

B0457: Lambert's Hill to Winterbourne Abbas, Dorset, Water Treatment Works

A Programme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording



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A Programme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

for

Wessex Water plc

by



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Non-technical Summary

Context One Archaeological Services Ltd carried out a programme of archaeological works comprising excavation of archaeological test pits followed by a monitoring and recording during groundworks relating to the installation of a 5.3km water supply main from an existing reservoir at Lambert's Hill (NGR SY 59100 90545) to Winterbourne Abbas Water Treatments Works (WTW), Dorset (NGR SY 63904 90399). The project was commissioned and funded by Wessex Water plc under a Term Agreement contract with COAS and was carried out over 39 days in two phases from December 2011 to June 2012.

The investigation has recovered evidence which will enhance significantly records for activity in the South Winterborne valley. Despite depletion by ploughing of the archaeological resource in a rich prehistoric landscape, the discovery of an isolated pit associated with later Neolithic pottery at Lambert's Hill is of at least regional significance as part of a pattern of sparse distribution in west and central southern Britain. The identification of probably Bronze Age ditches may indicate that recorded field systems in the area have earlier origins than are attributed to them currently and a large ditch may have formed a boundary along the lower, south-facing, slope of the valley. Degraded pottery from a small pit west of Winterbourne Abbas is also likely to be of Bronze Age date. A ring gully marked the probable outline of a roundhouse which might be a fruitful focus for further comparative research with several later Bronze Age roundhouses associated with field systems which have been found along the South Dorset Ridgway, south of the valley.

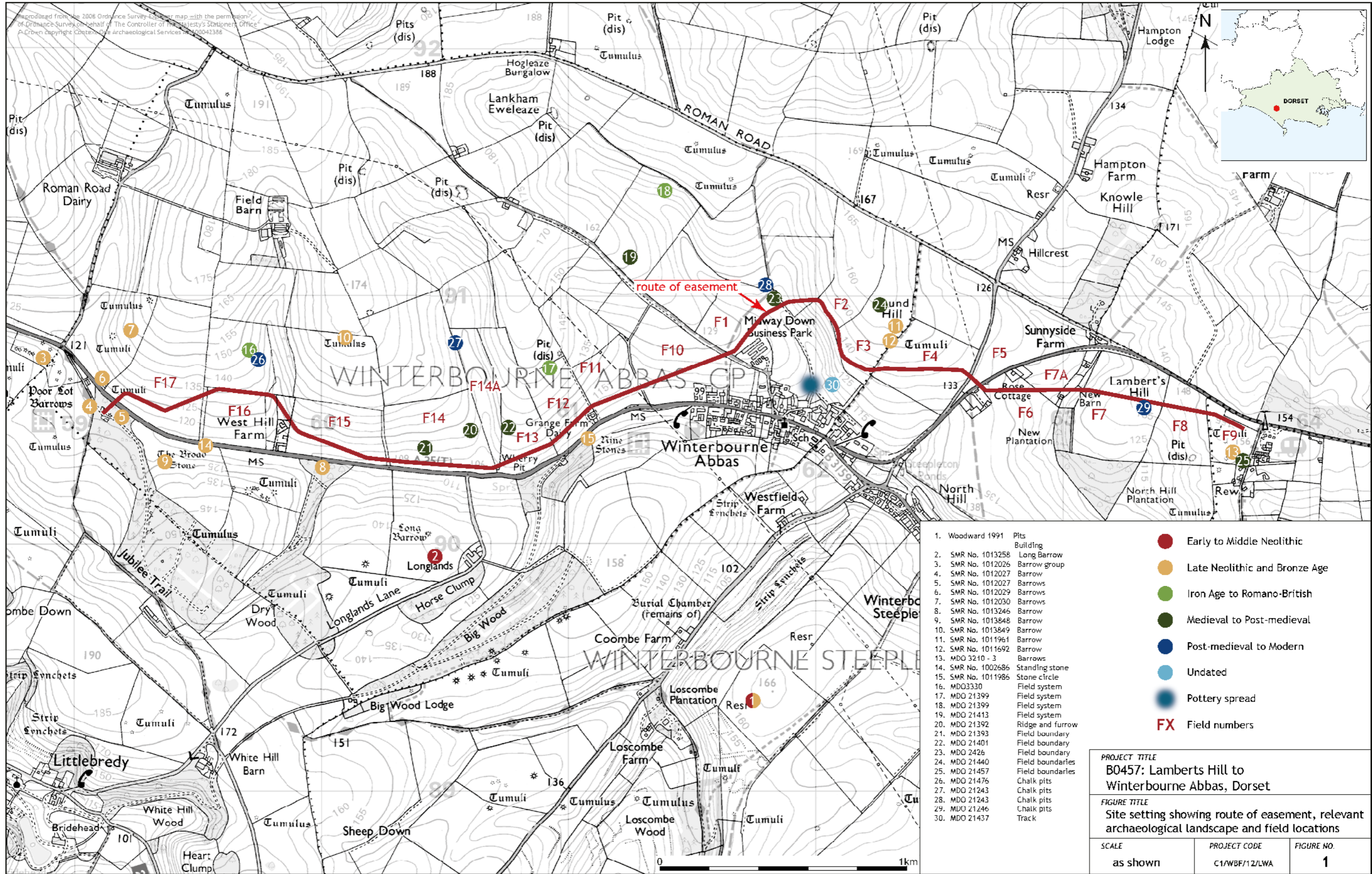
The Neolithic pit, with its associated pottery and lithics, warrants full publication in the county journal. A short entry in the journal's annual archaeological summary would suffice for the other finds and features.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out a programme of archaeological works comprising excavation of archaeological test pits followed by monitoring and recording during groundworks relating to the installation of a 5.3km water supply main from an existing reservoir at Lambert's Hill (NGR SY 59100 90545) to Winterbourne Abbas Water Treatments Works (WTW), Dorset, ca. 1.2km south west of Kingston Russell (NGR SY 63904 90399, hereafter referred to as the Site; **Figure 1**). The project was commissioned and funded by Wessex Water plc under a Term Agreement contract with COAS and was carried out over 39 days in two phases from 6th December 2011 to 13th June 2012.
- 1.2 The archaeological work was requested by Dorset County Council Archaeology Service (DCCAS) as the proposed pipeline is situated in an area of high archaeological potential. In a consultation letter dated 13th September 2011 Steve Wallis (Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council) stated that:
- 'Adding the archaeological evaluation element to the ground investigation works seems very sensible to me, provided that the archaeological contractor can supervise the stripping of topsoil down to the level where archaeological remains are likely to be seen, then the results should be very useful.'*
- 1.3 Given the recorded archaeological and historical data for the area, it was considered that archaeological features/deposits of potentially national importance could be present on the Site, and might be at risk of damage or destruction by the proposed groundworks. However, as the nature or presence of such features/deposits had not been proven, it was determined that a reasonable archaeological response would be to conduct an archaeological monitoring and recording during both phases of development.
- 1.4 At the request of Mr Wallis, COAS issued a *Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme of Archaeological Works* (Brace 2012), which provided a strategy for the archaeological works. This was submitted to and approved by Mr Wallis prior to the commencement of the watching brief. Mr Wallis was kept fully informed during the project. It was not deemed necessary to make a monitoring visit to the Site.
- 1.5 The first phase of trial trenching and pitting to establish ground conditions and investigate the Site was carried out over seven days from 6th December 2011 to 10 January 2012, during which the weather was dry, ranging from sunny to overcast. The second phase of open cut trenching to accommodate ca. 5.3km pipeline was carried out over 32 days from 2nd April to 13th June 2012, when the weather varied from sunny to very wet.
- 1.6 The request for the archaeological work follows advice given by Central Government as set out in *Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (2010).

2. Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 2.1 Winterbourne Abbas is situated in south Dorset, ca. 7km west of the centre of Dorchester and ca. 6 km north east of Abbotsbury. The pipeline extended in a broadly east to west direction from the reservoir on the Lambert's Hill side of Bradford Down, north of the A35 road between Dorchester and Bridport, to its terminus at the WTW, ca. 1.2km south east of Kingston Russell. Its course was over undulating downland (**Plate 1**) starting from the reservoir highpoint of ca. 152m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), via a low of ca. 110m aOD north of Winterbourne Abbas, before reaching the WTW at ca. 127 aOD, after turning sharply southwards to pass under the road.



- 2.2 The underlying geology comprised Seaford Chalk Formation Cretaceous Sedimentary Chalk throughout, sporadically under superficial Quaternary Clay-with-Flints and Head deposits of Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel (BGS 2012) in the northernmost parts of the pipeline route. In general the soils were characteristically shallow, lime-rich and free-draining, of moderate fertility, suited to arable and open grassland, although to the north more fertile, slightly acidic clayey loams with impeded drainage occurred (NSRI 2012).

3. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 The route of the pipeline passes through one of the most important Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age mortuary and ritual landscapes in Britain, reflected in a rich Historic Environment Record which, for practical reasons, has been used only selectively here (**Figure 1**). The settlement and land use of the period is much less well known but extensive later Prehistoric field systems have left their marks over extensive tracts of the surrounding countryside. Understanding of the prehistoric landscape has benefited greatly from a research programme of survey and excavation carried out along the South Dorset Ridgway from 1977 to 1984 by Peter Woodward and, in particular, from his resumé of knowledge of the area up to the time of publication (Woodward 1991).

Early to Middle Neolithic (4200BC - 2800BC)

- 3.2 Evidence from the Early Neolithic along the route is scant compared with subsequent periods with only pits at Rowden (**Figure 1, 1**), ca. 1km of Winterbourne Abbas, associated with Hembury Ware pottery and radiocarbon dated to the second quarter of the fourth millennium BC (Woodward 1991, 98 and 54). The nearest known long barrow stands ca. 300m south of the route at Longlands Farm (**Figure 1, 2**).

Late Neolithic and Bronze Age (2800BC - 800BC)

- 3.3 Four recognisable barrow groups are ranged along either side of the route, the largest at Poor Lot (**Figure 1, 3 - 7**), where the range includes bowl, bell, pond and disc forms (**Plate 1**). Other groups include Three Barrow Clump (**Figure 1, 8**), Pound Hill (**Figure 1, 11 - 12**) and, close to the Lambert's Hill Reservoir, the Rew group (**Figure 1, 13**). There are several isolated examples between the groups (**Figure 1, 9 and 10**).
- 3.4 Two other notable, probably Bronze Age, features are a standing stone (**Figure 1, 14**) and a rough circle of seven stones with two larger stones set within the line of the ring, The Nine Stones (**Figure 1, 15**). There is no evidence for settlement in the immediate vicinity but at Rowden, a porched, oval structure associated with Middle Bronze Age pottery (Woodward 1991, 41-47) was probably domestic.

Iron Age and Romano-British (800BC- AD450)

- 3.5 Interpretations of air photographs have identified extensive field systems thought to be Iron Age or Roman (**Figure 1, 16 - 18**), although it seems likely, given the extent of earlier monuments, that some at least developed from earlier boundaries in the landscape. The systems dated to the period range from the west to the middle section of the route.

Medieval to Post-medieval (AD1066 - AD1800)

- 3.6 Horizontal stratigraphy linked to chronologically indicative ridge and furrow has enabled discrimination of later fields and boundaries (**Figure 1, 19 - 25**) from earlier ones, although the robustness of the dating remains to be tested. At present it is believed that Medieval systems extended along much of the route.



Plate 1. View east from Poor Lot barrow group, with a disc form towards the centre of the large field

Post-medieval (AD1547 -)

- 3.7 Chalk pits (Figure 1, 26 - 29) have been recorded on early Ordnance Survey maps at intervals along the route, although in their nature they are difficult to date. Although the pits are generally assumed to be modern, chalk has long been used as an exportable soil neutralising agent, as well as a medium in construction. A track (Figure 1, 30) may be of this or earlier date and may have been long-lived.

4. Methodology

Construction methodology

- 4.1 The programme was in two phases, the first comprising the stripping of topsoil prior to the excavation of trial pits (ca. 3m x 3m) and trial trenches (a minimum of ca. 1.5m x 1.5m or greater, as the contractor required) along the pipeline route, the depths of which usually exceeded 2m, using a 360 degree tracked vehicle fitted with a toothless grading bucket. During the second phase a 360 degree tracked vehicle fitted with a 2.4m wide, toothless, grading bucket was used to strip topsoil from the ca. 5.3km long, ca. 12m wide easement.

Archaeological methodology

- 4.2 The archaeological programme comprised monitoring and recording in both phases and the sampling of identified archaeological features and deposits. Most layers, deposits and features were recorded using standard COAS pro-forma recording sheets and, where appropriate, scaled sections and plans were drawn on stable film. Stratigraphic relationships were recorded using a 'Harris-Winchester matrix' diagram. A photographic record comprising digital images of individual features, development excavation areas and working shots illustrated the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. The location, extent and altitude of the archaeological work, features and deposits were mapped relative to the National Grid and Ordnance Datum using a TopCon GRS-1 Global Positioning System receiving real-time calibrations to produce accuracies of 1-2cm.
- 4.3 The archaeological work was carried out in accordance with codes standards and guidelines set out by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 1985, rev. 2010; 1990, rev. 2008; 1994, rev. 2008) at all times

during the course of the investigation. Current Health and Safety legislation and guidelines were followed on site.

