B0405 Wood Hill, Dorchester, Dorset.

An Archaeological Excavation - The Assessment Report

context one
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES LTD

B0405 Wood Hill, Charlton Down, Dorchester, Dorset.

An Archaeological Excavation – The Assessment Report

for

Wessex Water plc

by

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Front cover image: View of the Site (facing south-east). © Context One Archaeological Services 2015

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Non-technical summary

Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out an archaeological excavation and monitoring and recording at Wood Hill, Charlton Down, near Dorchester, Dorset, in August and September 2015. The project was commissioned and funded by Wessex Water plc under a Term Agreement with COAS.

The programme was advised by Mr Steve Wallis (Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council) as a condition of granting planning consent for the construction of a balance tank and associated infrastructure. The Site lies within an area adjacent to Bronze Age barrows, one of which is a Scheduled Monument (HE Ref.1019395) and in an area with crop marks and earthworks relating to prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval field systems. Previous archaeological fieldwork (COAS 2013) identified archaeological features and finds from Middle Bronze Age, Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British, and Romano-British periods.

The programme of work involved archaeological monitoring of the topsoil stripping of a broad area to provide hard standing, a working area and the access road, as well as excavation of the area directly impacted by the construction of the tank.

Two features (a pit and a ditch) were assigned to the Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age. The large pit contained the majority of the artefacts and animal bone from the Site, including redeposited Middle Bronze Age pottery. The artefacts and animal bone can be characterised as resulting from settlement. The pattern of more complex deposition which occurred in the pit is a common occurrence on later Iron Age sites, and is an interesting example of the practice at this earlier date. Late Iron Age activity was represented by two pits, and Late Iron Age/Romano-British activity by a ditch. These features were generally shallower and produced only small amounts of material, implying that they may have been on the periphery of a settlement area, rather than at its core. A number of features remain undated, with two further pits, and four ditches. The character of these features means that they would fit equally well with either a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age or a Later Iron Age/Romano-British date.

The Site adds significantly to the understanding of landscape use in the central Dorset area in the Later Bronze Age /Early Iron Age transition, and the findings merit publication. Further research would need to be carried out in order to identify comparative sites within the county. No further work is recommended on any of the finds.

1. Introduction

1.1 Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out an archaeological excavation and monitoring and recording at Wood Hill, Charlton Down, near Dorchester, Dorset (the 'Site') in August and September 2015. The project was commissioned and funded by Wessex Water plc under a Term Agreement with COAS.

1.2 The programme was required as a condition of granting planning consent for the construction of a balance tank and associated infrastructure as part of condition 5 of the approval notice for the planning application (WD/D/14/003341). This followed the advice of Mr Steve Wallis (Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council) for a Strip, Map, Record and Investigation as the most appropriate mitigation for the development. The condition states that any archaeological remains present at the Site are to be properly investigated and reported in accordance with Policy SA23 and 24 of the *West Dorset District Local Plan* (2006) and advice by Central Government as set out in paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

1.3 The Site lies within an area adjacent to Bronze Age barrows, one of which is a Scheduled Monument (HE Ref.1019395) and in an area with crop marks and earthworks relating to prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval field systems. The area immediately around the Site has recognised medieval field boundaries. Evaluation trenching by COAS in September 2013 examined 16 trenches, targeted at 'probable' and 'possible' archaeological features suggested during an earlier geophysical survey. Eight trenches produced definitive archaeological features, including two walls, ditches, pits and evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation. Finds were identified from Middle Bronze Age, Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British, and Romano-British periods (McConnell 2013).

1.4 The programme of archaeological works comprised six elements: the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which set out the project strategy; archaeological excavation (divided into two phases); archaeological monitoring and recording; post-excavation and assessment report production (this document); analytical report production; and archive deposition. The WSI was approved by Mr Wallis prior to the commencement of any Site works. The last two elements will be carried out following the submission and approval of the assessment report by Mr Wallis.

2. Site location and topography

2.1 The Site (centred on NGR SY 67960 94090) was situated 1.6m to the north of Charminster and 0.7km south of Charlton Down (**Figure 1**). The Site occupied two fields, both in arable use. The western field slopes steeply from east to west and the eastern field slopes from north to south. The location of the new supply tank occupies a plateau adjacent to Wood Hill Clump at a height of *c*. 120m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The underlying geology is Spetisbury Chalk Member and the drift geology is Clay with Flints Formation – clay, silt, sand and gravel (BGS 2015). The soils are shallow and lime rich (http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes).

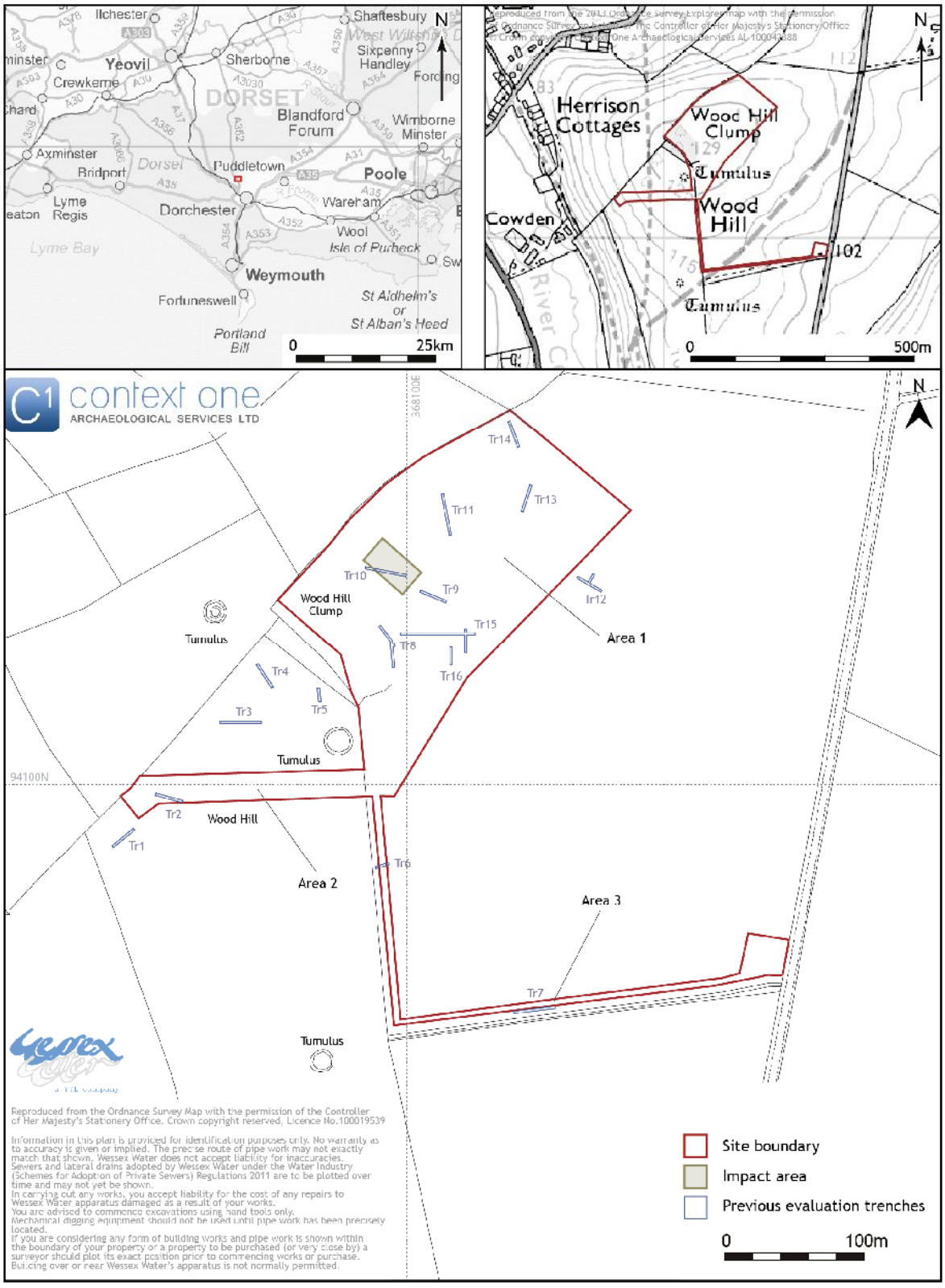


Figure 1. Site location and location of previous archaeological investigations

Figure 2. Site setting with known heritage assets

3. Archaeological and historical background

3.1 The relevant archaeological background within the environs of the Site has been drawn principally from secondary sources. This comprises records held by Dorset County Council as part of the County Historic Environment Record (HER). The principal items and areas of interest are located on **Figure 2** and summarised below (**Appendix 1**) alongside their corresponding HER numbers and **Figure 2** identification numbers.

