

Land at Home Farm, Warminster

Update to Archaeology Desk- based Assessment

Bellway Strategic Land

17 March 2026

LICHFIELDS

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1.0 Introduction

Origins and scope of report

- 1.1 Bellway Homes has commissioned Lichfields to produce a supplementary update to archaeological reports, and desk-based assessments (DBA) previously prepared for Land at Home Farm, Boreham Road, Warminster (NGR ST 89435 44471, hereafter referred to as the “site”). The supplementary update accompanies an application for full planning permission for the proposed residential development of the site.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide an updated understanding of the archaeological potential of the site, updating the DBAs produced for previous planning applications by CgMs in 2014, and by Orion in 2016, and incorporating the results of later evaluations by Rubicon Heritage Services in 2017 (as well as historic evaluations).¹ This report also provides an update on the policy position, and the content of the Historic Environment Record. Previous archaeological analysis of the site is summarised in Section 4 of this report and appended in full in Appendix 4.
- 1.3 This report has been produced in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)², and local planning policies, and in accordance with DLHC planning practice guidance, and standards and guidance produced by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA)³, Historic England⁴ and the Wiltshire and Swindon Archaeology Service.
- 1.4 This report deals solely with buried archaeological heritage assets and does not cover built heritage assets (such as listed buildings), except where such discussion aids the interpretation of the buried heritage resource, or where buried fabric is likely to be affected by proposals. Setting issues affecting the historic built environment are not discussed in this report. Issues affecting the historic built environment are addressed in the separate heritage statement.
- 1.5 The information presented within this document is correct at the time of writing to the best knowledge of the author, within the limits imposed in dealing with historic materials and mapping. The archaeological resource is by its nature an unknown resource prior to confirmation through site investigations. It is assumed that previous work undertaken at the site is accurate and is therefore relied upon for this assessment.

Proposed Development

- 1.6 The proposed description of development is:

¹ Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Land at Warminster Wiltshire, 2014, by CgMs; Land off Boreham Road, Warminster, Wiltshire, Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. 2014, by Wessex Archaeology; Land at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment, 2016, by Orion; and Land at Home Farm Warminster Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation [Trial Trenching], 2017, by Rubicon Heritage.

² Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. 2024. National Planning Policy Framework.

³ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment.

⁴ Historic England. 2017. The Setting of Heritage Assets. Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 3 (2nd Edition).

“Full planning permission for residential development (Use Class C3) comprising 135 dwellings with associated private amenity space and car/cycle parking, a comprehensive landscaping scheme to include publicly accessibly amenity space, sustainable drainage features, new tree planting and associated works. Alterations to the existing Home Farm access from Boreham Road, and new vehicular, cycle and pedestrian routes through the site. All associated infrastructure works.”

Assumptions and Limitations

1.7 The following assumptions were applied to translate effects on heritage significance/harm in NPPF terminology into the above framework:

- 1 Archaeological potential has been considered in relation to the pattern and significance of known assets (drawn from the Wiltshire and Swindon Historic Environment Record) in the vicinity, results of previous site evaluations, and site land use history to understand level of potential and likely effects.
- 2 The study has utilised a range of sources on the area’s historic environment. Much of this is necessarily secondary information compiled from a variety of sources (e.g. Historic Environment Record (HER) data and grey literature reports). It has been assumed that this information is reasonably accurate unless otherwise stated.
- 3 The depths of the proposed foundations and services for the new development have been advised by the project manager.

2.0 **Relevant Legislation, Policy & Guidance**

National Planning Policy Framework (2024)

2.1 At the heart of the NPPF is the achievement of sustainable development – this includes securing high-quality design, ensuring the vitality of town centres and conserving heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance.

- 1 Paragraph 202 states heritage assets ‘are an irreplaceable resource’ and should be conserved ‘in a manner appropriate to their significance’.
- 2 Paragraph 205 states that “Local planning authorities should maintain or have access to a historic environment record. This should contain up-to-date evidence about the historic environment in their area and be used to:
 - a assess the significance of heritage assets and the contribution they make to their environment; and
 - b predict the likelihood that currently unidentified heritage assets, particularly sites of historic and archaeological interest, will be discovered in the future.
- 3 Paragraph 207 notes that ‘in determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets’ importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance.’
- 4 Paragraph 212 notes that ‘when considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance.’
- 5 Paragraph 215 states where less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset arises, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal.
- 6 Paragraph 216 requires the effect of an application on a non-designated heritage asset to be taken into account. A balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.
- 7 Paragraph 219 requires that local planning authorities look for opportunities for the positive contribution of new development within conservation areas and the setting of heritage assets as a means ‘to enhance or better reveal their significance’.

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) updated 2021

2.2 NPPG provides further guidance on the importance of heritage considerations, ensuring the effective implementation of policy as set out in the NPPF. Relevant paras. are:

- 1 Paragraph 041 Reference ID: 18a-041-20190723 refers to the importance of non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest highlighting that these assets are still subject to the conservation objective. It states that “*On occasion the understanding*

of a site may change following assessment and evaluation prior to a planning decision and move it from this category to the first”.

Local Policy

- 2.3 The statutory development plan for Wiltshire Council comprises:
- 1 Wiltshire Core Strategy (2015);
 - 2 Saved policies from former District Local Plans (various); and
 - 3 Warminster Neighbourhood Plan (2016).
- 2.4 The preparation of a new Wiltshire Local Plan is currently at an advanced stage (Regulation 19). The draft policies are therefore included below.

Wiltshire Core Strategy (2015)

Core Policy 58: Ensuring the conservation of the historic environment

- 2.5 This states that development should protect, conserve and where possible enhance the historic environment.

Saved policies from former District Local Plans (various)

- 2.6 All relevant policies from former District Local Plans have since been replaced by Core Policy 58.

Warminster Neighbourhood Plan (2016)

Policy E5 – Surrounding Environment

- 2.7 This states that new developments should respect local character. The justification for the policy is included in the policy text, and states “Conservation and enhancement of Warminster’s character”.

Wiltshire Local Plan Regulation 19 (2023)

Policy 99: Ensuring the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment

- 2.8 This states that development should conserve or enhance the historic environment. Designated heritage and their settings will be conserved and where appropriate enhance in a manner appropriate to their significance, including national significant archaeological remains (amongst others). It goes on to state that; any harm to the significance of undesignated assets which will result from development proposals must be carefully balanced considering the significance of the asset and the harm caused; and Distinctive elements of Wiltshire’s historic environment, including non-designated heritage assets, which contribute to a sense of local character and identity will be conserved, and where possible enhanced.

3.0 **Baseline Conditions**

Introduction

- 3.1 A site's location, topography, and geology can provide indication of its suitability for past human activity. Topography and geology can provide information on whether ground levels have been raised or terraced away and can contribute to our understanding of the archaeological potential and survival of a site.

Site and study area

- 3.2 The site is an irregularly shaped parcel of land with an area of 10.5ha. It comprises agricultural land with some mature trees and hedge boundaries.
- 3.3 There are no designated archaeological or heritage assets within the site. The following non-designated archaeological monuments and findspots are recorded within the site. Within the southern part of the site are Late Mesolithic-Early Bronze Age Pits/Post Holes (MWI76479) and scatter of Worked Flint (ST84SE051) found in medieval/postmedieval ditches, indicative of a knapping area producing small blades and perhaps distributed further across the field. A Bronze Age/Iron Age Ditch (MWI76478) was also found in the southern part of the site during an evaluation in 2017 by Rubicon Heritage. Saxon pottery (ST84SE401) was also recovered while fieldwalking in the 1970s.
- 3.4 In the northern part of the site, a cluster of Late Bronze Age-Middle Iron Age pits (MWI76480) and a number of potential medieval gullies and pits (MWI76481) were identified during the same evaluation by Rubicon Heritage in 2017.
- 3.5 The site is bounded to the east by Home Farm, to the west by the Boreham settlement, to the south by agricultural fields and Bishopstrow House Hotel, and to the north by further agricultural fields and open space with elements of built development.
- 3.6 Within the Bishopstrow House Hotel grounds are three Scheduled Monuments: two Bowl Barrows, funerary monuments dating from the Late Neolithic period to the Late Bronze Age; and a further King Barrow, a type of funerary monument known as a long barrow dating from the Early and Middle Neolithic periods (3400-2400 BC). Approximately 730m north of the Site is Battlesbury Camp (Scheduled Monument), an Iron Age hillfort, unenclosed Iron Age settlement, cemetery, three bowl barrows and a field system located on raised ground.
- 3.7 The Middle Hill Round Barrow (Scheduled Monument), a funerary monument dating from the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age, and deserted medieval Middlehill settlement and associated cultivation earthworks (Scheduled Monument), are around 1200m north-east of the site.

Geology and Topography

- 3.8 The British Geological Survey (BGS) does not record any superficial deposits within the site. The bedrock geology is comprised of three different compositions:
- Boyne Hollow Chert Member – Sandstone. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 113 and 100.5 million years ago during the Cretaceous period.

- Melbury Sandstone Member – Sandstone. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 100.5 and 93.9 million years ago during the Cretaceous period.
- West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation – Chalk. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 100.5 and 93.9 million years ago during the Cretaceous period.

- 3.9 Previous archaeological investigations within the south-eastern corner of the study site identified an underlying greensand natural at a depth of 0.7m to 1m below topsoil and subsoil overburden.
- 3.10 There are no borehole records shown on the BGS record viewer within the site. A ground investigation has been undertaken by Wilson Associates. The results of this investigation are broadly consistent with the geology recorded by the BGS. There is generally a shallow layer of turf over topsoil across the site (c.0.25m) and varying depths of clay, sand and chalk. The exception to this is one borehole which demonstrates probably made ground up to 4.72m – this borehole was located in an old sandpit.
- 3.11 The study site lies on the first greensand terrace of the River Wylye, immediately north of its floodplain, the course of which lies c.95m to the south.⁵ The site slopes slightly north to south, from 120m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) at the highest point to 106m AOD at the lowest.

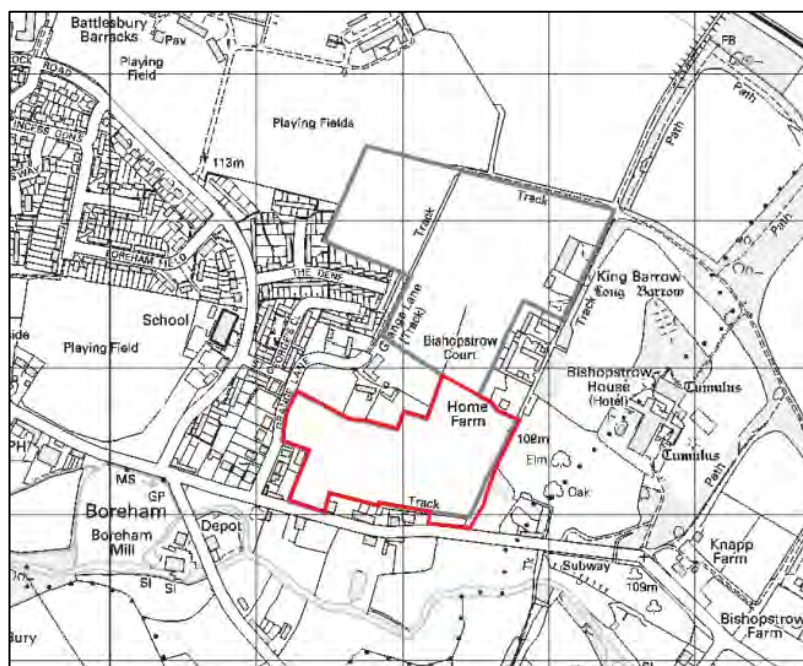
⁵ CgMs DBA, p. 8.

4.0 **Archaeological Baseline**

Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 4.1 There have been six previous investigations within the site, to which this report forms an update. These are:
- Archaeological Evaluation: Home Farm, Bishopstrow, Warminster, Wilts, 1998, by ASI.
 - Report on a Geophysical Survey carried out at Land East of the Dene, Warminster, 1998, by Stratascan.
 - Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Land at Warminster Wiltshire, 2014, by CgMs.
 - Land off Boreham Road, Warminster, Wiltshire, Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. 2014, by Wessex Archaeology.
 - Land at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment, 2016, by Orion.
 - Land at Home Farm Warminster Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation [Trial Trenching], 2017, by Rubicon Heritage.
- 4.2 Summaries of the relevant reports are provided below, and the reports are included in full in Appendix 4. This report forms an update to this previous work. There are also 58 previous archaeological investigations within the study area (including those listed above), which are listed within the gazetteer at Appendix 1 and shown on the figures in Appendix 2.
- Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Land at Warminster Wiltshire, 2014, by CgMs.**
- 4.3 This report covers the southern half of the site (Figure 4.1). The assessment established that the site has high potential for early prehistoric and medieval remains, moderate potential for Bronze Age and Saxon remains and low potential for later prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval remains. It is also concluded that the archaeological potential of the site is not of sufficient importance to constrain development.
- 4.4 This report also incorporates and summarises the results of the two previous investigations, the 1998 evaluation by ASI, and the 1998 geophysical survey by Stratascan. The evaluation recorded a number of parallel linear ditches and probable marl pits of post-medieval date, and scatters of late Mesolithic/early Neolithic worked flint indicative of a tool manufacturing site or a seasonal camp.

Figure 4.1 Site subject to 2014 DBA



Source: CgMs Consulting

Land off Boreham Road, Warminster, Wiltshire, Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report. 2014, by Wessex Archaeology

- 4.5 The site this report covered was the same extent as the 2014 DBA (Figure 4.2). The gradiometer survey demonstrated the presence of anomalies of probable and possible archaeological interest, along with regions of magnetic disturbance.
- 4.6 A clear ditch and several probable pits were seen in the data along with a C-shaped anomaly. This anomaly was detected towards the northern extent of the survey area although the response was weak and not clearly defined from the magnetic background. This may indicate that some plough damage has taken place.
- 4.7 Several linear features are visible in the dataset that are consistent with former field boundaries visible on historic mapping. Extensive magnetic disturbance associated with agricultural processes and numerous small-scale ferrous responses were seen throughout the dataset.

Figure 4.2 Interpretation plan – Gradiometer Survey



Source: Wessex Archaeology

Land at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire: Archaeological Desk Based Assessment, 2016, by Orion

- 4.8 This report covered the extent of the site subject to this update (Figure 4.3). It concludes the following on the archaeological potential of the site:

“The previous fieldwalking, partial geophysical survey and trenching in the late 1990s and the 2014 geophysical survey has established that the site has potential for a possible Bronze Age barrow ditch which partially survives within the southern part of the site. This area has also been shown to contain a number of former Medieval/Post-Medieval field boundaries. The northern part of the site has not been subject to archaeological evaluation works. However, based on the evidence from the wider study area and the results of the surveys in the southern part of the site indicate that that site has a low to moderate potential for Bronze Age remains and it is likely to also contain the remains of former Medieval and PostMedieval field boundary remains. The remains that have been shown or suspected to be present are considered likely to be of no more than local significance.”

- 4.9 Following this DBA, the entirety of the site was subject to an evaluation by Rubicon Heritage in 2017 (discussed below).

Figure 4.3 Site subject to 2016 DBA



Source: Orion

Land at Home Farm Warminster Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation, 2017, by Rubicon Heritage

- 4.10 This evaluation comprised of the excavation of 21 trenches, each measuring 40m by 2m (Figure 4.4). Four areas of possible earlier prehistoric activity were identified represented by postholes, pits and ditches, dated by pottery and worked flint. A limited amount of medieval and post-medieval activity was recorded. There is a record of each trench included within the report. To summarise the finds:
- Prehistoric pottery was recovered from six trenches.
 - Worked flint was recovered from five trenches.
 - An iron knife blade was recovered one trench.
 - Low levels of animal bone were recovered.
- 4.11 The discussion section reviews the results of the excavation against the conclusions of the previous reports, and geophysical/gradiometer surveys (p.8 of the appended report).

Figure 4.4 Trench plan overlain on geophysical survey



Source: Rubicon Heritage

Designated Heritage Assets

- 4.12 There are no designated archaeological assets within the site and 13 in the study area. There are also several in the wider environs of the study area.
- 4.13 The designated archaeological assets are shown on the Figure at Appendix 2.
- 4.14 There are no designated heritage assets within the site and 13 in the study area. These are dealt within the separate Heritage Impact Assessment by Lichfields.

Non-Designated Heritage Assets

- 4.15 There are 8 non-designated archaeological assets within the site and 98 total within the study area. These comprise 83 monuments and 15 findspots.
- 4.16 Features within the site include:
- Undated Feature, North of the Dene, ref. ST84SE646.
 - Medieval Earthworks, ref. ST84SE458.
 - Bronze Age/Iron Age Ditch, Home Farm, ref. MWI76478.
 - Late Mesolithic-Early Bronze Age Pits/Post Holes, Home Farm, ref. MWI76479.
 - Late Bronze Age to Iron Age Pits, Home Farm, ref. MWI76480.

- Medieval Gullies, Home Farm, ref. MWI76481.
- Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic Worked Flint, Home Farm, Bishopstrow, ref. ST84SE051.
- Saxon Pottery (findspot), ref. ST84SE401.

4.17 The non-designated archaeological assets within the site and study area are shown on the Figure at Appendix 2 and detailed in the gazetteer at Appendix 1.

Archaeological and Historic Background

- 4.18 This report forms an update to the Archaeological Desk-based Assessment prepared by Orion (Appendix 4). Please refer to that report for the full archaeological background. This has been summarised by the most recent evaluation report by Rubicon Heritage and is abridged here and includes the results of their investigation.
- 4.19 As listed above, the HER records a scatter of late Mesolithic, early Neolithic worked flint (ref. ST84SE051). A C-shaped magnetic anomaly detected in the southern part of the site by Wessex Archaeology was theorised to potentially be a Bronze Age barrow due to the presence of other monuments of this nature within the surrounding area; Rubicon Heritage state there is little supporting evidence for this interpretation, however. The other monuments comprise Bowl Barrows from the Neolithic to late Bronze Age, and there is a Neolithic long barrow, all within 250m or so of the site. Evidence of settlement activity of Bronze/early Iron Age is recorded within 700m of the site to the northeast. Iron Age settlement activity is recorded at Bishopstrow farm 500m south east of the site. There are also major settlements nearby, including the hillfort of Battlesbury Camp 1.1km north east of the site (NHLE: 1010195) and Scratchbury Hill 1.3km east of the site (NHLE: 1010213).
- 4.20 The Rubicon Heritage investigation confirmed the presence of prehistoric features in the form of ditches, pits or post-holes and potential hearths containing ceramics and lithics of earlier prehistoric date. Areas show activity over a long period, with Early Bronze Age pottery found within the same trench as residual late Mesolithic/early Neolithic flint.
- 4.21 The Rubicon Heritage evaluation states that there is little evidence of Roman activity, but that a single sherd of Romano-British dated pottery has been recorded from the centre of the site (as well as an assemblage of Romano-British pottery, coins and other artefacts c.250m south west of the site). It is unclear what this is referring to, and may be from the Orion DBA, which states that a single sherd of Romano-British pottery was recorded under the same HER reference as the scatter of flints: ref. ST84SE051. It is concluded that there is no evidence of later prehistoric or Roman activity within the site.
- 4.22 Fieldwalking has identified a number of unspecified pottery fragments which may be of Saxon date (ref. ST84SE401). Evidence of occupation is recorded adjacent to the study site; excavations at Kings Barrow revealed evidence of three intrusive Saxon burials. The settlement of Bishopstrow is also thought likely to have had origins from this period, as well as Warminster.
- 4.23 The HER records the presence of a series of earthworks with associated pottery finds within the southern area of the site, which may represent part of the medieval settlement of Boreham. A geophysical survey identified pit-like anomalies, which were confirmed as marl pits of post-medieval date, and a series of linear ditched features identified as possibly

medieval, but more likely post-medieval field boundaries within the site. This is further supported by map regression undertaken by CgMs (Figures 4-8, CgMs report) demonstrating that the site was enclosed in the late-18th century and has comprised of agricultural fields during the post-medieval and modern periods. This was confirmed by Rubicon's investigation.

- 4.24 The site remains in agricultural use. Some of the field boundaries shown on the late-18th century mapping were removed before the early-19th century mapping with further fields having been amalgamated during the late-19th and 20th centuries. There are some existing hedgerows within the site, which are assumed to be historic, as they follow the boundaries shown on historic OS mapping.

5.0 **Potential and Significance**

Statement of Potential and Significance

- 5.1 The archaeological potential of each period is considered based on the known archaeological and geological context of the site and in light of the findings of the previous investigations at the site. Survival of remains is likely to have been affected by modern ploughing.
- 5.2 The DBA produced by CgMs found that the site had potential for early prehistoric and medieval remains, moderate potential for Bronze Age and Saxon remains and low potential for later prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval remains. The update to this DBA produced by Orion concluded that the site has potential to contain limited Bronze Age remains and the remains of Post-Medieval field boundaries. The evaluation undertaken by Rubicon identified four areas of possible earlier prehistoric activity represented by postholes, pits and ditches, dated by pottery and worked flint, and a limited amount of possibly medieval but probably post-medieval activity.
- 5.3 For a previous planning application at the site, it was acknowledged by the Council's archaeology service that the early pre-historic remains present within the site, discussed within this report, are likely to be of regional importance only, and that there is no indication that any of the remains are nationally significant. This report concurs with the Council's assessment, and no further information has come to light that would suggest there is potential for remains of national significance to exist within the site.

Table 5.1 Potential and significance

Period	Potential	Features	Value (Importance)
Palaeoenvironmental	Low	There are no recorded deposits within the site that may have aided geoarchaeological survival, such as alluvium, peat, or river terrace deposits.	Evidential (Medium)
Early Prehistoric	High	Possible finds, such as flint scatters, hand axes, animal bones. Settlement activity such as additional ditches and potholes is also likely, given those already identified by the Rubicon investigation.	Evidential (Medium to High)
Later Prehistoric	High	Possible finds, including pottery and flints and evidence of settlement activity such as ditches, postholes, or pits such as those already identified by the Rubicon investigation.	Evidential (Medium to High)
Roman	Low	Finds such as pottery or coins are considered to be the most likely features, if any, to be found from this period.	Evidential, Historic (Medium)
Early medieval	Moderate	Agricultural activity including postholes for enclosures, or artefacts, such as farming equipment or pottery; or evidence of settlement activity.	Evidential, Historic (Medium)
Later medieval	Low to Moderate	Agricultural activity including field boundaries, drainage ditches or remains of land cultivation, or potential finds.	Evidential, Historic (Low)
Post medieval	Moderate	As above, evidence of agricultural activity such as field boundaries etc.	Evidential, Historic (Low)
Modern	Low	Farming equipment or other finds/features relating to agricultural activity.	Evidential, Historic (Negligible to Low)

Source: Lichfields

6.0 Potential Effects

Proposals

6.1 The assessment of the effects of the proposed development has been based on the illustrative masterplan and assumptions regarding intrusive works confirmed by the project manager. The proposed development is for:

“Full planning permission for residential development (Use Class C3) comprising 135 dwellings with associated private amenity space and car/cycle parking, a comprehensive landscaping scheme to include publicly accessibly amenity space, sustainable drainage features, new tree planting and associated works. Alterations to the existing Home Farm access from Boreham Road, and new vehicular, cycle and pedestrian routes through the site. All associated infrastructure works.”

6.2 Relevant to this assessment is the proposed layout (Figure 6.1) and the following works:

- 1 Redevelopment of the northern portion of the site to provide low-rise housing and associated strip foundations of between 0.9 and 1.5m in depth;
- 2 Provision of services at depths of 350mm to 600m. These are to be provided within roads and footpaths; and
- 3 Retention of southern portion of the site as green space, with a new estate driveway (up to 945mm in depth), tree planting, footpaths and two infiltration basins, (up to maximum depths of 1.9m and 2.3m).

Figure 6.1 Masterplan



Source: Pegasus Group

Effects on non-designated archaeological assets and unknown archaeological remains

- 6.3 It is likely that the known and any unknown archaeological remains present within the northern section of the site (where built development is to be focused) would be impacted by the proposed intrusive groundworks within this part of the site. The known remains include an undated feature (ref. ST84SE646), Late Bronze Age to Iron Age Pits (ref. MWI76480) and Medieval gullies (ref. MWI76481). These remains are considered to be of regional (medium, to medium to high) importance. Any archaeological remains could be impacted through truncation or being wholly removed or destroyed during activities associated with the construction of a number of buildings, landscape works, laying of hard surfaces, provision of services and digging of foundations.
- 6.4 As the southern portion of the site is largely being retained as open space, disturbance here is likely to be relatively minimal and localised, including the introduction of a new driveway and tree planting.
- 6.5 Should any archaeological remains be present in the location of the proposed driveway and infiltration basins to a depth of 945mm and 1.9m or 2.3m respectively, these could be impacted by the associated excavation by truncation or removal – this includes medieval earthworks identified in the location of the proposed driveway (ref. MWI1137). The proposed planting of trees would result in localised ground disturbance which could impact any remains in higher levels of stratigraphy.

7.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

Conclusion

- 7.1 This DBA update has been prepared to understand the archaeological sensitivity landscape of the site to accompany an application for full planning permission. The update summarises the current policy position, previous investigations at the site and the relevant data within the HER.
- 7.2 The report supplements the previous DBA prepared by Orion in 2016, with minor updates to conclusions on archaeological potential based on the findings of the Evaluation report prepared by Rubicon in 2016. This has found that there is high potential for remains from the early and later prehistoric period, moderate potential for remains from the early medieval/Saxon period, and post medieval period, and low to moderate potential for remains from the later medieval period. There is low potential for remains from the Roman and modern periods, and paleoenvironmental evidence.
- 7.3 It is likely that the known and any unknown archaeological remains present within the northern section of the site (where built development is to be focused) would be impacted by the proposed intrusive groundworks within this part of the site. The known remains include an undated feature (ref. ST84SE646), Late Bronze Age to Iron Age Pits (ref. MWI76480) and Medieval gullies (ref. MWI76481). These remains are considered to be of regional (medium, to medium to high) importance. Any archaeological remains could be impacted through truncation or being wholly removed or destroyed during activities associated with the construction of a number of buildings, landscape works, laying of hard surfaces, provision of services and digging of foundations.
- 7.4 As the southern portion of the site is largely being retained as open space, disturbance here is likely to be relatively minimal and localised, including the introduction of a new driveway and tree planting.
- 7.5 Should any archaeological remains be present in the location of the proposed driveway and swale to a depth of 945mm and 1.9m or 2.3m respectively, these could be impacted by the associated excavation by truncation or removal – this includes medieval earthworks identified in the location of the proposed driveway (ref. MWI1137). The proposed planting of trees would result in localised ground disturbance which could impact any remains in higher levels of stratigraphy.

Recommendations

- 7.6 Given the potential of the site for remains from several periods, which may be of regional importance, a programme of further archaeological mitigation is recommended. This should be focused on the northern part of the site, given the low impact on remains in the southern portion of the site. It is considered that this could be undertaken postdetermination.
- 7.7 The programme of investigation should be informed by the previous investigations at the site and may include further intrusive investigation. This will need to be agreed with the Wiltshire and Swindon Archaeology Service, and carried out by a qualified

archaeological unit. This is in line with previous comments issued by the Wiltshire and Swindon Archaeology Service for a similar application in 2016.

