence dating it to the early post-Roman period. The material within the feature further indicates a domestic setting and possibly represents a continuation of settlement activity within the site from the late Roman period to the post-Roman period. Anglo-Saxon activity recorded within the vicinity of the site is sparse (isolated inhumations and findspots; see *Archaeological Background* above), and nearby precedents for domestic features is limited.

## Medieval

- 8.6. The ditch identified in Trench 4 was dated to the medieval period, with late 11th to 15th-century pottery recovered. It is possible that this feature relates to the wider medieval agricultural and settlement activity within the area (see *Archaeological Background* above), with earthworks potentially relating to medieval activity extending towards the site from the south-west.

## Post-medieval and modern

- 8.7. The extant earthworks recorded by the HER and further identified through the preceding aerial survey of the site have most likely been formed through the use of the site as an orchard during the post-medieval/modern periods, as shown on historic cartographic sources. The earthworks investigated by the evaluation were



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shown to have been formed through the probable dumping of cultivation soils within the site and through the subsequent levelling of the area.

#### Undated

- 8.8. A series of undated ditches and a posthole probably relate to the adjacent Roman, post-Roman and medieval features as a part of this wider multi-period activity. However, due to the lack of dating this cannot be stated with certainty.

## 9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Christian Day, assisted by Richard Scurr, Matthew Coman and Kinga Werner. This report was written by Christian Day. The finds, animal bone and palaeoenvironmental reports were written by Jacky Sommerville, Andrew Clarke and Sarah Wyles respectively. The report illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The project archive has been compiled by Christian Day and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Alex Thomson.

## 10. REFERENCES

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## APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth/thickness (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown-grey silty clay, loose	>20m	>1.8m	0.22m	
1	101	Layer		Subsoil	Dark grey silty clay, friable with occasional stones	>20m	>1.8m	0.62m	
1	102	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow-grey sandy silt, compact / yellow grey siltstone	>20m	>1.8m	-	
1	103	Fill	104	Fill of ditch	Dark brown silty clay, compact with occasional stones	>1.8m	3.55m	0.75m	MC1-C2
1	104	Cut		Ditch	SW/NE aligned linear with moderately sloping sides and flat base	>1.8m	3.55m	0.75m	
1	105	Fill	108	3 <sup>rd</sup> Fill of ditch	Light brown silty clay, compact	>1.8m	2.56m	0.37m	C1-C2
1	106	Fill	108	2 <sup>nd</sup> Fill of ditch	Dark grey-brown silty clay, loose	>1.8m	1.81m	0.11m	
1	107	Fill	108	1 <sup>st</sup> Fill of ditch	Light brown silty clay, compact	>1.8m	1.60m	0.30m	
1	108	Cut		Ditch	SW/NE aligned linear with moderately sloping sides and flat base, recut of 104	>1.8m	2.56m	0.72m	
1	109	Fill	110	Fill of ditch	Dark grey-brown silty clay, compact with occasional stones	>1.8m	1.08m	0.66m	C1-C2
1	110	Cut		Ditch	SW/NE aligned linear with steep, straight sides and flat base, recut of 104 and 108	>1.8m	1.08m	0.66m	
1	111	Fill	112	Fill of ditch terminus	Dark grey-brown silty clay, compact with frequent stones	>3.30m	0.70m	0.16m	RB
1	112	Cut		Ditch terminus	NW/SE aligned linear with rounded terminus, moderate concave sides and flat base	>3.30m	0.70m	0.16m	
1	113	Fill	114	Fill of ditch	Dark grey-brown silty clay, compact with occasional stones	>1.8m	2.43m	-	
1	114	Cut		Possible ditch	SW/NE aligned linear recorded in plan with straight, parallel sides	>1.8m	2.43m	-	
1	115	Fill	116	Fill of ditch	Dark grey-brown silty clay, compact	>1.8m	0.53m	0.14m	LC1-C2+
1	116	Cut		Ditch	SW/NE aligned linear with moderate, concave sides and flat base	>1.8m	0.53m	0.14m	
1	117	Fill	118	Fill of ditch	Dark grey-brown silty clay, compact with frequent stones	>1.8m	0.54m	0.33m	MC1-C2
1	118	Cut		Ditch	SW/NE aligned linear with steep, straight sides and flat base, recut of 116	>1.8m	0.54m	0.33m	
1	119	Fill	121	Fill of posthole: post packing	Light grey-brown silty clay, loose with frequent stones	0.53m	0.52m	0.30m	
1	120	Fill	121	Fill of posthole: postpipe	Dark brown silty clay, loose	0.10m	0.10m	0.30m	
1	121	Cut		Posthole	Circular feature with steep, straight sides and flat base		0.53m	0.30m	
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown-grey silty clay, loose	>20m	>1.8m	0.36m	
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Dark grey silty clay, friable with occasional stones	>20m	>1.8m	0.14m-0.64m	
2	202	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow-grey sandy silt, compact / yellow grey siltstone	>20m	>1.8m	-	

