highways england

A303 Stonehenge

Amesbury to Berwick Down

Archaeological Evaluation Report:

Western Portal and Approach -

Part 1: Text

April 2019

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Executive Summary

This document details the results of archaeological evaluation of land at Normanton Down, within the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site (WHS), as part of proposals for construction of the new A303 western tunnel portal and approach road.

These results were reported in the Environmental Statement (ES) submitted with the Application for Development Consent dated October 2018 and were taken into account in the identification of the baseline and approach to mitigation and in the assessment of likely significant effects in the ES. Paragraphs 6.6.25 to 6.6.31 of the ES summarise the results of the fieldwork, and paragraphs 6.6.94 to 6.6.97, Appendix 6.2 and Figure 6.8 of the ES describe the archaeological baseline for the site. Section 6.8 of the ES describes the approach to mitigation of archaeological impacts, and section 6.9 and tables 6.10 to 6.12 describe the assessment of likely significant effects: 6.9.25 refers to the evaluation at the Western Portal. This document details the results already reflected in the ES, save for one area where test pitting of the topsoil was delayed following removal of pigs from the site, in relation to which it confirms the conclusions of the ES, which were based on the trial trenching done there.

The evaluation strategy comprised trial trenching and ploughzone artefact collection (including test pitting and sieving of ploughsoil from the trial trenches). The trenches were positioned to determine archaeological presence within apparently blank areas and to target potential features identified through ground penetrating radar (GPR) and geophysical gradiometer surveys.

The evaluation was successful in confirming the presence and absence of archaeological remains, determining their nature, extent, date, condition and state of preservation. A small number of archaeological features were uncovered, in nine of the 71 excavated trial trenches. However, many of the other trenches contained tree hollows or natural features, some of which contained cultural material and therefore have some archaeological potential. Fourteen trenches (Trenches 203, 210, 214, 215, 231, 232, 237, 246, 248, 249, 255, 256, 258 and 274) contained no archaeological or natural features.

A small sink hole or doline in Trench 241 contained evidence of human use in both the prehistoric and historic periods, while several tree hollows contained cultural material, mainly struck or burnt flint.

Three pits contained prehistoric ceramics and other material, two (in Trenches 234 and 240) with Beaker associations, the third (in Trench 240) dating to the Early Bronze Age.

The most significant results came from two Beaker inhumation graves: one (in Trench 244, cut into a large tree-throw hollow which also contained other features) contained small fragments of neonatal bone along with sherds from a fire-damaged plain Beaker; the other (in Trench 260) contained a female inhumation accompanied by a Beaker, a copper alloy pin or needle fragment, and a shale object with no known parallel or function.

Other features were modern, or of uncertain date.

1 Introduction

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology Ltd has been appointed as Archaeological Contractor by AECOM Mace WSP Joint Venture (AmW, the technical partner) on behalf of Highways England (the employer) to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation for the A303 Amesbury to Berwick Down project (the Scheme).

1.1.2 An Archaeological Evaluation Strategy Report (AESR) [1] sets out the general and specific principles guiding the strategies for field-based investigations. An Overarching Written Scheme of Investigation (OWSI) [2] accompanying the AESR details the methods and techniques employed during the archaeological evaluation. The AESR and OWSI were approved by the Heritage Monitoring and Advisory Group (HMAG: comprising representatives of Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service, the National Trust and Historic England).

1.1.3 A Site Specific Written Scheme of Investigation (SSWSI) [3] for archaeological evaluation of land within the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site (WHS), between the A360 and Normanton Gorse (south of the existing line of the A303), detailed the aims and methodologies to be used. This guiding document was approved by the HMAG prior to fieldwork commencing. The land is proposed for construction of the new A303 western portal and approach road (the site).

1.1.4 Due to ecological restrictions, the evaluation was carried out in two phases: phase 1 was undertaken between 16 April and 22 June 2018, and phase 2 between 13 July and 1 August 2018. Test pitting in part of the site previously occupied by pigs was undertaken during October 2018.

1.1.5 The evaluation strategy involved trial trenching and ploughzone artefact collection (including test pitting and sieving of ploughsoil from the trial trenches). The trenches were positioned to determine archaeological presence within apparently blank areas and to target potential features identified through geophysical ground penetrating radar (GPR) and gradiometer surveys.

1.2 Scope of the document

1.2.1 The results of the evaluation of the site were reflected in the Environmental Statement (ES) and were taken into account in the identification of the baseline and approach to mitigation and in the assessment of likely significant effects. Paragraphs 6.6.25 to 6.6.31 of the ES summarise the results of the fieldwork, and paragraphs 6.6.94 to 6.6.97, Appendix 6.2 and Figure 6.8 of the ES describe the archaeological baseline for the site. Section 6.8 describes the approach to mitigation of archaeological impacts, and section 6.9 and tables 6.10 to 6.12describe the assessment of likely significant effects: paragraph 6.9.25 refers to the evaluation at the Western Portal.

1.2.2 This document details the results already reflected in the ES. In respect of part of the site, where test pitting of the topsoil was delayed following removal of pigs from the site, this document confirms the conclusions of the ES, which were based on the trial trenching done there.

1.2.3 This document details the results of the evaluation, in accordance with the approved SSWSI. In accordance with the OWSI, section 8 of this report recommends further analysis of particular datasets, to be undertaken at a later stage of the archaeological process: these recommendations are part of the ongoing archaeological process which continues beyond and separately from the process required for EIA. They do not affect the baseline conditions, assessment of effects or mitigation approach as identified in the ES.

2 Site Description

2.1 Location, topography and geology

2.1.1 The site lies within the provisional DCO limits (the Red Line Boundary or RLB) south of the existing A303, east of the A360, centred on approximate National Grid Reference (NGR) 410514, 141477 (Fig. 11.1). At its western end adjacent to the A360 the site extends south of the A303 for approximately 200 m, and extends eastwards for 1.2 km to the proposed western portal location northwest of Normanton Gorse, at which point the southern extent of the site lies approximately 120 m south of the A303. The site encompasses an area of approximately 16.85 ha of agricultural land, variously under cultivation or occupied by a pig farm.

2.1.2 A shallow dry valley lies partially within the site, the head of which lies in the vicinity of the proposed western tunnel portal at approximately 100m aOD; the dry valley rises gently towards the A360 south of the Longbarrow Roundabout at approximately 110m aOD. The lowest point of the dry valley lies approximately 350m west of the proposed tunnel portal locations. On the north side of the site the existing A303 crosses the dry valley on an embankment.

2.1.3 The solid geology comprises chalk of the Seaford Chalk Formation, with no recorded superficial deposits across most of the site, although a small band of Head – clay, silt, sand, and gravel deposits – is present in the north-west [4].

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

Introduction

2.2.1 This section provides an overview of the archaeological and historical context of the site, updated from the summary provided in the SSWSI [3].

2.2.2 The site lies wholly within the WHS, surrounded by numerous scheduled monuments, both prominent above ground structures and sub-surface sites (Fig.11.1). The Wilsford G1 bowl barrow (NHLE 1010832), an outlier of the Normanton Down barrow group, is located approximately 25 m east of the proposed western tunnel portal location, at the eastern end of the site. At the western end is a scheduled late prehistoric linear boundary (NHLE 1010837). This area also includes the recently defined Diamond group, an extensive group comprising three outlying bowl barrows, a nucleated group of seven bowl barrows and a pond barrow, three long barrows, a henge monument and hengiform feature. A scheduled linear boundary of likely Middle Bronze Age date bisects the group from the north-west to south-east and an additional section of a linear earthwork lies to the east of this. Recent geophysical survey of the nucleated cemetery confirms the survival of the known barrows and indicates a number of further potential monuments, as well as possible associated settlement activity to the south. To the north-west of the site, immediately north-east of Longbarrow Roundabout, a group of round barrows aligned on an Early Neolithic Long Barrow form the Winterbourne Stoke Crossroads barrow cemetery. The extensive and well-preserved Normanton Down barrow group lies to the east-south-east, within and to the east of Normanton Gorse, and another dispersed group of long barrows and round barrows lies to the south on Wilsford Down, south of the

Diamond. Numerous other outliers to these barrow groups surround the site to the north and south of the A303.

2.2.3 A summary of previous investigations within and surrounding the site follows. The results of previous fieldwork investigations are incorporated into the period-based sections and those undertaken within the site boundaries are detailed in section 2.3.

Previous investigations

2.2.4 Several of the barrows in the vicinity were investigated by antiquaries during the 19th century. These include the prominent Winterbourne Stoke 1 long barrow at Longbarrow Roundabout (NHLE 1011841), investigated by John Thurnam in 1865, and Wilsford G1 round barrow (NHLE 1010832) at the eastern end of the site, partially excavated by William Cunnington and Sir Richard Colt Hoare in 1805. A number of barrows were also subject to rescue excavation on behalf of the Ministry of Works during the 20th century. These included Wilsford G1, and the presumed pond barrow (NHLE 1010833) south of the site, which excavation revealed as a deep shaft (the Wilsford Shaft) [6].

2.2.5 Research projects carried out by English Heritage (now Historic England) included large-scale aerial photograph assessment of the Salisbury Plain Training Area (SPTA) as part of the National Mapping Programme (NMP) in 1994-5 [7] and the Stonehenge WHS Mapping Project in 2001 [8]. More recent investigations undertaken as part of the Stonehenge World Heritage Site Landscape Project included archaeological surveys of areas around Winterbourne Stoke crossroads in 2010 [9] and Normanton Gorse and the Diamond in 2012 [10]. Subsequent investigations carried out by Historic England's Excavation and Analysis team in 2015 as part of the Stonehenge Southern WHS Survey project included geophysical surveys around Diamond Copse [11] [12] and small scale excavations south of the western part of the site at Druid's Lodge [13] [14] [15]. Land within the western part of the site was included in one of the 2015 geophysical survey areas at Diamonds Field, Boreland Farm [12], the results of which are discussed in section 2.3.

2.2.6 The landscape surrounding Stonehenge has been subject to extensive remote sensing surveys since 2010 as part of the Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes Project (SHLP), led by the University of Birmingham in conjunction with the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute. The full results of the project have yet to be published. However, preliminary results provided to Highways England [16] include areas to the north of the existing A303 and the site, including part of the barrow group at Longbarrow Roundabout, and areas immediately to the east of the site.

2.2.7 Highways improvements have also lead to numerous excavations, surveys and evaluations being carried out. Construction of the original Longbarrow Roundabout in 1967 was accompanied by excavations by Vatcher and Vatcher [17] and, more recently, works to upgrade and enlarge the Longbarrow Roundabout were also accompanied by a programme of archaeological investigations undertaken by Wessex Archaeology [18].

2.2.8 A major programme of investigations, spanning several years and including trial trenching, test pitting and geophysical surveys, was carried out in connection with the A303 improvements 2003 published scheme [19].

Previous investigations related to the current scheme

2.2.9 Investigations carried out for the current scheme have included several phases of geophysical survey, undertaken in 2016-7 [20] [21] [22] [23]. These included ground penetrating radar (GPR) and detailed magnetometer surveys within the site, and across the wider scheme.

2.2.10 No trial trenching had previously been carried out within the site as part of the programme of work associated with the current scheme. However, part of SW1, to the south of the site, was subject to trial trenching in 2016, as was part of SW2, to the south-south-east of Longbarrow Roundabout [24] [15].

Chronology

2.2.11 The chronological scheme followed in this report follows that at http://www.heritage-standards.org.uk/chronology/. For the purposes of this report, periodization is as follows:

- Palaeolithic -1,000 000 to -10,000 (BC)
- Mesolithic -10,000 to -4,000
- Neolithic -4,000 to -2,200
- Early Neolithic -4,000 to -3,300
- Middle Neolithic -3,300 to -2,900
- Late Neolithic -2,900 to -2,200
- Bronze Age -2,600 to -700
- Early Bronze Age -2,600 to -1,600
- Middle Bronze Age -1,600 to -1,200
- Late Bronze Age -1200 to -700
- Iron Age -800 (BC) to 43 (AD)
- Roman 43 to 410 (AD)
- Early Medieval 410 to 1066
- Medieval 1066 to 1540
- Post-medieval 1540 to 1901
- 20th Century 1901 to 2000

2.2.12 To accommodate the overlap between Late Neolithic (-2,900 to -2,200) and Early Bronze Age (2-2,600 to -1,600) in the above scheme, in this report these terms are used as broad chronological periods. The term 'Beaker' is used to refer to a material culture group that overlaps with both these chronological periods.

Palaeolithic and Mesolithic (c. 1,000,000–4000 BC)

2.2.13 Evidence relating to the Palaeolithic period is particularly scarce in the Stonehenge part of the WHS. Traces of occupation become more conspicuous during the Mesolithic. Notable discoveries include the large post pits found beneath the former Stonehenge car park and visitors centre in 1966 [25] and 1988-9 [26, pp. 43-7], and the remains of Mesolithic activity at Blick Mead, south of the A303 at West Amesbury [27] [28].

2.2.14 Most of the recorded evidence for Mesolithic activity has been identified within the eastern part of the WHS with few conspicuous or substantial remains identified further to the west. However, unstratified Mesolithic flint has been recovered from the surface of the long barrow at Longbarrow Roundabout and possibly from pits beneath it [9, p. 37].

Early–Middle Neolithic (c. 4000–2900 BC), Late Neolithic (c. 2900–2200 BC) and Early–Middle Bronze Age (c. 2600–1600 BC and c. 1600–1200 BC)

2.2.15 The traditional understanding of the Early Neolithic landscape is of woodland quickly cleared by early farmers. However, more recent evidence has led to a recognition that the landscape was more complex in terms of woodland use, clearance, regrowth, and seasonality: generally the landscape of the Stonehenge environs is described as 'open' [15, p. 5.5].

2.2.16 Early Neolithic communities were the first to construct large earthworks in the area. Communal, ceremonial and mortuary structures (the long barrows, cursuses and causewayed enclosures) have historically dominated interpretations of the period. More recently, evidence for settlement in the WHS has begun to broaden the understanding of the lives of these communities.

2.2.17 Long barrows are amongst the earliest monumental constructions in southern Britain, traditionally understood to have been associated with communal burial practises in the early to mid-4th millennium BC. The prominent Winterbourne Stoke 1 long barrow at Longbarrow Roundabout (NHLE 1011841) was constructed during this period [9, p. 37]; the primary inhumation excavated by Thurnham (1865) is dated to 3630-3360 BC [29, p. 17].

2.2.18 Three further long barrows are known between 500 m and 800 m south-east of Longbarrow Roundabout. These comprise the scheduled long barrow on Wilsford Down 300m north of The Diamond (NHLE 1010830; Winterbourne Stoke 71), a previously unknown long barrow (Winterbourne Stoke 86); and a previously dismissed long barrow, together with a previously unknown Middle Neolithic hengiform monument, situated west of The Diamond wood and identified through recent investigations by Wessex Archaeology and Historic England [13] [24] [11] [20]. Results of investigations on two of these long barrows (Winterbourne Stoke 71 and 86) have recently published [15], together with a review of long barrows in the WHS [15].

2.2.19 Although the construction of large earthworks could be suggestive of more permanent foci for domestic activity, no substantial traces of Early or Middle Neolithic dwellings or settlement areas have yet been conclusively identified in this part of the WHS. However, pits and concentrations of lithic material, which are occasionally identified throughout the Stonehenge landscape, are often interpreted as indicators of occupation during this period.

2.2.20 Large stone and earth structures remain the most conspicuous elements of the archaeological record into the Late Neolithic (c. 2900-2200 BC) and Early Bronze Age (c. 2200–1600 BC). A range of distinctive ceremonial monument types appeared during these periods, notably henges, stone and timber circles and various forms of mortuary structure. It is during this period that Stonehenge was first constructed, and subsequently underwent numerous episodes of alteration.

2.2.21 Some existing monuments constructed during the preceding millennium seem to have gone out of use by the Early Bronze Age, although others appear to have continued to influence activities in this landscape. The development of the substantial round barrow cemetery, known as the Winterbourne Stoke Crossroads group (NHLE 1012368) and its numerous outliers around the Early Neolithic long barrow (NHLE 1011841) represents one of the clearest examples of the continuing influence of earlier monuments.

2.2.22 The appearance and proliferation of round barrows appears to represent a distinct shift in ceremonial and mortuary traditions at the end of the Late Neolithic (c. 2900-2200 BC) and into the Early-Middle Bronze Age (c. 2200–1600 BC). Many of the barrows and other monuments visible in the Stonehenge landscape were excavated prior to the twentieth century; very few examples have been excavated in recent times and there is a corresponding paucity of absolute dating evidence. Nevertheless, it is generally accepted that, although round barrows were being constructed in the latter stages of the Late Neolithic, the majority of these appear to date to between 2200 and 1520 BC with the tradition of barrow construction persisting into the early part of the Middle Bronze Age. In many cases, there is also evidence for multiple phases of construction and sequential interments.

2.2.23 The Wilsford G1 bowl barrow (NHLE 1010832) is located approximately 25 m east of the proposed western tunnel portal location, at the eastern end of the site (Fig. 11.1). The results from previous excavation here are detailed in section 2.3. Barrow cemeteries and other outliers to these groups are present within the surroundings of the site as described above (para.2.2.2).

2.2.24 Approximately 30 distinctive Beaker burials have been recognised within the WHS, some beneath barrow mounds, others interred in earlier monuments (e.g. the ‘Stonehenge Archer’, or an example at Fargo Henge), or as flat graves, such as those within the site close to Wilsford G1 (see below). In some instances, barrows appear to have clustered around earlier Beaker burials. Further afield on the eastern side of the Avon, the discoveries known as the Amesbury Archer, (2440–2290 BC) and the Boscombe Bowmen (2460–2280 BC) have provided evidence that long distance contacts existed at this time between communities in the Stonehenge landscape and groups elsewhere in continental Europe.

2.2.25 Immediately south of the site is the feature known as the Wilsford Shaft, which was initially identified as a pond barrow (NHLE 1010833, Fig. 11.1). The feature was excavated in 1960-2 after the levelling of the upstanding earthworks. Excavations revealed a shaft 30 m in depth, interpreted as either a well or as fulfilling a ritual or ceremonial function [6]. The shaft is conventionally dated to the mid-2nd millennium BC, although one apparently anomalous radiocarbon date of 3650–3100 BC obtained from a wooden bucket near the base of the feature might indicate that it had much earlier origins [30].

Middle–Late Bronze Age (c. 1600–1200 BC – c. 1200–700 BC), Iron Age (c. 800 BC– AD43) and Roman (AD 43–410)

2.2.26 The Stonehenge landscape was transformed in the middle of the 2nd millennium BC when ‘its sacred and ceremonial significance seems to have diminished sharply; a more mundane agricultural regime of farmsteads and fields took over or intensified noticeably’ [29, p. 66]. Although the interment of burials in and

around barrows continued into the Middle Bronze Age, the tradition of constructing funerary and ceremonial monuments appears to have declined and eventually ceased by, or during, this period.

2.2.27 Large linear ditches, commonly referred to as Wessex Linear Ditches, are a characteristic feature of the fossilised prehistoric landscape contained within the Salisbury Plain area and across the wider chalklands of southern England [31]. Although many of these features appear to have been established in the Late Bronze Age (c.1200-700 BC), they are often not closely dated and certain examples may be somewhat earlier [29] [32]. There are also indications that some linear boundaries were maintained and elaborated over prolonged periods. The tradition of constructing these landscape-scale features is frequently interpreted as the manifestation of increased territoriality and the emergence and consolidation of cultural, political and economic divisions during the 1st millennium BC.

2.2.28 One such linear boundary is present in the western end of the site, it is a scheduled monument (NHLE 1010837) which survives as a large earthwork bank and infilled ditch. Geophysical survey and assessments of aerial photographs have established that the feature continues beyond the extent of the visible, scheduled section, beneath the Winterbourne Stoke crossroads and across the landscape to the north-west (MWI6406). A trench excavated through the non-designated section of the feature in the early 2000s revealed a large ditch, the fills of which produced animal bone, worked flint and burnt flint, and a single sherd of Roman pottery from its upper fills [33]. The feature was subject to further excavation in January 2013 immediately to the south-west of the road junction. This established that the ditch was 4.6 m wide and was 1.5 m deep. Although no artefacts were recovered to confirm the suspected Late Bronze Age date of the ditch, this was considered most likely [18]. Though the scheduled section of the feature has also been subject to targeted excavation (e.g. [34]), its precise date also remains uncertain.

2.2.29 The western end of the site also coincides with an extensive area of co-axial field systems and lynchets (MWI7003; MWI7094; MWI12625; MWI12695; MWI12748; MWI13128; MWI73295; MWI74633) identified south of the A303 from aerial photograph analysis and several episodes of geophysical survey (e.g. [20]). Several other linear features (MWI13149) have also been identified further to the west, although it is less certain if these are of anthropogenic origin. In some instances, trial trenching and other small-scale excavation has confirmed the presence of archaeological features correlating with elements of the field systems identified via remote sensing techniques (e.g. [13] [24] [14]). Although these boundaries may have been established during multiple phases of activity and subject to episodic alteration and reorganisation, the field systems as a whole are likely to date broadly to the later prehistoric to Roman periods, following a pattern observed across large swathes of Salisbury Plain. However, these field systems may also incorporate some elements derived from considerably later episodes of land division, including medieval lynchets and Post-medieval field boundaries.

2.2.30 Although evidence of settlement activity during preceding periods is comparatively rare, and typically insubstantial, traces of occupation become more conspicuous from the latter stages of the Bronze Age onwards. Several probable settlement sites have been identified to the west of the WHS boundary, such as

those on Oatlands Hill (MWI7125), near Scotland Lodge (MWI6943; MWI6959) and on High Down (MWI7098). Although there are few indications of extensive settlement activity within the central part of the WHS during this period, significant evidence of later Bronze Age activity has been identified beneath and to the west of the current A303/A360 junction.

2.2.31 The remains of three small Bronze Age roundhouses and a possible 'stockade' were uncovered during the construction of the roundabout in 1967 (MWI6924) [35, pp. 208-10] [36, p. 208]. Subsequent investigations demonstrated that the 'stockade' was a later feature, unconnected to the Bronze Age settlement [18]. The presence of Middle and Late Bronze Age burials amongst the barrows has also been highlighted as evidence that the earlier monuments may have retained some significance for the occupants of the neighbouring settlement [9]. A scheduled enclosure (NHLE 1011048), visible on aerial photographs and confirmed by geophysical survey [37] [20], is bisected by the A303 to the west of Longbarrow Roundabout. It is possible that the feature was associated with the nearby Bronze Age settlement; however, the enclosure has not been subject to recorded archaeological investigation.

2.2.32 Trial trenching undertaken in 2002 [19] and in 2016 [24] has identified several Early and Middle Bronze Age and Early/Middle Iron Age pits to the south of the A303, to the south and south-west of the site, along with assemblages of Neolithic to Iron Age flint and pottery suggesting activity in this location over a prolonged period.

2.2.33 Although sporadic features and small quantities of artefactual material have been recovered to the south of the A303 during trial trenching for the earlier A303 scheme [19], substantial evidence for Iron Age and Roman activity near the site remains comparatively limited.

Early medieval (AD 410–1066), medieval (AD1066–1540), Post-medieval and 20th Century (1540–2000)

2.2.34 With the notable exception of the Drinking Stone, a medieval cross base (MWI13139), there is a relative paucity of recorded archaeological evidence for activity near the site throughout the early medieval to early Post-medieval periods. This may be due to the use of this location, at the margins of adjoining parishes, as pasture. However, faint traces of ridge and furrow have occasionally been recorded across the Stonehenge landscape suggesting that at least some areas were under cultivation during this period.

2.2.35 The present day A303 and A360 were former turnpike roads which likely formalised existing routes. Although subject to alterations in recent times, and possibly earlier re-alignments of the roads, the junction has been located approximately in its current location since the earliest accurate mapping was produced.

2.2.36 Much of the Stonehenge landscape remained in use for downland grazing until the 19th and 20th centuries, when large areas were enclosed and converted to arable cultivation, or improved pasture, or acquired by the army for training purposes.

2.2.37 A large area of land to the north-east of the A303/A360 junction was used for the establishment of the Stonehenge Airfield (MWI12606), which operated between 1917 and 1919 and functioned as a finishing school for pilots and observers in both day and night bombing. The area to the west and south of the junction formed Oatlands Airfield (MWI6984), a grass airfield, which opened in 1941 as a training unit for fighter reconnaissance squadrons. Use of the site from 1942 was only intermittent and the site was closed in 1946 [38]. Another military aerodrome was opened on a 65 ha site further to the south on Lake Down in 1917; this facility closed at the end of the First World War.