Appendix 1 **Archaeology Gazetteers**

Briefing Note

Our ref 65496/06/JFB/MI
Date 17 March 2026

Subject Home Farm, Warminster - Archaeological Gazetteer

Non-Designated Archaeological Assets

PrefRef	Mon Type	Name	Summary	Period
MWI64060	Geological Marks	Linear Periglacial Solution Feature, Bishopstrow College	A broad V-shaped depression was revealed during a watching brief, orientated roughly west-east across the southern half of the excavation and visible as a band of greyish brown sand, in the upper surface of a layer of yellow sand. The fill graded with depth into flint gravel and densely packed cobbles. Identified as a periglacial solution feature, its position suggests that it predates the current channel of the River Wylfe, but might have been a stage in its creation.	Palaeolithic
ST84SE051	Industrial Site	Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic Worked Flint, Home Farm, Bishopstrow	Late Mesolithic/early Neolithic worked flint was seen during an evaluation excavation in 1998, perhaps distributed for some distance across the site.	Mesolithic
ST84SE100	Long Barrow	King Barrow, Boreham	A Neolithic long barrow excavated by Cunnington and Hoare in the early 19th century.	Neolithic
ST84NE155	Settlement	Bronze Age Settlement, North of Battlesbury Camp	A Bronze Age settlement was excavated by Wessex Archaeology in 1998.	Bronze Age
ST94SW637	Bowl Barrow	Barrow, East of Pit Meads	A Bronze Age bowl barrow possibly excavated by Mrs Downs in 1787 who found a cremation.	Bronze Age

PrefRef	Mon Type	Name	Summary	Period
ST94SW152	Settlement	Bronze Age/Early Iron Age Pottery, South East of Battlesbury Wood	Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery was recovered from a ring gully during an excavation in 1998. Three pits were assumed to be of the same date.	Bronze Age
ST84NE202	Hillfort	Battlesbury Camp	An Iron Age hillfort excavated by Mrs Cunningham in 1922.	Iron Age
ST84NE203	Settlement	Iron Age Settlement, North of Battlesbury Camp	An Iron Age settlement site excavated in 1956 and in 1998.	Iron Age
ST94SW200	Hillfort	Scratchbury Camp	An Iron Age hillfort partially excavated by Grimes.	Iron Age
ST94SW201	Pit	Iron Age Pits, Bishopstrow Farm	A complex of Iron Age pits enclosed by a ditch, one of which was excavated to reveal a burial in 1981.	Iron Age
ST94SW712	Enclosure	Enclosure inside Scratchbury Camp	An Iron Age D-shaped enclosure associated with the hillfort excavated by Grimes.	Iron Age
ST84NE607	Bowl Barrow	Bowl Barrow, Under Rampart of Battlesbury Camp	A bowl barrow excavated by Rev J Eyres in the 19th century. He found two secondary burials with a glass Iron Age bead above the primary cremation.	Iron Age
ST84NE551	Cemetery	Human Burials, Chalk Quarry, Battlesbury Hillfort	An undated cemetery with human burials, possibly Saxon.	Early Iron Age to Saxon
MWI75845	Ditch	Romano-British Ditches, Warminster Community Centre	Ditches of a Romano-British date were found during an excavation.	Roman
MWI75846	Pit	Romano-British Pit, Warminster Community Centre	A pit of a Romano-British date was found during an excavation.	Roman
MWI75847	Grave	Romano-British Burial, Warminster Community Centre	A burial of an elderly adult male of a Romano-British date was found during an excavation.	Roman

PrefRef	Mon Type	Name	Summary	Period
ST84SE300	Enclosed Settlement	Romano-British Settlement, The Bury or The Buries	Romano-British settlement enclosures.	Roman
ST94SW301	Villa	Roman Villa, Pit Meads	The first of two Romano-British villa buildings excavated by Hoare in the 19th century.	Roman
ST94SW302	Villa	Roman Villa, Pit Meads	The second of two Romano-British villa buildings excavated by Hoare in the 19th century.	Roman
ST84SE400	Burial	Saxon Burials, King Barrow	Three Saxon burials excavated from a long barrow in 1800.	Saxon
MWI43518	Church	All Saints' Church	Of the medieval church, only the tower and adjoining arch survive. The rest of the church fabric dates from c. 1838-40. Its latest medieval form was recorded by John Buckler shortly before demolition, and comprised a simple nave and chancel without transepts.	Medieval to Mid C19
MWI43753	Watermill	Bishopstowe Mill	Mostly rebuilt after fire of 1856, but with C18 and earlier work. For full details of this building, please check the Listed Building description.	Medieval to Late C19
MWI76612	Watermill; Corn Mill	Boreham Mill, Warminster	13th century water mill, rebuilt in the late 1880s.	Medieval to Modern
ST84SE456	Settlement	Bishopstrow	Settlement with medieval origins	Medieval
ST84SE458	Settlement	Medieval Earthworks, Boreham	Medieval village earthworks.	Medieval
ST84SE461	Settlement	Henfords Marsh	A settlement with medieval origins.	Medieval
ST84SE648	Ridge And Furrow	Medieval Ridge and Furrow, South of Bishopstrow Farm	Medieval ridge and furrow fields.	Medieval
ST94SW452	Deserted Settlement	Middleton	Deserted medieval village.	Medieval
ST94SW456	Settlement	Norton Bavant	Settlement with medieval origins.	Medieval

PrefRef	Mon Type	Name	Summary	Period
ST94SW464	Motte And Bailey	Medieval Ringwork, Bishopstrow Farm	A medieval ringwork and central motte. Trial excavation by Robert Smith in 1981.	Medieval
MWI32056	Water Meadow	Water Meadows, Henford's Marsh	A water meadow is visible on aerial photography at Henford's Marsh, Warminster.	Post Medieval
MWI32059	Water Meadow	Post Medieval Water Meadow, East of Hunters Moon	A water meadow is visible on aerial photographs, east of Hunters Moon.	Post Medieval
ST84SE529	Garden; Garden Temple; Garden; Tunnel; Summerhouse; Garden Wall	Bishopstrow House	An historic garden	Early C18 to Late C19
MWI70333	Farmstead	Farmstead, Bishopstrow	Partially extant 19th century model farmstead.	Early 20th Century to C21
ST84NE525	Practice Trench	Trenches, South East of Parsonage Farm	Area of modern military activity.	First World War
MWI31758	Pillbox (Type Fw3/24)	Pillbox, South East of The Tynings	A Type 24 pillbox southeast of The Tynings.	Second World War
MWI76260	Pit	Late Iron Age Pit, Hensford Marsh	A pit of a Late Iron Age date was found by an evaluation.	Unknown
ST84NE608	Bowl Barrow	Bowl Barrow, South West of Battlesbury Camp	An undated bowl barrow excavated by Cunnington in the 19th century without result.	Unknown
ST84NE609	Bowl Barrow	Bowl Barrow, Under Rampart of Battlesbury Camp	A bowl barrow excavated by William Cunnington in the 19th century.	Unknown

PrefRef	Mon Type	Name	Summary	Period
ST84NE635	Enclosure	Undated Enclosure, North West of Battlesbury	An undated enclosure.	Unknown
ST84NE638	Field System	Undated Field System, Thirteen Hundred Down	Undated field system	Unknown
ST84NE639	Linear Feature	Linear, North of Battlesbury Camp	An undated linear feature which may be associated with Battlesbury hillfort.	Unknown
ST84NE701	Field System	Undated Field System, North West of Battlesbury Bridge	Small field system shown on an aerial photograph.	Unknown
ST84NE702	Circular Enclosure	Enclosure, Battlesbury Camp	An undated circular enclosure.	Unknown
ST84NE703	Field System	Undated Field System, Battlesbury Camp	An undated field system.	Unknown
ST84SE600	Bowl Barrow	Undated Barrow, Garden of Bishopstrow House	An undated bowl barrow recorded in the early 19th century by Sir Richard Colt Hoare.	Unknown
ST84SE601	Bowl Barrow	Undated Barrow, Garden of Bishopstrow House	An undated bowl barrow or a possible castle mound.	Unknown
ST84SE603	Bowl Barrow	Undated Barrow, South of Dairy Farm	An undated bowl barrow.	Unknown
ST84SE605	Round Barrow	Undated Barrow, South of Dairy Farm	An undated round barrow.	Unknown

PrefRef	Mon Type	Name	Summary	Period
ST84SE627	Site	Undated Feature, North East of Blacketts	An undated rectangular feature with an associated curved linear.	Unknown
ST84SE630	Bowl Barrow	Undated Bowl Barrow, North East of Barrow House	One of a pair of bowl barrows.	Unknown
ST84SE631	Bowl Barrow	Undated Bowl Barrow, North East of Barrow House	One of a pair of bowl barrows.	Unknown
ST84SE634	Site	Undated Earthworks, South East of St Andrews	A line of undated rectangular earthworks.	Unknown
ST84SE645	Water Meadow	Undated Water Meadow, South of Boreham Road.	Water meadow south of Warminster.	Unknown
ST84SE646	Site	Undated Feature, North of The Dene	An undated amorphous feature.	Unknown
ST84SE647	Linear Feature	Linear, North of King Barrow	Undated linear features.	Unknown
ST94NW635	Strip Lynchet	Lynchets, Middle Hill	Medieval strip lynchets.	Unknown
ST94NW645	Field System	Field System, North East of Bigbury Wood	An undated field system.	Unknown
ST94NW646	Linear Feature	Undated Linear, West of Field Barn	An undated linear feature.	Unknown
ST94NW659	Strip Lynchet	Lynchets, Lower Slopes of Battlesbury Hillfort	Strip lynchets probably medieval.	Unknown

PrefRef	Mon Type	Name	Summary	Period
ST94NW677	Enclosure	Enclosure, East of Norton Down	An undated ditched enclosure plotted from aerial photographs in 1995	Unknown
ST94NW679	Strip Lynchet	Lynchets, South East of Battlesbury Camp	Undated lynchets, probably medieval.	Unknown
ST94SW603	Bowl Barrow	Barrow, Middle Hill	An undated burial mound excavated by Hoare in the 19th century without result.	Unknown
ST94SW626	Bowl Barrow	Barrow, Scratchbury	An undated bowl barrow excavated by Hoare in the 19th century, but without result.	Unknown
ST94SW635	Bowl Barrow	Bowl Barrow, West of Hazel Copse	An undated bowl barrow.	Unknown
ST94SW650	Hollow Way	Medieval Holloway, North of Tynning Cottage	An undated holloway, probably the course of a medieval road.	Unknown
ST94SW654	Strip Lynchet	Lynchets, Middle Hill	Medieval strip lynchets.	Unknown
ST94SW655	Linear Feature	Linears, Middle Hill	Undated linear features.	Unknown
ST94SW670	Settlement	Undated Settlement, West of Middleton Farm	Undated features are visible on aerial photographs.	Unknown
ST94SW673	Ditch	Undated Ditch, East of Tynning Cottage	An undated linear ditch plotted by the RCHME from aerial photographs.	Unknown
ST94SW677	Ring Ditch	Ring Ditch, West of Hazel Copse	Undated ring ditch plotted by the RCHME from aerial photographs.	Unknown
ST94SW690	Strip Lynchet	Lynchet, North of Scratchbury	Medieval strip lynchet.	Unknown
ST94SW699	Strip Lynchet	Medieval Lynchets, West of Middle Hill	Medieval strip lynchets.	Unknown

PrefRef	Mon Type	Name	Summary	Period
ST94SW703	Ridge And Furrow; Water Meadow	Undated Water Meadow, South of Norton Bavant	Water meadow South of Norton Bavant.	Unknown
ST94SW711	Rectangular Enclosure	Enclosure inside Scratchbury Camp	An undated rectangular enclosure associated with the hillfort.	Unknown
ST94SW716	Ditch	Undated Ditch, West of Hazel Copse	An undated linear ditch plotted by the RCHME from aerial photographs.	Unknown
ST84NE640	Ring Ditch	Undated Ring Ditch, West of Battlesbury Camp	An undated ring ditch.	Unknown
ST84SE621	Pit Alignment	Undated Pit Alignment, South of Knapp Farm	An undated pit alignment associated with parallel ditches.	Unknown
ST94NW680	Enclosure	Enclosures, North East of Battlesbury	One of three undated contiguous enclosures.	Unknown
ST94SW600	Bowl Barrow	Barrow, Middle Hill	A burial mound excavated by Hoare in the 19th century. It possibly contained Bronze Age cremations.	Unknown
ST94SW601	Bowl Barrow	Burial Mound, Middle Hill	A burial mound excavated by Hoare in the 19th century. It possibly contained a Bronze Age cremation.	Unknown
ST94SW602	Bowl Barrow	Burial Mound, Middle Hill	A burial mound excavated by Hoare in the 19th century. It possibly contained a Bronze Age cremation.	Unknown
ST94SW638	Bowl Barrow	Barrow, East of Pit Meads	Site of a bowl barrow possibly excavated by Mrs Downs in 1786-7.	Unknown

Findspots

PrefRef	Mon Type	Name	Summary	Period
ST84SE101	Findspot	Neolithic Tools, Garden of 73 Boreham Road	An assemblage of Neolithic tools.	Neolithic
ST94SW107	Findspot	Neolithic Flint Tool, Middle Hill	Neolithic flint tool flake.	Neolithic
ST84SE050	Findspot	Undated Worked Flints, Garden of 73 Boreham Road	An assemblage of worked flints.	Prehistoric
ST94SW202	Associated Finds	Iron Age Pottery, Bishopstrow Farm	Iron Age pottery was found during an evaluation excavation in 1981	Iron Age
ST84NE308	Findspot	Romano-British Coins, Battlesbury Camp	Romano-British coins.	Roman
ST84SE308	Findspot	Roman Coin, Garden of 2 Grange Lane, Boreham	A Romano-British coin.	Roman
ST94SW306	Findspot	Romano-British Pottery, Near Pit Meads	Three fragments of Romano-British or Roman pottery.	Roman
ST94SW308	Associated Finds	Romano-British Pottery, South East of Battlesbury Wood	Romano-British pottery was recovered from a natural erosion channel during an excavation in 1998.	Roman
ST84NE400	Findspot	Saxon Seaxes, Battlesbury Camp	Three Saxon iron seaxes.	Saxon

PrefRef	Mon Type	Name	Summary	Period
ST84SE401	Findspot	Saxon Pottery, Boreham	Saxon pottery fragments.	Saxon
ST84SEU07	Findspot	Saxon Coin, Garden of a Country House Near Warminster - exact location not known	A Saxon gold coin found at a country house near Warminster was presented to the British Museum in 1929. The exact location of the find is not known.	Saxon
ST94SW403	Findspot	Saxon Spearhead, Pitmead Villa	A Saxon spearhead.	Saxon
ST94SW467	Findspot	Medieval Pottery, North West of Middleton Farm	A single fragment of 12th/13th century pottery was found during an evaluation excavation in 1998	Medieval
ST84NEU02	Findspot	Medieval Horse Harness Pendants, 157 Goodwin Close	Medieval horse-harness decorative pendants.	Medieval
ST94SW465	Findspot	Medieval Sherd,Near Pitmeads	A fragment of pottery, probably medieval.	Medieval

Designated Archaeological Assets

List Entry	NGR	Name
1019740	ST 89276 44000	A pair of bowl barrows 225m south east of Boreham Mill
1010195	ST 89983 45578	Battlesbury Camp Monuments: hillfort, settlement, cemetery, barrows, enclosure, and field systems
1019732	ST 90509 43147	Bowl barrow 270m south west of Norton Bavant House
1012529	ST 89355 43270	Bowl barrow 300m south of Eastleigh Court
1017602	ST 89601 43260	Bowl barrow 500m south-east of Eastleigh Court
1019507	ST 89788 44392	Bowl barrow 85m north of Bishopstrow House
1019973	ST 89801 44294	Bowl barrow immediately east of Bishopstrow House
1019384	ST 87981 45584	Bowl barrow on the summit of Cop Heap
1009825	ST 91562 43483	Bowl barrow: one of a group of dispersed barrows south-east of Norton Plantation
1009826	ST 91618 43579	Bowl barrow: one of a group of dispersed barrows south-east of Norton Plantation
1009828	ST 91627 43548	Bowl barrow: one of a group of dispersed barrows south-east of Norton Plantation
1009829	ST 91727 43331	Bowl barrow: one of a group of dispersed barrows south-east of Norton Plantation
1009830	ST 91815 43409	Bowl barrow: one of a group of dispersed barrows south-east of Norton Plantation
1009824	ST 91579 43591	Bowl Barrow: one of a group of dispersed barrows south-east of Norton Plantation
1010067	ST 89851 46527	Combe lynchet system on Oxendean Down
1010399	ST 89759 44457	King Barrow: a long barrow 100m north of Bishopstrow House
1009834	ST 90800 44926	Middle Hill round barrow
1009795	ST 90911 44714, ST 90969 45159	Middlehill settlement and associated cultivation earthworks.
1009894	ST 91849 45969	Middleton Down long barrow
1009891	ST 90082 44052	Motte and double ringwork east of Bishopstrow Farm
1010213	ST 91197 44242	Scratchbury Hill Monuments: Iron age hillfort, round barrows and enclosures
1009937	ST 92223 43467	Strip lynchet system north of Cotley Hill

List Entry	NGR	Name
1010049	ST 90778 46111	Strip lynchets south of Bigbury Wood

Previous Investigations

EvUID	Record Type	Name
EWI1110	EVT	Excavation at Battlesbury Camp
EWI1111	EVT	Excavation North of Battlesbury Camp
EWI1113	EVT	Excavation at a Chalk Quarry Outside Battlesbury
EWI1118	EVT	Excavation Under the Rampart of Battlesbury Camp
EWI1119	EVT	Excavation Southwest of Battlesbury Camp
EWI1120	EVT	Excavation Under the Rampart of Battlesbury Camp
EWI1129	EVT	Excavation at King Barrow
EWI1130	EVT	Excavation at King Barrow
EWI1133	EVT	The Bury or The Buries
EWI1134	EVT	The Bury or The Buries
EWI1394	EVT	Excavation at Bishopstrow Farm
EWI1395	EVT	Excavation at Pit Meads
EWI1396	EVT	Excavation at Pit Meads
EWI1397	EVT	Excavation at Pit Meads
EWI1398	EVT	PIT MEADS
EWI1399	EVT	PIT MEADS
EWI1400	EVT	PIT MEADS
EWI1403	EVT	Excavation at Middle Hill

EvUID	Record Type	Name
EWI1404	EVT	MIDDLE HILL
EWI1405	EVT	MIDDLE HILL
EWI1421	EVT	SCRATCHBURY
EWI1426	EVT	E OF PIT MEADS
EWI1427	EVT	E OF PIT MEADS
EWI3316	EVP	Evaluation at Proposed Catt Building, Warminster Barracks
EWI396	EVT	Evaluation at New Medical and Dental Centre, Warminster Camp
EWI5783	EVP	New Medical and Dental Centre, Warminster Camp
EWI6479	EVT	Excavation at Middle Hill
EWI7933	EVS	Recording of a Watermeadow Hatch at Boreham, Warminster
EWI4763	EVP	Evaluation at Battlesbury Bowl
EWI5031	EVT	Watching Brief on a New Electric Cable, Harman Lines, Warminster
EWI5638	EVT	Evaluation at Home Farm, Bishopstrow
EWI4747	Man	Management Plans for the Archaeology of Salisbury Plain Training Area
EWI10989	Man	Condition Survey of Archaeology in the Salisbury Plain Training Area
EWI4720	Man	Survey and Evaluation of Archaeological Sites, Salisbury Plain Training Area
EWI6653	EVS	Southern Rivers Palaeolithic Project 1991-1992
EWI11084	EVP	Archaeological Assessment for the Melbury Abbas Bypass, Upgrading of the C13 and A350
EWI8134	EVP	Academic Field Survey of Salisbury Plain
EWI3657	EVT	Evaluation on Southern Range Road, Salisbury Plain Training Area Southern
EWI3248	EVP	Tank Scrapes, Battlesbury Bowl, Warminster
EWI3332	EVT	Excavation at Southern Range Road, Battlesbury Bowl
EWI4764	EVP	Evaluation at Southern Range Road
EWI5805	EVP	Evaluation at Warminster Training Centre and Battlesbury Barracks
EWI6872	EVP	Evaluation at Bishopstrow College
EWI6873	EVP	Evaluation at the Site of a Proposed Sports Pitch at Bishopstrow College

EvUID	Record Type	Name
EWI7452	EVT	Watching Brief at Bishopstrow College, Bishopstrow
EWI7455	EVT	Watching Brief at Warminster Community Centre
EWI7624	EVP	Desk Based Assessment at Boreham Road
EWI8133	EXT	Monument Condition Survey at DTE Salisbury Plain
EWI8368	EVT	Evaluation at The Bury, Bishopstrow
EWI8393	EVS	Geophysical Survey on Land off Boreham Road
EWI8720	EVS	Building Survey of Eastleigh Court, Bishopstrow
EWI8729	EVT	Evaluation of Land at Home Farm
EWI9086	EVT	Evaluation of Land at Henfords Marsh
EWI9482	EVS	Geophysical Survey on Land at Bishopstrow, House Hotel
EWI9590	EVT	Evaluation at All Saints' Church, Norton Bavant
EWI9953	EVS	Geophysical Survey at Battlesbury Hillfort
EWI10149	EVT	Evaluation at BB0619, Battlesbury BarrackS
EWI11184	EVT	Bishopstrow Hotel & Spa, Boreham Road, Bishopstrow, Warminster, Wiltshire

Appendix 2 **Archaeology Figures**



Key



Site

Non-designated Archaeological Assets:



Building



Building



Monument



Monument



Findspot



Findspot

0 250 500m

Historic Environment Record Data obtained from Wiltshire Council HER
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Project Land North of Boreham Road

Title Non-designated Archaeological Assets

Client Bellway Homes Limited

Date 02.12.2025

Scale 1 : 20,000 @ A4

Drawn by GF

Drg. No GIS\LF\65496\06-01

GIS Reference: S:\LF Jobs\LF65000 - LF65999\LF65496 - Land North of
Boreham Road\LF65496-06 - Land North of Boreham Road -
Non-designated Archaeological Assets - 01.12.2025.mxd



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Appendix 4 **Previous Investigation Reports**

Appendix 1

CgMs. 2014. Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Land at Warminster, Wiltshire

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK
BASED ASSESSMENT**

**Land at Warminster
Wiltshire**

April 2014

**Local Planning Authority:
West Wiltshire District
Council**

**Site centred at:
ST 894 445**

**Author:
Rob Bourn**

**Report Status:
FINAL**

**Issue Date:
April 2014**

**CgMs Ref:
RB/KB/9926**

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PLATES

Plate 1	Looking west across study site from the south east corner of study site
Plate 2	Looking north east across study site from the south east corner of study site
Plate 3	View to north east from the northern boundary of the study site toward King Barrow Long Barrow

APPENDIX 1

Reports documenting previous archaeological investigation within study site conducted in 1998

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF STUDY

- 1.1 This archaeological desk-based assessment has been researched and prepared by Steven Weaver and Rob Bourn of CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Hallam Land Management Ltd.
- 1.2 The study site is centred at grid reference ST 894 445 (Fig. 1 & 2). The study site is located on the east side of Warminster and is situated to the east of The Dene, north of Boreham Road and west of the Bishopstrow House Hotel.
- 1.3 In accordance with government guidance on the historic environment and planning (NPPF Section 12) this assessment draws together the available archaeological, topographic and land-use information in order to clarify the archaeological potential of the site and assess nearby designated heritage assets.
- 1.4 The assessment comprises an examination of evidence in the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (HER), considers the results of nearby archaeological investigations, incorporates published and unpublished material and charts historic land-use through a map regression exercise.
- 1.5 As a result, the assessment enables relevant parties to assess the archaeological potential of the site and to consider the need for design, civil engineering, and/or archaeological solutions to the potential identified. It also enables the effect of the development on nearby designated heritage assets to be assessed.

2.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 In March 2012, the government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which replaces national policy relating to heritage and archaeology (Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment).
- 2.2 Section 12 of the NPPF, entitled *Conserving and enhancing the historic environment* provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. Overall, the objectives of Section 12 of the NPPF can be summarised as seeking the:
- Delivery of sustainable development
 - Understanding the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits brought by the conservation of the historic environment
 - Conservation of England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, and
 - Recognition of the contribution that heritage assets make to our knowledge and understanding of the past.
- 2.3 Section 12 of the NPPF recognises that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term.
- 2.4 Paragraph 128 states that planning decisions should be based on the significance of the heritage asset, and that level of detail supplied by an applicant should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and should be no more than sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal upon the significance of that asset.
- 2.5 *Heritage Assets* are defined in Annex 2 as: A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).
- 2.6 *Archaeological Interest* is defined as a heritage asset which holds or potentially could hold evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places, and of the people and cultures that made them.

2.7 *Designated Heritage Assets* comprise of: World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Park and Gardens, Registered Battlefields and Conservation Areas.

2.8 *Significance* is defined as: The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

2.9 *Setting* is defined as: The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

2.10 The NPPF is supported by the National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) which is an on-line resource that was published in March 2014. In relation to the historic environment, paragraph 001 states that:

Protecting and enhancing the historic environment is an important component of the National Planning Policy Framework's drive to achieve sustainable development (as defined in Paragraphs 6-10). The appropriate conservation of heritage assets forms one of the 'Core Planning Principles'.

2.11 Paragraph 002 makes a clear statement that any decisions relating to listed buildings and their settings and conservation areas must address the statutory considerations of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as well as satisfying the relevant policies within the National Planning Policy Framework and the Local Plan.

2.12 Whether a proposed development results in substantial harm or less than substantial harm is a key test in NPPF paragraphs 132-134. However, substantial harm is not defined in the NPPF. Paragraph 017 of the NPPG provides additional guidance on substantial harm. It states:

What matters in assessing if a proposal causes substantial harm is the impact on the significance of the heritage asset. As the National Planning Policy Framework makes clear, significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. Whether a proposal causes substantial harm will be a judgment for the decision taker, having regard to the circumstances of the case and the policy in the National Planning Policy Framework. In general terms, substantial harm is a high test, so it may not arise in many cases. For example, in determining whether works to a listed building constitute substantial harm, an important consideration would be whether the adverse impact seriously affects a key element of its special architectural or historic interest. It is the degree of harm to the asset's significance rather than the scale of the development that is to be assessed.

“The harm may arise from works to the asset or from development within its setting. While the impact of total destruction is obvious, partial destruction is likely to have a considerable impact but, depending on the circumstances, it may still be less than substantial harm or conceivably not harmful at all, for example, when removing later inappropriate additions to historic buildings which harm their significance. Similarly, works that are moderate or minor in scale are likely to cause less than substantial harm or no harm at all. However, even minor works have the potential to cause substantial harm.”

- 2.13 Paragraph 134 of the NPPF outlines that where a proposed development results in less than substantial harm to the significance of a heritage asset, the harm arising should be weighed against the public benefits accruing from the proposed development. Paragraph 020 of the NPPG outlines what is meant by public benefits:

“Public benefits may follow from many developments and could be anything that delivers economic, social or environmental progress as described in the National Planning Policy Framework (Paragraph 7). Public benefits should flow from the proposed development. They should be of a nature or scale to be of benefit to the public at large and should not just be a private benefit. However, benefits do not always have to be visible or accessible to the public in order to be genuine public benefits.”

- 2.14 The NPPG restates in paragraph 040 that where an initial assessment indicates that proposed development site includes or has potential to include non-designated heritage assets with archaeological interest, applicants should be required to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation. The paragraph goes on to state that:

“...it is estimated following an initial assessment of archaeological interest only a small proportion – around 3 per cent – of all planning applications justify a requirement for detailed assessment.”

- 2.15 In short, government policy provides a framework which:

- Protects nationally important designated Heritage Assets
- Protects the settings of such designations
- In appropriate circumstances seeks adequate information (from desk based assessment and field evaluation where necessary) to enable informed decisions
- Provides for the excavation and investigation of heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence publicly accessible

- 2.16 In considering any planning application for development, the planning authority will be mindful of the framework set by government policy, in this instance the NPPF, by current Development Plan Policy and by other material considerations.
- 2.17 Working towards a Core Strategy for Wiltshire: Wiltshire Core Strategy Pre-Submission Document (February 2012) is not adopted but indicates the emerging policy dealing with the historic environment:

CORE POLICY 58 - ENSURING THE CONSERVATION OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

DEVELOPMENT SHOULD PROTECT, CONSERVE AND WHERE POSSIBLE ENHANCE THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT, AND SHOULD NOT HAVE AN UNACCEPTABLE IMPACT ON THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT, PARTICULARLY WHERE THIS COULD BE AVOIDED OR MITIGATED.

DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS AND THEIR SETTINGS WILL BE CONSERVED, AND WHERE APPROPRIATE ENHANCED, INCLUDING:

- I ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS AND THEIR SETTING**
- II THE WORLD HERITAGE SITE**
- III BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES OF SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL OR HISTORIC INTEREST AND THEIR SETTING**
- IV THE SPECIAL CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF CONSERVATION AREAS AND THEIR SETTINGS**
- V HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS AND THEIR SETTING**
- VI IMPORTANT LANDSCAPES AND TOWNSCAPES.**

DEVELOPMENT WILL BE REQUIRED TO CONSERVE AND SEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO ENHANCE STRUCTURES AND AREAS OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE THROUGHOUT WILTSHIRE, INCLUDING THE CHARACTER, SETTING AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF DESIGNATED AND OTHER LOCALLY OR REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT NON-DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS, INCLUDING:

- VII THE SENSITIVE RE-USE OF REDUNDANT AND UNDER-USED HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND AREAS WHICH ARE CONSISTENT WITH THEIR CONSERVATION ESPECIALLY IN RELATION TO THE VIABLE RE-USE OF HERITAGE ASSETS AT RISK**
- VIII OPPORTUNITIES TO ENHANCE WILTSHIRE'S HISTORIC PUBLIC REALM BY ENSURING THAT ALL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE WORK, IS SENSITIVE TO THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT**

DISTINCTIVE ELEMENTS OF WILTSHIRE'S HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT, WHICH CREATES A SENSE OF LOCAL CHARACTER AND IDENTITY AND VARIATION ACROSS THE COUNTY, WILL BE CONSERVED, ENHANCED AND THEIR POTENTIAL TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS WIDER SOCIAL, CULTURAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS WILL BE EXPLOITED, INCLUDING:

- IX THE INDIVIDUAL AND DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE OF WILTSHIRE'S HISTORIC MARKET TOWNS AND VILLAGES**
- X NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONUMENTS AND LANDSCAPES**
- XI THE STONEHENGE AND AVEBURY WORLD HERITAGE SITE**
- XII HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES RELATED TO THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY**
- XIII HISTORIC RURAL STRUCTURES INCLUDING THRESHING BARNS, GRANARIES, MALT HOUSES, DOVECOTS AND STABLE**
- XIV ECCLESIASTICAL SITES INCLUDING CHURCHES, CHAPELS AND MONUMENT**
- XV THE HISTORIC GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY AND ASSOCIATED STRUCTURE**

- XVI THE HISTORIC WATERWAYS AND ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES INCLUDING CANALS AND RIVER COURSE**
- XVII HERITAGE ASSETS ASSOCIATED WITH THE MILITARY.**

- 2.18 The West Wiltshire District Plan 1st Alteration, adopted June 2004 contains one relevant 'saved' policy:

POLICY C15
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT WILL BE REQUIRED FOR DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS WITHIN THE AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST, OR AFFECTING AN AREA OF 1 HECTARE OR MORE WITHIN AREAS OF HIGHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL, AS SHOWN ON THE PROPOSALS MAP. THE RESULTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PLANNING APPLICATION

- 2.19 This assessment aims to clarify the specific potential of the study site in order to clarify the relevance of development plan policies on archaeology to the study site.

3.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1 Geology

- 3.1.1 The underlying solid geology of the study site is identified as comprising Boyne Hollow Chert Member (sandstone).
- 3.1.2 Previous archaeological investigations conducted within the south eastern corner of the study site identified an underlying greensand natural at a depth of 0.70m to 1m below topsoil and subsoil overburden (ASI 1998).

3.2 Topography

- 3.2.1 The study site lies on the first greensand terrace of the River Wylfe, immediately north of its floodplain, the course of which lies c.95m to the south. The site is on a very slight south facing slope lying at c.110m OD.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Timescales used in this report.

Prehistoric

Palaeolithic	450,000	-	12,000	BC
Mesolithic	12,000	-	4,000	BC
Neolithic	4,000	-	1,800	BC
Bronze Age	1,800	-	600	BC
Iron Age	600	-	AD 43	

Historic

Roman	AD	43	-	410
Saxon/Early Medieval	AD	410	-	1066
Medieval	AD	1066	-	1485
Post Medieval	AD	1486	-	1800
Modern	AD	1800	-	Present

4.2 Examination of data in the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (HER), published and unpublished sources indicate that the study site is situated within an area of Higher Archaeological Potential, as defined in the West Wiltshire District Plan, and a number of significant archaeological deposits are recorded within the study site itself. It should be noted that there are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Registered Battlefields or Registered Historic Parks and Gardens within the study site, although a number of Scheduled Ancient Monuments are situated between 100m to 300m to the south and east of the study site. These comprise the upstanding earthwork remains of a prehistoric long barrow (SAM No. 12294) and two bowl barrows (SAM Nos. 34187-88) to the east of the study site and a pair of prehistoric bowl barrows (SAM No. 34213) to the south of the study site. An inspection of the study site has identified that proposed development would not have any direct impact on these monuments or their associated settings. The location of sites mentioned in the text are shown on Fig. 3.

4.3 The study site is situated immediately adjacent to the Bishopstrow Conservation Area that lies immediately to the south and east. There are no Listed Buildings within the study site. A number of grade II buildings (Bishopstrow House Hotel, a Pavillion to the east of Grange Farmhouse, a house, a stable building to the east of No.207 and The Cotes) are located to the east, south and west of the study site. The built heritage

aspects of this site have been considered in a separate Heritage Statement produced by CgMs.

4.4 Previous archaeological investigation

4.4.1 The study site has been subject to previous archaeological investigation. This comprised fieldwalking of an unspecified area of the study site conducted in 1977 by Canham and Lesley (HER ST84SE401) and geophysical survey and trenched evaluation within the south eastern corner of the study site, in 1998 by Stratascan and ASI (Stratascan 1998; ASI 1998). These later investigations were undertaken in advance of proposals for the development of a new access road onto the study site and their results are included at Appendix 1 of this report. A second geophysical survey has been undertaken this time of the whole site (Wessex Archaeology 2014 – Appendix 2).

4.4.2 The investigations conducted in 1998 comprised geophysical survey of a restricted area running south of Home Farm followed by the excavation of a single machine excavated trench along the entire centre line of the route of the proposed new access road. The evaluation recorded a number of parallel linear ditches and probable marl pits of post-medieval date and scatters of late Mesolithic/early Neolithic worked flint indicative of a tool manufacturing site or a seasonal camp.

4.4.3 The most recent geophysical survey of the whole site recorded the post-medieval linear features and marl pits recorded in the earlier geophysical survey and evaluation trench along the eastern side of the site. The survey revealed a semi-circular anomaly of probable archaeological origin in the ventral northern part of the site. A number of fragmentary features of possible archaeological origin were recorded in the western side of the site. A number of linear anomalies considered to represent former field boundaries were also recorded across the site.

4.5 Undated

4.5.1 A number of undated cropmark and earthwork features identified through aerial survey and field survey are noted on the HER within the study area surrounding the study site (ST84SE621, ST84SE634, ST84SE646, ST84SE647, ST94SW650, ST94SW670 and ST94SW673). Of these, an amorphous linear cropmark feature (ST84SE646) has been recorded a short distance from the north western corner of the site. Where relevant and where the character of the above undated features are

interpretable to a potential period of activity or lie in close association with dated below ground remains, then these have been discussed further by period below.

4.6 **Early Prehistoric**

- 4.6.1 The HER holds a single record from this period for the study site relating to a scatter of late Mesolithic/early Neolithic worked flint (HER ST84SE051) recorded immediately to the north of the study site. The flint assemblage comprised of a fine blade industry and included cores, blades and secondary waste flakes indicative of a knapping area producing small blades and possibly reflects the site of a short stay camp situated along the river terrace edge where tool kits were perhaps replenished (ASI 1998).
- 4.6.2 Further evidence of occupation activity in this period is known within the wider study area. This comprises a series of upstanding earthwork funerary monuments that include a Neolithic long barrow, known as King Barrow, (HER ST84SE100; SAM No.12294), c.250m to the north east of the study site, and a number of undated bowl barrows of early Neolithic to late Bronze Age date (ST84SE600/SAM No.34188, ST84SE601/SAM No.34187, ST84SE630/SAM No.34213 and ST84SE631). Of these, bowl barrows ST84SE600 and 601 lie c. 200m – 230m to the north east and ST84SE630 lies c.220m to the south of the study site.
- 4.6.3 The late Mesolithic/early Neolithic occupation activity and the funerary monuments in the study area indicate that the study site's location on the terrace edge of the River Wylye would have been attractive to hunter gatherers and early farming communities of this period. Therefore, it is considered to have high potential for early prehistoric remains.

