



Land off Spitfire Road Calne, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation



Planning Authority: Wiltshire Council
Museum Name and Accession Number:
Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes, DZSWS:50-2022
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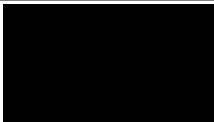
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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Neil Wright of RPS Consulting Ltd (the client) on behalf of Robert Hitchins Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 5.55 ha parcel of land located off Spitfire Road, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 8GA. The evaluation area is centred on NGR 400910 171530.

The evaluation comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of 23 trial trenches across four fields (Areas 1, 2, 3, 4) located to target anomalies identified during the geophysical survey and to test 'blank' areas of the survey.

All excavated trial trenches contained no archaeological features or deposits, indicating that there appears to be limited human activity within the site prior to the post-medieval period.

The limited finds from within the topsoil (predominately post-medieval CBM, pottery, glass) may be derived through the process of manuring or may represent the presence of workers carrying out agricultural tasks within the site. Evidence of arable cultivation in the form of plough scars was recorded in three of the four fields (Areas 2, 3, 4). The absence of plough scars in Area 1 suggest that this field has only been cultivated as pasture, at least during the late post-medieval/ modern periods.

The evaluation was able to establish that the results of the geophysical survey were generally reliable.

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank RPS Consulting Ltd, for commissioning the archaeological evaluation. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of Tim Havard of Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service, who monitored the project for Wiltshire Council, and to Channel Plant for their cooperation and help on site.

Land off Spitfire Road, Calne, Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Neil Wright of RPS Consulting Ltd (the client) on behalf of Robert Hitchens Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 5.55 ha parcel of land located off Spitfire Road, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 8GA. The evaluation area is centred on NGR 400910 171530 (Fig. 1).
- 1.1.2 The evaluation comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of 23 no. 1.8 m wide trenches, with a combined length of 1070 m. Twenty-one trenches of varying lengths, and totalling 1818 m², targeted geophysical survey anomalies and blank areas across the Site which represented a c. 4% sample. A further two 30 m by 1.8 m trenches were located within an L-shaped area of likely modern disturbance, representing a 2.48% sample of this area.
- 1.1.3 This evaluation is part of a staged approach in determining the archaeological potential of the Site, and follows other non-intrusive archaeological work, including a Desk-based Assessment (DBA) (RPS 2021) and a geophysical survey (Sumo 2022).

1.2 Scope of document

- 1.2.1 This report details the aims of the evaluation, and the methods and standards adhered to and the outcome. In format and content, it conforms to current best practice, as well as to the guidance in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE, Historic England 2015a) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a).
- 1.2.2 This document will be submitted to Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service, the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), for approval.

1.3 Location, topography, and geology

- 1.3.1 The Site lies on the north-eastern side of Calne and comprises five parcels of agricultural land centred on NGR 400910 171530 with a combined area of approximately 5.55 hectares. One parcel of land, comprising a modern pond, was excluded from the evaluation but is included in the development area for the purposes of planning.
- 1.3.2 The Site is bounded to the north-west by Spitfire Road and by Spitfire Way to the south-west. Modern farm buildings and agricultural fields form the north-eastern boundary. The Abberd Brook runs approximately north-east by south-west along the southern perimeter of the site, with residential development underway to the south-east.
- 1.3.3 The Site slopes down from its highest point along Spitfire Road, which forms its north-western boundary (c. 83 m above Ordnance Datum), down to the Abberd Brook, at its south-eastern boundary (c. 75 m aOD).

- 1.3.4 The Site is wholly situated upon solid geology of Mudstone of the Kimmeridge Clay Formation seen as blueish grey to yellowish grey clays (Cotswold Archaeology 2010, 3). No superficial deposits are recorded (British Geological Survey: accessed on 15th September 2021).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background of the Site has been thoroughly assessed in a prior desk-based assessment (RPS 2021), which considered the recorded historic environment resource within a 1 km study area of the proposed development, along with a historic map regression. A further summary of these results is provided in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by Wessex Archaeology (2022). A brief synthesis of the findings of this previous work is provided below. Relevant entry numbers from the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (HER), the National Heritage List for England (NHLE), and additional sources of information are referenced.

