



Land South of Lock Cottage, Nr. Seend, Wiltshire

Archaeological Monitoring and Recording



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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the client to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording (AMR) during groundworks within four adjoining fields to the south of Lock Cottage, near Seend, Wiltshire, centred on NGR 393879 161249. The monitored works, largely limited to the mechanical removal of turf and topsoil, covered three areas comprising the locations of a proposed agricultural pole barn (Area 1), a cess pit (Area 2), and a connecting stone track approximately 400 m in length and 2.5 m wide (Area 3).

Archaeological features observed during the monitoring works were confined to the north-eastern arm of the track. A small complex of shallow deposits here produced a substantial quantity of iron smelting slag (approximately 307 kg) and revealed a burnt area likely reflecting the location of one or more furnaces. The probable presence of such structures in this location (and elsewhere in the wider site) had been highlighted by an earlier geophysical survey (by Archaeological Surveys) and subsequent fieldwork (by the Wiltshire Museum Archaeological Field Group). These investigations, ongoing from 2021, suggest a Romano-British date is most likely for the smelting activity which, it is hoped, will be confirmed by forthcoming radiocarbon dating.

Monitored Areas 1 and 2 were archaeologically sterile at the level of topsoil stripping, as well as in the limited areas of deeper excavation, where only natural clay deposits were revealed.

Acknowledgements

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Kerry Donaldson and Dave Sabin of Archaeological Surveys are thanked for permission to reproduce a small part of their earlier geophysical survey, and Mike McQueen of the Wiltshire Museum Archaeological Field Group is acknowledged for providing trench location data. Other members of the Archaeological Field Group kindly assisted with the excavation.



Land South of Lock Cottage, Nr Seend, Wiltshire

Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the client to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording (AMR) during groundworks within four adjoining fields to the south of Lock Cottage, near Seend, Wiltshire SN12 6NQ, centred on NGR 393879 161249 (Fig. 1). The monitored works, largely limited to the mechanical removal of turf and topsoil, covered three areas comprising the locations of a proposed agricultural pole barn (Area 1), a cess pit (Area 2), and a connecting stone track approximately 400 m in length and 2.5 m wide (Area 3) (Fig. 2).

1.1.2 The construction of the stone track involved the stripping of turf and topsoil up to a depth of around 200 mm, with a geotextile membrane then laid over the exposed surface and built up with 150–200 mm of hardcore and finer material to form the top surface. The barn footprint occupied an area of 16 m by 16 m and required excavation by cut and fill to create a level surface prior to construction. The cess pit required the excavation of an 8.50 m long by 2.70 m wide and 3.20 m deep trench for the installation of a sewage treatment tank.

1.1.3 Planning approval (Ref: PL/2024/07323) has been granted by Wiltshire Council, the local planning authority (LPA), for the construction of the stone track through private fields and the erection of a pole-built, timber-slatted agricultural barn. The development also includes the installation of a sewage treatment works (cess pit). Condition 4 relates to archaeology and states:

No development shall commence within the area indicated by application PL/2024/07323 until:

(a) A written programme of archaeological investigation, which should include on-site work and off-site work such as the analysis, publishing and archiving of the results, has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

1.1.4 The watching brief was undertaken on the 18 and 19 August 2025.

1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the results of the watching brief, to interpret the results within their local or regional context and to assess the potential to address the aims outlined in the WSI, thereby making available information about the archaeological resource (a preservation by record).

1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The monitored works were located in fields approximately 250 m to the north of Seend, east of Bollands Hill, and about 250 m to the south of the Kennet and Avon Canal.



- 1.3.2 The site lies on a north-facing slope, the existing ground level falling from 85 m above ordnance datum (AOD) in the south (in Area 1, the location of the pole barn) to 60 m AOD at the northern end of the track – the location of the cess pit (Area 2).
- 1.3.3 Seend lies on a ridge with a bedrock of Lower Greensand Group - Sandstone (British Geological Survey). This overlies Newton Clay Member - Mudstone, Sandy, and below this Hazelbury Bryan Formation – Sandstone. The Lower Greensand here is rich in high quality iron ore. Superficial deposits of Head - Clay, silt, sand and gravel are recorded as overlying the bedrock across the majority of the proposed development.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 A summary of the results within a 250 m radius of the site is presented below. Additional sources of information are referenced as appropriate.
- 2.1.2 Full plans showing the results of previous geophysical surveys undertaken (Archaeological Surveys 2021; WAFG 2021) have not been reproduced here.