4.7 **Bronze Age / Iron Age**

- 4.7.1 There are no Bronze Age or Iron Age remains recorded within the study site. However, the wider study area contains evidence of Bronze Age and Iron Age occupation. The study site lies in close proximity to a number of Bronze Age bowl barrow monuments (ST84SE600/SAM No.34188, ST84SE601/SAM No.34187, ST84SE630/SAM No.34213 and ST84SE631). Evidence of a possible settlement site of Bronze Age/early Iron Age date (ST94SW152), evidenced by pottery recovered from a ring gully and pit features, is recorded c.700m to the northeast of the study site.

- 4.7.2 The Iron Age hillfort of Battlesbury Camp (ST84NE202; SAM No.10081) lies c. 1.1km to the north of the study site. The scheduled area also includes an unenclosed settlement, a cemetery, three bowl barrows of Bronze Age date, a field system and a further enclosure within the hillfort. A second Iron Age hillfort at Scratchbury Hill, known as Scratchbury Camp (ST94SW200; SAM No. 10213) lies c.1.3km to the east of the study site. Beyond these major settlements, evidence of Iron Age occupation activity is also recorded at Bishopstrow Farm (ST94SW201 and 202) c.500m to the southeast of the study site, where a complex of pits enclosed by a ditch, containing a burial and pottery has been recovered. Further undated cropmarks (ST94SW670) located adjacent to this site are considered likely to be contemporary with the settlement. Further alignments of cropmark ditches and pits (ST84SE621 and ST94SW673) noted to the south east of the study site, may also represent activity in this period.
- 4.7.3 The study site is located in close proximity to the projected line of the prehistoric trackway, the Great Ridgeway.
- 4.7.4 Whilst no direct evidence of occupation activity of this period is known from within the study site itself, given its close proximity to similarly recorded remains, it is considered to have a moderate potential for later Bronze Age remains.
- 4.8 **Roman**
- 4.8.1 Evidence of settlement in this period from Warminster itself is very limited, being restricted predominantly to a number of coin finds made during development and from metal detection (McMahon 2004). However, east of Warminster, two Roman villas have been recorded at Pit Mead c.1.2km to the south east of the study site, and is suggested on the site of The Bury, situated c.250m to the south west of the study site. Roman settlement in the form of The Bury or The Buries (ST84SE300) survives as an earthwork enclosure. Excavation at this site has recovered large assemblages of Romano-British pottery, coins and other artefacts recovered. A line of undated rectangular earthwork enclosures (ST84SE634) within The Bury are also recorded and are likely to be indicative of occupation within the embanked area. An alternative Medieval date for The Bury enclosure has been suggested.
- 4.8.2 A single residual sherd of Romano-British dated pottery has been recorded immediately to the north of the study site (HER ST84SE051).
- 4.8.3 Roman remains within the wider study area include a single coin (HER ST84SE308) immediately adjacent to its south western extent. Pottery sherds (ST94SW308) have

been recorded in association with Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement remains excavated c.1km to the north east of the study site.

- 4.8.4 Although there are Roman remains recorded within the wider study area, the lack of Roman features during the archaeological investigations that have been undertaken within the site, are suggestive of a low potential for remains of this period. This does not however preclude that it may have been used for a more peripheral purpose, such as forming part of any associated field system. Therefore, on the basis of present evidence a low potential for remains of this period is identified.

4.9 **Saxon - Early Medieval**

- 4.9.1 The fieldwalking of the site identified a number of unspecified pottery fragments (HER ST84SE401). Further evidence of occupation activity is recorded immediately adjacent to the study site where excavations within Kings Barrow revealed the remains of three intrusive Saxon burials (HER ST84SE400), one of which contained the remains of an iron sword.
- 4.9.2 The study site lies c.250m to the north of Bishopstrow (HER ST84SE456), the settlement of which is thought likely to have had its origins in this period, its Anglo Saxon place-name deriving from 'trow' meaning 'staff or tree' that is conjectured to have taken root following the preachings of Bishop Aldhelm in the 8th century. A settlement at Bishopstrow is more certainly known to have been established by the 11th century as it is recorded to have been held by Edred prior to the Norman Conquest of 1066 AD (VCH 1965).
- 4.9.3 The earliest evidence for settlement at Warminster itself comes from a reference to a settlement in the early 10th century, although it is thought likely that the reference relates to a settlement that had been established at an earlier date rather than to a new site (McMahon 2004). The early Saxon focus of the settlement at Warminster remains poorly understood and alternative foci such as adjacent to the minster church of St Lawrence or at The Bury have been suggested (ASI 1998).
- 4.9.4 The study site would therefore appear to lie within an area that has been a focus of Saxon occupation activity and settlement from an early period. Whilst the study site would appear to lie in a peripheral location to the main foci of settlement such as Bishopstrow and perhaps The Bury, the recovery of pottery fragments of this period from within the study site remains significant. Due to the friable nature of this material it does not generally survive successive periods of ploughing or weathering and similar

fieldwalking exercises have demonstrated that the recovery of only a small number of pottery sherds of this period can be indicative of the remains of a subsurface Saxon site. On this basis, a moderate to high potential for remains of this period is therefore identified.

4.10 **Medieval**

4.10.1 In this period, the study site is thought likely to have formed part of land attached to the Medieval manor of Boreham that lay immediately adjacent to that of Bishopstrow. A settlement at Boreham is documented from the medieval period in which the lord of Warminster held his demesne mill in the early 13th century that was held by the then lord of the manor, Thomas Mauduit (VCH 1965). The site of the former Medieval mill, manor house and fishponds lie c.100m to the south east of the study site.

4.10.2 The HER records the presence of a number of earthworks with associated pottery finds within the southern area of the study site to the south of Home Farm and the Grange, that are thought to represent part of the former Medieval settlement of Boreham (HER ST84SE458). Geophysical survey undertaken within the site identified a number of pit-like anomalies and a potential for hearth sites that are indicative of former occupation on the study site. Subsequent evaluation confirmed the presence of a number of marl pits of post-medieval date and a series of parallel linear ditched features. The ditched features, identified to relate to the study site's agricultural use, were shown to contain modest quantities of abraded medieval pottery but were considered more probably to be post-medieval in date due to their continued re-working and cleaning. The evaluation produced no clear evidence for the study site to contain former remains relating directly to the medieval settlement of Boreham. This does not preclude the possibility that such remains could exist within the study site beyond the limits of the previous evaluation, although no clear evidence of the presence of earthworks on the study site were noted during the site walkover.

4.10.3 The manor of Boreham had its own common fields that were separately organised from that of Warminster (VCH 1965). These are thought to have been situated on the greensand levels extending between Boreham and Battlesbury and as far as the high downs (ibid). Much of the study site is therefore considered likely to have lain within the open fields attached to the manor and this suggestion would appear to be supported by the results of the limited evaluation that has been undertaken within the study site. Further evidence of such agriculture is also noted in the area surrounding the study site (ST84SE645 and ST84SE648).

4.10.4 On the basis of present evidence, a moderate potential for remains of this period is therefore identified.

4.12 **Post-Medieval-Modern**

4.12.1 In this period understanding of settlement and the utilisation of the landscape is further enhanced by cartographic sources, which can give additional detail to data contained within the HER.

4.12.2 Andrews and Dury's map of Wiltshire, dated 1773 (Fig. 4), illustrates the study site was undeveloped lying to the rear of, and adjacent to properties forming Boreham village that front along Boreham Road.

4.12.3 The Enclosure Map of Warminster, dated 1783 (Fig. 5), shows the site to have been divided into a series of separate smaller fields all of which are likely to have been in agricultural use.

4.12.4 The later Tithe Map of Warminster, dated 1840 (Fig. 6), shows the site essentially unchanged. The 1889-1890 Wiltshire Published map (Fig. 7) also shows little change within the site. Home Farm (ST84SE532), immediately to the north east of the study site, is shown to have been constructed by this time. Home Farm was a deliberately planned model farmstead that was built to demonstrate improved farming and building techniques.

4.12.6 The study site remains predominantly unchanged until the time of the 1973-1982 Ordnance Survey (OS) map (Fig. 8), which shows a number of internal field boundaries to have been removed creating a series of larger fields, since which time there has been no change within the site.

4.12.8 On the basis of cartographic evidence, the study site, whilst situated within the historic core of Boreham village, would appear to have been essentially undeveloped and in agricultural use throughout this period, evidence for which was recorded during the evaluation on the site. The study site has by evaluation been shown to have been subject to pitting for marl and sand quarrying on the study site is also noted on the historic mapping. On present evidence, a low potential for significant remains from this period is identified.

5.0 SITE CONDITIONS AND THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Site Conditions

- 5.1.1 The study site comprises a grass field (Fig. 9).
- 5.1.2 Along its eastern boundary the study site is screened from Bishopstrow House and its associated gardens, and scheduled monuments contained therein, by a line of mature trees Plates 1-3.

5.2 The Proposed Development and Potential Archaeological Impact

- 5.2.1 The desk-based assessment has established that the site has potential for early prehistoric and medieval remains, moderate potential for Bronze Age and Saxon remains and low potential for later prehistoric, roman and post-medieval remains. The study site is in agricultural use and has been for a significant period of time. As such, it is likely that there has been only a minimal degree of ground disturbance across the study site, as has been indicated by the evaluation of the site. Therefore, should subsurface archaeological deposits be present on the study site these are likely to be relatively well preserved.
- 5.2.2 The proposed development will impact on archaeological remains within the site through earthmoving operations such as topsoil stripping, cutting foundations, and the construction of associated infrastructure. The evidence currently available indicates that the archaeological potential of the study site is not sufficient to preclude development. However, should an application be submitted, it is anticipated that the Local Planning Authority will require archaeological evaluation trenching to be undertaken, the scope and timing of which will need to be agreed with Wiltshire Council.

6.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 This desk-based assessment has established that the study site lies within an area defined in the West Wiltshire District Plan as being of 'Higher Archaeological Potential'. The assessment has established that the site has high potential for early prehistoric and medieval remains, moderate potential for Bronze Age and Saxon remains and low potential for later prehistoric, roman and post-medieval remains.
- 6.2 On the basis of current evidence, the archaeological potential of the study site is not of sufficient importance to constrain development. However, should an application be submitted, it is anticipated that the Local Planning Authority will require a staged programme of evaluation works. The scope and timing of these works will need to be agreed with Wiltshire Council. Any such requirement should take due regard of those areas of the study site that have already been the subject of previous assessment by evaluation.
- 6.3 Typically, such a staged programme of works would comprise of an initial non-invasive geophysical survey, the results of which would be used to enable a targeted trenched evaluation to be conducted that would seek to determine the presence/absence, extent, nature and date of any archaeological remains and to collect artefactual evidence. If significant archaeological remains are recorded by this evaluation, further, more extensive, excavation and (off-site) analysis of results can be anticipated.
- 6.4 The study site lies immediately adjacent to the Bishopstrow Conservation Area and adjacent to a number of Grade II Listed buildings. The potential impact of proposed development on the setting of the Conservation Area and Listed buildings would need to be further considered, in line with Local Planning Policy and PPG15.

SOURCES CONSULTED

General

Wiltshire Sites and Monuments Record (HER)
Wiltshire and Swindon Record Office

Bibliographic

ASI	1998	Home Farm Bishopstrow, Warminster, Wilts: Archaeological Evaluation; November 1998
English Heritage	1990	Extract from English Heritage's Record of Scheduled Monuments, Battlesbury Camp Monuments, SAM No. 10081
McMahon, P.	2004	Warminster - The Archaeology of Wiltshire's Towns, An Extensive Urban Survey
Stratascan	1998	Geophysical Survey carried out on Land East of The Dene, Warminster; October 1998
Timperley, H.W. and Brill, E.	1965	Ancient Trackways of Wessex
VCH	1965	Warminster - A History of the County of Wiltshire: Volume 8

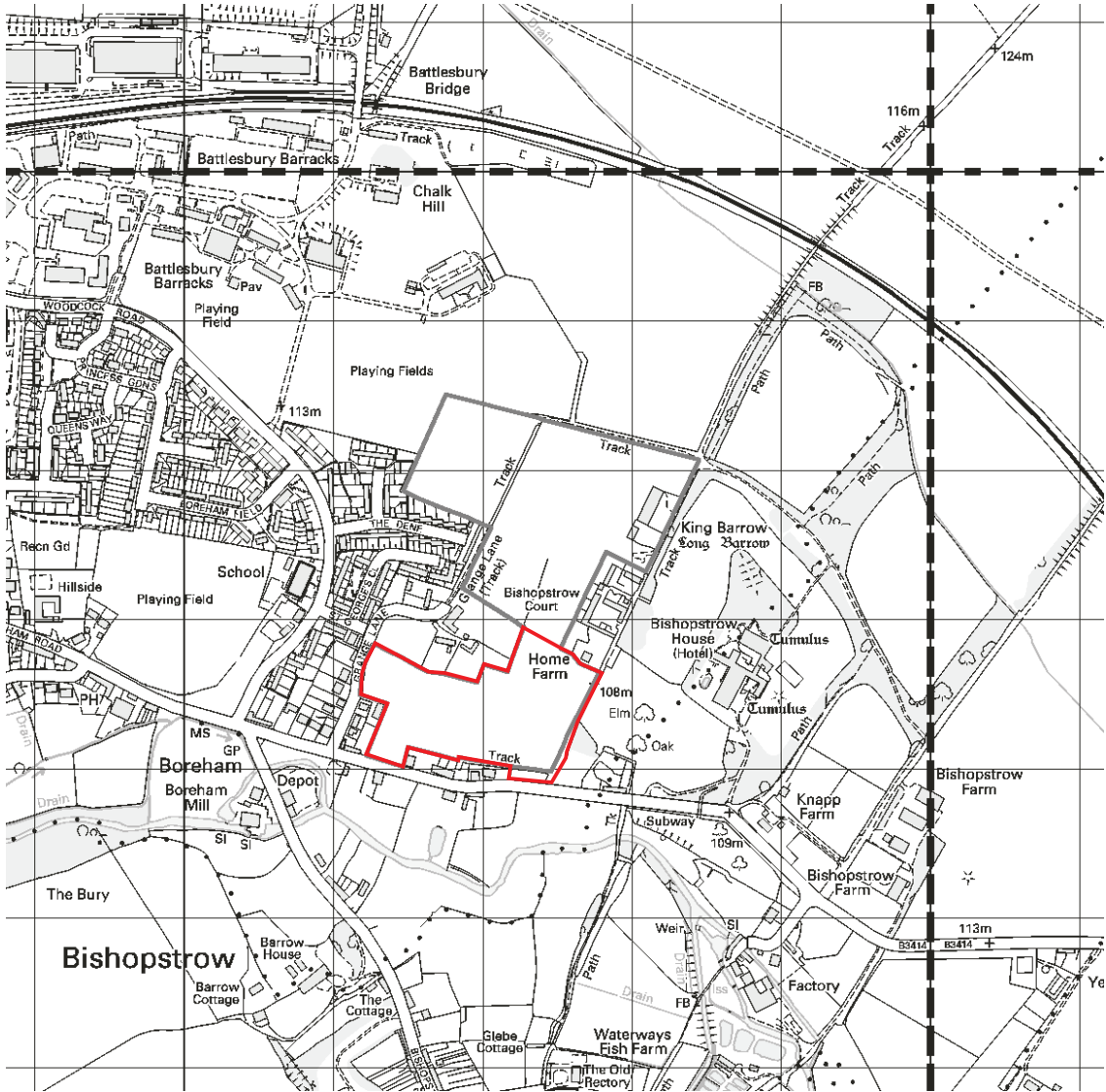
Cartographic

Andrews and Dury's Map of Wiltshire	1773
Warminster Enclosure Map	1783
Warminster Tithe Map	1840
Wiltshire Published Map 1:2,500	1887
Wiltshire Published Map 1:2,500	1900
Wiltshire Published Map 1:2,500	1924
Wiltshire Published Map 1: 2,500	1942
Ordnance Survey Map 1:2,500	1971-1974

Ordnance Survey Map 1:2,500	1974-1989
Additional SIMs 1:2,500	1989
Large Scale National Grid Data 1:2,500	1994
Ordnance Survey Map 1:1,250	1988
Ordnance Survey Map 1:1,250	1988
Large Scale National Grid Data 1:1,250	1994
Wiltshire Published Map 1:10,560	1889-1890
Wiltshire Published Map 1:10,560	1901
Wiltshire Published Map 1:10,560	1926
Wiltshire Published Map 1:10,560	1941-1942
Ordnance Survey Map 1:10,560	1960-1961
Ordnance Survey Map 1:10,000	1973-1982
Ordnance Survey Map 1:10,000	1983-1993
Ordnance Survey Map 1:10,000	1985
10k Raster Mapping 1:10,000	2000
10k Raster Mapping 1:10,000	2008

APPENDIX 1:

Reports documenting previous archaeological investigation within study site conducted in 1998



 Site	 Cgms CONSULTING Planning & Development Archaeology & Historic Buildings	Project title: LAND AT WARMINSTER WILTSHIRE	
		Not to scale Illustrative only	
		Date printed: 28/04/2014	Drawn by: MB Checked by: SW

Figure 1: Site Location

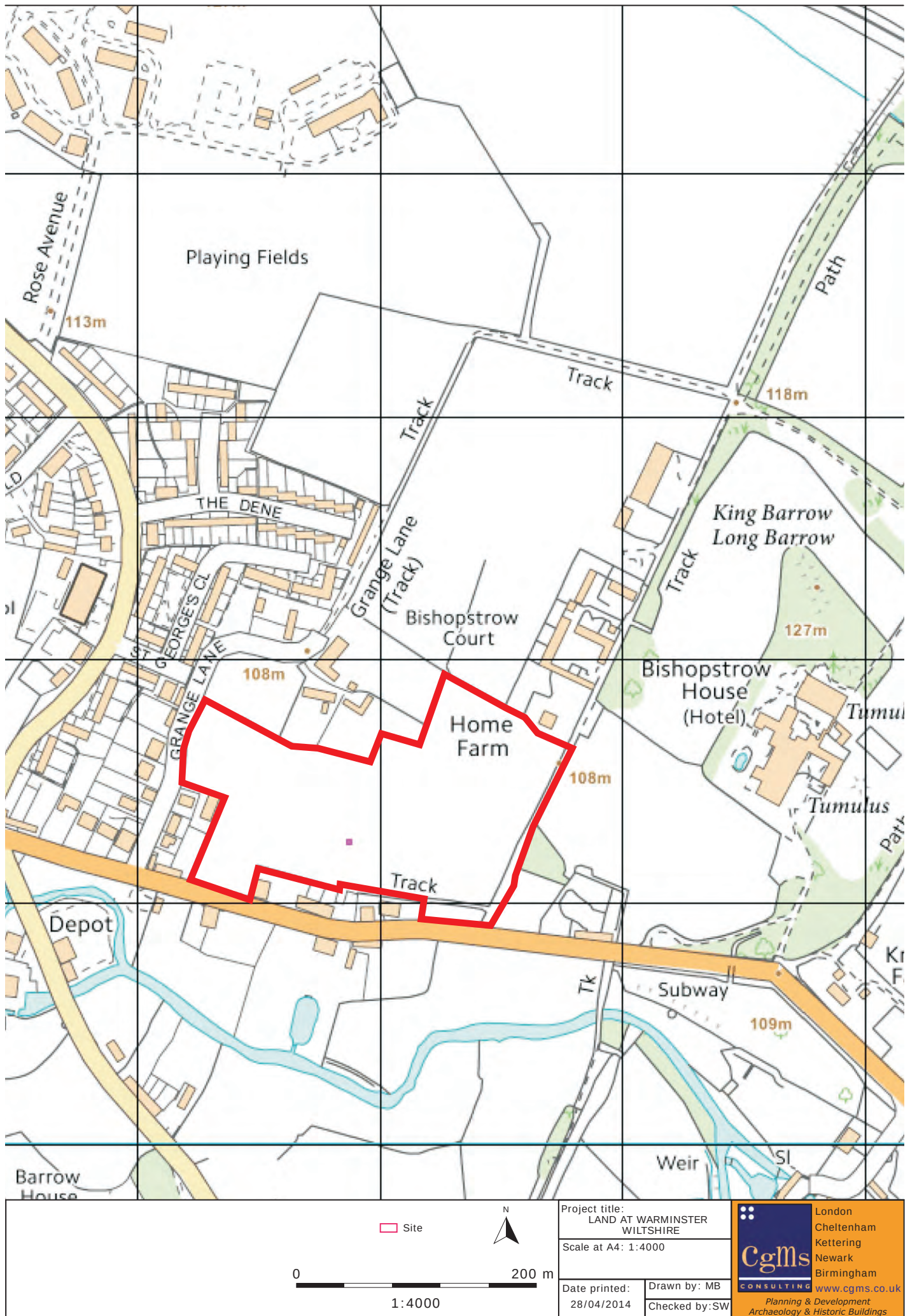


Figure 2: Site Details

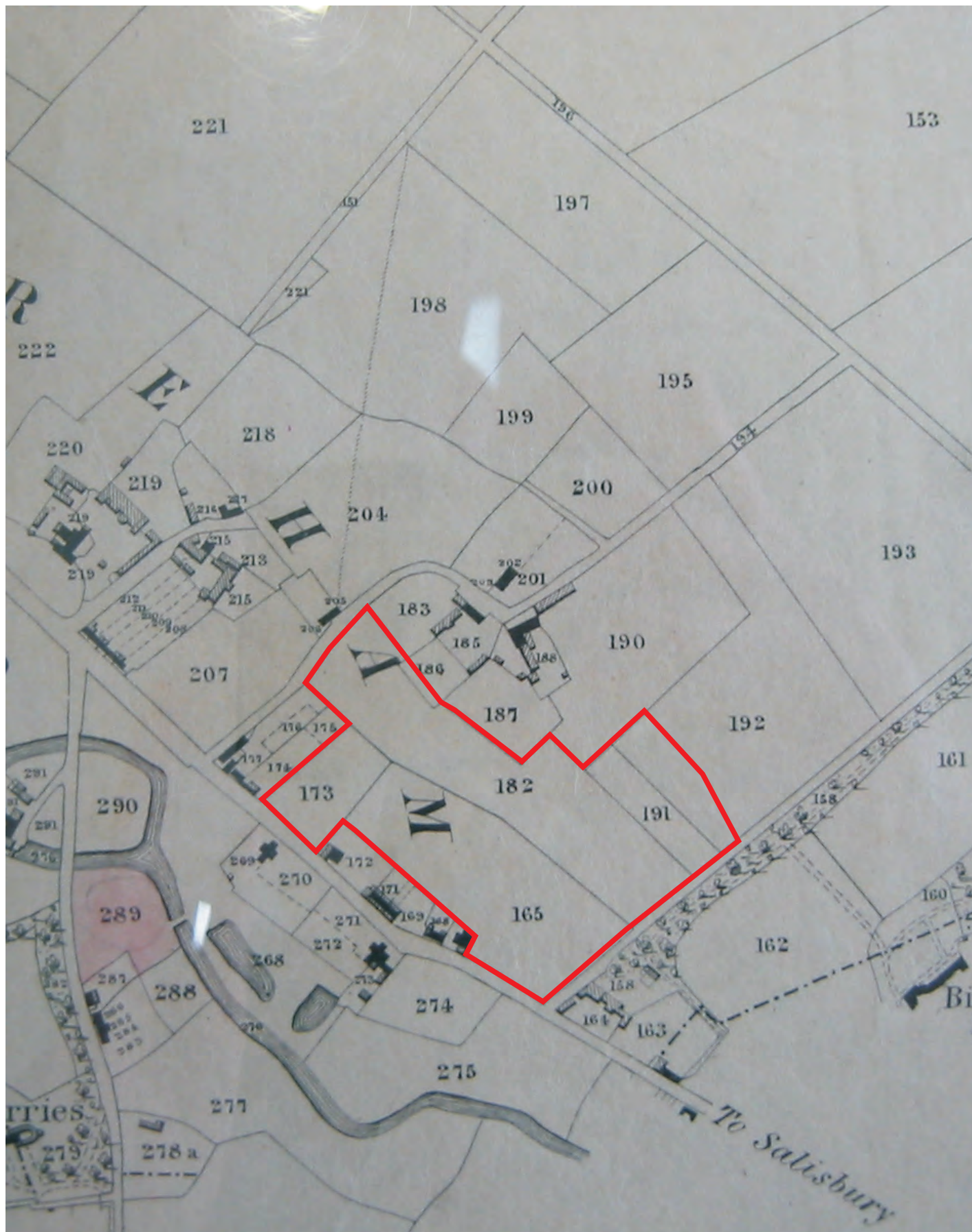




Approximate location of site N	Project title: LAND AT WARMINSTER WILTSHIRE		Cgms CONSULTING London Cheltenham Kettering Newark Birmingham www.cgms.co.uk Planning & Development Archaeology & Historic Buildings
	Not to scale Illustrative only		
	Date printed: 28/04/2014	Drawn by: MB Checked by:SW	

Figure 4: 1773 Andrews and Davy's Map of Wiltshire





Site N	Project title: LAND AT WARMINSTER WILTSHIRE		Cgms CONSULTING London Cheltenham Kettering Newark Birmingham www.cgms.co.uk Planning & Development Archaeology & Historic Buildings
	Not to scale Illustrative only		
	Date printed: 28/04/2014	Drawn by: MB Checked by:SW	

Figure 6: 1840 Warminster Tithe Map



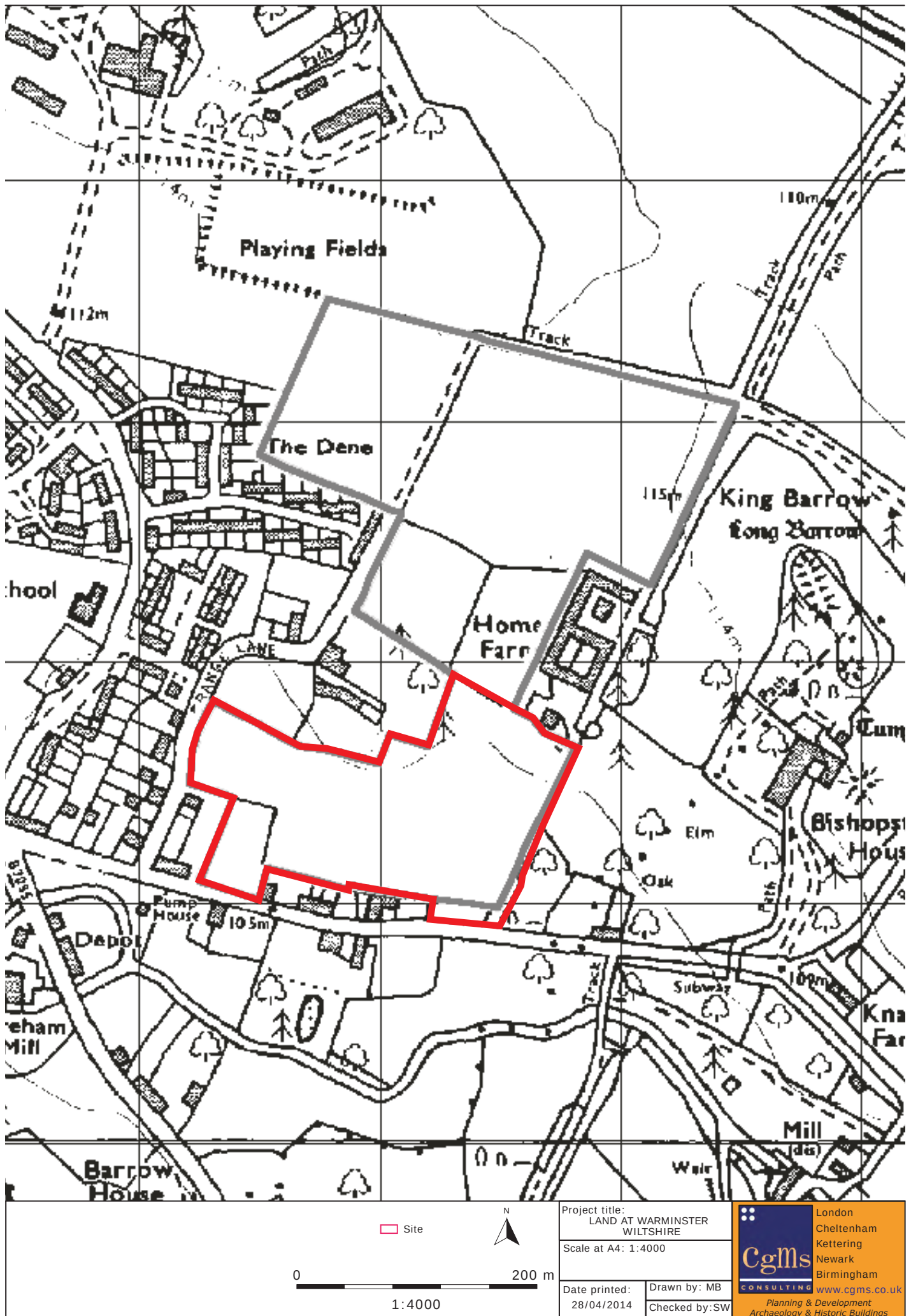


Figure 8: 1973-1982 Ordnance Survey Map

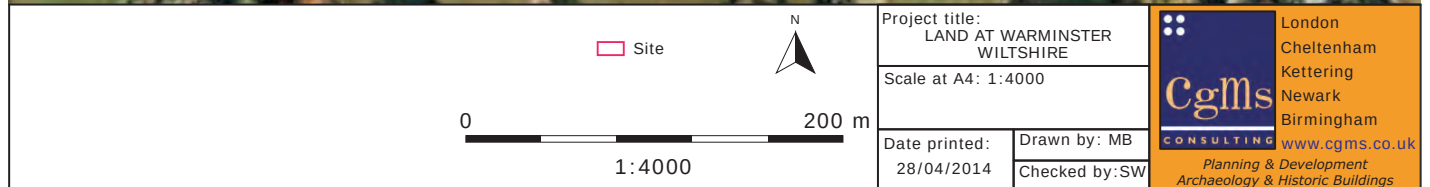


Figure 9: Aerial View of Study Site (from Google Earth)



Plate 1: Looking west across study site from the south east corner of study site



Plate 2: Looking north east across study site from the south east corner of study site



Plate 3: View to north east from the northern boundary of the study site towards King Barrow Long Barrow

A Report for

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on a

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1 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The survey has found a number of strong discrete magnetic anomalies many of which are likely to be of archaeological origin. Interpretations of each anomaly have been made including potential hearth sites, ferrous objects, collections of magnetic debris and pits.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background synopsis

CgMs were commissioned to carry out an archaeological evaluation of land east of The Dene in Warminster prior to a proposed development. This geophysical survey forms part of that assessment.

2.2 Site location

The site is located at OS Reference ST 895 443 approximately 2.5km east of Warminster.

2.3 Description of site

The site was generally flat from which a crop had been cleared. The soils are well drained calcareous fine and silty, with an underlying geology of chalk.

2.4 Site history and archaeological potential

We are not aware of the history of the site. However the OS map of the area shows a long barrow and tumuli close to the site so the archaeological potential is likely to be high.

2.5 Survey objectives

The objective of the survey was to assess the site for areas of archaeological potential prior to a proposed development.

2.6 Survey methods

The single technique of magnetometry was used on this survey. This is described in more detail under Methodology below.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Date of fieldwork

The fieldwork was carried out on 23 October 1998 when the weather was mainly overcast.