5. Results of the monitoring and recording

5.1 The text in this section describes all findings from the two phases by field or groups of fields along the pipeline route from west to east, starting from Field 17 (**Figure 1**). Results from trial pits and trenches are specified only where they have contributed information beyond that garnered from monitoring of the easement.

Soil sequence

5.2 In general, the soil sequence comprised top or ploughsoil, subsoil, often in the form of colluvium, and natural chalk along the length of the Site* (for the numerical reference to these contexts please see **Appendix 3**). The topsoil was made up of brown, soft, silty clay over similar but often redder subsoil, both including variable amounts of chalk or flint, the larger volumes probably reflecting more aggressive ploughing. Natural chalk occurred throughout, often bearing flint nodules. Context numbers mentioned in the text are bracketed conventionally, e.g. (102), whilst those for cuts are in square brackets, e.g. [703]. All contexts are listed under either Phase 1 or Phase 2 for ease of reference in **Appendix 3**. Finds referred to in the text are tabulated in **Appendix 2** and assessed in section 6, below.

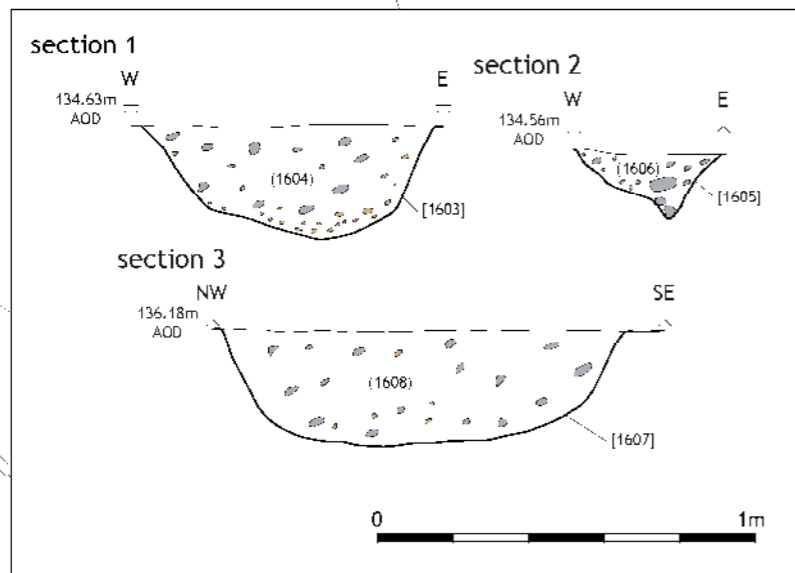
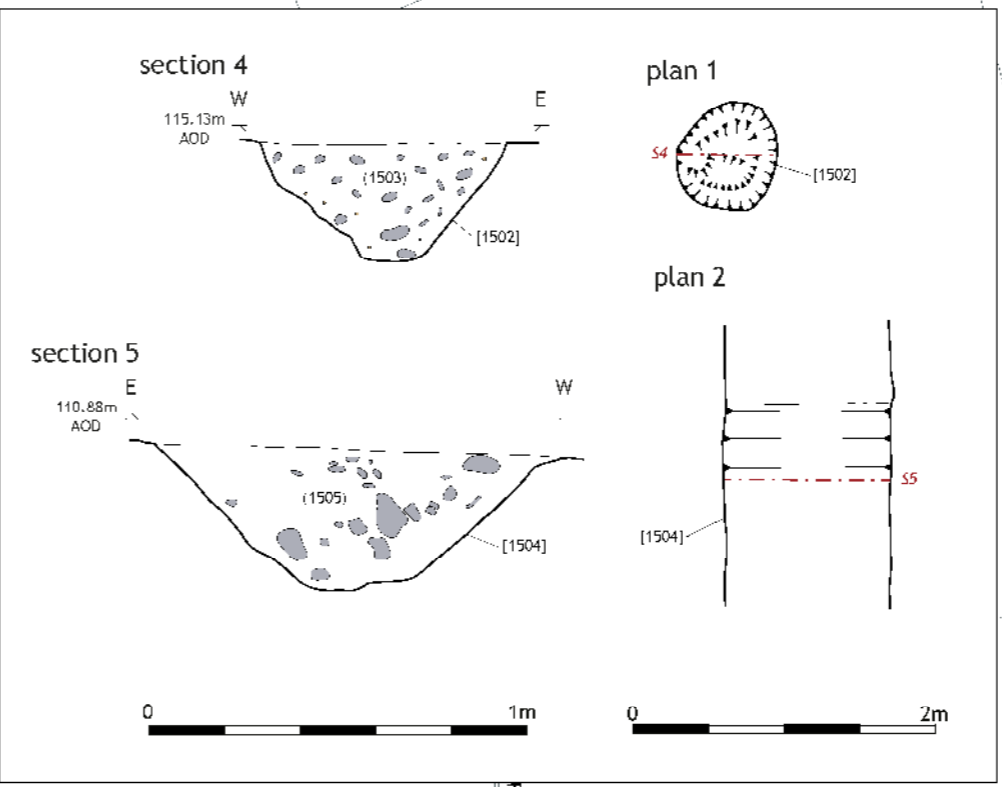
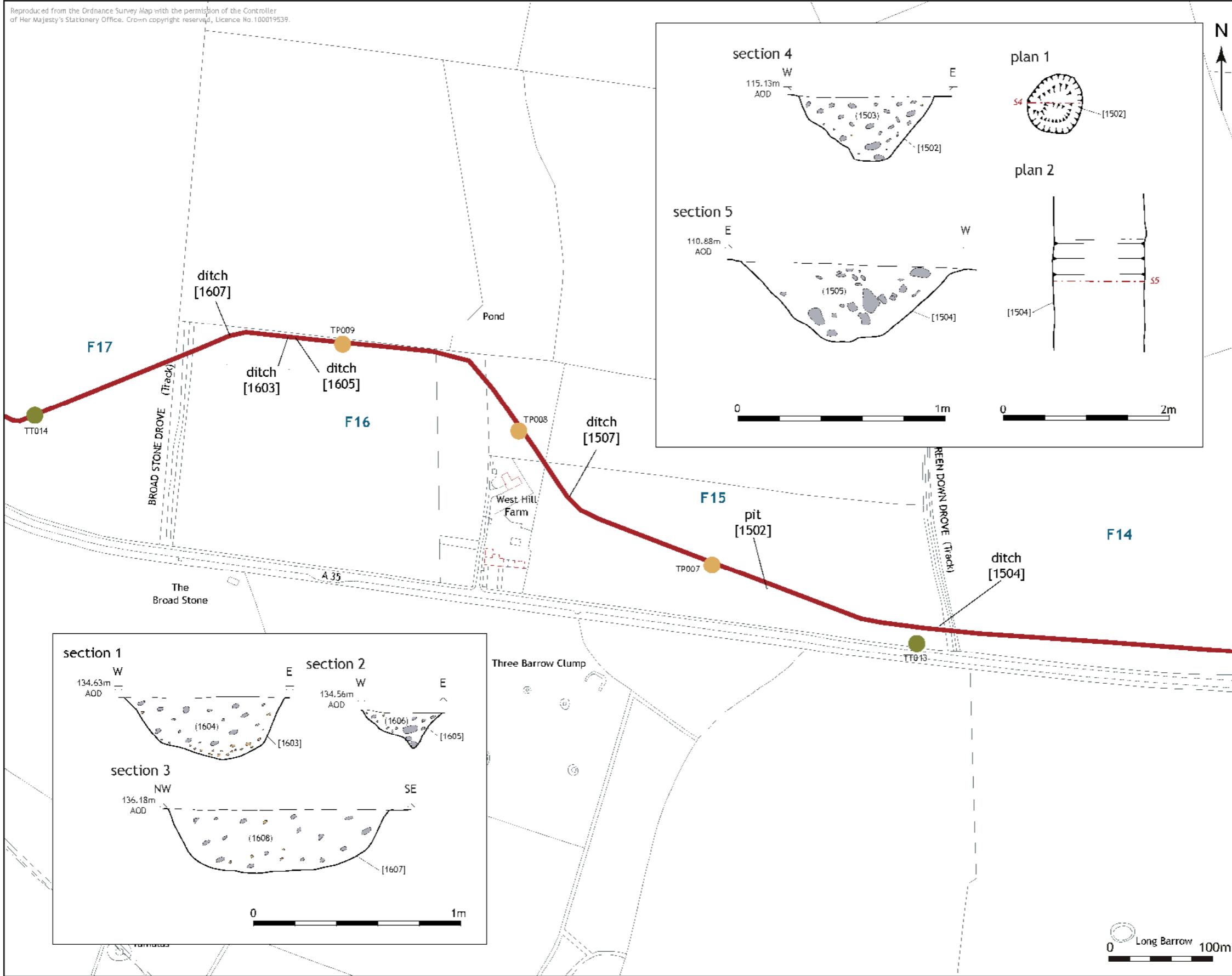
5.3 The west terminus of the Site was within a wooded valley south west of the A35 road, set amongst part of the Poor Lot Barrow group (**Plate 2**). Despite this proximity no features were identified at the terminus, or in Field 17 on the north east side of the road.

5.4 However, on higher ground in Field 16, overlooking the South Winterborne Valley, three ditches had been cut at angles perpendicular to the contour (**Figure 2**), the north to south oriented [1603] and [1605] (**Plate 3; Figure 2**, sections 1 and 2) and the south west to north east oriented [1607] (**Figure 3**, section 3). Finds were retrieved from the fill (1604) of [1603] only and were consistent with an Early Bronze Age date by association with probable Beaker sherds, although their abraded condition and the presence of a crudely fashioned broad flake piercer might imply a mid 2nd millennium date. It seems probable that [1605] is contemporary and the differing orientation of [1607] may reflect the changing aspect of the landscape rather than a difference in date.

5.5 On the west side of Field 15 the ground declined into the valley bottom (**Plate 5**). The cutting of the pipe trench exposed a very substantial ditch [1507] but the narrow view prevented clarification of its orientation (**Plate 6**). The reddish brown colour of the soil within it (1508) suggests that in-filling predates the generation of the brown soils associated with intense and prolonged cultivation (**Plate 6**). The stage of construction work at which the feature was observed prevented full recording. The stepped, truncated 'V'-profile of a ditch [1504] (**Figure 2**, section 5, plan 2; **Plate 7**) close to the bottom of the valley and perpendicular to it, is a strong indication that it was re-cut but there was no associated dating evidence. Flintwork from the rapid stony fill (1503) of a neighbouring small, basin-shaped, pit [1502] (**Figure 3**, section 4, Plan 1) was consistent with a Middle Bronze Age date.

5.6 The only feature identified in Field 14 was a subrectangular pit [1402] with an unconsolidated upper fill (1404), rich in charcoal (**Plate 8**), covering a very stony primary fill (1403) (**Figure 3**, section 6, plan 3). No finds were recovered but the pit appeared to cut the valley bottom's stony colluvium (1401) and hence would be later than much of the hillslope recession.