2.2 Previous investigations

- 2.2.1 A geophysical (magnetometer) survey of five fields (1 to 5; here designated A–E to avoid confusion with the current project numbering; see Fig. 2) to the north of and including the current development area was undertaken as part of an earlier development proposal, this survey revealing a series of anomalies (Archaeological Surveys 2021). The northern part of Field A (the north-western field, outside the current development area) could not be surveyed at the time but was subsequently subject to a further programme of geophysical survey (WAFG 2021).
- 2.2.2 The geophysical surveys recorded negative anomalies with very strongly positive responses in Field E (the north-eastern field). These anomalies appeared to relate to possible structural remains and features associated with iron working. The ridge and furrow cultivation, which is extant within the field, extends over the top of the anomalies.
- 2.2.3 Within the south-eastern corner of Field E were a number of negative rectilinear anomalies that correspond to earthwork banks and platforms visible on the ground. They had associated responses relating to magnetically enhanced material; the rectilinear morphology suggests they are artificial constructions of probable medieval date (e.g. house plots and enclosures); however, it is possible that some relate to former quarrying.
- 2.2.4 The geophysical survey identified two further groups of strongly magnetic anomalies situated in the south-western corner of Field E, which could indicate iron working sites. The location of several of these anomalies correspond with part of the footprint of the eastern arm of the proposed track (Area 3).
- 2.2.5 In the north-western part of Field E was another strongly magnetic response likely indicative of iron working. This anomaly lies to the north of the proposed location of the cess pit (Area 2).
- 2.2.6 Located on the eastern side of Field A (outside the current development area) was a group of negative rectilinear anomalies indicative of structural remains. These contained very strongly magnetic material, which indicated a response caused by intense burning. Surrounding these strong responses were discrete, amorphous and linear anomalies, which

were likely to be a response to dumps of magnetically enhanced material. They were surrounded by further negative amorphous anomalies indicative of surfaces or spreads of rubble. The anomalies were situated on a low platform, and it was clear that post-dated the ridge and furrow.

- 2.2.7 Excavation of this group of anomalies in Field A by the Wiltshire Museum Archaeological Field Group (WAFG) revealed a late 17th- or early 18th-century brick clamp kiln (WAFG 2023). Most of the remains of the kiln were revealed, including its basal arrangement and shape in plan, as well as a small part of what would have been the final load. A clay pipe found within the kiln dates to AD 1640–80, with a copper alloy buckle of broadly similar date. The base of the clamp kiln is estimated to have measured approximately 6 m by 6 m. The bricks were arranged in six surviving 'walls' 0.45–0.50 m wide, the longest surviving to a length of 5 m. These separated six flues each approximately 0.25 m wide, with 'spacer' bricks generally every 0.2–0.3 m apart along each flue. An angled arrangement of two bricks recorded at the north-east end of one of the flues is thought to represent the only surviving example of a vent, which could have been stopped up to control the airflow through the kiln. Remains of the final load of bricks was clearly distinguishable from the basal 'walls', these having been laid on their sides, in a herringbone arrangement, with gaps of approximately 10 mm between them to allow hot air to circulate and the bricks to become fired.
- 2.2.8 To the south-west of the brick kiln was a linear group of very high magnitude positive anomalies, considered likely to relate to features associated with intense burning. Subsequent investigation (see below) has showed these anomalies to reflect the presence of a late 17th-century tile kiln and adjacent pottery kiln. These were located along the southern edge of a low linear earthwork created by what is now known to have been later sand and clay extraction.
- 2.2.9 In the north-western corner of Field A were a group of rectilinear anomalies that related to former enclosure ditches. Their morphology suggested that they dated to the Roman period.
- 2.2.10 Subsequent excavation in 2022 revealed the remains of several Romano-British iron ore roasting hearths or ovens associated with an enclosure (WAFG 2023). A relatively large quantity of Roman pottery and other finds were recovered. The hearths / ovens comprised trenches approximately 3 m long, 1 m wide and 0.5 m deep that had moderately heavily burnt sides and contained lumps of iron ore in various stages of roasting (to remove moisture and sulphur), along with charcoal, prior to smelting. (a small pile of unroasted ore was found nearby). There was no evidence that smelting had been taking place in the immediate vicinity.
- 2.2.11 The further geophysical survey undertaken by the Wiltshire Museum Archaeological Field Group (WAFG) in 2021 at the northern end of Field A had identified several possible pits associated with a continuation of the rectilinear enclosures suggested to be of Romano-British date. This was corroborated by subsequent excavation in 2023 that revealed a structure approximately 10 m by 5 m in size with a clay floor and several post-pads, associated with further evidence for ore roasting and a variety of Roman finds (WAFG 2023).
- 2.2.12 Within Field B (the south-western field) on the western side of the survey area, through which the proposed track will pass, were several negative linear anomalies that correspond with extant linear earthworks. It is likely that they had an association with quarrying, but they could also relate to former boundary features, with a possible trackway extending northwards through Fields A and B.

- 2.2.13 Strongly magnetic linear and discrete anomalies lay in the centre of Field B and may also relate to quarrying or perhaps industrial activity. These anomalies lie to the north of the proposed route of the track (Area 3).
- 2.2.14 Within the southern bounds of the geophysical survey (Fields C and D) further positive anomalies were interpreted as possible ditch-like features. Ridge and furrow cultivation was also identified. The site of the proposed pole barn lies within the northern extent of Field D; however, no anomalies were highlighted within the footprint of this structure (Area 1).