3.2 Grid locations

The location of the survey grids and their referencing have been plotted onto Figure 3.

3.3 Description of techniques and equipment configurations

Magnetometer

Although the changes in the magnetic field resulting from differing features in the soil are usually weak, changes as small as 0.2 nanoTesla (nT) in an overall field strength of 48,000nT, can be accurately detected using an appropriate instrument.

The mapping of the anomaly in a systematic manner will allow an estimate of the type of material present beneath the surface. Strong magnetic anomalies will be generated by buried iron-based objects or by kilns or hearths. More subtle anomalies such as pits and ditches can be seen if they contain more humic material which is normally rich in magnetic iron oxides when compared with the subsoil.

To illustrate this point, the cutting and subsequent silting or backfilling of a ditch may result in a larger volume of weakly magnetic material being accumulated in the trench compared to the undisturbed subsoil. A weak magnetic anomaly should therefore appear in plan along the line of the ditch.

The magnetic survey was carried out using an FM36 Fluxgate Gradiometer, manufactured by Geoscan Research. The instrument consists of two fluxgates mounted 0.5m vertically apart, and very accurately aligned to nullify the effects of the earth's magnetic field. Readings relate to the difference in localised magnetic anomalies compared with the general magnetic background.

3.4 Sampling interval, depth of scan, resolution and data capture

3.4.1 Sampling interval

Readings were taken at 0.5m centres along traverses 1m apart. This equates to 800 sampling points in a full 20m x 20m grid. All traverses are surveyed in a "parallel" rather than "zigzag" mode.

3.4.2 Depth of scan and resolution

The FM36 has a typical depth of penetration of 0.5m to 1.0m. This would be increased if strongly magnetic objects have been buried in the site. The collection of data at 0.5m centres provides an optimum resolution for the technique.

3.4.3 Data capture

The readings are logged consecutively into the data logger which in turn is daily downloaded into a portable computer whilst on site. At the end of each job, data is transferred to the office for processing and presentation.

3.5 Processing, presentation of results and interpretation

3.5.1 Processing

Processing is performed using specialist software known as *Geoplot 2*. This can emphasise various aspects contained within the data but which are often not easily seen

in the raw data. Basic processing of the magnetic data involves 'flattening' the background levels with respect to adjacent traverses and adjacent grids. 'Despiking' is also performed to remove the anomalies resulting from small iron objects often found on agricultural land. Once the basic processing has flattened the background it is then possible to carry out further processing which may include low pass filtering to reduce 'noise' in the data and hence emphasise the archaeological or man-made anomalies..

The following schedule shows the basic processing carried out on all processed magnetometer data used in this report:

<i>Zero mean grid</i>	<i>Threshold = 0.25 std. dev.</i>
<i>Zero mean traverse</i>	<i>Last mean square fit = off</i>
<i>Despike</i>	<i>X radius = 1 Y radius = 1</i>
	<i>Threshold = 3 std. dev.</i>
	<i>Spike replacement = mean</i>

3.5.2 Presentation of results and interpretation

The presentation of the data for each site involves a print-out of the raw data both as grey scale and trace plots, together with grey scale plots of the processed data, and, if appropriate, after further processing to emphasise various aspects within the data. Magnetic anomalies have been identified and plotted onto the 'Abstraction of Anomalies' drawing for the site (Figure 8), numbered for ease of reference and prefixed with the letter 'M'.

4 RESULTS

4.1 General appraisal

All the anomalies found on the site are discrete in nature. No linear features were found although several pit features could be considered to form a pit alignment.

The discrete anomalies have been split into a number of categories to help with interpretation and are discussed below.

4.2 General magnetic disturbance

Two areas M1 and M20 have been noted as areas of general magnetic disturbance. Both are close to boundary fencelines and are likely to be caused by modern debris within the fenceline.

4.3 Positive discrete magnetic anomalies

Several positive discrete magnetic anomalies have been seen with the majority in the northern part of the survey area. These are thought to be pits. In particular M9, M10, M11 and M12 appear to form an alignment from east to west across the site. M9 and M10 are surrounded by a noisy magnetic material best seen in the processed data (Figure 7). This spread may indicate the past use of the area for some sort of industry. Several other pits have been noted including M6 and M17 which also are assumed to be archaeologically based features.

4.4 Strong complex features

This category is defined as areas showing strong positive and negative anomalies clustered together to form a larger discrete anomaly. Three such areas have been found,

namely M5, M7 and M14. M5 and M7 are of particular interest suggesting accumulations of strongly magnetic material such as slag or fired bricks. One strong ferrous spike is seen within M7 (see Figure 6).

M14 may also be of interest but its position in the corner of a field may indicate a dump of more modern material.

4.5 Hearth sites or possible ferrous objects

Four interesting discrete anomalies M2, M3, M4 and M12 have also been noted which are characterised by a positive anomaly with a negative halo around the outside. M3 and M13 both have large spikes (Figures 6 and 5 respectively) suggesting they may be buried ferrous objects. M2 and M4 have similar spikes but are smaller in amplitude (Figure 6). It is possible that all these are hearth sites which have metal debris within them. Excavation of each feature would clarify whether they are hearths or purely buried metal.

5 **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The number of interesting anomalies found would indicate at least one period of occupation of the site in antiquity. It is recommended that anomalies in each of the category types are investigated by excavation so that their true origin can be established. From this information further investigation work can be planned accordingly.

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SUMMARY

Home Farm, Bishopstrow, Warminster, Wilts
NGR ST 895 444
Archaeological Evaluation
November 1998

Machine trenching by ASI on behalf of CgMs Consulting, along the line of a proposed access route to land at the rear of Home Farm, Bishopstrow near Warminster, revealed parallel linear ditches of post-medieval date and scatters of late Mesolithic / early Neolithic worked flint within otherwise undifferentiated subsoils.

Whilst the linear ditches are not remarkable, the flint assemblage indicates the survival here of an episode otherwise poorly represented within the chalkland landscapes of the south Wessex downs, potentially a tool manufacturing site or a seasonal camp, and is, therefore, of considerable archaeological significance. Comparison with lowland Mesolithic sites revealed in the adjacent Kennet watershed, suggests that this material is likely to be distributed for some distance across the site.

The report concludes that the proposed access route will have a deleterious - if spatially restricted - archaeological impact, and that because of the topographically-determined distribution of the Mesolithic material, a less deleterious route across this site will be potentially difficult to identify.

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Agent: Jim Hunter, *CgMs Consulting*, St Paul's Road, Gloucester
Site work: Christine Butterworth, Rebecca Montague, ASI, Warminster, Wiltshire
Report: Peter Bellamy, *Terrain Archaeology*, Dorchester, Dorset
Lorraine Mepham, *Wessex Archaeology Finds Service*, Salisbury, Wiltshire
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HOME FARM, BISHOPSTROW, WARMINSTER, WILTSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation

November 1998

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 This document presents an interim assessment of the results of an archaeological evaluation of land at Home Farm, Bishopstrow, Warminster in West Wiltshire, carried out by *Asi* on behalf of *CgMs Consulting*, during early November 1998. The assessment is provided as an interim statement without the benefit of detailed stratigraphic or artefactual analysis, for the purpose of assisting ongoing pre-application negotiations concerning residential development proposals for the site.

1.1.3 The evaluation was subsequent, and complementary to, a geophysical survey of the site carried out by *Geoscan Ltd*. Results of that survey are not discussed here other than in reference.

1.2 The site and its situation Figures 1 and 3

1.2.1 Warminster is almost equidistant from the cities of Bath and Salisbury, in West Wiltshire. It is situated within the valley of the River Wylfe, on the north-western margins of the ridge of Cretaceous chalks and underlying sandstones that form the dominant landscape feature of central southern England - the Downs. It is an undulating landscape of rounded slopes and meandering dry-valleys, created by dissection of the chalk plateau by the rivers Avon and Kennet and their tributaries. Soils vary considerably with geomorphology; the chalks producing thin argillaceous brown-earths, whilst the greensand generates a deep, dark grey sandy loam.

1.2.2 Home Farm is an 18th century courtyard farm on the eastern fringes of Warminster, close to the village of Bishopstrow. It is situated on an elongated knoll - the first, greensand, terrace of the River Wylfe - immediately outside the floodplain, overlooked from the north by the chalk *massifs* of Battlesbury Hill and Salisbury Plain beyond.

1.2.3 The site comprises two arable fields to the west of the farm buildings, centred on NGR ST 895 444. They bounded to the south by the A36 Salisbury Road, to the west by the Woodcock Road estates, to the north by Battlesbury Barracks and lands adjoining, and to the east by an unmetalled track leading NNE towards Salisbury Plain, and rest at approximately 127mOD.

1.2.4 Evaluation concentrated on the southern of the two fields across which access to a proposed residential development will cross.

1.3 Archaeological and historical setting

1.3.1 The chalk downlands of south west Wessex, particularly the vicinity of Warminster, are an area of outstanding archaeological survival; the Downs themselves support an unrivalled population of prehistoric monuments as well as the settlement earthworks of late prehistoric and Roman settlements, whilst the valleys of the River Avon and its tributaries are occupied by villages and towns, the majority of which existed prior to the Domesday Survey of AD1086, reflecting a settlement pattern now recognised to be of partly Roman origin (Hooke, *et al*, 1985). However, whereas the pastoral landscapes of the Downs have

lent themselves to extensive archaeological surveys over the last 200 years, the more intensively farmed valley bottoms and associated settlements have received comparatively little archaeological attention. As a result, the conventional bipolar model of hilltop prehistoric occupation followed centuries later by medieval occupation of the valley bottoms, remains untested.

- 1.3.2 However, recent work at comparable valley bottom sites - such as at Amesbury (Wessex Archaeology, 1996) and nearby Heytesbury (Asi, 1998) - where prehistoric materials have been recovered from settlements traditionally ascribed Saxon origins, suggest that the settlement pattern of lowland England contains a greater element of chronological continuity than hitherto suspected. Furthermore, the origins of Warminster itself are far from clear, with alternative Saxon foci adjacent to St Lawrence's Minster Church and at 'The Bury' near Eastleigh Court being suggested.
- 1.3.3 The site itself, though outside the urban area of Warminster and the satellite Saxon 'vills' of Bishopstrow and Norton Bavant, has produced Saxon pottery from surface artefact collection (WCC, SMR) and is astride a river edge terrace (Figures 1 and 3), a favoured situation for the Mesolithic hunter-gatherer groups of the Kennet and Avon watersheds (Wymer, *passim*)

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 The Brief

2.1.1 The work was commissioned to assist with pre-application negotiations about the archaeological potential of the site. Accordingly, a formal brief was not issued by the *County Archaeological Service* - the statutory advisor to the local planning authority. The evaluation strategy was developed by *CgMs Consulting* in discussion with the *CAS*, to investigate, in the first instance, the potential archaeological impact of enabling works that might be associated with development proposals outlined for the site.

2.1.2 Accordingly, it was agreed that, following geophysical survey of the southern half of the site, the route of a proposed access road to the rear of the site be evaluated by way of a single machine-excavated trench, with all potential archaeological deposits recorded in accordance with the 'County Guidelines' (WCC, 1995) and the *Institute of Field Archaeologists* 'Standards and Guidelines' series.

2.2 Site work

2.2.1 The centreline of the proposed access route and a side spur, and the positions of sub-surface anomalies identified during the geophysical survey were set-out on site by taped measurements scaled from 'proposals' drawings supplied by *CgMs*. A contiguous trench in three sections (1, 2 and 3), 1.5m wide, was excavated along the centreline of the proposed route, under continuous archaeological supervision, to the upper surface of undisturbed greensand subsoil. All potential archaeological deposits were recorded using components of the *Asi* recording system of complementary written, drawn and photographic records, a sample investigated by manual excavation, and upcast spoils scanned visually for artefacts. All artefacts recovered were retained.

2.2.2 The trench was inspected by representatives of *CgMs* and the *CAS*, and backfilled with excavated materials.

2.3 Archive and report preparation

2.3.1 The archive of materials and accompanying site records will be collated into a fully indexed and cross-referenced archive in accordance with Appendix 6 of *MAP2* (English Heritage, 1991). Prior to deposition with the appropriate local museum, microfilm copies of the paper archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record at Swindon.

2.3.2 The flint assemblage has been assessed by *Peter Bellamy*, the pottery by *Lorraine Mephram* at the *Wessex Archaeology Finds Service*. The results, together with a description of the stratigraphic context of the materials, are presented below, grouped by site-specific criteria. The report concludes with a methodological assessment of the work and an assessment of the significance of the results.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Stratigraphic data

3.1.1 The following stratigraphic sequence was revealed along the entire length of the trench.

Depth	Description	Reference
0-300	<u>Topsoil.</u> Very dark greyish brown sandy loam, containing modern artefacts and building materials; becoming thinner to north.	(101), (201)
300->1000	<u>Modern disturbances.</u> Two broad circular depressions in excess of 5m in diameter, with flared edges extending beneath base of excavation, filled with redeposited soils and 'coombe-rock' chalk. Corresponds with principal geophysical anomalies.	[211], [213]
700->1000	<u>Archaeological features.</u> 5 indistinct linear ditches, 500 x 200 x >1500, filled with pale greyish brown sandy loam similar to (202), containing worked flint, late prehistoric and medieval pottery.	[204], [206], [208] [218], [216]
300-700	<u>Subsoil.</u> Pale greyish brown sandy loam with occasional small pieces of sandstone, containing worked flint in loose scatters; becoming thinner to north.	(102), (103), (202), (210), (215)
700->1000	<u>Greensand.</u> Pale greyish brown - yellowish brown sandy loam, becoming increasingly sandy with depth. Worked flint distributed throughout the interface between this deposit and the subsoil above, in two discrete localised concentrations of 20-30 pieces each.	(104), (203)

3.1.2 Archaeological features comprised five linear ditches - likely to be field boundaries - and two deep depressions likely to be marl pits or bomb craters.

F.[204]. Round-profiled linear gully, 500mm x 140mm deep, aligned E-W across trench 10.5m from S end of T2, filled with mid-brown sand (205) containing worked flint, animal bone, pottery, charcoal flecks and sandstone pieces. Cut into subsoil (202), but exact upper boundary not clearly identified.

F.[206]. 'V'-profiled linear gully, 400mm x 160mm deep, aligned E-W across trench 12m from S end of T2 and parallel to F.[204], filled with mid greyish brown sand (207) containing worked flint and pottery. Cut into subsoil (202), but exact upper boundary not clearly identified.

F.[208]. 'U'-profiled linear gully, 650mm x 200mm deep, aligned E-W across trench 20m from S end of T2 and parallel to F.s [204] and [206], filled with dark brown sand (209) containing worked flint and pottery. Cut into subsoil (202), but exact upper boundary not clearly identified.

F.[211]. Large, steep-sided depression approx. 15m in diameter, at north end of T2 close to junction with spur T3. Investigated by machine excavation to depth of 1.55m, but base not reached; filled with interleaving layers of chalky rubble and topsoil, all well compacted and containing bricks and other building materials (212).

F.[213]. Large shallow depression, approx. 25m in diameter x 1.10m deep, approx. 60m from S end of T2; filled with loose chalk rubble and topsoil containing brick, pottery, slate and plate metals (214)

F.[216]. Linear feature, 1000mm wide, filled with dark brown sand (217), aligned E-W 49m from S end of T2. Not investigated

F.[218]. Linear feature, 1000mm wide, filled with dark brown sand (219), aligned E-W 47m from S end of T2. Not investigated.

3.2 Artefactual data

3.2.2 Pottery.

3.2.2.1 Twenty two sherds were examined; comprising Romano-British (1), Medieval (11) and post-Medieval (8).

3.2.2.2 The Romano-British sherd, from the topsoil, is from a jar in a grog-tempered fabric, and is noticeably abraded; the vessel cannot be dated more closely with the Romano-British period.

3.2.2.3 Medieval sherds consist mainly (9) of Crockerton type wares, commonly found across northern and western Wiltshire; these include coarse types containing quartz and

greensand, as well as finer, more micaceous fabrics (Smith, 1993, fabrics C/D and G respectively). These have a potentially wide date range, but here are likely to be of late 12th or 13th century date, however there are no diagnostic sherds in the assemblage. The two remaining sherds, both from topsoil contexts, are Laverstock type wares, probably of similar date. The condition of the medieval sherds is also poor, though not as heavily abraded as the Romano-British material.

- 3.2.2.4 Post-Medieval wares comprised coarse earthenwares, including Verwood and Crockerton types; none are closely datable, though the Verwood types are likely to date from the 18th century or later, when the products of the Verwood kilns swamped the Wessex market.
- 3.2.3 Worked flint.
- 3.2.3.1 A total of 52 pieces (519 g) of flaked stone were recovered (Table 00). This was predominately dark grey brown chalk flint with one piece of very dark grey limestone chert. The assemblage was in a fresh condition except for the unstratified material from the area north of [213] in Trench 2 which was slightly rolled and had a glossy sheen. 15% of the assemblage had been burnt.
- 3.2.3.2 All of the flint appeared to be derived from the same small blade industry. Six cores were recovered, three of which were small single or opposed platform bladelet cores and the others were small multiplatform or discoidal flake cores (some with evidence of earlier bladelet removals). All of the cores had been worked out. The bulk of the assemblage was core trimming flakes from the preparation and reshaping of cores. One core rejuvenation flake (removing a platform made on a thermal fracture) was present. The blades were generally larger than the cores, suggesting that they were from an earlier stage of core reduction, and the majority were either fairly irregular in shape or had a large proportion of cortex remaining on the dorsal surface, suggesting that they may represent abandoned waste rather than 'products'. There was only one piece present which showed any signs of utilisation — a rough scraper with a straight distal end formed by abrupt retouch. This piece was in a more worn condition than most of the assemblage and it is possible that the retouch is the result of accidental damage.
- 3.2.3.3 The evidence from this site suggests that it was a knapping area producing small blades, with little evidence present to indicate the use of this material in the immediate vicinity. The presence of burnt worked flint may indicate settlement but it is impossible to determine whether the burning took place contemporaneously or at a much later date. The technology of the industry suggests that it is either Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date but there are no diagnostic pieces present which allows a more precise date to be proposed. The location of the site is perhaps more typical of Mesolithic settlement rather than Early Neolithic. In Central Southern England, Early Neolithic settlements are generally restricted to the chalk downlands (Gardiner 1984), while the pattern of Mesolithic settlement comprises short stay or base camps on the edge of river terraces with hunting and task specific sites on the upper slopes and downs (Holgate 1988, *passim*) and is perhaps best seen in the Kennet valley (Healy *et al.* 1992; Wymer 1962). On the present evidence of a very small lithic assemblage, comprising mainly debitage with a very restricted range of artefacts, the site could be interpreted as a specialised production site. However, the raw material used did not come from the site itself, making this interpretation less likely. It is possible that it was a short stay camp where tool kits were replenished and the tools taken away leaving little evidence behind. Whatever the explanation, this has to be extremely tentative given the small quantity of evidence recovered.
- 3.2.3.4 The assemblage is important, whether it is Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date as very few sites of these periods have been found in the river valleys in this region. There is little or no Mesolithic evidence known and the Neolithic sites are restricted to the chalklands.

3.2.4 Burnt unworked flint

- 3.2.4.1 Four pieces of burnt flint weighing a total of 66 g were recovered from context 202 (3/56 g) and unstratified in Trench 2 (1/10 g).

3.3 Palaeoenvironmental materials

- 3.3.1 No animal bone or other materials were recovered. No soil samples were retained.

4 CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Methodological

- 4.1.1 The 1.5m wide trench has investigated the entire length of the proposed 8m wide access route, including the two most prominent geophysical anomalies, representing a 20% sample of the potential area of disturbance. Though spatially restricted, in that it has investigated only the proposed access route, the evaluation trench does represent an unbroken geomorphological cross-section of the southern half of the site.
- 4.1.2 Data recovery and assessment has been carried out by senior archaeologists experienced in the pedology and archaeology of this area of southern England, within a strategy developed by the statutory advisor to the local planning authority, and using techniques of data recovery current in British non-research terrestrial archaeology.
- 4.1.3 The results of the site investigation, therefore, should be accepted as indicative of the archaeological ground conditions within the proposed access route, and representative of the site as a whole.

4.2 Archaeological

- 4.2.1 The deep, darkly coloured soil deposits revealed are typical of the sequence commonly found on greensand spurs at the base of the Downs. Their clearly defined and artefactually sterile horizons suggest little recent disturbance, whilst the absence of sand and gravel lenses indicates that the site is outside the alluvial margins of the Wylfe floodplain.
- 4.2.2 The two broad circular features [211] and [213], corresponding to geophysical anomalies, contained lenses of unconsolidated redeposited soil and degraded chalk, typical of backfilled marl pits, together with post-Medieval pottery and ceramic building materials. It is likely that these and, perhaps, the other major anomalies are marl pits of 18th century date, or later.
- 4.2.3 Potentially earlier deposits were revealed at the southern end of the trench, close to the edge of the floodplain, comprising linear ditches, the artefacts therein and artefacts distributed within the adjacent subsoils. Linear ditches [204], [206], [208], [216] and [218] are not, in themselves, remarkable; the pre-Enclosure landscape of southern England was dominated by ditched boundaries demarcating strips, furlongs and fields, invariably in co-aligned groups. These appear to be broadly parallel and, whilst containing Medieval pottery and flint, the abraded nature of the pottery at least is consistent with manuring. Whilst these features are likely to have originated in the medieval period, and despite the presence in them of small quantities of abraded Medieval pottery, their continued re-working and cleaning effectively leaves them post-Medieval in date.

- 4.2.4 Of specific interest here, however, is the worked flint. The assemblage, recovered largely from depths sufficient to have escaped contamination, contains the products of a fine blade industry, including 'bullet' cores, blades and secondary waste flakes, that would normally be ascribed a Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date. The evidence from this site suggests that it was a knapping area producing small blades, however with little evidence present to indicate the use of this material in the immediate vicinity. The presence of burnt worked flint may indicate settlement but it is impossible to determine whether the burning took place contemporaneously or at a much later date. The technology of the industry suggests that it is either Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date but there are no diagnostic pieces present which allows a more precise date to be proposed. The location of the site is perhaps more typical of Mesolithic settlement rather than Early Neolithic. In Central Southern England, Early Neolithic settlements are generally restricted to the chalk downlands (Gardiner 1984), while the pattern of Mesolithic settlement comprises short stay or base camps on the edge of river terraces with hunting and task specific sites on the upper slopes and downs (Holgate 1988, *passim*) and is perhaps best seen in the Kennet valley (Healy *et al.* 1992; Wymer 1962. On the present evidence of a very small lithic assemblage, comprising mainly debitage with a very restricted range of artefacts, the site could be interpreted as a specialised production site. However, the raw material used did not come from the site itself, making this interpretation less likely. It is possible that it was a short stay camp where tool kits were replenished and the tools taken away leaving little evidence behind. Whatever the explanation, this has to be extremely tentative given the small quantity of evidence recovered.
- 4.2.5 The assemblage is important, whether it is Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date; few sites of these periods have been found in the river valleys in this region. Although Mesolithic activity has been identified in the upper reaches of the Kennet Valley (Whittle, *passim*) and at the Stonehenge car park (Cleal, Montague and Walker, 1996) in the middle reaches of the Wiltshire Avon, contemporaneous material from the Wylve valley comprises only individual flakes in residual contexts, whilst Neolithic sites are restricted to the chalk uplands.
- 4.2.6 The apparent absence of containing features here is not significant; work at Hengistbury Head (Barton, 1987) and at Thatcham (Healy, *op cit*) has established that natural and culturally-enhanced cryoturbation in sand-based soils over archaeological timescales is sufficient to destroy the pedogenic boundaries that define archaeological 'features', without deleteriously affecting the artefact distributions therein.
- 4.2.7 Detailed archaeological excavation of similarly-evaluated sites at Nettlebed in the Chilterns (Boismier, 1995) has indicated that flint assemblages recovered during machine-based evaluations of Mesolithic sites may reflect only 10% of the 'total' site population of worked flint.
- 4.2.8 It is highly likely, therefore, that the worked flint assemblage represents a Mesolithic terrace-edge site. This is a significant addition to the landscape history of western Wiltshire and the Wylve valley in particular. It is reasonable to conclude, therefore, that the proposed access route would have a deleterious impact on the archaeological potential of this site. Furthermore, as the Mesolithic material is likely to be distributed along the terrace edge for kilometres, a less deleterious alternative route would be difficult to identify.

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HOME FARM, BISHOPSTROW
WARMINSTER, WILTSHIRE

Archaeological Evaluation

November 1998

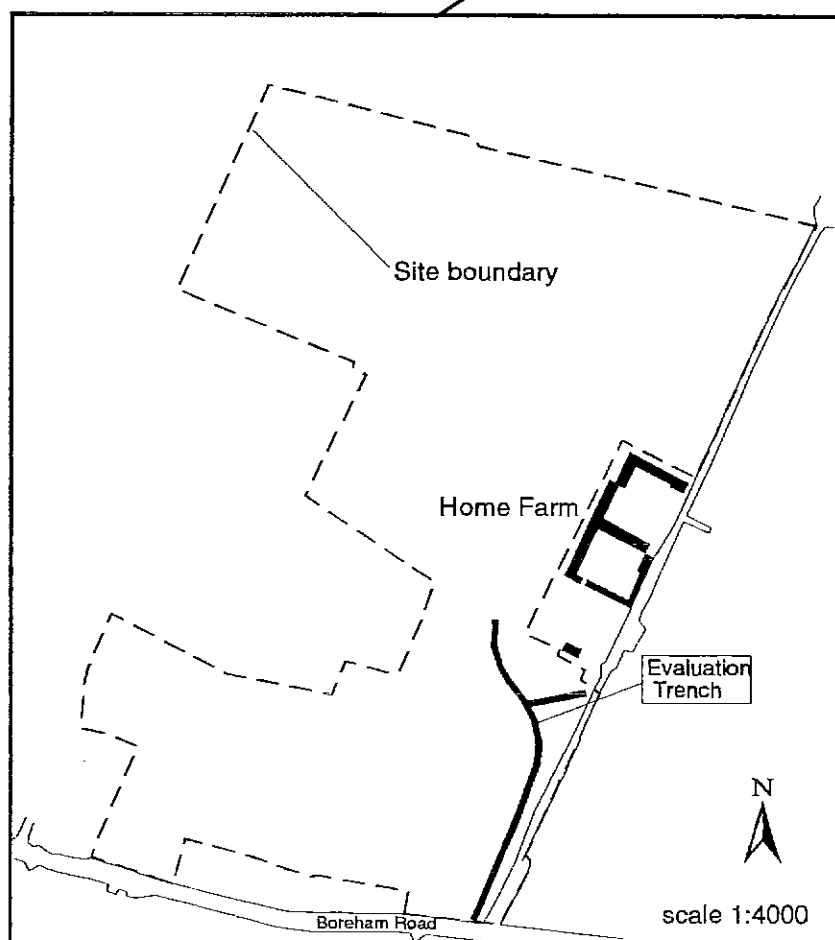
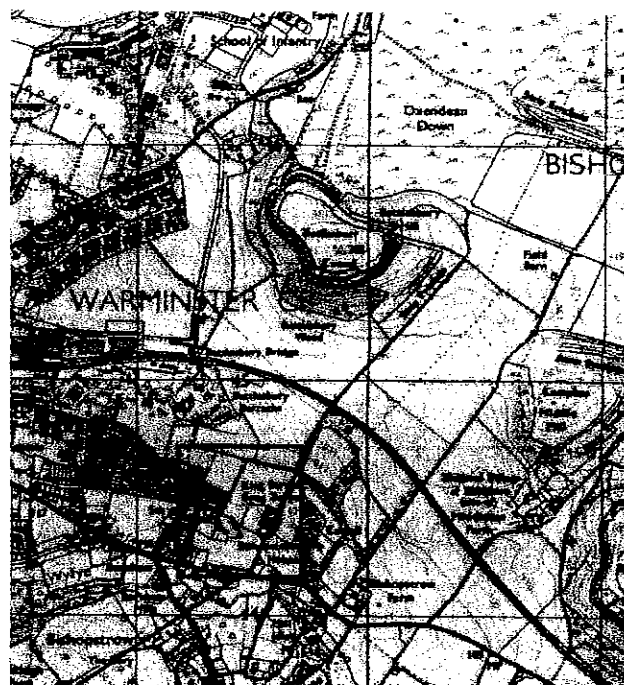


Figure 1. The site and its situation

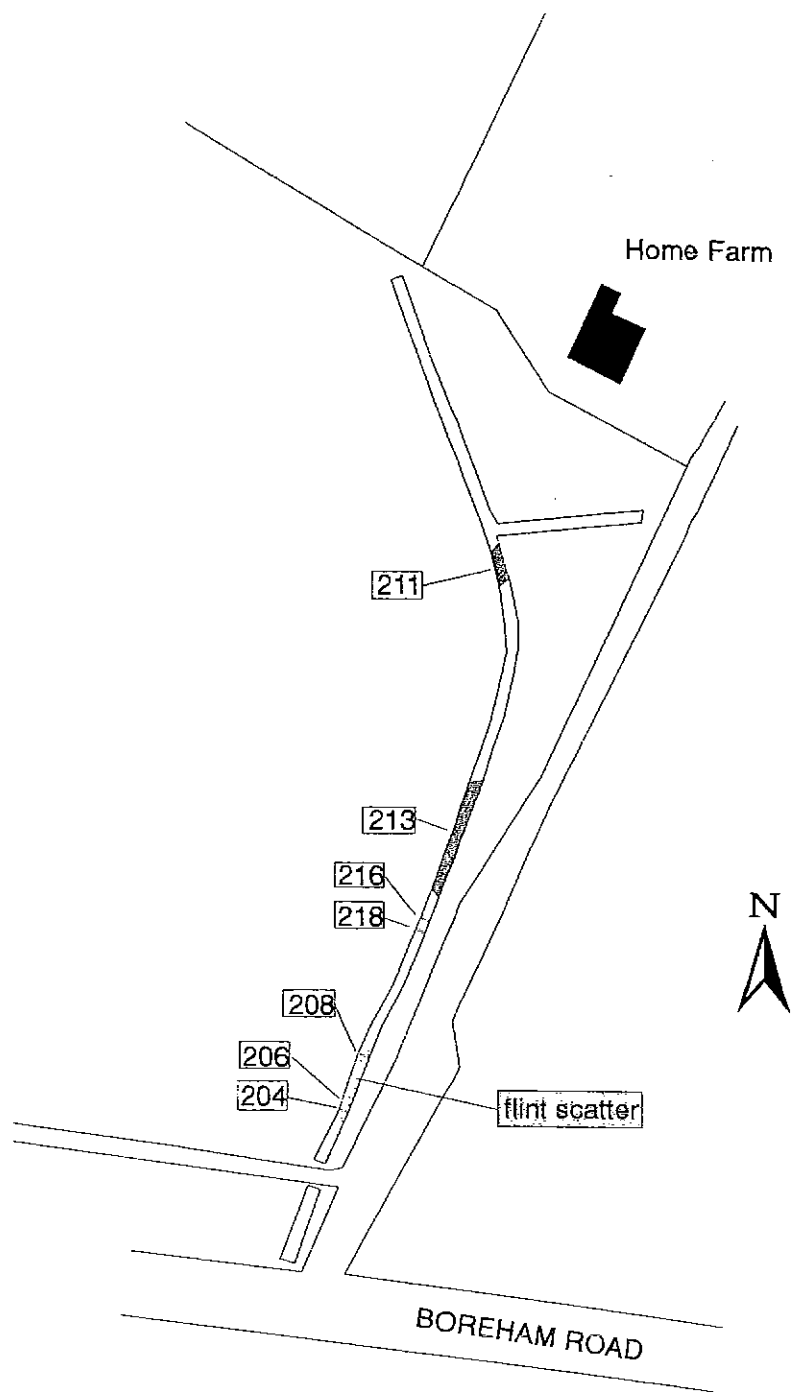
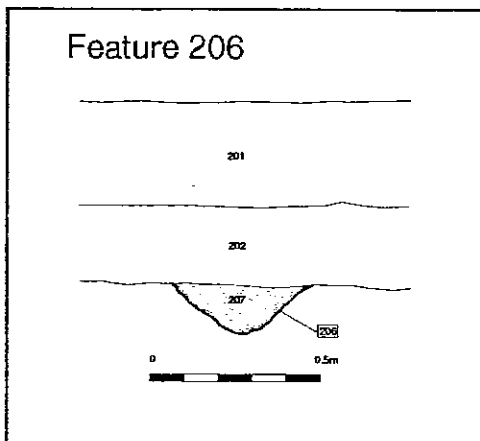
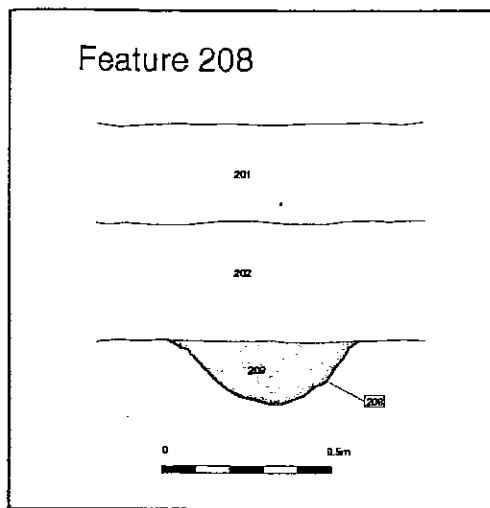