2.2 Previous work on the Site

Geophysical survey

- 2.2.1 A magnetometer survey of the Site did not record any magnetic responses that could be interpreted as being of definite archaeological interest (Sumo 2022). The survey located the course of a former stream channel in the south of Area 1 and responses likely to represent modern ploughing have been detected in Area 2 (*ibid.*). Magnetic disturbance recorded along the western side of the Site adjacent to Spitfire Way is likely to result from modern (21st Century) landscaping works.

2.3 Previous investigations in the vicinity

- 2.3.1 A previous geophysical survey and subsequent trial trenching at Land off Prince Charles Drive recorded several features of archaeological origin. The features recorded were of low significance and contained a limited assemblage of finds that dated the features to the medieval and post-medieval periods (AC Archaeology 2014) (MWI74336). Trial trenching works to the north-west recorded features from a similar date range, predominately relating to field boundaries shown on historic mapping, one of which may have had earlier medieval origins (Cotswold Archaeology 2010) (MWI66708; MWI66709) (HER 31395, 31396). Further works c. 0.5km to the south of the Site recovered a low-density material assemblage dating from the Prehistoric through to the post-medieval period and one subsoil feature of potential Romano-British date (Wessex Archaeology 1992).

2.4 Archaeological and historical context

Prehistoric

- 2.4.1 No Prehistoric evidence is recorded within the Site itself. A small number of finds spots from the vicinity are known including the chance find of an Iron Age coin in a garden at Page Close, (HER MWI9182) and late-Bronze Age pottery (HER MWI9179) and Mesolithic flint implements (HER MWI9164) recovered during the 1992 evaluation at Sands Farm (HER EWI3795). Previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the Site have uncovered no features that can be definitively assigned to this period.

Roman (AD43-410)

- 2.4.2 There is no archaeological evidence from the Romano-British period recorded within the Site itself and very little is recorded within the surrounding area. A single feature of potential Romano-British date was those recorded off Oxford Road (HER EWI9097)

(Cotswold Archaeology 2017) although due to a lack of artefactual evidence recovered from the feature, this dating is not certain.

Anglo-Saxon/Early Medieval (AD410-1066)

- 2.4.3 There is no archaeological evidence from these periods recorded within the Site. The Site itself is located approximately 1 km north-east of the limits of the Anglo-Saxon town of Calne.

Medieval (AD1066-1485)

- 2.4.4 Evidence for medieval activity within the vicinity of the Site is limited to the presence of upstanding ridge and furrow earthworks visible on aerial photographs and several ditches recorded during trial trench evaluations relating to field boundaries shown on historic mapping from which a limited number of sherds of medieval pottery were recovered (Wessex Archaeology 2022). However, as the mechanism by which the pottery sherds came to be incorporated into the fills of these features is unclear, their assignment to the medieval period is not secure.

Post Medieval/Modern (AD1485-present)

- 2.4.5 The Site of an outfarm is recorded within the northern part of the Site (HER MWI66795). The farmstead and all historic buildings were demolished in the 19th century and a modern agricultural building currently occupies the approximate location.
- 2.4.6 The Site of another, now demolished, outfarm is recorded to the immediate north of the Site (HER MWI66796) and the earthwork remains of post-medieval ridge and furrow within three fields has been mapped from aerial photographs to the east of the Site (HER MWI72997).

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General aims

- 3.1.1 The general aims (or purpose) of the evaluation, in compliance with the *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a), were to:
- provide information about the archaeological potential of the Site; and
 - inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

3.2 General objectives

- 3.2.1 To achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were:
- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
 - establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
 - place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context to assess their significance; and
 - make available information about the archaeological resource within the Site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

3.3 Site-specific objectives

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the Site and the South West Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF) (Webster 2007; Grove and Croft 2012), the site-specific objectives of the evaluation were to:

- test the results of the geophysical survey (Sumo 2022);
- identify and record unknown archaeological remains within the targeted areas of excavation;
- identify and record any archaeological remains that may relate to the post-medieval surroundings of the earlier outfarm; (Theme E: Economies and Subsistence – trade, subsistence, agriculture, transport and communication; Research Aim 43: Address the lack of knowledge of Post-Medieval to Modern food production) (Webster 2007; Grove and Croft 2012).