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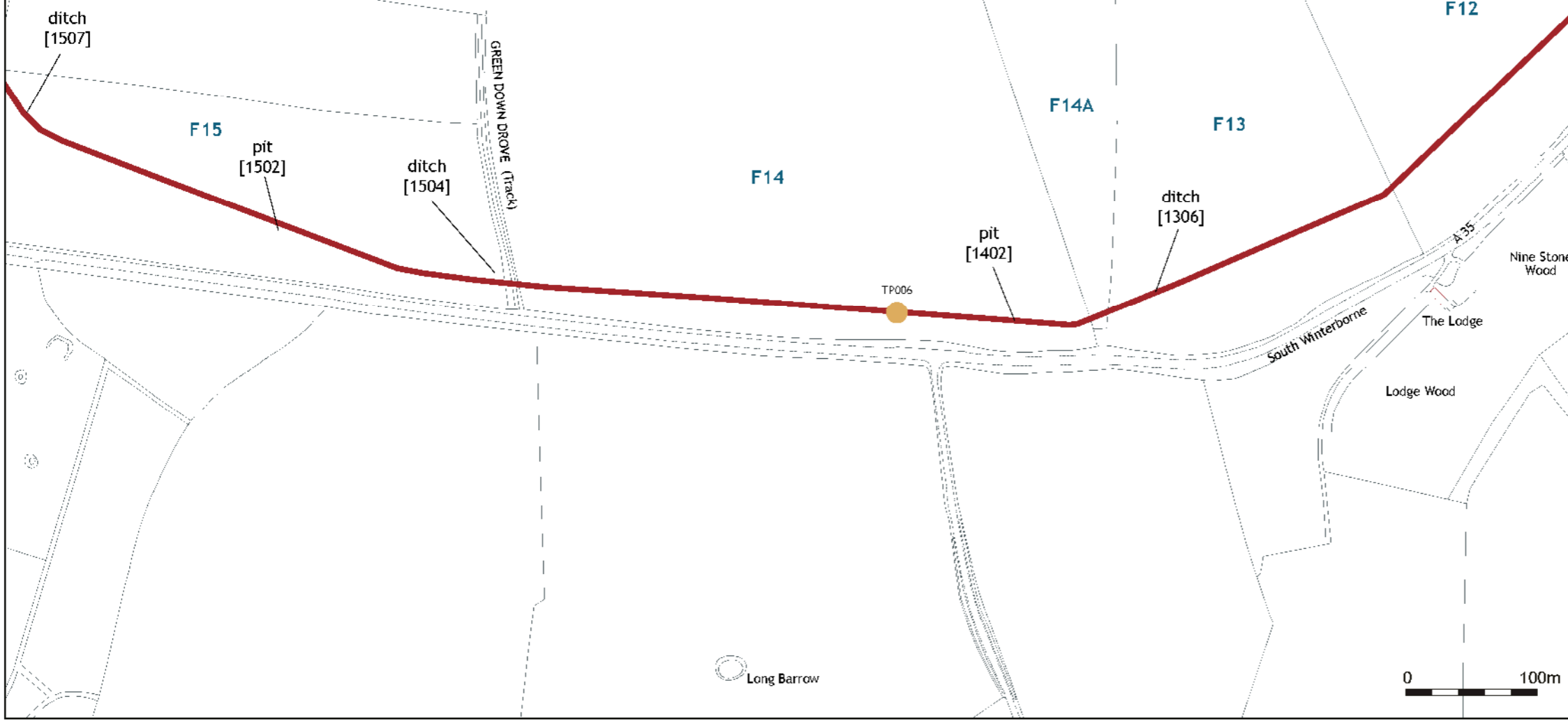
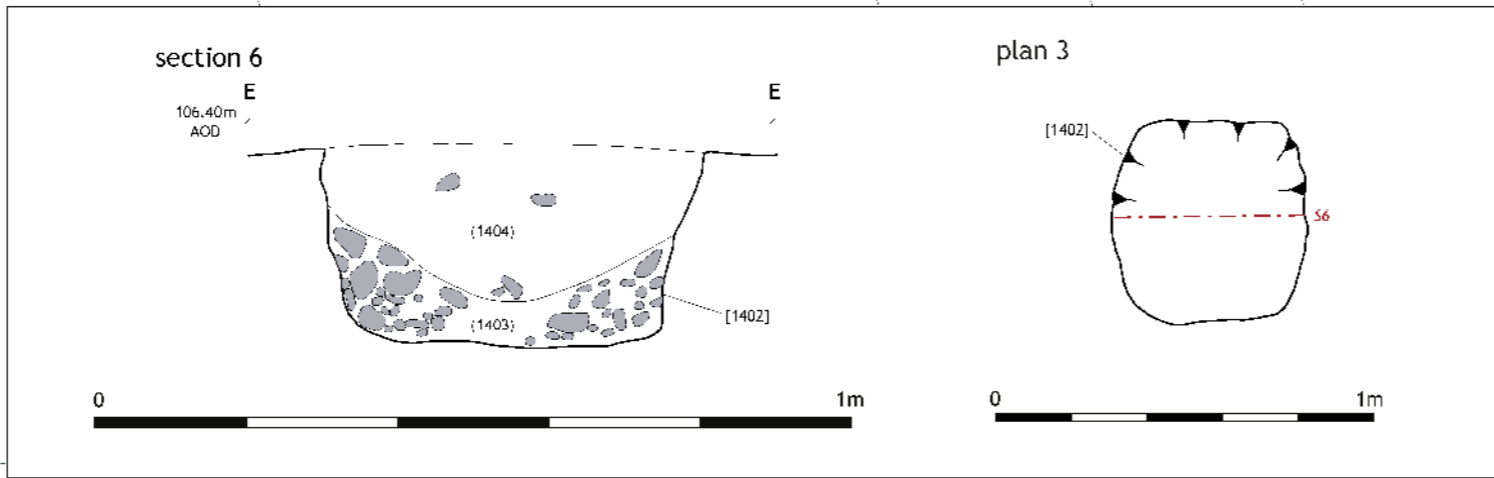


- route of pipeline
- trial trench
- trial pit
- (000) deposit/fill number
- [000] cut number
- XX.Xm AOD / height above ordnance datum (AOD)
- FXX field number
- flint
- chalk

PROJECT TITLE B0457: Lambert's Hill to Winterbourne Abbas, Dorset		
FIGURE TITLE Fields 14 - 17: Locations of trial pits/trenches and archaeological features		
SCALE as shown	PROJECT CODE C1/WBF/12/LWA	FIGURE NO. 2

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- flint

PROJECT TITLE B0457: Lambert's Hill to Winterbourne Abbas, Dorset		
FIGURE TITLE Fields 12 - 15: Locations of trial pits/trenches and archaeological features		
SCALE as shown	PROJECT CODE C1/WBF/12/LWA	FIGURE NO. 3



Plate 2. A Poor Lot barrow and woodland concealing the pipeline terminus (from NE)



Plate 4. Ditch [1607] (from from SW; 0.30m scale)

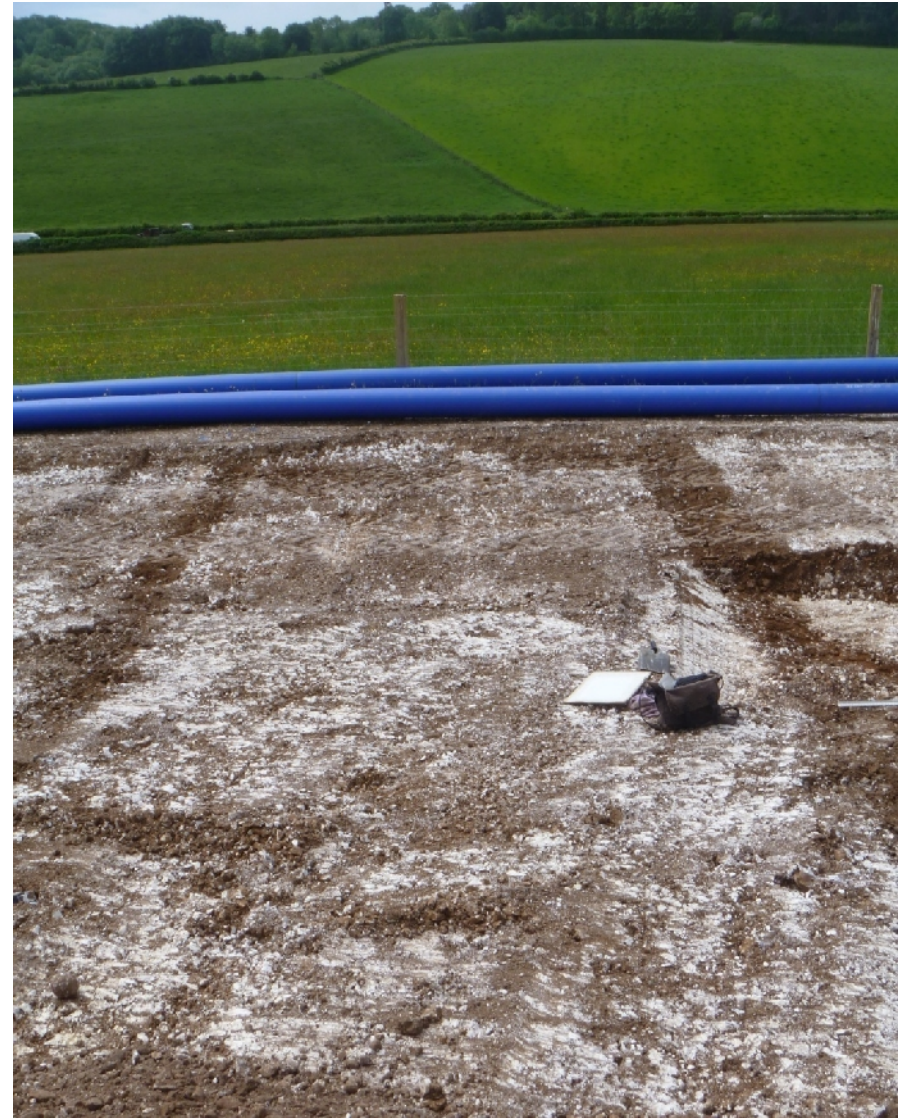


Plate 3. Ditches [1605] (left) and [1603] , overlooking the Winterbourne valley (from N)



Plate 5. Field 15, valley bottom (from ENE)



Plate 6. Ditch [1507] (from NW; no scale)



Plate 7. Ditch [1504] and valley bottom (from NE; 1m scale)



Plate 8. Pit [1402] and gravelly subsoil (1401) (from N; 1m scale)



Plate 9. Ditch [1306] (from SW; no scale)

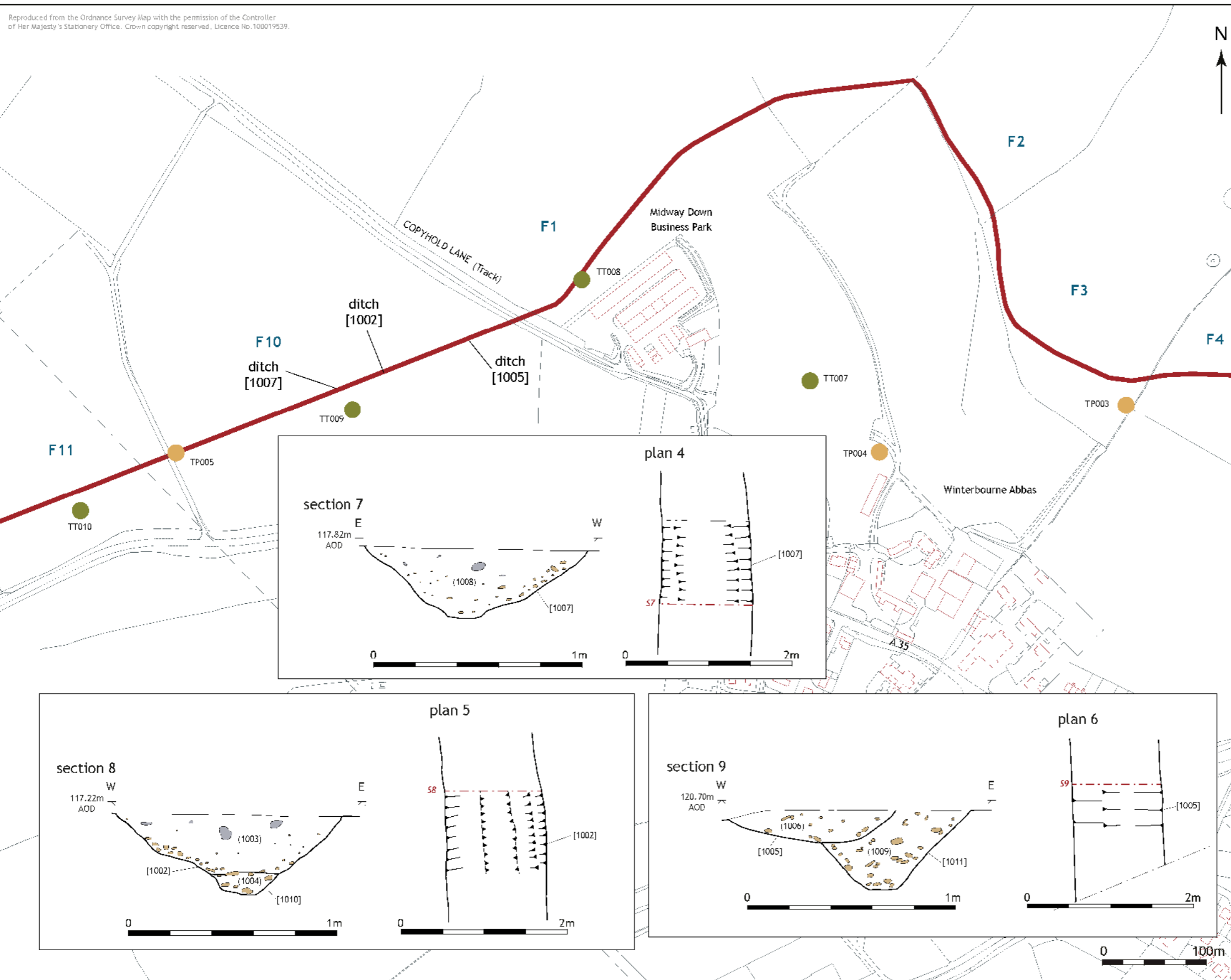


Plate 10. Ditch [1010] and re-cut [1002] (from from S; 1m scale)