Figure 2. Principal features

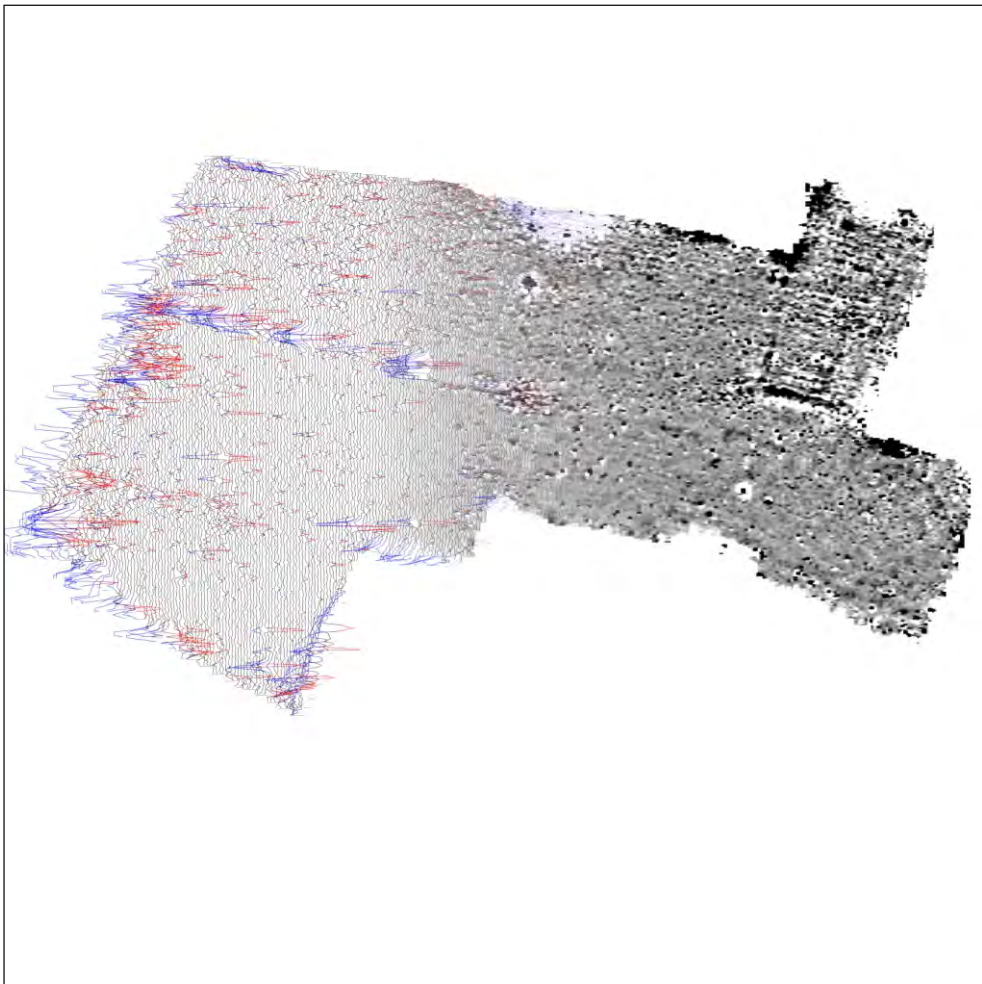
scale 1:1250



making sense of heritage

Land off Boreham Road Warminster, Wiltshire

Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report



Ref: 104520.01
June 2014



**Land off Boreham Road
Warminster, Wiltshire**

Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report

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June 2014

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Quality Assurance

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Versio n	Status*	Prepared by	Checked and Approved By	Approver's Signature	Date
v01	I	JS/RDL	BCU		06/06/2014
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* I = Internal Draft; E = External Draft; F = Final

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Land off Boreham Road Warminster, Wiltshire

Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report

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Land off Boreham Road Warminster, Wiltshire

Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report

Summary

A detailed gradiometer survey was conducted over land north off Boreham Road, near Warminster, south-west Wiltshire. The project was commissioned by CgMs Consulting with the aim of establishing the presence, or otherwise, and nature of detectable archaeological features on the site ahead of a proposed development.

The site comprises of a single arable field directly north of Boreham Road, some 2.2 km to the south-east of the centre of Warminster and 1.9 km north-west of Norton Bavant. The Site occupies an area of relatively flat land with a shallow slope which slopes to the north. The gradiometer survey covered 3.5 ha and has demonstrated the presence of anomalies of probable and possible archaeological interest within the survey area, along with regions of magnetic disturbance.

A clear ditch and several probable pits were seen in the data along with a C-shaped anomaly. This C-shaped anomaly was detected towards the northern extent of the survey area although the response was weak and not clearly defined from the general magnetic background. This faint anomaly and others seen throughout the data may indicate that some plough damage has taken place.

Several linear features are visible in the dataset that are consistent with former field boundaries visible on historic mapping. Extensive magnetic disturbance associated with agricultural processes and numerous small-scale ferrous responses were seen throughout the dataset.

The geophysical survey was undertaken on 21st May 2014.



Land off Boreham Road Warminster, Wiltshire

Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report

Acknowledgements

The detailed gradiometer survey was commissioned by CgMs Consulting. The assistance of Rob Bourn and Sally Dicks is gratefully acknowledged in this regard.

The fieldwork was directed by Jen Smith and Alistair Salisbury. Ross Lefort and Jen Smith processed and interpreted the geophysical data in addition to writing this report. The geophysical work was quality controlled by Dr. Paul Baggaley and Ben Urmston. Illustrations were prepared by Ross Lefort and Karen Nichols. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Ben Urmston.



Land off Boreham Road Warminster, Wiltshire

Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to carry out a geophysical survey on land off Boreham Road, Warminster, southwest Wiltshire (**Figure 1**), hereafter “the Site” (centred on NGR 389400 144275). The survey forms part of an ongoing programme of archaeological works being undertaken ahead of proposed development at the Site.
- 1.1.2 The aim of the geophysical survey was to establish the presence/absence, extent and character of detectable archaeological remains within the survey area.
- 1.1.3 An archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) was carried out by CgMs Consulting (2014) for the project and will be referred to in relation to the interpretation of certain geophysical anomalies.
- 1.1.4 This report presents a brief description of the methodology followed, the detailed survey results and the archaeological interpretation of the geophysical data.

1.2 Site Location and Topography

- 1.2.1 The survey area comprises of a single arable field directly north of Boreham Road, some 2.2 km to the south-east of the centre of Warminster, 2.9 km north of Sutton Veny and 1.9 km north-west of North Bavant (**Figure 1**).
- 1.2.2 The Site occupies an area of relatively flat land with a shallow slope which slopes to the north. The land lies at a height of approximately 108m above the Ordnance datum (aOD). The survey extents are defined by the surrounding field boundaries, as well as a housing estate to the west, south and north, a farm B&B to the north-east and an unnamed track to the east.

1.3 Soils and Geology

- 1.3.1 The Site bedrock geology is composed of sandstone belonging to the Boyne Hollow chert member, forming in the Cretaceous period. Other sandstone of the Shaftesbury and Melbury sandstone members are recorded very close by. No superficial deposits are recorded on Site although alluvial and river terrace deposits are recorded a short distance to the south (BGS).
- 1.3.2 The soils underlying the Site are likely to be typical calcareous earths of the 511f (Coombe 1) association (SSEW 1983). Soils derived from such geological parent material have been shown to produce magnetic contrasts suitable for the detection of archaeological remains through magnetometer survey.



1.4 Archaeological and Historic Background

- 1.4.1 The following information is summarised from the CgMs DBA (2014) carried out for the proposed survey area and a 1km zone surrounding its boundary. The Site has been subject to previous archaeological work including fieldwalking in 1977, a geophysical survey and an archaeological evaluation in 1998 (CgMs 2014).
- 1.4.2 The only recorded heritage assets very close to or within the Site include Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flints found during the evaluation, a Roman coin findspot, Saxon pottery sherds found during the fieldwalking and records of medieval earthworks possibly related to a recorded settlement at Boreham (CgMs 2014).

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The detailed magnetometer survey was conducted using Bartington Grad601-2 dual fluxgate gradiometer systems. The survey was conducted in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (2008).
- 2.1.2 The geophysical survey was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology's in-house geophysics team between 21st and 22nd May 2014. Field conditions at the time of the survey were good, with firm ground under foot. Detailed gradiometer survey was undertaken over all accessible parts of the Site, a total of 3.5ha.

2.2 Method

- 2.2.1 Individual survey grid nodes were established at 30m x 30m intervals using a Leica Viva RTK GNSS instrument, which is precise to approximately 0.02m and therefore exceeds English Heritage recommendations (2008).
- 2.2.2 The magnetometer survey was conducted using a Bartington Grad601-2 fluxgate gradiometer instrument, which has a vertical separation of 1m between sensors. Data were collected at 0.25m intervals along transects spaced 1m apart with an effective sensitivity of 0.03nT, in accordance with EH guidelines (2008). Data were collected in the zigzag method.
- 2.2.3 Data from the survey was subject to minimal data correction processes. These comprise a zero mean traverse function (± 5 nT thresholds) applied to correct for any variation between the two Bartington sensors used, and a de-step function to account for variations in traverse position due to varying ground cover and topography. These two steps were applied to all survey areas, with no interpolation applied.
- 2.2.4 Further details of the geophysical and survey equipment, methods and processing are described in **Appendix 1**.



3 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The gradiometer survey has been successful in identifying anomalies of probable and possible archaeological interest across the Site, along with a number of former field boundaries. Results are presented as a series of greyscale plots, XY trace plots, and archaeological interpretations, at a scale of 1:1250 (**Figures 2 to 4**). The data is displayed at -2nT (white) to +3nT (black) for the greyscale image and $\pm 25\text{nT}$ at 25nT per cm for the XY trace plots.
- 3.1.2 The interpretation of the datasets highlights the presence of potential archaeological anomalies, ferrous/burnt or fired objects, and magnetic trends (**Figure 4**). Full definitions of the interpretation terms used in this report are provided in **Appendix 2**.
- 3.1.3 Numerous ferrous anomalies are visible throughout the detailed survey dataset. These are presumed to be modern in provenance and are not referred to, unless considered relevant to the archaeological interpretation.

3.2 Gradiometer Survey Results and Interpretation

- 3.2.1 A linear positive anomaly is visible at the northernmost corner of the site at **4000**; it has magnetic values over +3nT and does not appear to link up with any mapped former field boundaries. This feature has been interpreted as probable archaeology and is likely to represent a ditch.
- 3.2.2 Another weaker C-shaped ditch-like anomaly is visible in the data at **4001**; this has magnetic values less than +1nT but forms a very regular shape. This feature has been interpreted as probable archaeology due to its very regular shape in plan.
- 3.2.3 Four sub-oval shaped pit-like anomalies are visible in the data around **4002** and **4003**; all have magnetic values over +3nT and they all have lengths between 3m and 4.5m. These anomalies are considered to represent cut features such as pits and all are classed as probable archaeology.
- 3.2.4 There are some positive linear and curvilinear anomalies at **4004** to **4006** with very diffuse edges and weak responses measuring less than +1nT. It is unclear whether these features represent ephemeral archaeological features or are geological in origin. These anomalies have been classed as possible archaeology as a result of this uncertainty in their interpretation.
- 3.2.5 A series of former field boundaries are visible in the data at **4007** to **4011**; all have weak positive values over +1nT and all correspond to features on historic maps shown in the DBA (CgMs 2014). These anomalies have been classed as former field boundaries.
- 3.2.6 In addition to these boundaries are similar anomalies such as at **4012** and **4013** that cannot be linked to mapped field boundaries. These linear anomalies run parallel to known field boundaries and have been interpreted as agricultural, possibly representing unmapped former boundaries or remnant ridge and furrow.
- 3.2.7 Other agricultural features detected include the numerous ploughing scars visible running across the site along with a few ceramic field drains such as the example at **4014**. There is a line of regularly spaced ferrous responses running from **4015** to **4016** that follows the line of the former field boundary. These features are considered to be relatively modern and are of uncertain origin.



3.2.8 There are several spreads of increased magnetic response scattered across the data. The spread contained within the former field defined by **4007** is likely to be the result of different agricultural practices carried out in this field with magnetically enhanced debris added to this field along with manure. Another small spread around **4017** corresponds to a feature recorded on the 1889 map consulted in the DBA (CgMs 2014); the identity of this map feature is unclear but is likely to relate to agricultural activity.

3.2.9 The remaining anomalies are weak linear trends and small positive anomalies of possible archaeological interest. These features do not form any significant patterns in their spatial distribution and their origin is considered less certain.

3.3 Gradiometer Survey Results and Interpretation: Modern Services

3.3.1 No clear modern services have been identified in the geophysical data. It should be noted that gradiometer survey may not detect all services present on site. This report and accompanying illustrations should not be used as the sole source for service locations and appropriate equipment (e.g. CAT and Genny) should be used to confirm the location of buried services before any trenches are opened on site.

4 CONCLUSION

4.1.1 The detailed gradiometer survey has been successful in detecting a few anomalies of probable and possible archaeological interest within the Site, in addition to regions of increased magnetic response and several former field boundaries.

4.1.2 The few anomalies of possible archaeological interest include short ditch sections and pits. Nothing has been detected that suggests concentrated settlement activity although the C-shaped feature at **4001** may prove to be the most interesting feature detected. Given the proximity of a long barrow and a number of other round barrows within 250m of the Site, it is possible that this anomaly relates part of a barrow ditch, an interpretation consistent with its shape and diameter; however, the magnetic response is weak and there is little direct corroborating evidence apart from the presence of similar monuments nearby.

4.1.3 The remaining anomalies detected appear to be agricultural in origin with possible drainage features, former field boundaries and ploughing trends detected across the remainder of the survey area. There are some ditches radiating from the settlement enclosure that may represent a former field system although they all fade out a short distance from the enclosure.

4.1.4 It should be noted that small, weakly magnetised features may produce responses that are below the detection threshold of magnetometers. It may therefore be the case that more archaeological features may be encountered than have been identified through geophysical survey. This is particularly true at this Site as there are some concentrated areas of strong geological responses concentrated over the eastern half of the site in particular that could easily obscure archaeological features.



5 REFERENCES

5.1 Bibliography

CgMs Consulting Ltd, 2014: *Land at Warminster, Wiltshire: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, client report ref. RB/KB/9926

English Heritage, 2008: Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field Evaluation. Research and Professional Service Guideline No 1, 2nd edition.

5.2 Cartographic Sources

British Geological Survey

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringgeology/geologyofbritain/viewer.html>

Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW), 1983: Sheet 5, Soils of South West England. Ordnance Survey: Southampton.



APPENDIX 1: SURVEY EQUIPMENT AND DATA PROCESSING

Survey Methods and Equipment

The magnetic data for this project was acquired using a Bartington 601-2 dual magnetic gradiometer system. This instrument has two sensor assemblies fixed horizontally 1m apart allowing two traverses to be recorded simultaneously. Each sensor contains two fluxgate magnetometers arranged vertically with a 1m separation, and measures the difference between the vertical components of the total magnetic field within each sensor array. This arrangement of magnetometers suppresses any diurnal or low frequency effects.

The gradiometers have an effective resolution of 0.03nT over a ± 100 nT range, and measurements from each sensor are logged at intervals of 0.25m. All of the data are stored on an integrated data logger for subsequent post-processing and analysis.

Wessex Archaeology undertakes two types of magnetic surveys: scanning and detail. Both types depend upon the establishment of an accurate 20m or 30m site grid, which is achieved using a Leica Viva RTK GNSS instrument and then extended using tapes. The Leica Viva system receives corrections from a network of reference stations operated by the Ordnance Survey and Leica Geosystems, allowing positions to be determined with a precision of 0.02m in real-time and therefore exceed the level of accuracy recommended by English Heritage (2008) for geophysical surveys.

Scanning surveys consist of recording data at 0.25m intervals along transects spaced 10m apart, acquiring a minimum of 80 data points per transect. Due to the relatively coarse transect interval, scanning surveys should only be expected to detect extended regions of archaeological anomalies, when there is a greater likelihood of distinguishing such responses from the background magnetic field.

The detailed surveys consist of 20m x 20m or 30m x 30m grids, and data are collected at 0.25m intervals along traverses spaced 1m apart. These strategies give 1600 or 3600 measurements per 20m or 30m grid respectively, and are the recommended methodologies for archaeological surveys of this type (EH, 2008).

Data may be collected with a higher sample density where complex archaeological anomalies are encountered, to aid the detection and characterisation of small and ephemeral features. Data may be collected at up to 0.125m intervals along traverses spaced up to 0.25m apart, resulting in a maximum of 28800 readings per 30m grid, exceeding that recommended by English Heritage (2008) for characterisation surveys.



Post-Processing

The magnetic data collected during the detail survey are downloaded from the Bartington system for processing and analysis using both commercial and in-house software. This software allows for both the data and the images to be processed in order to enhance the results for analysis; however, it should be noted that minimal data processing is conducted so as not to distort the anomalies.

As the scanning data are not as closely distributed as with detailed survey, they are georeferenced using the GPS information and interpolated to highlight similar anomalies in adjacent transects. Directional trends may be removed before interpolation to produce more easily understood images.

Typical data and image processing steps may include:

- Destripe – Applying a zero mean traverse in order to remove differences caused by directional effects inherent in the magnetometer;
- Destagger – Shifting each traverse longitudinally by a number of readings. This corrects for operator errors and is used to enhance linear features;
- Despiking – Filtering isolated data points that exceed the mean by a specified amount to reduce the appearance of dominant anomalous readings (generally only used for earth resistance data)

Typical displays of the data used during processing and analysis:

- XY Plot – Presents the data as a trace or graph line for each traverse. Each traverse is displaced down the image to produce a stacked profile effect. This type of image is useful as it shows the full range of individual anomalies.
- Greyscale – Presents the data in plan view using a greyscale to indicate the relative strength of the signal at each measurement point. These plots can be produced in colour to highlight certain features but generally greyscale plots are used during analysis of the data.



APPENDIX 2: GEOPHYSICAL INTERPRETATION

The interpretation methodology used by Wessex Archaeology separates the anomalies into four main categories: archaeological, modern, agricultural and uncertain origin/geological.

The archaeological category is used for features when the form, nature and pattern of the anomaly are indicative of archaeological material. Further sources of information such as aerial photographs may also have been incorporated in providing the final interpretation. This category is further sub-divided into three groups, implying a decreasing level of confidence:

- Archaeology – used when there is a clear geophysical response and anthropogenic pattern.
- Probable archaeology – used for features which give a clear response but which form incomplete patterns.
- Possible archaeology – used for features which give a response but which form no discernible pattern or trend.

The modern category is used for anomalies that are presumed to be relatively modern in date:

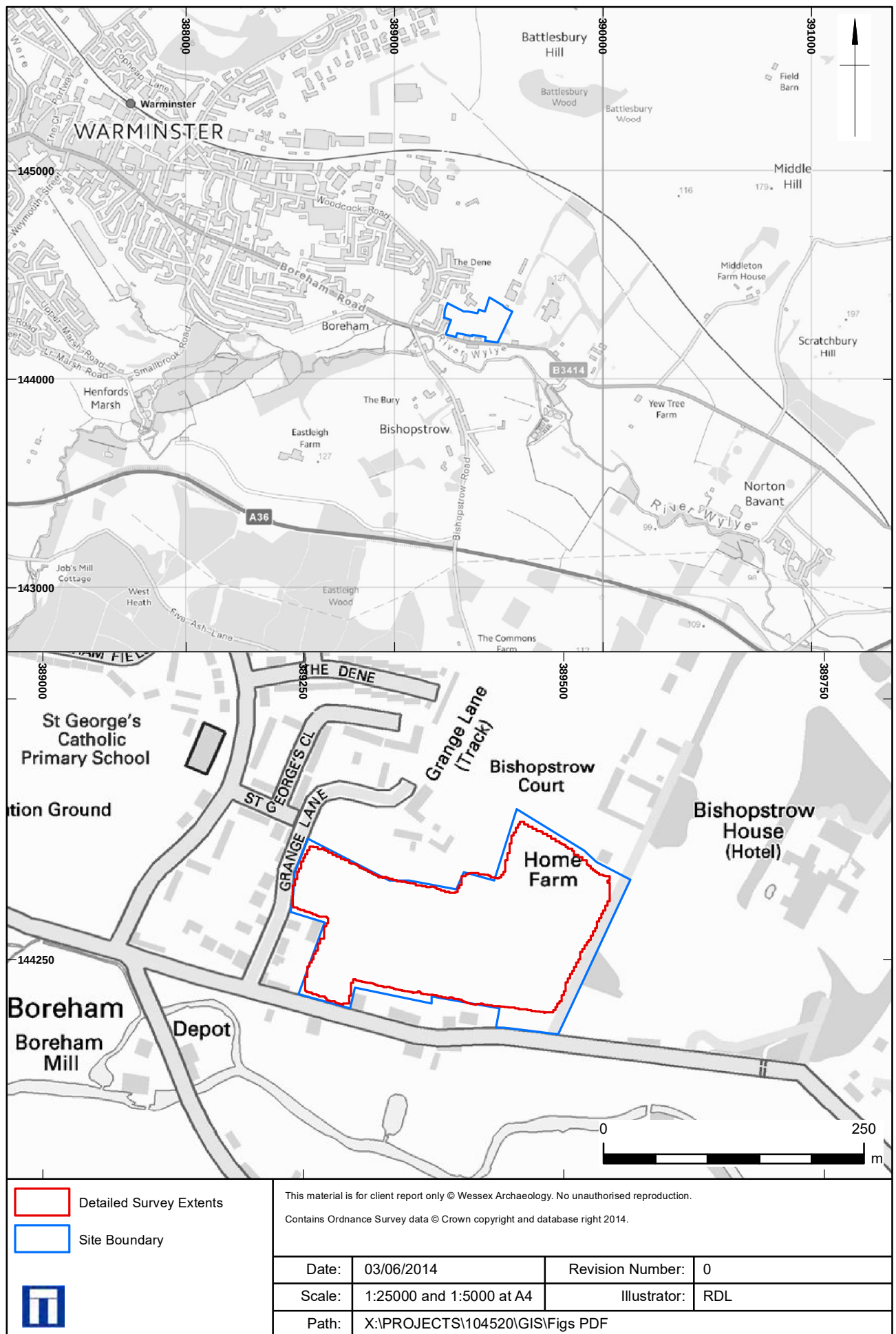
- Ferrous – used for responses caused by ferrous material. These anomalies are likely to be of modern origin.
- Modern service – used for responses considered relating to cables and pipes; most are composed of ferrous/ceramic material although services made from non-magnetic material can sometimes be observed.

The agricultural category is used for the following:

- Former field boundaries – used for ditch sections that correspond to the position of boundaries marked on earlier mapping.
- Agricultural ditches – used for ditch sections that are aligned parallel to existing boundaries and former field boundaries that are not considered to be of archaeological significance.
- Ridge and furrow – used for broad and diffuse linear anomalies that are considered to indicate areas of former ridge and furrow.
- Ploughing – used for well-defined narrow linear responses, usually aligned parallel to existing field boundaries.
- Drainage – used to define the course of ceramic field drains that are visible in the data as a series of repeating bipolar (black and white) responses.

The uncertain origin/geological category is used for features when the form, nature and pattern of the anomaly are not sufficient to warrant a classification as an archaeological feature. This category is further sub-divided into:

- Increased magnetic response – used for areas dominated by indistinct anomalies which may have some archaeological potential.
- Trend – used for low amplitude or indistinct linear anomalies.
- Superficial geology – used for diffuse edged spreads considered to relate to shallow geological deposits. They can be distinguished as areas of positive, negative or broad bipolar (positive and negative) anomalies.



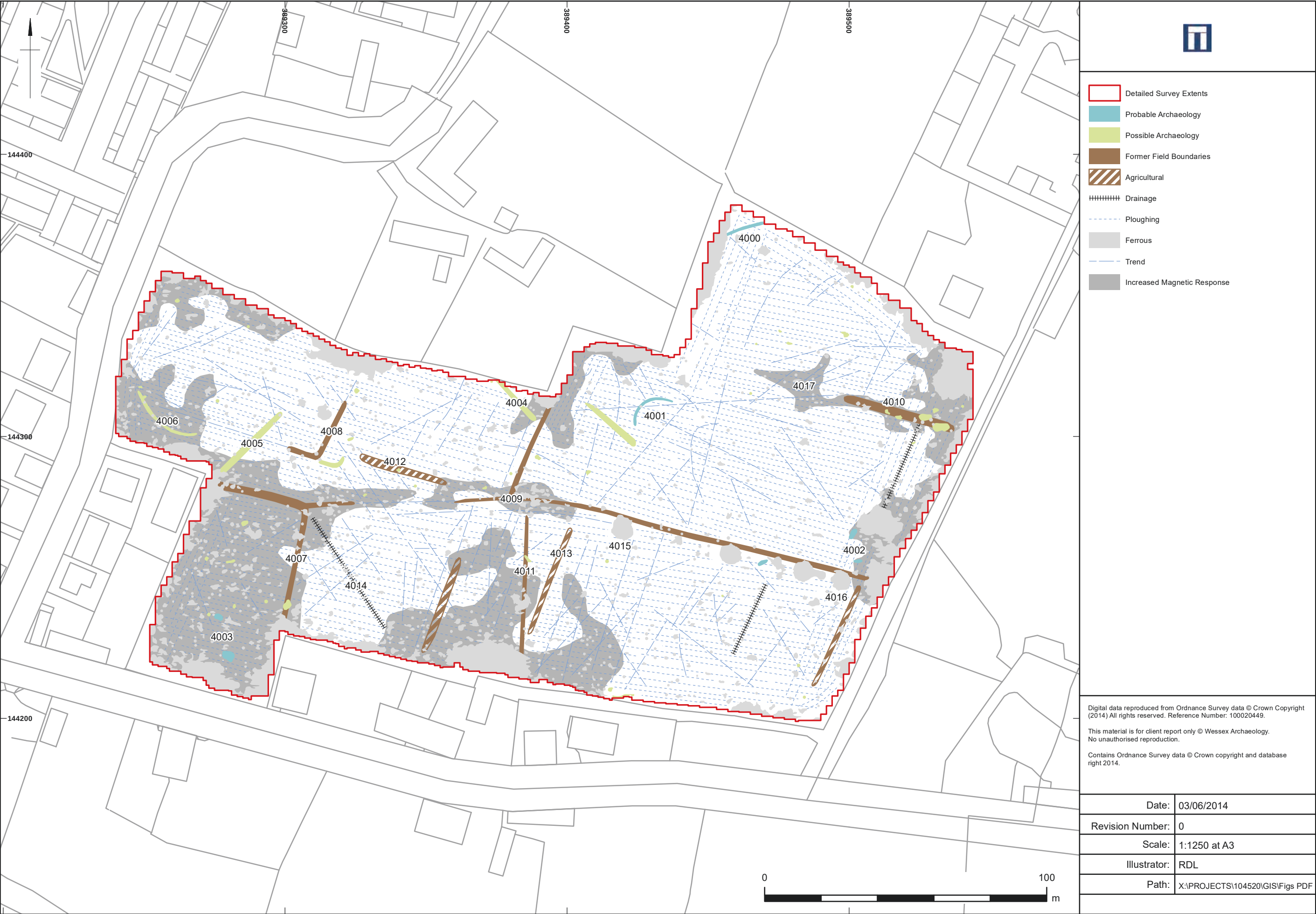
Site location and detailed survey extents

Figure 1



Greyscale plot

Figure 2



- Detailed Survey Extents
- Probable Archaeology
- Possible Archaeology
- Former Field Boundaries
- Agricultural
- Drainage
- Ploughing
- Ferrous
- Trend
- Increased Magnetic Response

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Figure 4



salisbury rochester sheffield edinburgh



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Land at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire
Archaeological Desk Based Assessment
September 2016

Land at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire
Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment
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Report

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

Site

Land at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire

Client

Hallam Land Management

Planning Authority

Wiltshire Council

Site Centred At

ST 894 445

Prepared and Approved By

Rob Bourn BA MA MCIfA

Report Status

Final

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Appendix 1

CgMs. 2014. Archaeological Desk Based Assessment: Land at Warminster, Wiltshire

Appendix 2

Wessex Archaeology. 2014. Land off Boreham Road, Warminster, Wiltshire: Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report

Prehistoric

Palaeolithic	450,000 -12,000 BC
Mesolithic	12,000 - 4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 - 2,200 BC
Bronze Age	2,200 - 700 BC
Iron Age	700 - AD 43

Historic

Roman	43 - 410AD
Saxon/Early Medieval	410 - 1066AD
Medieval	1066 - 1485AD
Post Medieval	1486 - 1901AD
Modern	1901 - Present Day

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This heritage assessment considers Land at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire (Fig. 1). The proposed development comprises a 135 dwelling residential scheme, playing field, LEAP, allotments, community orchard and green infrastructure. The site is located at grid reference ST 894 445. The site is hereafter referred to as the study site.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk Based Assessments (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014), the assessment draws together available information on designated and non-designated archaeological heritage assets, topographic and land-use information so as to establish the potential for non-designated archaeological heritage assets within the study site and the setting and significance of nearby designated heritage assets. The assessment includes the results of a site survey, an examination of published and unpublished records and charts historic land-use through a map regression exercise.
- 1.3 This assessment is an update of an archaeological desk based assessment produced by CgMs in 2014 (Appendix 1). The archaeological and historical background is based on the results of this desk based assessment which has been updated and supplemented by the results of an archaeological geophysical survey of a large part of the site undertaken by Wessex Archaeology in 2014 which is included as Appendix 2 of this assessment.
- 1.4 The underlying solid geology of the study site is identified as comprising Boyne Hollow Chert Member (sandstone). Previous archaeological investigations conducted within the south eastern corner of the study site identified an underlying greensand natural at a depth of 0.70m to 1m below topsoil and subsoil overburden (ASI 1998). The site is on a very slight south facing slope lying at c.110m OD.
- 1.5 The assessment enables relevant parties to assess the significance of archaeological assets on and close to the site and consider the potential for hitherto undiscovered archaeological assets, thus enabling potential impacts on assets to be identified along with the need for design, civil engineering or archaeological solutions.

2.0 Planning Background And Development Plan Framework

- 2.1 Where any development may have a direct or indirect effect on designated heritage assets, there is a legislative framework to ensure the proposals are considered with due regard for their impact on the historic environment.

Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act 1979

- 2.2 The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended) protects the fabric of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, but does not afford statutory protection to their settings.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) & National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)

- 2.3 Government policy in relation to the historic environment is outlined in section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), entitled Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment. This provides guidance for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. Overall, the objectives of Section 12 of the NPPF can be summarised as seeking the:
- Delivery of sustainable development
 - Understanding the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits brought by the conservation of the historic environment;
 - Conservation of England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance; and
 - Recognition of the contribution that heritage assets make to our knowledge and understanding of the past.
- 2.4 Section 12 of the NPPF recognises that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term.
- 2.5 Paragraph 128 states that planning decisions should be based on the significance of the heritage asset and that level of detail supplied by an applicant should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and should be no more than sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal upon the significance of that asset.
- 2.6 *Heritage Assets* are defined in Annex 2 as: A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).
- 2.7 *Archaeological Interest* is defined as a heritage asset which holds or potentially could hold evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places, and of the people and cultures that made them.
- 2.8 *Designated Heritage Assets* comprise: World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Park and Gardens, Registered Battlefields and Conservation Areas.
- 2.9 *Significance* is defined as: The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.
- 2.10 *Setting* is defined as: The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
- 2.11 As stated in Paragraph 128, when determining applications, LPAs should require applicants to describe the significance of the heritage assets affected and any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail provided should be proportionate to the significance of the asset and sufficient to understand the impact of the proposal on this significance. According to Paragraph 129, LPAs are also obliged to identify and assess the significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal and should take this assessment into account when considering the impact upon the heritage asset.

- 2.12 Paragraph 131 emphasises that local planning authorities should take account of the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.
- 2.13 Paragraph 132 states that in assessing the effects of development on a heritage asset, the weight given to an asset's conservation should be proportionate to its significance. It states that when considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. It emphasises that the weight given to an asset's conservation should be proportionate to its significance, and that clear and convincing justification will be required for loss and harm to heritage assets.
- 2.14 Paragraph 132 states that 'substantial harm' or loss to designated heritage assets of the highest significance (i.e. Grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* parks and gardens, scheduled monuments, wrecks, battlefields and World Heritage Sites) should be wholly exceptional. It also states that substantial harm to grade II listed buildings and parks and gardens should be exceptional. The NPPF does not define what is meant by substantial harm.
- 2.15 Paragraphs 133 and 134 address the balancing of harm against public benefits. This guidance lays down a clear dividing line between causing substantial harm or total loss of significance on the one hand, and those cases where the harm is less than substantial on the other. Proposals that would result in substantial harm or total loss of significance should be refused, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss.
- 2.16 The guidance emphasizes that where less than substantial harm will arise as a result of a proposed development, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of a proposal (para 134). Although the NPPF does not state that there are gradations within the less than substantial harm category, in my professional opinion, less than substantial harm can be sub-divided to reflect the severity of the effect. Consequently, less than substantial harm ranges from a slight effect, through to minor and then moderate toward the higher end of the less than substantial harm range.

The National Planning Policy Guidance

- 2.17 The NPPF is supported by the National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) which is an on-line resource that was published in March 2014. In relation to the historic environment, paragraph 18a-001-20140306 states that:

Protecting and enhancing the historic environment is an important component of the National Planning Policy Framework's drive to achieve sustainable development (as defined in Paragraphs 6-10). The appropriate conservation of heritage assets forms one of the 'Core Planning Principles'.

- 2.18 The key test in NPPF paragraphs 132-134 is whether a proposed development will result in substantial harm or less than substantial harm. However, substantial harm is not defined in the NPPF. Paragraph 18a-017 of the NPPG provides additional guidance on substantial harm. It states:

"What matters in assessing if a proposal causes substantial harm is the impact on the significance of the heritage asset. As the National Planning Policy Framework makes clear, significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. Whether a proposal causes substantial harm will be a judgment for the decision taker, having regard to the circumstances of the case and the policy in the National Planning Policy Framework. In general terms, substantial harm is a high test, so it may not arise in many cases. For example, in determining whether works to a listed building constitute substantial harm, an important consideration would be whether the adverse impact seriously affects a key element of its special architectural or historic interest. It is the degree of harm to the asset's significance rather than the scale of the development that is to be assessed."

- 2.19 Paragraph 134 of the NPPF outlines that where a proposed development results in less than substantial harm to the significance of a heritage asset, the harm arising should be weighed against the public benefits accruing from the proposed development. Paragraph 18a-020 of the NPPG outlines what is meant by public benefits:

"Public benefits may follow from many developments and could be anything that delivers economic, social or environmental progress as described in the National Planning Policy Framework (Paragraph 7). Public benefits should flow from the proposed development. They should be of a nature or scale to be of benefit to the public at large and should not just

be a private benefit. However, benefits do not always have to be visible or accessible to the public in order to be genuine public benefits."

- 2.20 In considering any planning application for development, the planning authority will be mindful of the framework set by government policy, in this instance the NPPF, by current Development Plan Policy and by other material considerations.

Local Planning Policy

- 2.21 The Wiltshire Core Strategy Adopted January 2015 contains the following relevant policy:

Core Policy 58 Ensuring The Conservation Of The Historic Environment

Development should protect, conserve and where possible enhance the historic environment. Designated heritage assets and their settings will be conserved, and where appropriate enhanced in a manner appropriate to their significance, including:

- i. Nationally significant archaeological remains*
- ii. World Heritage Sites within and adjacent to Wiltshire*
- iii. Buildings and structures of special architectural or historic interest*
- iv. The special character or appearance of conservation areas*
- v. Historic parks and gardens*
- vi. Important landscapes, including registered battlefields and townscapes.*

Distinctive elements of Wiltshire's historic environment, including non-designated heritage assets, which contribute to a sense of local character and identity will be conserved, and where possible enhanced. The potential contribution of these heritage assets towards wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits will also be utilised where this can be delivered in a sensitive and appropriate manner in accordance with Core Policy 57 (Ensuring High Quality Design and Place Shaping). Heritage assets at risk will be monitored and development proposals that improve their condition will be encouraged. The advice of statutory and local consultees will be sought in consideration of such applications.

- 2.22 In accordance with national planning policy, this desk-based assessment seeks to clarify the site's archaeological potential and identify the need or otherwise for mitigation measures.

3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 The CgMs archaeological desk based assessment concluded that the study site was considered to have potential for early prehistoric and Medieval remains, moderate potential for Bronze Age and Saxon remains and low potential for later prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval remains. The assessment concluded that based on the then current evidence, any remains present at the site are likely to be considered to be of local significance.

Prehistoric

- 3.2 The HER holds a single record from this period for the study site relating to a scatter of late Mesolithic/early Neolithic worked flint (HER ST84SE051).
- 3.3 The remains of a series of upstanding earthwork funerary monuments that include a Neolithic long barrow, known as King Barrow, (HER ST84SE100; SAM No.12294) have been recorded c.250m to the east of the study site, and a number of undated bowl barrows of early Neolithic to late Bronze Age date (ST84SE600/SAM No.34188, ST84SE601/SAM No.34187, ST84SE630/SAM No.34213 and ST84SE631) Of these, bowl barrows ST84SE600 and 601 lie c. 200m – 230m to the north east and ST84SE630 lies c.220m to the south of the study site.
- 3.4 The geophysical survey failed to reveal any anomalies that could be interpreted as being Mesolithic or Neolithic in date.
- 3.5 Evidence of a possible settlement site of Bronze Age/early Iron Age date (ST94SW152), evidenced by pottery recovered from a ring gully and pit features, is recorded c.700m to the northeast of the study site.
- 3.6 The geophysical survey of the southern part of the study site did not reveal any anomalies that could be interpreted as being indicative of Bronze Age settlement. A C-shaped feature (4001 on Appendix 2 Fig. 4) has been interpreted as being part of a possible Bronze Age barrow ditch (Appendix 2). However, the magnetic response is weak and there is little direct corroborating evidence apart from the presence of similar monuments nearby.
- 3.7 The Iron Age hillfort of Battlesbury Camp (ST84NE202; SAM No.10081) lies c. 1.1km to the north of the study site. The scheduled area also includes an unenclosed settlement, a cemetery, three bowl barrows of Bronze Age date, a field system and a further enclosure within the hillfort. A second Iron Age hillfort at Scratchbury Hill, known as Scratchbury Camp (ST94SW200; SAM No. 10213) lies c.1.3km to the east of the study site. Beyond these major settlements, evidence of Iron Age occupation activity is also recorded at Bishopstrow Farm (ST94SW201 and 202) c.500m to the southeast of the study site, where a complex of pits enclosed by a ditch, containing a burial and pottery has been recovered. Further undated cropmarks (ST94SW670) located adjacent to this site are considered likely to be contemporary with the settlement. Further alignments of cropmark ditches and pits (ST84SE621 and ST94SW673) noted to the south east of the study site, may also represent activity in this period.
- 3.8 The study site is located in close proximity to the projected line of the prehistoric trackway, the Great Ridgeway.

Roman

- 3.9 A single residual sherd of Romano-British dated pottery has been recorded immediately to the north of the study site (HER ST84SE051).
- 3.10 Roman remains within the wider study area include a single coin (HER ST84SE308) immediately adjacent to its south western extent. Pottery sherds (ST94SW308) have been recorded in association with Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement remains excavated c.1km to the north east of the study site.
- 3.11 The geophysical survey failed to reveal any anomalies that could be interpreted as being indicative of Roman remains within the site.

Saxon/Early Medieval

- 3.12 The fieldwalking of the site identified a number of unspecified pottery fragments of possible Saxon date (HER ST84SE401). Further evidence of occupation activity is recorded immediately adjacent to the study site where excavations within Kings Barrow revealed the remains of three intrusive Saxon burials (HER ST84SE400), one of which contained the remains of an iron sword.

- 3.13 The study site would appear to lie within an area that has been a focus of Saxon occupation activity and settlement from an early period. However, the geophysical survey failed to reveal any anomalies that could be interpreted as being indicative of Saxon remains within the site. As a consequence, while such remains cannot be entirely ruled out, it is considered to have low potential for Saxon remains.

Medieval-Post-Medieval

- 3.14 In this period, the study site is thought likely to have formed part of land attached to the Medieval manor of Boreham that lay immediately adjacent to that of Bishopstrow. A settlement at Boreham is documented from the medieval period in which the lord of Warminster held his demesne mill in the early 13th century that was held by the then lord of the manor, Thomas Mauduit (VCH 1965). The site of the former Medieval mill, manor house and fishponds lie c.100m to the south east of the study site.
- 3.15 The HER records the presence of a number of earthworks with associated pottery finds within the southern area of the study site to the south of Home Farm and the Grange, that are thought to represent part of the former Medieval settlement of Boreham (HER ST84SE458). A limited geophysical survey undertaken within the site identified a number of pit-like anomalies and a potential for hearth sites that are indicative of former occupation on the study site. Subsequent evaluation confirmed the presence of a number of marl pits of post-medieval date and a series of parallel linear ditched features identified as being Medieval or more likely Post-Medieval former field boundaries. The later 2014 geophysical survey recorded further former field boundaries within the site (Appendix 2).
- 3.16 A full map regression is discussed and presented in the CgMs DBA (Appendix 1). In summary, the regression exercise has demonstrated that the study site has been agricultural fields throughout the Post-Medieval period.
- 3.17 As discussed in para 3.15 above, the 2014 geophysical survey recorded a number of linear features that broadly correspond to field boundaries on the Warminster Enclosure map (1793), the Warminster Tithe map (1840) and the earlier edition OS maps (1889).

Conclusions on the Archaeological Potential of the Study Site

- 3.18 The previous fieldwalking, partial geophysical survey and trenching in the late 1990s and the 2014 geophysical survey has established that the site has potential for a possible Bronze Age barrow ditch which partially survives within the southern part of the site. This area has also been shown to contain a number of former Medieval/Post-Medieval field boundaries. The northern part of the site has not been subject to archaeological evaluation works. However, based on the evidence from the wider study area and the results of the surveys in the southern part of the site indicate that that site has a low to moderate potential for Bronze Age remains and it is likely to also contain the remains of former Medieval and Post-Medieval field boundary remains. The remains that have been shown or suspected to be present are considered likely to be of no more than local significance.

Designated Archaeological Heritage Assets

- 3.19 There is a collection of scheduled prehistoric monuments to the north and east of Bishopstrow House Hotel, all of which are east of the Study Site.

Kings Barrow

- 3.20 Kings Barrow is a Neolithic long barrow set on a promontory to the north of the hotel and c. 160m to the east of the study site. The barrow mound is 70m long, 22m wide and c.3m high. It is orientated NNW-SSE and is ovoid in plan. Although no longer visible at ground level ditches, from which material was quarried during the construction of the monument, flank the mound to the east and west. These have become infilled over the years but survive as buried features c.5m wide. The site has been partially excavated on two occasions, by Colt-Hoare and Cunnington. Finds have included a cremation burial and numerous later burials. Part of the mound was removed in the 19th century leaving a scar at the northern end of the monument. Its significance resides in its archaeological evidential interest. It is located within a clump of trees and is not visible from outside of the trees. There is no intervisibility between the study site and the monument.

Bowl barrow 85m north of Bishopstrow House

- 3.21 The monument includes a bowl barrow is located immediately to the north of Bishopstrow House Hotel and c. 230m to the east of the study site. The mound of the barrow is 1.5m high, and 18m across from north to south and 17m from east to west. The profile of the barrow is irregular due to disturbance and the banking up of earth around the mound. The mound is surrounded by a ditch from which material was quarried during its construction. This has become infilled over the years but will survive as a buried feature 3m wide. The barrow is shown on a map of the archaeological sites around Warminster produced by the

antiquarian Sir Richard Colt-Hoare in 1812.. It is located within a clump of trees and is not visible from outside of the trees. There is no intervisibility between the study site and the monument.

Bowl barrow immediately east of Bishopstrow House

- 3.22 The bowl barrow situated is located immediately to the east of the hotel and c. 290m to the east of the study site. The barrow is situated on a slight south facing slope running down to the river. The mound is flat-topped and 2.2m high from the north but 4m high from the south. From east to west it is 52m in diameter and from north to south 50m, the lower edge of the mound to the north having been truncated by the building of a tennis court. The flat top is circular with a diameter of 10m. Surrounding the mound is a ditch from which material was quarried during its construction. This has been infilled over the years but survives as a buried feature 3m wide except on the north west side of the mound where it has been destroyed by a modern building. The barrow is depicted by the 18th century antiquarian Sir Richard Colt-Hoare on his map of sites around Warminster. There is no record that the barrow has been excavated. Its significance resides in its archaeological evidential interest. There is no intervisibility between the study site and the monument.

A pair of bowl barrows 225m south east of Boreham Mill

- 3.23 The monument includes a pair of bowl barrows c. 225m south east of Boreham Mill at the northern end of Bishopstrow and are c. 220m to the south west of the study site. The barrows are on river gravels on the edge of the flood plain of the river. The western barrow is situated on the first terrace of the river, sloping to the east. The mound measures 17m from east to west and 13m from north to south and may have been truncated by a previous episode of cultivation. To the south east it has also been truncated slightly by a drainage ditch. From the east the mound is up to 1.5m high. Some 25m to the east, the second barrow is on the flat flood plain of the river. The mound is up to 1m high and measures 15m from east to west and 10m from north to south; it is also truncated slightly. Both mounds are surrounded by ditches from which material was quarried during their construction. These have become infilled but will survive as buried features about 3m wide. Its significance resides in its archaeological evidential interest. There is no intervisibility between the study site and the monument.

Battlesbury Camp

- 3.24 The Battlesbury Camp scheduled monument comprises an Iron Age hillfort, an unenclosed Iron Age settlement, a cemetery, three bowl barrows, a field system and enclosure within the hillfort, and two strip lynchet systems outside the hill fort. Its interest resides primarily in its archaeological evidential value and to a lesser degree, its historic interest. Due to the height of the monument, there are extensive views of the surrounding areas. In the direction of the Study site, the built area of Warminster is a very prominent feature. The proposed development will result in a change within a small portion of the extensive setting. The additional houses will appear to be part of the existing built area of Warminster and the loss of the fields will be a slight change in the setting. This will not adversely affect the significance of the scheduled monument.

4.0 Proposed Development and Predicted Impact on Heritage Assets

Site Conditions

- 4.1 The site comprises two arable fields and two grassfields.

The Proposed Development

- 4.2 The proposed development comprises the construction of a residential development comprising of 135 dwellings, playing field, LEAP, allotments, community orchard and green infrastructure (Fig. 2).

Potential Archaeological Impacts

- 4.3 The proposed development will impact upon the possible Bronze Age ring ditch and the Post-Medieval field boundaries recorded in the 2014 geophysical survey. Should any archaeological remains survive within the development area in the northern part of the site, the proposed development will impact upon them. These remains are considered to be of no more than local significance.
- 4.4 There is no intervisibility between the study site and the Neolithic and Bronze Age scheduled monuments that are in the vicinity of the study site. As a consequence, the proposed development will have no effect on the setting or significance of these monuments.

Proposed Archaeological Mitigation Measures

- 4.5 A programme of archaeological evaluation trenching will be undertaken within the site to supplement the results of the fieldwalking, partial trenching and geophysical survey that has already been undertaken within the site. Should these works have a positive result (i.e. establish the presence of archaeological remains), a programme of archaeological excavation and recording and/or watching brief will be undertaken. The mitigation works can be secured by an appropriately worded condition attached to the granting of outline planning permission. The detailed scope of works will be agreed with Wiltshire Council following the granting of outline planning permission.

5.0 Summary and Conclusions

- 5.1 This heritage desk-based assessment considers land at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire. In accordance with government policy (National Planning Policy Framework), this assessment draws together the available archaeological, historic, topographic and land-use information in order to clarify the archaeological potential and significance of the site.
- 5.2 This assessment has established that based on the results of fieldwalking, two geophysical surveys and a partial archaeological evaluation, the site has the potential to contain limited Bronze Age remains and the remains of Post-Medieval field boundaries. The remains identified and suspected are considered to be of local significance.
- 5.3 The proposed development will impact upon any remains that are located within the proposed development area. Consequently, a programme of archaeological evaluation trenching will be undertaken which may be followed by mitigation excavation and recording should the evaluation have positive results.



Legend

Site Boundary

1:10,000 at A4

0 325m

Title:

Fig.1: Site Location

Address:

Land at Home Farm, Warminster



orion.

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	Site Boundary	11.08Ha
	Residential Area Up to 135 dwellings @ 33dph	4.11Ha
	Green Infrastructure (Existing trees and hedgerows, recreational greenspace, new planting and habitat creation, detention basin (SUDS), orchard, sports pitches and allotments)	6.77Ha
	Existing Trees and Hedgerows	
	Proposed Trees and Hedgerows	
	Equipped Children's Play Area (LEAP)	
	Community Orchard	
	Detention Basin (SUDS)	
	Proposed Access	
	Proposed Allotments	
	Indicative Recreational Routes	
	Existing Public Footpaths	
	Proposed Sports Pitch	
	Parking Provision for Allotments & Sports Pitch	



Legend:

Not to scale

Title:
Fig. 2: Proposed Development
Address:
Land at Home Farm, Warminster



orion.



Land at Home Farm Warminster Wiltshire Archaeological Evaluation

Date: March 2017

By: Colm Moloney

Project Officer: Sam Pamment

Client: Orion Heritage Ltd

Project Code: HFWW17

**Land at Home Farm
Warminster
Wiltshire**

Archaeological Evaluation

Client	Orion Heritage Ltd
Project Code	HFWW 17
Prepared By	Colm Moloney
Illustrated By	Jonathan Millar

Rev Number	Description	Undertaken	Approved	Date
1.0	Final	CM	MC	22 March 2017

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1. SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Project Name:	Home Farm
Location:	Warminster, Wiltshire
NGR:	ST 89467 44431
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	February 2017
Location of Archive:	Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd, Cardiff
Site Code:	HFWW17

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire between 14 and 23 February 2017. The works were carried out by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd., on behalf of Orion Heritage Ltd. The evaluation consisted of the excavation of 21 trenches, each measuring 40m x 2m. Four areas of possible earlier prehistoric activity were identified represented by postholes, pits and ditches, dated by pottery and worked flint. A limited amount of medieval and post-medieval activity was recorded.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project background

- 2.1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological evaluation, conducted between 14 and 23 February 2017, at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire (centred at c. NGR ST 89467 44431; Figure 1). The work was undertaken by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd for Orion Heritage Ltd.
- 2.1.2 The proposed development comprises a 135 dwelling residential scheme, playing field, LEAP, allotments, community orchard and green infrastructure.
- 2.1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) for archaeological evaluation (Rubicon Heritage 2017), approved in advance of the works by Wiltshire County Council Archaeology Service who also visited the site to monitor the works in progress.
- 2.1.4 The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014), the *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (Historic England 2015).

2.2 Site Location & Description

- 2.2.1 The proposed development comprises three fields located on the eastern edge of Warminster (Figure 1). To the west the site is bordered by residential housing, to the east by the grounds of the Bishopstrow House hotel, while the B3414 Boreham Road forms the southern boundary and to the north are more fields and playing fields associated with Battlesbury Barracks. The site falls away slightly to the south from 110m AOD.
- 2.2.2 The underlying geology for the southern part of site comprises Boyne Hollow Chert Member (sandstone) while the middle of the site is Melbury Sandstone Member, and the northern portion of the site is West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation (BGS 2017). Previous archaeological investigations conducted within the south-eastern corner of the study site identified an underlying greensand natural at a depth of 0.70m to 1m below topsoil and subsoil overburden.

2.3 Archaeological Background

- 2.3.1 An *Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* has been prepared by Orion Heritage in connection with the application for planning consent, and reference should be made to that report for the full archaeological background (Orion Heritage 2016). See below for a summary of the findings.
- 2.3.2 On the site, itself the HER records a scatter of late Mesolithic/early Neolithic worked flint (HER ST84SE051) in the south-east corner, while the geophysical survey of the southern part of the site detected a weak magnetic response C-shaped feature which has been interpreted as being part of a possible Bronze Age barrow ditch, although there is little supporting evidence for this interpretation other than presence of similar monuments nearby. These monuments comprise

Bowl Barrows of early Neolithic to late Bronze Age date located 200m – 230m to the north east and 220m to the south of the site, while a Neolithic long barrow, known as King Barrow is recorded c.250m to the east of the site. Evidence of a possible settlement site of Bronze Age/early Iron Age date, indicated by pottery recovered from a ring gully and pit features, is recorded c.700m to the northeast of the site. Further evidence of Iron Age occupation activity is also recorded at Bishopstrow Farm c.500m to the south-east of the site, where a complex of pits enclosed by a ditch, containing a burial and pottery has been recovered, with cropmarks located adjacent to it are thought to be contemporary with it. Major settlements nearby include the hillfort of Battlesbury Camp c. 1.1km to the north of the site (the scheduled area of which includes an unenclosed settlement, a cemetery, three bowl barrows of Bronze Age date, a field system and a further enclosure within the hillfort), and a second Iron Age hillfort at Scratchbury Hill, known as Scratchbury Camp c.1.3km to the east of the site.

- 2.3.3 There is little evidence of Roman activity, a single residual sherd of Romano-British dated pottery has been recorded from the centre of the site and a single coin immediately beyond the south-west boundary. The Bury earthwork is situated c.250m to the south west of the site and excavation here recovered a large assemblage of Romano-British pottery, coins and other artefacts. Two Roman villas have been recorded at Pit Mead c.1.2km to the south-east.
- 2.3.4 Fieldwalking of the site identified a number of unspecified pottery fragments of possible Saxon date, and evidence of occupation activity is recorded adjacent to the study site where excavations within Kings Barrow revealed the remains of three intrusive Saxon burials, one of which contained the remains of an iron sword. The site lies c.250m to the north of Bishopstrow, the settlement of which is thought likely to have had its origins in this period, and the earliest evidence for settlement at Warminster itself comes from a reference to a settlement in the early 10th century. The site therefore would appear to lie within an area that has been a focus of Saxon occupation activity and settlement from an early period.
- 2.3.5 The HER records the presence of a number of earthworks with associated pottery finds within the southern area of the site to the south of Home Farm and the Grange, that are thought to represent part of the former Medieval settlement of Boreham. A limited geophysical survey identified a number of pit-like anomalies with subsequent evaluation confirming the presence of a number of marl pits of post-medieval date and a series of parallel linear ditched features identified as being Medieval or more likely Post-Medieval former field boundaries. The later 2014 geophysical survey recorded further former field boundaries within the site. A map regression carried out by CgMs (CGMS) demonstrated that the site has been agricultural fields throughout the Post-Medieval period.

3. AIMS & METHODOLOGY

3.1 The Aims and objectives of the evaluation

3.1.1 In accordance with *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014), the evaluation has been designed to be minimally intrusive and minimally destructive to archaeological remains. The information gathered will enable the local planning authority to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset, consider the impact of the proposed development upon it, and to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department of Communities and Local Government 2012). The aims of the evaluation were to:

- Establish the archaeological significance or otherwise of anomalies highlighted on the geophysical survey.
- Determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered.
- Establish the nature of the activity on the site.
- Identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site.
- Provide further information on the archaeology of the site from any archaeological remains encountered.
- These results will be used to inform any potential need for further archaeological evaluation or mitigation works.

3.1.2 These aims were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:

1. To define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;
2. To attempt to characterise the nature and preservation of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning and extent of features present on the site;
3. To recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence which will attempt to determine the complexity of the horizontal and vertical stratigraphy present, and to recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples;
4. To determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present;
5. To define any research priorities that may be relevant should further field investigation be required; and

6. To establish the significance of the archaeology encountered on site. The objectives of the evaluation are to provide information about the archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality.

3.2 Methodology

- 3.2.1 The archaeological fieldwork was undertaken by Rubicon Heritage Ltd between 14 and 23 February 2017. A total of 21 by 40 m long trenches were excavated at the locations shown on the attached plan (Figure 2).
- 3.2.2 The trenches were set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using a Trimble R6 dGPS unit and scanned for live services by trained staff using CAT and Genny equipment. All information identified in the course of the site works was recorded stratigraphically, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. It should be noted that, where possible, data was collected and stored digitally and in a format suitable for long term storage by the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).
- 3.2.3 All trenches were excavated by a 13 tonne excavator equipped with a flat-bladed grading bucket. All trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision. Non-significant overburden was removed in shallow spits until the first archaeological horizon or undisturbed geological substrate were exposed. Thereafter any identified deposits were cleaned and investigated by hand to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date.
- 3.2.4 All archaeological deposits and features were subjected to appropriate levels of investigation. The investigative work was carried out in such a way as to not comprise the integrity of the feature with regards to future study.
- 3.2.5 All spoil heaps were examined for finds both visually and through use of a metal detector.
- 3.2.6 All identified deposits were assessed for their palaeo-environmental potential in accordance with: *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recording to post-excavation*. 2nd Edition (English Heritage 2011).
- 3.2.7 The finds and artefact collection policy was concerned with the provision of adequate samples for meeting the objectives of the work. As dating of the contexts was a high priority all finds and artefacts were retained. Rubicon Heritage treats all retained finds in accordance with the English Heritage guidance document: *A Strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds* (English Heritage, 1995) and the UKIC's document *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC, 1990).

- 3.2.8 The archive from the evaluation is currently held by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd at their offices in Cardiff. A summary of information from this project will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain (Appendix 3).

4. THE EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 Geology and general stratigraphy

4.1.1 The underlying geology for the southern part of site comprises Boyne Hollow Chert Member (sandstone) while the middle of the site is Melbury Sandstone Member, and the northern portion of the site is West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation (BGS 2017). Previous archaeological investigations conducted within the south-eastern corner of the study site identified an underlying greensand natural at a depth of 0.70m to 1m below topsoil and subsoil overburden. On the ground the upper levels of the substratum presented as orange brown clay containing occasional chert nodules.

4.1.2 The topsoil consisted of a dark brown sandy clay loam and generally measured between 0.25 m and 0.6 m in depth.

4.2 Trench Records

4.2.1 A total of 21 by 40 m long trenches were excavated. (Figures 2, 3 and 4). Only trenches where archaeology was identified are described in this section. No archaeological features were noted in Trenches 4, 9, 12, 18, 20 and 21. For further details on each feature and trench see Appendix 1. The topsoil (001) was between 0.20 m and 0.56 m deep and sealed an orange brown clay subsoil (002) which was 0.6m in maximum depth. The natural comprised orange brown clay (003) which contained chalk and chert nodules.

4.2.2 Trench 1, aligned E-W. Figures 3 and 5 : Plates 1 to 3

A single cut feature (105) was identified cut into the chalk substrate (104). This comprised an oval shaped cut (105) in plan with a sharp break of slope from surface. The sides were concave and met an irregular base with gradual break of slope. The feature had a maximum depth of 0.14 m and was 0.35 m wide (E-W) and 0.58 m long (N-S). The single fill (106) comprised firm to hard orange brown clay which contained occasional charcoal flecks and flint nodules. The excavator believed this to be a rodent burrow and therefore non-archaeological.

4.2.3 Trench 2, aligned NW-SE. Figures 3 and 5

A single linear feature (201) was identified roughly centrally in the trench. The cut (201) was linear and aligned E-W with a sharp break of slope from surface, straight sides and V shaped base with measurements of 2.2 m long, 0.3 m wide and 0.34 m deep. The single fill (202) consisted of loose mid-brown sandy silt with no inclusions. This feature most likely represents a drainage ditch or other modern agricultural feature.

4.2.4 Trench 3, aligned NE-SW. Figures 3 and 5; Plate 12

A linear feature was identified at the centre of the trench. This consisted of a linear cut (301) with a N-S orientation and dimensions of 1.6 m wide and 0.49 m deep. It had a gentle break of

slope from surface, straight sides and a rounded base. The single fill (302) consisted of mid / dark brown silty clay with occasional small stones, charcoal flecks and two sherds of Middle-Late Bronze Age/Early to Middle Iron Age pottery and appeared to correspond to a geophysical anomaly.

4.2.5 Trench 5, aligned N-S. Figures 3 and 5; Plate 4

A series of linear features were identified cross the trench from E to W. Ditch (505) was linear in plan and aligned NW to SE. The cut broke sharply from surface, had smooth, concave sides and a flat base. It was 0.43 m wide and 0.2 m deep and crossed the entire width of the trench. The single fill consisted of soft dark brown sandy silt (506) with occasional charcoal and bone fragments throughout. Finds included a probable iron knife blade and animal bone. Ditch (509) was not excavated. It was linear in plan with a width of 0.46 m and crossed the entire width of the trench from E to W. The fill (510) consisted of dark brown sandy silt from which occasional stone fragments, animal bone and three pieces of earlier prehistoric worked flint. Ditch (507) was also unexcavated. This was linear in plan with a NW to SE alignment. It was parallel and adjacent to ditch (505) to which it may have been associated. The cut extended into the trench from the east section for 0.3 m and was 0.4 m wide. The fill (508) consisted of dark brown sandy silt. Ditch (511) was linear in plan and aligned E-W. It was 0.97 m wide and 0.15 m deep and traversed the entire width of the trench. The cut had a gradual break of slope from surface, near vertical sides and an irregular base. The fill (512) consisted of dark brown sandy silt which contained occasional chalk and charcoal flecks. Finds included later medieval pottery and brick/tile, with some residual prehistoric struck flint, animal bone and oyster shell.

4.2.6 Trench 6, aligned E-W. Figures 3 and 5

Two features were identified in trench 6, a shallow pit and a linear feature. Pit (601) comprised a sub-circular cut in plan with a sharp break of slope from surface and a flat base. It had a diameter of 0.4 m and a depth of 0.11 m. The single fill (602) comprised loose mid brown sandy silt. Ditch (603) consisted of a linear feature aligned NW to SE which was 0.4 m wide and 0.1 m deep and crossed the trench obliquely from NNW to SSE. The cut had a gentle break of slope from surface, regular sides and a concave base. The single fill (604) consisted of dark brown silty sand with no inclusions.