3.2 A single Scheduled Monument (HE Ref. 1019395) lies on the summit of the hill immediately to the south corner of Wood Hill Clump (**Figure 2; 1**). This comprises a Bronze Age bowl barrow with a surrounding ditch, *c*. 20m in diameter and reduced by ploughing to *c*. 0.6m high. A further Scheduled Monument (HE Ref. 1020183), lies c. 550m to the south-south-west, comprising the earthworks of a medieval settlement (**Figure 2; 2**).

3.3 The Site is within an area on the central Dorset chalk with extensive prehistoric and later field systems and settlement. The HER shows additional possible barrows, *c*. 150m west of the Site (HER Ref. 1028054) and *c*. 200m to the south-south-west (HER Ref. MDO21112 & HE Ref. 1028041) (**Figure 2; 3, 5** & **6**). The area immediately around Wood Hill Clump has field systems showing as crop marks recorded from the air. These comprise medieval and post-medieval fields (HER Ref. MDO21060 & MDO21090) (**Figure 2; 11** & **12**) and systems of previously unknown date (MD 021091) [(**Figure 2; 10**)]. Trackways *c*. 400m to the east-north-east are of unknown date, but are likely to be either prehistoric or medieval (**Figure 2; 9**). Medieval strip lynchets (HER No. 1028058) lie *c*. 400m to the south-west on the hillslope above the River Cerne (**Figure 2; 13**). Further later prehistoric and medieval field systems are situated at Wolfeton Eweleaze *c*. 500-600m to the south-east of the Site (HER Ref. MD021082 & MDO765).

3.4 Post-medieval chalk pits (HER Ref. MDO21086 & MDO21085) (**Figure 2; 4 & 7**) and undated pits (HER Ref. MDO21089) (**Figure 2; 8**) are located *c*. 50m to the south-west, *c*. 400m to the south and *c*. 500m to the east of the Site.

3.5 The first stage of works on the Site comprised a geophysical survey carried out by Stratiscan in March 2013, which identified a number of 'probable' and 'possible' archaeological features. These appeared consistent with a pattern of prehistoric activity, including a possible round barrow, ditches, pits, pit clusters and ponds or sand pits.

3.6 The second stage of works comprised a Field Evaluation carried out by COAS in 2013. This comprised 16 trenches positioned in order to target geophysical anomalies. Eight of the trenches produced definitive archaeological evidence including 2 walls; 6 ditches; a pit; a large pit/pond; and evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation. Surprisingly, evidence for early prehistoric activity was modest, most of the features being ascribed to the Late Iron through to the Romano-British periods. Notably, this included the foundation for a Roman building which may represent a watch tower and a barn or low status agricultural dwelling (McConnell 2013). No Roman activity had previously been recorded in the environs.

4. Methodology

Wessex Water groundworks methodology

4.1 The removal of topsoil to a maximum depth of *c*. 0.30m was carried out by a machine equipped with a toothless bucket to establish a Site compound and access road (**Figure 1**).

4.2 Topsoil was also removed in the area in the centre of the Site which would be directly impacted by the construction of the balance tank. This was also carried out by machine to a depth of no more than *c*. 0.30m, and the edges battered.

Archaeological methodology

4.3 The programme of archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the codes, standards and guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) (formerly the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA)) (IfA 1985, rev. 2012; 1990, rev. 2008; 1994, rev. 2008). Current Health and Safety legislation and guidelines were followed on site.

Strip, map and record

4.4 The areas subject to strip, map, record and investigation (area 1: main development; area 2: pipeline easement; area 3: access road) are shown in plan (**Figure 1**) together with the 2013 evaluation trench locations. A 360-degree tracked or JCB-type (3CX) wheeled machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket was used to remove topsoil in shallow horizontal spits under the supervision of COAS archaeological staff. The upper layer of topsoil was removed across the majority of the total area to level the Site for hard standing. The central part of area 1 which was to be directly impacted by the construction was stripped down to a clean archaeological horizon, at which point the exposed surface was hand-cleaned and features mapped using a TopCon GRS-1 Global Positioning System (GPS) receiving real-time calibrations to produce accuracies of 1-2cm, to form a pre-excavation plan. The area of excavation covered *c*. 250 m2 (**Figure 3).** A metal detector survey was carried out following topsoil stripping.

4.5 All significant archaeological deposits and features in the impact area were sampled by manual excavation to establish stratigraphic relationships, with the aim of recovering sufficient artefacts to establish the dates and characters of the deposits, and to recover economic and palaeoenvironmental indicators. All features and deposits were drawn on dimensionally stable media at scales of 1:20 (plans) and 1:10 (sections) including representative sections and plans of the trenches. All features/deposits were recorded using standard COAS *pro-forma* recording sheets. Stratigraphic relationships were recorded using a "Harris-Winchester matrix" diagram.

4.6 The location, extent and altitude of archaeological features and deposits were mapped relative to the National Grid and Ordnance Datum using a GPS.

4.7 A photographic record of the work was prepared and involved the use of digital images. This included shots of the excavated area, individual features and working shots to illustrate the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

4.8 Artefacts collected from archaeological features/deposits were bagged using a combination of site code, feature and context numbers. All finds from the Site were retained for processing in preparation for further analysis and archiving. Specialist assessments of the artefact assemblage were compiled using both descriptive and tabular formats (see section **6**. and **Appendices 3, 4,** & **5**).

4.9 With the exception of metalwork, the finds recovered from the monitoring programme and the excavation programme were washed and, where necessary, will be marked with an accession number issued by Dorset County Museum. The finds were separated into artefact types and quantified by context number, quantity and weight in grams. Bulk finds such as post-medieval and modern brick, tile and slate were noted but not collected. The metal detector survey of the Site did not produce any artefacts, and no contexts proved to be suitable for soil sampling. The finds are discussed separately below and, where appropriate, presented as tabular data. A request will be made to the site owner to transfer the title of all finds to the above Museum.

4.10 Soil sample retention and recovery of palaeoenvironmental materials was confined to dateable

and undisturbed 'primary' deposits of visually demonstrable palaeoenvironmental potential, a method defined in *English Heritage: Environmental Archaeology Guidelines 2002*.

5. Results

5.1 The deposits and features encountered during fieldwork are listed and described in **Appendix 2**. In the text, context numbers for cuts appear in square brackets, e.g. [1004]; layer and fill numbers appear in standard brackets, e.g. (1002). Features were also assigned a feature number which appear here prefaced with an F. Where a feature is discussed, it is referenced with its feature, cut and associated fill numbers.

SOIL SEQUENCE AND GEOLOGY

5.2 The topsoil was a mid-brown silt varying from 0.2m to 0.40m thick with frequent inclusions of sub-angular flint nodules (100). This generally overlay the natural chalk (101).

FEATURES

5.3 A total of twelve archaeological features were excavated during the archaeological investigations, two of which can be securely attributed to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (LBA/EIA) and two to the Late Iron Age (LIA) (**Figure 3**). The phasing of these features is based on the earliest possible date of the backfills, using finds dating and stratigraphic relationships. A further six features contained fills which were similar in most respects to the LBA/EIA features, but contained no dateable material. The features were discrete, cut into the natural and with no stratigraphic relationships between them. These data are summarized in **Table 1;** a feature summary is provided in **Table 2** (with dimensions, fills and dates).

Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age

5.4 The Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (LBA/EIA) features comprise one pit and a ditch. Pit F18 (cut [114]) was circular in plan, *c*. 3.0m in diameter and *c*. 1.4m deep (**Plate 1; Figure 4** & **5**). This pit had a complex series of fills, and also contained a range of artefacts, including pottery, animal bone, copper alloy and slag. The fills were rich in flint and burnt flint.