2.2.38 The western end of the site is crossed by the route of a spur of the Larkhill Military Railway (MWI12608; MWI73256), a light military railway constructed in the early twentieth century, and largely dismantled by the mid-1930s. This branch of the railway ran parallel to the eastern edge of the A360, joining the Horse Isolation Hospital at Fargo Road to the Lake Down Aerodrome, via the Stonehenge Airfield. It was built following the outbreak of the First World War and closed in 1923 [38]. Parts of the military light railway have been investigated archaeologically on several occasions, including during trial trenching in SW2 in 2016. This revealed that no substantial traces of the railway line survived, except for heavily truncated straight north–south shallow cuts [24].

2.3 Previous archaeological fieldwork within the site

Wilsford G1 Barrow

2.3.1 The Wilsford G1 round barrow (NHLE 1010832) is located at the eastern end of the site, approximately 25m east of the proposed western tunnel portal location. The barrow is of particular note, not just for being one of the few examples of its type within the WHS to have been fully excavated in modern times, but also for the fact that it formed the nucleus around which an unusually large cemetery of the Beaker tradition developed.

2.3.2 William Cunnington and Sir Richard Colt Hoare investigated Wilsford G1 in 1805. There are no records of the excavation, beyond a comment that a central grave contained an inhumation burial with a Beaker and stag antlers [36, p. 153].

2.3.3 The barrow was revisited in 1960, when rescue excavations were undertaken by Edwina Proudfoot, née Field, on behalf of the Ministry of Works. The results of the excavation were not published in full, although the barrow and associated Beaker cemetery has been described in some detail by Lawson [36, pp. 153-4] and Leivers and Moore [39, pp. 25-30].

2.3.4 Field's excavations revealed that the central grave had contained at least two inhumations and a cremation burial. A further seven burials of infants and one young adult were found on the north side of the barrow, several of which were accompanied by Beakers. The excavations demonstrated that the central grave had initially been surrounded by a small ditch and covered by a mound. A second ditch was later added outside the first, and the mound may also have been enlarged [36, pp. 153-4].

2.3.5 As discussed below, works undertaken between 1998 and 2003 as part of the 2003 published scheme uncovered two further inhumation burials immediately

north of the area investigated in 1960, bringing the total number of individuals buried at the site to at least 13 [19].

2003 published scheme (Areas O and P)

2.3.6 Geophysical survey in 2001 examined a corridor 60–120 m wide on the south side of the A303 [37, pp. 6-7, Fields (west to east) 73, 80 and 79]. The majority of the site coincides with Area P [40], which examined the proposed alignment south of the existing A303 to the immediate north of the current scheme; the extreme western end of the site falls within Area O [33].

2.3.7 Geophysical anomalies recorded in Fields 73 and 80 included a few weak linear trends and pit-like anomalies [37, pp. 6-7, Fields (west to east; 73, 80, and 79]. In Field 79, the survey located the twin ditches of Wilsford G1 (NHLE 1010832). The extreme western part of the site, immediately south-west of Longbarrow Roundabout, was included in a 1992 geophysical survey [41, pp. np, Area 2]; this located the subsurface (non-designated) continuation of the later Bronze Age Wessex Linear land division (NHLE 1010837) and an additional linear feature extending north of this. The site has since been resurveyed as part of extensive geophysical surveys in 2015 by Historic England [13] and for the current scheme in 2016 [20, pp. 24-8, Area SW1]; the 1992 and 2001 surveys are therefore not discussed further here.

2.3.8 Two trial trenches were excavated in Area O at the extreme western end of the site [33]. One of these targeted the continuation of the linear ditch and bank boundary immediately north of the scheduled section (NHLE 1010837 – described in section 2.2), whilst the other trench investigated the survival and nature of any traces of the Larkhill military light railway.

2.3.9 Eighteen trenches were located in Area P [40], in which only four features of archaeological interest were identified, at the western and eastern extents of the area, associated with known archaeological sites. Two possible rubbish pits in Trench 2 at the western extent of the proposed western area produced pottery dated to the Middle Bronze Age. These would appear to be related to an undated field system located to the south-east of the later Bronze Age settlement at Longbarrow Roundabout and may represent agricultural activity, or peripheral activity associated with the Bronze Age settlement to the north-west.

2.3.10 Two graves located in Trench 15 immediately to the north of Wilsford G1 (see above) at the eastern extent of Area P contained Beaker pottery. Geophysical survey of this part of Area P indicated the presence of a number of large pit-type anomalies close to Trench 15, but excavation of an additional trench (18) to investigate some of these found only natural features. The finds recovered comprise primarily Beaker vessels and human bone from graves in Trench 15. A single worked bone belt loop was also recovered from the principal burial, together with charcoal and land snails. Other finds included Middle Bronze Age pottery, animal bone, burnt flint and worked flint of Neolithic to Bronze Age date from two pits in Trench 2.

2.3.11 The distribution of archaeological remains in the 2002 evaluation was extremely restricted but correlated with two known sites. The archaeological features correlated well with geophysical anomalies in Trench 15, but less clearly in Trench 2. Elsewhere, the identification of pit-type anomalies was notably

inconsistent, with features not predicted by geophysics being encountered across the whole area: all these pit-type features, whether predicted or not, were found to be of natural origin. Linear anomalies were found to be even more elusive; indeed, no linear features were recorded anywhere in Area P.

2.3.12 As seen in evaluation trenching elsewhere along the 2003 published scheme, the cropmark and soil mark features targeted by the trenches were not located and do not appear to represent surviving buried archaeological remains, but rather may result from variable degrees of chalk suspended in the ploughsoil.

2015 Historic England geophysical survey

2.3.13 Historic England carried out geophysical surveys on Diamonds Field, Boreland Farm in August 2015 as part of the Stonehenge Southern WHS survey project [12]. The surveys included a vehicle towed caesium magnetometer survey of an area of 26.9 ha, the northern extent of which coincided with the western end of the site, and encompassed land immediately to the west of the Phase 1 geophysical survey area SW1. The surveys also included GPR survey of an additional 2.3 ha focused on the scheduled Neolithic long barrow (NHLE1010830, Wilsford 34) and a group of round barrows (NHLE 1010834, Wilsford 35-36e) located to the south of the site.

2.3.14 The magnetometer survey detected elements of a probable late prehistoric field system previously identified from aerial photographs within the western end of the site. These appeared as a co-axial pattern of weak negative responses, interpreted as representing ploughed out banks, extending to the east of the scheduled linear boundary (NHLE 1010837). Traces of agricultural vehicle ruts were also detected in this area of the survey.

2.3.15 Further to the south, beyond the site, the surveys also identified evidence that further significant remains exist in the area of the scheduled barrows. This included indications of the survival of a greater concentration of individual monuments within the barrow group than had been recognised from aerial photographs, as well as a group of strong positive pit-type responses, which may represent associated activity.

Previous investigations related to the current scheme

2.3.16 The geophysical survey areas which coincide with the site comprised parts of SW1 (Phase 1) and SW9 (Phase 3). An additional area within the site was also subject to GPR survey (GPR Area 18) in 2017 [42]. The results of these surveys are described below.

2.3.17 Additional survey areas to the south of the site include SW2 (Phase 1) and SW5 (Phase 2) [20] [21]. Several other areas to the south-west, north-east and north-west of Longbarrow Roundabout have also been surveyed, as summarised in the Longbarrow Junction evaluation report [43].

Phase 1 Geophysical survey 2016 – SW1

2.3.18 The Phase 1 gradiometer survey covered a total of 44.7 ha to the south of the existing A303, and to the west and south-west of Normanton Gorse, coinciding with the central part of the site and extending further to the south [44]. An additional area within SW1, measuring 30m x 30m (GPR Area 3) and located to

coincide with a scheduled bowl barrow (NHLE 1013812) to the south of the site, was also subject to GPR survey.

2.3.19 A series of broad, weak positive, linear and curvilinear anomalies with a roughly right-angled bend (anomaly ref. 4409) were identified running from the southern corner to the northern corner of the survey area, extending into the eastern part of the site. The band of anomalies varied between 60 m and 70 m in width and corresponded with a series of linear features of unknown date previously identified from aerial photographs (MWI13149). The weak broad responses seen in the geophysical data were interpreted as being more typical of a former watercourse. This is supported by the topography of the survey area, with the responses lying at the bottom of a shallow valley. An area of similar responses detected further to the west, within the north-western part of the survey area (4410) and also extending into the site, were likely related to the same feature, although there is no physical connection visible in the data.

2.3.20 The only other anomalies detected within the site by the gradiometer survey were a scatter of discrete pit-like anomalies, interpreted as being of possible archaeological origin, and a north-west – south-east linear anomaly (4411) which correlated with the position of a former field boundary depicted on the 1972 edition OS map.

2.3.21 Several anomalies relating to scheduled monuments and other previously identified archaeological features in the area to the south of the site were detected, including the Wilsford Shaft (NHLE 1010833; anomaly ref. 4402), a bowl barrow further to the south (NHLE 1010831; 4401), and a non-designated linear boundary ditch of probable late prehistoric date (MWI13128; 4400). The survey also detected two linear anomalies, which were thought to represent part of a prehistoric or Romano-British field system identified from aerial photographs (MWI13128), extending westwards from the linear boundary ditch. The intersection of these linear features was subsequently investigated during trial trenching in the southern part of SW1 in 2016 [24].

2.3.22 No magnetic anomalies were detected in the location of a further scheduled round barrow (NHLE 1013812) located to the south of the site, possibly due to the effects of previous excavation and truncation by ploughing.

2.3.23 Other anomalies detected during the survey in the area to the south of the site included several possible former land divisions or field boundaries (4403 & 4405-8), and an area of widely spaced (10-12 m) parallel linear anomalies (4404) which were interpreted as possible traces of ridge and furrow cultivation.

Phase 3 Geophysical survey 2017 – SW9

2.3.24 The Phase 3 gradiometer survey covered a total area of 8.1 ha and coincided with two fields between the existing A303 to the north and Normanton Gorse to the south, and immediately to the east of Phase 1 survey area SW1 [22]. The eastern end of the site was included within the western field surveyed as part of area SW9.

2.3.25 The clearest magnetic anomalies of archaeological interest detected by the survey (8000) related to Wilsford G1 (NHLE 1010832). These comprised two intermittent annular anomalies and a smaller internal circular feature, representing

two concentric ring-ditches surrounding a central pit. The outermost of these ditches has an internal diameter of 13.5 m and is approximately 2 m wide, whilst the inner ditch has an internal diameter of 7 m and measures 1 m in width. The pit is roughly circular in shape with a maximum diameter of 2.4 m. It was thought likely that the intermittent nature of the ring ditches and the strong magnetic response encountered here was caused by the excavations undertaken in 1960.

2.3.26 A weakly positive linear anomaly (8003) was identified to the south of Wilsford G1. As it followed the edge of a natural slope in the area, as well as a band of superficial geological deposits (8004), it was interpreted as a possible former field boundary or lynchet. However, it also closely follows the alignment of other features to the south-east in Phase 1 area SW1 that have been identified as being Bronze Age in origin.

2.3.27 Numerous weakly positive pit-like anomalies were detected across the entirety of SW9. These are slightly more concentrated in the eastern field, but are randomly distributed across the entire surveyed area, including within the eastern part of the site. These were interpreted as possible archaeology but were too weak to be assigned any specific interpretation and could equally be natural pitting in the chalk bedrock.

2.3.28 The remainder of the anomalies detected in area SW9 that were interpreted as potentially being of archaeological interest were located outside the site, in the eastern surveyed field. These included a fragmented positive curvilinear anomaly (8001), representing a possibly small segmented or penannular ring ditch measuring 7.5 m in diameter, surrounding a pit-like anomaly approximately 1 m in diameter. The feature had previously been detected by an earlier geophysical survey [45] and subsequently interpreted by Lawson [36, p. 154] as 'probably the remains of another early Beaker burial place'. Leivers and Moore [19, pp. 30, figure 14] also suggest that this may be the location of a Beaker burial and/or a small causewayed barrow. Surveys carried out as part of the SHLP also detected the probable segmented ring ditch and associated features [16, p. ID2156 [AF9]].

2.3.29 Other features detected in the field to the east of the site included a north-east to south-west oriented positive linear anomaly (8002), surrounded on both sides by a negative linear response. This is indicative of a ditch feature, possibly associated with remnant bank material. This feature corresponds with a linear earthwork previously identified on aerial photographs. It is likely that this forms part of a wider complex of earthworks, thought to date to the Bronze Age.

2.3.30 The survey also detected a 6 m wide area of strong dipolar and increased magnetic response (8005) along the entirety of the northern edge of SW9. This is slightly more intermittent in the western field of SW9 but is consistently present adjacent to the current route of the road. This is associated with a narrow haul road that was excavated along the southern edge of the A303 during a watching brief carried out alongside geotechnical site investigations in 2001 [46]. Two further areas of ferrous response (8006 and 8007) detected within the eastern field also correlate to previously investigated trial pits [47].

Geophysical survey 2018 – GPR Area 18

2.3.31 In 2017, multi-channel GPR surveys were carried out, coinciding with Areas SW9 and the northern part of SW1 (GPR Area 18) [23]. The survey encompassed a

total area of 18.9 ha. It identified a number of anomalies that are likely to be associated with previously identified archaeological remains, including features detected by the Phase 1 and 3 gradiometer surveys of the area.

2.3.32 The GPR survey helped define the character and extent of the remains of Wilsford G1 (NHLE 1010832; GPR anomaly 10001) as well as identifying the impact of previous investigations on the monument. The possible small segmented or penannular ring ditch previously detected to the east of the site in the Phase 3 gradiometer survey of SW9 (8001) was also identified as a circular arrangement of pit-like features by the GPR survey (10002).

2.3.33 Several previously unrecorded features were also identified by the GPR survey. Of particular note was a curvilinear anomaly (10000) located in the north-western corner of the survey area, lying within the site. This measured some 4 m in diameter and was suggestive of an annular ditch measuring 1 m wide (see Fig. 11.8). Two possible pit-like features were detected within this ring ditch. Within the gradiometer survey of the area (Phase 1 area SW1), this feature was identified as a small possible pit-like feature, as opposed to a small ring ditch. It was noted that one possible explanation for this disparity is that the central area of the ring ditch is infilled by a strongly magnetic material. Such material would not be easily detected by GPR survey and is therefore not clearly visible within the results. Consequently, it was suggested that this feature may represent a shallow pond barrow, perhaps with a surrounding ditch feature.

2.3.34 A linear anomaly (10003) was identified in the eastern part of the GPR survey area, outside of the site. This corresponded with a previously recorded feature (Phase 3 area SW9, anomaly 8002) interpreted as part of a wider complex of earthworks dating to the Bronze Age. A possible lynchet (10004), which had been recorded during the preceding gradiometer survey (Phase 3 area SW9, anomaly 8003), and evidence for drainage is also indicated in the interpretation.

2.3.35 The GPR survey identified a former field boundary, which correlates with OS mapping and aerial photography, along with a variety of responses associated with a complex of superficial geological deposits. Numerous agricultural ploughing trends and evidence for previous archaeological investigations, in the form of trial pits, geotechnical pits, and evaluations trenches, were also detected. A particularly notable difference between the gradiometer and GPR surveys of the area is that a significantly larger number of possible pit-like features were identified in the initial gradiometer survey.

3 Aims and Objectives

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The overarching research themes driving archaeological investigation methods and techniques were derived from the WHS Research Framework [39] and are as set out in the OWSI [2, pp. 7-8]. In the SSWSI, the potential for the archaeological evaluation to contribute to these themes was considered through period-specific research themes [3, pp. 14-5]: these are not repeated here. The general aims of the archaeological evaluation as set out in the SSWSI are reproduced below for each proposed evaluation technique.

3.1.2 It is important to note that the scheduled areas of Wilsford G1 (NHLE 101832 in the east of the site) and the later prehistoric linear boundary (NHLE 1010837 in the far west of the site) were excluded from the evaluation works, as stipulated in the SSWSI [3, p. 25].

3.2 Aims

Ploughzone artefact sampling – test pitting and dry sieving

3.2.1 The general aims of the dry sieving (gridded test pitting and/or sampling of excavated spoil from trial trenches) were:

- to confirm the presence or absence of artefactual material within the ploughsoil and ploughsoil/subsoil interface and their relative concentrations;
- to determine the range, date and quantity of artefactual evidence present;
- to establish the extent, character, date (where possible) and significance of artefact scatters and the contribution they make to the OUV of the WHS; and
- to produce this interpretive report on the findings of the fieldwork and to inform the development of an archaeological mitigation strategy for the scheme.[1]

Trial trenching

3.2.2 The general aims of the trial trench investigations were:

- to confirm the presence or absence of surviving archaeological remains;
- to determine the location, nature, extent, date, condition, state of preservation, significance and complexity of any archaeological remains;
- to determine the likely range, quality and quantity of artefactual and environmental evidence present;
- to establish the extent and character of archaeological remains and provide an interpretation of the results in their local, regional, national or international context; and
- to produce this interpretive report on the findings of the fieldwork and to inform the development of an archaeological mitigation strategy for the scheme.[2]

[1] The approach to archaeological mitigation for the Scheme is set out in section 6.8 of the ES

[2] The approach to archaeological mitigation for the Scheme is set out in section 6.8 of the ES

3.3 Specific research objectives

3.3.1 The following specific objectives were proposed in order to address the research questions identified in the SSWSI [3, pp. 14-5, section 3.3]:

- to identify the presence within the site of any archaeological remains, including artefactual material in the topsoil, relating to potential Neolithic settlement activity; and to investigate the relationship of any such evidence to the currently identified Diamond Group funerary monuments;
- to investigate the survival, extent and date of any flat grave cemetery within the eastern part of the site and its relationship to the Wilsford G1 barrow and other outliers of the Normanton Down barrow cemetery;
- to consider the chronology of surviving archaeological remains in the context of barrow group development and the relationship of Early Bronze Age barrows to earlier monuments;
- to identify the presence within the site of any archaeological remains associated with the later Bronze Age settlement at Longbarrow Crossroads and the relationship of any settlement evidence to the barrow cemeteries and outliers and the Bronze Age field systems;
- to consider the survival, extent and chronology of the Bronze Age field systems within the site and their relationship to pre-existing barrows;
- to examine the nature of the 'natural' landscape during the later Bronze Age;
- to identify the impact of previous and current land uses on archaeological survival within the site; and
- to consider the significance of surviving archaeological remains within the site in terms of their contribution to the OUV of the WHS.

4 Methods

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The evaluation was conducted in accordance with the Standard and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists [48] [49]. A walkover of the site was made by Wessex Archaeology to determine ground conditions and access arrangements prior to fieldwork commencing. All work was carried out in accordance with the submitted Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) which included methods to undertake the works safely and reduce risk during the programme of works outlined in the SSWSI [3]. Any changes to those methods proposed within the SSWSI were agreed in advance with HMAG.

4.1.2 As stipulated in the SSWSI [3, p. 25], the scheduled areas of Wilsford G1 in the east of the site and the late prehistoric boundary in the far west of the site plus a buffer of 10 m around them was marked out as an exclusion zone to prevent inadvertent damage, as these were not to be investigated during the evaluation.

4.2 Ploughzone artefact sampling

Ploughzone artefact sampling (test-pitting and dry sieving)

4.2.1 At the time of the evaluation, crop growth in the arable land and the presence of pigs in the central part of the site prevented fieldwalking. Ploughsoil artefact sampling was undertaken through the hand-excavation of 1281 1m² test pits (Fig. 11.2), and the on-site sieving of all excavated soil. As agreed at the commencement of works by AmW and HMAG, approximately 360 test pits originally proposed were not excavated either to prevent encroachment on a stewardship margin along the northern boundary, or because they were located outside the site's revised southern RLB; within scheduled area exclusion zones; within ecological exclusion zones for nesting birds; within the footprints of previously excavated trenches; or along the line of an access track.

4.2.2 The test pits were excavated to the base of the ploughsoil and all soil was sieved through a 10 mm mesh with a sub-fraction (approximately 30 litres) sieved through a 5 mm mesh, with any artefacts recovered being retained and allocated a context number specific to the relevant test pit (a unique 10 digit number, prefixed with the 8 digit test pit which is consistent with the OS grid reference of the test pit).

4.2.3 Possible archaeological features were revealed in the bases of four test pits. In accordance with the approved SSWSI, no excavation of these features was carried out. Their shape in plan could not be established due to the limited area exposed in the bases of the test pits. As a result, these possible features could not be accurately interpreted or characterised. However, their locations can be approximately correlated with previously identified features in several cases. Any archaeological features visible at the base of the ploughsoil were recorded in plan, as a minimum.

4.2.4 Once test pits had been completed to the satisfaction of HMAG they were backfilled using excavated materials and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

4.2.5 Artefact sampling through ploughsoil sieving was also incorporated within the trial trenching methodology, with the exception of 19 trenches (Trenches 238, 239, 240, 241, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 255, 256, 258 and 259; Fig. 11.2) in the central area of the site, again due to biohazard risks. In the remaining trenches, a 150 litre sample of machined topsoil was sieved on site through a 10 mm mesh every 5 m along each trial trench, with any finds recovered allocated a unique context number.

4.3 Trial trenching

4.3.1 A total of 71 trenches (54 linear trenches mostly measuring 50 m x 1.8 m and 17 square trenches approximately 10 m x 10 m) were excavated across the site (Figs 11.1 and 11.2). The linear trenches were primarily targeted to investigate linear geophysical anomalies and apparently 'blank' areas. The square trenches were targeted selectively to examine possible pit-type anomalies, intersections between linear features, and apparently 'blank' areas.

4.3.2 Thirteen trial trenches originally proposed in the SSWSI were not excavated, with the agreement of HMAG, either because they lay beyond the RLB defining the southern extent of the site (Trenches 221, 216, 236, 242, 245,254, 257, 264, 275, 281 and 282) or lay within the exclusion zone defining the scheduled area of Wilsford G1 (Trenches 205 and 227). With the agreement of HMAG, several trial trenches bordering these locations were shortened (Trenches 231, 219, 215, 237, 247, 249, 255, 256, 263, 265, 268, 269, 274, 230, 286, and 208; Fig. 11.2). All other trial trenches were excavated in the locations proposed in the SSWSI. Trenches 202, 219, 244, 245, 260 were slightly extended following discussion with HMAG to more fully reveal features. An additional 12 m offshoot to Trench 261 was excavated due to an error that was corrected on site. Both the trench and extension were fully excavated and recorded.

4.3.3 Each trench was scanned for live services with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT). The trenches were excavated in level spits using a 360º excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed, whichever was encountered first.

4.3.4 A sample of the ploughsoil (approximately 150 l) from each trench was sieved through a 10mm gauge wire mesh at 5 m intervals along the trench for artefact sampling purposes (above). Any artefacts recovered using this methodology were assigned a unique context number according to their position within the trench. This position was then recorded on Wessex Archaeology's pro forma trial trench records or surveyed with GPS.

4.3.5 Where necessary, the base and sides of the trench were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits identified was hand-excavated, consistent with the methods set out in the OWSI [2, pp. 14-5, Table 2] and sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation. All tree-throw features were tested by partial excavation to confirm their natural origin; a 10% sample were half-sectioned or quadrant excavated to identify the potential for cultural material to be present, following a request from HMAG.

4.3.6 Stripped surfaces and spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was both metal detected and visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Finds retrieved using the above methods were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained.

4.3.7 Once completed and inspected by HMAG, trenches were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

4.4 Recording

4.4.1 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete drawn record of excavated features and deposits was made including both plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD: Newlyn) heights of all archaeological features were calculated, and levels added to plans and section drawings.

4.4.2 The location of archaeological features was surveyed using a Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSGM15 and OSTN15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of within 50 mm.

4.4.3 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.5 Finds and environmental strategies

4.5.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the SSWSI. Recovery of finds involved ploughzone artefact sampling (defined as total collection of all artefactual material visible on the surface within 5m x 5m square units (25m^2), initially spaced at 20m intervals) supplemented by topsoil sieving (based on excavation of 1m x 1m (1m^2) hand-dug test-pits spaced at 10m intervals (i.e. with a 9m gap between the edges of each), providing a 1% sample of the overall area). A further phase of artefact sampling by topsoil sieving was incorporated into the trial trench programme, to mitigate against information loss due to disturbance of artefact scatters in the topsoil by machine trenching. A 150 litre sample of machined spoil was sieved through a 10mm mesh every 5m along each trial trench.