4.2.7 Trench 7, aligned NW-SE. Figures 3 and 5; Plate 13

Two features were identified in trench 7, a ditch and a pit both containing pottery. The ditch (703) was aligned NE-SW, was 0.39 m wide and 0.13 m deep and had a sharp break of slope from surface, gradually sloping sides and a flat base. The fill (704) comprised dark greyish brown sandy clay which contained animal bone, three sherds of Early Bronze Age pottery and one small piece of struck flint. The pit comprised a sub-circular cut (705) with a gradual break of slope from surface, concave sides and a concave base. It had a diameter of 0.3 m and a depth

of 0.14 m. The single fill (706) comprised loose dark brown sandy silt with sherds of Middle-Late Bronze Age/Early-Middle Iron Age pottery.

4.2.8 Trench 8, aligned W-E. Figures 3 and 6; Plates 5, 8 and 9

The east end of the trench was the focus of a cluster of pits or post-holes with a single linear feature also identified in the same area. The linear feature comprised a cut (804) which was aligned NE-SW and measured 0.38 m deep and 0.24 m wide and crossed the width of the trench. The cut had a sharp break of slope from surface and vertical sides which met a flat base with a sharp break of slope. The fill (805) consisted of firm dark brown sandy silt which contained occasional charcoal flecks and chert gravel. One sherd of 12th-14th century pottery, an iron nail and a residual struck flint flake were recovered from the fill. It corresponded to a linear anomaly on the geophysical survey identified as a former field boundary. Pit (806) comprised a circular cut with a sharp break of slope from surface, concave sides and concave base. It had a diameter of 0.9 m and was 0.11 m deep. The single fill (807) consisted of compact mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. Pit / Posthole (808) consisted of an oval shaped cut in plan which measured 0.61 m long by 0.45 m wide and was 0.38 m deep. It had a sharp break of slope from surface, near vertical sides and an irregular base. The fill (809) consisted of firm light mid greyish brown sandy silt with orange mottles and occasional charcoal flecks. Post-hole (810) consisted of a circular cut with a diameter of 0.5 m and a depth of 0.34 m. It had a sharp break of slope from surface, concave sides and a convex base (raised in the centre). The fill (811) consisted of compact mid-greyish sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecks. One piece of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flintwork and one prehistoric struck flint were found in the fill, as well as a single sherd of Early Bronze Age pottery. Pit (812) comprised an oval shaped cut in plan which measured 0.53 m by 0.65 m and was 0.26 m deep. It had a gradual break of slope from surface, gently sloping sides and a base which tapered to a flattened point. The fill consisted of compact greyish brown sandy clay (813) which contained charcoal flecks and two pieces of worked flint, one Mesolithic and one generally prehistoric in date. Pit (814) comprised an oval shaped cut measuring 0.43 m by 0.5 m and 0.13 deep. It had a sharp break of slope from surface, concave sides and a concave base. The fill consisted of compact dark greyish brown sandy silty clay (815) with occasional charcoal flecking. Pit (816) comprised a circular cut which measured 0.6 m in diameter and 0.19 m deep. The fill (817) consisted of compact mid-greyish brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecking.

4.2.9 Trench 10, aligned NE-SW. Figures 4 and 7

A single pit was identified in Trench 10. This consisted of an oval cut (1003) which measured 0.9 m by 0.78 m and was 0.12 m deep. It had a sharp break of slope from surface, gently sloping sides and concave base. The fill (1004) consisted of friable, dark grey sandy silt with occasional

small stones and contained four sherds of early Bronze Age pottery, a late Neolithic/Bronze Age struck flint and a small amount of fired clay.

4.2.10 Trench 11, aligned E-W. Figures 4 and 7; Plate 6

Three pits were identified in trench 11. Pit (1103) comprised an oval shaped cut measuring 0.8 m by 0.9 m and 0.28 m deep. It had a sharp break of slope from surface, gently sloping sides and a concave base. The primary fill (1106) consisted of friable, dark grey brown silty sand with occasional stone inclusions. The secondary fill (1105) comprised compact dark grey sandy clay with occasional stone and moderate charcoal inclusions. The upper fill (1104) comprised friable dark greenish grey silty sand. Pit (1107) comprised an oval shaped cut with a sharp break of slope from surface, moderately sloping sides and a flat base. The cut had dimensions of 1.3 m long by 1 m wide and 0.12 m deep. The single fill (1108) consisted of dark grey soft sandy clay containing frequent charcoal and burnt clay indicating the feature may be the remains of a hearth. Middle-Late Bronze/Early-Middle Iron Age pottery was also recovered from this deposit. The final pit (1109) in the group had an oval cut in plan with a sharp break of slope from surface gently sloping sides and a concave base. The primary fill (1110) contained friable light grey silty sand which contained a lens of charcoal and burnt clay fragments possible indicating that it was the remains of a hearth. The secondary fill (1111) consisted of friable light grey with orange mottling (localised heat affected) sand with occasional stone fragments. The upper fill (1112) consisted of firm dark grey sandy clay with occasional large stones and frequent charcoal flecks and burnt clay. Middle-Late Bronze/Early-Middle Iron Age was also retrieved from the fill.

4.2.11 Trench 13, aligned NW-SE. Figures 4 and 7; Plates 14, 16-17

Three features were identified in trench 13, two ditches and a pit. Ditch (1303) consisted of a linear cut aligned NE – SW with a sharp break of slope from surface, vertical sides and concave base. It was 0.27 m wide and 0.5 m deep and traversed the width of the trench. The fill consisted of compact mid-brown grey clay (1304). Pit (1305) comprised an oval shaped cut measuring 1.08m by 1.34 m and 0.35 m deep. It had a sharp break of slope from surface, vertical sides and a concave base. The fill consisted of compact dark brown clay (1306). Ditch (1307) was linear in plan and aligned NE-SW. It measured 0.48 m wide and was 0.21 m deep and traversed the width of the trench. It had a sharp break of slope from surface, vertical sides and a flat base. The fill (1308) consisted of compact dark grey brown silty clay which contained post-medieval ceramics.

4.2.12 Trench 14, aligned NW-SE. Figures 4 and 7

A shallow pit was the only feature identified in trench 14. This comprised an oval cut (1403) which measured 0.75m by 0.4 m and was 0.2 m deep. The cut had a sharp break of slope from

surface, gently sloping sides and a concave base. The fill comprised compact dark grey silty clay (1404).

4.2.13 Trench 16, aligned WNW-ESE. Figures 4 and 7

A single pit like feature was identified in trench 16 which was interpreted as a tree bowl.

4.2.14 Trench 17, aligned NE-SW. Figures 4 and 8; Plates 10-11, 15

A small oval pit or post-hole (1703) was identified at the north end of the trench. This comprised an oval cut (1703) in plan with a sharp break of slope from surface, moderately sloping sides and a flat base. The cut was 0.5 m wide by 0.6 m long and was 0.08 m deep. The single fill (1704) consisted of firm mid brown clay which contained no artefacts. A second, larger pit (1705) was identified immediately south of feature (1703). The cut (1705) was oval in plan with a sharp break of slope from surface, steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It had dimensions of 1.9 m long by 0.895 m wide and it was 0.35 m deep. The single fill (1706) consisted of compact, mid-grey clay which contained a sherd of residual prehistoric pottery alongside a piece of late medieval tile. Pit (1705) truncated curvilinear feature (1707). The cut (1707) was aligned roughly E-W and had a sharp break of slope from surface with a gently sloping NW side and a steeply sloping SE side. The base was concave. The feature measured 1.3 m long by 1.19 m wide and was 0.33 m deep. The fill (1708) consisted of compact mid grey clay which contained occasional flint fragments and charcoal flecks and sherds of medieval pottery and a single residual sherd of prehistoric pottery. A second pit (1709) also cut linear feature (1707). The cut (1709) of the pit was oval in plan with a sharp break of slope from surface, moderate to steep sloping sides and a concave base with dimensions of 0.91 m long by 0.23 m wide and 0.43 m deep. The single fill (1710) consisted of compact mid grey clay which contained occasional flint fragments. A further small linear feature (1711) was identified crossing the southern end of the trench from NE to SW. The cut (1711) was linear in plan with a sharp break of slope from surface, steep sides and flat base. The single fill (1712) consisted of compact greyish brown clay with occasional stone inclusions and no finds. A pair of linear and parallel features were identified between features (1707) and (1711). The first consisted of a linear cut (1713) aligned NE to SW with a gradual break of slope from surface, shallow sloping sides and a concave base. It was 0.12 m deep, 0.77 m wide and contained a single fill (1714) consisting of firm mid grey brown clay with occasional flint fragments included. A second linear feature (1715) was immediately south of, and parallel to feature (1713). The cut for (1715) was linear in plan and aligned NE to SW with a sharp break of slope from surface, steep sides and concave base with dimensions of 0.28 m deep and 0.99 m wide. The single fill (1716) consisted of firm mid-grey brown clay.

4.2.15 Trench 19 aligned NE-SW. Figure 4

A single feature was identified in Trench 19. This consisted of a ditch aligned approximated E-W with a sharp break of slope from surface, moderately steep sides and a rounded base. The

cut had dimensions of 1.2 m wide and 0.5 m deep. The primary fill (1904) consisted of compact dark grey silty clay which was 0.17 m deep. The secondary fill consisted of compact light brownish grey silty clay which was 0.33 m deep. The tertiary and final fill (1906) consisted of compact mid grey clay which was 0.33 m deep at maximum.

4.3 The Finds Evidence

- 4.3.1 A full finds report is included as Appendix 2. The majority of finds recovered during the investigation consisted of prehistoric pottery and possible worked flint. Prehistoric pottery was recovered from six trenches including 3, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 17. Worked flint was recovered from five trenches namely 1, 5, 7, 8 and 10. An iron knife blade was recovered from trench 5. Very low levels of animal bone, mostly surviving only as teeth and small jaw fragments were recovered during the investigation.

5. DISCUSSION

- 5.1.1 The investigation confirmed the presence of prehistoric archaeological features in the form of ditches, pits or post-holes and potential hearths containing ceramics and lithics of earlier prehistoric date. The activity appears to be present in at least four locations. A ditch containing Middle-Late Bronze Age/Early-Middle Iron Age pottery was identified in Trench 3 near to the location of a geophysical anomaly which was thought to represent a ring-ditch but which was not found in the evaluation. A cluster of pits/post-holes of likely earlier prehistoric date were identified in the east end of Trench 8. The small amount of Early Bronze Age pottery provides a *terminus post quem* for the activity, although it would appear to be an area with activity over a longer period, as residual Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flint was found with the pottery and this trench lay in the area where Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flint artefacts were found during previous works. A cluster of pits containing charcoal rich soils and heat affected clay indicate a focus of Late Bronze Age/Early-Middle Iron Age activity in the environs of Trench 11, which may continue into the north end of Trench 10 where pottery of similar date was found. The final area of focused activity is located in the north of the proposed development area at Trench 17, which contained a number of potential gullies and pits/post-holes. The only dated features were of medieval date, but residual earlier prehistoric pottery was found in one and it may be that other undated features are of earlier date. It is notable that there was no evidence for later prehistoric or Roman activity on the site.
- 5.1.2 Apparently medieval and post-medieval features were identified in two locations. In the south west quadrant of the site a number of parallel linear features were identified at the north end of Trench 5 which contained artefactual material consistent with a medieval date and which correspond to the area of a former field boundary identified by the geophysical survey. A

second area was identified further north at Trench 13 consisting of a pit and two ditches. This again is likely to represent post-medieval agricultural activity.

- 5.1.3 Correlation between the results of the evaluation and the geophysical survey carried out in the southern part of the site was not consistent. Many of the features found in the evaluation (small pits and postholes) are unlikely to have been detectable as anomalies in any case. While some linear features identified by the geophysical survey were identified by the geophysical survey (eg former field boundaries in Trenches 5 and 8, the majority of anomalies were not a result of corresponding archaeological features eg the possible ring ditch was not located within Trench 3, although an early prehistoric ditch was identified on the line of another anomaly, and in Trench 6 the anomalies identified as possible former field boundaries were not identified, but another linear feature was present, perhaps corresponding to a very weak linear trend in the geophysical data.

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ARCHIVE STATEMENT

The site archive is comprised of the following materials:

Item	Quantity
Trenching and context recording sheets	95
GPS Plans	1 Digital
Field Drawings	41 on 10 sheets
Digital Photographs	97
Registers (Context, finds, drawing, photo)	3
Samples	1

The archive material is contained within one box.

Until the archive can be deposited with the relevant curatorial facility it (the archive) is currently stored in the offices of Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd.

APPENDIX 1 CONTEXT REGISTER

Context no.	Trench No.	Type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
001	all	Deposit	-	-	0.5	Topsoil.
002	all	Deposit	-	-	0.3	Subsoil.
003	all	Deposit	-	-	-	Natural.
101	1	Deposit	40	1.84	0.53	Topsoil.
102	1	Deposit	20	1.84	0.60	Subsoil.
103	1	Deposit	20	1.84	0.70	Greenish sandy clay.
104	1	Deposit	20	1.84	0.63	Chalky substrate.
105	1	Cut	0.60	0.45	0.13	Cut feature.
106	1	Fill	-	-	0.31	As c102, w. lots of flints.
201	2	Cut	2.1	0.3	0.34	Cut of v-shaped linear.
202	2	Fill	-	-	-	Fill of 201. Mid-brn sand.
301	3	Cut	1.8	1.6	0.49	Cut of ditch.
302	3	Deposit	1.8	1.6	0.49	Fill o 301. Mid brn silt clay.
501	5	Deposit	41	1.89	0.34	Loose, dark brown topsoil.
502	5	Deposit	41	1.89	0.57	Firm, sandy clay loam.
503	5	Deposit	41	1.89	0.80	V. dark brn sandy clay loam.
504	5	Deposit	41	1.89	1.1	Green. Yel. Grey clay sand.
505	5	Cut	1.86	0.43	0.20	Cut of ditch.
506	5	Deposit	1.86	0.43	0.20	Fill of 505, dark brn sandy silt.

507	5	Cut	0.28	0.26	>0.1	Cut of pit.
508	5	Fill	0.28	0.26	>0.1	Fill of 507, with brick and charcoal.
509	5	Cut	1.83	0.46	>0.11	Cut of ditch.
510	5	Fill	1.83	0.46	>0.11	Fill of 509, rock, bone and lithics.
511	5	Cut	1.84	0.97	0.15	Cut of poss. field boundary ditch.
512	5	Fill	1.84	0.97	0.15	Fill of 511.
513	5	Deposit	1.00	0.14	0.3	Chalky lens in ditch 511.
514	5	Deposit	0.95	0.2	0.65	Dark Brn sandy clay with chalk.
515	5	Deposit	0.6	0.1	0.70	Thin lens, same as 513.
601	6	Cut	0.5	0.5	0.1	Cut of sub-circ pit.
602	6	Fill	0.5	0.5	0.1	Fill of 601.
603	6	Cut	1.9	0.3	0.05	Cut of shallow linear.
604	6	Fill	1.9	0.3	0.05	Fill of 603.
700	7	Deposit	30	1.9	0.39	Firm dark brn sandy loam.
701	7	Deposit	30	1.9	0.58	Mid-brown sandy silt.
702	7	Deposit	30dark	1.9	0.70	Greenish yellow sandy clay.
703	7	Cut	2.0	0.29	0.08	Linear ditch cut.
704	7	Fill	2.0	0.29	0.08	Fill of 703.
705	7	Cut	0.3	>0.15	0.14	Cut of pit.
706	7	Deposit	0.3	>0.15	0.14	Fill of 705.

707	7	Deposit	1.5	0.5	0.08	Gravelly cobble deposit seen in trench base.
708	7	Deposit	1	0.4	0.12	Orangey compact clay deposits.
801	8	Deposit	40	1.93	0.36	Dark brown sandy clay.
802	8	Deposit	40	1.93	0.79	Mid brown sandy clay.
803	8	Deposit	40	1.93	0.85	Mid green yell. clay sand.
804	8	Cut	1.87	0.24	0.30	Linear cut of ditch.
805	8	Fill	1.87	0.24	0.08	Fill of 804.
806	8	Cut	0.9	0.9	0.11	Large round pit cut.
807	8	Fill	0.9	0.9	0.11	Fill of 806.
808	8	Cut	0.63	0.6	0.39	Round pit cut.
809	8	Fill	0.63	0.6	0.39	Fill of 808.
810	8	Cut	0.5	0.5	0.34	Round post-hole cut.
811	8	Fill	0.5	0.5	0.34	Fill of 810.
812	8	Cut	0.65	0.53	0.26	Round pit cut.
813	8	Fill	0.65	0.53	0.26	Fill of 812.
814	8	Cut	0.5	0.43	0.12	Oval pit cut.
815	8	Fill	0.5	0.43	0.12	Fill of 814.
816	8	Cut	0.6	0.6	0.19	Round pit cut.
817	8	Fill	0.6	0.6	0.19	Fill of 816.
900	9	Deposit	-	-	0.3	Dark brown sandy clay.

901	9	Deposit	-	-	0.15	Mid brown sandy clay.
902	9	Deposit	27	1.9	0.1	Mid green yell. clay sand.
903	9	Deposit	13	1.9	0.05	Chalky clay.
1000	10	Deposit	-	-	0.2	Dark brown sandy clay.
1001	10	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Mid brown sandy clay.
1002	10	Deposit	-	-	0.05	Mid green yell. clay sand.
1003	10	Cut	0.9	0.75	0.12	Cut of oval pit.
1004	10	Fill	0.9	0.75	0.12	Fill of 1003.
1100	11	Deposit	-	-	0.3	Dark brown sandy clay.
1101	11	Deposit	-	-	0.2	Mid brown sandy clay.
1102	11	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Mid green yell. clay sand.
1103	11	Cut	0.8	0.9	0.28	Cut of oval pit.
1104	11	Fill	0.8	0.75	0.17	Final fill of 1103.
1105	11	Fill	0.8	0.56	0.06	Secondary fill of 1103.
1106	11	Fill	0.8	0.56	0.07	Primary fill of 1103.
1107	11	Cut	1.3	1	0.12	Cut of pit.
1108	11	Fill	1.3	1	0.12	Fill of pit 1107.
1109	11	Cut	1.5	1.1	0.3	Cut of pit.
1110	11	Fill	0.6	0.4	0.13	Primary fill of 1109.
1111	11	Fill	0.85	1.1	0.8	Secondary fill of 1109.
1112	11	Fill	1.5	1.1	0.1	Final fill of 1109.

1200	12	Deposit	-	-	0.28	Dark brown sandy clay.
1201	12	Deposit	-	-	0.04	Mid brown sandy clay.
1202	12	Deposit	-	-	0.12	Mid green yell. clay sand.
1203	12	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Mid green yell. clay sand with reddish brown mottling and chalk.
1303	13	Cut	1.82	0.6	0.35	Cut of ditch.
1304	13	Fill	1.82	0.6	0.35	Fill of 1303, mid brn grey clay.
1305	13	Cut	1.34	1.18	0.22	Cut of pit.
1306	13	Fill	1.34	1.18	0.22	Fill of 1305, v compact dark brn clay.
1307	13	Cut	2.2	0.48	0.21	Cut of small ditch.
1308	13	Fill	2.2	0.48	0.21	Fill of 1307, dark grey brn sandy silt
1400	14	Deposit	-	-	0.3	Dark brown sandy clay.
1401	14	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Mid brown sandy clay.
1402	14	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Mid green yell. clay sand.
1403	14	Cut	0.75	0.4	0.2	Cut of pit.
1404	14	Fill	0.75	0.4	0.2	Fill of 1403, dark grey silty clay.
1500	15	Deposit	-	-	0.2	Dark brown sandy clay.
1501	15	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Mid brown sandy clay.
1502	15	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Mid green yell. clay sand.
1503	15	Cut	0.5	0.3	0.01	Oval cut, poss post-hole.

1504	15	Fill	0.5	0.3	0.01	Sterile fill of 1503, dark grey brown clay.
1600	16	Deposit	-	-	0.2	Dark Grey silty clay, w flint.
1601	16	Deposit	-	-	0.05	Med grey chalky clay.
1602	16	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Chalky clay.
1603	16	Cut	1.6	0.9	0.3	Cut of poss pit/tree bowl.
1604	16	Fill	1.6	0.9	0.3	Fill of 1603, mid grey clay.
1700	17	Deposit	-	-	0.35	Dark Grey silty clay, w flint.
1701	17	Deposit	-	-	0.25	Med grey chalky clay.
1702	17	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Chalky clay.
1703	17	Cut	0.6	0.5	0.08	Cut of oval pit.
1704	17	Fill	0.6	0.5	0.08	Fill of 1703, mid brn clay.
1705	17	Cut	1.9	0.85	0.35	Large oval pit.
1706	17	Fill	1.9	0.85	0.35	Fill of 1705, mid grey clay.
1707	17	Cut	1.3	1.19	0.33	Cut of gully/ditch.
1708	17	Fill	1.3	1.19	0.33	Fill of 1707, mid grey clay.
1709	17	Cut	0.91	0.23	0.43	Cut of pit.
1710	17	Fill	0.91	0.23	0.43	Fill of 1709, mid grey clay.
1711	17	Cut	2.10	0.4	0.22	Cut of gully.
1712	17	Fill	2.10	0.4	0.22	Fill of 1711, Grey brn clay.
1800	18	Deposit	-	-	0.3	Dark Grey silty clay, w flint.

1801	18	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Med grey chalky clay.
1802	18	Deposit	-	-	<0.1	White firm chalky clay.
1803	18	Deposit	-	-	<0.1	Green sand.
1804	18	Deposit	-	-	<0.1	Chalk bedrock.
1900	19	Deposit	-	-	0.3	Dark Grey silty clay, w flint.
1901	19	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Med grey chalky clay.
1902	19	Deposit	-	-	<0.1	White firm chalky clay.
1903	19	Cut	1.2	0.2	0.5	Terminal end of linear feature, cut.
2000	20	Deposit	-	-	0.3	Dark Grey silty clay, w flint.
2001	20	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Med grey chalky clay.
2002	20	Deposit	-	-	<0.1	White firm chalky clay.
2100	21	Deposit	-	-	0.3	Dark Grey silty clay, w flint.
2101	21	Deposit	-	-	0.1	Light grey chalky clay.
2102	21	Deposit	-	-	<0.1	Light grey sand, w orange mottling.

APPENDIX 2 THE FINDS

Jane Evans and Rob Hedge, Worcestershire Archaeology

Introduction and archaeological background

An analysis of artefacts from an archaeological evaluation at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire (NGR ST 89467 44431; Project code HFWW17) was undertaken on behalf of Rubicon Heritage Services UK Ltd. Finds, ranging in date from the Mesolithic to the post-medieval period and including flint, pottery, fired clay and ceramic building material (Table 1), were recovered from nine trenches (1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 17).

Aims

The aims of the assessment were:

- To identify, sort, spot date, and quantify all artefacts;
- To describe the range of artefacts present;
- To preliminarily assess the significance of the artefacts.

This report covers all artefacts presented to WA by Rubicon Heritage Services.

Methods

The finds work reported here conforms with the following guidance: for finds work by ClfA (2014), for archive creation by AAF (2011) and for museum deposition by SMA (1993).

All hand-retrieved finds were examined. They were scanned, identified, quantified and dated to period. Detailed analysis by fabric was not undertaken, but broad fabric groups were recorded, based on the Wessex Archaeology fabric groups used to record the prehistoric pottery from nearby Battlesbury Hillfort and associated sites (Every and Mephram 2008, 50-51, 207-10).

All information was recorded on an Access spreadsheet.

No artefacts from environmental samples were examined.

The report was written by Jane Evans (BA, MA, MCIfA), who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2007 and has been practicing archaeology since 1980, and Rob Hedge (MA(Cantab) PCIfA) who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2012 and has been practicing archaeology since 2007. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Derek Hurst (BA (hons.); PG Dip).

Results

The discussion below is a summary of the finds and of their associated location or contexts by period. Where possible, dates have been allocated and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary. The majority of the flint came from trenches 5 and 8 (Table 2), and the prehistoric pottery from trenches 7 and 10.

period	material	material/object type	count	weight(g)
Mesolithic	stone	flint	2	2.8
Mesolithic - early Neolithic	stone	flint	1	1.4
Mesolithic to Bronze Age	stone	flint	1	6.8
Late Neolithic to Bronze Age	stone	flint	1	2.8
Late Neolithic to early Bronze Age	stone	flint	1	41

later prehistoric	stone	flint	3	82
prehistoric	stone	flint	16	43
early Bronze Age	ceramic	pot	9	34
Mid-late Bronze Age to early-mid Iron Age	ceramic	pot	81	524
medieval	ceramic	pot	13	115
	ceramic	brick/tile	7	66
	ceramic	tile	1	42
post-medieval	ceramic	tile	1	24
undated	ceramic	fragment	6	20
	stone	flint	5	29.4

Table 1 Quantification of site assemblage by period

trench	period	material	Material/object type	count	weight(g)
1	Late Neolithic/EBA	stone	flint	1	41
	medieval	ceramic	earthenware	1	7
3	M-LBA to E-MIA	ceramic	earthenware	2	5
5	later prehistoric	stone	flint	3	82
	Mesolithic to Bronze Age	stone	flint	1	6.8
	prehistoric	stone	flint	7	17.5
	undated	stone	flint	4	28.9
	medieval	ceramic	pot	6	58
			brick/tile	7	66
7	prehistoric	stone	flint	1	0.3
	early Bronze Age	ceramic	pot	3	5
	M-LBA to E-MIA	ceramic	pot	46	366
8	Mesolithic	stone	flint	2	2.8

	Mesolithic - early Neolithic	stone	flint	1	1.4
	prehistoric	stone	flint	8	25.2
	undated	stone	flint	1	0.5
	early Bronze Age	ceramic	pot	2	11
	medieval	ceramic	pot	4	40
10	Late Neolithic to Bronze Age	stone	flint	1	2.8
	early Bronze Age	ceramic	pot	4	18
	M-LBA to E-MIA	ceramic	pot	27	121
	undated	ceramic	fragment	1	2
11	M-LBA to E-MIA	ceramic	pot	4	17
	undated	ceramic	fragment	5	18
13	post-medieval	ceramic	tile	1	24
17	M-LBA to E-MIA	ceramic	pot	2	15
	medieval	ceramic	pot	2	10
		ceramic	tile	1	42

Table 2 Quantification of site assemblage by trench and period

0 Prehistoric lithics

Trench		1	5	5	7	8	8	8	8	10	Total
Feature			linear [509]	post-med linear [511]	linear		linear [804]	pit [810]	discrete [812]	discrete [1003]	
Context		101	510	512	704	801	805	811	813	1004	
Debitage type	flake			4		1			3		8
	core	1		1							2
	broken flake			1							1
	flake fragment				1				1		2
	chunk		1					1			2
	chip			1					2		3
Tool type	notch			1							1
	blade							1			1

Trench		1	5	5	7	8	8	8	8	10	Total
Feature			linear [509]	post-med linear [511]	linear		linear [804]	pit [810]	discrete [812]	discrete [1003]	
Context		101	510	512	704	801	805	811	813	1004	
	piercer		1							1	2
	micro-denticulate								1		1
	utilised flake fragment		1								1
	truncated piece								1		1
Other	unworked burnt flint			4			1				5
Quantity		1	3	12	1	1	1	2	8	1	30
Weight (g)		41	10.5	124.7	0.3	1.8	0.5	2.1	25.5	2.8	209.2
Retouch?			1	1					2	1	16.7%
Edge-damage?			1	1							6.7%
Burnt?			1	5			1				23.3%

Table 3 Quantification of the flint by context and type

Mesolithic/early Neolithic flint

A small quantity of Mesolithic/early Neolithic worked flint was recovered from trench 8, in the vicinity of a scatter previously recorded during investigations on the site in 1998 (Wiltshire HER ref: MWI1105 - ST84SE051). Diagnostic pieces comprised:

- a blade of Mesolithic/early Neolithic date from fill (811) of feature [810],
- a microdenticulate and a truncated piece — both typologically Mesolithic (Butler 2005, 109) — from fill (813) of feature [812].
-

Late Neolithic/Bronze Age flint

The majority of the flint assemblage is likely to be later Neolithic to Bronze Age in date; small quantities were present within subsoil in trench 1 and within features in trenches 7, 8 and 10. Trench 5 accounted for 50% of the assemblage by quantity, with worked flint within fill (510) of linear [509], and residual within post-medieval fill (512) of linear [511]. Burnt unworked flint, not intrinsically dateable, was also present within (512).

Although few typologically diagnostic pieces were recovered, the late Neolithic/Bronze Age material is characterised by casual use of raw material, absence of platform preparation, and a high proportion of pieces showing evidence of hard-hammer percussion and knapping accidents (Inizan et. al 1999, 34). Two piercers — from fill (1004) of discrete feature [1004] and fill (510) of linear [509] — are of a form often attributed to the middle and late Bronze Age.

o Pottery

period	fabric group	count	% count	weight(g)	% weight	average weight
early Bronze Age	Grog, GR	9	9%	34	5%	4
mid-late Bronze Age to early-mid Iron Age	Flint-tempered/ flint gritted, FL	81	79%	524	78%	6
medieval	Flint-tempered/ flint gritted, FLm* (medieval)	5	5%	43	6%	9
	Limestone tempered, Lm* (medieval)	1	1%	2	0%	2
	Quartz QUm* (medieval)	7	7%	70	10%	10
Total		103	100%	673	100%	7

Table 4 Quantification of the pottery assemblage by period and fabric-type (*fabric code specific to this site)

Prehistoric pottery

Ninety sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered (Table 4), comprising body sherds and a couple of small base fragments. No diagnostic form or decorated sherds were present, making dating difficult. The majority of sherds were in a range of flint-tempered fabrics (FL), with a small number of sherds in grog-tempered fabrics (GR). At nearby Battlesbury Hillfort and other associated sites, flint-tempered wares were associated with Neolithic, Middle Bronze Age, Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, and Early/Middle Iron Age assemblages. They were most common in the earlier ceramic phase at Battlesbury Hillfort, CP1, associated with decorated wares in the All Cannings Cross ceramic style, dated to the 8th-7th centuries BC (Every and Mephm 2008, 60); but no decorated wares were noted in the assemblage described here. The grog-tempered wares are more likely to date to the early Bronze Age, based on evidence from Battlesbury and the associated sites. At least two fabrics were identified; one vesicular with leached limestone inclusions (Battlesbury GR1) and one with sand (GR2). One sherd may have been decorated (from 811) but was very abraded.

Medieval pottery

Thirteen sherds of medieval pottery were identified in three fabric groups (Table 4): flint tempered (FLm), Limestone tempered (Lm) and quartz tempered (Qum). Most sherds came from cook pots dating broadly to the 12th-14th centuries. Only one rim was present, from a deposit in trench 8 (801); a 'dished' or convex necked form with a thickened rim. One sherd of coarse scratchmarked ware was also noted, in a sandy fabric, similar to types produced at Laverstock (Musty et al 1969, fig 7) and dated to the 12th to 13th century (trench 17, 1708). The latest pottery came from trench 5 (ditch fill 512); this comprised three sherds in a sand-tempered fabric with internal green glaze, possibly from a bung-hole jar. These dated to the 15th-16th centuries.