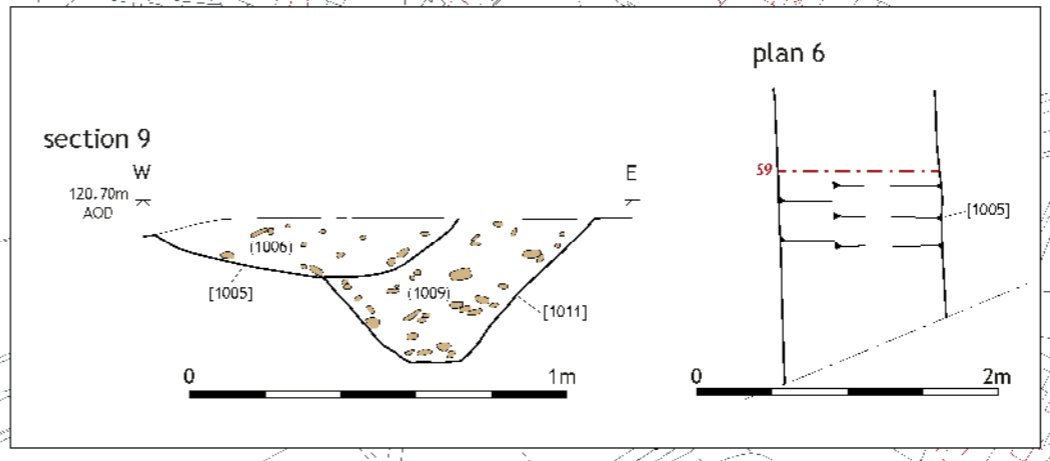
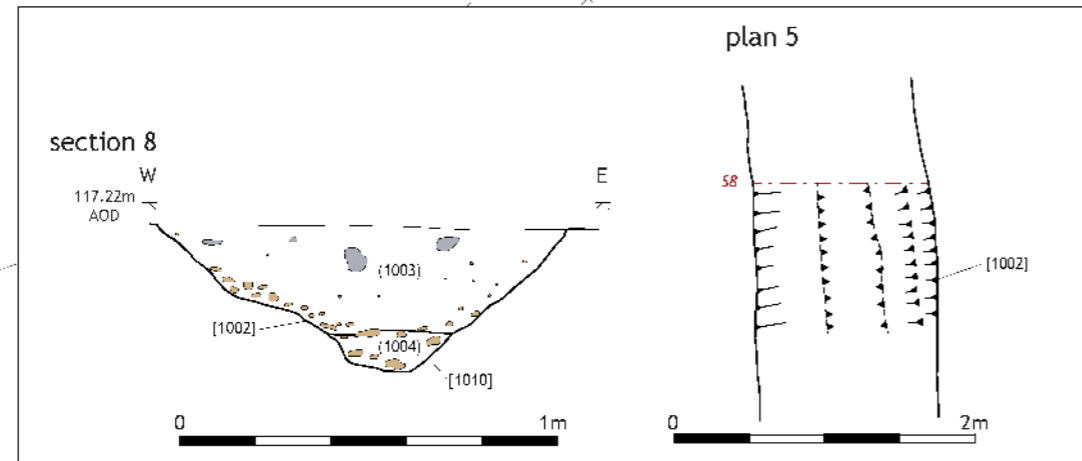
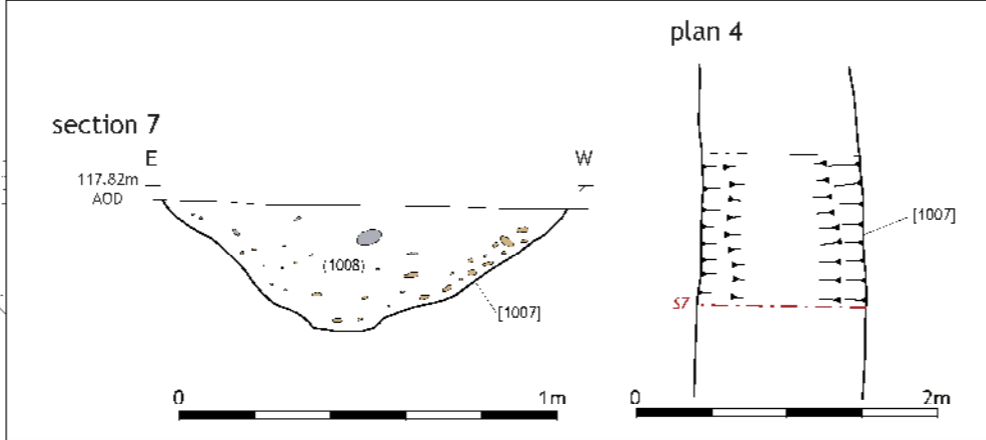


Plate 11. Ditch [1011] and re-cut [1005] (from from S; 1m scale)

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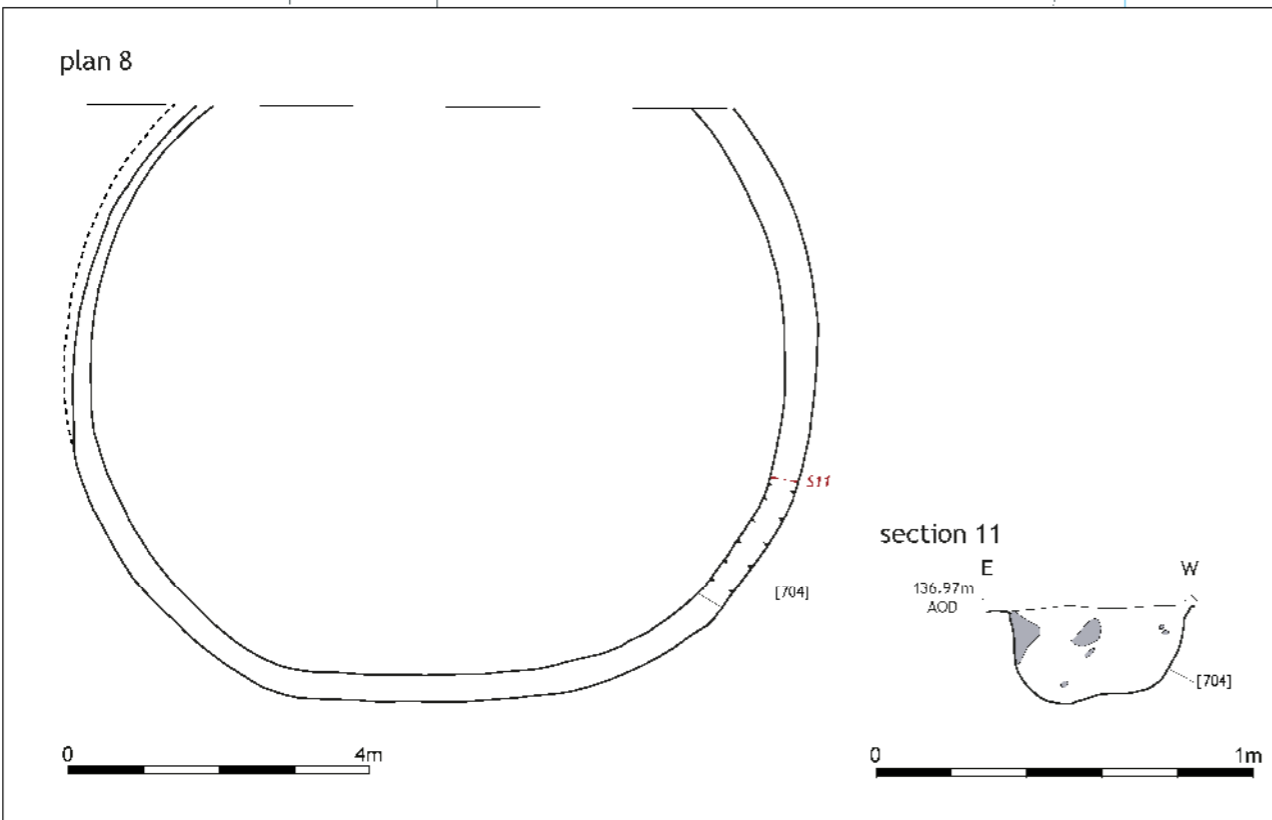
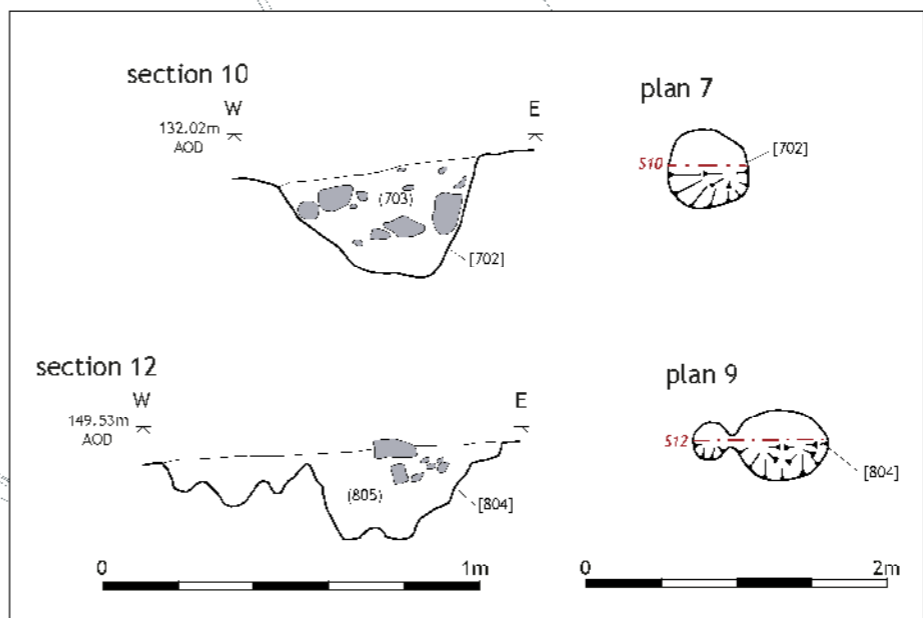
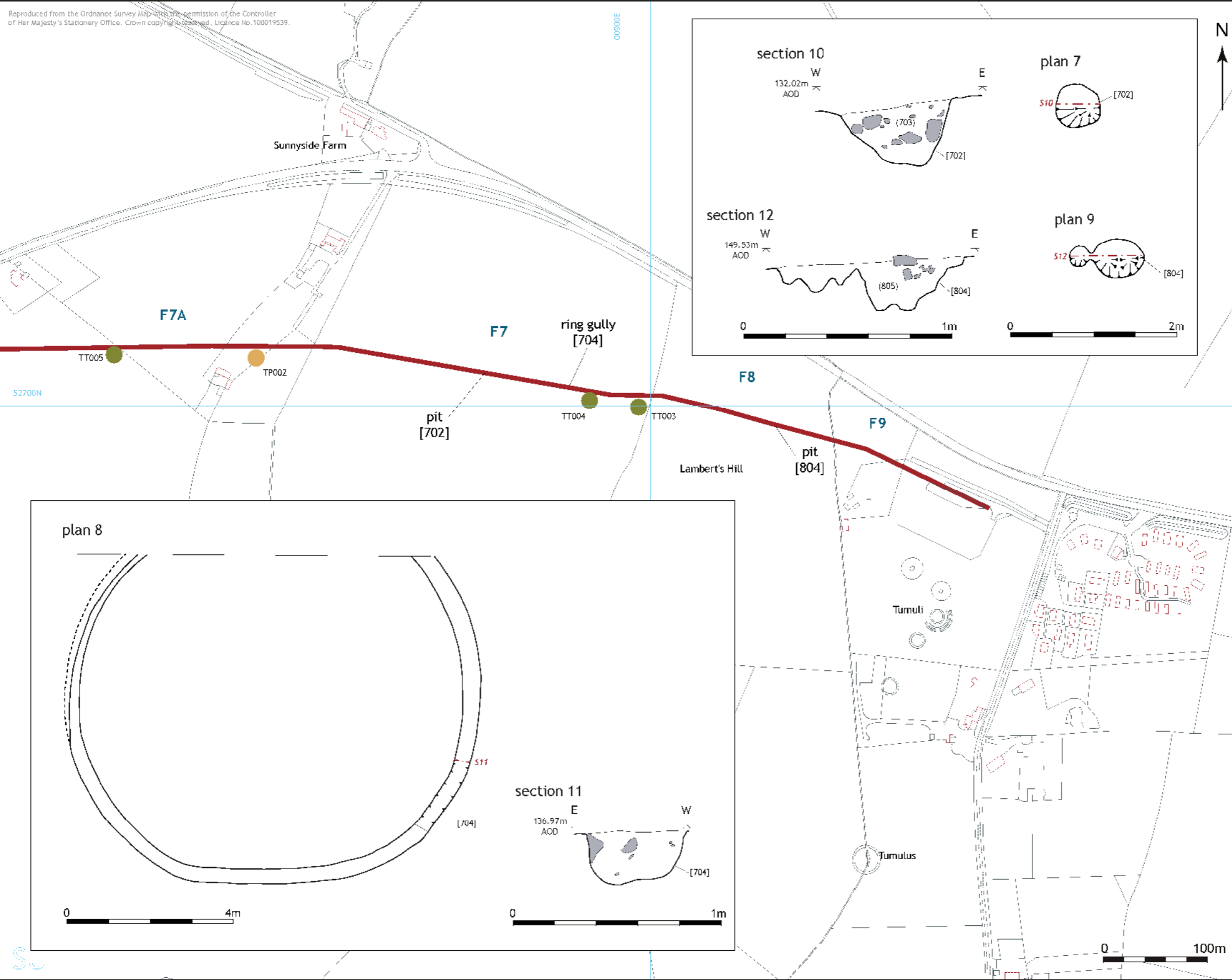
- route of pipeline
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- trial pit
- (000) deposit/fill number
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- XX.Xm AOD height above ordnance datum (AOD)
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- flint
- chalk