2	203	Fill	205	2 <sup>nd</sup> Fill of ditch	Dark grey clay-silt, compact with occasional stones	>4.20m	0.82m	0.15m	
2	204	Fill	205	1 <sup>st</sup> Fill of ditch	Mid grey sandy silt, compact with frequent stones	>0.45m	0.35m	0.12m	
2	205	Cut		Ditch	E/W aligned linear with moderate, convex sides and flat base	>4.20m	0.82m	0.26m	
2	206	Fill	207	Fill of ditch	Mid grey clay-silt, compact with frequent stones	>6.50m	1.10m	>0.75m	
2	207	Cut		Ditch	NW/SE aligned partially excavated linear with steep, straight side	>6.50m	1.10m	>0.75m	
2	208	Fill	210	2 <sup>nd</sup> Fill of ditch	Mid yellow-grey clay-silt, compact with frequent stones	>2.50m	2.90m	0.18m	MC1-C2
2	209	Fill	210	1 <sup>st</sup> Fill of ditch	Mid grey clay-silt, compact with occasional stones	>0.50m	>0.76m	>0.20m	C1-C2+
2	210	Cut		Ditch	SW/NE aligned partially excavated linear with moderate, concave side	>2.50m	2.90m	>0.46m	
2	211	Fill	215	4 <sup>th</sup> Fill of ditch / levelling deposit	Mid yellow-grey sandy silt / green-yellow siltstone	>1.8m	>6.06m	0.22m	
2	212	Fill	215	3 <sup>rd</sup> Fill of ditch	Dark grey clay-silt, compact with occasional stones	>1.8m	>4.96m	0.14m	MC3-C4
2	213	Fill	215	2 <sup>nd</sup> Fill of ditch	Light grey clay-silt, compact	>0.6m	>4.74m	>0.28m	MC1-C2
2	214	Fill	215	1 <sup>st</sup> Fill of ditch	Mid grey clay-silt, compact	>0.6m	>1.38m	>0.24m	MC1-C2
2	215	Cut		Possible ditch	SW/NE aligned partially exposed possible linear with moderate, concave side	>1.8m	>5.02m	>0.70m	
2	216	Layer		Buried subsoil/ weathered natural	Mid yellow-grey sandy silt, compact	>1.8m	2.48m	0.10m	
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown-grey silty clay, loose	>20m	>1.8m	0.56m	
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Dark grey silty clay, friable with occasional stones	>20m	>1.8m	0.24m	
3	302	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow-grey sandy silt, compact / yellow grey siltstone	>20m	>1.8m	-	
3	303	Fill		Fill of ditch	Dark grey silty clay, loose with occasional stones	>1.8m	0.87m	0.40m	C1-EC2
3	304	Cut		Ditch	SW/NE aligned linear with moderate, convex sides and flat base	>1.8m	0.87m	0.40m	
3	305	Layer		Buried subsoil/ weathered natural	Mid yellow-grey sandy silt, compact	>20m	>1.8m	0.22m	
3	306	Cut		Possible SFB / linear	E-W aligned feature with steep concave sides and flat base	>1.8m	2.34m	0.56m	
3	307	Fill		1 <sup>st</sup> Fill of SFB	Dark grey-brown clay-silt, loose with occasional stones	>1.8m	2.34m	0.34m	MC5-C7
3	308	Fill		2 <sup>nd</sup> Fill of SFB	Mid grey-brown clay-silt, loose with occasional stones	>1.8m	1.70m	0.34m	MC5-C7
3	309	Fill		3 <sup>rd</sup> Fill of SFB	Dark grey-brown clay-silt, loose	>1.8m	0.80m	0.12m	
3	310	Fill		4 <sup>th</sup> Fill of SFB	Mid grey clay-silt, loose	>1.8m	0.20m	0.38m	MC5-C7
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Dark brown-grey silty clay, loose	>20m	>1.8m	0.30m	
4	401	Layer		Subsoil	Dark grey silty clay, friable with occasional stones	>20m	>1.8m	0.42m	
4	402	Layer		Natural substrate	Light yellow-grey sandy silt, compact / yellow grey siltstone	>20m	>1.8m	-	
4	403	Fill		2 <sup>nd</sup> Fill of ditch	Dark brown-grey sandy silt, friable, frequent charcoal	0.8m	0.56m	0.03m	LC11-C15
4	404	Fill		1 <sup>st</sup> Fill of ditch	Mid grey-brown clay-silt, friable with occasional stones	>1.8m	2.60m	0.22m	
4	405	Cut		Ditch	E-W aligned linear with	>1.8m	2.60m	0.22m	

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					moderately sloping sides and flat base				
4	406	Fill		Fill of pit/ditch terminus	Mid brown-grey sandy-silt, friable with occasional stones	>1.5m	1.4m	0.28m	
4	407	Cut		Pit/ditch terminus	SW/NE aligned linear with rounded terminus and moderate concave side and concave base	>1.5m	1.4m	0.28m	
4	408	Layer		Made ground deposit	Light white-grey sand/mortar, loose	>4.54m	>1.8m	0.48m	
4	409	Layer		Made ground deposit	Dark brown-grey sandy silt, loose with burnt material china and glass inclusions	>4.40m	>1.8m	0.38m	
4	410	Layer		Made ground deposit	Dark grey-brown silty clay, friable	>3.98m	>1.8m	0.06m	
4	411	Layer		Deposit	Mid orange-brown silty clay, compact with occasional stones	>2.62m	>1.8m	0.40m	

## APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

**Table 1:** Finds concordance

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code/ NRFC*	Co	Weight	Spot-date
103	Roman pottery	Savernake-type grog-tempered ware	F1	1	9	MC1-C2
105	Roman pottery Roman pottery Flint	Flint-tempered fabric Grog-and-quartz tempered fabric Flake, retouched flake	F90 GRQZ	1 1 2	3 6 33	C1-C2
109	Roman pottery	Quartz-tempered fabric	QZ	2	10	C1-C2
111	Roman pottery Roman pottery Roman pottery	Sandy oxidised fabric Coarse sandy greyware Quartz-tempered fabric	F72 F18 QZ	1 1 1	2 5 2	RB
115	Roman pottery Roman pottery Roman pottery	Savernake-type grog-tempered ware Fine greyware Black-firing, sand-tempered fabric	F1 F53 BS	1 1 1	26 3 4	LC1-C2+
117	Roman pottery	Savernake-type grog-tempered ware	F1	2	115	MC1-C2
201	Roman pottery Roman pottery Roman pottery Flint	Fine greyware Quartz-tempered fabric Quartz-and-organic tempered Flake	F53 QZ QZOR	1 1 2 1	3 4 40 4	MC1-C2
208	Roman pottery	Savernake-type grog-tempered ware	F1	1	9	MC1-C2
209	Roman pottery Roman pottery	Fine greyware Quartz-and-grog tempered	F53 QZGR	1 1	3 16	C1-C2+
212	Roman pottery Roman pottery Roman pottery Fired clay	Oxford red-slipped ware Quartz-tempered fabric Grog-and-quartz tempered fabric	F68 QZ GRQZ	1 1 1 1	7 6 13 9	MC3-C4
213	Roman pottery Roman pottery Roman pottery	Savernake-type grog-tempered ware Flint-tempered fabric Grog-and-quartz tempered fabric	F1 F90 GRQZ	2 1 1	19 4 6	MC1-C2
214	Roman pottery Roman pottery	Savernake-type grog-tempered ware Flint-tempered fabric	F1 F90	1 2	18 42	MC1-C2
303	Roman pottery	Flint-and-quartz tempered fabric	FLQZ	2	32	C1-EC2
307	Roman pottery Roman pottery Roman pottery Anglo-Saxon pottery Flint	Fine greyware Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware Quartz-tempered fabric Organic-tempered fabric Shatter, burnt	F53 F54 QZ ORG	2 1 2 12 1	21 7 6 232 16	MC5-C7
308	Roman pottery Roman pottery Roman pottery Roman pottery Roman pottery Roman pottery Anglo-Saxon pottery	Savernake-type grog-tempered ware Central Gaulish samian East Gaulish samian Fine greyware North Wiltshire colour-coated ware Quartz-tempered fabric Organic-and-quartz tempered fabric Organic-tempered fabric	F1 LEZ SA2 EGSAM F53 F25 QZ ORQZ ORG	1 1 1 4 1 1 1 2	6 16 13 58 3 5 3 39	MC5-C7

Context	Category	Description	Fabric Code/ NRFRC*	Co	Weight	Spot-date
	Flint	Core		1	21	
310	Roman pottery	Savernake-type grog-tempered ware		1	35	MC3-C4
	Roman pottery	Fine greyware	F53	3	50	
	Roman pottery	Oxford red-slipped ware	F68	2	8	
	Roman pottery	North Wiltshire colour-coated ware	F25	2	11	
	Anglo-Saxon pottery	Organic-tempered fabric	ORG	2	35	
	Roman ceramic building material	Fragment		1	25	
401	Roman pottery	Grog-and-organic tempered greyware	GROR	2	65	MC1-EC2
403	Roman pottery	Fine grog-tempered greyware	GTGW	1	3	C1-C2
403	Medieval pottery	Kennet Valley ware	KVW	1	19	LC11-C15

\* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes (Tomber and Dore 1998) in bold

## APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

**Table 2:** Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	EQ	Canis	Anser	LM	MM	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
<b>Roman</b>											
110	109	1								1	65
112	111							3		3	5
118	117						1			1	126
	201			1	1		1			3	294
210	209		1				1			2	33
215	212	3	1				1	2		7	337
215	213		2							2	26
215	214	2	1				5	3		11	312
304	303							1		1	14
405	403		1		1					2	32
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>33</b>	<b>1244</b>
<b>Anglo-Saxon</b>											
306	307		1			1				2	3
306	308	3	1					4		8	254
306	310	1	1				4	1	4	11	107
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>364</b>
<b>Undated</b>											
205	203						1			1	16
207	206		2				1	2		5	69
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>2</b>				<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>60</b>	
<b>Weight</b>		<b>797</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1693</b>	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; EQ = horse; Canis = dog; Anser = goose; LM = cattle size mammal; MM = sheep sized mammal; Ind = indeterminate