Other finds

The only other finds comprised fragments of medieval and post-medieval ceramic building material and fired clay, a single nail and a small tanged iron knife, scattered across the site.

context	material	material /object class	count	weight(g)	period	start date	end date	context tpq
101	ceramic	pot	1	7	medieval	12th	14th	12th-14th
	stone	flint	1	41	Late Neolithic/EBA	-3000	-1500	
301	ceramic	pot	2	5	M-LBA to E-MIA	0		M-LBA to E-MIA
510	stone	flint	1	6.8	Mesolithic to Bronze Age	-10000	-700	Mesolithic to Bronze Age
			2	3.7	prehistoric	-10000	43	
512	ceramic	pot	3	7	medieval	12th	14th	12th-14th
	ceramic	pot	3	51	medieval	15th	16th	
	ceramic	brick/tile	7	66	medieval	15th	16th	
	stone	flint	3	82	later prehistoric	-1500	43	
	stone	flint	5	13.8	prehistoric	-10000	43	
	stone	flint	4	28.9	undated			
704	ceramic	pot	3	5	early Bronze Age	0	0	Early Bronze Age
	stone	flint	1	0.3	prehistoric	-10000	43	
706	ceramic	pot	46	366	M-LBA to E-MIA	0	0	M-LBA to E-MIA
800	ceramic	pot	2	10	medieval	13th	14th	13th-14th
801	ceramic	pot	1	21	medieval	12th	14th	12th-14th
	stone	flint	1	1.8	prehistoric	-10000	43	
805	ceramic	pot	1	9	medieval	12th	14th	12th-14th
	stone	flint	1	0.5	undated			
811	ceramic	pot	2	11	Early Bronze Age	0	0	Early Bronze Age

	stone	flint	1	1.4	Mesolithic - early Neolithic	-10000	-3000	
	stone	flint	1	0.7	prehistoric	-10000	43	
813	stone	flint	2	2.8	Mesolithic	-10000	-4000	Mesolithic
	stone	flint	6	22.7	prehistoric	-10000	43	
1004	ceramic	pot	4	18	early Bronze Age	0	0	M-LBA to E-MIA
	ceramic	pot	17	80	M-LBA to E-MIA	0	0	
	ceramic	fired clay	1	2	undated	0	0	
	stone	flint	1	2.8	Late Neolithic to Bronze Age	-3000	-700	
1108	ceramic	pot	10	41	M-LBA to E-MIA	0	0	M-LBA to E-MIA
1112	ceramic	pot	4	17	M-LBA to E-MIA	0	0	M-LBA to E-MIA
	ceramic	fired clay	5	18	undated	0	0	
1308	ceramic	tile	1	24	post-medieval	0	0	post-medieval
1706	ceramic	pot	1	1	M-LBA to E-MIA			15th-16th
	ceramic	tile	1	42	medieval	15th	16th	
1708	ceramic	pot	1	14	M-LBA to E-MIA			12th-14th
	ceramic	pot	2	10	medieval	12th	14th	

Table 3 Summary of context dating based on artefacts

Synthesis

The presence of small quantities of Mesolithic/early Neolithic flint in the southeast corner of the site corroborates the evidence of the 1998 investigations, suggesting activity of that date on the site. Activity of later prehistoric date in the vicinity is also attested by the later Neolithic/Bronze Age material, though much of this appears to be residual. The pottery assemblage provides further evidence for prehistoric activity, although this cannot be closely dated from the small, undiagnostic assemblage.

Recommendations

Further analysis and reporting

The pottery and flint from the evaluation will require detailed analysis by fabric if further work is undertaken on the site.

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APPENDIX 3 OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land at Home Farm, Warminster	
Short description	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire between 14 and 23 February 2017. The works were carried out by Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd., on behalf of Orion Heritage Ltd. The evaluation consisted of the excavation of 21 trenches, each measuring 40m x 2m. Four areas of possible earlier prehistoric activity were identified represented by postholes, pits and ditches, dated by pottery and worked flint. A limited amount of medieval and post-medieval activity was recorded.	
Project dates	14-23 February 2017	
Project type	Field Evaluation	
Previous work	Desk-based assessment	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire	
Study area (M2/ha)	c. 11ha	
Site co-ordinates	NGR ST 89467 44431	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Rubicon Heritage Services Ltd	
Project Brief originator	Wiltshire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) Originator	Rubicon Heritage	
Project Manager	Simon Roper	
Project Officer	Sam Pamment	
MONUMENT TYPE	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (Museum/ Accession no.)	Content
Physical	Salisbury Museum	Pottery, CBM, metal
Paper	Salisbury Museum	Registers, trench recording sheets, context sheets, survey sheets. Plans and sections
Digital	Salisbury Museum	Digital photographs; survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Rubicon Heritage 2017 <i>Landat Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire: Archaeological Evaluation</i> . Typescript report		

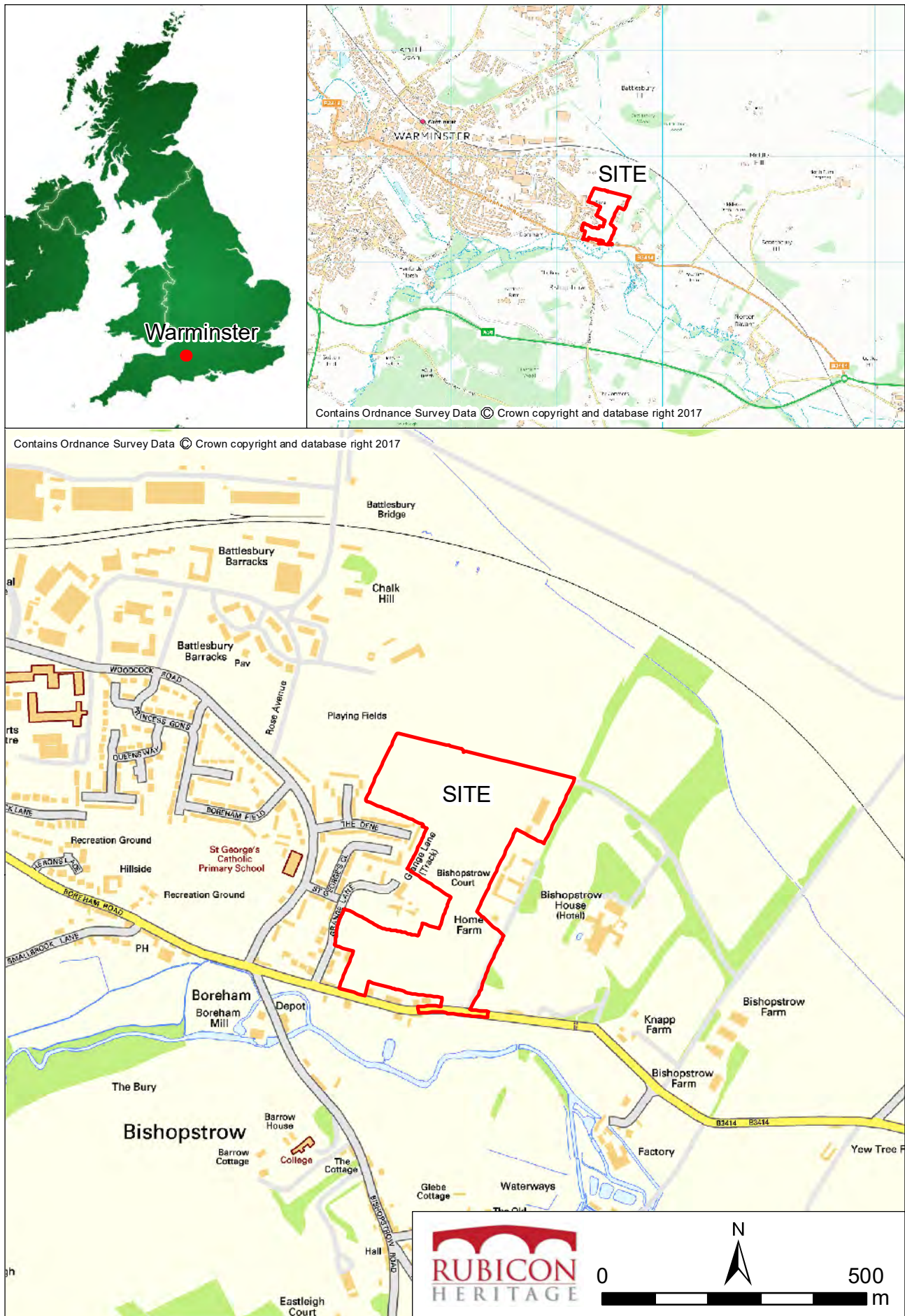


Figure 1 - Home Farm, Warminster, Wiltshire: Site location.

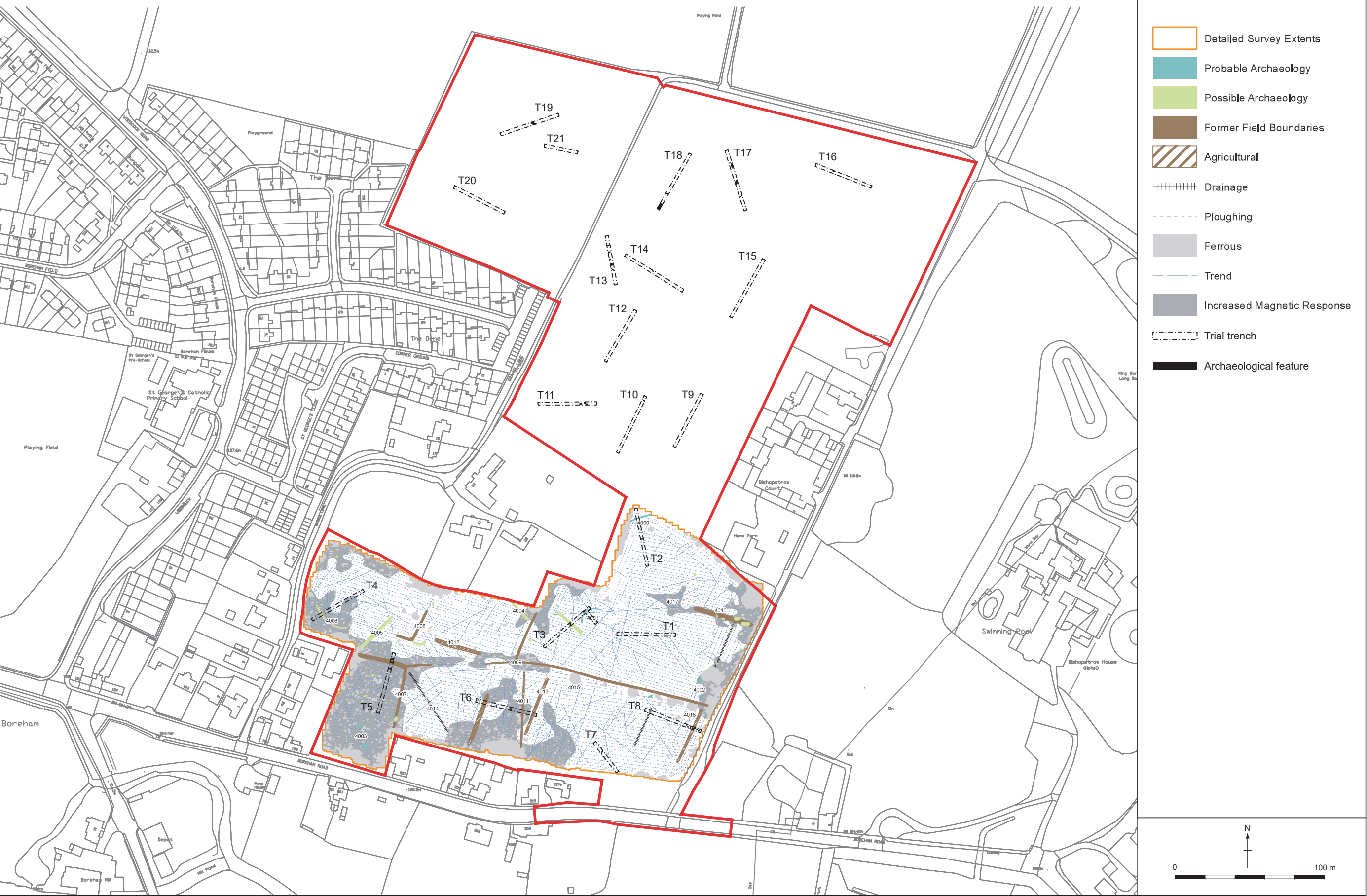


Figure 2 - Excavated trial trenches over interpreted geophysical survey results.

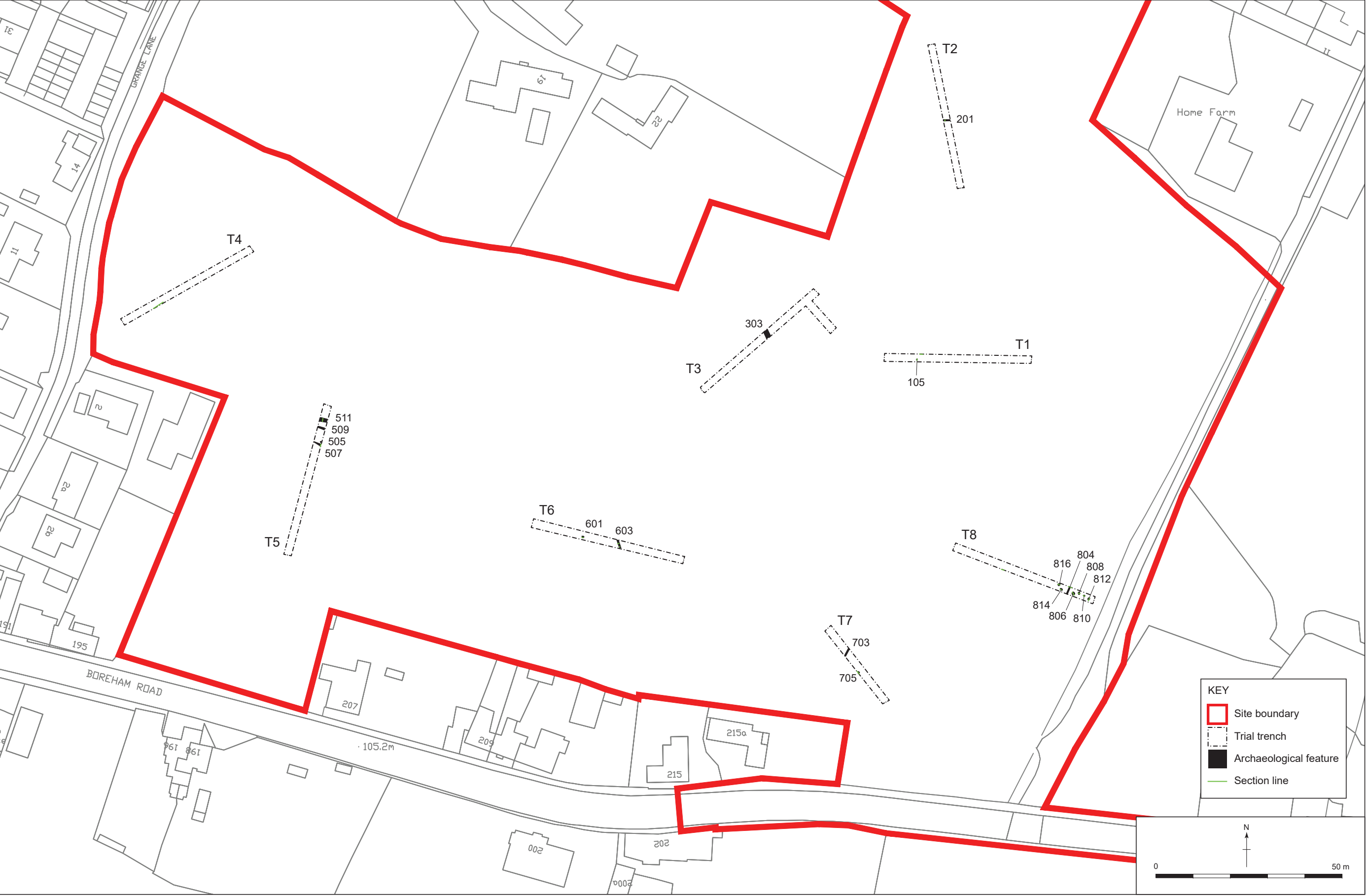


Figure 3 - Trial trench plan: Trenches 1-8.



Figure 4 - Trial trench plan: Trenches 9-21.

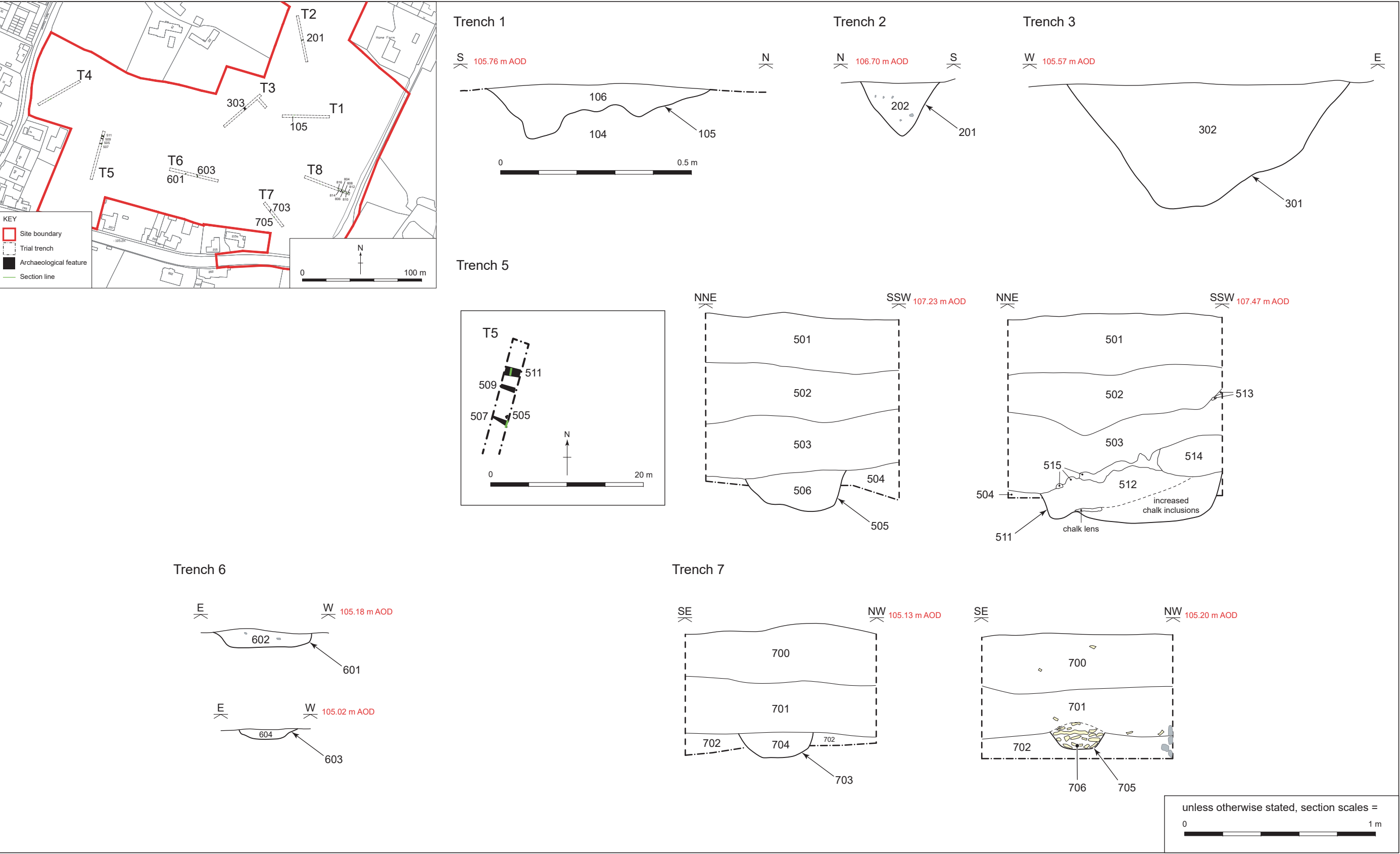


Figure 5 - Trenches 1 to 7, archaeological feature sections.

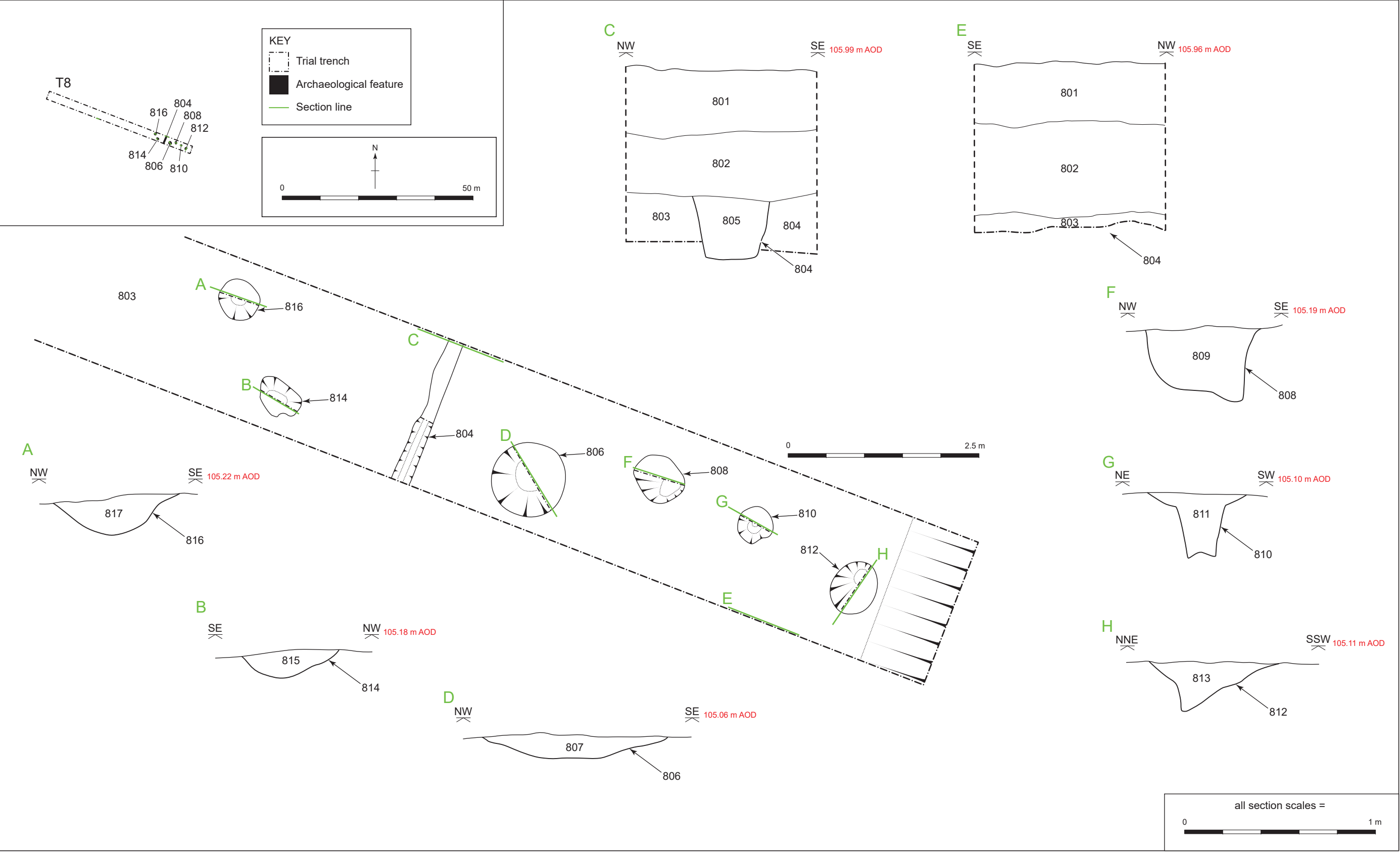


Figure 6 - Detailed plan and sections of Trench 8 archaeological features.

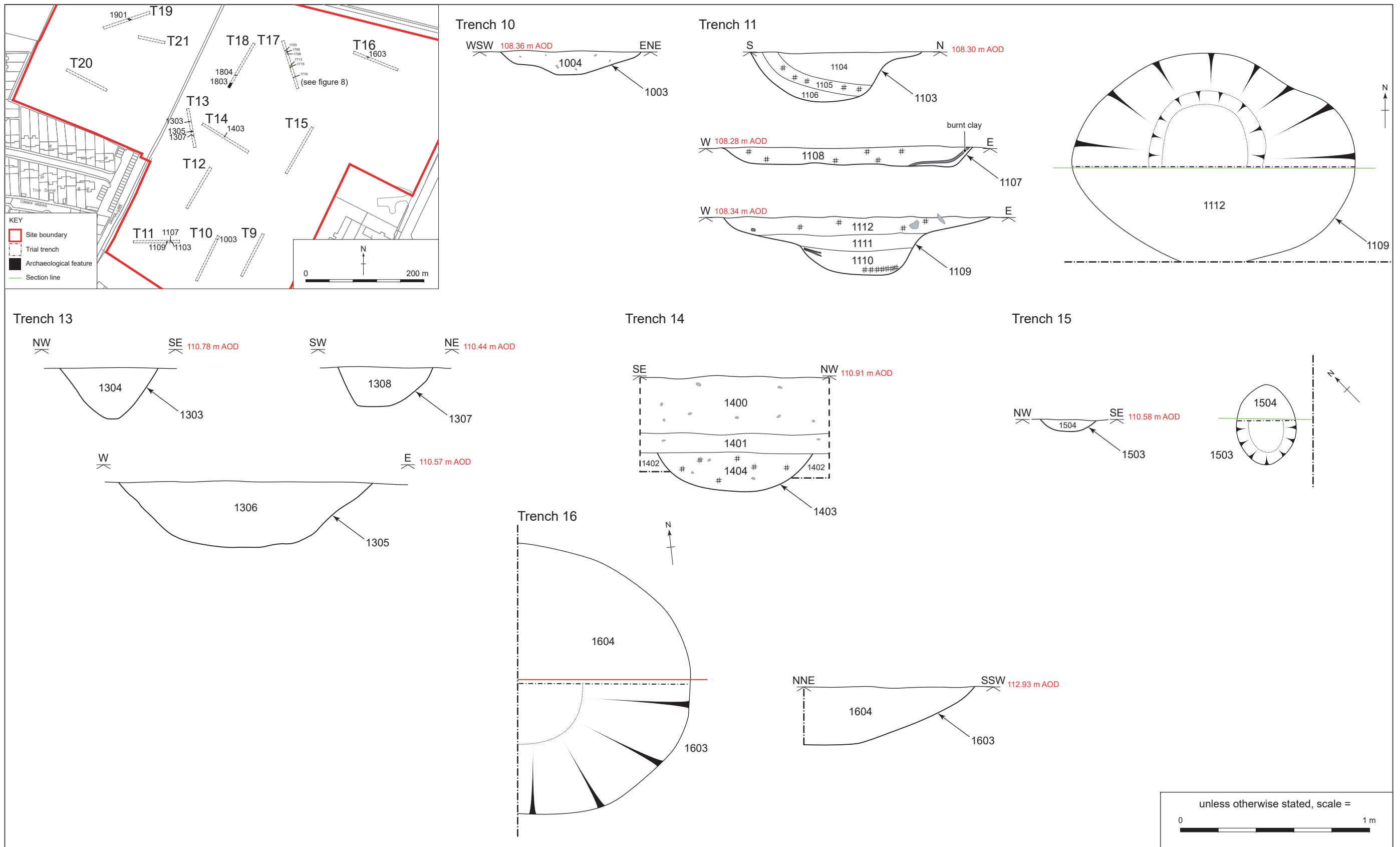


Figure 7 - Trenches 10 to 16, archaeological feature sections.

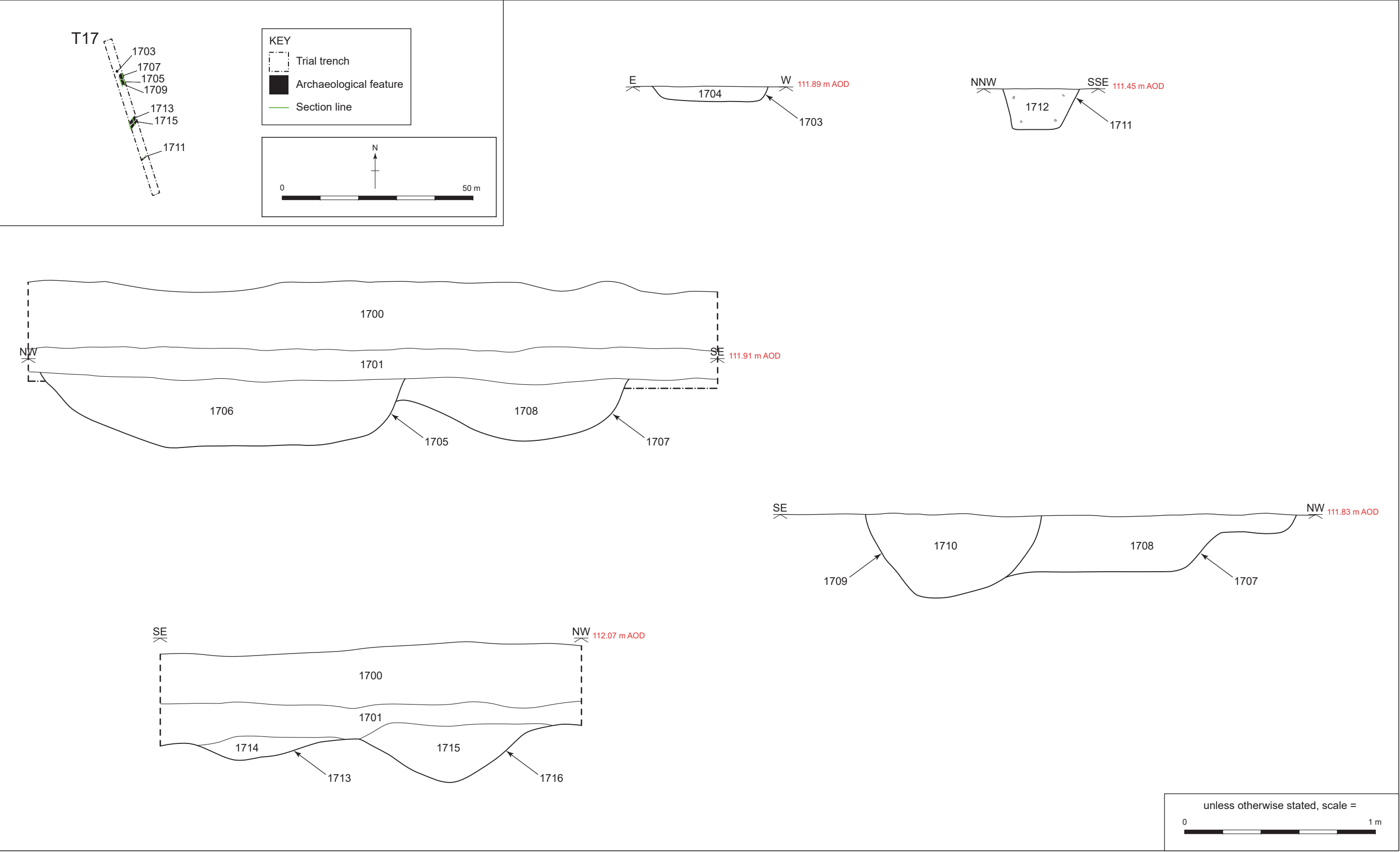


Figure 8 - Trench 17, archaeological feature sections.



Plate 1 - Trench 1, general overview, facing ENE.



Plate 2 - Trench 1, cut 105 mid-excavation, facing ENE.



Plate 3 - Trench 1, representative section, facing S.



Plate 4 - Trench 5, c 505, facing S.



Plate 5 - Trench 8 overview, facing WNW.



Plate 6 - Trench 11, section through c 1103, facing W.



Plate 7 - Trench 4, section of disturbance, facing E.



Plate 8 - Trench 8, section through c 810, facing NE.



Plate 9 - Trench 8, section through c 812, facing ESE.



Plate 10 - Trench 17, section through c 1705 and 1707, facing NE.



Plate 11 - Trench 17, section through c 1709 and 1707, facing SW.



Plate 12 - Trench 3, section through c 301, facing N.



Plate 13 - Trench 7, c 703 within sample section of trench, facing SW.



Plate 14 - Trench 13, overview, facing S.



Plate 15 - Trench 17, section through c 1713 and 1715, facing SW.



Plate 16 - Trench 13, section through c 1303, facing NE.



Plate 17 - Trench 13, section through c 1307, facing NE.

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