Test pit excavations (WAFG 2024)

- 2.2.15 In September 2024, with the permission of the Client, archaeological test pit investigations were undertaken in the field to the east (Field E) crossed by the proposed route of the east arm of the track (Area 3) (WAFG 2025). The test pits were placed across a selection of features identified in the geophysical survey that indicated areas of intense burning potentially associated with ironworking (Archaeological Surveys 2021).
- 2.2.16 Excavations in 2024 in Field E revealed several furnace bases and associated slag, as well as a relatively substantial slag heap towards the centre of the field (WAFG 2025). This demonstrated that probable Roman iron smelting was taking place here and that a significant amount of iron was being produced. In 2023 and 2024 evidence of Romano-British iron ore roasting had been found in the field to the west (Field A), and it is likely that the roasted ore was brought across to be smelted in bloomery furnaces nearby in Field E.
- 2.2.17 To the east of the current development area, and outside of the site that was subject to geophysical survey, the HER records cropmarks of a possible Late Iron Age/Romano-British settlement, overlain with ridge and furrow cultivation. This complex, to the east of Rusty Lane, is thought – on the basis of current evidence – to be of medieval (late 12th–14th century) date, and perhaps a precursor to present-day Seend, or a now deserted extension of it.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

- 3.1.1 The aims of the watching brief, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2025), were to:
- allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of the development or other works;
 - provide an opportunity, if needed, to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the allocated resources are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard; and
 - guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

3.2 General objectives

- 3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the watching brief, also defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2025), were to:
- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified works area;

- record and establish, within the constraints of the works, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains (a preservation by record);
- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource on the site by preparing a report on the results.

3.3 Site-specific objectives

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site and the regional research framework (REF. South West Archaeological Research Framework 2008), the site-specific objectives were to:

- [Research Aim 38]: Widen our understanding of the extraction, processing and transportation of minerals, stone and aggregates;
- Identify and record within the bounds of the development the source of any geophysical anomalies that have been previously indicated, and to date these features where possible;
- Identify and record further evidence or related evidence of Roman iron smelting if present within the bounds of the development;
- Identify if any further evidence or related evidence is present for brick (or tile) production in the post-medieval period;
- Examine evidence for remains of medieval/post-medieval ridge and furrow- and assess if this has impacted on any earlier remains.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methodology set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2025) and in general compliance with ClfA standards and guidance (ClfA 2023a–b). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

- 4.2.1 All excavations were carried out using 10-ton mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket (subsequent works beyond the archaeological horizon utilised a toothed bucket to remove deeper geological material).
- 4.2.2 The attending archaeologist monitored all mechanical excavations within the specified area. Where necessary, the surfaces of uncovered archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand to aid visual definition.
- 4.2.3 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval.

Recording

- 4.2.4 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. Trench sections were drawn to a scale of 1:10 and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.
- 4.2.5 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.
- 4.2.6 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 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 2025). 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 2014a), *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011) and ClfA's (n.d. a) *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 1: Description).

4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The County Archaeologist at the Wiltshire Council; Natural and Historic Environment Service monitored the watching brief on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the client and the County Archaeologist.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.1.1 The site was sub divided into three sections / trenches and these were recorded individually. They comprised the site of the pole barn (Area 1); the site of the cess pit (Area 2); and the connecting track (Area 3; sections were designated: west arm, central section, and east arm).
- 5.1.2 Area 1: The pole barn is to be built on a terrace cut into the north-facing hill side. The surface required for the construction of the barn measured some 16 m by 16 m in plan, the cut being 1.7 m deep along the south side. Following a vegetation / topsoil strip over the whole area, the trench was machine-excavated to create a level terrace. Approximately half of the ground area needed reducing with the remainder being built up and, therefore, not further stripped.
- 5.1.3 The observed sequence consisted of topsoil, a yellow brown silty clay loam some 0.25 m in depth, overlying the natural substrate, a yellowish brown gritty, silty clay with common iron ore inclusions, these increasing in frequency and size (up to 0.3m) at the base of the exposed section (Fig. 3).
- 5.1.4 Area 2: The cess pit was located at the northern end of the east arm of the track, approaching the base of the hill. The trench excavated for the cess pit measured 8.5 m by

2.7 m and 1.2 m deep, and exposed topsoil, a yellowish brown silty clay loam 0.25 m thick, which overlay a gritty yellowish brown silty clay with occasional iron ore inclusions 0.55 m in depth; this in turn overlay a blue grey / yellow brown clay Jurassic clay, within which were a number of *Gryphaea* fossils (Figs 4 and 5).

- 5.1.5 Area 3; The track ran from the cutting of a new access / site entrance off Bollands Hill in the west, before running uphill towards the south-east (west arm; Fig. 6). It then turned and ran north-east along the brow of the slope (central section; Fig. 7), past the site of the pole barn, before turning north-west downhill (east arm; Fig. 8) to the site of the cess pit, with the canal beyond.
- 5.1.6 The track measured some 400 m in length by 2.5 m in width and up to 0.3 m in depth. Rubble / aggregate will be used to build up the track from this stripped base, over which a geotextile membrane will be laid. The topsoil consisted of a yellowish brown silty clay loam, this becoming increasingly sandier lower down the west arm of the slope towards Bollands Hill, where a pale-yellow brown sand was exposed as the natural substrate within the cutting of the new access at the road edge. Elsewhere, in the central section and east arm, the natural substrate was a gritty yellowish brown silty clay with occasional iron ore inclusions.