**Table 3:** Assessment table of the palaeoenvironmental remains

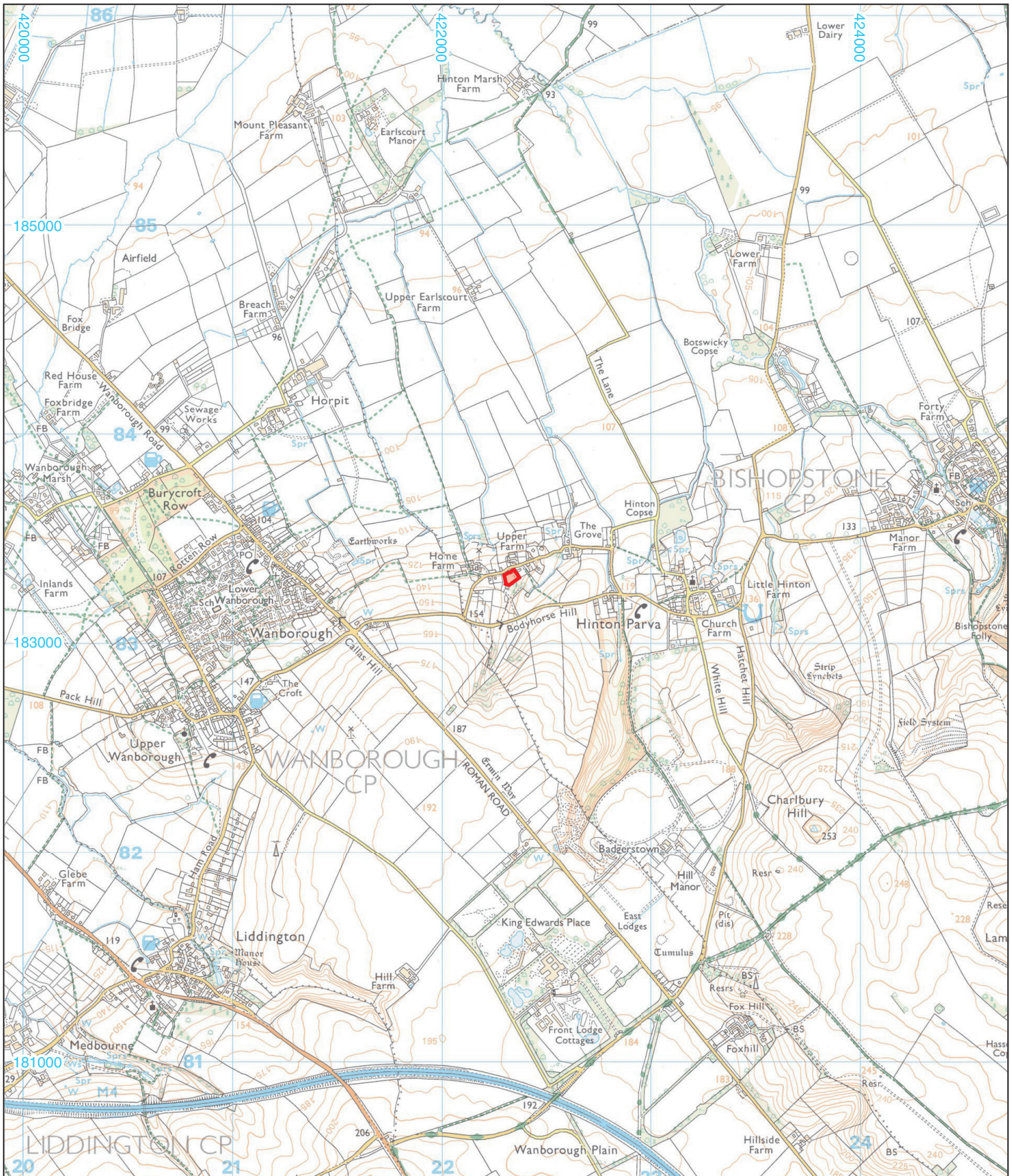
Feature	Context	Sample	Processed vol (L)	Unprocessed vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
<b>Trench 1 Undated Posthole</b>													
121	120	1	3	0	75	n/a	*	*	hulled wheat + f-t wheat grain frags, emmer spikelet fork	-	(uncharred woody roots + frags (**), Sambucus seed (*))	*/*	-
<b>Trench 3 Saxon SFB/Ditch</b>													
306	307	2	20	20	25	20	**	**	spelt, f-t wheat, + wheat grain frags, spelt glume base, hulled wheat glume base, f-t wheat rachis	**	<i>Avena, Rumex, Bromus, Galium, Lithospermum, Vicia/Lathyrus, Corylus avellana</i> shell frag	**/**	Moll-t (***), Min. nodules (***), Sab (*)

Key: \* = 1-4 items; \*\* = 5-19 items; \*\*\* = 20-49 items; \*\*\*\* = 50-99 items; \*\*\*\*\* = >100 items, Sab = small animal bones, Moll-t = land snails



## APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project name	City Corner, Hinton Parva, Wiltshire	
Short description	<p>In February 2021, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation at City Corner, Hinton Parva, Wiltshire. Four trenches were excavated.</p> <p>The evaluation confirmed the presence of archaeological features across the site, including ditches dated to the Roman period, a possible sunken featured building of early post-Roman date and one ditch of medieval date, along with undated ditches and a posthole.</p> <p>Earthworks identified through a preceding aerial survey were found to be most likely associated with groundworks for agricultural purposes in the post-medieval/modern period.</p>	
Project dates	24 February – 1 March 2021	
Project type	Field evaluation	
Previous work	Heritage Desk based assessment (CA 2019) Aerial Photogrammetry Survey (SUMO 2019)	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site location	City Corner, Hinton Parva, Wiltshire	
Study area (m <sup>2</sup> /ha)	0.55 ha	
Site co-ordinates	422335 183319	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project brief originator	N/A	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Alex Thomson	
Project Supervisor	Christian Day	
<b>MONUMENT TYPE</b>	None	
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS</b>	None	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>	<b>Intended final location of archive</b>	<b>Content</b>
Physical	Swindon Museum and Art Gallery (SWIMG: 2021.3)	Ceramics, animal bone, flint
Paper	Swindon Museum and Art Gallery (SWIMG: 2021.3)	Context sheets, trench recording forms, permatrace drawings, photographic registers, report
Digital	Swindon Museum and Art Gallery (SWIMG: 2021.3)	Digital photos, report
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
Cotswold Archaeology 2021 <i>City Corner, Hinton Parva, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> CA Report No. <b>CR0619_1</b>		



N

Site boundary

0 1km

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Ordnance Survey 0100031673

**Andover** 01264 347630  
**Cirencester** 01285 771022  
**Exeter** 01392 573970  
**Milton Keynes** 01908 564660  
**Suffolk** 01449 900120  
[www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)  
[enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)

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PROJECT TITLE

**City Corner, Hinton Parva, Wiltshire**

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FIGURE TITLE

**Site location plan**

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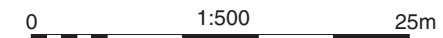
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- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature

Aerial photogrammetry survey interpretation (SUMO 2019)

- Broad amorphous mound
- Probable earthwork bank
- Probable earthwork ditch
- Hollowed area
- Hachure



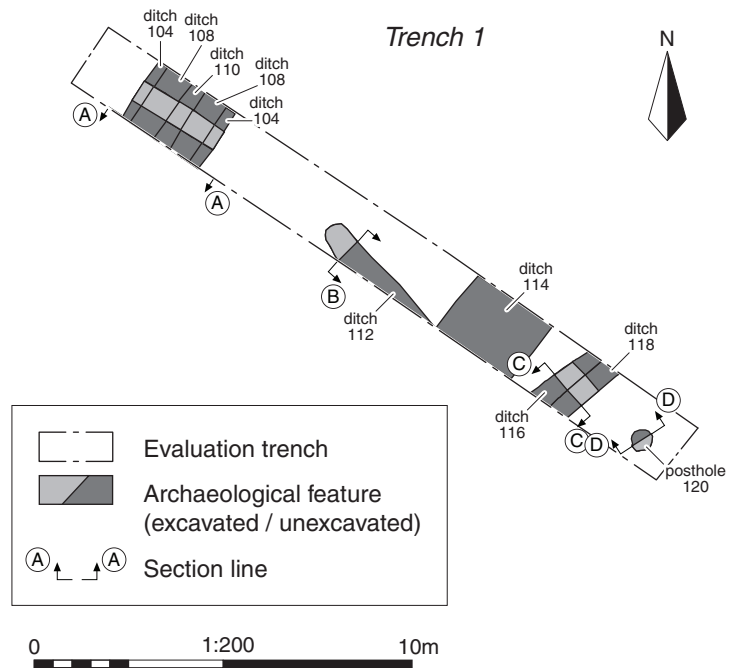
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[enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)

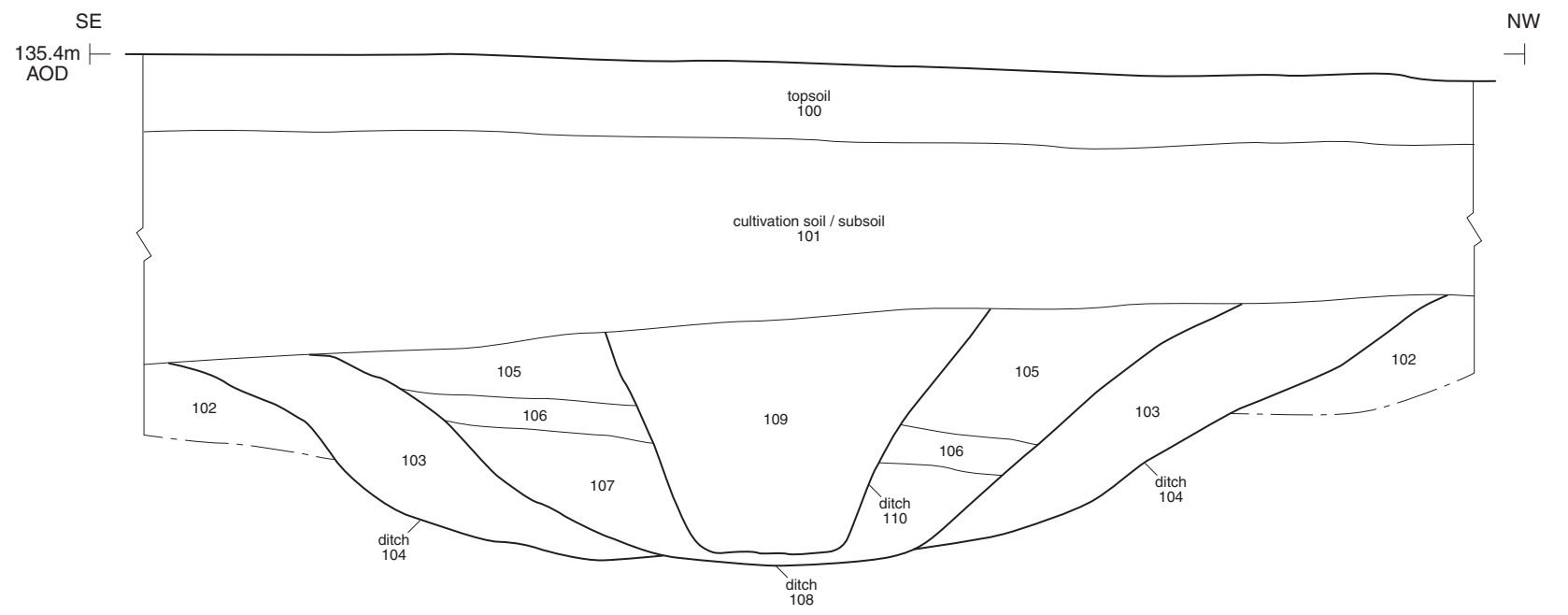
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FIGURE TITLE  
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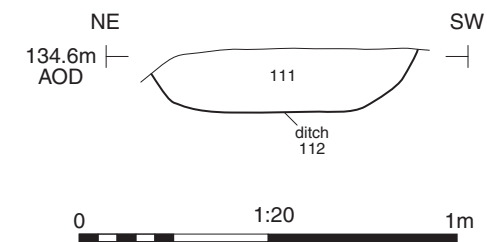
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**Section AA**



**Section BB**



Ditches 104, 108 and 110, looking south-west (1m scale)



Ditch 112, looking south-east (0.5m scale)