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.1.2 The Site lies across four fields, Areas 1-4, all of which were evaluated. The evaluation comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of 23 no. 1.8 m wide trenches, with a combined length of 1070 m. Twenty-one trenches of varying lengths and totalling 1818 m² will test anomalies and blank areas of the majority of the Site, representing a c. 4.01% sample. A further two 30 m by 1.8 m trenches will be located within an L-shaped area of likely modern disturbance, representing a 2.48% sample of this area.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the positions set out in the WSI, although Trenches 13 and 14 were moved approximately 1 m from the hedge (Fig. 1).

4.2.2 A total of 23 trial trenches were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.3 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.

4.2.4 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained.

4.2.5 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and the Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

Recording

- 4.2.6 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including sections drawn to scale (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.
- 4.2.7 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.8 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

- 4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011), and ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2: Appraisal).

4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service monitored the evaluation on behalf of Wiltshire Council LPA.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 None of the 23 excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features or deposits (Fig. 1). The following section presents the results of the evaluation and identified deposits discussed by area.
- 5.1.2 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (Appendix 1). Figure 1 shows the trench locations, together with the preceding geophysical survey results (Sumo 2022).

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The natural drift geology was a consistent mid greyish yellow stiff clay, which varied to a greyer hue towards the south part in Area 1.
- 5.2.2 Overlying the natural was a ploughsoil comprising a dark greyish brown, friable sandy silt. This deposit had a consistent thickness of approximately 0.30 m in all trenches.

5.3 Area 1

- 5.3.1 A total of seven trenches were located within the field, Trenches 8-14 (Figure 2). The natural drift geology of mid grey clay was exposed at a depth of approximately 0.30 m

below ground level (bgl). Overlying this was a topsoil deposit, which contained pottery, CBM, clay tobacco pipe, glass, and metal of post-medieval to modern date.

- 5.3.2 Towards the southern end of Trenches 10 and 11, irregular linear deposits of sand and clay were recorded in the natural, associated with remnants of tree roots. The changes in the natural, which are likely to relate to an earlier course of the Abberd Brook, corresponded with anomalies recorded in the geophysical survey.

5.4 Area 2

- 5.4.1 A total of seven trenches were located within the field, Trenches 1-7 (Figs. 3-4). Natural drift geology was exposed at a depth of c.0.30m bgl. Overlying this was a ploughsoil deposit which contained pottery, CBM, clay tobacco pipe, glass, and metal of post-medieval to modern date. A single sherd of abraded medieval pottery was recovered from the ploughsoil of Trench 1 (see below).
- 5.4.2 A number of plough scars were evident as positive earthwork features in the field, aligned north-west to south-east and parallel to the long axis of the field. Excavation of the trenches revealed that these plough scars extended into the underlying natural.

5.5 Area 3

- 5.5.1 A total of three trenches were located within the field, Trenches 15-17 (Figs. 5-6). Natural drift geology was exposed at a depth of c.0.30m bgl. Overlying this was a ploughsoil deposit which contained pottery, CBM, clay tobacco pipe, glass, and metal of post-medieval to modern date. A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from the ploughsoil of Trench 16 (see below).
- 5.5.2 A number of plough scars were evident as positive earthwork features in the field, aligned north-west to south-east and parallel to the long axis of the field. Excavation of the trenches revealed that these plough scars extended into the underlying natural.

5.6 Area 4

- 5.6.1 A total of six trenches were located within Area 4, Trenches 18-23 (Figs. 7-10). Natural drift geology was exposed at a depth of c.0.30m bgl. Overlying this was a ploughsoil deposit which contained pottery, CBM, clay tobacco pipe, glass, and metal of post-medieval to modern date.
- 5.6.2 In Trench 18 a thin layer of modern gravel at the base of the topsoil towards the north-east end was recorded, which corresponded to the geophysical anomaly.
- 5.6.3 In Trenches 21 and 22 a layer of modern debris was seen below the turf and topsoil along the western edge, which corresponded to the geophysical survey and suspected L-shaped area of modern disturbance.
- 5.6.4 A number of plough scars were evident as positive earthwork features in the field, aligned north-west to south-east and parallel to the long axis of the field. Excavation of the trenches revealed that these plough scars extended into the underlying natural.