5.2 Archaeological deposits

- 5.2.1 No archaeological features were observed within any of the three monitored areas during the initial stage of the work.
- 5.2.2 However, the monitoring was undertaken during very dry and dusty conditions and, following overnight rain, a small complex of slag-filled features/deposits was observed at shallow depth (around 0.2 m) within the stripped track upslope towards the southern end of the eastern arm of the track. This complex corresponded with a cluster of geophysical anomalies (Fig. 9), and it also lay within 10 m of a test pit (TP 29) excavated shortly after by WAFG immediately to the east of the track, targeted on a further geophysical anomaly.
- 5.2.3 The opportunity was therefore taken to investigate these feature/deposits by half-section, prior to the laying of the geotextile membrane on the base of the track; this will preserve the remaining deposits in situ. The investigation was designated Trench 31 in the WAFG sequence, and the records generated subsequently transferred to the Wessex project archive.
- 5.2.4 The features/deposits investigated covered an area of approximately 3 m by 1.5 m and comprised three adjacent concentrations of iron smelting/tap slag (Figs 10 and 11), at least one (3103, with 10.8 kg of material) appearing to fill a shallow hollow 1 m by 0.8 m and up to 0.15 m deep. The slag here was present in a matrix of greyish brown clayey silt with occasional flecks and larger fragments of charcoal, but no burning apparent either within the deposit or on the surface of the natural substrate.
- 5.2.5 The largest deposit of slag (3102, with 269 kg of material) lay immediately to the south-west of deposit 3103, the extent fairly clearly defined (1.5 m by 0.75 m), but forming a deposit (the remains of a surface heap?) rather than filling an obvious cut feature. As with 3103, no burning was present. The large quantity of slag assigned to 3102 is likely an over-estimate as it almost certainly includes material from 3102 and 3104 amalgamated with 3103 during initial cleaning and excavation of the complex of deposits.
- 5.2.6 Slag deposit 3104 (27.5 kg) at the southern of the group, adjacent to and extending beyond the edge of the track, was only partly exposed and may have lay within a shallow cut up to 0.15 m deep. Beneath the slag deposit here the natural substrate had been burnt red over

a projected circular area approximately 0.75 m in diameter, most heavily on the northern side. It is probable that this represents the location of a smelting furnace, of which no other evidence survived. However, slag deposit 3104 contained a few small fragments of fired clay, possibly derived from a furnace structure.

- 5.2.7 The excavated slag deposits amounted to 307.3 kg in total, and a suitable charcoal sample from this complex has been submitted for radiocarbon dating.

5.3 Finds evidence

- 5.3.1 As noted above, the small group of features/deposits in Trench 31 produced 307.3 kg of ironworking slag from the approximately 50% of them excavated. The debris has been quantified by weight and visually examined, with all the material subsequently reburied, excepting three representative samples; a selection of slag from previous investigations in the same field (Field 5) has already been retained and will be deposited at Wiltshire Museum, Devizes.
- 5.3.2 All the slag appears to derive from iron smelting, with no material clearly attributable to iron smithing. Tap slag is well-represented amongst the debris, including some relatively large pieces, occasionally with furnace lining attached (i.e., from 3104; Fig. 12). There are also fragments from furnace bottoms – accumulations of slag that formed in the base of furnaces, as well as numerous pieces which are less diagnostic. The size and relatively fresh condition of the slag indicates that it has suffered little abrasion and has not been moved far, if at all, from its original place of deposition, likely adjacent or close to the furnaces (e.g., 3104, see above). Two small pieces of pale green vitreous slag (from 3102) might be interpreted as post-medieval blast furnace slag, however their well stratified context amongst the large quantity of bloomery smelting debris renders this improbable. Instead, it appears to be a more unusual waste product of what is currently interpreted as a Romano-British industry, pending radiocarbon dating.
- 5.3.3 Other than a few small fragments of fired clay (from 3104), possibly deriving from a furnace structure, no other pre-modern finds were identified.

6 CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Discussion

- 6.1.1 Although Field E, as well as the adjacent field to the west (Field A), have produced considerable evidence for Romano-British iron ore roasting, probably contemporary smelting, medieval settlement, and post-medieval brick, tile and pottery production, the footprint of the proposed development, as well as its generally shallow depth, was not expected to have any significant impact on archaeological deposits.
- 6.1.2 This was generally the case, however the shallow depth of topsoil overlying the natural substrate in the south-west corner of Field E, the location of the southern part of the east arm of the track (Area 3), unexpectedly exposed archaeological deposits. Presumably the depth of topsoil and any subsoil here had been reduced by ploughing and colluvial processes.
- 6.1.3 The presence of archaeological deposits here had been indicated by an earlier geophysical survey (Archaeological Surveys 2021), so this discovery did not come as a complete surprise. A nearby test pit (TP 29) excavated by WAFG in 2025 had been targeted on a strong geophysical anomaly, and investigations by WAFG in 2024 in Field E had identified several iron smelting/furnace locations, as well as a slag heap, indicated through

geophysical survey (WAFG 2025). A Romano-British date has been proposed but not yet confirmed for this activity, although the evidence for ore roasting investigated in Field A to the west is securely dated to this period by numerous finds including pottery and coins (WAFG 2023).