4.5.2 The environmental sampling strategy followed the relevant guidance set by Historic England [50]. Bulk sediment samples for plant macro-fossils, small animal and fish bones and other small artefacts were taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated or potentially datable archaeological deposits and features. The volume of the samples amounted to at least 40-60 litres per context (or 100% in the case of smaller deposits) in areas with dry (i.e. not waterlogged) or mineralised preservation. The samples were taken by site staff and were

recorded in the standard Wessex Archaeology's environmental sample recording form.

4.5.3 Where buried soils and multi-layered deposits were encountered, Kubiena samples for micromorphological analysis were taken through them. Columns of small bulk samples for the retrieval and assessment of terrestrial molluscs were taken where sequences of natural deposits with potential for the analysis of landscape evolution over time, such as solution features and natural hollows, were encountered. These types of sampling were undertaken by specialist staff in Wessex Archaeology's Geoarchaeology and Environmental Archaeology department.

4.5.4 Suitable samples for radiocarbon dating were selected during post-excavation following the assessment of the bulk sediment samples and other specialist samples by Wessex Archaeology's Geoarchaeology and Environmental Archaeology department. Priority was given to short-lived samples with little or no potential for reservoir effects and from sealed deposits where at least two samples per context were available. The dates have been calculated using the IntCal13 calibration curve [51] and the computer program OxCal (v4.2.3) [52] and cited at 95% confidence.

4.5.5 The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* [49], *Environmental archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* [53] and *Geoarchaeology: using earth sciences to understand the archaeological record* [54], except where specified in the relevant sections.

4.6 Monitoring

4.6.1 The works were monitored by HMAG through regular site meetings arranged by AmW. HMAG is advised by a Scientific Committee of independent specialists and experts, who also visited the site. Monitoring visits were made by HMAG on a weekly basis in order that the archaeological work could be inspected and reviewed. Any variations to the SSWSI, if required in order to more appropriately address the project aims, were discussed between HMAG and AmW, and approved by HMAG.

5 Results

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Only nine of the 71 excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features (from west to east: Trenches 202, 220, 240, 241, 244, 260, 230, 211 and 208 – Fig. 11.2). However, many of the others contained tree-throw holes or natural features, some of which contained cultural material and therefore have some archaeological potential. Fourteen trenches (Trenches 203, 210, 214, 215, 231, 232, 237, 246, 248, 249, 255, 256, 258 and 274) were blank, i.e. they contained no archaeological or natural features.

5.1.2 Summaries of the excavated sequences in each trial trench can be found in Appendix A.

5.2 Soil and colluvial sequences and natural features

Soil and colluvial sequences

5.2.1 The soil sequence revealed in the trial trenches was generally an active ploughsoil (0.25–0.40 m thick), a mid greyish-brown silty loam, directly over the natural Chalk bedrock. The exception to this soil sequence was in the central part of the site where a shallow coombe crosses (Plate 12.1). In this location, in Trenches 214, 241, 247, 248, 249, 250, 258, 259, 259, 262, 263, 265, 266, 267, 269 and 274, the natural geology comprised soliflucted or heavily cryoturbated Chalk overlain by a thin colluvial deposit (<0.15 m deep), a mid reddish brown silty clay, with the ploughsoil above.

5.2.2 The natural geology had frequent periglacial stripes and ploughscars on its surface (too numerous to be confidently surveyed, however their presence was recorded on the trench sheets and photographically – Plate 12.1). Modern ploughing trends have been identified across the site (with varying alignments) by the geophysical surveys and it is therefore likely that this has had an impact on the preservation of archaeology, though the results (below) indicate that archaeological features and deposits have survived.

Natural depression in Trench 241

5.2.3 A natural depression (24105), interpreted with some confidence as a solution hollow or doline, lay within a presently-discernible area of low-lying topography at the south-west end of Trench 241 (Fig. 11.23). Measuring at least 8 m long and extending across the width of the trench, it was hand-excavated to a depth of 1.28 m below the present ground surface. Initial hand-augering, carried out to refusal at 1.6 m, demonstrated that the feature continued to at least this depth. The feature coincides with an oval-shaped geophysical anomaly – an increased ferrous response.

5.2.4 This natural feature in the soliflucted chalk present in this area of the site had a possible cut feature (pit 24103) measuring approximately 6.9 m long by 0.8 m wide and 0.6 m deep cut into its upper fills (Section 1 and Plate 12.2). The validity of this possible pit as a true cut feature is questionable as its wide profile seems to follow that of the part-infilled hollow and may just reflect the clear distinction between the lower calcareous fills and the upper darker fills representing the final infilling. However, there is clear evidence that people made use of the natural

shelter provided by the part-infilled hollow, with in situ burning evident (deposits 24136 and 24104, detailed below). Archaeological finds were recovered both from the deposits filling the possible pit and from the upper layers infilling the depression.

5.2.5 The lower excavated portion of depression 24105 was infilled with redeposited natural deposits (24139–24141 and 24116, Section 1); those lying physically adjacent to the steeper north-west side of the feature provide evidence of weathering of the upper sides (24137–24138). No artefacts were recovered from any of these deposits. A bulk environmental sample was taken from layer 24116 (sample 24118).

5.2.6 Bands of yellowish-brown clay silt representing gradual silting (24115, 24113, 24108) lay sequentially over the described primary fills (above) and were capped with a darker stone-free silt interpreted as a decalcified stabilisation horizon (24107), with an underlying worm-sorted flint-rich horizon (24119). It is this stabilisation layer that was cut by possible pit 24103. A quantity of finds was retrieved from these layers (bar deposits 24115 and 24119), including worked flint (approximately 70 in total, including evidence of a single knapping event from one layer (24108)), burnt flint, two sherds of abraded probable Beaker pottery (24113), ten sherds of Roman pottery (24107 and 24108), two sherds of medieval pottery (24113) and an eroded tooth fragment (probably cattle). Environmental bulk samples were taken from layers 24107 and 24115 (samples 24111 and 24117).

5.2.7 The lower fill of possible pit 24103 was excavated as 24104, though following cleaning of the section, this was split into two contexts with the lower one (24136) being very fine decalcified silt. The finds and environmental sample retrieved were assigned to context 24104 (sample 24110). Fire-reddened areas were recorded within the basal fill (24136), a very dark brown/black silt, and this likely represents in situ burning. Very small fragments of fired clay were also observed in deposit 24104, although they could not be successfully collected. The derivation of fill 24104 is uncertain, although it could be the bioturbated remains of 24136. Three pieces of worked flint and a similar quantity of burnt flint were the only recovered finds from these layers, and therefore this deposit remains of uncertain date. However, considering the small mixed assemblage of pottery from the layers stratigraphically below, the burnt layer is likely to be post-Roman in date, possibly medieval.

5.2.8 The final layers infilling pit 24103, at the top of hollow 24105, were dark brown silty clay deposits with rare flint inclusions and no chalk (24134 and 24135) which were machined out during the initial trench excavation, from which no finds were retrieved. Context 24134 is interpreted as a possible stabilisation horizon at the top of the secondary fill sequence. The very upper fill (24106) is most likely a plough-derived tertiary layer, which was environmentally sampled (sample series 24121).

Geoarchaeological comment on the natural depression in Trench 241

5.2.9 The large feature (24105) in Trench 241 fits well with interpretation as a solution hollow/small sink hole/doline and sits within a slight but noticeable topographic depression in the present land-surface, which supports this interpretation.

5.2.10 The fills are consistent with a Holocene date and are colluvial in nature (generally calcareous/slightly calcareous silt loams to silty clay loams; probably with some degree of loessic content), although it is likely that Pleistocene Coombe Deposits are present at greater depth. Whilst activity within the hollow itself is evident, the feature will have acted as a natural capture-point for ploughed-in archaeological surface material, and this is reflected by the artefactual assemblage.

5.2.11 Patches of fire-reddened sediment were observed in the upper layers of the feature (context 24136), although not with a coherent pattern to indicate that a hearth as such was present. It does seem likely that this deposit relates to an in situ burning event or events within the hollow however, as the reddened patches were not coherent enough to survive being ploughed in. No buried soil is present to indicate a significant stasis at this point, and colluvial in-filling continues above this.

5.2.12 A sequence of contiguous small bulk samples (sample series 24120) was taken, along with other bulk samples for charcoal and charred plant remains. The results from these are presented in Section 7.

Other natural features and tree hollows

5.2.13 Natural features and tree hollows were commonly uncovered in the trial trenches, with an increased density in the central and eastern areas of the site which in part relates to the presence of the shallow coombe crossing the site in these areas (as many of these features probably relate to slight undulations in the natural).

5.2.14 In the west of the site, tree hollows in Trenches 202, 217, 234, 245 and 251 were half-sectioned but no finds were recovered. A potential feature in Trench 217 that correlated with a 'possible archaeology' discrete geophysical anomaly was 100% excavated and found to be an irregular tree or shrub hole (21703) measuring 1.3 m by 0.6 m and 0.3m deep (Fig. 11.18). No finds were retrieved from its single fill. A large tree-throw hole (23505), one of two present in Trench 235, was half-sectioned and displayed a typical tree-throw fill sequence of redeposited natural from the disturbance of the natural as the tree fell, with a crescent-shaped silty fill from the silting of the resultant hollow. No finds were recovered (Fig. 11.19 and Plate 12.3). Some burnt flint (850 g) was recovered from another large tree-throw hole in Trench 238 measuring 2.5 m x 1.85 m x 0.25 m deep (Fig. 11.21).

5.2.15 In Trench 218, several small sub-circular shallow features (21805, 21807, 21809, 21811 and 21812) were located round a larger irregular feature (21803) (Fig. 11.18 and Plate 12.4). Many of these features had irregular sides and bases, with indications of tunnelling to the sides, evidently forming parts of an animal burrow complex. The fills of these features were consistently dark brown silt clay loams of very loose compaction: a single worked flint flake was retrieved from the fill of 21803 and 24 fragments of cattle bone came from 21809.

5.2.16 In Trench 260, a tree hollow (26023) measuring 1.30 m by 0.95 m and 0.24 m deep was half-sectioned and then 100% excavated because of its proximity to a Beaker inhumation grave (Fig. 11.30). The hollow contained Beaker pottery, mainly found towards the surface of the single fill (26024), and a relatively large quantity of burnt flint. This feature is discussed in more detail below.

5.2.17 Many natural features mostly comprising areas of root disturbance or infilled slight depressions in the underlying natural geology were present in the central and eastern parts of the site in Trenches 261, 262, 263, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 276, 212, 214, 230, 277, 278, 279, 280, 283, 204, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 226, 228, 283, 284, 285 and 286. Only two of these contained any finds: tree-throw hole 27003 in Trench 270 (Fig. 11.33) and shrub hole 27303 in Trench 273 (Fig. 11.35).

5.2.18 Tree-throw hole 27003 in Trench 270 was a circular area of disturbed natural with a series of irregular hollows, 0.05–0.16 m deep on average (Fig. 11.33 and Plate 12.5). One was deeper (measuring approximately 0.4 m deep with a vertical roothole continuing to 0.73 m: Plate 12.6). A large quantity of burnt flint (approximately 9 kg) was recovered from the upper part of the reddish-brown silty clay fill (27004), along with a single stone bead. This feature was environmentally sampled (sample 27009): a sample of hazel (*Corylus avellana)* nutshell fragment returned a radiocarbon determination of 2140-1950 cal. BC (UBA-39016: 3663±32 BP). In contrast, only six pieces of burnt flint were retrieved from a small shrub hole 27303 in Trench 273.

5.3 Archaeological features and deposits

Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pits

5.3.1 A circular pit (23403) measuring 0.80 m by 0.85 m was 100% excavated in Trench 234 to a depth of 0.25 m (Fig. 11.19). It contained a single deliberate backfill deposit (23404), a dark blackish-brown silty clay loam, which was poorly sorted (Section 2 and Plate 12.7). Two sherds and several crumbs of Beaker pottery, some animal bone fragments, worked flint (including flake debitage and a scraper), burnt flint and a worked bone point (object no. 23408) were recovered from fill 23404, which was also environmentally sampled (sample no. 23407). A sample of hazel (*Corylus avellana)* nutshell fragment returned a radiocarbon determination of 2140-1920 cal. BC (UBA-39010: 3655±40 BP). This feature does not appear to correlate to any discrete geophysical anomaly. The only other feature in the trench, a tree-throw hole (23405), was investigated but did not contain any archaeological components.

5.3.2 Two small subcircular pits (24003 and 24005) located 13 m apart in Trench 240 were 100% excavated and found to be shallow, less than 0.2 m deep (Fig. 11.23 and Sections 3 and 4). The recovered pottery suggests that pit 24005 is of Beaker date and that the other (pit 24003) dates to the Early Bronze Age. A sample of hazel (*Corylus avellana)* nutshell fragment from fill 24006 of Pit 24005, however, returned a radiocarbon determination of 2200-1970 cal. BC (UBA-39012: 3686±32 BP). Pit 24005 contained eleven sherds of Beaker pottery, from perhaps five different vessels, recovered from its secondary fill (possible deliberate backfill deposit 24006), while nine sherds of probable Collared Urn were recovered from the upper fill (24004) of pit 24003. Both pits also contained small quantities of worked flint and burnt flint, with poorly preserved animal bone also present in pit 24003. The fills of both pits were environmentally sampled (samples 24008–24011).

Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (Beaker) inhumation graves

5.3.3 In Trench 260, an inhumation grave (26009) was initially partly uncovered in section against the north-western edge of the trench, which was then

subsequently extended to reveal the grave in its entirety (Figs. 11.29, 11.45 and 11.52; Plate 12.8). The grave, sub-oval in plan, measured 1.93 m long (with a north–south axis), 1.26 m wide and 0.35 m deep and had moderate to steep sides, which were steeper on the western side of the grave (Sections 5 and 6). The adult inhumation (26010) was placed in the grave on a south–north alignment in a flexed position on its right side and was accompanied by several grave goods (Fig. 11.53 and Plate 12.9). These included a fragmentary Beaker vessel with combed decoration (object 26013) located to the west of the pelvis, a shale object (object 26015) located on the pelvis by the right elbow, and a copper alloy pin/needle fragment (object 26014) found east of the feet bones. Animal disturbance was apparent to the western side of the grave cut (near the Beaker vessel) and to the south (by the head) and south-west providing an explanation for the displacement of parts of the skull and the right ulna from the rest of the skeleton which was predominantly in situ. The inhumation and grave goods were covered by a deliberate backfill deposit (26011), a moderately compact mid reddish-brown silty clay loam with patches of lighter siltier redeposited natural (found mainly round the sides) containing small chalk pieces throughout and sub-angular flints (>0.10m) concentrated in the centre of the grave, just above the skeleton. These unworked flints may provide an indication of a cairn that may have once marked the burial. A thin dark brownish-grey deposit (26012) was recorded above the deliberate backfill but did not cover the entirety of the surface of the grave. It is interpreted as a tertiary fill that might have derived from ploughed-in sediment or be associated with the described animal burrowing. A single worked flint flake was also recovered from backfill (26011). Small fragments of human bone and Beaker pottery from layer 26012 are likely to have been displaced from the burial context by the animal disturbance and a very small quantity of animal bone was also retrieved.

5.3.4 All other potentially archaeological features within Trench 260 were fully investigated. Although no further graves were found, one feature (26023) contained evidence of possibly contemporary activity. Feature 26023 (Section 7 and Plate 12.10) was half-sectioned and then 100% excavated. It had very irregular sides and an irregular base and was therefore interpreted as a tree-throw hole. It contained 35 small very abraded sherds of Beaker pottery (mainly found close to the surface of the fill, at the south-east end) and 2 kg of burnt flint from its single fill which was thought to have derived from natural silting.

5.3.5 Approximately 170 m to the south-west of the inhumation in Trench 260, one further definite Beaker grave (24405) and a further three features (24412, 24416 and 24418) were revealed in plan in Trench 240, apparently cut in to the upper fill (24404) of a large tree-throw hole (24403) or area of root disturbance (Fig. 11.22 and Plate 12.11). Following consultation with HMAG, only one of these (24405) was 100% excavated, the rest protected in situ by layers of Terram, replaced excavated spoil and clean sand, so that they could be better investigated as part of any future mitigation phase.

5.3.6 Grave 24405 was sub-oval in plan with its long axis orientated SSW–NNE. It measured 1.28 m by 0.80 m and was a maximum of 0.26 m deep, with irregular moderately sloping sides and an irregular base (Section 8). The grave was partly cut into the upper fill of an area of root disturbance (cut 24403, largely unexcavated) and its upper fill appeared to be cut in turn by an adjacent feature (42212 – mostly unexcavated). The two just overlapped, and three sherds of plain

Beaker pottery and a piece of burnt flint were recovered from fill 24413 of 24412. 24405 was initially half-sectioned and then 100 % excavated with the fills 100% bulk sampled for artefact and environmental retrieval (samples 24407, 24414, 24415, 24422 and 24423). A sample of wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grain returned a radiocarbon date of 2340-2060 cal. BC (UBA-39015: 3790±35 BP).

5.3.7 The grave was filled with two deposits: a lower deliberate backfill (24409/24423) consisting of a mid-brown silty loam with frequent pea grit inclusions throughout, and an overlying secondary fill (24406/24421) consisting of a mid to dark greyish-brown silty clay loam with some large sub-angular flints (mainly located to the centre and lower part of the deposit) and moderate smaller chalk pieces. This secondary fill may also represent a deliberate backfill, later affected by root and animal action. A relatively large quantity of Beaker pottery (nearly 500 g in total) was recovered, with most of this deriving from the lower deliberate backfill (the upper deposit contained only 55 g of the total). This assemblage includes portions of a plain Beaker vessel which appeared to have been placed on or near the bottom of the grave (object 24408 from the lower deliberate backfill 24409; Plate 12.12) in an already incomplete (and partially burnt) state. At least two other fragmentary vessels were represented (objects 24410 and 24423). Other finds comprised very small quantities of worked flint flakes and burnt flint. No human bone was observed during excavation, but neonate bone was recovered during processing of the environmental samples, suggesting that the feature may have been a grave.

Modern

5.3.8 Two modern features, square or rectangular in plan, were uncovered at the north-west end of Trench 244 (Fig. 11.22). Another circular modern feature in Trench 259 (Fig. 11.29) contained straw bedding material related to pigs that were recently farmed there.

5.3.9 In Trench 260 (Fig. 11.29) a small circular feature (26005; Plate 12.13) was half-sectioned and was initially thought to be possibly archaeological, but 100% excavation showed that it had steep vertical sides, was filled with a mixed loose backfill (consisting of dark silty loam and redeposited chalk); the base was not reached at the limit of excavation (0.6 m +). This is consistent with a backfilled borehole from previous geotechnical work relating to the A303. Nearby, a short shallow linear feature, a probable modern wheel rut (26007), probably also relates to this activity. Another modern borehole was revealed at the base of Test Pit 1006 4130, near the south-west boundary of the site (Fig.11.3).

Uncertain date

5.3.10 In the far west of the site, a sub-circular pit (20205) measuring 0.86 m wide, 0.96 m long and 0.66 m deep was 100% excavated after the trench was extended to fully reveal it in plan (Fig. 11.14; Section 9 and Plate 12.14). It was filled with a single mid brown silty loam deposit (20206), a possible deliberate backfill, which contained no dateable artefacts, only small quantities of poorly preserved animal bone. The feature is undated, although it could relate to the peripheries of the Bronze Age settlement located at the Long Barrow Crossroads to the north and west.

5.3.11 Two fairly substantial postholes (21103 and 21105) were located 1.5 m apart in Trench 211 in the east of the site (Fig. 11.38 and Plate 12.15). They were both

similar in size and shape (Sections 10 and 11), although only one (21105) was fully revealed in the trench measuring 0.30 x 0.35 m and 0.23 m deep. They were each filled with a single fill, a dark reddish-brown silty clay which yielded no artefacts. There was no definite evidence of large post packing, though the small–medium sized flint gravels were recorded around the sides of the cut.

5.3.12 Another possible posthole (20803, Fig. 11.42 and Section 12) was located in Trench 208 in the east of the site. It was sub-square in plan, only 0.06m deep, and was filled with a dark brown silty clay loam that contained no finds but was similar in nature to the ploughsoil and therefore could possibly be Post-medieval or modern in date.

5.3.13 A further four postholes (23003, 23005, 23007 and 23011) were found in Trench 230 which appear to form a fence-line orientated approximately NNW–SSE (Fig. 11.36 and Sections 12-16). All were 0.32 m in diameter and varied between 0.05 m deep and 0.12 m deep and were filled with single fills which did not contain any finds. These could also relate to later agricultural activity.

5.3.14 A small number of other potential features were revealed at the base of some of the excavated test pits. Since the purpose of test pitting was ploughsoil artefact sampling, these features were not generally excavated, and no dateable finds were retrieved from their upper fills. It is of note that in areas where colluvium was encountered (as discussed in Section 5.2), this was also generally not excavated and therefore could potentially mask further archaeological features. Potential features recorded in the test pits are listed below:

- Possible discrete feature in south-west corner of Test Pit 1117 4160, in far south-west of site.
- Potential linear features in adjacent Test Pits 1002 4141, 1003 4141 (Plate 12.16), 1003 4140 and 1003 4142, in the extreme north-west of the site.
- Potential linear in Test Pit 1009 4131, close to south-west site boundary.
- Potential tree-throw holes in Test Pits 1005 4140, 1017 4145, 1022 4134 and 1023 4141, in the central area of the site.
- Possible linear feature in Test Pit 1026 4143 (Plate 12.17), located on the eastern edge of the extent of test pitting in the west of the site.
- Potential linear features in Test Pits 1070 4150 and 1072 4150, in the central southern part of the site – though these may actually relate to colluvial deposits in this area as the latter was not identified when Trench 265 was subsequently excavated in the same location.
- Possible linear feature in Test Pit 1093 4163, near the northern boundary of the site.
- Possible feature (which coincides with a discrete possible archaeology geophysical anomaly) in Test Pit 1094 4156, near the southern boundary of the site.
- Potential ditch (Plate 12.18) in Test Pit 1113 4159, located in the south-west corner of the site, with narrow *c*. 0.3m cross-section hand-excavated.

5.4 Ploughzone artefact sampling (test pitting and dry sieving)

Introduction and methods

5.4.1 Initial quantification of the results of the ploughsoil sieving was undertaken using a Microsoft Access database, with this data used to create point distribution plots in ArcMap 10.3. Points of increasing size were created for each material, based upon the count or weight of the material within a trench spoil sieving unit. Worked flint, pottery and metalwork are displayed by count, while burnt flint and CBM are displayed by weight (in grams). Plots are shown in Figs 11.46 to 11.52.

Results: artefact distribution

Prehistoric, Roman and Medieval pottery

5.4.2 The distribution of pottery belonging within these periods is shown on Fig. 11.46. The prehistoric pottery was mostly from Trenches 202, 234, 240 and 244 in the western end of the Western Portal area and from Trench 260 to the east. The small quantities of Roman and medieval sherds mostly occur as isolated instances or as very small groups of sherds and no particular pattern are evident.

Struck flint

5.4.3 Worked flint was recovered from test pits and trial trenches across the evaluated areas (Fig. 11.47). Densities were highest in the western half, south of the Winterbourne Stoke barrow group, becoming lower eastwards towards Wilsford G1.

5.4.4 Within the eastern portion of the evaluation area (west of Wilsford G1) an area of significantly higher density ran east – west south of Trench 214 in a narrow band north of Wilsford G33a (the Wilsford Shaft). This concentration coincided with Test Pits 1078 4155 (23 pieces), 1079 4155 (24 pieces), 1081 4155 (43 pieces), 1082 4155 (27 pieces), 1083 4155 (24 pieces), 1084 4155 (20 pieces), 1087 4155 (24 pieces), 1087 4156 (21 pieces), 1088 4155 (38 pieces), 1088 4156 (19 pieces) and 1089 4156 (26 pieces).

5.4.5 Within the western portion, a very high density of material was recovered from Trench 241 (over 100 pieces) and Trench 240 (64 pieces including two scrapers). Test pitting in this same area encountered the highest densities of material from the site, clustered around Trenches 240, 241 and 247 and extending in a broad band northwards. Two other concentrations occurred to the east and west. None of the material appears to have been produced *in situ* and there is no apparent correlation with sub-surface features, although the southern parts of the distributions coincide with a dry valley, which may suggest a former landscape feature forming a focus for activity.