6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 A moderate quantity of finds was collected from topsoil deposits and two cut features during the evaluation at Spitfire Road. The finds, which are almost exclusively post-medieval/modern in date, have been quantified by material type and context; the results are summarised in Table 1.

TABLE 1: FINDS QUANTIFIED BY NUMBER AND WEIGHT IN GRAMS

Context	Ceramic building material (no/wgt)	Clay tobacco pipe (no/wgt)	Coal (no/wgt)	Glass (no/wgt)	Iron (no/wgt)	Pottery (no/wgt)	Oyster shell (no/wgt)	Slate (no/wgt)
101	4/118			1/47		8/135	17/365	
201	1/75	2/6			2/60	4/14		
301	2/87				2/53	6/58		
401	2/72	5/15		1/7		4/31		
501	2/31	4/11				7/102		
601	1/53	2/13		1/20		8/157		1/30
604	4/185		1/13	1/44		6/52	1/16	
701		1/6				6/105	1/9	
801	1/125	3/7			2/160	4/73		2/371
901	2/92			1/15		5/79		
1001	2/130	1/3			1/8	4/20		
1101	3/58				1/27			
1104		1/3				1/58		
1201	1/38			1/75	1/30	5/108		
1301	2/13			1/5		12/72		
1401	1/5	1/2		1/4	2/199	6/26		
1501		2/6			1/3	12/364		
1601	1/30	4/15		1/22		5/43		
1701						12/111		
1801	1/7			1/68	1/5	3/7		
1901	1/81				2/7	9/61		
2001	1/39					3/53		
2301				1/31		1/7		
Total	32/1237	26/87	1/13	11/338	15/552	131/1738	19/390	3/401

6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 A sherd of abraded, green-glazed medieval pottery was recovered from topsoil 101, and a sherd of dark grey sandy coarseware, probably also of medieval date, was recovered from topsoil 1601.
- 6.2.2 All the other potsherds date from the post-medieval and modern periods. The ware types represented include coarse redware (16th–19th century), one with sgraffito decoration;

English stoneware (18th/19th century); Westerwald stoneware (17th/18th century); Staffordshire-type slipware (late 17th–early 19th century); tin-glazed earthenware (mid-17th–18th century); and mass-produced industrial products such as creamware (mid-18th–19th century), pearlware (late 18th–19th century), refined whiteware and bone china (19th century or later). The only sherd of note is part of transfer-printed whiteware cup depicting figures in traditional Welsh dress. This is almost certainly part of a souvenir mug dating from the mid-19th century onwards.

6.3 Glass

- 6.3.1 All but one of the glass shards are derived from bottles. The assemblage includes examples of free-blown wine bottles of late 17th–19th-century date; a free-blown natural greenish (aqua) glass phial base dating from the 18th or 19th century; mould-blown natural greenish glass dating from the 19th or early 20th century; and modern colourless glass. The latter includes a flat plate with bevelled edges of unknown function.

6.4 Clay tobacco pipe

- 6.4.1 The clay tobacco pipe assemblage comprises fragments of stems and two complete bowls. The bowl from topsoil 401 is marked IH incuse on the heel and is probably a product of Jeffrey Hunt of Norton St Philip, c. 1650–70; the other, an unmarked bowl from topsoil 601, is slightly smaller, but likely to be of a similar date.

6.5 Ceramic building material

- 6.5.1 The ceramic building material assemblage comprises a mixture of brick, roof tile and a fragment of land drain, all dating from the post-medieval or modern periods.

6.6 Other finds

- 6.6.1 The other finds comprise a piece of coal, 3 pieces of roof slate, 19 oyster shells, and 15 pieces of iron. The iron objects comprise a mixture of unidentified fragments, nails, and a buckle frame. The latter is plain, sub-rectangular, with slightly concave sides, and is probably part of a post-medieval or modern horse harness.

6.7 Discussion and conclusions

- 6.7.1 The finds are all likely to be derived from manuring or casual loss from the medieval period onwards and are not considered to be indicative of anything other than the undertaking of agricultural tasks within the Site.
- 6.7.2 The finds provide dating evidence for plough scar 603 and watercourse 1103, both of which contained modern finds.