- 6.1.4 The iron smelting activity and likely furnace location investigated in Trench 31 during the current archaeological monitoring and recording adds to the accumulating evidence for pre-19th-century iron working at Seend, which has a relatively small but notably rich source of ore. A very limited exposure of this ore was visible at the base of the north-facing section in Area 1, the terrace created for the construction of the pole barn. This ore was exploited in the second half of the 19th century, when several blast furnaces were operating, but there is currently no indication of any medieval production, perhaps due to a shortage of wood charcoal for fuel. The Trench 31 evidence provides, therefore, a useful addition to the results obtained by the WAFG investigations in Field E (and Field A), and the radiocarbon dating will clarify the suspected Romano-British date for the iron smelting activity here.

7 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

7.1 Museum

- 7.1.1 The archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. The Wiltshire Museum Devizes has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code DZSWS:36-2025. 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.

7.2 Preparation of the archive

Physical archive

- 7.2.1 The physical archive will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the Wiltshire Museum, Devizes and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014b; SMA 1995).
- 7.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site/accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:
- 1 file/document cases of paper records and A3/A4 graphics

Digital archive

- 7.2.3 The digital archive, 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.

7.3 Selection strategy

Digital data

- 7.3.1 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 that are not directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.

7.4 Security copy

- 7.4.1 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.

7.5 OASIS

- 7.5.1 Given the limited results of the fieldwork, it is considered that the site conforms to the definition of a 'sterile project' (i.e., one that produces nothing of evidential value), according to the ClfA (n.d. a) *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives* (archaeological archives from sterile projects). It is therefore recommended that only selected digital data are deposited with the ADS, an approach commensurate with the scale and significance of the project. Deposition will involve uploading of the site report via OASIS only.
- 7.5.2 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (Appendix 1). A pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the County Archaeologist on behalf of the 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.

8 COPYRIGHT

8.1 Archive and report copyright

- 8.1.1 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*.
- 8.1.2 Digital copies of the final report will be made available to the Historic Environment Record (HER) through OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations). Geospatial/survey data forming part of the digital archive will be supplied, on request, to the HER.