5.4.6 Towards the western end (south of the Winterbourne Stoke barrows), a significant concentration (over 100 pieces) came from Trench 202. Higher-than-normal groups from Test Pits 0999 4129 (32 pieces, two scrapers), 0999 4130 (19 pieces, one scraper) and 0999 4131 (22 pieces) are adjacent to this trench at the south-western end of the area.

5.4.7 Moving from west to east, a higher concentration in a north – south column just east of the western boundary of Winterbourne Stoke Clump centred on 1006 4141 north of Trenches 223 and 224 (34 pieces). Some one hundred metres

further east, a second north – south column of higher density included Test Pits 1017 4141 (19 pieces) 1017 4142 (17 pieces) and 1017 4144 (18 pieces), immediately east of Trench 225.

5.4.8 70 m further east, Test Pits 1023 4141 (17 pieces) and 1024 4141 (31 pieces) marked another small concentration of material around Trench 203. In the south-east corner of the western area, Test Pits 1028 4136 (21 pieces), 1029 4136 (29 pieces) and 1030 4138 (21 pieces) form an arc of higher density west of Trench 237.

Distribution: burnt flint

5.4.9 Burnt flint was recovered from test pits and trial trenches across the evaluated areas (Fig. 11.48). Unlike the struck flint, densities were highest at the western end, south of the Winterbourne Stoke Clump, and eastwards north of the Wilsford shaft.

5.4.10 Within the eastern half of the evaluation area (west of Wilsford G1) concentrations of significance occur in Trenches 260 (over 100 pieces) and 270 (over 300 pieces). The latter concentration lay to the south of an area of significantly higher density running east – west through Test Pits 1078 4155 , 1079 4155, 1080 4155, 1081 4155, 1082 4155 and 1083 4155.

5.4.11 Within the western portion, Trenches 240 and 241 contain elevated levels of burnt flint, possibly indicative of prehistoric activity focussed in this area. Concentrations of burnt flint recovered from test pitting are much more evenly distributed across this portion of the site, with none of the distinct and very elevated concentrations visible in the struck flint distribution, although test pits around Trenches 240 and 241 did contain somewhat elevated levels.

5.4.12 Towards the western end (south of the Winterbourne Stoke barrows), a concentration of pieces occurs in Trench 202 (over 100 pieces). Higher incidences (>35 pieces) of pieces occur in Test Pits 1017 4141, 1017 4142 and 1017 4143; Test Pits1023 4142, 1024 4141 and 1024 4142; and 1028 4136.

Distribution: comparison

5.4.13 At the western and eastern ends of the site, the distributions of struck and burnt flint broadly correspond, although there are instances where the highest densities of worked and burnt flint are adjacent to each other rather than directly superimposed. In the central portion, levels of struck flint are elevated, although levels of burnt flint are not. It seems probable that the eastern and western concentrations of worked and burnt flint may mark the locations of discrete foci for activity which have been somewhat dispersed by ploughing, whereas the struck flint concentrations north of and around the dry valley where there are no corresponding accumulations of burnt flint result from a different (and not necessarily anthropogenic) process.

5.4.14 Some of the concentrations coincide with archaeological features, although these tend to be the exception: at the western end, Trench 202 contained a pit; in the centre, Trenches 240 and 241 contained pits; at the eastern end, Trench 260 contained a crouched inhumation.

5.4.15 Earlier programmes of fieldwalking examined the area of the Western Portal evaluation. WA 35734 (Areas 9, 10, 11 and 13 on routes south of Stonehenge and Area 12 south-west of Longbarrow Crossroads) revealed no clear pattern of distribution in any of the survey areas. The Stonehenge Environs Project [55] does not provide a sufficiently fine focus to identify with certainty what part of their area 59 (The Diamond) intersects with the Western Portal evaluation (although its northern extent undoubtedly does). Richards identified the dry valley running south-east from Longbarrow Crossroads as "the focus for consistent values of worked flint in excess of 90 pieces per 50m collection unit" and noted "strongly nucleated activity" at Winterbourne Stoke Crossroads, The Diamond and The Ditches (SEP areas 50, 59 and 77, to the south and south-east of the Western Portal area), within a wider area of activity [55]. The SEP did not evaluate any of the immediately surrounding blocks of land, so it is impossible to demonstrate whether the levels of flint collected there are markedly higher than in the close environs. Other areas further to the east and north-east, however, produced much lower densities of struck flint, supporting Richards' interpretation of "broad zone preferences". These varying levels and the patterning within them appear to be comparable to the results from the Western Portal evaluation, which supports the notion of the area south and east of Winterbourne Stoke Crossroads as a preferred one for lithic tool use and deposition.

Other finds

5.4.16 This group includes the ceramic building material, clay tobacco pipe, glass and synthetics, almost all of Post-medieval or modern date, as well as the intrinsically undatable materials such as the animal bone and stone. These distributions are shown in Figs. 11.49 to 11.52. Individual items such as the copper alloy pin/needle fragment, the worked bone point, stone bead and shale object occurred only in cut, prehistoric features, where preservation and collection conditions were more suited to their survival and recognition. The other materials only occur in relatively small quantities, but all show a widespread distribution across the evaluated sections of the Western Portal area, and probably reflect casual losses and refuse disposal relating to the agricultural use of the landscape during the Post-medieval and modern periods.

6 Artefactual evidence

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Overall, 148.6 kg of finds were recovered (Table 10-1). Totals were for the most part fairly small with only burnt flint, worked flint and stone occurring in any quantity. Significant quantities of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age finds associated with Beaker pottery came from Trenches 240 (pits 24003 and 24005), 244 (grave 24405 and pit 24412) and 260 (grave 26009 and tree throw 26023). The remainder of the assemblage is predominantly of Post-medieval/modern date.

6.2 Pottery

6.2.1 In total, 491 sherds (1592 g) of pottery were recovered (Table 10-1). These are dominated by Beaker sherds of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date (413 sherds, 1000 g), with nine Early Bronze Age pieces (107 g) and eight (54 g) of later prehistoric, probably Late Bronze Age, date. Roman (35 pieces, 197 g), medieval (six pieces, 14 g) and Post-medieval/modern (20 pieces, 220 g) sherds were also recovered.

6.2.2 The assemblage has been quantified (count and weight) by fabric type within each context and comments made on form, decoration, surface treatment, evidence of use, condition and any other salient features. The Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age sherds, predominantly from negative features, survive in good, fresh condition with numerous refits possible amongst the material from the individual features. The rest of the assemblage generally survives in poor, abraded condition, consistent with a ploughzone assemblage. The prehistoric, Roman and medieval sherds have been retained for further analysis; the Post-medieval and modern pottery was all recovered from the ploughsoil and was discarded after quantification.

Beaker

6.2.3 Beaker ceramics were recovered from the ploughsoil in test pit 1014 4132 and 1042 4142, and in trench 202, as well as from three pits (23405 in trench 234; pit 24005 in trench 240; pit 24412 in trench 244), two graves (grave 24405 in trench 244; grave 26009 in trench 260) and a tree throw (26023 in trench 260).

6.2.4 The sherds from the ploughsoil (1014 4132 01, 1042 4142 01 and 20217) were very abraded. Comb-impressed decoration was noted on the sherd from the test pit, while the decoration on the piece from 20217 consisted of closely-spaced horizontal lines, possibly of twisted cord, possibly comb impression. The sherd from test pit 1042 4142 is highly abraded but may have been decorated.

6.2.5 Fill 23404 of Pit 23405 contained 25 pieces (35g) including two non-joining sherds and several crumbs from a Coarse Beaker with sharp horizontal cordons decorated with impressed chevrons.

6.2.6 Fill 24006 of pit 24005 contained fragments of perhaps five vessels:

1. A rim and two small body sherds with vertical zig-zagging lines of ?bone impressions;
2. One small sherd with lines of fine incision, possibly from the same vessel as another small sherd with a line of fine impressed comb;

3. A rim with no decoration;
4. Two joining rims and two non-joining bodies with horizontal lines of widely-spaced comb impression; and
5. A body sherd with lines of ?bone impression.

6.2.7 The upper fill (24406) of grave 24405 contained 41 sherds and numerous crumbs from at least two vessels:

1. Two non-joining rims from a 'barbed-wire' Beaker
2. 39 sherds (including two rims) from a thin-walled vessel with comb impression in horizontal lines, depending triangles and cross-hatched bands.

6.2.8 The lower fill (24409/24423) contained:

1. 21 sherds and numerous crumbs predominantly from the base and lower wall of a vessel decorated with fairly random ?bone end impressions. ON 24410
2. Portions of a plain, very fine vessel. The rim has a slight internal bevel. The neck is fairly long above a low rounded belly. ON 24408
3. 23 sherds from the base and lower body of a vessel with downward pointing triangles above the base filled with horizontal lines of comb impression which continues for ~four lines above the meeting tops of the adjacent triangles, where there is a narrow blank panel (at the slight shoulder) and then more cord.

6.2.9 Fill 24413 of Pit 24412 contained two sherds of the fine plain vessel in Grave 24405.

6.2.10 Grave 26009 contained sherds from a fine vessel (ON 26013) with a simple rim with three horizontal lines of comb below it bounding a cross hatched panel, below which were three more horizontal comb-impressed lines. A blank panel sat above three more comb-impressed lines. Six of the sherds came from fill 26011 and four from 26012, probably displaced by animal burrowing.

6.2.11 Fill 26024 of tree throw 26023 contained 34 very abraded sherds probably all deriving from one comb-impressed vessel.

Early Bronze Age

6.2.12 Nine thick walled plain sherds from fill 24004 of pit 24003 probably derive from a Collared Urn.

Late Bronze Age

6.2.13 Single plain sherds in flint-tempered (ploughsoils 20313 and 23414) and sandy fabrics (ploughsoil 22211 and 1036 4146 03) are probably of Late Bronze Age date. Four other abraded sherds in flint- and sand and flint- tempered fabrics came from the ploughsoil in test pits 1012 4137, 1013 4135, 10304138 and 1027 4142 respectively. These were assigned a generalised ‘later prehistoric’ date, but would not be out of place in this Late Bronze Age period.

Roman

6.2.14 The Romano-British sherds were recovered from 19 ploughsoil locations (test pits 0998 4136, 0999 4131, 0999 4132, 0999 4137, 0999 4138, 1008 4131, 1008 4134, 1013 4133, 1013 4140, 1014 4132, 1016 4140, 1016 4141, 1017 4141, 1017 4142, 1018 4137, 1020 4133, 1021 4142 and 1028 4142; trenches 260 and 273). The largest group came from trench 241, where 12 Roman sherds and four of medieval date (see below) were recovered from probable solution hollow 24105.

6.2.15 Sandy greywares (21 sherds) dominate this small assemblage. Two rims derive from a narrow-necked jar with a flanged rim (cf [56], 100, type 32; (test pit 0998 4136) and an everted rim jar (test pit 1021 4142). Other utilitarian coarsewares are represented by five sherds of South-east Dorset Black Burnished ware and two pieces of Savernake-type grog-tempered ware, while medium-quality wares are represented by a fully oxidised scrap from a flagon neck or strap handle (trench 260) and part of the rim of white-slipped red ware everted rim jar (test pit 1013 4140). Continental imports comprise three pieces of Central Gaulish samian (test pits 0999 4132, 1028 4142 and 1017 4142, the latter being from a Dragendorf form 33 cup) and a rim from a Central Gaulish black colour-coated ware beaker (test pit 1014 4132). All these wares are common in the area, occurring at Stonehenge itself [57], for example, and date from the 2nd to 4th centuries AD.

Medieval

6.2.16 The six medieval sherds (11g) are all of Laverstock-type sandy coarseware. One came from test pit 1073 4151 and one from 1025 4144, while the others occurred alongside the pieces of Roman date in probable solution hollow 24105. No diagnostic sherds are present but the kilns, located just east of Salisbury, are known to have operated during the 13th century [58].

Post-medieval and modern

6.2.17 Pottery of Post-medieval and modern date was recovered from fifteen ploughsoil locations (test pits 1008 4131, 1008 4133, 1009 4137, 1011 4133, 1011 4138, 1013 4132, 1013 4132, 1015 4135, 1019 4144 1029 4145 and 1038 4145; trenches 218, 222, 223, 231, 232 and 267). The group is predominantly composed of coarse glazed earthenwares mostly of the pale firing type characteristic of the Verwood production centre on the edge of the New Forest [59], along with refined white ware crockery, some with blue and white transfer-printed decoration. One tiny piece (1g) of German stoneware came from test pit 1013 4132, while two English stoneware jam or marmalade jar fragments were recovered from test pit 1019 4144 trench 223. All these sherds are likely to be of 19th or early 20th century date.

6.3 Flint

6.3.1 8731 pieces of worked flint were recovered, as in Table 10-2. The pieces were retrieved from ploughzone sampling and trial trenches. The material is discussed as a whole.

6.3.2 The condition of the assemblage varies. Much of it is in a state typical of collections from the ploughzone, with a preponderance of heavily patinated, large robust fragments of debitage, of the kind most likely to survive in such conditions,

while many (both heavily patinated and less so) have splotchy orange iron staining. Some of the material is indicative of having undergone prolonged ploughing, with weathering of the surface through the patina and heavy damage. While much of the better-preserved material came from contexts below the topsoil, some of it was found in ploughzone layers. In these instances, the lesser degree of patination may indicate dispersed assemblages which have spent less time *ex situ*.

6.3.3 The predominance of patinated pieces means that colour cannot be assessed in most instances. Where it is visible (either in more recent breaks or in the few unpatinated examples), it is predominantly grey to dark grey/black. The most likely source of the material is in the local geology: narrow bands of tabular flint are known to outcrop in the area, and nodular flint also occurs locally [55] .

6.3.4 The nature of the assemblage is such that secure chronological indicators are few. Over 96% of the material consists of unretouched flake debitage, and most of this is broad, squat, and apparently struck with hard hammers. Among the bulk of this material there are very few pieces which are more distinctive.

Mesolithic and/or Early Neolithic

6.3.5 No blade or bladelet cores were retrieved, suggesting that knapping of this date was not occurring extensively on the site (or at least that cores were not being discarded there). Blades (including complete and broken examples), were noted among the pieces from 0999 413001, 0999 413201, 1000 413201, 1008 413401, 1016 413701, 1059 415301, 1066 415401, 1085 415701, 1088 415901, 1104 416501, 20211, 21505, 22011, 23207, 23901, 24001, 24701, 24901, 25001, 27614, and 27818, always as single pieces, often among larger groups of material of mixed date. Flake debitage with signs of blade and bladelet technology came from 1022 414201, 21014, 26301 and 26829.

6.3.6 This element of the assemblage may be indicative of Mesolithic and/or Early Neolithic activity, although caution needs to be exercised in assuming that blade technology automatically equates with Early Neolithic or older activity. The paucity of material and its occurrence in larger collections of later knapping waste suggests that much of it forms a part of those later assemblages and no examples of the type-fossils characteristic of these periods were recovered

Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age

6.3.7 Technological features that might be expected of the Late Neolithic and/or Early Bronze Age are sufficiently recurrent to suggest that a large part of the material may be of this date. These features include facetted butts on flakes and the more distinctive of the miscellaneous flake cores (discoidal and multi-directional cores). Given the general prevalence of shorter, broader flakes in the assemblage, it is probable that a sizeable proportion of the material is of general later Neolithic or Beaker date. However, the prevalence of flake debitage and the corresponding lack of formal tools makes distinguishing between Late Neolithic, Beaker and fully Early Bronze Age groups difficult, although there are some chronological indicators.

6.3.8 Although most of the retouched pieces are scrapers, principally end or end-and-side scrapers made on flakes (the most frequent tool type and for the most part insufficiently diagnostic), there are examples made on blanks with proportions

shown elsewhere in the area to be more typical of Late Neolithic (shorter and thinner) than Early Neolithic (longer and thicker) forms. There is therefore an overall impression of a predominantly Late Neolithic component. A single example (from 1010 4138 01) is small enough to be considered a thumbnail, probably of Beaker type.

6.3.9 The projectile points are all Neolithic forms: a 'petit tranchet' chisel type from 1087 4155 01, unfinished transverse forms from 0998 4126 01 and 1049 4145 01, a transverse oblique type from 1051 4145 01 and transverse chisel types from 1045 4142 01 and 1046 4144 01.

6.3.10 The broken rod/fabricator is likely to fit into this broad time period, as is the denticulate.

6.3.11 The largest group of material was retrieved from the ploughsoil in Trench 24101, where 116 pieces included five flake cores, a piercer, three scrapers and three pieces with 'miscellaneous' retouch occur among a quantity of predominantly flake debitage. A smaller group of 45 pieces came from the ploughsoil in Trench 202. This included a scraper and a piece with 'miscellaneous' retouch.

6.3.12 Significant groups of material from features were uncommon. Solution hollow 24105 contained 73 pieces of flake debitage (51 in fill 24107, 15 in 24108 and seven in 24113). The 15 pieces in fill 24108 clearly derived from a single episode of knapping.

6.3.13 Pit 23403 contained 27 pieces of flake debitage and a single scraper. Only 3 m to the west, pit 23405 contained two non-joining sherds and several crumbs from a Coarse Beaker.

6.3.14 Otherwise, material was restricted to a group of features in Trench 240. Pit 24005 contained 32 pieces of flake debitage in its single fill. This material was accompanied by small sherds from five Beakers but is not otherwise notable. Pit 24003 contained nine pieces of flake debitage and a flake with 'miscellaneous' retouch. This feature contained nine plain sherds, probably from a Collared Urn.

6.3.15 Insufficient evidence was recorded to suggest a strong Late Bronze Age component, although very sparse examples of miscellaneous retouch (as opposed to damage) through existing patina was noted.

6.4 Burnt flint

6.4.1 A total of 6545 pieces (101.7 kg) of unworked burnt flint was recovered. Most of the assemblage (70% by count, 67% by weight) came from the ploughsoil, with the remainder from pits, a grave, tree throws, a probable solution hollow and natural features, as well as an area of animal disturbance in trench 233 (23304). Although burnt flint is intrinsically undatable, it is generally considered indicative of prehistoric activity and, as such, its distribution can make a valuable contribution to the identification of potentially buried 'sites'. As flint is naturally abundant in this area, its burning was probably an accidental by-product of some other form of agricultural, industrial or domestic burning process.

6.4.2 The largest single concentration occurred in tree throw 27003 (343 pieces, 9023 g), associated with a stone bead of unknown date. Other significant groups of

over 1 kg came from trench 260 (117 pieces; 2002 g) and from ploughsoil locations in trench 202 (context 20211; 24 pieces, 1781 g) and test pit 1078 4155 (79 pieces, 1380 g). Although considered in more detail elsewhere in this report, overall densities were highest in the west, south of Winterbourne Stoke Clump, and in the east, north of the Wilsford Shaft, with lower densities elsewhere. Except in the central portion of the site, where burnt flint is notably less dense, these patterns broadly correspond with the distributions of worked flint, although there are instances where the highest densities are adjacent to each other rather than directly superimposed. Given the limitations of the dataset, all the burnt flint was discarded following quantification.

6.5 Human bone

Introduction

6.5.1 Human bone was found in four contexts with Beaker associations, three associated with inhumation grave 26009 and one from grave 24405. The majority of the bone was recovered from the in situ burial remains 26010, the burial having been made flexed on the right side and on a south–north alignment. One skeletal element (right ulna) and several fragments of cranium were found in the grave fill 26011, 0.10–0.15 m above the base of the grave and some distance (approximately 0.30 m) from their anatomically correct location, having been disturbed by animal activity. A fragment of human rib and several small fragments of animal bone were found in the upper fill of the grave 26012 (0.30 m above base), which is likely to form upcast from the animal burrowing.

6.5.2 Both graves comprised lone features within their respective trenches (Trenches 244 and 260), grave 24405 lying some 170 m to the south-west of 26009. The date of the burials is indicated by the accompanying Beaker vessels in each, comprising one of several grave goods in the latter where it had also been damaged by the animal burrowing.

Methods

6.5.3 The human remains were subject to a rapid scan to assess the condition of the bone, demographic data, potential for metric data recovery (indices calculations), the presence of pathological lesions and information pertaining to the mortuary rites. Assessments were based on standard ageing and sexing methods [60] [61] [62]. Grading for preservation of the unburnt bone was made according with [63].

Results

6.5.4 The bone from grave 24405 (surviving to a depth of 0.26 m) is very heavily degraded (Grade 5) and comprises a pair of petrous temporals (24409). These two bones are the only surviving remains of a neonate/young infant (birth–12 months). Their presence was not observed during excavation, the bone being recovered from the whole-earth sample taken across the base of the 1.28 x 0.80 m pit. Consequently, the burial position and orientation is unknown.

6.5.5 The skeletal elements from grave 26009 are slightly–moderately degraded (Grade 2–3) with the right upper limb and cranium being most detrimentally affected. Much of the axial skeleton is missing (only lumbar and a few cervical vertebrae survived), and the hand and foot bones are poorly represented. The skull is heavily fragmented and there are many fresh breaks to the long bone shafts.

6.5.6 The proximal half of the grave (skull, upper limbs and upper section of the axial skeleton) had obviously suffered from animal disturbance. This activity had clearly damaged and displaced skeletal elements, some being brought to surface level (ribs), and had probably effected changes to the burial environment resulting in poor preservation of elements in this area of the grave. The more recent fragmentation, in effect cracks in the bone which gave way on lifting, probably reflects additional compaction of the grave fill (which had common inclusions of moderately sized flint and chalk pieces, possibly originally forming a cairn: Plate 10.X). The position of the remains, indicating dorsal slumping of the pelvis and probably the axial skeletal as a whole, suggests the soil matrix within the grave was not deposited directly around the body immediately after burial and that some form of organic cover might have existed. Although there had been post-depositional disturbance to the skeletal remains they were sealed below a 0.35 m deep horizon and there is no evidence of horizontal truncation.

6.5.7 The remains (c. 77% skeletal recovery) are those of an adult female, 20–35 years of age. Moderate-heavy dental calculus was observed on most tooth crowns, suggesting she had a diet comparatively high in carbohydrates with a limited intake of self-cleaning foods [64]. Patches of periosteal new bone, formed in response to infection in the overlying soft tissues, was seen on the fibulae shafts. Both lamellar (healed) and woven (active) new bone were noted, indicating an infection active at the time of death but of a recurrent nature. The bi-lateral involvement suggest a systemic condition rather than, for example, soft tissue trauma. Lesions in the auricular surfaces, of a form and nature generally associated with advanced age but out of kilter with other age indicators in this individual, require further investigation regarding their potential aetiology, but are likely to reflect an early on-set arthropathy.

6.6 Animal bone

6.6.1 Animal bone (totalling 271 pieces, 8670 g: Table 10-4), was recovered from 37 ploughsoil locations as well as grave 26009, pits 20205, 23403 and 24003, probable solution hollow 21405 and natural features 21807. With the exception of obviously modern pieces, such as the rabbit bones (femur, tibia, humerus, radius and metatarsal fragments) from the ploughsoil of test pits 09984126, 10244136, 10284136 and 105841530 and trenches 232 and 234, all the pieces survive in a poor, eroded condition and many fresh breaks made during excavation were noted amongst the assemblage. Most belong to the more robust skeletal elements (teeth and long bones) of domesticated species – cattle, sheep and pig with a single boar's tusk fragment from test pit 1077 4154.

6.6.2 In addition to the worked bone point fragment (ON 23408) noted above (5.3.1) and described below (in 6.7.15), the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age 'Beaker' pit 23403 contained 128 fragments (102 g) of unworked animal bone, including pieces from an immature pig mandible, fibula and femur and a cattle scapula or pelvis as well as numerous unidentifiable scraps mostly recovered from environmental sample 23407; at least 11 of these were burnt. The 14 fragments (64g) of animal bone from Beaker grave 26009 are too smashed to provide a positive identification but derive from a cattle-sized long bone, possibly a pelvis or tibia. They were found amongst the human remains during assessment and may therefore represent the remains of a grave offering not recognised during excavation.

6.6.3 The 33 scraps of animal bone (4g) from Early Bronze Age pit 24003 included a single recognisable fragment from a cattle metapodial, possibly a metatarsal, but all the other pieces were too small and eroded to be identifiable. Poorly preserved fragments (12 pieces, 172 g) represent the only artefacts recovered from undated pit 20205 on the western edge of the area, which may also be related to Bronze Age activity. These include pieces of cattle vertebrae and rib, sheep tibia, pig tibia and femur, as well as unidentifiable scraps.