7 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1.1 The 23 excavated trial trenches contained no significant archaeological features or deposits, indicating that there appears to be little activity within the Site prior to the post-medieval period.
- 7.1.2 The low-density scatter of finds from within the topsoil may be derived through the process of manuring or may represent the presence of workers carrying out agricultural tasks within the Site. Such evidence is often ephemeral but attests to the economy, subsistence, and agriculture, of post-medieval to modern food production (Grove and Croft, SWARF 2012).

- 7.1.3 The evidence of the plough scars in Areas 2,3,4 demonstrated that these fields have been in use for arable production. The recovery of modern CBM from the fill of one plough scar in Trench 6, and that the plough scars are still visible as positive earthworks within the field, indicates they are likely to be of modern origin.
- 7.1.4 There was an absence of plough scars in Area 1, as both earthwork features visible in the current ground level, and as sub-surface features as recorded elsewhere. The absence of these features is indicative of this field being used predominately for pasture rather than arable cultivation.
- 7.1.5 The variations in the natural geology recorded in Trenches 10 and 11 may relate to earlier braided channels of the Abberd Brook. The presence of modern finds recovered from this feature in Trench 11 suggests this feature has only relatively recently been regularised into a single channel.
- 7.1.6 The evaluation was able to establish that the results of the geophysical survey (Sumo 2022) were generally reliable. The deposits observed in Trenches 10, 11, 18, 21 and 22 corresponded to anomalies detected and the suggested interpretations were seen to be correct. The plough scars recorded corresponded to the direction of the anomalies identified as ploughing features.
- 7.1.7 Given the low density and relatively recent historical date of the remains the archaeological potential of the area could be regarded as very low.

8 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Bristol. Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code DZSWS:50-2022. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

8.2 Preparation of the archive

Physical archive

- 8.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, and graphics, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014c; SMA 1995).
- 8.2.2 All archive elements are marked with accession code DZSWS:50-2022, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 1 files/document cases of paper records

Digital archive

- 8.2.3 The digital archive generated by the project, which comprises born-digital data (e.g., site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by metadata.

8.3 Selection strategy

- 8.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during the course of an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities, i.e., the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving Museum.
- 8.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.
- 8.3.3 In this instance, given the relatively low level of finds recovery, the selection process has been deferred until after the fieldwork stage was completed. Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. These proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (museum, local authority). The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 8.3.4 Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

Finds

- 8.3.5 The finds comprise a moderate assemblage of predominantly post-medieval/modern finds from topsoil and two modern cut features. All conform to known and well documented types of limited archaeological significance.
- 8.3.6 Retention for long-term curation is not proposed for any of the finds.

Documentary records

- 8.3.7 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (written scheme of investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

Digital data

- 8.3.8 The digital data comprise site records (tablet-recorded on site) in spreadsheet format; finds records in spreadsheet format; survey data; photographs; reports. All will be deposited, although site photographs will be subject to selection to eliminate poor quality and duplicated images, and any others not considered directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.

8.4 Security copy

- 8.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g., Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed

for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

8.5 OASIS

- 8.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (Appendix 2). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service on behalf of the Wiltshire Council LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

9 COPYRIGHT

9.1 Archive and report copyright

- 9.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.
- 9.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

9.2 Third party data copyright

- 9.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g., Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Trench summaries

Trench No 1		Length 40 m	Width 1.8 m	Depth 0.50 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description		Depth BGL
101		Topsoil	Dark brown, loam. bioturbated.		0.00–0.32
102		Deposit	A layer of made ground or modern disturbance, stony rubble, patch towards the NE end.		0.32–0.40
103		Natural	Yellowish grey clay. inclusions of occasional small stones		0.40–0.50

Trench No 2		Length 37 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.42 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description		Depth BGL
201		Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay. grass topped, with rooting		0.00–0.34
202		Natural	Yellowish grey clay. mottled with slightly darker patches of greyish brown clay. no inclusions		0.34–0.42

Trench No 3		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.30 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description		Depth BGL
301		Topsoil	Mid brown, silty clay, grass topped with rooting , occasional small stones throughout		0.00–0.24
302		Natural	Greyish brown clay		0.24–0.30