5.5 Ditch F6 (cut [106] was a slightly irregular linear with sloping sides which varied between concave and convex in different sections, with maximum dimensions of *c*. 1.80-2.4m wide and *c*. 0.50-0.60m deep (**Plate 2; Figure 4** & **5**). It generally contained two fills, a flint rich primary fill and a less flinty upper fill.

Plate 1. Pit F018 [114] (from NW; 1m scales)

Plate 2. Ditch F006 [106] (from SW; 2 x 1m scales)

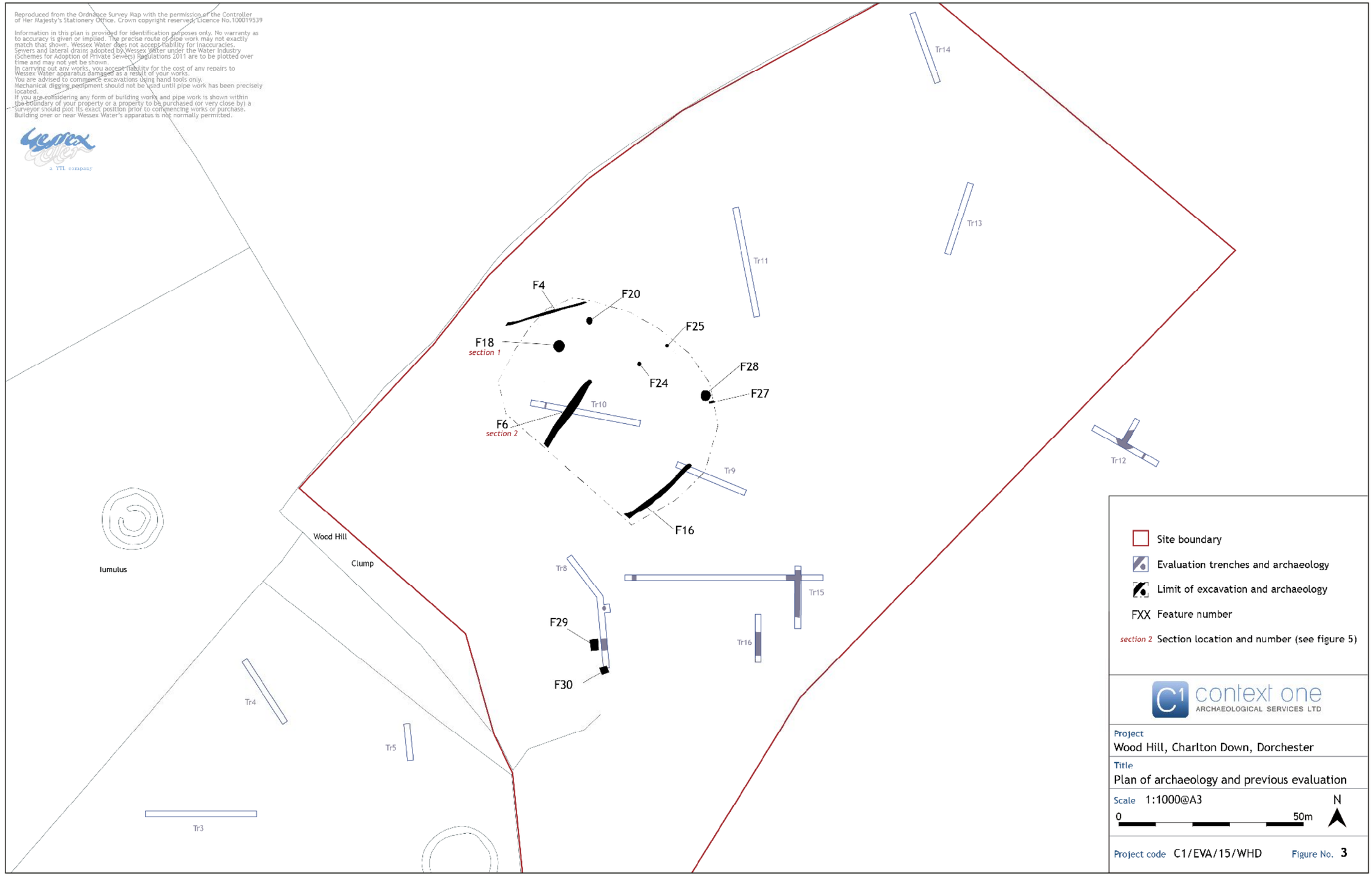


Figure 3. Plan of archaeological features in relation to the Field Evaluation trenches

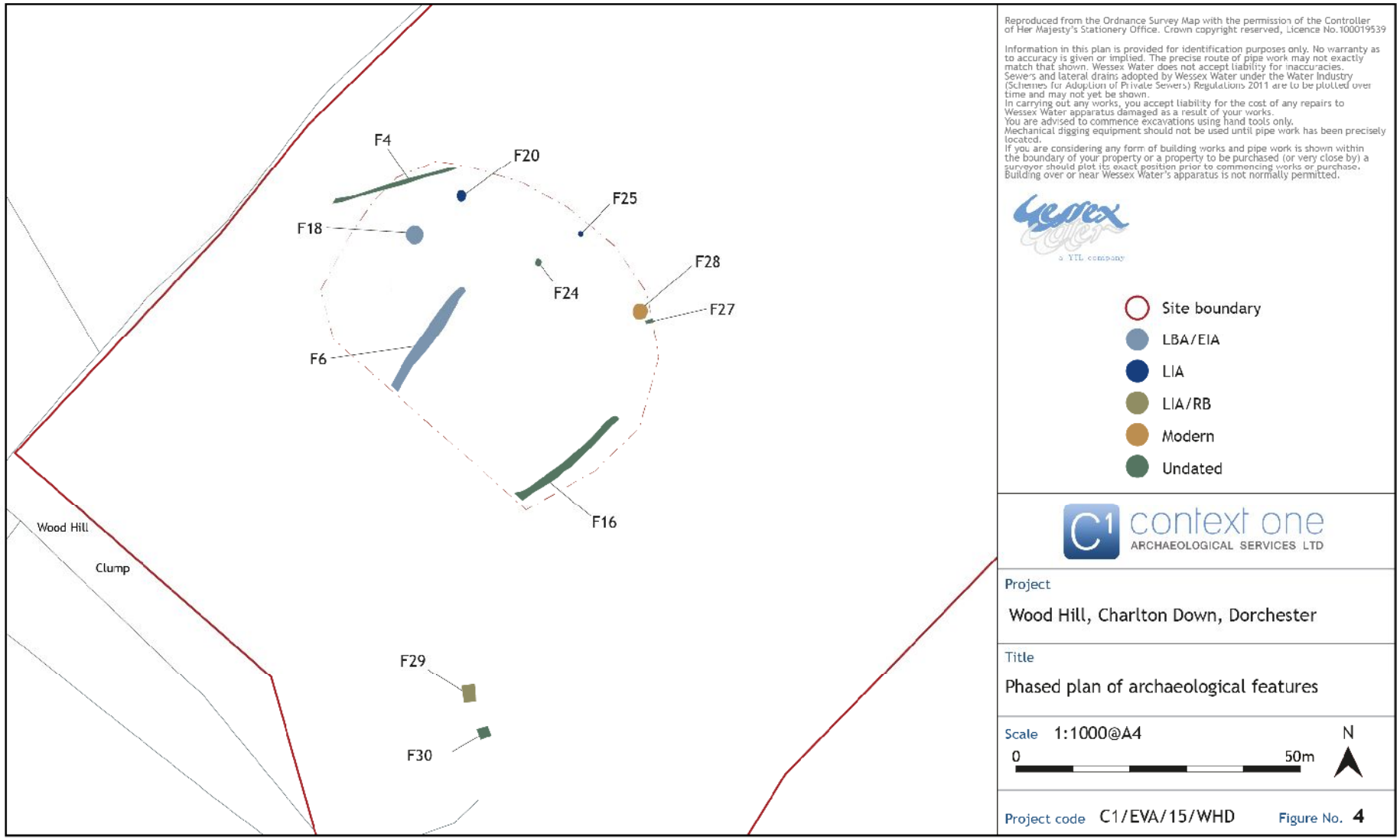
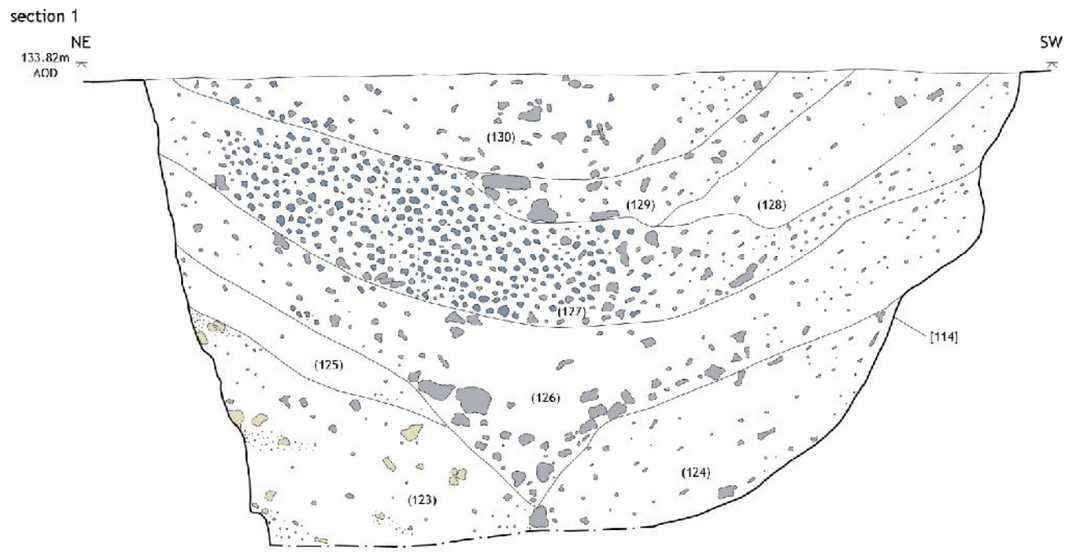
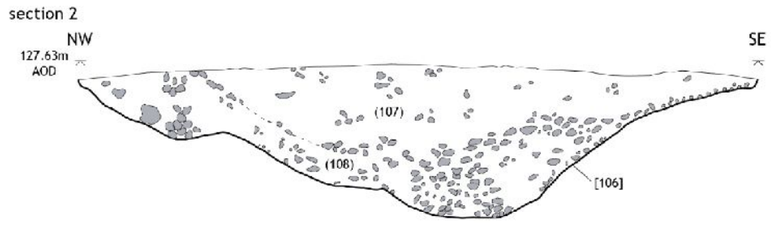