PROJECT TITLE
B0457: Lambert's Hill to Winterbourne Abbas, Dorset

FIGURE TITLE
Fields 1 - 4 and 10 - 11: Locations of trial pits/trenches and archaeological features

SCALE	PROJECT CODE	FIGURE NO.
as shown	C1/WBF/12/LWA	4

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- trial trench
- trial pit
- (000) deposit/fill number
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- XX.Xm AOD height above ordnance datum (AOD)
- FXX** field number
- flint
- chalk

PROJECT TITLE B0457: Lamberts Hill to Winterbourne Abbas, Dorset		
FIGURE TITLE Fields 7A - 9: Locations of trial pits/trenches and archaeological features		
SCALE as shown	PROJECT CODE C1/WBF/12/LWA	FIGURE NO. 5

- 5.7 In Field 13, where the valley turned towards east north east, a truncated 'V'-profiled ditch [1306] (Figure 3; Plate 9) comparable in scale to [1507] appeared to be oriented from west to east. Conditions did not allow full recording but the fill was similar to [1508], allowing the possibility of two broadly contemporary major boundaries or even a single substantial ditch. No other features were identified in Field 13, or in Fields 12 and 11, to its east.
- 5.8 Field 10 was laid out over moderate slopes north west of the modern village of Winterbourne Abbas. Three north to south oriented ditches were identified following the easement strip. Ditch [1007] had a slightly splayed 'U'-profile and a single, non-rapid, fairly stony fill (Figure 4, section 7, plan 4). The two ditches to its east had both been re-cut. In their early phases [1010] and [1011] shared truncated 'V'-profiles which in both cases were replaced by broadly box profiles, with gently concave bases, [1002] (Figure 4, section 8, plan 5; Plate 10) and [1005] (Figure 4, section 9, plan 6; Plate 11). The yellow, much stonier, fills common to both the original cuts imply similarity of landuse and were probably contemporary, offering a strong contrast to the brown, worked soils of the re-cuts.



Plate 12. The undulating landscape and easement, from Field 2, overlooking Field 1 (from NE)



Plate 13. Profile from TT06, Field 6 (from S; 1m scale)



Plate 14. Pit [702] showing hammer and anvil, lower left (from S; 1m scale)



Plate 15. Finds from pit fill [703] (10cm scale)



Plate 16. Circular gully [704] (from from S; 1m scale)



Plate 17. Pit/solution hole [804] (from from S; 1m scale)

- 5.9 A single large, unabraded Post-medieval pot sherd is likely to date the filling of [1007] but dating of the other ditches is more elusive. Modern pottery was noted in the fill (1006) of re-cut [1005] but the only finds collected were from a concentration of material in the fill (1003) of re-cut [1002] where three sherds of modern bottle glass and three pieces of miscellaneous modern ceramic were mixed with 17 flints, the largest single lithic concentration collected from the pipeline route. It seems highly likely that the later flint artefacts, the range including Neolithic and Middle to later Bronze Age types, are good indicators of date, even though nothing was found in the fill of the original ditches. The relatively unworked soils add support to this view, implying that ancient boundaries remained visible beyond the Medieval period.
- 5.10 Field 1 adjoined the north east boundary of Field 10, its south boundary interrupted by a modern development, its north east boundary reaching and following the contour of the lower slope of a dry combe (**Plate 12**, top, centre and left). Apart from a possible contour lynchet, no features were identified during the stripping of the easement, and the only finds were two cores and a scraper of broadly Neolithic dated collected from colluvium. However, a considerable amount of multiperiod material was retrieved from the unusually deep topsoil (<0.80m) of the Phase 1 TP4 (**Figure 4**), situated close to the valley bottom, the portion of the route nearest the modern settlement core of Winterbourne Abbas.
- 5.11 Nine Iron Age and 13 Romano–British sherds were the only finds of those periods found during the project (the former group including Early, Middle and Late sherds), and ten sherds represented by far the largest Medieval group of two from that period. Two possible explanations for this range of finds are either that the deep topsoil has accumulated from cultivation which has carried finds from a range of surrounding activity areas or, perhaps more probably, there has been an episode of deliberate building up of the topsoil.
- 5.12 No features were identified, nor finds recovered, from Fields 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Profiles show that although the topsoil was of significant depth the underlying, chalk-rich subsoil was merely a cultivation interface (**Plate 13**), indicative of longterm deep ploughing. However, archaeological cut features survived in Field 7, on the west-facing slope of Lambert’s Hill. Of particular significance was a small, apparently isolated, roughly basin-shaped pit [702] (**Figure 5**, section 10, plan 7; **Plate 14**) which contained sherds from at least three early third millennium BC pots, worked flint, including a hammerstone or mace, and a lap anvil of probably igneous rock (**Plate 15**; the latter two items are visible in **Plate 14**). The full original depth of the pit could not be ascertained as topsoil lay directly over its upper fill and the surrounding natural.
- 5.13 The other notable feature in the field was a ring gully with an outer diameter of ca. 10m (**Figure 5**, plan 8; **Plate 15**), ca. 50m to the west of the pit. Its west arc had been heavily truncated by ploughing but on the east side it survived to a depth of up to 0.25m and width of 0.47m (**Figure 5**, section 11). No finds were recovered from a 2m length excavated on that side. It is likely that the gully provided a footing trench for a roundhouse but no internal organisation was evident.
- 5.14 The westernmost feature identified during the project was a bilobate pit in Field 8 (**Figure 5**, section 12, plan 9) which was interpreted as a single entity natural feature, despite the recovery of a possible Early Neolithic pot sherd. However, the upper part of the fill (805) was a darkish brown colour and contained substantial angular stones (**Plate 17**). Whilst it is possible that the lower fill was formed through solution and that the upper fill merely accumulated in a resulting hollow, it may equally be that the east component of the feature was a pit or posthole.

6. Finds

6.1 A summary of all finds is presented in **Appendix 2**. The section below summarises the character of the material collected. Macroscopic inspection of the selected finds included use of an 8x magnification, hand-held, lens.

Pottery

6.2 A total of 78 sherds (595g) were collected during the investigation. The material collected ranged in date from Neolithic to Post Medieval and included a significant group of the former in a pit fill. The bulk of the remaining material was recovered from topsoil or other unstratified contexts, although most of it was in fairly fresh condition, indicating either long-term stability of the topsoil or, more probably, recent incorporation into it.

The fabrics

6.3 Fabric 1: Corky, moderately fired, including sparse to moderate angular calcined flint (<4mm) and rare black grog. Yellowish buff orange exterior, grey to buff interior surface, with dark grey core. Neolithic.

6.4 Fabric 2: Corky, moderately fired, including moderate angular calcined flint (<4mm). Buff orange surfaces with buff core. Neolithic.

6.5 Fabric 3: Corky, moderately fired, including sparse, angular calcined flint (<4mm) and black grog pellets, as well as traces of chalk. Slightly yellowish grey exterior, very dark grey interior and core. Neolithic.

6.6 Fabric 4: Moderately fired, silty fabric including grog and rare small to medium subangular flint. Early Bronze Age.

6.7 Fabric 5: Moderately well-fired, hard fabric including moderate to frequent, medium to coarse, angular calcined flint and rare medium rounded limestone fragments. Dark reddish buff exterior, pale buff interior with grey core. Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age.

6.8 Fabric 6: Moderately well-fired silty fabric including frequent small to medium grey and white limestone fragments, sparse fine to medium flint, and rare iron oxides and small metamorphic grits. Orange red and dark grey exteriors, pale buff interiors, with grey cores. Iron Age.

6.9 Fabric 7: Moderately well-fired sandy fabric including abundant subangular quartz, sparse subrounded chalk lumps (<4mm) and rare fine angular flints. Iron Age.

6.10 Fabric 8: Well-fired, hard, silty sandy fabric including frequent fine to medium subangular and subrounded colourless quartz and sparse calcined flint (<1.5mm). Grey surfaces and core. Wareham/Poole Harbour, later Iron Age.

6.11 Fabric 9: Well-fired, hard, sandy fabric including frequent fine subangular and subrounded colourless quartz, rare to sparse iron oxides and rare calcined flint (<0.5mm). Oxidised, dark or light grey surfaces with light grey core. Grey surfaces and core. Wareham/Poole Harbour, Late Iron Age.

6.12 Fabric 10: Well-fired, hard, sandy fabric including abundant fine subangular and subrounded colourless quartz, rare to sparse chalk and rare iron oxides. Generally grey or slightly pinkish buff surfaces grey surfaces with grey core. Romano-British.

6.13 Fabric 11: Well-fired, hard, sandy fabric including abundant fine subangular and subrounded colourless quartz and rare iron oxides. Generally grey or more commonly, orange buff surfaces with grey core. Romano-British.

- 6.14 Fabric 12: Well-fired, hard, sandy silty fabric including abundant fine subangular and subrounded variegated quartz, sparse flint and iron oxides. Orange surface skin with grey core. 11th to 13th century.
- 6.15 Fabric 13: Well-fired, hard, sandy silty fabric including abundant fine subangular and subrounded variegated quartz, sparse iron oxides and rare metamorphic grits. Orange, grey and buff surface skin with grey core. 11th to 13th century.
- 6.16 Fabric 14: Well-fired, hard, sand fabric. Buff orange surfaces with reduced grey core. Includes examples with traces of yellowish green exterior or interior glaze. Medieval.
- 6.17 Fabric 15: Well-fired, brittle, sandy fabric. Pinkish buff exterior, dark grey interior, with pale pinkish yellow outer margin and very pale grey core. Medieval.
- 6.18 Fabric 16: Well-fired, hard, sand fabric. Buff orange or orange surfaces with grey core and yellowish green interior glaze. Post-medieval to Modern.

Neolithic

- 6.19 A group of 24 sherds (199g) from pit fill (703) appeared to derive from at least three vessels, including rim sherds surviving from two of them. Although in fairly unabraded condition, the sherds were in very fragile condition, so were not washed, hence limiting visibility of the inclusions. Nonetheless, there was clear variation between the vessel fabrics.
- 6.20 Vessel 1: Triangular-profiled, tapering, rim above a marked *cavetto* zone. Twisted cord decoration in chevrons covered the entire rim, lower *cavetto* and upper body exterior, as well as the interior of the rim. Fabric 1.
- 6.21 Vessel 2: Triangular-profiled, tapering, rim with pronounced outer downward extrusion above a marked *cavetto* zone. Decoration on the outer rim surface comprised two rows of diagonal whipped cord impressions. The upper *cavetto* and rim interior lack decoration and no related body sherds were identified. Fabric 2.
- 6.22 Vessel 3: Only curved wall sherds survived from this vessel, decorated with concentric narrow, probably applied cordons separating rows of finger tip impressions. Fabric 3.
- 6.23 A substantial Fabric 1 wall sherd with twisted cord decoration may have belonged to Vessel 1.
- 6.24 Vessels 1 and 2 are similar to vessels from Wor Barrow long barrow on Cranborne Chase where they were classified as 'Peterborough Ware (Mortlake Sub-style)' (Cleal 1991, 161; P169-72, fig. 7.15). The inclusion of flint is typical of Mortlake vessels in Wessex (Mephams 2008, 14). The decoration of Vessel 3 is more consistent with Grooved Ware and Wyke Down has furnished another comparable example from Cranborne Chase (Cleal 1991, 163; P198, fig. 7.18). Frequently, Grooved Ware sherds are straight sided, whereas Vessel 3 has a curved profile.
- 6.25 Presently, Peterborough Ware is assigned a later 4th to early 3rd millennium BC date range (Richmond 2005, 84), with the Mortlake Sub-style in concurrent circulation from ca. 3300 - 2800BC (Mephams 2008, 12-13). Small groups of pits with Mortlake/Fengate assemblages have been found in the Salisbury area and hazelnut samples associated with two examples gave calibrated radiocarbon dates within the ranges of 3363BC to 3095BC and 3335BC to 2927BC, both at 1 sigma, the latter a poly modal result (Place 2008, 8). A polymodal result from Wallingford, Oxfordshire, was within the range 3270BC to 2880BC at 1 sigma (Richmond 2005, 83).

6.26 The presence of a vessel with Grooved Ware affinities might imply that the assemblage is from the latter part of the date range. Elsewhere in Dorset the association of vessels of Peterborough style (three vessels of Mortlake and Fengate Sub-styles) with Grooved ware at Fir Tree Field, Cranborne Chase a pit was noted as rare (Barrett, Bradley and Hall 1991, 69).