8.2 Third party data copyright

- 8.2.1 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

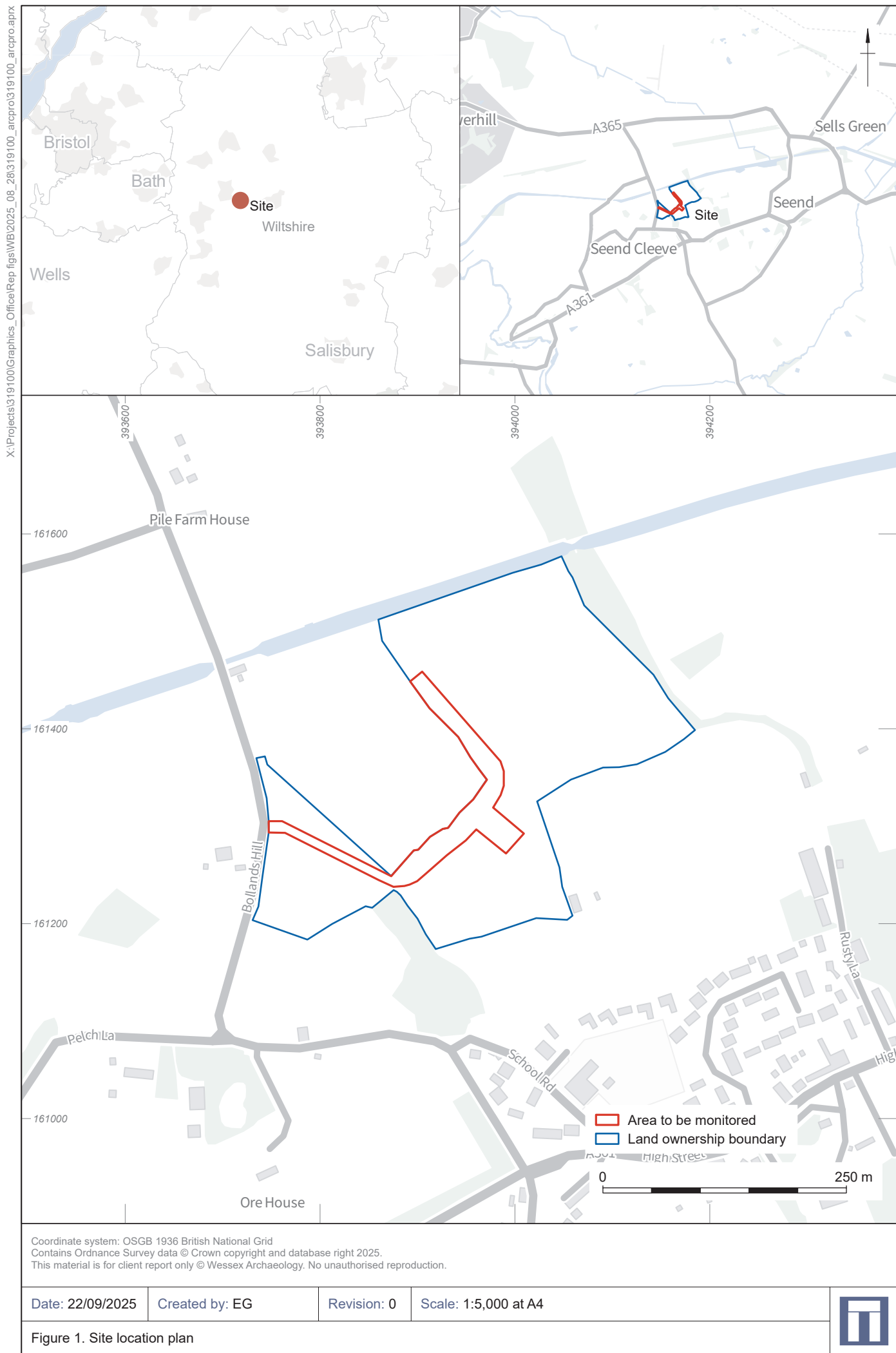
Appendix 1 OASIS summary

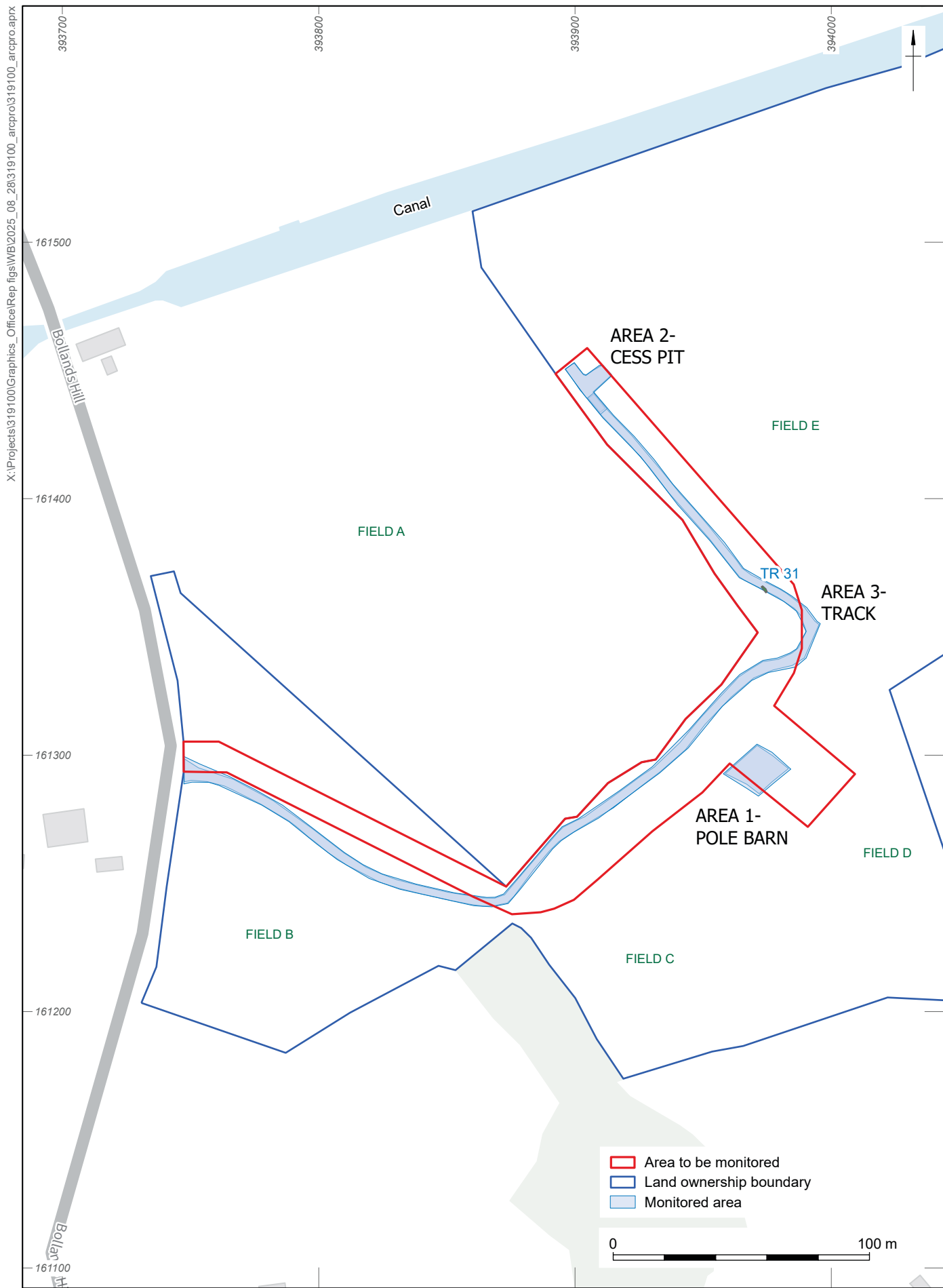
OASIS ID (UID)	wessexar1-536748
Project Name	South of Lock Cottage Nr. Seend Archaeological Monitoring and Recording
Sitename	South of Lock Cottage Nr. Seend AMR
Sitecode	319100
Project Identifier(s)	319100
Activity type	Watching Brief
Planning Id	PL/2024/07323
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Wessex Archaeology
Project Dates	18-Aug-2025 - 19-Aug-2025
Location	South of Lock Cottage Nr. Seend AMR NGR: ST 93879 61249 LL: 51.350284820159615, -2.089279020561184 12 Fig: 393879,161249
Administrative Areas	Country: England County/Local Authority: Wiltshire Local Authority District: Wiltshire Parish: Seend
Project Methodology	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the client to monitor and record archaeological findings during the development works. The monitored works comprised three areas; the locations of a proposed pole barn, a cess pit and a connecting trackway. A few days and a heavy rainfall after the areas were opened Wiltshire Archaeological Field Group did a walk over as well as test pitting.
Project Results	Three areas was monitored during this phase of works. No archaeological features were observed within any of the three monitored areas during the initial stage of the work. However, the monitoring was undertaken during very dry and dusty conditions and, following overnight rain, a small complex of slag-filled features/deposits was observed at shallow depth (around 0.2 m) within the stripped track upslope towards the southern end of the eastern arm of the track (Area 3). An area of heat affected natural was discovered under the southern most deposit (3104), which also comprised small fragments of fired clay the potential remnants of hearth furniture. The investigated slag deposits amounted to 307.3 kg in total (deposit 3102 comprised 267 kg), and a suitable charcoal sample from this complex has been submitted for radiocarbon dating.
Keywords	Iron Works - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	Private individual
HER	Wiltshire and Swindon HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Damian De Rosa