6.6.4 All the fragments (24 pieces, 196 g) from natural feature 21807 derive from a single, freshly broken cattle metacarpal in poor condition, while the two pieces (1g) from probable solution hollow 24105 comprise scraps of severely eroded tooth enamel, probably cattle.

6.7 Other finds

Ceramic building material

6.7.1 The entire assemblage was recovered from ploughsoil locations and is of Post-medieval or modern date. Peg-hole roof tiles, a form developed in the 12th century and continuing into the modern day with very little typological change, dominate the assemblage, with brick fragments occurring in far smaller quantities (just five pieces). No complete lengths or widths survive, the extremely fragmentary nature of the whole assemblage being amply illustrated by its mean weight of just 6.5 g. All this material was discarded after quantification.

Fired clay

6.7.2 A single, abraded and amorphous fragment of fired clay (1g) was recorded from test pit 1042 4140.

Clay tobacco pipe

6.7.3 Just one small, plain stem fragment was found in the Western Portal area, in the ploughsoil of test pit 1055 4155. It was discarded after quantification.

Glass

6.7.4 All the glass came from ploughsoil locations. The vast majority of pieces are from bottles and jars of 19th or 20th century date. These include a complete clear glass ink bottle embossed (on underside of base) by Swan Ink Mabie.Todd & Co Ltd with their trade mark swan symbol and a figure 7 beneath (ploughsoil trench 239). Given the limitations of the dataset, this material was discarded following quantification. One piece has, however, been retained for further examination – a tiny (1 g), fire-rounded rim from a straight-sided, thin-walled (c. 1 mm) vessel in cobalt blue metal from test pit 1023 4142. This piece is thin enough to be from an Early Roman cup, but no bubbles, often considered characteristic of Roman glass, are apparent in the metal, so it could be of Post-medieval or later date, possibly from the blue glass insert of a silver mustard pot or similar.

Metalwork

6.7.5 Most of the metalwork is of Post-medieval or modern date and was predominantly recovered from ploughsoil locations. Most items were discarded following quantification.

Copper alloy

6.7.6 With the exception of a single, square-sectioned, pin or needle shank fragment (ON 26014; surviving length 16 mm) found in association with the adult female buried in Beaker grave 26009, all the copper alloy objects were from ploughsoil locations and of Post-medieval or modern date.

6.7.7 Bullet casings (22 examples), were the most frequently occurring object type within this category and, together with a tail fin from a 2" mortar (test pit 1031 4142) and a uniform button with a two kiwi insignia (ploughsoil of trench 266), reflect the military use of the area. A four-holed button (test pit 1033 4144) and rivet through leather (test pit 1033 4144) may also derive from a military uniform or a bag. Other items of note include a large, almost complete, 18th century crotal bell (test pit 1071 4156) and a small, cast, flat, spear-head shaped mount or fitting (trench 224). The fitting is of uncertain date, but the bell was made in the Robert Wells foundry in Aldbourne, Wiltshire which operated from 1755 to 1825 and was probably fixed to a cart or wagon rather than an animal. A similar bell has also been found in the Winterbourne Stoke bypass area (trench 660). Scraps of fine wire (trench 228), part of a perforated strip (trench 250) and a worn, illegible penny coin (trench 266) were also recovered.

6.7.8 The prehistoric pin or needle shank fragment (ON 26014), the bell and spear-head shaped mount or fitting have been retained; all the other items have been discarded.

Iron

6.7.9 The iron assemblage predominantly consists of fixing and fittings such as nails, U-shaped staples, nuts, bolts, screws, washers and hinges, fragmentary components from agricultural machines as well as strip, rod, bar, ring and torn sheet metal fragments. Numerous pieces of plain and barbed fencing wire were also collected, while other recognisable objects include two horseshoes (trenches 249 and 255), fragments from boot heel reinforcers (trenches 219, 223, 241 and 246) and a spring-loaded bolt for a gate (trench 223).

Lead

6.7.10 The lead objects are all of recent date and relate to firearms, consisting of six bullet tips (trenches 228, 241 (4 examples) and 283) and two air gun pellets (trenches 224 and 245). All were discarded after quantification.

Other metal

6.7.11 Caps from modern shotgun cartridge cases were the most common object type within this category; all were from ploughsoil locations within trenches 217, 231, 232, 237, 238, 240 and 253. Other items include part of a broken, tapering strip (trench 219), a button with central, recessed four-hole fastening (trench 225), wire (trenches 232, 245, 249 and 258), aluminium drinks can (trench 261) and tin foil (trench 239) fragments, a screw-threaded cap from a small bottle (trench 250) and a small trade plate probably from a vehicle of some sort (trench 252). The company name begins with M and is written in cursive script, but rest is unfortunately too worn to read. All are of 20th century date.

Shale

6.7.12 A small (30 mm diameter), cylindrical shale object (ON 26015) was also found associated with the adult female buried in Beaker grave 26009. This item is hollow, open on one flat face, with the other having a central perforation. No parallels have yet been found for this object, but its position, close to the pelvis of the individual may suggest it functioned as a fitting (for a belt, other item of clothing or a bag, for example) or as a ferrule. It is currently undergoing conservation and has been emptied of its contents (retained for further analysis), but no non-soil material is apparent within this material.

Stone

6.7.13 The stone was recovered from Beaker grave 24405, probably solution hollow 24105, tree throw 27003 and 20 ploughsoil locations in test pits and trenches 247, 248, 260, 261, 263, 266 and 268. Only one deliberately worked or utilised object was identified; a fully perforated, globular bead (12 mm in diameter), made from a fossil sponge. It was found with over 9 kg of unworked, burnt flint in tree throw 27003, but remains undated, beads of this form having a very long lifespan.

6.7.14 Two burnt chalk fragments (84g) came from the secondary fill (24406) of grave 24405 but carried no other signs of working or utilisation. The ten pieces (14g) from probable solution hollow 24105 consist of small, unworked, flat fragments of an iron-rich concretion; their origin and/or purpose remain unknown. The ploughsoil assemblage consists of two fragments (13g) of roofing slate (test pits 1014 4140 and 1044 4143) and 16 well-rounded pieces of unworked, often heavily rooted, sarsen (trenches 247, 248, 260, 261, 263, 266 and 268; test pits 1029 4141, 1043 4144, 1047 4142, 1047 4144, 1064 4147 and 1064 4148). These varied in weight from 5 g (test pit 1029 4141 247) to 8.4 kg (trench 260); most were weathered on at least one face but carried no obvious signs of working or utilisation. Three fragments of burnt, unworked sarsen came from test pits 1043 4148, 1044 4140 and 1046 4141.

Synthetics

6.7.15 All the items defined here as ‘synthetics’ are of 20th century date and came from ploughsoil locations. They consist of a rubber bottle stopper stamped ‘1939 B&S LTD, DERBY’ (test pit 1040 4140), a section of rubber hose (test pit 1029 4149), two plastic garden cane caps (test pits 1029 4140 and 1062 4153), two torn fragments of white and grey sheet plastic (test pit 1055 4155), orange sheet plastic (test pits 1054 4151 and 1025 4144), black plastic sheet (test pits 1022 4147 and 1031 4150), a bakelite fragment (test pit 1047 4144), a sprung cord toggle (test pit 1057 4155) and a section of rubber rod (test pit 1028 4143). A nickel metal hydride battery was also recovered from trench 256. All have been discarded.

Worked bone

6.7.16 The single item of worked bone (ON 23408) was found in Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pit 23403, along with Beaker pottery, worked flint and unworked animal bone. It derives from a point worked on a splinter of medium-mammal (sheep- or roe deer- sized) long bone. Slight surface polish is apparent around its tip. Such points may have been used for piercing materials such as leather and are common finds in Neolithic and Bronze Age contexts.

7 Environmental evidence

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 A total of thirty-nine bulk sediment samples were taken and processed. Nineteen bulk sediment samples and a mollusc column of thirteen small bulk samples were taken from a range of features of predominantly Beaker and general prehistoric chronology, including pits, solution features, a tree-throw hole and inhumation graves, and were processed and assessed for the presence of environmental evidence. Seven samples from an inhumation burial were processed for the recovery of skeletal material.

7.1.2 A summary of the numbers/volumes of the samples together with their phase is presented in Table 10-3.

7.2 Aims and methods

7.2.1 The purpose of the assessment was to determine the potential of the environmental remains preserved at the site to address project aims and to provide archaeobotanical data valuable for wider research frameworks.

7.2.2 The size of the bulk sediment environmental samples varied between 0.25 litres and 97 litres, and on average was around 14 litres; the mollusc small bulk samples were around 1 litre. These samples were processed by standard flotation methods on a Syraf-type flotation tank; the flot retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 4 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>4 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. The flots were scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy (Leica MS5 microscope) at magnifications of up to x40 for the identification of environmental remains. Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (e.g. *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains, such as earthworm eggs and insects, which would not be preserved un-less anoxic conditions prevailed on site. The preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains, as well as the presence of other environmental remains such as molluscs and animal bone, was recorded.

7.2.3 Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace [65] for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf [66] (Tables 3, page 28 and 5, page 65), for cereals. Abundance of remains is qualitatively quantified (A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5) as an estimation of the minimum number of individuals and not the number of remains per taxa.

7.3 Results

7.3.1 The flots were generally small (Appendix B) and there were high numbers of roots, earthworm cocoons and modern seeds that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material was generally sparse and comprised varying degrees of preservation. Small to moderate amounts of wood charcoal were recovered, mostly from mature wood although one sample (24110) from pit 24103 was rich in roundwood. Shells of terrestrial molluscs were present in most of the bulk

sediment samples but rarely in the samples from the mollusc column from solution feature 24105. No other environmental evidence was found in any of the samples. Charcoal and mollusc sample assessments will be reported separately when available.

7.3.2 Assemblages with cereal grains and other charred plant remains were recovered in many of the samples, although the number of remains per sample was generally low.

7.3.3 The cereal remains in the samples from Beaker pits 23403, 24003, 24005 and 24405 were either indeterminate (Triticeae) or identified as wheat (*Triticum* sp.) but identification to species level was not possible due to poor preservation. Some of these grains looked intrusive (when they preserved epidermis) but others were poorly preserved and may well be consistent with the remainder of the evidence. Three radiocarbon dating samples confirmed this: whilst two of the wheat grains submitted from pits 23403 and 24005 proved to be modern (UBA-39011, UBA-39013), a third one from pit 24405 gave a consistent result (UBA-39015, 3686 ± 32, 2200-1970 cal. BC).

7.3.4 The majority of the charred plant evidence from these deposits (Beaker pits 23403, 24003, 24005 and 24405) were hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments, but also included a hazelnut kernel in one of the samples (24008, from pit 24005). The size of the nutshell fragments was variable, suggesting in the case of the small fragments that they may be residual or intrusive, as they may be easily displaced by bioturbating agents. Large shell fragments, and particularly the kernel fragments, suggest well-preserved and little disturbed assemblages. Paired samples of well-preserved hazel nutshell fragments were submitted from the contexts from pits 23403 and 24005 from which cereal grain samples were also submitted. Whilst the grains proved to be intrusive (see above), the measurements on the hazelnuts gave results consistent with the presumed chronology of the deposits (UBA-39010: 3655 ± 40, 2140-1920 cal. BC; UBA-39012: 3686 ± 32, 2200-1970 cal. BC).

7.3.5 Hazelnut shell fragments and a vetch (Vicieae) seed were also recovered from the bulk sediment sample 27009 from tree throw 27003. One of these fragments was dated by radiocarbon dating to the Early Bronze Age (UBA-39016: 3663 ± 32, 2140-1950 cal. BC).

7.3.6 The samples from solution feature 24105 also contained the occasional hazelnut shell fragment or cereal grain, identifiable on one instance to barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). Remains of tubers from lesser celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*) and false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius* subsp. *bulbosum*) were also present in some of the samples from this feature.

7.3.7 The possible medieval sample from the in situ burnt deposit 24104 in pit 24103 provided a richer assemblage with a moderate amount of naked wheat (*Triticum aestivum/turgidum*) grains, some of which were sprouted, and a relatively large number of rootlets of lesser celandine and a couple of seeds from sedges (Cyperaceae) and ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*). The presence of naked wheat grain is generally consistent with a Saxon or later period and, given the presence of medieval pottery below this layer, a medieval chronology is suggested for the assemblage.

8 Archaeological Potential and Significance

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 The Western Portal evaluation was successful in its aims in confirming the presence or absence of archaeological remains, as well as attempting to determine their nature, extent, date, condition and state of preservation. It addressed, or has the potential to address, many of the specific research objectives defined in the SSWSI [3] and thereby contribute to the research themes and questions in the WHS research framework [67]. In accordance with the OWSI, this section recommends further analysis to be undertaken at a later stage of the archaeological process. Any such analysis would be part of the ongoing archaeological process which continues beyond and separately from the process required for EIA. These recommendations do not affect the baseline conditions, assessment of effects or mitigation approach as identified in the ES.

8.1.2 The correlation of recovered features and deposits with the geophysical survey anomalies was reasonable, with the line of the shallow coombe (areas of superficial geology) coinciding with shallow colluvial deposits uncovered in the trenches and test pits and the solution feature located in Trench 241. However, potentially such surveys are less reliable when differentiating between discrete archaeological features such as graves and pits and natural features in the chalk which exhibited weathering from periglaciation and disturbance from ploughing. A series of small enclosures known from NMP data and a previous geophysical survey by Historic England [12] (which only covered the far west of the site) were not realised in the trial trenches. This is perhaps not surprising given that they were described by the Historic England survey as a 'pattern of weak negative response probably representing ploughed-out banks' [12, p. 3], and previous evaluations close to the site have also failed to find any sub-surface indication of such NMP data [33] [18] [68]. No differences were discernible in the condition of buried remains between the eastern and western portions of the site on the one hand and in the central 'pig field' portion on the other.

8.2 Stratigraphic

8.2.1 Though archaeological features were only uncovered in nine of the 71 excavated trial trenches, noteworthy material was recorded across the site. Perhaps the most significant were two Beaker inhumation burials in Trenches 260 and 244 in the central part of the site (and potentially others that were left unexcavated at this evaluation stage in the latter trench). The importance of these derives from the additional information their excavation has provided concerning the extents of Beaker mortuary practice between the Normanton Down and Winterbourne Stoke barrow groups, discussed in more detail in 8.3.6 below. It is important that these flat graves were located some 500–770 m west of those previously excavated adjacent to Wilsford G1 (below), with the burial in Trench 260 sited on the higher ground on the northern edge of the shallow coombe.

8.2.2 Additionally, evidence of pit digging was revealed in the west of the site (both Beaker and fully Early Bronze Age), as well as a small number of features of uncertain date, a natural solution hollow and tree-throws that also contained archaeological evidence. Finds recovered from the ploughsoil sampling also

indicates a focus of activity in the Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, with some earlier and later components. Worked and burnt flint densities were generally higher in the west of the site, towards the Winterbourne Stoke barrow group.

8.2.3 The evidence uncovered from this evaluation adds to the body of data from previous investigations including that from the North Kite and the Diamond and two Beaker burials discovered to the immediate north of Wilsford G1 [19, p. Chap. 3], located at the far eastern end of the site – the scheduled area of this was purposefully excluded from this evaluation.

8.2.4 Therefore, there is potential to address research themes, particularly: *C. Barrows and Burials: to gain a better understanding of the relationship between barrows, burials and contemporary land uses, including settlement and agriculture and D: Human Generations to gain a better understanding, from the analysis of human remains, of the generations of people who have populated the WHS – their origins, diversity, movements, demography, health, diet, and conflicts* [3].

8.3 Finds

8.3.1 The lithics, prehistoric pottery, human bone and associated individual items such as the copper alloy pin/needle fragment, the worked bone point, stone bead and shale object, and some of the faunal remains warrant further analysis. None of the other materials recovered have any potential to address any of the research questions associated with the project, and as such do not merit further work at this stage, although larger assemblages from any future mitigation works may alter this.

Prehistoric pottery

8.3.2 Earlier prehistoric pottery is of intrinsic interest and warrants full fabric and form analysis, following nationally-recommended guidelines [69] [70]. The Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age witnessed significant activity elsewhere in the World Heritage Site (including major phases of construction at Stonehenge itself) and as such the identification of potential locations of contemporary activity in previously unknown locations is of some significance. The stylistic variation apparent in the relatively small Beaker assemblage is interesting, and possible parallels for the various decorative schemes and vessel types (where reconstructable) should be sought.

8.3.3 Although scarce, the later prehistoric pottery (Late Bronze Age) also warrants full fabric analysis. Activity dating to this period in the World Heritage Site and its environs is not well-understood and was identified as in need of further research in the Research Framework [39].

Flint

8.3.4 Flint scatters were identified as an under-utilised resource in the Research Framework [39]. While confirming the results of earlier surveys, the lithic assemblage does contain elements deserving of further study. The occurrence of unpatinated pieces within the ploughzone assemblage should be plotted in order to determine if it correlates with geology, or if there are any significant concentrations. The retouched component should be fully described and plotted, and a representative selection illustrated. Comparisons with other assemblages in the locality should also be made.

Animal bone

8.3.5 Although a comparatively small assemblage, the animal bone from the prehistoric features (grave 26009, and pits 20205, 23403 and 24003), probable solution hollow 21405 and natural feature 21807 has the potential to inform on depositional practices, the husbandry and attitude of the people to their animals. This material therefore warrants full analysis in accordance with the recommendations set out in a recent review of contemporary material from southern Britain [71].

Human bone

8.3.6 Analysis of the bone will provide more detailed demographic data, refining the age of the adult individual. Metric data, enabling the calculation of some skeletal indices, can be recovered with a moderate level of reconstruction. Detailed analysis will facilitate full recording of the pathological lesions, the study of which will enable assessment of the health and, by inference, potentially the status of the adult individual with reference to other remains of similar date.

8.3.7 These two inhumations form part of an extensive and important Beaker/Early Bronze Age mortuary landscape on the south-eastern margins of Salisbury Plain and the Stonehenge Environs. Most of the previously recovered prehistoric remains, as here, derived from individual burials and small burial groups, the nearest example being the Beaker grave of an adult male, 23-27 years of age at death, found some 300–400 m to the east of grave 26009 [19]. There is, however, a relative paucity of females in the Early Bronze Age burial record within the region, particularly for the earliest phases and across the transition Beaker/Chalcolithic period [72]. For example, at Amesbury Down, some 6 km to the south-east, only two, that is 12.8% of the sexed individuals were female; both from central barrow graves. There is evidence to suggest that females were being buried in specific locations – either in small groups or individually – often with associated monumental features (e.g. Porton Down [73] and neighbouring Old Sarum (currently unpublished)). While graves of young infants have been recorded at several locations within the region (e.g. Amesbury Down and Porton Down) they are generally found together with those of older individuals (adults and children), not-infrequently within a communal grave. Given the circumstances of discovery in this instance – i.e. the very poor level of bone survival – it is possible that other instances of this kind have been overlooked in the past. Consequently, these remains represent an important addition to the growing corpus of mortuary data from the region enhancing our understanding of the placement of such deposits within the Beaker/Early Bronze Age landscape.

8.4 Environmental

8.4.1 The charred plant remains assemblages mostly comprised remains of cereals, hazelnuts and tubers. Well-preserved consistent assemblages such as the ones with large hazelnut shell fragments and non-intrusive cereal grains, can inform about plant exploitation activities and ritual deposition practices. Radiocarbon dating has demonstrated the consistency or otherwise of some of these assemblages. Some of the cereal grains in pits 23403, 24005, and 24103 have been demonstrated to be of Post-medieval and modern date, confirming the tendency for material of this type to be particularly prone to intrusion/residuality in bioturbated deposits such as these. However, not all cereal grains present in the samples are intrusive: the cereal grain from pit 24405 (UBA-39015, 3686 ± 32,

2200-1970 cal. BC). Hazelnut shells have proved to be consistently of Beaker or later Bronze Age date.

8.4.2 Subject to the results of the charcoal and mollusc sample assessments (to be reported separately), the assemblages recovered so far have little potential besides radiocarbon dating and require no further analysis.

8.5 Concluding remarks

8.5.1 The results of the Western Portal evaluation have identified evidence of Beaker and Early Bronze Age activity. The two inhumation burials are additions to the corpus of mortuary remains in the WHS, not least because one (in Trench 244) reinforces the emerging link between neonates and plain Beaker ceramics, while the other (in Trench 260) contains an artefact type without known parallel. The date of Triticum sp. grain from the latter (2340-2060 cal. BC) appears to fall slightly later than the date of the human bone from Wilsford G1 [19] (2460-2290 cal. BC). Bone from the Trench 260 inhumation has been radiocarbon dated (UBA-82677 3923±32 BP: 2490-2300 cal. BC).

8.5.2 Smaller sub-surface features in Trenches 234 and 240 indicate that Beaker and Early Bronze Age activity was not restricted to graves, whether flat or beneath or immediately around barrows, but also involved the incorporation of material (flint, pottery, etc.) into small features (pits, tree hollows, etc.). Such bodies of evidence have no surface expression and cannot always be detected in geophysical surveys (or cannot be distinguished among the many other similar non-archaeological responses that typify survey results in this locality).

8.5.3 In respect of the part of the site on which test pitting was delayed, in summary the survey reported here confirms the conclusions of the Environmental Statement.

8.5.4 Recommendations for future further analytical work (beyond that required for the purposes of the EIA process) on material from the Western Portal investigations are as follows:

- Prehistoric pottery: full fabric and form analysis; contextualisation; illustration of selected pieces.
- Flint: plot of unpatinated element; description of retouched component, its distribution and chronology, and illustration of selected pieces.
- Human bone: taphonomic factors potentially affecting differential bone preservation will be reviewed. The age of the individual will be further considered using standard methodologies [74] [75] [61] [62]. A standard series of measurement will be taken [76] and skeletal indices calculated [60] [77] [78]. Non-metric traits will be recorded [79] [80]. Pathological lesions are recorded in text and via digital photography. Aspects of the mortuary rite, as indicated by the condition of the bone and the formation processes of the deposits, will be discussed and set in their regional context.
- Further work on the animal bones from features (grave 26009, pits 20205, 23403 and 24003, probable solution hollow 21405 and natural features 21807). The material from plough soil and test pitting has little merit.
- The small fraction sample residues will be scanned to ensure recovery of any fragments of bone and particularly tooth crowns which might enable the age of the immature individual to be more closely defined.

- A bone sample from grave 26009 has been submitted for radiocarbon analysis to assist tighter dating of the ceramic remains (as requested by the ceramic specialist), to enable its place within the Beaker phenomena to be better examined. It might be pertinent to undertake Strontium and Oxygen isotope analysis on one or more tooth crown to ascertain the place of origin of this individual. This will contribute to an increasing body of data assessing mobility of populations in the Early Bronze Age, particularly those related with Beaker material culture.

8.5.5 It is recommended that this work be undertaken as a part of the scheme-wide post-excavation analysis programme, along with other available relevant information from evaluations of on-going works. Scientific dating is warranted outside of the programme and should be progressed immediately.

9 Storage and Curation

9.1 Museum

9.1.1 It is proposed that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with the Salisbury Museum. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner. Until final deposition with the museum the archive will be stored at the offices of Wessex Archaeology Southern Region in Salisbury under the code 117881.

9.2 Preparation of the archive

9.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the Salisbury Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines [81] [82] [83] [84]. This finalised report will be sent to Wiltshire County Archaeology Services (WCAS) and the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (HER) and OASIS. All archive elements will be marked with the site code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:

- 21 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type (fieldwork is on-going);
- 8x files/document cases of paper records and A3/A4 graphics; and
- 1x A1 graphic sheets.

9.3 Selection policy

9.3.1 With the exception of the elements already discarded in line with agreed principles, the complete site archive will be retained until a point at which selection, retention and discard are deemed appropriate, and through a process of consultation with curators and other stakeholders. Selection policy will adhere to national guidance. Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in Selection, Retention and Dispersal [85], which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive. The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines [53] [84] [85].