Trench No 4		Length 36 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.38 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description		Depth BGL
401		Topsoil	Mid brown firm silty clay.		0.00–0.32
402		Natural	Natural geology. mid greyish yellow stiff clay.		0.32+

Trench No 5		Length 51 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.30 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description		Depth BGL
501		Topsoil	Mid brown, silty clay. grass topped with rooting. common inclusions of small stones		0.00–0.25
502		Natural	Greyish brown clay		0.25+

Trench No 6		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.45 m	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description		Depth BGL



601		Topsoil	Mid brown, silty clay, grass topped with rooting	0.00–0.33
602		Natural	Greyish brown clay	0.33–0.45
603	604	Plough scar	Cut of deeper ploughscar	
604	603	Plough scar fill	Fill of deeper ploughscar	

Trench No 7		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.26 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
701		Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay, grass topped with rooting	0.00–0.20
702		Natural	Greyish brown clay	0.20–0.26

Trench No 8		Length 49 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
801		Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay, grass topped with rooting, occasional small stones throughout	0.00–0.35
802		Natural	Greyish brown clay	0.35–0.50

Trench No 9		Length 40 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.33 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
901		Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay, grass topped with rooting	0.00–0.30
902		Natural	Greyish brown clay, rooting at the south-east end of the trench	0.30–0.33

Trench No 10		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.34 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1001		Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay, grass topped with rooting, occasional small stones throughout	0.00–0.22
1002		Natural	Greyish brown clay. tree rooting at South-east end of trench. Sand patch towards south end overlying variation of natural, 0.23m thick.	0.22–0.34

Trench No 11		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1101		Uncategorised context	Topsoil, mid brown silty clay. grass topped with rooting. small stones mixed throughout, fairly common	0.00–0.30
1102		Natural	Greyish brown clay but at the south end of the trench there is a band of sand , this is most probably due to the small river flooding just to the south	0.30–0.50



1103	1104	Natural Feature	Water course; Cuts the sandy area, 1.2m wide, irregular edges.	
1104	1103	Natural Feature	Water course fill mid grey clay with large tree roots in it / along edge.	
1105		Natural	Sandy area at south end of trench	0.30–0.50

Trench No 12		Length 50.50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.24 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1201		Topsoil	Mid brown, silty clay. grass topped with rooting	0.00–0.20
1202		Natural	Greyish brown clay	0.20–0.24

Trench No 13		Length 49.05 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1301		Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay, grass topped with rooting	0.00–0.30
1302		Natural	Greyish brown clay, no inclusions	0.30–0.40

Trench No 14		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.35 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1401		Topsoil	Mid brown, silty clay, grass topped with rooting	0.00–0.25
1402		Natural	Greyish brown clay	0.25–0.35

Trench No 15		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.48 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1501		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown, firm silty clay.	0.00–0.30
1502		Natural	Natural geology. Mid greyish yellow, stiff clay.	0.30+

Trench No 16		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.39 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1601		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown, firm silty clay	0.00–0.31
1602		Natural	Natural geology. Mid greyish yellow, stiff / tacky clay	0.31+

Trench No 17		Length 50 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1701		Topsoil	Dark greyish brown, firm silty clay.	0.00–0.3
1702		Natural	Natural geology. Mid greyish yellow, stiff clay. with blocky structure.	0.3+

Trench No 18		Length 40 m	Width 2 m	Depth 0.30 m
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Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1801		Topsoil	Dark brown, loam. bioturbated. Turf.	0.00-0.14
1802		Subsoil	Dark brown yellow, mottled silty clay deposits. lower part of topsoil.	0.14-0.26
1803		Natural	Mid brown yellow clay.	0.26+

Trench No 19		Length 45 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.22 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
1901		Topsoil	Dark brown, loam. bioturbated. Turf.	0.00-0.09
1902		Subsoil	Dark brown yellow, mottled silty clay deposits. Interface between topsoil and natural not a distinctly formed deposit. lower part of topsoil.	0.09-0.22
1903		Natural	Mid brown yellow clay.	0.22+