HER Identifiers	
Archives	Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Wiltshire Museum;

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Figure 2. Plan of monitored areas 1 - 3





Figure 3. Area 1 seen from east, 1 x 1 m scale



Figure 4. Area 2 seen from south-east, 1 x 1 m scale



Figure 5. East facing section of Area 2, 1 x 1 m scale



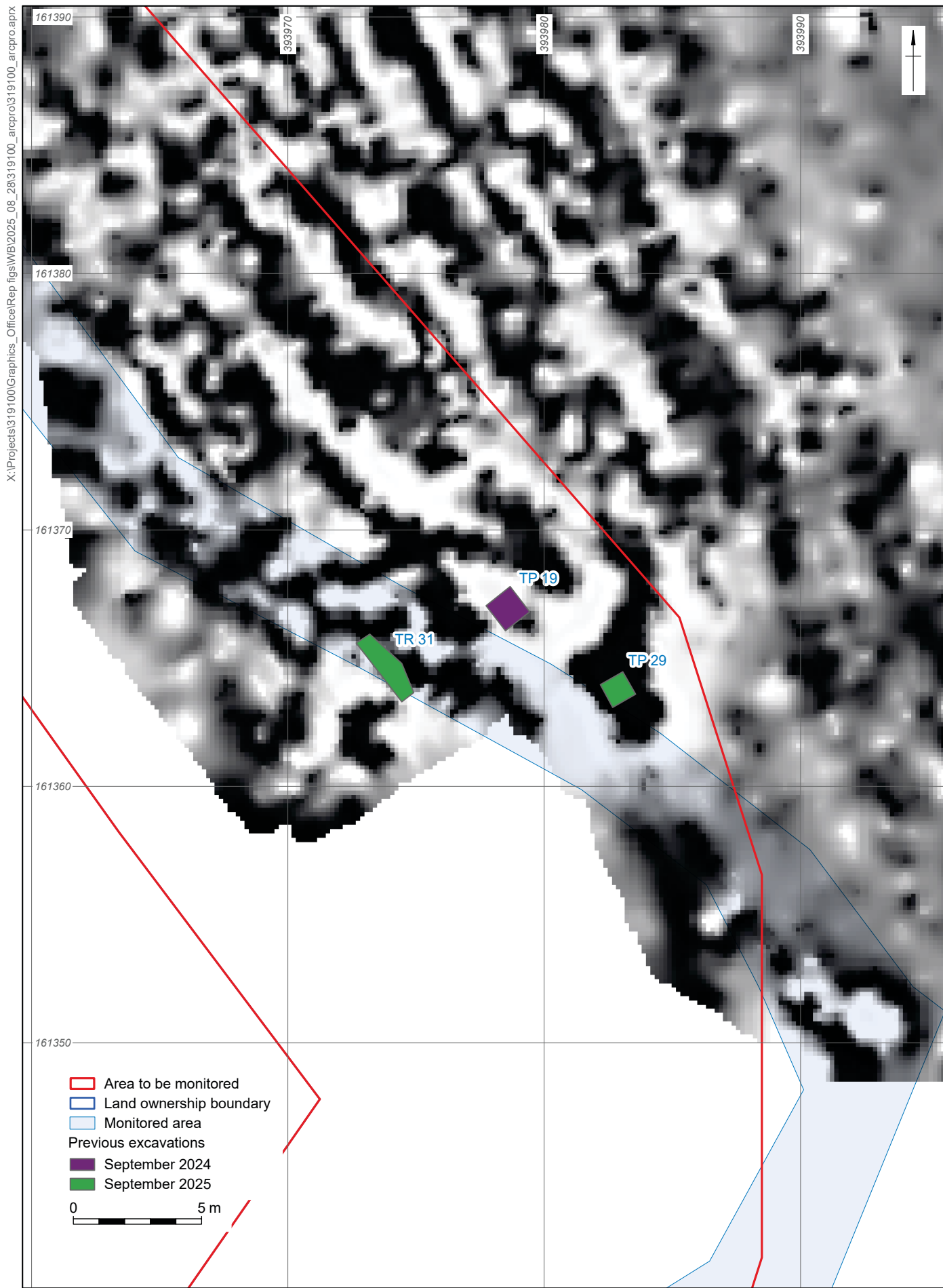
Figure 6. Area 3 (west arm) seen from north-west, 1 x 1 m scale