Figure 4. Phased plan of archaeological features





burnt flint
flint
chalk
(000) deposit/fill number
[000] cut number
XX.Xm AOD height above ordnance datum (AOD)

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Project
Wood Hill, Charlton Down, Dorchester

Title
Sections

Scale 1:20@A3
0 1m
N

Project code C1/EVA/15/WHD Figure No. 5

Figure 5. Section 1 (F18) & 2 (F6)

Late Iron Age

5.6 The Late Iron Age features consisted of two pits, F20 (cut [102]) and F25 (cut [137]). Ditch F29 (cut [141]) was undated, but relates to cut [808] in evaluation Trench 8, which was identified as Late Iron Age/Romano-British in date (McConnell 2013). Both of the pits were sub-circular in plan. F20 had maximum dimensions of between *c*. 1.88-2.02m in diameter, and *c*. 0.78m deep (**Plate 3; Figure 4**). It had concave sides and a sloping base and three fills, the lower and middle fills having apparently entered from the north-east side. Pit F25 (cut [137]) (**Plate 4; Figure 4**) had maximum dimensions of between *c*. 1.00m long, *c*. 0.80m wide, and *c*. 0.20m deep with a single fill.

5.7 Ditch F29 (cut [141]) was *c*. 2.58m wide and *c*. 0.68m deep with irregular concave sides and base (**Plate 5; Figure 4**). A series of fills mainly entered the ditch from the northern side and may indicate a bank on that side.

Plate 3. Pit F20 [102] (from SE; 1.0m scales)

Plate 4. Pit F25 [137] (from W; 0.5m scales)

Undated

5.8 There were a number of undated features which are likely to be of prehistoric date. These features had similar fills to the LBA/EIA features described above. However, they produced no dateable artefacts, and there was no stratigraphic relationship between these features and those which could be assigned a date.

5.9 There were two undated pits F22 (cut [109]); and F24 (cut [133]). F22 was sub-circular in plan with concave sides and base, and was *c*. 0.90m in diameter and *c*. 0.37m deep (**Plate 6; Figure 4**). It had a single fill with frequent flint nodules. Pit F24 (cut [133]) (**Figure 4**) was irregular and sub-rectangular with concave and convex sides. It had maximum dimensions of *c*. 1.30m wide and *c*. 0.42m deep. The single fill was also characterised by frequent flint nodules. F9 in area 3 was not excavated.

5.10 Four ditches (excluding F29, discussed above) were undated. F4 (cut [111]), F16 (cut [121/131]), F27 (cut [115]), and F30 (cut [149]) all had different profiles. F4 had steep sides and a sloping base (**Plate 7; Figure 4**), *c*. 0.45-0.80m wide and *c*. 0.30-0.32m deep. Ditch F16 (cut [121/131]) had straight or concave sites and a flat base (**Plate 8; Figure 4**) had maximum dimensions of between *c*. 1.20m-1.85m wide and *c*. 0.41-0.42m deep. F27 (cut [115]) was straight sided with a flat base, and measured *c*. 0.80m wide and *c*. 0.09m deep (**Plate 9; Figure 4**). F30 (cut [149]) was asymmetrical, with concave and irregular sides, measuring *c*. 1.05m wide and *c*. 0.34m deep (**Plate 10; Figure 4**). All of these ditches were characterised by a single fill, with the exception of F4 which had a thin upper accumulation in one section.

Plate 5. Ditch F29 [141] (from E; 1.0m scales)

Plate 6. Pit F22 [109] (from SW; 0.5m scales)

Plate 7. Ditch F4 [111] (from W; 0.5m scale)

Plate 8. Ditch F16 [121] (from NE; 1.0m scale)

Plate 9. Ditch F27 [115] (from NE; 0.5m scales)

Plate 10. Ditch F30 [149] (from E; 1.0m scales)

Post-medieval/Modern

5.11 Two features appeared to be of modern origin. F28 (cut [142]) (**Figure 4**) was a shallow sub-rounded irregular feature measuring *c*. 0.88m wide and *c*. 0.14m deep. The sides were irregular and there were indications of root disturbance. F13 situated in area 3 produced modern material and was not fully excavated.

Table 1: Summary of feature type by date

Feature type	Earliest possible date	No. of features	Feature/ & Cut numbers
Pits	LBA/EIA	1	F18 [114]
	LIA	2	F20 [102] F25 [137]
	Undated	2	F24 [133] F22 [109]
Ditches	LBA/EIA	1	F6 [106], [117] & [135]

	Undated	5	F4 [111] &[139] F16 [121] & [131] F27 [115] F29 [141] F30 [149]
Tree throw	Modern	1	F28 [142]
Other	Modern	1	F13 Unexcavated
	Undated	1	F9 Unexcavated