Trench No 20		Length 60 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.26 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2001		Topsoil	Dark brown, loam. bioturbated. Turf.	0.00-0.12
2002		Subsoil	Dark brownish yellow, mottled silty clay deposits. Interface not a distinct deposit. lower part of topsoil.	0.12-0.25
2003		Natural	Mid brown yellow clay.	0.26+

Trench No 21		Length 27 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.60 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2101		Topsoil	Dark brown, loam. bioturbated. Turf. imported to cover made ground.	0.00–0.25
2102		Deposit	Made ground. mix of construction waste and subsoil, waste from nearby housing development has been mixed into subsoil and covered with imported topsoil.	0.25–0.59
2103		Natural	Mid brown yellow clay.	0.6+

Trench No 22		Length 26 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.61 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2201		Topsoil	Dark brown, silty clay bioturbated. Turf. imported to cover made ground.	0.00-0.19



2202		Deposit	Made ground. mix of construction waste and subsoil, waste from nearby housing development has been mixed into subsoil and covered with imported topsoil.	0.19-0.58
2203		Natural	Mid brown yellow clay.	0.61+

Trench No 23		Length 35 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.50 m
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL
2301		Topsoil	Dark brown, loam. bioturbated. Turf	0.00-0.18
2302		Subsoil	Dark brownish yellow, mottled silty clay deposits. Interface not a distinct deposit, lower part of topsoil.	0.18-0.45
2303		Natural	Mid brown yellow clay.	0.5+



Appendix 2 OASIS summary

OASIS ID (UID)	wessexar1-508802
Project Name	Evaluation at Spitfire Way, Calne
Sitename	Spitfire Way, Calne
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	268670
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Pre application
Organisation Responsible for work	Wessex Archaeology
Project Dates	03-Oct-2022 - 07-Oct-2022
Location	Spitfire Way, Calne NGR : SU 00910 71530 LL : 51.4427613676436, -1.9882967817953 12 Fig : 400910,171530
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Wiltshire District : Wiltshire Parish : Calne Without
Project Methodology	4.1.2The Site lies across four fields Areas 1-4, all of which were evaluated. The evaluation comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of 23 no. 1.8 m wide trenches, with a combined length of 1070 m. Twenty-one trenches of varying lengths and totalling 1818 m2 will test anomalies and blank areas of the majority of the site, representing a c. 4.01% sample. A further two 30 m by 1.8 m trenches will be located within an L-shaped area of likely modern disturbance, representing a 2.48% sample of this area.
Project Results	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Neil Wright of RPS Consulting Ltd (the client) on behalf of Robert Hitchins Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 5.55 ha parcel of land located off Spitfire Road, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 8GA. The evaluation area is centred on NGR 400910 171530. The evaluation comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of 23 trial trenches across four Areas (fields), located to target anomalies identified during the geophysical survey and to test 'blank' areas of the survey. The excavated trial trenches contained no archaeological features or



	deposits, indicating that in Areas 1-4 there appears to be little human activity within the Site prior to the post-medieval period. The low-density scatter of finds from within the topsoil may reflect manuring or represent the presence of workers carrying out agricultural tasks within the Site. Such evidence is often ephemeral but attests to the economy, subsistence and agriculture, of post-medieval to modern food production (Grove and Croft, SWARF 2012). The evidence of the plough scars in Areas 2,3,4 demonstrated that these fields have been in use for arable production, while the absence of ploughscars in Area 1 suggests this field has only been used as pasture during the late post-medieval and modern periods The evaluation was able to establish that the results of the geophysical survey were generally reliable.
Keywords	n/a
Funder	
HER	Wiltshire and Swindon HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	
HER Identifiers	
Archives	Physical Archive - to be deposited with Wiltshire Museum;