9.4 Security copy

9.4.1 In line with current best practice [82], on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

10 Tables

Table 10-1 Finds by material type (number of pieces/weight in grammes)

	201763 Test-pitting		201767 Trial trenching		Total	
Material	**No**	**Wt**	**No**	**Wt**	**No**	**Wt**
Animal bone	50	270	221	600	271	870
Burnt flint	4629	68733	1916	32996	6545	101729
Ceramic building material	23	127	3	41	26	168
Clay tobacco pipe	1	1			1	1
Fired clay	1	1			1	1
Flint	8557	52793	1167	12593	9724	65386
Glass	52	506	11	252	63	758
Human bone			3	-	3	-
Metalwork: copper alloy iron lead other metal	 5 34	 180 854	 27 230 8 19	 204 4657 51 106	 32 264 8 19	 384 5511 51 106
Pottery	45	341	446	1251	491	1592
Shale			1	6	1	6
Stone	13	1776	21	28483	34	30259
Synthetics	13	57	1	19	14	76
Worked bone			1	2	1	2
Total:	**13423**	**125639**	**4075**	**81261**	**17498**	**206900**

Table 10-2 The composition of the flint assemblage

Type	No.	%
Debitage		
Flake cores (incl. fragments)	23	0.26
Core rejuvenation tablets	1	0.01
Bladelets (incl. broken)	2	0.02
Blades (incl. broken)	21	0.24
Flakes (incl. broken)	8407	96.29
Axe thinning flakes	1	0.01
Chips	163	1.87
Irregular debitage	11	0.13
(sub-total cores & debitage)	*(8629)*	*(98.83)*
Retouched tools		
Scrapers	62	0.71

Projectile points	6	0.07
Piercers	3	0.04
Core tools	1	0.01
Fabricator/rod	1	0.01
Denticulate	1	0.01
Miscellaneous retouch	27	0.31
(Sub-total retouched tools)	*(101)*	*(1.16)*
Other		
Hammerstone	1	0.01
Total	**8731**	**100**

Table 10-3 Sample Provenance Summary

Phase	No of samples	Volume (litres)	Feature types
Prehistoric	19 (13 mollusc column)	213.3 (12.3 mollusc column)	Pit, Solution feature, tree-throw
Beaker	19	293.15 (12.1 skeleton samples)	Pit, graves
Medieval?	1	40	Pit/*in situ* burnt deposit
Totals	**39**	**546.45**	

Table 10-4 Animal bone

Layer	Count	Weight (g)	Comments
0998412601	1	4	rabbit femur
0999413001	3	43	1 cattle upper tooth (molar); 1 cattle lower tooth fragment; 1 large mammal long bone fragment
0999413501	1	1	
1000412801	1	3	
1002413501	1	5	sheep; sacrum fragment
1002413601	1	24	tooth - cattle upper molar
1003414101	1	3	cattle lower molar fragment; now in 2 pieces
1005414101	3	2	fragments; poor condition
1006414001	1	19	tooth fragment; cattle/horse
1006414101	1	6	tooth fragment; cattle/horse
1006414201	1	9	cattle tooth
1009414001	1	1	
1010413901	1	4	
1010414101	1	8	
1012414001	1	2	scrap
1012414101	2	2	fragments
1012414201	1	3	tooth flake

1012414301	3	9	
1012414401	2	13	teeth
1013414001	1	10	long bone fragment
1018414301	1	32	cattle tooth
1018414401	1	9	tooth
1019413301	2	2	
1020414501	1	1	
10214140	1	2	sheep tooth fragment
1021414201	1	2	vertebrae
1023413401	1	10	cattle radius fragment; moderate condition
1024413601	1	4	rabbit tibia
1028413601	2	18	1 cattle tooth fragment (upper molar); 1 rabbit radius fragment. Both in poor abraded condition
1058415301	1	1	rabbit metapodial (probably a metatarsal)
1077415401	1	10	boar's tusk fragment
20206	12	172	cattle vertebrae & rib, sheep tibia, pig tibia & femur, plus unidentifiable fragments
20212	3	15	1 cattle tooth fragment, 2 long bone fragments
20213	1	1	cattle tooth fragment in poor condition
21808	24	196	freshly broken frags - cattle metacarpal - in poor condition
23214	2	43	1 upper cattle tooth; 1 rabbit humerus
23404	16	81	frags from immature pig mandible, fibula & femur, cattle scapula or pelvis plus 12 unidentifiable
23404	112	21	from sample 23407. Most are unidentifiable scraps; 11 are burnt
23415	2	2	immature rabbit tibias
24004	33	4	1 frag cattle metapodial (possibly metatarsal); all others are unidentifiable scraps & crumbs in poor condition
24107	2	1	scraps of tooth enamel - probably cattle but very eroded
26010	14	64	fragments of cattle-sized long bone, possibly from a pelvis or tibia
us	9	5	

Abbreviations List

AESR	Archaeological Evaluation Strategy Report
AmW	AECOM Mace WSP Joint Venture
aOD	Above Ordnance Datum
CBM	Ceramic building material
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
DCO	Development Consent Order
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GPR	Ground penetrating radar
HER	Historic Environment Record
HMAG	Heritage Monitoring and Advisory Group
OUV	Outstanding Universal Value
OWSI	Overarching Written Scheme of Investigation
NHLE	National Historic List Entry
NGR	National Grid Reference
RAMS	Risk Assessment and Method Statement
RLB	Red Line Boundary
SHLP	Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes Project
SSWSI	Site Specific Written Scheme of Investigation
WA	Wessex Archaeology
WCAS	Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service
WHS	World Heritage Site

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Appendices

Appendix A Trench tables

A.1 Summary of contexts in excavated trial trenches

Trench 202	50.50m x 1.60m x 0.36m		NGR 409995 141290 (centre of trench)	106.85 OD
Context No	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl)
20201	Topsoil		Mid-light greyish brown silty clay. Friable, loose compaction. Under grass. Common subrounded chalk <70mm. Occasional nodular flint <90mm. Moderately sorted. Fine rooting	0-0.23
20202	Subsoil		Interface rather than subsoil. Mid brown silty clay. Slightly humic. Moderate subrounded chalk <110mm, rare subangular flint <80mm. Moderate compaction.	0.23-0.30
20203	Natural		Chalk, becomes more mixed towards the south. Powdery in places, with appearance indicative of water percolation.	0.30+
20204	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20205	Pit		Sub circular. Concave/undercut steep sides. Concave base. L 0.87m, W 0.42m, D 0.66m. Clear boundary.	
20206	Deliberate backfill	20205	Mid brown silty loam. Loose compaction. Common chalk, occasional flint. Clear horizon.	0.66
20207	Secondary fill	20204	Assigned post-ex.	
20208	Not used			
20209	Not used			
20210	Plough soil		Sieved plough soil	
20211	Plough soil		Sieved plough soil	
20212	Plough soil		Sieved plough soil	
20213	Plough soil		Sieved plough soil	
20214	Plough soil		Sieved plough soil	
20215	Plough soil		Sieved plough soil	
20216	Plough soil		Sieved plough soil	
20217	Plough soil		Sieved plough soil	
20218	Plough soil		Sieved plough soil	
20219	Plough soil		Sieved plough soil	

Trench 203	50.00m x 1.00m		NGR 410233 141416 (centre of trench)	105.06 OD
Context No	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl)
20301	Plough soil		Dark brown silty loam. Humic. Sparse chalk, small-medium size. Very loose compaction. Very bioturbated.	0-0.30
20302	Natural		Weathered natural. Little-no soil. Light yellowy brown discolouration, and not as compact as pure chalk below.	0.30-0.37
20303	Natural		Pure white chalk. Some browner patches/lines indicating periglacial striping. Sparse nodular flint inclusions 10-100mm.	0.37-0.38+

20304	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20305	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20306	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20307	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20308	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20309	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20310	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20311	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20312	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20313	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	

Trench 204	**10.20m x 10.40m x 0.37m**		**NGR 411159 141627 (centre of trench)**	**100.82 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
20401	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown sandy silt. Frequent medium chalk inclusions. Frequent medium angular flint fragments. Occasional rooting. Very plough disturbed.	0-0.37
20402	Natural		White chalk, with some light brown periglacial deposits.	0.37
20403	Tree throw		Circular. Concave, shallow sides, irregular base. L 1.25m, W 1.30m, D 0.30m.	
20404	Secondary fill	20403	Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate chalk and small pebbles. Result of natural erosion.	0.3
20405	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20406	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20407	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20408	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20409	Secondary fill	20405	Fill of tree throw	
20410	Fill	20406	Fill of tree throw	
20411	Secondary fill	20407	Fill of tree throw	
20412	Secondary fill	20408	Fill of tree throw	
20413	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20414	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20415	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20416	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	

Trench 206	**49.50m x 1.90m x 0.36m**		**NGR 411070 141573 (centre of trench)**	**100.56 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
20601	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown sandy silt. Moderate chalk and angular flint inclusions. Occasional rooting. Animal and ploughing disturbance.	0-0.29
20602	Natural		White chalk, with light brown periglacial deposits.	0.29+
20603	Tree throw		Sub circular. Concave, shallow sides, irregular base. L 0.90m, W 1.40m, D 0.18m.	

20604	Secondary fill	20603	Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Loose compaction. Moderate chalk, sparse angular flint fragments. Result of natural erosion.	0.18
20605	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20606	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20607	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20608	Secondary fill	20605	Fill of tree throw	
20609	Secondary fill	20606	Fill of tree throw	
20610	Fill	20607	Fill of tree throw	
20611	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20612	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20613	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20614	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20615	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20616	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20617	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20618	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20619	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20620	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	

Trench 207	**10.10m x 10.40m x 0.30m**		**NGR 411074 141631 (centre of trench)**	**102.26 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
20701	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown sandy silt. Moderate chalk and sparse angular flint fragment inclusions.	0-0.24
20702	Natural		White chalk, with light brown periglacial bands.	0.24 +
20703	Tree throw		Sub circular. Concave, shallow sides, irregular base. Extends beyond trench edge, full dimensions unknown. L >3.50m, W >2.20m, D 0.30m.	
20704	Secondary fill	20703	Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Abundant chalk, moderate flint fragments. Result of natural erosion.	0.3
20705	Tree throw		Sub oval. Irregular, shallow-steep sides, irregular base. L 2.2m, W1.50m, D 0.30m.	
20706	Secondary fill	20705	Light yellow grey silt and broken chalk. Moderate compaction, homogenous. Clear horizon.	0.2
20707	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20708	Secondary fill	20707	Fill of tree throw	
20709	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20710	Secondary fill	20709	Fill of tree throw	
20711	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20712	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20713	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20714	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	

Trench 208	**44.50m x 1.90m x 0.35m**	**NGR 411059 141621 (centre of trench)**	**101.70 OD**

Context No	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl)
20801	Plough soil		Light brown with grey hue, sandy loam. Frequent fine angular gravel, occasional large subrounded chalk. Very loose compaction. Disturbed by recent ploughing. Clear horizon.	0-0.21
20802	Natural		Fractured chalk, with small patches of periglacial gravel.	0.21-0.35+
20803	Posthole		Oval. Straight/irregular steep sides. Flat base. Shallow. No visible relationship with another feature. Possibly modern. L 0.32m, W 0.19m, D 0.06m.	0.35-0.41
20804	Fill	20803	Dark brown silty clay loam. Moderate small chalk fragments. No post pipe/packing material.	0.06
20805	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20806	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20807	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
20808	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20809	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20810	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20811	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20812	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20813	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20814	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20815	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20816	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20817	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
20818	Secondary fill	20805	Fill of tree throw	
20819	Secondary fill	20806	Fill of tree throw	
20820	Secondary fill	20807	Fill of tree throw	

Trench 209	10.00m x 10.00m x 0.25m		NGR 411042 141602 (centre of trench)	100.99 OD
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
20901	Plough soil		Light grey brown sandy silt. Inclusions of chalk nodules and flint fragments. Light rooting. Clear horizon.	0-0.22
20902	Natural		Chalk, with plough truncation and periglacial striping.	0.22+
20903	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	0.22-0.35
20904	Secondary fill	20903	Light yellow grey silt. Chalk inclusions.	0.22-0.35
20905	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	0.22-0.50
20906	Redeposited natural	20905	Redeposited broken up natural.	0.40--0.50
20907	Secondary fill	20905	Mid grey brown sandy silt.	0.22-0.40
20908	Plough soil		Re-sieved. N corner.	
20909	Plough soil		Re-sieved. E corner.	
20910	Plough soil		Re-sieved. S corner.	
20911	Plough soil		Re-sieved. W corner.	

Trench 210	49.50m x 2.00m x 0.28m		NGR 410997 141587 (centre of trench)	100.14 OD
Context No	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl)
21001	Plough soil		Light greyish brown silty loam, containing a significant amount of poorly sorted chalk gravel. Rooting.	0-0.25
21002	Natural		Greyish white chalk. Dense compaction. Some rooting and scarring.	0.25
21003	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	0.20-0.35
21004	Secondary fill	21003	Fill of tree throw	0.20-0.35
21005	Tree throw		Irregular ovoid. Irregular, moderate-steep sides, concave/irregular base. Extends beyond trench edge, full dimensions unknown. L >0.60, W 0.75m, D 0.22m.	
21006	Secondary fill	21005	Dark reddish brown silty loam. Abundant subangular course chalk gravel <60mm, poorly sorted.	0.22
21007	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21008	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21009	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21010	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21011	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21012	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21013	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21014	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21015	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21016	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	

Trench 211	49.70m x 1.90m x 0.29m		NGR 410973 141584 (centre of trench)	100.32 OD
Context No	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl)
21101	Plough soil		Mid brown with grey hue, silty clay loam. Frequent fine gravel and small chalk fragments. Very common crop rootlets. Loose compaction from ploughing.	0-0.26
21102	Natural		Fractured chalk. Some disturbance from bioturbation and ploughing. Occasional periglacial and pea gravel deposits.	0.26-0.29+
21103	Posthole		Sub circular. Regular, steep sides. L 0.35m, W 0.25m, D 0.23m. Close proximity to [21105].	
21104	Secondary fill	21103	Dark orange brown silt clay. Friable. Moderate chalk <0.04m, predominantly in upper fill. Moderate angular flint <0.07m. Clear horizon.	0.23
21105	Posthole		Sub square. L 0.28m, W 0.32m, D 0.23m. Close proximity to [21103].	
21106	Secondary fill	21105	Dark orange brown silt clay. Friable. Loose compaction. Moderate chalk <0.03m. Moderate angular flint <0.06m. More common around edges, possibly indicating presence of post pipe. Clear horizon.	0.23
21107	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
21108	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	

21109	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
21110	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
21111	Tree throw		Sub rectangular. Irregular moderate-steep sides. Irregular base. L 2.02m+, W 1.41m, D 0.33m.	
21112	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
21113	Secondary fill	21111	Dark, slightly orange brown silt clay. Friable. Common chalk <0.05m. Moderate angular-subrounded flint <0.08m. Clear horizon.	
21114	Primary fill	21111	Cream coloured dissolved and broken chalk. Moderate angular flint <0.05m. Derived from natural weathering.	
21115	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21116	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21117	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21118	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21119	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21120	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21121	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21122	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21123	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21124	Secondary fill	21107	Fill of tree throw.	
21125	Secondary fill	21108	Fill of tree throw.	
21126	Secondary fill	21109	Fill of tree throw.	
21127	Secondary fill	21110	Fill of tree throw.	
21128	Secondary fill	21112	Fill of tree throw. Assigned post-ex.	

Trench 212	**50.00m x 2.00m x 0.34m**		**NGR 410918 141571 (centre of trench)**	**99.87 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
21201	Plough soil		Light greyish brown silty loam. Contains poorly sorted chalk gravel and rooting.	0-0.28
21202	Natural		Yellow white degraded chalk with striping.	0.28+
21203	Tree throw		Ovoid. Irregular, moderate sides, concave/irregular base. L 1.10m, W 1.10m, D 0.17m.	
21204	Secondary fill	21203	Mid reddish brown silty loam. Abundant subangular chalk gravel <60mm, poorly sorted. Probable result of natural formation processes, possible tertiary fill dragged in by ploughing.	0.17
21205	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	0.25-0.40
21206	Secondary fill	21205	Fill of tree throw	0.25-0.40
21207	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
21208	Secondary fill	21207	Fill of tree throw	
21209	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
21210	Secondary fill	21209	Fill of tree throw	
21211	Plough soil		Re-sieved. 0-5m.	
21212	Plough soil		Re-sieved. 5-10m.	
21213	Plough soil		Re-sieved. 10-15m.	

21214	Plough soil		Re-sieved. 15-20m.	
21215	Plough soil		Re-sieved. 20-25m.	
21216	Plough soil		Re-sieved. 25-30m.	
21217	Plough soil		Re-sieved. 30-35m.	
21218	Plough soil		Re-sieved. 35-40m.	
21219	Plough soil		Re-sieved. 40-45m.	
21220	Plough soil		Re-sieved. 45-50m.	

Trench 214	**50.00m x 2.00m**		**NGR 410839 141565 (centre of trench)**	**104.09 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
21401	Plough soil		Silty clay loam. Friable, loose compaction. Frequent chalk <0.04m, moderate flint <0.09. Sharp horizon.	0-0.20
21402	Subsoil		Possible colluvial deposit intermittently present in lower east end of trench at base of shallow coombe. Orange brown silty clay. Abundant angular flint <0.09m, poorly sorted.	0.20-0.35
21403	Natural		Periglacial deposit of dissolved chalk and broken chalk with some striping.	0.20/0.35+
21404	Natural		Brocken chalk. Only visible at E end of trench, elsewhere overlain by (21403).	
21405	Plough soil		Re-sieved. E end.	
21406	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21407	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21408	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21409	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21410	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21411	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21412	Plough soil		Re-sieved.	
21413	Plough soil		Re-sieved. W end.	

Trench 215	**1.60m x 0.30m**		**NGR 410251 141344 (centre of trench)**	**104.09 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
21501	Plough soil		Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Common subangular chalk, occasional subangular flint. Fine rooting throughout.	0-0.30
21502	Natural		Yellowish light brown saluted chalk silt, compacted. Periglacial striations orientated NW-SE, filled with fine mid brown silt and pea grit.	0.30+
21503	Tree throw		Irregular. Concave, moderate sides. Concave base. L 0.80m, W 0.60m, D 0.28m. Tested, but not fully recorded.	0.30-0.58
21504	Secondary fill	21503	Mid-dark brown clay loam/light yellowish brown chalky clay mix. Occasional small subangular chalk. Occasional medium subangular flints. A mix of deposited natural and secondary fills.	0.30-0.58
21505	Plough soil		(21501) re-sieved.	
21506	Plough soil		(21502) re-sieved.	

21507	Plough soil		(21501) re-sieved.	

Trench 217	49.00m x 1.60m x 0.39m		NGR 410180 141372 (centre of trench)	105.15 OD
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
21701	Plough soil		Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay. Soft compaction. Fine rooting throughout. Frequent nodular subangular flint <150mm, poorly sorted. Moderate subrounded chalk, associated with pea grit, overall mixed appearance. Slightly undulating, following natural.	0-0.39
21702	Natural		Creamy white chalk with obvious areas of bioturbation. Plough scars present. Moderate compaction, undulating horizon.	0.39+
21703	Tree throw		Irregular in plan. Irregular, variable steep-moderate sides, undulating base. L 1.30m, W 0.60m, D. 0.30m.	
21704	Secondary fill	21703	Mid-light greyish brown silty clay. Loose compaction. Very frequent chalk rubble, and pea grit, poorly sorted. Occasional subangular flint, poorly sorted. Clear horizon.	0.3
21705	Plough soil		Sieved at 2.5m. SE end	
21706	Plough soil		Sieved at 7.5m.	
21707	Plough soil		Sieved at 12.5m.	
21708	Plough soil		Sieved at 17.5m.	
21709	Plough soil		Sieved at 22.5m.	
21710	Plough soil		Sieved at 27.5m.	
21711	Plough soil		Sieved at 32.5m.	
21712	Plough soil		Sieved at 37.5m.	
21713	Plough soil		Sieved at 42.5m.	
21714	Plough soil		Sieved at 47.5m. NW end.	

Trench 218	10.00m x 10.00m x 0.25m		NGR 410157 141351 (centre of trench)	104.90 OD
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
21801	Plough soil		Dark brown silt clay loam. Very loose compaction. Common chalk and flint inclusions.	0-0.25
21802	Natural		Chalk. Very compacted. Occasional flints.	0.25+
21803	Natural Feature		probable animal burrow. Sub square with linear projection to NE Irregular, moderate-steep sides. Very irregular base. L 0.81m, W 0.70m, D 0.24m.	
21804	Fill	21803	Dark brown silt clay loam. Very loose compaction. Abundant chalk pea grit. Moderate chalk <0.07m.	0.24
21805	Natural Feature		probable animal burrow rather than shallow posthole. Sub circular. Regular steep-moderate sides, concave base. L 0.24m, W 0.24m, D 0.08m.	
21806	Fill	21805	Dark brown silty clay loam. Very loose compaction. Abundant chalk pea grit. Sparse chalk <0.03m.	0.08

21807	Natural Feature		probable animal burrow/hole. Sub oval. Irregular, moderate-steep sides. Concave base. L 0.56m, W 0.30m, D 0.08m.	
21808	Fill	21807	Dark brown silty clay loam. Very loose compaction. Abundant chalk pea grit.	0.08
21809	Natural Feature		Probable animal burrow rather than shallow posthole. Sub circular. Regular, moderate-steep sides. Concave base. L 0.28m, W 0.26m, D 0.08m.	
21810	Fill	21809	Dark brown silt clay loam. Very loose compaction. Abundant chalk pea grit. Moderate chalk <0.05m.	0.08
21811	Natural Feature		Animal burrow	
21812	Natural Feature		Animal burrow	
21813	Plough soil		Sieved NE corner.	
21814	Plough soil		Sieved NW corner.	
21815	Plough soil		Sieved SW corner.	
21816	Plough soil		Sieved SE corner.	
21817	Fill	21811	Dark brown silt clay loam. Very loose compaction. Abundant chalk pea grit. Moderate chalk <0.05m. Assigned post ex.	
21818	Fill	21812	Dark brown silt clay loam. Very loose compaction. Abundant chalk pea grit. Moderate chalk <0.05m.	

Trench 219	**20.70m x 2.00m x 0.40m**		**NGR 410139 141322 (centre of trench)**	**103.77 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
21901	Plough soil		Mid-dark grey silty loam. Abundant subangular-subrounded chalk ant flint fragments <70mm. Not sorted.	0-0.30
21902	Natural		Chalk with common flint nodules. Some patchy periglacial weathering.	0.23+
21903	Plough soil		Sieved.	
21904	Plough soil		Sieved.	
21905	Plough soil		Sieved.	
21906	Natural Feature		Natural feature, with later bioturbation.	0.28+
21907	Fill	21906	Fill of natural feature.	
21908	Fill	21906	Fill of natural feature.	
21909	Plough soil		Sieved.	

Trench 220	**48.00m x 1.60m x 0.28m**		**NGR 410217 141387 (centre of trench)**	**105.79 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
22001	Plough soil		Mid-dark silty loam, with 20-40% well sorted gravel, and <20% chalk. Common fine rooting.	0-0.28
22002	Natural		White chalk. Periglacial striping orientated NW-SE.	0.28+
22003	Not used		Voided	
22004	Not used		Voided	

22005	Not used		Voided	
22006	Plough soil		Sieved at 2.5m (SW most point of trench).	
22007	Plough soil		Sieved at 7.5m	
22008	Plough soil		Sieved at 12.5m	
22009	Plough soil		Sieved at 17.5m	
22010	Plough soil		Sieved at 22.5m	
22011	Plough soil		Sieved at 27.5m	
22012	Plough soil		Sieved at 32.5m	
22013	Plough soil		Sieved at 37.5m	
22014	Plough soil		Sieved at 42.5m	
22015	Plough soil		Sieved at 47.5m (NE most point of trench).	

Trench 222	**50.00m x 1.80m x 0.38m**		**NGR 410129 141352 (centre of trench)**	**105.38 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
22201	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay. Occasional subangular chalk fragments >30mm, rare flint fragments .60mm throughout. Recently ploughed, under crop.	0-.25
22202	Natural		Chalk. Rare periglacial striations.	0.25+
22203	Plough soil		Sieved. SW end of trench.	
22204	Plough soil		Sieved.	
22205	Plough soil		Sieved.	
22206	Plough soil		Sieved.	
22207	Plough soil		Sieved.	
22208	Plough soil		Sieved.	
22209	Plough soil		Sieved.	
22210	Plough soil		Sieved.	
22211	Plough soil		Sieved.	
22212	Plough soil		Sieved. NE end of trench.	