Table 2: Individual feature summary

Feature No.	Context No's & Description	Figure & Plate Refs	Finds
Pits			
F18	[114], (123), (124), (125), (126), (127), (128, (129), (130). A large circular pit, 3.0m in diameter, 1.40m deep with straight and concave steep sides and flat base. Two basal fills tipped from NE (124) and SW (123), with a further tip of material from the SW (125) was covered by secondary fill (126) across the whole pit, and subsequently (127). Upper fills (128) and then (129) occur and are angled in from the NE. A final fill (130) covered the central depression. Several fills were characterised by frequent flint and burnt flint.	Plate 1; Figure 1,2 &3	Pottery, Cu Alloy, slag
F20	[102], (105), (104), (103). A sub-circular pit, 1.88-2.02m in diameter, and 0.78m deep with concave sides and a sloping base. The primary fill (105) had entered the pit in a marked tip line from the NE side. The secondary fill (104) had also entered from the same side, with the upper fill (103) completing the SW portion. The fills were loose and characterised by copious quantities of flint nodules, fragments and in (105) burnt flint.	Plate 3; Figure 1 & 2	Pottery
F22	[109], (110). A shallow sub-circular pit with concave sides and base 0.90m in diameter and 0.37m deep, with a single fill (110) characterised by frequent flint nodules.	Plate 6; Figure 1 & 2	NA
F24	[133], (134). An irregular sub-rectangular pit with irregular concave and convex sides, *c.* 1.30m wide and 0.42m deep, the single fill (134) was characterised by frequent flint nodules.	Figure 1 & 2	NA
F25	[137], (138). A sub-circular shallow straight sided pit with a flat base, 1.00m long and 0.80m wide, 0.20m deep, with a single fill.	Plate 4; Figure 1 & 2	Pottery
Ditches			
F4	[111], (113), (112), [139], (140). A steep sided linear with a sloping base, 0.45-0.80m wide and 0.30-0.32m deep. A single main fill was noted in the two sections, (113) & (140) respectively, with a thin accumulation (112) in section [111].	Plate 7; Figure 1 & 2	NA
F6	[106], (108), (107), [117], (120), (119), (118), [135], (136). A ditch with slightly irregular and in the different sections convex or concave shallowly sloping sides, 1.80-2.4m wide and 0.50-0.60m deep. The primary fill in cut [106], (108) appears to have been tipped or slumped from the SE side, although there is also a continuous slump of material from the NW side. In section [117], the primary fill (120) is similar, with considerable quantities of flint nodules, and a secondary fill entering from the NE side. In both cases there is a single upper fill (107) and (108) respectively. The terminal [135] is rounded and contained a single fill (136).	Plate 2; Figure 1, 2 & 3	Pottery & flint
F16	[121], (122), [131], (132). A straight or concave sided ditch with a flat base, 1.20m-1.85m wide and 0.41-0.42m deep with a single context in each cut characterised by frequent flint nodules.	Plate 8; Figure 1 & 2	NA
F27	[115], (116). A straight sided linear with a flat base and squared off terminal, 0.80m wide and 0.09m deep, with a single fill with frequent flint nodules.	Plate 9; Figure 1 & 2	NA
F29	[141], (148), (147), (145), (146), (144). Ditch with irregular concave sides and base 2.58m wide and 0.68m deep. An initial slump of material on the northern face of the ditch (148) was covered by a larger flint rich deposit which also came in from the northern side (147). There was further accumulation from the north side (146), and a slump of material on the south face (145). These were covered with a final thick upper fill (144).	Plate 5; Figure 1 & 2	NA
F30	[149], (150). A shallow asymmetrical concave and irregular sided ditch 1.05m wide and 0.34m deep, with a single fill.	Plate 10; Figure 1 & 2	NA
Tree throw			
F28	[142], (143). A sub-rounded irregular hollow, c.0.88m wide and 0.14m deep with irregular sides and base, indications of root disturbance, and a single fill.	Figure 1 & 2	Pottery and Fe
Unexcavated			
F9	Unexcavated. Area 3.	Figure 1 & 2	Pottery
F13	Unexcavated. Area 3.	Figure 1 & 2	Pottery

6. The finds

6.1 A small assemblage of artefacts were recovered during the archaeological investigations. These included pottery, fired clay, flint, animal bone, slag, and metalwork. A fragment of charred wood collected from the surface of F13 is modern in origin and was discarded. Recommendations for further phases of analytical reporting, where applicable, are contained with section **8.**

POTTERY, BY RACHEL HALL

6.2 A total of 99 sherds, weighing 927g, were recovered from twelve contexts (see **Table 1**). The assemblage ranges in date from the Middle Bronze Age to Late Iron Age. The sherds are all in an abraded condition ranging from fair to poor with an average sherd size of 9.36g.

Middle Bronze Age (1500-1100 BC)

6.3 A small amount of material was recovered from pit [114]. The abraded sherds recovered are fragments of Bucket Urn, from the Deverel Rimbury Ceramic Tradition of the Middle Bronze Age. Three sherds are of a generally rarer grog-tempered fabric, but which is more commonly found in Dorset. The other three are in the more common coarse, calcined flint temper. These sherds are diagnostic with applied lugs and an impressed decorated cordon.

Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (1100-400 BC)

6.5 The majority of the assemblage comprises sherds dated to the post Deverel Rimbury period. A total of 67 sherds, weighing 686g were recovered from pits [102], [114] and ditch [106] (**Appendix 3**). Three fabrics were identified, a moderate calcined flint temper, a finer sandy with sparse calcined flint and sparse Iron pellets and a calcareous fabric with shell inclusions or voids (where the shell has been leached). A small amount of diagnostic sherds were identified, including; expanded bases, plain rims, exterior wipe marks and impressed cordons. These sherds have variable firing and are handmade. A small amount of sherd have sooted exteriors suggesting the use of the plain cooking vessels. The lack of diagnostic material is indicative of the plainer style of this post- Deverel Rimbury ware dated to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age.

Late Iron Age (100 BC – AD 43)

6.4 A small amount of sherds were identified as Late Iron Age in date due to their plain form and fabric. All sherds are in a sandy temper in a harder fired ware, these were recovered from features 9; 13 and pits [102], [137] and ditches [141] and [142]. Diagnostic sherds include slight bead rims and flattened bead rims. The assemblage also has diagnostic sandwich firing.

METALWORK BY JÖRN SCHUSTER

6.5 ARCHÆOLOGICALsmallFINDS (AsF) was commissioned by Context One Archaeological Services Ltd to provide an assessment report of an assemblage of four metal objects found during archaeological investigations at Wood Hill, Dorchester.

Methodology

6.6 The objects were examined visually and, where required, with hand lenses (x4, x8 magnification). No cleaning or X-radiography had been carried out before assessment. Object identification, measurements, including weight, and detailed descriptions were entered into an Excel spreadsheet.

The metalwork assemblage

6.7 The assemblage comprises four metal objects, two each of copper alloy and iron. The copper alloy item from context 128 is a 38.4mm-long fragment of strip with a rounded, quarter-pipe-shaped profile. Both its long edges and one small edge are broken, the other end is slightly bevelled towards the outer surface. A tentative suggestion might be that the object is a

fragment of a socket from a bronze spear, chisel or similar such object, but the condition is too fragmentary to provide any certainty.

6.8 A piece of copper alloy metal from context (129) is blob of metal spill showing an impression of the surface on which it solidified. While such a metal spill could be indicative of metalworking in the vicinity of the findspot, it is equally possible that a sufficiently hot fire (e. g. for a pyre) might have melted a copper alloy object.

6.9 A parallel-sided, thin iron strip from context (143) might have been a binding strip, possibly with a rivet or nail near one of its broken ends. The other iron object is a likely to have been a fragment of wire of a type that had been used for cattle fencing in the 19th or earlier 20th century.

Potential of the assemblage and recommendations for further work

6.10 Due to the limited size of the assemblage and the uncertainty of the identifications the objects have no potential to contribute to the interpretation of the Site. Consequently, no further work is proposed. An Excel spreadsheet including measurements and descriptions of the objects is available in the archive.

FIRED CLAY, BY RACHEL HALL

6.11 Nine fragments, weighing 346g of fired clay were recovered (see **Appendix 4**). The assemblage is largely undiagnostic, however two fragments, recovered from features 1 and 13 has two smoothed surfaces and a corner. This may form part of an object, possibly a loomweight. The remaining assemblage represents undiagnostic abraded fragments in a sandy fabric with variable firing and reduced cores in poor condition. These may represent daub fragments. No further work is necessary on the Fired Clay.

THE FLINT, BY CLARE RANDALL (COAS)

6.12 A total of three pieces of flint were recovered from the excavation. Apart from a single unstratified, abraded and re-corticated flake, two struck but unworked flints weighing 40g were collected from F6, (108). The raw material comprised good quality pale grey flint with dark grey mottles. This is typical of the large nodules that are relatively abundant on the Dorset Chalk and which often provided raw material in this area. No further analysis is required for this very small assemblage.

THE SLAG, BY CLARE RANDALL (COAS

6.13 A total of six fragments of slag weighing 131g were recovered from a single context (126), one of the middle fills of Feature 18. The fragments varied between 27-63mm in width. The structure is highly porous with numerous bubbles and cavities in a friable matrix which is pale grey-green in hue. The unbroken surface has a rounded and nodular appearance, and some of the exposed rounded cavities have a greenish glassy appearance. This is not apparently a metal working by-product. Similar material on later Iron Age sites in south Somerset have been suggested to be derived from clay which has been heated to melting point (e.g. hearth/kiln superstructure or part of a building consumed by fire).