**Cotswold Archaeology**

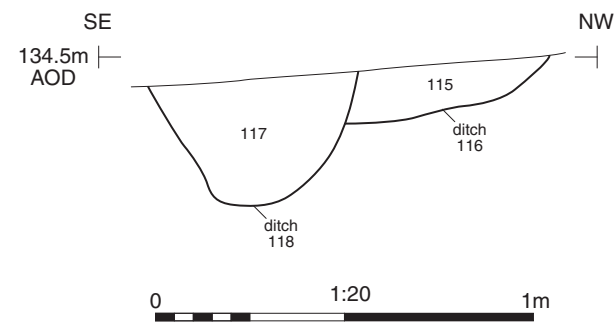
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PROJECT TITLE  
 City Corner, Hinton Parva, Wiltshire

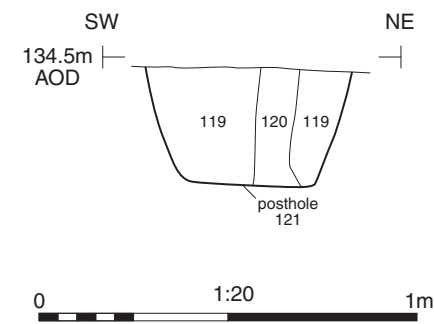
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**Trench 1: plan, sections and photographs**

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Section CC



Section DD



Ditches 118 (left) and 116 (right) looking south-west (0.5m scale)



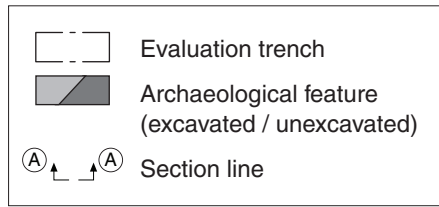
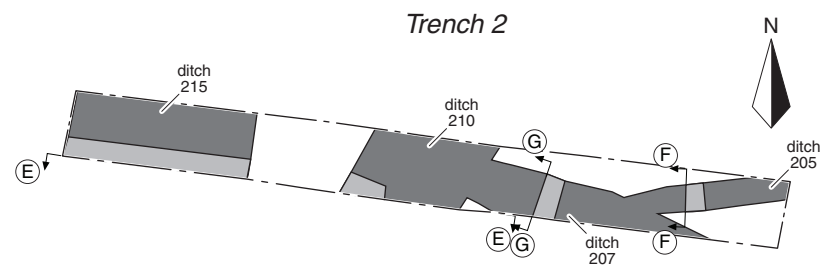
Posthole 121, looking north-west (0.5m scale)


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 Andover 01264 347630  
 Cirencester 01285 771022  
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PROJECT TITLE  
 City Corner, Hinton Parva, Wiltshire

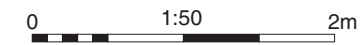
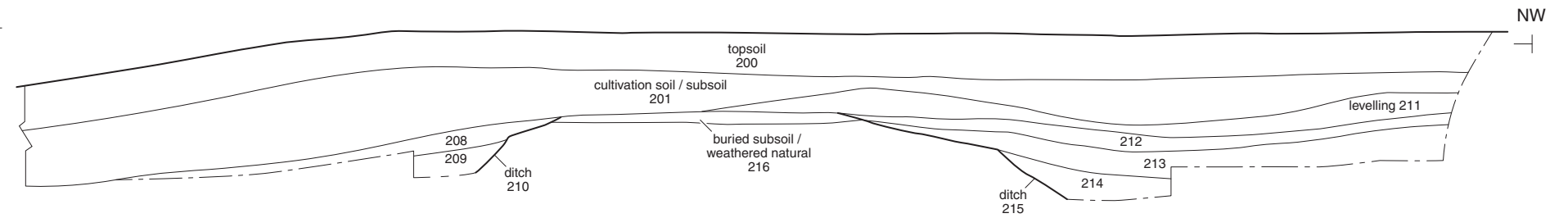
FIGURE TITLE  
 Trench 1: sections and photographs

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	05/03/2021	4
APPROVED BY	CD	SCALE@A3	1:20	



Section EE

SE  
135.3m  
AOD



Ditch 215, looking south-east (1m scale)



Ditch 210, looking south-west (1m scale)

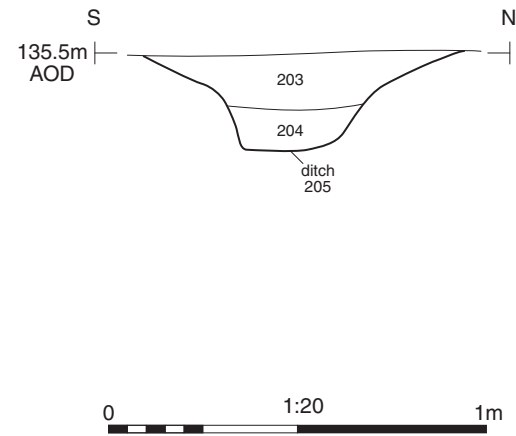

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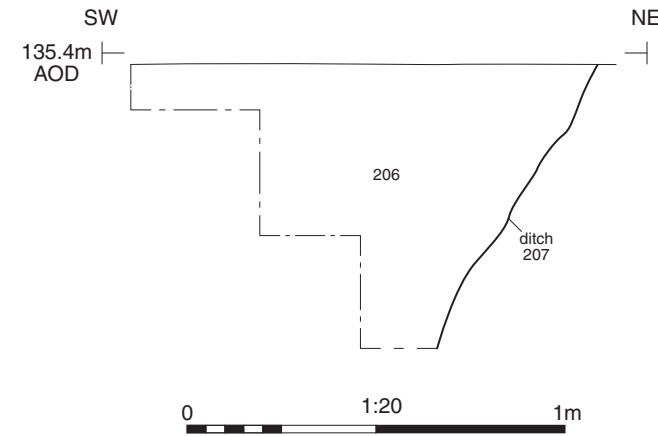
FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 2: plan, section and photographs**