Trench 223	**48.00m x 1.90m x 0.26m**		**NGR 410075 141342 (centre of trench)**	**105.94 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
22301	Plough soil		Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Friable Common chalk <30mm, and flint <135mm, nodular and subangular. Mixed appearance. Clear, slightly uneven lower boundary. Common fine roots throughout, under crop.	0-0.18
22302	Natural		Chalk, mostly bedrock, with surface disturbed by periglacial striping, plough and root activity.	0.18+
22303	Plough soil		Sieved	
22304	Plough soil		Sieved	
22305	Plough soil		Sieved	
22306	Plough soil		Sieved	
22307	Plough soil		Sieved	
22308	Plough soil		Sieved	

22309	Plough soil		Sieved	
22310	Plough soil		Sieved	
22311	Plough soil		Sieved	
22312	Plough soil		Sieved	
22313	Tree throw		Sub-square. Irregular sides.	
22314	Secondary fill	22313	Mid greyish brown silt. Common angular chalk.	
22315	Tree throw		Oval in plan. Steep sides, narrow base.	
22316	Secondary fill	22315	Mid greyish brown silt, common angular chalk. Similar to plough soil.	

Trench 224	**49.20m x 1.90m x 0.40m**		**NGR 410048 141339 (centre of trench)**	**106.01 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
22401	Plough soil		Greyish brown silty clay loam. Friable. Moderate subangular flint <95mm, rare nodular <135mm. Occasional chalk <35mm. Well mixed appearance. Clear, even lower boundary.	0-0.30
22402	Natural		Chalk. Occasional nodular flint <230mm. Surface mixed by root disturbance and periglacial striping.	0.30+
22403	Plough soil		Sieved at 2.5m. From S end.	
22404	Plough soil		Sieved at 7.5m.	
22405	Plough soil		Sieved at 12.5m.	
22406	Plough soil		Sieved at 17.5m.	
22407	Plough soil		Sieved at 22.5m.	
22408	Plough soil		Sieved at 27.5m.	
22409	Plough soil		Sieved at 32.5m.	
22410	Plough soil		Sieved at 37.5m.	
22411	Plough soil		Sieved at 42.5m.	
22412	Plough soil		Sieved at 47.5m. At N end.	

Trench 225	**50.00m x 0.35m**		**NGR 410131 141401 (centre of trench)**	**106.13 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
22501	Plough soil		Dark greyish brown sandy silt. Friable compaction. Very common chalk flecks. Frequent flint >10mm.	0-0.35
22502	Natural		Chalk.	0.35+
22503	Tree throw		Irregular in plan, irregular steep sides. Distinct boundary with natural.	
22504	Secondary fill	22503	Dark reddish brown silty clay loam. Very loose compaction. Common small subrounded chalk.	
22505	Plough soil		Sieved at 2.5m. E end.	
22506	Plough soil		Sieved at 7.5m.	
22507	Plough soil		Sieved at 12.5m.	
22508	Plough soil		Sieved at 17.5m.	
22509	Plough soil		Sieved at 22.5m.	
22510	Plough soil		Sieved at 27.5m.	

22511	Plough soil		Sieved at 32.5m.	

Trench 226	33.5m x 1.80m x 0.35m		NGR 410155 141658 (centre of trench)	102.26 OD
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
22601	Plough soil		Mid grey brown sandy silt. Small chalk and flint inclusions. Frequent rooting. Clear horizon.	0-0.25
22602	Natural		Chalk, plough truncated. Periglacial striping present.	0.25+
22603	Tree throw		Irregular in plan. Irregular, shallow sides. Concave, irregular base. L 1.50m, W 0.50m, D 0.09m.	
22604	Secondary fill	22603	Light yellowish grey sandy silt. Common subangular chalk and flint gravel 10-60mm, poorly sorted.	0.09
22605	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.25-0.30
22606	Secondary fill	22605	Mid grey brown sandy silt.	0.25-0.30
22607	Plough soil		Sieved at 0-5m. S end.	
22608	Plough soil		Sieved at 5-10m.	
22609	Plough soil		Sieved at 10-15m.	
22610	Plough soil		Sieved at 15-20m.	
22611	Plough soil		Sieved at 20-25m.	
22612	Plough soil		Sieved at 25-30m.	
22613	Plough soil		Sieved at 30-35m.	
22614	Plough soil		Sieved at 35-40m.	
22615	Plough soil		Sieved at 40-45m.	
22616	Plough soil		Sieved at 45-50m.	

Trench 228	10.00m x 10.10m x 0.30m		NGR 411026 141568 (centre of trench)	100.13 OD
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
22801	Plough soil		Mid grey brown sandy silt. Small chalk and flint inclusions. Frequent rooting.	0-0.25
22802	Natural		Chalk	0.25
22803	Tree throw		Sub circular. Concave, shallow sides, irregular base. L 1.90m, W 1.60m, D 0.19m.	
22804	Secondary fill	22803	Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Sparse chalk inclusions. Loose compaction. Result of natural erosion.	0.19
22805	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
22806	Secondary fill	22805	Fill of tree throw	
22807	Animal Disturbance		Cut of animal barrow	
22808	Secondary fill	22807	Fill of animal barrow	
22809	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
22810	Secondary fill	22809	Fill of tree throw	
22811	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
22812	Secondary fill	22811	Fill of tree throw	
22813	Plough soil		Sieved N corner.	

22814	Plough soil		Sieved E corner.	
22815	Plough soil		Sieved W corner.	
22816	Plough soil		Sieved S corner.	

Trench 230	**38.00m x 2.00m**		**NGR 410882 141564 (centre of trench)**	**97.81 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
23001	Plough soil		Light greyish brown silty loam. Chalk flecking, heavy rooting.	0-0.20
23002	Natural		Degraded chalk. Rare small flint nodules.	0.20+
23003	Posthole		Circular. Concave, steep sides. Concave base. Diameter 0.32m, depth 0.12m. Close proximity to 2 other similarly shaped and sized features. Possibly modern.	
23004	Secondary fill	23003	Mid reddish brown silty loam. Abundant subangular chalk gravel 10-40mm, poorly sorted. Fairly loose compaction. Probable result of natural silting, or tertiary fill dragged in by ploughing.	0.12
23005	Posthole		Circular. Irregular, shallow sides. Concave, irregular base. Diameter 0.33m, depth 0.07m. Forms part of straight line with [23003] and [23007]. Possibly modern.	
23006	Secondary fill	23005	Mid greyish brown silty loam. Abundant subangular chalk gravel 10-60mm, poorly sorted. Probable result of natural silting, or tertiary fill dragged in by ploughing.	0.07
23007	Posthole		Circular. Irregular, moderate sides. Concave, irregular base. Diameter 0.32m, Depth 0.05m. Similar to, and in line with [23003] and [23005]. Possibly modern.	
23008	Secondary fill	23007	Mid greyish brown silty loam. Abundant subangular chalk gravel 40-60mm, poorly sorted. Probable result of natural silting, or tertiary fill dragged in by ploughing.	0.05
23009	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
23010	Secondary fill	23009	Fill of tree throw	
23011	Posthole		Circular. Irregular, moderate sides. Concave, irregular base. Diameter 0.32m, 0.08m. Similar in size and shape to other adjacent features. Possibly modern.	
23012	Secondary fill	23011	Mid greyish brown silty loam. Abundant subangular chalk gravel 10-50mm, poorly sorted. Probable result of natural silting, or tertiary fill dragged in by ploughing.	0.08m
23013	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
23014	Secondary fill	23013	Fill of tree throw	
23015	Plough soil		Sieved. N end.	
23016	Plough soil		Sieved.	
23017	Plough soil		Sieved.	
23018	Plough soil		Sieved.	
23019	Plough soil		Sieved.	
23020	Plough soil		Sieved.	
23021	Plough soil		Sieved.	

23022	Plough soil		Sieved. S end.	

Trench 231	10.30m x 4.50m x 0.40m		NGR 410124 141311 (centre of trench)	103.78 OD
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
23101	Plough soil		Mid-dark grey silty loam. Abundant subangular-subrounded flint and chalk fragments <70mm. Not sorted.	0-0.30
23102	Natural		Chalk with common flint nodules. Slightly weathered upper surface of degraded chalk. Abundant periglacial action. Clear horizon.	0.30+
23103	Plough soil		Sieved NW corner.	
23104	Plough soil		Sieved NE corner.	
23105	Plough soil		Sieved SW corner.	
23106	Plough soil		Sieved SE corner.	

Trench 232	50.00m x 1.65m x 0.75m		NGR 410190 141335 (centre of trench)	103.33 OD
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
23201	Plough soil		Mid brown silty clay. Friable. Common flint and chalk inclusions, poorly sorted. Under crop. E end much deeper 0.75m.	0-0.25
23202	Natural		Chalk with periglacial striping	0.25+
23205	Plough soil		Sieved at 2.5m. W end.	
23206	Plough soil		Sieved at 7.5m.	
23207	Plough soil		Sieved at 12.5m,	
23208	Plough soil		Sieved at 17.5m.	
23209	Plough soil		Sieved at 22.5m.	
23210	Plough soil		Sieved at 27.5m.	
23211	Plough soil		Sieved at 32.5m.	
23212	Plough soil		Sieved at 37.5m.	
23213	Plough soil		Sieved at 42.5m.	
23214	Plough soil		Sieved at 47.5m.	

Trench 233	10.00m x 10.00m x 0.25m		NGR 410097 141364 (centre of trench)	106.10 OD
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
23301	Plough soil		Dark grey brown silty clay loam. Friable. Common chalk <0.06m, and flint <0.11m.	0-0.25
23302	Natural		Compacted chalk. Clear horizon.	0.25+
23303	Secondary fill	23304	Dark brown clay loam. Friable. Very common chalk pea grit <0.01m. Common flint <0.06m.	0.25-0.39
23304	Animal Disturbance		Irregular hole, deeper to NW. Appears to be an animal burrow. L 0.44m, W0.34m, D 0.14m.	0.25-0.39
23305	Fill		Area of disturbed chalk. Probably root disturbance.	0.25+
23306	Cut		Only seen in plan. Not excavated.	0.25+

23307	Plough soil		Sieved NE corner.	
23308	Plough soil		Sieved NW corner.	
23309	Plough soil		Sieved SW corner.	
23310	Plough soil		Sieved SE corner.	

Trench 234	**50.40m x 1.69m x 0.34m**		**NGR 410245 141370 (centre of trench)**	**102.21 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
23401	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay. Dense crop cover, abundant fine rooting. Fairly loose compaction. Frequent small rounded chalk nodules. Common, poorly sorted subangular-subrounded flint nodules and fragments. Clear, straight horizon.	0-0.25
23402	Natural		Chalk nodules in an off-white matrix of degraded chalk. Moderate irregular flint nodules throughout. \periglacial striping NW-SE.	0.25+
23403	Pit		100% excavated. Circular. Concave, steep sides. Flat base. L 0.80m, W 0.85m, D 0.25m. Appears isolated.	
23404	Deliberate backfill	23403	Dark blackish brown silty clay loam. Sparse small rounded chalk nodules and flecks. Moderate subangular-subrounded flint fragments and nodules, poorly sorted.	0.25
23405	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
23406	Secondary fill	23405	Fill of tree throw.	
23407	Sample		Sample from [23403].100L	
23408	Small Object		Object from [23403]. Worked bone/awl.	
23409	Plough soil		Sieved 2.5-7.5m. Easternmost point.	
23410	Plough soil		Sieved 7.5-12.5m.	
23411	Plough soil		Sieved 12.5-17.5m.	
23412	Plough soil		Sieved 17.5-22.5m.	
23413	Plough soil		Sieved 22.5-27.5m.	
23414	Plough soil		Sieved 27.5-32.5m.	
23415	Plough soil		Sieved 23.5-37.5m.	
23416	Plough soil		Sieved 37.5-42.5m.	
23417	Plough soil		Sieved 42.5-47.5m.	
23418	Plough soil		Sieved 47.5-50m. Westernmost point.	

Trench 235	**10.00m x 10.00m x 0.25m**		**NGR 410271 141398 (centre of trench)**	**102.69 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
23501	Plough soil		Dark greyish brown silty clay. Common subangular chalk fragments >30mm. Occasional flint fragments >80mm. Under crop.	0-0.25
23502	Natural		Weathered surface of blocky chalk bedrock.	0.25+
23503	Fill	23505	Soil crescent fill, from silting after tree fallen	
23504	Fill	23505	Chalk rubble fill ripped up by roots as tree fell	
23505	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	

23506	Plough soil		Sieved NE corner.	
23507	Plough soil		Sieved SE corner.	
23508	Plough soil		Sieved SW corner.	
23509	Plough soil		Sieved NW corner.	

Trench 237	**27.50m x 1.70m x 0.36m**		**NGR 410345 141449 (centre of trench)**	**102.90 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
23701	Plough soil		Dark greyish brown silty loam. Friable. Common cobbled angular flint and fine subangular chalk.	0-0.36
23702	Natural		Chalk with periglacial stripes.	0.36+
23703	Plough soil		Sieved at 2.5m. S end.	
23704	Plough soil		Sieved at 7.5m.	
23705	Plough soil		Sieved at 12.5m.	
23706	Plough soil		Sieved at 17.5m.	
23707	Plough soil		Sieved at 22.5m.	
23708	Plough soil		Sieved at 27.5m. N end.	

Trench 238	**50.00m x 2.00m x 0.28m**		**NGR 410294 141449 (centre of trench)**	**102.90 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
23801	Plough soil		Light greyish brown silt. Common angular chalk and flint cobbles.	0-0.28
23802	Natural		Chalk, moderately compact. Rare angular flint cobbles.	0.28+
23803	Tree throw		Sub circular, irregular steep sides, irregular base	0.28-0.53
23804	Primary fill	23803	Disturbed chalk.	0.28-0.53
23805	Secondary fill	23803	Mid brownish grey silt. Common angular flint pebbles and cobbles.	

Trench 239	**51.00m x 2.00m x 0.26m**		**NGR 410345 141455 (centre of trench)**	**102.91 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
23901	Plough soil		Light brownish grey silty clay. Fairly loose compaction. Moderate, poorly sorted subangular flint nodules and fragments. Common subangular-subrounded chalk nodules throughout. Clear horizon.	0-0.26
23902	Natural		Moderately compact chalk. Rare flint nodules. Rare periglacial striping.	0.26+
23903	Tree throw		Semi-circular. Mattock slot tested.	
23904	Secondary fill	23903	Mixture of redeposited loose chalk and mid brown silty material.	

Trench 240	**51.00m x 2.00m x 0.26m**		**NGR 410365 141413 (centre of trench)**	**99.72 OD**
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**

No				
24001	Plough soil		Light brownish grey silt. Occasional angular flint and chalk cobbles. Common chalk gravel.	0-0.24
24002	Natural		Chalk cobbles and angular flints.	0.24+
24003	Pit		100% excavated. Sub square. Straight, steep sides, flat base. L 0.43m, W 0.26m, D 0.25m.	
24004	deliberate backfill	24003	Upper fill. Dark brown silt. Common regular chalk and flint cobbles.	
24005	Pit		100% excavated. Irregular in plan. Irregular, moderate sides, irregular base. L 0.62m, W 0.50m, D 0.11m. Heavily affected by rooting.	
24006	Secondary fill	24005	Reddish broken silt clay. Very common subangular flint <0.10m. Some subangular chalk < 0.04m. Clear boundary. Loose compaction.	0.11
24007	Primary fill	24003	White with light brown stained silt. Common chalk gravel and angular flint pebbles. Abundant chalk cobbles. Bioturbated.	
24008	Sample		Sample from (24006), South half, <10L	
24009	Sample		Sample from (24006), North half, <20L	
24010	Sample		Sample from (24004), South half, <20L	
24011	Sample		Sample from (24004), North half <20L	
24012	Small object		Object from (24006). Sherd of beaker pot. North half.	

Trench 241	**54.00m x 2.00m x 0.32m**		**NGR 410399 141396 (centre of trench)**	**99.48 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
24101	Plough soil		Very dark greyish brown-dark brown silty clay loam. Friable. Upper surface disturbed by pigs. Moderate angular and subangular flint <95mm. Rare nodular flint <115mm. Rare rounded flint pebbles <35mm. Sparse chalk <35mm. Rare ironstone <50mm. Occasional fi	0.00-0.22
24102	Natural		Compact, saluted chalk, glacial coombe deposit. Surface disturbed by plough and root activity.	0.22+
24103	Pit		Potential cut feature. Sub circular. Concave, gentle-moderate sides. Concave base. L 3.4m?, W 0.8m, D 0.22m. Difficult to define due to weathering.	
24104	Fill	24103	Upper fill. May represent primary/secondary material, bioturbated remnants of (24136), or deliberate backfill. Very dark greyish brown fine silt. Rare subangular flint <0.45mm.	0.17
24105	Natural Feature		Solution hollow. Oval. Irregular, steep-very steep sides. Not bottomed. L 8.23m, W >2m, D >1.28m. Likely distorted by bioturbation and water erosion.	
24106	tertiary deposit	24105	Capping [24105] and [24103]. Most likely plough derived tertiary soil. Dark greyish brown silty clay loam. Friable. Occasional subangular flint <75mm. Occasional chalk <25mm. Rare ironstone <30mm. Poorly sorted. Clear-gradual boundary.	0.26-0.53

24107	Fill	24105	Possible stabilisation/buried turf horizon. Existing around the inside of the outer edge of feature. Cut away in central portion by [24103]. Dark yellowish brown silt, with slight clay content. Rare flint <60mm. E depth 0.25-0.55m, W depth 0.35-0.52m. Cle	0.25-0.55
24108	Secondary fill	24105	Dark yellowish brown fine silt, small amount of clay present. Sparse subangular flint <90mm. Rare ironstone. E depth 0.23-0.75m, W depth 0.52-0.68m.	0.23-0.75
24109	Layer		Mid yellowish brown silty clay. Common subangular flint nodules and fragments, poorly sorted. Area of natural coombe chalk, pocketed with small solution hollows.	0.27-0.33
24110	Sample		Sample of (24104). 40L	
24111	Sample		Sample of (24107). 40L.	
24112	Sample		Sample of (24108).40L	
24113	Secondary fill	24105	Yellowish brown clay silt. Moderate subangular flint <80mm throughout. Poorly sorted. Clear lower boundary. Animal burrowing evident.	
24114	Sample		Sample of (24113). 40L.	
24115	Primary fill	24105	Yellowish brown clay silt. Occasional nodular flint <185mm, poorly sorted. Clear horizons.	
24116	Primary fill	24105	Present against NE edge only. Relatively mixed light brownish grey and light grey clay silt.	
24117	Sample		Sample of (24115). 40L	
24118	Sample		Sample of (24116). 20L	
24119	Secondary fill	24105	Worm sorted horizon. Dark yellowish brown silt. Friable. Moderate subangular-subrounded flint <0.95mm, forming a lens between (24107) and (24108)	0.05
24120	Sample		Sample series number.	
24121	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24122	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24123	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24124	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24125	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24126	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24127	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24128	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24129	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24130	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24131	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24132	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24133	Sample		Sample of [24105]	
24134	Fill	24103	Possible stabilisation horizon. Very dark greyish brown silty loam. Rare flint <40mm. Gradual-diffuse lower boundary with (24135).	
24135	Secondary fill	24103	Dark brown silt. Rare flint <50mm. Lower boundary with (24104) clear-gradual.	0.12
24136	Fill	24103	Possible in situ remains of fire related materials forming basal deposit. Black-very dark brown silt. Rare subangular flint <35mm. Sharp horizon.	

24137	Primary fill	24105	Yellowish brown silt representing edge collapse as part of primary infilling. Abundant pea grit, sparse flint <65mm, sparse chalk <35mm.	0.32
24138	Primary fill	24105	Yellowish brown clay silt presenting edge collapse as part of primary infilling. Moderate chalk <40mm. Sparse flint <60mm. Sparse pea grit, most evident at edges.	0.23
24139	Primary fill	24105	Identified only on SW side of [24105], Yellowish brown clay silt. Sparse subangular flint, <75mm, poorly sorted.	0.23
24140	Primary fill	24105	Yellowish brown clay silt. No inclusions.	0.09
24141	Primary fill	24105	Off white saluted chalk. Overlies (24116). Below (24115), so probable part of upper primary fill sequence Occurs only on NE edge.	

Trench 243	**10.00m x 10.00m x 0.26m**		**NGR 410397 141444 (centre of trench)**	**100.53 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
24301	Plough soil		Mid grey brown silty loam. Friable. Common medium angular flint and fine subangular tone and chalk pea grit.	0-0.26
24302	Natural		Chalk with abundant periglacial striping NW-SE. Heavily plough scarred in various directions, N-S, NW-SE, NE-SW.	0.26+
24303	Layer		Disturbance due to vehicle track.	
24304	Tree throw		Sub oval. Uneven base, uneven steep sides. Rooting present. Not fully excavated.	0.26-0.40
24305	Secondary fill	24304	Mid orange brown silty loam. Friable. Abundant pea grit and chalk.	0.26-0.40

Trench 244	**51.34m x 1.78m x 0.21m**		**NGR 410384 141477 (centre of trench)**	**101.81 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
24401	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay loam, Common sub rounded chalk inclusions <40mm. Moderate subangular and nodular flint <180mm.	0-0.21
24402	Natural		White bedrock chalk, with periglacial scarring and modern plough scarring.	0.21+
24403	Tree throw		Sub oval. Not excavated. L 4.20m, W 3.00m, D >0.20m.	
24404	Fill	24403	Not excavated. Mid brown silty loam. Very common chalk flecking and subrounded chalk <25mm. Moderate subangular flint <125mm.	
24405	Grave		100% excavated. Sub oval. Irregular, moderate sides. Irregular base. L 1.28m, W 0.80m, D 0.26m. Altered by bioturbation. Truncated by [24412].	
24406	Secondary fill	24405	Mid greyish brown silty loam. Common subangular flint <130mm. Moderate subrounded-subangular chalk <20mm. Very loose and bioturbated. Cut by unexcavated pit 24412	
24407	Sample		Enviro sample of (24406). 40L	
24408	Small object		Object from [24405] (24409). Beaker pot in pit.	

24409	Deliberate backfill	24405	Likely backfill, altered by bioturbation. Mid brown silty loam. Very common fine gravel and pea grit chalk. Sparse subrounded chalk <30mm. Rare flint <100mm. Loose compaction. Fill forms basal fill of pit.	
24410	Small object		Object from [24405] (24409). Pot in pit.	
24411	Fill	24403	Same as (24404) but partly excavated adjacent to pit 24405 which was cut into this tree throw fill.	
24412	Pit		Possible pit -unexcavated. Sub oval in plan. Not excavated, though appears in plan to cut upper fill (24406) of pit [24405]. L 1.90m, W 1.00m.	0.22
24413	Fill	24412	Dark brown silty loam. Loose compaction. Rare subangular chalk <40mm. Not excavated.	0.22
24414	Sample		Sample of (24409). Likely backfill of burial.	
24415	Sample		Sample of (24404).	
24416	Pit		Possible pit. Not excavated. Circular in plan. Diameter 0.75m. In plan, appears to be cut into 24404 of tree throw.	
24417	Fill	24416	Upper unexcavated fill of possible pit. Possible deliberate backfill. Dark brown silty loam. Rare chalk <40mm. Moderate subangular flint <65mm. Not excavated.	
24418	Pit		Possible pit or rooting, unexcavated so depth unknown. Sub oval in plan. L 0.90m, W 0.70m. In plan, appears to be cut into 24404 of tree throw.	
24419	Secondary fill	24418	Upper unexcavated fill of possible pit. Dark brown silty loam. Occasional chalk <40mm. Not excavated.	
24420	Grave		As 24405	
24421	Secondary fill	24405	Same as (24406), but present in W half of feature.	0.18
24422	Sample	24405	Sample of (24421). 30L	
24423	Deliberate backfill	24405	Same as (24409).	0.12
24424	Sample	24405	Sample of (24423). 25L	
24425	Small object		Object from (24423). Beaker pot.	
24426	Sample		Soil sample of (24408)	
24427	Sample		Soil sample of (24425)	

Trench 245	**50.00m x 2.00m x 0.20m**		**NGR 410422 141478 (centre of trench)**	**100.56 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
24501	Plough soil		Mid brown silty loam. Loose compaction. Common, fine chalk gravel. Moderate subrounded chalk. Sparse subangular flint.	0-0.20
24502	Natural		Chalk rubble. Periglacial striping and plough scars evident. Some root disturbance.	0.20+
24503	Tree throw		Sub circular. Concave-convex, steep-moderate sides. Irregular base. Diameter 2.34m, depth 0.24m.	
24504	Secondary fill	24503	Result of natural processes. Mid brown silty loam. Abundant subrounded chalk <200mm.	0.24

24505	Primary fill	24503	Light grey brown silt loam. Abundant subangular chalk <100mm. Result of natural processes.	0.17
24506	Tree throw		Sub oval. Straight moderate sides. Irregular base. L 0.80m, W 0.65m, D 0.39m.	
24507	Primary fill	24506	White silt. Mostly angular chalk. Rare angular flint pebbles.	
24508	Secondary fill	24506	Mid brownish grey silt. Common angular chalk. Occasional angular flint cobbles.	0.18
24509	Tree throw		Sub oval. Irregular steep sides. Irregular base. L 2.0m, W 2.55m, D 0.66m.	
24510	Primary fill	24509	Light whitish brown silty chalk. Abundant subangular chalk <50mm. Very firm compaction. Result of natural processes.	0.51
24511	Secondary fill	24509	Dark brown fine gravels in silty loam. Common subangular chalk <40mm. Loose compaction. Result of natural processes.	0.2
24512	Natural Feature		Modern rooting hole.	
24513	Secondary fill	24512	Disintegrated wood (part of old root) in fill.	