6.27 A single, fairly thin-walled, grog-tempered body sherd (2g) from the fill (805) included possible traces of shell, some set within moderately frequent subspherical voids. The smoothed exterior of the vessel would be consistent with an Early Neolithic date. It has not been allocated a discrete fabric code.

Early Bronze Age

6.28 A group of 16 sherds (33g) from pit fill (1503) derived from a minimum of two vessels. All sherds were in Fabric 4 but had suffered surface and edge wear.

6.29 Vessel 1 (nine sherds, 15g) was thin walled (<6mm thick) and included a surviving rim sherd with faint traces of comb impressions. Other, body, sherds appeared to have similar impressions, although they were very faint. The flared rim culminated in a simple rounding. The exterior surface was pinkish orange and the core and interior surface dark grey to buff.

6.30 Vessel 2 (seven sherds, 18g) was thicker walled (<13mm thick) and appeared to consist entirely of base or lower body sherds. A single sherd included a straight, slanting, 1.5mm diameter perforation. It had yellowish buff surfaces with grey core.

6.31 The Vessel 1 rim sherd appears to be of a Beaker form, consistent with the decoration, probably of an Early Bronze Age date (Cleal 1991, 154-5, fig. 7.8). The similarity of Vessel 2's fabric implies that it is of the same date.

Iron Age

6.32 A total of nine sherds (73g) were identified as Iron Age by their fabrics, all from the deep topsoil of TP4, (4000). A single wall sherd from a straight-sided jar in Fabric 5 is likely to date from the first half of the first millennium BC, whilst two sherds in Fabric 6, three in Fabric 7 and one in Fabric 8 are Middle to Late Iron Age, the latter probably a South East Dorset product. Two sherds in Fabric 9 derive from the same locality, and are probably of Late Iron Age or Early Romano-British date, one having a splayed base angle.

Romano-British

6.33 Pottery of the period was exclusively from context (4000) of TP4 and was in Fabrics 10 (two sherds) and 11 (eleven sherds). The latter included part of an applied handle and the splayed base of a rounded vessel.

Medieval

6.34 Pottery of the period was mainly from context (4000) of TP4 and was in Fabrics 12 (three sherds), 13 (three sherds), 14 (four sherds, two from (700)) and 15 (two joining sherds). Fabric 12 sherds included one with traces of lightly incised linear decoration and a splayed base angle. A rim from a sharply flared bowl in Fabric 14 was slightly outwardly expanded and had a slightly concave surface.

Post-medieval to Modern

6.35 A plain body sherd (1008) and handle base from a substantial jar (4000) were both in Fabric 16.

Worked stone

6.36 A total of 80 pieces (1324g) of struck flint were collected from unstratified and stratified contexts and are quantified below (Table 1).

- 6.37 Cores: Multiple flake scars on single and two-platformed cores from (101) were generally within a 2:1 to 5:2 ratio, suggesting a later Neolithic industry. A rejuvenation flake (800) with denticulation was of similar date.
- 6.38 Blades: A single bladelet (5000) with bilateral and abrupt distal retouch was the only probably Mesolithic artefact recovered. An unmodified blade (5000) and one with opposing lateral and distal dorsal retouch to form a point (400) may both be treated as Early Neolithic. A later Neolithic blade with fine unilateral denticulation was found in association with pottery of the period and two crested blades (1003) are likely to be of similar date.
- 6.39 Flakes: Most of the flakes collected were broad or squat hence possibly, but by no means certainly, of Bronze Age date. Exceptions were probably Neolithic long flake/blades, one with unilateral ventral retouch, (400), and a flake with opposing denticulation and retouch, probably Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. Two broad flakes, one showing bilateral ventral retouch, one with blade scars (400), are likely to be Early and later Neolithic in date.
- 6.40 Scrapers: Scrapers on long flakes included two with distal and unilateral abrupt ventral retouch (101), one with bilateral and abrupt distal retouch (400) and one with only distal retouch, (1003). Examples from (800) were a blade with opposed notches and abrupt distal retouch, a long flake with abrupt distal retouch and ventral and dorsal lateral notches, both probably Neolithic at first use, and a distal piercer formed by crude unilateral distal retouch of probably Bronze Age date. The ventral and dorsal notches on the penultimate of the latter group cut through a recorticated surface and indicate later re-use. A hollow scraper from (1003) is also likely to date to the Bronze Age.
- 6.41 Piercers: Of five point tools, a flake with a distal point is probably Neolithic. All other examples are more likely to date to the Middle or later Bronze Age. They include lateral points on large broad flakes, (1003) and (1604) and a winged piercer and a doubled hinged piercer (800).
- 6.42 Knives: A partly backed knife (400) formed by moderately fine unilateral ventral denticulation, with a distal scraper formed by abrupt ventral retouch and point formed by local unilateral denticulation is likely to be of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date. A second knife, formed by unilateral bifacial retouch and with a distal point is probably later. A broad flake with unilateral distal bifacial retouch (4000) may also have served as a knife.
- 6.43 Multipurpose tool: A broad flake with well executed unilateral and distal abrupt and unilateral shallow bifacial retouch (5000) would have functioned as both a knife and scraper, typical of the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age.
- 6.44 Axe: The unprepared blade of a bifacially worked axe (1700) or adze implies that the artefact was unfinished. It is assumed to be Neolithic.
- 6.45 The characteristics of the material collected suggest a broad date range, mainly focused on a span from the Later Neolithic to Middle Bronze Age, but with one diagnostically Mesolithic piece and a few pieces likely to date to the Early Neolithic. The dominant raw material was light grey and of moderate quality and is local. Two pieces of dull dark and two of moderately dark grey are from further afield. Typically for chalk settings, there is little re-use of the material, with only one unequivocal example diagnosed. More surprising is the lack of burnt material, a total of two lumps.
- 6.46 Of particular interest is the group of material from pit fill (703) because of its association with Later Neolithic pottery and other worked stone. In an assemblage of ten pieces, six secondary and four tertiary, only a single blade displayed diagnostic traits. The butts of some partial flakes were consistent with the expected date but the remainder showed no potential for dating. Nonetheless, they should be treated as representative of a later Middle Neolithic assemblage (**Plate 15**).

Context	Core		Bladelet		Blade		Flake		Scraper		Piercer		Knife		Multi		Axe		Burnt		Primary		Secondary		Tertiary		Weight		Total
	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%	Total	Mean	Total		
101	2	268							1	12										0	0	3	100		0	280	93	3	
400					1	8	7	55	1	40			1	18						0	0	7	70	3	30	121	12	10	
700							1	12			1	7								0	0	2	100	0	0	19	10	2	
703					1	6	9	18												0	0	6	60	4	40	24	2	10	
800	1	42					5	31	3	27	2	5								0	0	8	73	3	27	105	10	11	
1000									2	39										0	0	2	100	0	0	39	20	2	
1003					2	13	12	289	2	59	1	40								0	0	14	82	3	18	401	24	17	
1008							2	31												0	0	2	100	0	0	31	16	2	
1300							1	16												0	0	1	100	0	0	16	16	1	
1301							1	4												0	0	0	0	1	100	4	4	1	
1500							1	7												0	0	1	100	0	0	7	7	1	
1503							4	61					1	12						0	0	3	60	2	40	73	15	5	
1604											1	26								0	0	0	0	1	100	26	26	1	
1700															1	41				0	0	2	100	0	0	41	21	2	
4000							6	26									2	27		0	0	5	63	3	38	53	7	8	
5000			1	0.5	1	2	1	24					1	21						0	0	2	50	2	50	48	12	4	
TOTALS	3	310	1	0.5	5	29	50	574	9	177	5	78	2	30	1	21	1	41	2	27	0	0	58	73	22	28	1288	63	80

Table 1. Summary quantification of worked flint

- 6.47 A contrasting closed group of five pieces, three secondary and two tertiary, from the fill (1503) of pit [1502], included a very rough backed knife with crude bifacial retouch to form the cutting edge. The back of a second knife was uncorticated. Of three remaining flakes, one with a length:breadth ratio of 3:2 had been retouched bilaterally, whilst abrupt distal ventral retouch of a flake with a ratio of 1:1 formed an end scraper and was coarsely denticulated along one distal side. Coarse unilateral spalling on the remaining flake formed an effective piercer. The proportions, basic working method and sheer size of the flakes is consistent with a Bronze Age date for the assemblage. It is notable that all the fragments appear to have been utilised, a pattern sharply at variance with the later Neolithic group but similar to a group of six flakes and two burnt lumps from TP4 (4000).
- 6.48 The presence of two similar cores in Field 1 and a rejuvenation flake in Field 8 were the only strong indicators of systematic on-site flintworking, given the utter lack of primary flakes (Table 1). The dominance of secondary flakes throughout the area implies an *ad hoc* pattern of use and discard which changed little over time, although the moderate size of the total assemblage and generally small groups does not allow firm conclusions.
- 6.49 It is interesting to note that whilst both the most significant stratified assemblages, from (703) and (1503), have a lower proportion of secondary flakes than the overall mean, they remain prevalent and in identical proportions to each other, despite a chronological difference exceeding 1000 years. The difference in mean flake weight by a factor of 7.5 reflects their temporal distinctiveness.

Other worked stone

- 6.50 Damage on one side of a well used sub-spherical mace or hammerstone (224g) from (703) showed it to be of amber-coloured flint. It was accompanied by a large fragment of granite (606g) with a roughly D-shaped profile (Plate 15). The shape of the stone would not easily lend it to use as a rubber. On the other hand it would lie comfortably in a person's lap and would suit use as an anvil. There is a marked depression in the flat surface indicative of ware. The strong association with pottery implies a later Neolithic date of use.

Other ceramic

- 6.51 Two pieces of brick and a fragment from a large drain were all recovered from the fill (1003) of Post-medieval ditch [1002].

Glass

- 6.52 Two pieces of clear and of pale green bottle glass were recovered from the fill (1003) of Post-medieval ditch [1002].

7. Discussion

- 7.1 The route of the pipeline passes through one of Britain's most important mortuary landscapes, with Neolithic long barrows within 2km to the south west and south and Bronze Age round barrows within 200m on either side of its path. It is also an area rich in Prehistoric, Romano-British and Medieval field systems. Woodward has suggested that clearance in the area began with a few opened spaces in the surrounding woodland in the Early Neolithic and that by the later Neolithic territories were perceptible within interconnected swathes separated by the woodland. The prominence of barrows from the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age onwards represents a more concrete definition of boundaries tied in with expansion of land division through ditches and of widespread farming. Woodland was spare by the Late Bronze Age (Woodward 1991, 129-54).
- 7.2 A narrow linear investigation such as the present one is poorly suited to discovery of isolated monumental or habitative settlement remains but does offer a good opportunity to improve understanding of the date and distribution of linear features. It is something of a bonus that a significant Neolithic feature has been found.

7.3 The ground conditions are likely to have had considerable impact on archaeological results. The shallowness of the soils not just on high ground (**Plates 3 and 9**) but on the lower valley sides (**Plates 5 and 7**) is a testament to extremely harsh arable regimes. For the most part colluvium had formed only in the very bottom of the valleys (**Plate 12**). This implies that, in general, archaeological features or deposits would be heavily truncated or even erased entirely, surviving to their full extents only in narrow pockets in the areas least likely to have been settled.

Neolithic

7.4 A single sherd of probable Early Neolithic pottery in a pit of doubtful provenance serves merely to add to information about the distribution of activity during that period. However, the discovery of a well-dated, apparently isolated, Middle to Late Neolithic pit is of some significance and offers potential for functional interpretation.

7.5 A comparable range of much more prolific finds was discovered in a bowl-shaped pit of very similar proportions at Wallingford, Oxfordshire. It was suggested that, although all the finds might derive from domestic activity, their deposition in isolation might reasonably imply ritual performance (Richmond 2005, 93).

7.6 An axe-polishing stone (Richmond 2005, fig. 5) from the pit, considered to be especially significant in association with the pottery, might be regarded as a functional relative of the 'anvil' identified in pit [702]. The bulk of the pottery from Wallingford was of Peterborough Ware Fengate Sub-style, although at least one Mortlake rim was identified (Barclay, A. 'Pottery' in Richmond 2005, 82).

7.7 Small groups of pits with Mortlake/Fengate assemblages have been found in the Salisbury area, where hazelnut samples associated with two examples gave calibrated radiocarbon dates within the ranges of 3363BC to 3095BC and 3335BC to 2927BC, both at 1 sigma, the latter a poly modal result (Place 2008, 8), broadly similar to the range at Wallingford (Richmond 2005, 83).