THE ANIMAL BONE, BY CLARE RANDALL (COAS)

SUMMARY

6.14 The small animal bone assemblage all dates from the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age phase of the Site. The material was all recovered from two features, a small selection from the primary fill of ditch F6, and the fills of pit F18. The material probably relates to general processing waste of cattle and sheep/goat. However, the concentration of fragments, including a large portion of

cattle skull in F18, alongside a concentration of other materials, hints at more complex disposal practices.

Introduction

6.15 The small faunal assemblage comes from contexts in two features, both of which date to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age phase of the Site.

Methods

6.16 Each bone fragment was identified where possible to element and species, and where this was not possible Large Mammal (e.g. cattle sized), Medium Mammal (e.g. sheep sized, but potentially pig) and Unidentified mammal categories. All data were recorded in an Access relational database. Identification was carried out using comparative collections and with reference to Hillson (1992) Schmid (1972) and Hillson (2005) for domestic mammals, and Yalden (2003) for small mammals. Zones were recorded where possible for each anatomical element using the Maltby/Hambleton method (n.d.).

6.17 Where available cattle toothwear was assessed using Grant (1982), Hambleton (1999) and Halstead (1985) were also used in assigning categories. Bone porosity was recorded for all fragments, and each fragment examined for fusion information. Fusion was recorded for each fragment and assigned to age ranges (Silver 1969). The percentage of the element present was estimated and recorded to the nearest 10% for all identified fragments. Each fragment was also examined for pathological changes, breakage patterns, gnawing and weathering indicators. Burnt bone was recorded by colour (buff, brown, grey, black and calcined). The condition of all fragments was assessed on a five-point scale through poor, poor-average, average, average-good and good. Pathological changes were noted and potential for recording of metrical data assessed in accordance with von den Driesch (1976).

Results

6.18 The assemblage from Wood Hill comprised a total of 68 fragments of animal bone (**Appendix 5**). Of this, 59 fragments were related to a single cattle skull, with a further nine fragments of disarticulated and co-mingled from a total of three contexts (and one unstratified element). All of the material which could be assigned to a context was associated with the late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age phase of the Site. Three fragments came from the primary fill of ditch F6 [106]; three further fragments came from the upper fill of pit F18 [114]; two disarticulated fragments and the group of associated fragments of cattle skull came from a lower fill of the same feature.

Preservation and taphonomy

6.19 The condition of the bone was poor-average to average, and with the highly fragmented cattle skull poor-average. The quantities of bone in deposits are too small to enable consideration of preservational differences between contexts/features. The cattle skull was recorded as an associated bone group, although it was not entire. More than half of the small selection of disarticulated material was identified to species, but the assemblage is too small to draw further conclusions as to its fragmentation. No examples of butchery were noted, but there were two helical breaks of cattle-sized mammal long bones, in the assemblage which will have contributed to the degree of fragmentation. Five fragments (50% of the total assemblage, including the cattle skull) demonstrated taphonomic changes three relating to weathering, and two being partly burnt. No dog gnawing was noted. No measurements could be taken, and no pathological conditions were noted.

Species and distribution

6.20 The species identified were cattle and sheep/goat. A few fragments could be assigned to cattle-sized and sheep-sized mammals. Including the cattle skull as a single fragment, cattle were the

most numerous by NISP, with three fragments to two sheep/goat fragments which could be assigned to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. When the minimum number of individuals is considered, cattle fragments were contributed by a MNI of two, and sheep/goat a MNI of one. Although this is a very small group of material, it should be noted that the two stratified sheep/goat fragments and one sheep-sized mammal fragment came from the ditch fill (108), whilst all of the cattle and cattle-sized mammal fragments (as well as a single sheep-sized mammal fragment) came from pit F18, context (129) (three fragments), and context (126) (two fragments and the cattle skull fragment). This may imply some structure to the disposal of material.

Cattle

6.21 A total of three fragments were identified as cattle, including the large fragmented skull fragment. Two fragments (not including those related to the cattle skull) were from cattle-sized animals. The minimum number of individuals was two, with a minimum of one adult and one juvenile. Aging information is extremely limited as the single mandible could not be assigned a wear stage, although the deciduous premolar was worn. This fragment was porous. A permanent maxillary molar originated from an elderly animal as it was worn right down to gum level. No elements provided fusion information. Although the selection of material is severely limited, combining cattle and cattle-sized animals, there are axial and limb bones represented. The two cattle sized long bone fragments from context (129) both displayed helical breaks and were both partly burnt. This is potentially indicative of deliberate fragmentation (maybe for marrow extraction), and possibly cooking. The cattle skull from context (126) comprised areas of the frontal bone and the posterior part of the maxilla. The back and base of the skull were not present. No cut marks were noted but this might relate to processing to extract the brain. Whilst this is a large portion of the skull, none of the teeth were present in the maxilla, indicating that the material had decayed enough for them to loosen before deposition. This large fragment of skull may represent an additional fragment of general waste, but it at least indicates that there was an interval between death/processing and deposition.

Sheep/goat

6.22 Three fragments of sheep/goat bone were identified, two of them from a phased context. Two fragments of sheep-sized mammal bone were also recorded. No fragments could be positively identified as sheep or goat. This material was contributed by a minimum number of one animal, an adult. There were no porous fragments. Aging data is limited, with no mandibles or loose teeth. The vertebra fragment was fully fused, as was the pelvic fragment, which indicates an animal of at least 6-8 months of age. This individual was possibly male. Only the axial skeleton is represented. There were no examples of butchery or deliberate fragmentation. The sheep/goat fragment in the ditch fill (108) was weathered as was the sheep-sized mammal fragment from context (129) of F18.

Comment

6.23 This is an extremely small assemblage, which confirms the presence of cattle and sheep/goat. Cattle and sheep/goat predominate in central southern British assemblages of this later prehistoric period, although it is as this point that there tends to be a general increase in the importance of sheep/goat (Hambleton 1999; 2008).

6.24 All of the fragments are likely to relate to general consumption waste. However, it is interesting that the majority of the material, and the largest fragment, the piece of cattle skull, all come from the fills of pit F18 [114]. This pit also produced the largest concentration of pottery and other artefacts, so there is potentially greater significance to the concentration of animal bone in this location. The combination of materials in a large pit with complex fills is reminiscent of later Iron Age deposition (Randall 2010), and this feature indicates that these more complex depositional practices may have their origins during the Bronze Age – Iron Age transition. No further work is needed on this assemblage.

7. Discussion and Conclusions

Discussion

7.1 The archaeological excavation has identified a total of twelve archaeological features comprising pits and ditches, four of which could be securely dated.

7.2 Two features were assigned to the Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age, a pit F18 and ditch F6. Both of these features contained fills rich in natural flint nodules. The ditch appeared to have filled from both sides, so there was no indication as to the presence or location of an associated bank. Pit F18 was large, steep sided with a complex series of fills, some of which may have involved deliberate events. This pit also contained the majority of the artefacts and animal bone from the Site, including post-Deverell Rimbury plain ware pottery, but also redeposited Middle Bronze Age Deverell Rimbury sherds. The pit also produced a fragment of what may be a socket of a copper alloy weapon or tool, and a large portion of cattle skull. This pattern of more complex deposition and combination of materials in a single feature is a common occurrence on later Iron Age sites in the area (Randall 2010), but supplies an interesting example of the practice in a feature of earlier date. The artefacts and animal bone can however all be characterised as resulting from settlement.

7.3 Late Iron Age activity was represented by two pits F20 and F25, and the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period by ditch F29 (which contained no dateable artefacts but was clearly the same feature as encountered in Trench 8 of the 2013 evaluation). These features were generally shallower, and produced only small amounts of material, implying that they may have been on the periphery of a settlement area, rather than at its core.

7.4 A number of features remain undated, with two further pits F22 and F24, and four ditches F4, F16, F27 and F30. The character of these features was variable, and they all have flint rich fills. This would fit equally well with either a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age or a Later Iron Age/Romano-British date. However, as F16 lies broadly parallel to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditch F6, it might be postulated that this represents another part of an enclosure or field system. The relationship of F30 to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch F29 was not ascertained, but they may be on a similar but converging alignment which may indicate that they are unlikely to relate to the same phase of land division.