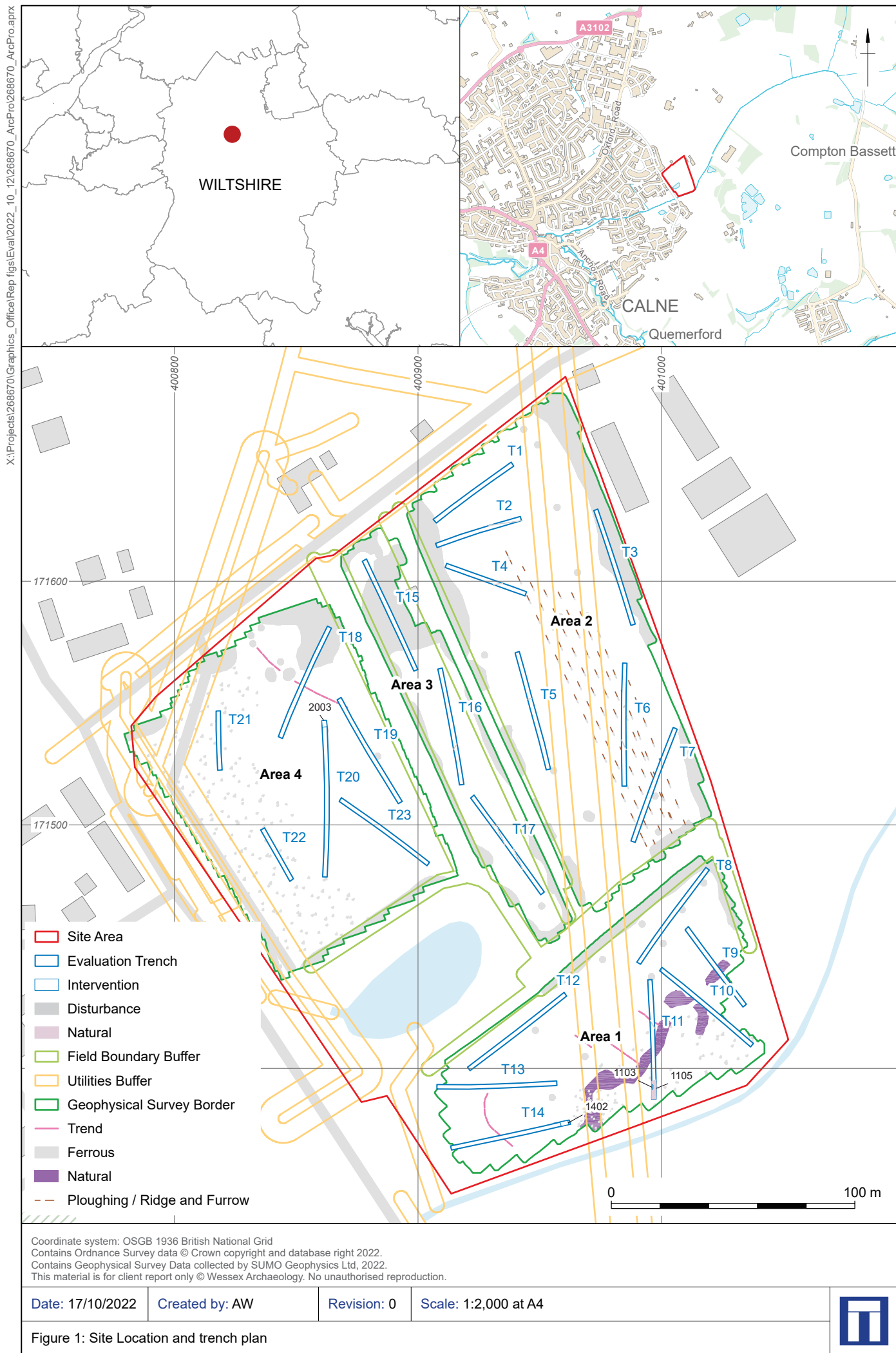




Figure 2: Area 1, Trench 14 plan view, looking west,
scale: 1 x 2 m, 1 x 1 m



Figure 3: Area 2, general view of the trenches, looking south



Figure 4: Area 2, Trench 4 plan view, looking north-west, scale: 1 x 2 m, 1 x 1 m



Figure 5: Area 3 general view of the trenches, looking south



Figure 6: Area 3, Trench 17 plan view, looking NNW,
scale: 1 x 2 m, 1 x 1 m



Figure 7: Area 4 general view of the trenches, looking south



Figure 8: Area 4, Trench 19 plan view, looking NNW,
scale: 1 x 2 m, 1 x 1 m



Figure 9: Area 4, Trench 20, east facing section, scale: 1 x 2 m, 1 x 1 m



Figure 10: Area 4, Trench 21, east facing section,
scale: 1 x 1 m



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