7.8 A scrappy sherd considered to be of the Mortlake Sub-type type was found in soil sealed by a barrow at Cowleaze, ca. 2km south west of the Site. Elsewhere in Dorset, Peterborough ware and its sub-styles have been identified in and around Dorchester at Maiden Castle (where, as at Cranborne Chase, there appeared a clear separation of it from Grooved Ware; Thomas 2002, 207), Poundbury (Richardson and Longworth 1969, 75), Mount Pleasant (Woodward 1991, 99) and, more tentatively, Greyhound Yard (Woodward, A., in Woodward et al. 1993, 201). The most substantial assemblage is that from Cranborne Chase. From a minimum of 59 Peterborough vessels, most within pit fills or those of the Dorset Cursus ditches, 26 were attributable to the Mortlake Sub-style.

Bronze Age

7.9 It has been noted frequently that round barrows often appear integrated into large-scale field systems and may have been landmarks in the setting of territorial boundaries. Ditch [1603] is close a major barrow group and to a field system (**Figure 1, 16**) which has been assigned an Iron Age to Romano-British date. However, the other most likely candidates for ditches of the period are the initial cuts of two north to south ditches in Field 10, based on the concentration of flint in (1003), some 500m from the nearest barrows.

7.10 Circumstances did not allow full recording of the two very substantial, apparently west to east, ditch sections in Fields 15 and 13 but the photographic evidence suggests that they were filled with similarly reddish soils, contrasting with the brown soils filling the demonstratively Post-medieval/Modern re-cuts of the Field 10 ditches, the latter reflecting widespread cultivation.

7.11 It is reasonable to assume that the fills of the large ditch sections formed prior to the enrichment of soils due to intensive, long term, arable farming and consideration should be given to the possibility that they bisected a single major boundary in the landscape defining a territorial unit. Elsewhere, similar substantial boundaries have formed the basis for co-axial field systems which were much expanded during the Iron Age (Bradley et al. 1994, 138-46). As a *caveat* it should be noted that the projected route from Field 15 to Field 13 coincides with records for boundaries and ridge and furrow (Figure 1, 20 - 21) designated as Medieval to Post-medieval, although pit [1502] indicates the presence of Bronze Age activity in this section of the South Winterborne valley.

7.12 The lack of structural features such as postholes within the ring gully [704] in Field 7 is probably due to truncation or the lack of time to explore the surface. It should be regarded as the site of a circular building. There are few known examples of Neolithic buildings with circular plan, so its proximity to a Neolithic pit [702] may be coincidental. The reddish brown fill of the gully would allow an Iron Age date but the complete lack of finds from the excavated segment suggests that it is earlier.

7.13 An oval depression at Rowden (Woodward 1991, 41-7) is nearest identified example of a Bronze Age building; there are no known examples contemporary with the earlier Bronze Age mortuary features in the area.

Iron Age and Romano-British

7.14 Despite records for Iron Age/Romano-British field systems on the south facing slopes of the north side of the South Winterborne valley the periods are represented solely by the very mixed group of finds from TP4. They appear to show that significant settlement was nearby by but it is also possible that the soil from which they derive had been re-deposited.

Post-medieval to Modern

7.15 A ditch and re-cut ditches in Field 8 are Post-medieval or later. However, the soils filling the earlier ditch-cuts have characteristics suggesting formation prior to sustained periods of cultivation. The fact that two of the ditches left sufficient traces for much later re-cutting implies stability and very low intensity of land use over a long period before ploughing resumed in recent centuries.

8. Conclusion

8.1 Despite depletion of the archaeological resource in a rich prehistoric landscape the discovery of an isolated pit associated with later Neolithic pottery is of at least regional significance as part of a pattern of sparse distribution in west and central southern Britain. The identification of probably Bronze Age ditches may indicate that field systems on the north side of the South Winterborne valley have origins earlier than those attributed to them in current records and a large ditch may have formed a boundary along the south-facing lower slope of the valley. Several later Bronze Age roundhouses associated with field systems have been found along the South Dorset Ridgway, south of the valley (Woodward 1991, fig. 71) and the ring gully in Field 7 might prove a fruitful focus for further research into the relationship between habitative settlement and land use.

8.2 The Neolithic pit with its associated pottery and lithics warrants full publication in the county journal. A short entry in the journal's annual archaeological summary would suffice for the other finds and features.

9. Archive

9.1 The Site archive is currently held at the offices of Context One Archaeological Services Ltd and consists of 117 digital images in .jpg format, 68 context and profile sheets, 10 sheets of scaled drawings, 21 day record sheets, six photographic and two drawing register sheets. The archive will be prepared to comply with guidelines and standards set out by the United Kingdom Institute for

Conservation (UKIC 1984; Walker 1991), the Museum and Galleries Commission (Paine 1992) and English Heritage (Andrews 1991). Arrangements will be made to deposit the archive with Dorset County Museum within 12 months following the submission of this report.

9.2 Copies of the Watching Brief report will be deposited with:

Wessex Water plc
Claverton Down
Bath
BA2 7WW

Dorset History Centre
Bridport Road
Dorchester
Dorset
DT1 1RP

10. COAS Acknowledgements

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Appendix 1. Dorset Historic Environment Record and relevant literature

SMR no. or other source	Description	NGR ref	Figure 1 ref
Early to Middle Neolithic (4200BC - 2800BC)			
Woodward 1991	Pits. Pits associated with Hembury Ware pottery at Rowden	SY 617 893	1
1013258	Long Barrow. Longlands Farm	SY 60436 90043	2
Late Neolithic and Bronze Age (2800BC - 800BC)			
1012026	Barrow group. 21 barrows in Poor Lot group	SY 58870 90767	3
1012027	Barrow. Bell form, part of Poor Lot group	SY 59038 90552	4
1012028	Barrows. Bowl and pond forms, part of Poor Lot group	SY 59184 90521	5
1012029	Barrows. Two bell forms, part of Poor Lot group	SY 59115 90655	6
1012030	Barrows. Triple and bowl forms, part of Poor Lot group	SY 59215 90853	7
1013246	Barrow. Bowl form, northern most of Three Barrow Clump group	SY 59993 90307	8
1013848	Barrow. Disc form, 500m south east of Poor Lot group	SY 59374 90332	9
1013849	Barrow. Bowl form, West Hill Farm	SY 60097 90835	10
1011961	Barrow. Part of Pound Hill group	SY 62323 90882	11
1011692	Barrow. Part of Pound Hill group	SY 62302 90822	12
MDO 3210 - 3	Barrows. Three bowl and one disc forms, Rew group	SY 63688 90364	13
1002686	Standing stone. Single recumbent stone	SY 59528 90395	14
1011986	Stone circle. 'The Nine Stones', concentric ring with two stones set in from the main arc	SY 61078 90429	15
Woodward 1991	Building. Oval structure at Rowden associated with Globular Urn pottery	SY 617 893	1
Iron Age to Romano-British (800 BC - AD450)			
MDO 3330	Field system. Later Prehistoric	SY 59715 90806	16
MDO 21399	Field system. Early Iron Age to Romano-British	SY 60901 90699	17
MDO 21399	Field system. Early Iron Age to Romano-British	SY 61384 91428	18
Medieval to Post-medieval (AD1066 - AD1799)			
MDO 21413	Field system. Includes ridge and furrow. Medieval	SY 61241 91147	19
MDO 21392	Ridge and furrow. Medieval to Post-medieval	SY 60598 90456	20
MDO 21393	Field boundary. Medieval to Post-medieval	SY 60413 90384	21
MDO 21401	Field boundary. Medieval to Post-medieval	SY 60741 90469	22
MDO 21426	Field boundary and trackway. Medieval to Post-medieval	SY 61828 90984	23
MDO 21440	Field boundaries. Medieval to Post-medieval	SY 62253 90962	24

MDO 21457	Field boundaries. Medieval to Post-medieval	SY 63718 90335	25
Post-medieval to Modern (AD1548 -)			
MDO 21476	Chalk pits.	SY 59742 90741	26
MDO 21243	Chalk pits.	SY 60539 90793	27
MDO 21243	Chalk pits.	SY 61794 91039	28
MDO 21246	Chalk pits.	SY 63326 90550	29
Undated			
MDO 21437	Track.	SY 62064 90637	30

Appendix 2. Finds summary

Field / TT / TP no.	Context	Pottery												Worked stone				Glass		CBM		
		Neolithic		Bronze Age		Iron Age		Romano-British		Medieval		Post-med Modern		Flint		Other		Glass		CBM		
		no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	no.	wt.	
F1	101												3	281								
F4	400												10	122								
F7	700								2	16			2	19								
F7	703	24	199										10	24	2	832						
TT08	800												11	112								
F8	805	1	2																			
F10	1000												2	39								
F10	1003												17	405			3	105	3	125		
F10	1008										1	33	1	32								
F13	1300												1	17								
F13	1301												1	4								
F15	1500												1	8								
F15	1503												5	75								
F16	1604			16	33								1	27								
F17	1700												1	42								
TP4	4000					9	73	13	63	10	61	1	115	8	53							
	5000												4	50								
	TOTALS	25	201	16	33	9	73	13	63	12	77	2	148	80	1324	2	832	3	105	3	125	

Appendix 3. Context Summary

Field / TT/ TP	Context no.	Period	Type	Description	Earlier than	Contemp. with	Later than	Length	Width/ Diameter	Thickness / Depth
Phase 1	Wessex Trial Pits (TP) and Trial Trenches (TT)									
F9 TT01	001	Modern	Layer	Mulch. Dark brown black soft mulch including very rare rounded stones (<0.10m)			002			<0.10m
F9 TT01	002	Modern	Deposit	Made ground. Re-deposited chalk including very rare subrounded flint nodules (<0.20m)	001					<1.40m
F1 TP4B	003	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Dark brown black silty sand including moderate rounded and angular stones and flint nodules (<0.20m)			004			<0.40m
F1 TP4B	004		Layer	Subsoil. Dark orangey brown silty sand including moderate to frequent subrounded flint nodules (<0.30m)	003		005			<2.10m
F1 TP4B	005		Deposit	Alluvium. Mid grey, yellowey brown clay including rare rounded flint nodules (<0.10m) set in probable paleochannel	004		006			<0.30m
F1 TP4B	006	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including rare rounded flint nodules	005					
F1 TT07	007	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Dark yellowish brown, friable, clayey silt including moderate subrounded and subangular flint nodules (<0.20m)			008			<0.40m
F1 TT07	008	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including moderate rounded flint nodules (<0.20m)	009					
F9 TT02	009	Modern	Layer	Mulch. Dark brown black soft mulch including very rare rounded stones (<0.10m)			010			<0.20m
F9 TT02	010	Modern	Deposit	Made ground. Mottled grey white with brown, re-deposited chalk mixed with clay, including very rare subrounded flint nodules (<0.20m)	009		011			<2.30m
F9 TT02	011	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including moderate rounded flint nodules (<0.20m)	010					
F8 TT03	300	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown soft silty clay			301			<0.20m
F8 TT03	301		Layer	Subsoil. Mid orange brown silty clay	300		304, 302			<0.20m
F8 TT03	302	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk	303, 301					
F8 TT03	303	Modern	Cut	Ditch. Splayed 'U'-profiled north west to south east oriented cut	304, 301		302	<1.5m exc	0.50m	<0.30m
F8 TT03	304	Modern	Fill	Ditch fill [303]. Mid brown, soft, silty clay	301		301, 303	<1.5m exc	0.50m	<0.30m
F7/8 TT04	400	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown, soft, silty clay			401			
F7/8 TT04	401		Layer	Subsoil. Mid orange brown, soft, silty clay	400		402			

Field / TT/ TP	Context no.	Period	Type	Description	Earlier than	Contemp. with	Later than	Length	Width/ Diameter	Thickness / Depth
F7/8 TT04	402	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk	401					
F1 TP4	4000	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Dark brown, soft clayey silt including frequent angular flints			4010			<0.80m
F1 TP4	4010		Layer	Alluvium. Mid brown slightly sandy, gravelly, silt including frequent angular flints	4000		4020			<1.10m
F1 TP4	4020		Layer	Natural. Mid brown flinty gravel, probably riverine deposit	4010					>1.0m
F10 TP5	5000	Modern	Layer	Not used						
F10 TP5	5001		Layer	Not used						
F10 TP5	5002	Geology	Layer	Not used						
F15 TP7	700	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown, soft, silty clay			701			<0.30m
F15 TP7	701		Layer	Subsoil. Mid reddish brown, soft, silty clay including moderate small chalk fragments	700		702			<0.30m
F15 TP7	702	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk	701					>2.00m
F16 TP9	900	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown yellow, soft, silty clay including sparse small chalk fragments			901			<0.18m
F16 TP9	901		Layer	Subsoil. Mid reddish brown, soft, silty clay including moderate small chalk fragments and small subangular flions	900		902			<0.22m
F16 TP9	902	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including sparse large flint nodules	901					>2.10m
F6 TT05	500	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown, soft, silty clay including sparse small flint and chalk fragments			501			<0.40m
F6 TT05	501		Layer	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, soft, chalkey, silty clay including frequent medium chlk fragments	500		502			<0.30m
F6 TT05	502	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including sparse largte flint nodules	501					>2.15m
F6 TT06	600	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown, soft, silty clay including moderate, medium, flint nodules			601			<0.30m
F6 TT06	601		Layer	Subsoil. Light grey browm, friable, clay of variable depth, including frequent large chalk fragments	600		602			<0.30m
F6 TT06	602	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including sparse large flint nodules	601					>2.20m
F1 TT08	800	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown yellow, soft, clay including frequent chalk fragments			801			<0.30m
F1 TT08	801		Layer	Subsoil. Mid brown, soft, silty clay including abundant chalk fragments	800		802			<0.50m