7.5 Two features were identified as post-medieval or modern in origin, F13, which was unexcavated but produced modern metal, and F28 which may represent a tree throw hollow.

7.6 No further work has been recommended on any of the finds. However, the Site adds significantly to the understanding of landscape use in the central Dorset area in the Later Bronze Age /Early Iron Age transition. This means that the findings of this work are worthy of publication.

Conclusions

7.7 The excavation has revealed evidence of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, and later Iron Age occupation and land use. Middle Bronze Age occupation in the area is also attested from the residual pottery recovered from the LBA/EIA features. Whilst the plan of the area is incomplete, and it may be that the excavated area was peripheral to the main focus of settlement and activity in both the LBA/EIA and LIA/RB periods, the existence of such settlement in an area previously dominated by archaeological features dating to the medieval period is an important addition to understanding the sequence of land use.

7.8 The LBA/EIA pit is an interesting example of a phenomena which is better understood in the later Iron Age. The Site also has significance when seen in the context of the Early Iron Age phase of activity at Grimstone Reservoir (Green & McConnell 2014; Tabor 2011), *c.* 2km to the west. The

Site is an additional example of the use of the central Dorset chalk for settlement and farming during this period.

7.9 The collected finds are of potential value to researchers and should be retained as a material archive. In particular, the pottery is of interest as it contributes to the regional Bronze Age/Iron Age ceramic sequence.

8. Publication proposal

8.1 The quality and quantity of the archaeology is of county publication importance and would merit a short article in the County journal. However, at the time of writing, the scope and manner of any publication has yet to be agreed with Mr Wallis (Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council).

8.2 It is proposed that an article reporting the results of the Field Evaluation and excavation should be submitted to the annual *Proceedings of the Dorset Archaeological and Natural History Society*. It is estimated that it should be of 3500 to 5000 words, provisionally entitled: *Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age occupation within field systems at Wood Hill, Dorchester*. The proposed contents are summarised below.

Summary	Outline of results
Introduction	Project background
	Physical environment
	Archaeological background
	Method
	Phasing
Results	Phase 1 – Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age
	Phase 2 – Late Iron Age/Romano-British period
Finds	The Prehistoric Pottery (Hall) Report included within this assessment
	Fired Clay (Hall) Report included within this assessment
	The Flint (Randall) Report included within this assessment
	Slag (Randall) Report included within this assessment
	Metalwork (Schuster). Report included within this assessment
Environmental	Animal bone (Randall). Report included within this assessment
Site Discussion	Discussion of the results and comparison with similar local and regional sites

The following pottery should be illustrated:

1. *Middle Bronze Age; Grog tempered; applied lug/cordon Feature.18; contexts (124) and (129)*
2. *Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age; expanded base and wipe marks Feature.18; context*

(126)

3. *Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age; plain rim Feature. 18 context (125); Feature 20; context (105)*
4. *Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age; impressed cordon; Feature 18; context (126)*

9. Archive

9.1 An ordered and integrated site archive has been prepared to comply with guidelines set out in *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 2001) and *Standards in the Museums Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museum and Galleries Commission 1992) / *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991).

9.2 The project archive is currently held by COAS and consists of the following:

Item	Number	Format
Context summary sheets	2	Paper
Feature summary sheet	1	Paper
Feature sheets	78	Paper
Graphics registers	2	Paper
Levels register	2	Paper
Drawings	18	Permatrace
Photographic registers	2	Paper
Digital images	38	.JPG
Faunal data	1	.xls

9.3 The paper archive has been scanned as a single file in .PDF format and will form part of the physical Site archive to be deposited with Dorset County Museum.

9.4 Copies of this report will be deposited with the client/agent and included as part of the Dorset Historic Environment Record. A digital copy of the report will also be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service, via OASIS (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations – http://oasis.ac.uk/england/). The OASIS entry will also be completed to include details of the archive contents.

10. COAS acknowledgements

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Steve Wallis, Senior Archaeologist, Dorset County Council
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Appendix 1. HER events within Site environs (from Dorset Historic Environment Record)

HER No.	Description	NGR	Figure 1 ref.
Bronze Age (2300BC – 700BC)			
Scheduled Monument 1019395	Bowl barrow on Wood Hill, 310m north-east of Cowden	SY 68048 94138	1
Scheduled Monument 1020183	Medieval settlement 850m north of St Mary's Church	SY 6792 9355	2
1028054	Possible barrow visible as earthworks on aerial photographs	SY 679 942	3
1028041	Possible bowl barrow on Wood Hill visible as earthworks on aerial photographs. A flinty mound 1 ½' high and 55' in diameter	SY 680 938	6
MDO21112	Mound, possible Bronze Age barrow visible on aerial photographs as a cropmark	SY 680 939	5
Later Prehistoric/Roman or medieval (2300BC-AD1547)			
MDO21091	Wood Hill field boundaries. Ditched field boundaries visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs. Uncertain date, but likely to predate the medieval field system (MDO21090)	SY 681 942	10
MDO21096	Charlton Farm Trackways of prehistoric or medieval origin visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs.	SY 685 943	9
Prehistoric			
MDO21082	Wolfeton Eweleaze. Fragments of a possible prehistoric field system underlying the medieval field system.	SY 686 930	NA
Medieval (AD1066 – AD1547)			
1028058	Medieval strip lynchets visible as earthworks on aerial photographs to the east of the River Cerne.	SY 678 938	13
MDO21060	Wood Hill Clump field boundaries. Banked and ditched field boundaries of medieval or poet-medieval origin visible as cropmarks on LiDAR.	SY 678 941	12
MDO21090	Wood Hill medieval field system including strip fields, ridge and furrow and a trackway visible as cropmarks and earthworks on aerial photographs.	SY 682 942	11
MDO765	Wolfeton Eweleaze. An extensive medieval strip field system and associated ridge and furrow cultivation marks visible as low earthworks and cropmarks on aerial photographs.	SY 686 930	NA
Post-medieval (AD 1547-Modern)			
MDO21086	Chalk pit	SY 680 940	4
MDO21085	Chalk pit	SY681 937	7
MDO21089	Pits of unknown date	SY686 944	8

Appendix 2: Context summary

CONTEXT NO.	FEATURE NO.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	INTERPRETATION	ABOVE	CONTEMP. WITH	BELOW	LENGTH	WIDTH/ DIAMETER	THICKNESS/ DEPTH
100	NA	Modern	Topsoil	Mid brown sandy clay sit with flint inclusions	Plough zone	-	-	-	-	-	-
101	NA	NA	Natural	Chalk	Natural	-	-	-	-	-	-
102	F020		Cut	Concave sided and base sub-circular pit	Pit	101	-	105	2.02m	1.88m	0.78m
103	F020		Fill	Silty clay with frequent flint fragments and nodules	Upper fill of F020 [102]	104	-	100	1.45m	1.88m	0.36m
104	F020	LIA	Fill	Silty clay with frequent flint nodules	Secondary fill of F020 [102]	105	-	103	1.48m		0.75m
105	F020	LBA/EIA pot	Fill	Silty clay with frequent burnt flint	Primary fill of F020 [102]	102		104	1.18m		0.57m
106	F006		Cut	Linear feature with concave and irregular sides and flat base	Ditch	107		100	1.00m	2.23m	0.50m
107	F006		Fill	Firm silty clay with frequent flint and infrequent small gravels	Upper fill of F006 [106]	108		100	1.00m	2.23m	0.24m
108	F006	LBA/EIA	Fill	Silty clay with frequent inclusions of large angular flint, covering the base of the linear to a height of 0.3m and visible in section on E&W, with higher concentration on E	Primary fill of F006 [106}	106		107	1.00m	2.23m	0.3m
109	F022		Cut	Shallow sloping sided circular pit	Pit	101		110		0.90m	0.37m
110	F022		Fill	Silty clay with frequent flint nodules	Fill of pit F022 [109]	109		100		0.90m	0.37m
111	F004		Cut	Steep sided linear cut with sloping base	Ditch	101		113		0.80m	0.32m
112	F004		Fill	Dark grey silty clay with frequent flint nodules. Loose.	Upper fill of F004 [111]	113		100		0.80m	0.06m
113	F004		Fill	Silty clay with frequent flint	Primary fill of F004 [111]	111		112		0.80m	0.32m
114	F018		Cut	Concave/straight steep sided circular pit cut into clay with flints and natural limestone	Pit	101	-	115		3.00m	1.40m
115	F027		Cut	Straight sided linear with flat base	Linear	101		116	0.84m	0.80m	
116	F027		Fill	Friable silt clay with frequent chalk frags and frequent flint nodules	Fill of linear F027 [115]	115		100	1.64m	0.80m	0.09m
117	F006		Cut	Convex sided linear with flat base	Ditch	101	[106]	120	1.10m	2.4m	0.60m