DRAWN BY	<b>RW</b>	PROJECT NO.	<b>CR0619</b>	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	<b>DJB</b>	DATE	<b>05/03/2021</b>	<b>5</b>
APPROVED BY	<b>CD</b>	SCALE@A3	<b>1:200, 1:50</b>	

Section FF



Section GG



Ditch 205, looking west (0.3m scale)



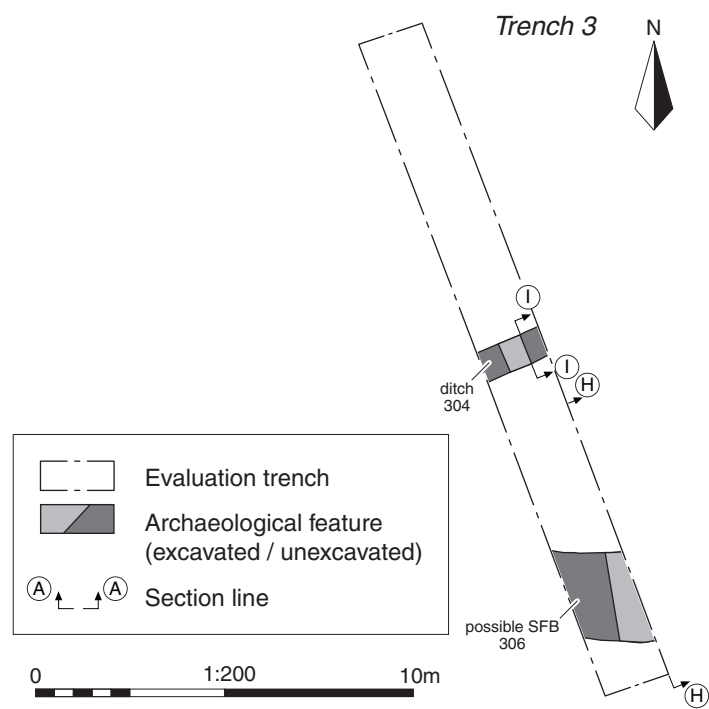
Ditch 207, looking north-west (0.5m scale)


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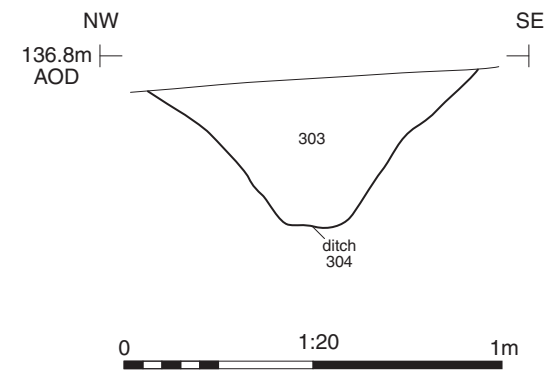
PROJECT TITLE  
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FIGURE TITLE  
 Trench 2: sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	CR0619	FIGURE NO.
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**Section II**



*Ditch 304, looking north-east (0.5m scale)*

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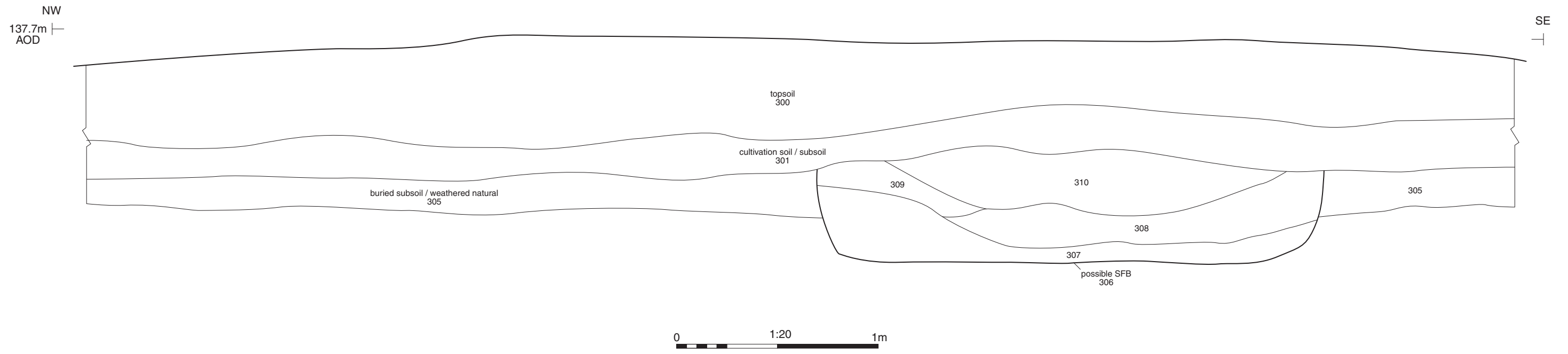
PROJECT TITLE  
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FIGURE TITLE  
**Trench 3: plan, section and photograph**

DRAWN BY	<b>RW</b>	PROJECT NO.	<b>CR0619</b>	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	<b>DJB</b>	DATE	<b>05/03/2021</b>	<b>7</b>
APPROVED BY	<b>CD</b>	SCALE@A3	<b>1:200, 1:20</b>	



Section HH



Possible SFB 306, looking west (1m scale)