Field / TT/ TP	Context no.	Period	Type	Description	Earlier than	Contemp. with	Later than	Length	Width/ Diameter	Thickness / Depth
F1 TT08	802	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk	801					>1.20m
F11 TT010	1000	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Dark brown, soft, silty clay including frequent angular chalk fragments			1001			<0.20m
F11 TT010	1001		Layer	Subsoil. Mid dark brown, soft, silty clay including moderate subangular flints	1000		1002			<0.30m
F11 TT010	1002	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk	1001					>2.35m
F12 TT011	1100	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid dark brown, soft, silty clay including sparse flint and chalk fragments			1101			<0.20m
F12 TT011	1101		Layer	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, friable, chalkey, silty clay including frequent medium chalk fragments	1100		1102			<0.30m
F12 TT011	1102	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including sparse large flint nodules	1101					>2.35m
F13 TT012	1200	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown, soft, silty clay including frequent small subangular flints			1201			<0.35m
F13 TT012	1201		Layer	Subsoil. Mid reddish brown, soft, clayey silt including sparse small angular flints fragments	1200		1202			<0.45m
F13 TT012	1202	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including sparse large flint nodules	1201					>2.10m
F17 TT014	1400	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid reddish brown, soft, silty clay including sparse small chalk fragments			1401			<0.32m
F17 TT014	1401		Layer	Subsoil. Mid brown, soft, silty clay including moderate small chalk fragments and sparse small subangular flints	1400		1402			<0.21m
F17 TT014	1402	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk	1401					>2.35m
	5000			No description						
Phase 2	Pipeline easement strip									
F1	100	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown, friable, silty clay including sparse subangular flints and chalk fragments			101			<0.30m
F1	101		Layer	Colluvium. Light grey brown friable silty clay including sparse to frequent subangular flints and chalk fragments	100		102			<0.41m
F1	102	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including chalk blocks and fragments, sparse flints and flint nodules	101					
F1	103	Medieval	Fill	Contour lynchet fill. Mid orange brown, friable, silty clay including very frequent subangular flints and sparse chalk fragments	100		102	<12m	<15m	
F2	200	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Light grey, friable, silty clay including frequent chalk fragments and rare flints			201			<0.20m

Field / TT/ TP	Context no.	Period	Type	Description	Earlier than	Contemp. with	Later than	Length	Width/ Diameter	Thickness / Depth
F2	201	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including frequent base chalk fragments and sparse flints	200					<0.10m exc
F3	300	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown, friable, silty clay including sparse subangular flints and chalk fragments			301			<0.20m
F3	301		Layer	Colluvium. Light grey brown friable silty clay including sparse to frequent subangular flints and chalk fragments	300		302			<0.12m exc
F3	302	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including chalk blocks and fragments, sparse flints and flint nodules. Rarely exposed but tending towards upper slope of easement	301					
F4	400	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown, friable, silty clay including sparse subangular flints and chalk fragments			401			<0.18m
F4	401		Layer	Colluvium. Light grey brown friable silty clay including sparse to frequent subangular flints and chalk fragments	400		402			<0.12m exc
F4	402	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including chalk blocks and fragments, sparse flints and flint nodules. Rarely exposed but tending towards upper slope of easement	401					
F5	500	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown silty clay including sparse small flint and chalk fragments			501			<0.40m
F5	501		Layer	Subsoil. Mid grey/brown chalky silty clay including frequent medium chalk fragments	500		502			<0.30m
F5	502	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including occasional large chalk nodules	501					>2.12m
F6	600	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown, firm, silty loam including sparse subangular flints and chalk fragments			601			<0.30m
F6	601	Geology	Layer	Natural. White blocky chalk	600					
F7	700	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, friable, silty clay including sparse subangular flints and chalk fragments			701			<0.24m
F7	701	Geology	Layer	Natural. White compacted chalk including sparse flints and loose chalk fragments	700, 702					
F7	702	Neolithic	Cut	Post hole/pit cut. Truncated conical cut	703		701	<0.53m	<0.52m	<0.32m
F7	703	Neolithic	Fill	Post hole/pit cut fill [702]. Deep brown compacted silty clay containing moderate angular and rounded flint <0.15m	700		702	<0.53m	<0.52m	<0.32m
F7	704	Bronze Age	Cut	Ring gully. Part flat-bottomed 'U'-profiled curvilinear cut. Outer ring diameter ca. 10m	705		701		<0.47m	<0.25m
F7	705	Bronze Age	Fill	Ring gully fill [704]. Deep brown, firm, silty clay including angular flint <0.10m	700		704		<0.47m	<0.25m
F8	800	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid grey brown, friable, silty clay including sparse subangular flints and chalk fragments			801			
F8	801	Geology	Layer	Natural. White compacted chalk including sparse flints and loose chalk fragments	700, 704					
F8	802			Not used						

Field / TT/ TP	Context no.	Period	Type	Description	Earlier than	Contemp. with	Later than	Length	Width/ Diameter	Thickness / Depth
F8	803			Not used						
F8	804	Early Neolithic	Cut	Solution hole. Figure of 8 in plan, comprising two conical cuts	805		801			
F8	805	Early Neolithic	Fill	Solution hole fill [804]. Deep brown compacted clay including rare angular flints <0.05m	800		804			
F10	1000	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. Mid brown, friable, silty clay including sparse subangular flints and chalk fragments			1001			<0.23m
F10	1001	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk including chalk blocks and fragments, sparse flints and flint nodules	1000, 1002					
F10	1002	Undated	Cut	Ditch re-cut. North to south truncated 'V'-profiled linear cut	1003		1004, 1010		<1.10m	<0.30m
F10	1003	Post-medieval	Fill	Ditch re-cut fill [1002]. Mid grey brown, friable, silt including sparse flint nodules and chalk fragments	1000		1002, 1004		<1.1m	<0.25m
F10	1004	Later Prehistoric	Fill	Lower ditch fill [1010]. Light yellowish grey, friable, calcareous silt very frequent chalk blocks (up to 70%) and pea grit	1002		1010		<0.30m	<0.10m
F10	1005	Post-medieval	Cut	Ditch re-cut. North to south, shallow box-profiled linear cut	1006		1009		<1.15m	<0.15m
F10	1006	Post-medieval	Fill	Ditch re-cut fill [1005]. Grey brown, friable to firm, clayey silt including moderate angular and rounded chalk with rare flints	1000		1005, 1009		<1.15m	<0.39m
F10	1007	Post-medieval	Cut	Ditch. North to south irregularly-profiled, flat-bottomed linear cut	1008		1001		<1.00m	<0.38m
F10	1008	Post-medieval	Fill	Ditch fill [1007]. Mid grey brown, friable, silt including moderate small to rarely large flint nodules and chalk fragments	1000		1007		<1.00m	<0.38m
F10	1009	Later Prehistoric	Fill	Upper ditch fill [1005]. Brownish yellow, firm, silty clay including moderate small to medium mainly subangular chalk fragments	1006		1011		<0.73m	<0.39m
F10	1010	Later Prehistoric	Cut	Ditch. North to south truncated 'V'-profiled linear cut	1002, 1004		1001		<0.25	<0.10m
F10	1011	Later Prehistoric	Cut	Ditch. North to south truncated 'V'-profiled linear cut	1005, 1009		1001		<0.73m	<0.39m
F11	1100	Modern	Layer	Ploughsoil. Mid grey brown, friable, clayey silt including moderate flints and sparse chalk fragments			1101			<0.20m
F11	1101		Layer	Colluvium. Mid brown, friable, silty clay including very frequent subrounded flints	1100		1102			<0.10m exc
F11	1102	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk, degraded surface including frequent flints and nodules	1101					
F12	1200	Modern	Layer	Ploughsoil. Mid grey brown, friable, clayey silt including moderate flints and sparse chalk fragments			1201			<0.20m
F12	1201		Layer	Colluvium. Mid brown, friable, silty clay including very frequent subrounded flints	1200		1202			<0.10m exc
F12	1202	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk, degraded surface including frequent flints and nodules	1201					

Field / TT/ TP	Context no.	Period	Type	Description	Earlier than	Contemp. with	Later than	Length	Width/ Diameter	Thickness / Depth
F13	1300	Modern	Layer	Ploughsoil. Mid grey brown, friable, clayey silt including moderate flints and sparse chalk fragments			1301			<0.18m
F13	1301	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk, degraded surface including frequent flints and nodules	1300					
F13	1306	Undated	Cut	Ditch. West to east truncated 'V'-profiled linear cut	1307		1301		<6.85m	<0.70m
F13	1307	Undated	Fill	Ditch fill [1306]. Mid reddish brown, friable, silty clay including frequent angular flints and chalk blocks	1300		1307		<6.85m	<0.70m
F14	1400	Modern	Layer	Ploughsoil. Mid grey brown, friable, clayey silt including moderate flints and sparse chalk fragments			1401			<0.25m
F14	1401		Layer	Colluvium. Reddish brown, clayey silt including very frequent flints and sparse chalk fragments	1400		1405			
F14	1402	Undated	Cut	Pit. Truncated cone	1403		1405		<0.50m	<0.27m
F14	1403	Undated	Fill	Primary pit fill [1402]. Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt including abundant rounded flint inclusions <0.10m. Due to initial weathering	1404		1402		<0.50m	<0.17m
F14	1404	Undated	Fill	Secondary pit fill [1402]. Dark grey brown, friable, clayey silt including rare rounded flint inclusions <0.05m and abundant charcoal and charred remains, appearing unconsolidated. Burning not <i>in situ</i>	1400		1403		<0.50m	<0.21m
F14	1405	Geology	Layer	Natural. Whiteish chalk, including sparse flints and chalk fragments	1401, 1402					
F15	1500	Modern	Layer	Ploughsoil. Mid grey brown, friable, clayey silt including moderate flints and sparse chalk fragments			1501			<0.30m
F15	1501		Layer	Colluvium. Reddish brown, clayey silt including very frequent flints and sparse chalk fragments	1500		1509			
F15	1502	Bronze Age	Cut	Pit. Basin-profiled cut	1503		1509			
F15	1503	Bronze Age	Fill	Pit fill [1502]. Mid reddish brown compacted clay including frequent flint nodules	1500		1502		<0.70m	<0.30m
F15	1504		Cut	Ditch. Truncated 'V'-profiled linear cut	1505				<1.08m	<0.38m
F15	1505		Fill	Ditch cut [1504]. XXX including poorly sorted, sparse to moderate, small to large subangular stones			1504		<1.08m	<0.38m
F15	1506			Not used						
F15	1507		Cut	Ditch. West to east truncated 'V'-profiled linear cut	1508		1506, 1509		<5.50m	<1.30m
F15	1508		Fill	Ditch fill [1507]. Mid red brown, form, silty clay including frequent subangular flints	1501		1509		<5.50m	<1.30m
F15	1509	Geology	Layer	Natural. Whiteish chalk, including sparse flints and chalk fragments	1501					
F16	1600	Modern	Layer	Ploughsoil. Mid grey brown, friable, clayey silt including frequent flints			1601			<0.25m
F16	1601		Layer	Colluvium. Reddish brown, clayey silt including very frequent flints and sparse chalk fragments	1600		1602			<0.23m exc
F16	1602	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk	1601, 1603					

Field / TT/ TP	Context no.	Period	Type	Description	Earlier than	Contemp. with	Later than	Length	Width/ Diameter	Thickness / Depth
F16	1603	Bronze Age	Cut	Ditch. North to south oriented, splayed 'U'-profiled linear cut	1604		1602		<0.76m	<0.30m
F16	1604	Bronze Age	Fill	Ditch fill [1603]. Mid red brown, firm, silty clay very frequent subangular flints	1600		1603		<0.76m	<0.30m
F16	1605		Cut	Gully. North to south oriented, irregular 'V'-profiled linear cut	1606		1602		<0.39m	<0.17m
F16	1606		Fill	Gully fill [1605]. Mid red brown, friable, silty clay including frequent subangular flints	1600		1605		<0.39m	<0.17m
F16	1607		Cut	Ditch. North east to south west oriented, 'U'-profiled linear cut	1608		1602		<1.2m	<0.30m
F16	1608		Fill	Ditch fill [1607]. Dark red brown, friable, silty clay including very frequent flints	1600		1607		<1.2m	<0.30m
F17	1700	Modern	Layer	Ploughsoil. Mid grey brown, friable, clayey silt			1701			<0.25m
F17	1701		Layer	Colluvium. Reddish brown, clayey silt including very frequent flints and sparse chalk fragments	1700		1702			<0.25m
F17	1702	Geology	Layer	Natural. White chalk	1701					