CONTEXT NO.	FEATURE NO.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	INTERPRETATION	ABOVE	CONTEMP. WITH	BELOW	LENGTH	WIDTH/ DIAMETER	THICKNESS/ DEPTH
118	F006		Fill	Silty clay deposit with fine gravels and infrequent inclusions of angular flint	Upper fill of F006 [117]	119		100	1.10m	2.4m	0.20m
119	F006		Fill	Compact dark brown clay layer with few flint and gravel inclusions in deposit on the border with (118) and (120)	Secondary fill of F006 [117]	120		118	1.10m	0.60m	0.17m
120	F006		Fill	Compact clay/silt with frequent angular flint inclusions	Primary fill of F006 [117]	117		19	1.10m	1.0m	0.35m
121	F016		Cut	Straight sided linear with flat base	Ditch	101	[131]	122		1.20m	0.41m
122	F016		Fill	Friable mix of silty clay with frequent nodules of flint (small and large) and some chalk fragments	Fill of F016 [121]	121		100	1.60m	1.20m	0.41m
123	F018		Fill	Dark yellowish brown silt clay with frequent flint	Primary fill of pit F018 [114]	114		125	1.10m	1.0m	0.50m
124	F018	LBA/EIA	Fill	Dark yellowish -dark brown silt clay with moderate flint inclusion	Primary fill of pit F018 [114]	114		126	1.15m	1.00m	0.40m
125	F018	LBA/EIA	Fill	Very dark brown loam with sparse pea grit and limestone flecks	Secondary fill of pit F018 [114]	123, 124		126	0.80m	1.00m	0.15m
126	F018	LBA/EIA	Fill	Dark yellowish brown silt clay with frequent large natural flints at centre and smaller frequent flints throughout	Fill of fill F018 [114]	125		127	2.70m	1.20m	0.60m
127	F018		Fill	Mid dark brown /dark yellowish brown silt clay with abundant burnt flint and natural flint and pea grits	Fill of fill F018 [114]	126		128	2.90m	1.40m	0.46m
128	F018	LBA/EIA	Fill	Mid dark brown silt clay with frequent flints and pea grits	Fill of fill F018 [114]	127		129	1.10m	1.00m	0.35m
129	F018	LBA/EIA	Fill	Dark yellowish brown/mid dark brown silt clay/natural clay with flint with frequent natural flint and pea grits	Fill of fill F018 [114]	128		130	1.30m	1.00m	0.20m
130	F018		Fill	Mid Dark Brown silt clay with common flint and frequent burnt flint	Upper fill of pit F018 [114]	129		100	2.25m	1.40m	0.35m
131	F016		Cut	Concave sided linear with flat base	Ditch	101	[121]	132		1.85m	0.42m
132	F016		Fill	Darkish yellow brown clay with frequent gravel and flint	Fill of ditch F016 [131]	131		100		1.85m	0.42m
133	F024		Cut	Steep irregular sided circular pit	Pit	101		134		1.30m	0.42m
134	F024		Fill	Friable silty clay with frequent small and large flint	Fill of pit F024	133		100		1.30m	0.42m

CONTEXT NO.	FEATURE NO.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	INTERPRETATION	ABOVE	CONTEMP. WITH	BELOW	LENGTH	WIDTH/ DIAMETER	THICKNESS/ DEPTH
				nodules	[133]						
135	F006		Cut	Concave sided linear with flat base	Ditch	101		136	1.50m	1.80m	0.25m
136	F006		Fill	Mid dark brown silty clay with frequent flint	Fill of ditch F006 [135]	135		100	1.50m	0.90m	0.28m
137	F025		Cut	Straight sided pit with flat base	Pit	101		138	1.00m	0.80m	0.20m
138	F025	LIA	Fill	Mid dark brown silt clay with occasional flint and frequent pea grits	Fill of pit F025 [137]	137		100			
139	F004		Cut	Linear feature with straight sides steep and flat base	Ditch	101		140		0.45m	0.15m
140	F004		Fill	Dark brown silty clay with frequent flint	Fill of ditch F004 [139]	139		100		0.45m	0.15m
141	F029		Cut	Linear feature with concave sides and base	Ditch	101		148	2.58m	0.68m	0.68m
142	F028		Cut	A sub-rounded irregular hollow wide and deep with irregular sides and base, indications of root disturbance	Tree throw	101		142		c.0.88m	0.14m
143	F028	Modern	Fill	Disturbed silty clay	Fill of tree throw [142]	142		100		c.0.88m	0.14m
144	F029		Fill	Silty clay with moderate flint nodules and fragments		145		100		2.15m	0.48m
145	F029		Fill	Silty clay with very occasional small flint flakes		147		144		0.52m	0.32m
146	F029		Fill	Silty clay with small flint fragments		147		144		0.94m	0.28m
147	F029		Fill	Silty clay with very frequent flint nodules and fragments		148		145/146	1.35m	0.53m	
148	F029		Fill	Silty clay with very occasional small flint flakes		141		147		0.73m	0.45m
149	F030		Cut	Shallow asymmetrical linear cut, slightly concave on north face, and shallow and irregular on South	Ditch	101		150		1.05m	0.34m
150	F030		Fill	Silty clay with frequent flint fragments	Fill of ditch F030 [149]	149		100		1.05m	0.34m
NA	F009	LIA		Unexcavated, but pottery recovered from surface		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
NA	F013	LIA		Unexcavated by pottery recovered from surface		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Appendix 3. Pottery by Feature, Context, Fabric, Date, Number and Weight (g).

FEATURE	CONTEXT	FABRIC	DATE	NUMBER	WEIGHT
20	103	LBA/EIA	Flint	2	22
20	103	LIA	sandy	1	36
20	104	LBA/EIA	Flint	5	39
20	104	LBA/EIA	Calcareous	2	12
20	105	LBA/EIA	Flint	2	38
66	108	LBA/EIA	sand/flint	2	18
18	125	LBA/EIA	Calcareous	8	104
18	125	LBA/EIA	sand/flint	14	61
18	129	MBA	Grog	2	18
18	129	MBA	Flint	2	23
18	129	LBA/EIA	Calcareous	3	11
18	129	LBA/EIA	sand/flint	1	13
18	124	LBA/EIA	sand/flint	8	143
18	124	MBA	Grog	1	5
18	124	LBA/EIA	Calcareous	5	41
18	126	LBA/EIA	Flint	9	128
18	126	LBA/EIA	Calcareous	6	56
25	138	LIA	sandy	1	9
28	143	LIA	sandy	4	15
9	-	LIA	sandy	3	22
13	-	LIA	sandy	18	113
TOTAL				**99**	**927**

Appendix 4. Fired Clay Feature, Fabric, Type, Number and Weight (g).

FEATURE	FABRIC	TYPE	NUMBER	WEIGHT (G)
1	Fired Clay	x1 object (corner and 3 surfaces) and undiagnostic fragments	7	293
13	Fired Clay	x1 object with surface and abraded object	2	53
TOTAL			**9**	**346**

Appendix 5. Species representation by Number of fragments by context.

	F18 [114] (Pit)		F6 [106] (Ditch)	Unstratified	Total
Species	(129)	(126)	(108)		
Cattle	-	2 (+8*)	-	-	2 (+8*)
Sheep/Goat	-	-	2	1	3
Main total	-	-	-	-	*5 (+1)*
Large mammal	2	(51*)	-	-	2 (+51*)
Medium mammal	1		1	-	2
Unidentified total	*3*	*2 (+59)*	-	-	*4*
Total	***3***	***4***	***3***	***1***	***9 (+1)***