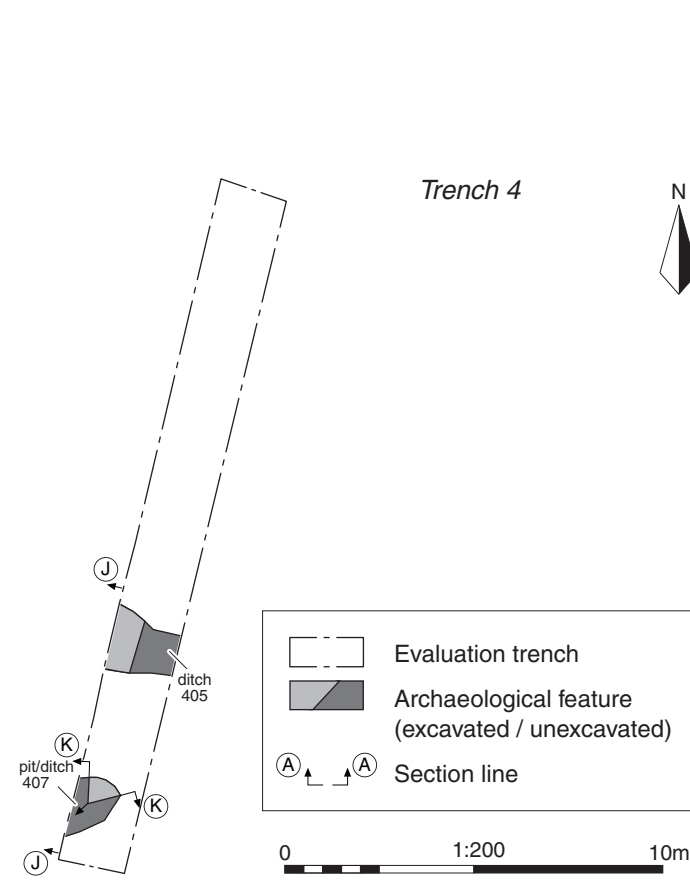
Possible SFB 306, looking east (1m scale)


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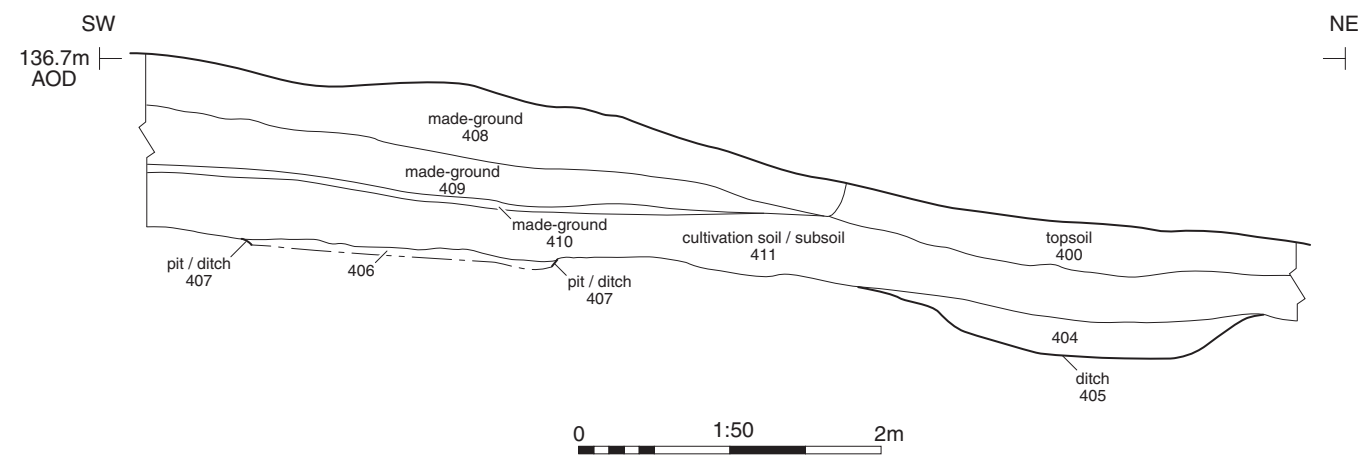
PROJECT TITLE  
 City Corner, Hinton Parva, Wiltshire

FIGURE TITLE  
 Trench 3: section and photographs

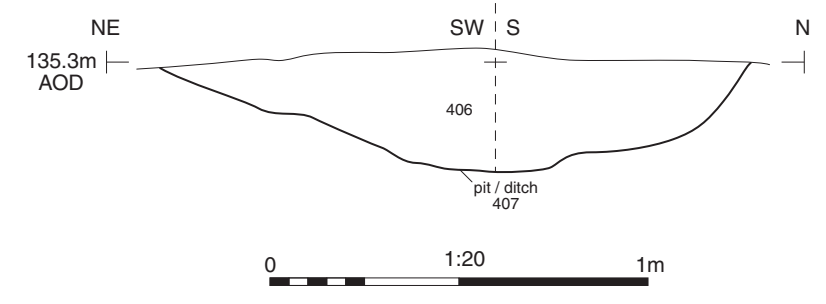
DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	CR0619	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	05/03/2021	8
APPROVED BY	CD	SCALE@A3	1:20	



**Section JJ**



**Section KK**



Ditch 405, looking east (1m scale)



Pit / ditch 407 (centre) and ditch 405 (far-right), looking north-west (1m scale)

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FIGURE TITLE  
 Trench 4: plan, sections and photographs

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	05/03/2021	9
APPROVED BY	CD	SCALE@A3	1:200, 1:50, 1:20	

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