Figure 7. Area 3 (central part) seen from south-west



Figure 8. Area 3 (east arm) seen from south-east

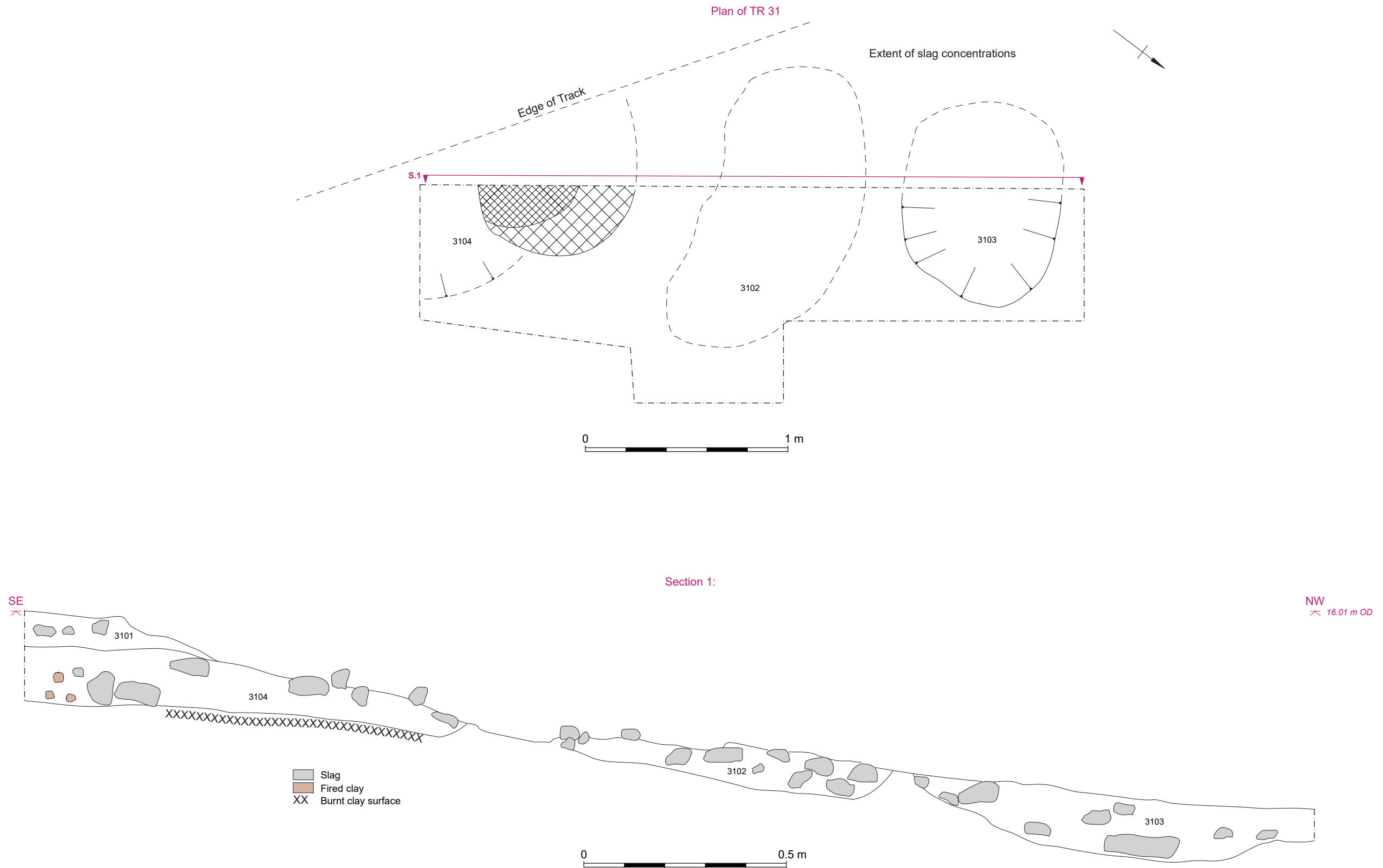


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Figure 9. Area 3 (east arm) – extract from magnetometry survey with Trench 31 (and nearby test-pits) overlaid





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Figure 10. Plan and section of Trench 31





Figure 11. Trench 31 seen from north-west, 1 x 1 m scale



Figure 12. Tap slag with attached furnace lining from deposit 3104 (Trench 31), 0.15 m scale



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