Trench 246	**49.00m x 1.80m x 0.25**		**NGR 410447 141447 (centre of trench)**	**100.98 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
24601	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay. Common subangular chalk fragments >2cm. Occasional flint fragments <6cm throughout context. Recently ploughed.	0-0.25
24602	Natural		Soliflucted chalk with periglacial stripes.	0.25+

Trench 247	**19.50m x 2.00m x 0.52m**		**NGR 410451 141409 (centre of trench)**	**98.99 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
24701	Plough soil		Light brownish grey silty clay. Fairly loose compaction. Sparse fine rooting. Moderate subangular flint nodules and fragments, poorly sorted. Common subangular-subrounded chalk, well sorted. Clear, straight horizon.	0-0.26
24702	Subsoil		Possible colluvial deposit. Mid yellowish brown silty clay. Abundant flint, very rare chalk. Clear, undulating horizon.	0.26-0.47
24703	Natural		Glacially affected coombe chalk. Very rare, subangular flint nodules, poorly sorted.	0.47-0.52
24704	Tree throw		Irregular sides and base.	
24705	Secondary fill	24704	Fill of tree throw	

Trench 248	**10.00m x 10.00m x 0.35m**		**NGR 410488 141433 (centre of trench)**	**98.72 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**

24801	Plough soil		Light brownish grey silty clay. Fairly loose compaction. Sparse fine rooting. Moderate subangular flint nodules and fragments, poorly sorted. Common subangular-subrounded chalk nodules, fairly well sorted. Clear, straight horizon.	0-0.20
24802	Subsoil		Possible colluvial deposit. Mid yellowish brown silty clay. Abundant flint. Rare degraded chalk. Clear, undulating horizon.	0.20-0.30
24803	Natural		Glacially affected coombe chalk. Rare subangular flint nodules, poorly sorted.	0.30-0.35+

Trench 249	**10.30m x 2.00m x 0.39m**		**NGR 410527 141432 (centre of trench)**	**98.82 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
24901	Plough soil		Mid brownish grey silt. Occasional angular flint and chalk pebbles/cobbles.	0-0.23
24902	Colluvium		Light brown silty loam. Rare angular flint cobbles.	0.23-0.37
24903	Natural		Soliflucted chalk. Occasional angular flint cobbles. Common bioturbation.	0.37+

Trench 250	**49.30m x 1.80m x 0.25m**		**NGR 410517 141463 (centre of trench)**	**98.40 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
25001	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay. Common flint fragments >6cm. Occasional subangular chalk fragments >1cm, evenly distributed throughout. Recently ploughed. Sharp horizon.	0-0.25
25002	Natural		Very pale brown chalk powder. Occasional veins of subrounded chalk fragments. Solifluction chalk in base of shallow coombe.	0.25+

Trench 251	**49.4m x 2.05m x 0.26m**		**NGR 410517 141489 (centre of trench)**	**99.24 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
25101	Plough soil		Mid brown silty loam. Very loose compaction. Common chalk gravel. Sparse subangular flint <20mm. Deepest to south.	0-0.26
25102	Natural		Chalk with periglacial striping.	0.20+
25103	Natural Feature		Rooting. Irregular in plan. Irregular, moderate sides. Irregular base. L 1.27m, W 1.56m, D 0.18m.	
25104	Secondary fill	25103	Root disturbed. Light brown silty chalk. Abundant fine chalk gravel. Sparse chalk <40mm. Loose compaction. Chalk fragments concentrated at SW side.	0.06
25105	Secondary fill	25103	Upper fill, root disturbed. Dark brown silty loam. Common subrounded chalk <20mm. Abundant fine gravels. Very loose compaction.	0.1
25106	Natural Feature		Sub square/roundish very shallow feature, probably root disturbance.. Slightly deeper in middle. Mostly comprising root disturbance of	0.20-0.35

			natural chalk.	
25107	Secondary fill	25106	Dark yellowish brown silty clay loam. Friable. Frequent loose chalk inclusions <40mm.	0.20-0.35

Trench 252	**52.00m x 1.80m x 0.25m**		**NGR 410497 141514 (centre of trench)**	**99.44 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
25201	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay. Frequent subangular chalk fragments >20mm. Common flint fragments >60mm. Evenly distributed throughout. Recently ploughed.	0-0.18
25202	Natural		Blocky chalk. Common N-S periglacial striping.	0.18+

Trench 253	**9.80m x 9.80m x 0.25m**		**NGR 410506 141492 (centre of trench)**	**98.86 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
25301	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay. Occasional subangular chalk fragments >10mm. Rare flint fragments >40mm. Evenly distributed throughout layer. Recently ploughed.	0-0.20
25302	Natural		Blocky chalk. Common SE-NW periglacial striping.	0.20+
25303	Secondary fill	25305	Soil crescent fill. Common chalk fragments. Occasional flint fragments.	
25304	Secondary fill	25305	Chalk rubble. Moderate compaction. Animal burrows throughout.	
25305	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	

Trench 255	**7.00m x 1.80m x 0.36m**		**NGR 410564 141440 (centre of trench)**	**98.66 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
25501	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay. Common subangular chalk fragments >10mm. Occasional flint fragments >40mm. Evenly distributed throughout.	0-0.20
25502	Natural		Blocky chalk. Approx. 50% periglacial striping.	0.20+

Trench 256	**11.00m x 10.00m x 0.28m**		**NGR 410590 141455 (centre of trench)**	**98.29 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
25601	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay. Common flint fragments <60mm. Common chalk fragments <20mm throughout. Recently ploughed.	0-0.20
25602	Natural		Firm blocky chalk. Common periglacial striping N-S.	0.20+

Trench	**50.00m x 1.80m x 0.40m**	**NGR 410597 141482 (centre of trench)**	**97.49 OD**

258				
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
25801	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay. Common flint fragments >60mm. Occasional subangular chalk fragments >10mm throughout. Recently ploughed.	0-0.22
25802	Subsoil		Dark orangey brown silty clay. Very common flint fragments >60mm. Colluvial subsoil filling base of shallow coombe.	0.22-0.32
25803	Natural		Solifluction chalk in base of shallow coombe.	0.22+
25804	Natural		Blocky chalk, some periglacial striping.	0.22+

Trench 259	**49.5m x 1.80m x 0.30m**		**NGR 410549 141508 (centre of trench)**	**97.88 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
25901	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay. Common flint fragments >60mm. Occasional subangular chalk fragments >10mm throughout. Recently ploughed.	0-0.20
25902	Natural		Blocky chalk. Occasional periglacial striping in N half of trench base.	0.20+
25903	Natural		Solifluction chalk in base of shallow coombe.	0.20+

Trench 260	**50.00m x 2.00m x 0.32m**		**NGR 410592 141520 (centre of trench)**	**98.07 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
26001	Plough soil		Dark greyish brown clay loam. Rare very fine chalk and flint. Alternating crop and pig farming.	0-0.15
26002	Subsoil		Mid greyish brown silty clay. Moderate small chalk and flint inclusions.	0.15-0.26
26003	Natural		White chalky layer of moderately sized gravel, with patches of silty clay.	0.26
26004	Small object			
26005	Posthole		Modern probable borehole. Circular feature, 0.3m diameter and 0.6m + deep. Densely packed sides and base, lined with stony material. Probable modern feature, possibly bore hole.	
26006	Secondary fill	26005	Mid greyish brown silty sand. Frequent small stony inclusions, very large angular flint. Heavy rooting, possible animal disturbance at base. Evidence of post packing in fill.	0.6
26007	Wheel rut		Short linear, probable modern wheel rut in same area as borehole 26005. Very shallow depth, irregular shallow sides.	
26008	Fill	26007	Dark greyish brown silty sand. Abundant fine chalky gravels and small subangular flints distributed throughout.	
26009	Inhumation grave		Sub oval. Regular, steep sides, flat base. L 1.93m, W 1.26m, D 0.35m. Animal burrow along W edge.	

26010	Inhumation burial	26009	Aligned N-S (skull at S end). Lying in flexed position on R side. Light animal disturbance. Fair condition. Shale object <26015> on pelvis beside L elbow. Small Cu alloy fragment <26014> near R shin. Vessel <26013>, possibly disturbed by animal burrow.	
26011	Deliberate backfill	26009	Deliberate backfill to cover inhumation burial. Mid reddish brown silty clay loam with redeposited chalk and lighter siltier patches. Moderate compaction, with regular soft spots of animal disturbed soil. Flint concentrated in central area of grave.	
26012	Tertiary deposit	26009	Upper fill, thin lens (0.05m thick) on top of deliberate grave backfill. Dark brown grey silty clay loam. Loose compaction. Light-moderate rooting. Clear horizon.	
26013	Small object		Object from [26009]. Vessel. 4 pieces of rim.	
26014	Small object		Object from [26009]. Alloy fragment. NE end of grave	
26015	Small object		Object from [26009]. Shale object on pelvis.	
26016	Sample		Sample of (26010). Skull.	
26017	Sample		Sample of (26010). Left mandible.	
26018	Sample		Sample of (26010). Right hand.	
26019	Sample		Sample of (26010). Right and left foot.	
26020	Sample		Sample of (26010). Thoracic.	
26021	Sample		Sample of (26010). Pelvic.	
26022	Sample		Sample of (26013). Around pit (26013)	
26023	Tree throw		Sub oval. Irregular, variable sides. Concave irregular base. L 1.30m, W 0.95m D 0.24m.100% excavated.	
26024	Secondary fill	26023	Natural silting. Mid brown silty loam. Abundant subangular flint fragments <80mm, mainly towards top. Common chalk pea grit to base. Some fine rooting.	
26025	Plough soil		Sieved at 2.5m. S end of trench.	
26026	Plough soil		Sieved at 7.5m.	
26027	Plough soil		Sieved at 12.5m.	
26028	Plough soil		Sieved at 17.5m.	
26029	Plough soil		Sieved at 22.5m.	
26030	Plough soil		Sieved at 27.5m.	
26031	Plough soil		Sieved at 32.5m.	
26032	Plough soil		Sieved at 37.5m.	
26033	Plough soil		Sieved at 42.5m.	
26034	Plough soil		Sieved at 47.5m.	

Trench 261	**50.00m x 2.00m x 0.29m**		**NGR 410621 141546 (centre of trench)**	**98.03 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
26101	Plough soil		Dark greyish brown clay loam. Rare very fine chalk and flint inclusions.	0-0.13
26102	Layer		Diffuse horizon with natural rather than a true subsoil. Mid greyish brown silty clay. Moderate small chalk and flint inclusions.	0.13-0.29

26103	Natural		White chalk with moderate sized flints and patches of silty clay. Common periglacial stripes and some plough scars.	0.29+
26104	Plough Scar		Intersecting plough scars.	
26105	Fill	26104	Dark brown sandy silt. Friable, moderate compaction. Abundant chalk inclusions.	
26106	Tree throw		Or shrub hole. Irregular in plan Shallow irregular sides. Irregular base. L 2.50m, W 1.50m, D 0.28m.	
26107	Fill	26106	Dark brown sandy silt. Friable, moderate compaction. Abundant chalk inclusions and rooting.	
26108	Plough soil		Sieved at 0-5m.	
26109	Plough soil		Sieved at 5-10m.	
26110	Plough soil		Sieved at 10-15m.	
26111	Plough soil		Sieved at 15-20m.	
26112	Plough soil		Sieved at 20-25m.	
26113	Plough soil		Sieved at 25-30m.	
26114	Plough soil		Sieved at 30-35m.	
26115	Plough soil		Sieved at 35-40m.	
26116	Plough soil		Sieved at 40-45m.	
26117	Plough soil		Sieved at 45-50m.	

Trench 262	**49.00m x 2.00m x 0.40m**		**NGR 410656 141494 (centre of trench)**	**97.11 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
26201	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty clay loam. Friable. Common flint nodules. Bioturbated.	0-0.26
26202	Subsoil		Colluvium present in northern downslope portion. Mid greyish brown silty sand. Friable. Moderate compaction. Flint flecks. Light rooting.	0.24-0.40
26203	Natural		Yellow white degraded chalk with periglacial striping. Surface marked by root and plough activity	0.40+
26204	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.15
26205	Secondary fill	26204	Mid greyish brown silty sand. Friable. Small subangular stones and chalk.	0.15
26206	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.05-0.10
26207	Secondary fill	26206	Mid greyish brown silty sand.	0.05-0.10
26208	Natural Feature		Irregular root activity, appears linear N-S.	
26209	Secondary fill	26208	Reddish brown silty clay. Occasional flint <95mm.	
26210	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26211	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26212	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26213	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26214	Plough soil		Sieved at 2.5m. SE end.	
26215	Plough soil		Sieved at 7.5m.	
26216	Plough soil		Sieved at 12.5m.	
26217	Plough soil		Sieved at 17.5m.	

26218	Plough soil		Sieved at 22.5m.	
26219	Plough soil		Sieved at 27.5m.	
26220	Plough soil		Sieved at 32.5m.	
26221	Plough soil		Sieved at 37.5 m.	
26222	Plough soil		Sieved at 42.5m.	
26223	Plough soil		Sieved at 47.5m.	
26224	Layer		Reddish brown silty clay in rooting areas towards (26224) base of coombe, at NW end of Tr.262. Occurs below colluvium (26202).	0.36-0.46

Trench 263	**30.31m x 2.00m x 0.43m**		**NGR 410694 141501 (centre of trench)**	**96.82 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
26301	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty loam. Common small flint and chalk gravel. Under crop, heavy rooting.	0-0.23
26302	Subsoil		Probable colluvium. Light greyish brown silty clay. Common small flint and chalk gravel. Some bioturbation.	0.23-0.36
26303	Natural		Light yellowish brown silty clay. Striations of chalk gravel N-S.	0.36+
26304	Secondary fill	26305	Subsoil remnant. Mid orange brown silt clay. Sparse chalk and flint inclusions.	
26305	Cut		Irregular sides and base.	
26306	Secondary fill	26307	Mid orange brown silty clay. Sparse chalk and flint.	0.37
26307	Geological feature		Irregular in plan. Irregular moderate-steep sides, irregular base. Probably derived from a combination of glacial scouring and solution hollows. L 2.44m, W 1.57m, D 0.47m.	0.85+
26308	Geological feature		Disruption in natural. Probable scarring from glaciation. Irregular steep-moderate sides	
26309	Secondary fill	26308	Dark brown silty sand. Rare fine chalky gravel. Limited rooting.	
26310	Tree throw		Probable shrub/tree throw. Sub circular. Straight steep sides. Irregular base.	
26311	Secondary fill	26310	Dark brown silty sand. Rare small subangular chalk inclusions.	
26312	Tree throw		Sub circular. Very shallow straight sides.	
26313	Secondary fill	26312	Dark brown silty sand. Common mid-large subangular flint throughout.	
26314	Tree throw		Sub circular. Moderate convex sides, very irregular base pitted with rooting.	
26315	Secondary fill	26314	Mid reddish brown silty sand. Sparse, very fine chalky gravel throughout.	
26316	Geological feature		Subcircular.Steep straight sides. Concave base.	
26317	Secondary fill	26316	Mid reddish brown silty sand. Common large subangular flint throughout.	
26318	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26319	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26320	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26321	Plough soil		Sieved.	

26322	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26323	Plough soil		Sieved.	

Trench 265	**7.00m x 10.50m x 0.35m**		**NGR 410719 141499 (centre of trench)**	**97.05 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
26501	Natural		Disturbed chalk bedrock with periglacial striping.	0.35+
26502	Subsoil		Probable colluvium. Orange brown silty clay. Frequent medium rounded chalk inclusions.	0.30-0.35
26503	Subsoil		Rooting layer. Mid greyish brown silty clay. Frequent small-medium, rounded-angular chalk and flint inclusions.	0.15-0.30
26504	Plough soil		Dark brown silty clay. Frequent small-medium, rounded-angular chalk and flint inclusions.	
26505	Tree throw		Irregular in plan. Irregular sides and base. L 3.8m, W 1.1m, D 0.4m. Clear boundary.	
26506	Primary fill	26505	Dark brown silty clay. Frequent small-medium rounded-angular chalk and flint. Moderate compaction. Clear horizon.	0.4
26507	Plough soil		Sieved NW corner.	
26508	Plough soil		Sieved NE corner.	
26509	Plough soil		Sieved SW corner?	
26510	Plough soil		Sieved S centre.	

Trench 266	**50.00m x 2.00m x 0.36m**		**NGR 410671 141534 (centre of trench)**	**96.61 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
26601	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown silty loam. Occasional chalk gravel. Heavy rooting.	0-0.20
26602	Subsoil		Mid orangey brown silty loam. Abundant chalk gravel inclusions.	0.20-0.28
26603	Natural		Light greyish yellow	0.28
26604	Shrub bowl		Shrub bowl.	0.28-0.41
26605	Secondary fill	26604	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.41
26606	Shrub bowl		Cut of shrub bowl.	0.28-0.40
26607	Secondary fill	26606	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.40
26608	Shrub bowl		Shrub bowl. Irregular in plan. Moderate concave sides. Irregular base. L 0.94m, W 0.50m, D 0.14m.	
26609	Secondary fill	26608	Mid-light brown silty loam. Sparse small subangular chalk pieces. Loose compaction.	
26610	Shrub bowl		Cut of shrub bowl.	0.28-0.32
26611	Secondary fill	26610	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.32
26612	Shrub bowl		Cut of shrub bowl.	0.28-0.37
26613	Secondary fill	26612	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.37
26614	Shrub bowl		Cut of shrub bowl.	0.28-0.35
26615	Secondary fill	26614	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.35
26616	Shrub bowl		Cut of shrub bowl.	0.28-0.30
26617	Secondary fill	26616	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.30

26618	Shrub bowl		Cut of shrub bowl.	0.28-0.34
26619	Secondary fill	26618	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.34
26620	Shrub bowl		Cut of shrub bowl.	0.28-0.33
26621	Secondary fill	26620	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.33
26622	Shrub bowl		Cut of shrub bowl.	0.28-0.35
26623	Secondary fill	26622	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.35
26624	Shrub bowl		Cut of shrub bowl.	0.28-0.46
26625	Secondary fill	26624	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.46
26626	Shrub bowl		Cut of shrub bowl.	0.28-0.41
26627	Secondary fill	26626	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.41
26628	Shrub bowl		Cut of shrub bowl.	0.28-0.39
26629	Secondary fill	26628	Fill of shrub bowl	0.28-0.39
26630	Tree throw		Cut of tree bowl	0.28-0.32
26631	Secondary fill	26630	Fill of tree bowl	0.28-0.32
26632	Tree throw		Cut of tree bowl	0.28-0.46
26633	Secondary fill	26632	Fill of tree bowl	0.28-0.46
26634	Tree throw		Cut of tree bowl	0.28
26635	Secondary fill	26634	Fill of tree bowl	0.28
26636	Tree throw		Cut of tree bowl	0.28-0.42
26637	Secondary fill	26636	Fill of tree bowl	0.28-0.42
26638	Plough soil		Sieved at 0-5m. N end.	
26639	Plough soil		Sieved at 5-10m.	
26640	Plough soil		Sieved at 10-15m.	
26641	Plough soil		Sieved at 15-20m.	
26642	Plough soil		Sieved at 20-25m.	
26643	Plough soil		Sieved at 25-30m.	
26644	Plough soil		Sieved at 30-35m.	
26645	Plough soil		Sieved at 35-40m.	
26646	Plough soil		Sieved at 40-45m.	
26647	Plough soil		Sieved at 45-50m. S end.	

Trench 267	**50.00m x 1.90m x 0.41m**		**NGR 410723 141552 (centre of trench)**	**96.26 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
26701	Plough soil		Dark greyish brown sandy silt. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	0-0.28
26702	Subsoil		Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate chalk inclusions.	0.28-0.36
26703	Natural		Light yellowish white degraded chalk bedrock. Large periglacial striping's.	0.36+
26704	Tree throw		Irregular in plan. Irregular steep sides. Irregular base. L 0.60m, W 0.80m, D 0.47m.	
26705	Secondary fill	26704	Dark greyish brown sandy silt. Sparse chalk, moderate flint inclusions. Loose compaction. Bioturbated.	
26706	Bioturbation		Root hole. Rounded moderate sides, Concave base. L 0.50m, W 0.28m, D 0.15m.	
26707	Secondary fill	26706	Dark greyish brown sandy silt. Sparse flint	

			fragments.	
26708	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26709	Secondary fill	26708	Fill of roothole	
26710	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26711	Secondary fill	26710	Fill of roothole	
26712	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26713	Secondary fill	26712	Fill of roothole	
26714	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26715	Secondary fill	26714	Fill of roothole	
26716	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26717	Secondary fill	26716	Fill of roothole	
26718	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26719	Secondary fill	26718	Fill of roothole	
26720	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26721	Secondary fill	26720	Fill of roothole	
26722	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26723	Secondary fill	26722	Fill of roothole	
26724	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26725	Secondary fill	26724	Fill of roothole	
26726	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26727	Secondary fill	26726	Fill of roothole	
26728	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26729	Secondary fill	26728	Fill of roothole	
26730	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26731	Secondary fill	26730	Fill of roothole	
26732	Plough soil		Sieved at 0-5m.	
26733	Plough soil		Sieved at 5-10m.	
26734	Plough soil		Sieved at 10-15m.	
26735	Plough soil		Sieved at 15-20m.	
26736	Plough soil		Sieved at 20-25m.	
26737	Plough soil		Sieved at 25-30m.	
26738	Plough soil		Sieved at 30-35m.	
26739	Plough soil		Sieved at 35-40m.	

Trench 268	**50.00m x 1.90m x 0.41m**		**NGR 410742 141526 (centre of trench)**	**95.68 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
26801	Plough soil		Mid brown sandy silt. Frequent chalk inclusions. Rooting present.	0-0.24
26802	Natural		Cryoturbated chalk. Small flint nodule inclusions. Surface disturbed by plough and rooting activity.	0.24
26803	Tree throw		Shallow. Possibly natural geology.	0.04
26804	Fill	26803	Mid brown sandy silt. Frequent stony inclusions.	
26805	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.14
26806	Fill	26805	Mid brown sandy silt. Frequent flint inclusions.	

26807	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.2
26808	Fill	26807	Mid brown sandy silt.	
26809	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.37
26810	Fill	26809	Mid brown sandy silt. Frequent flint inclusions. Moderate compaction. Clear horizon.	
26811	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.2
26812	Fill	26811	Mid brown sandy silt. Some stony inclusions. Moderate compaction. Clear horizon.	
26813	Tree throw		Small shrub bowl.	0.54
26814	Fill	26813	Mid brown sandy silt. Some stony inclusions. Moderate compaction. Clear horizon.	
26815	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.54
26816	Fill	26815	Mid brown sandy silt. Some stony inclusions. Moderate compaction. Clear horizon.	
26817	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.32
26818	Fill	26817	Mid brown sandy silt. Some stony inclusions. Moderate compaction. Clear horizon.	
26819	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26820	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26821	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26822	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26823	Fill		Not used	
26824	Fill		Not used	
26825	Fill		Not used	
26826	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26827	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26828	Plough soil		Sieved.	
26829	Plough soil		Mixture of (26801) and (26802), sieved at 2.5m. N end.	
26830	Plough soil		Mixture of (26801) and (26802), sieved at 7.5m.	
26831	Plough soil		Mixture of (26801) and (26802), sieved at 12.5m.	
26832	Plough soil		Mixture of (26801) and (26802), sieved at 17.5m.	
26833	Plough soil		Mixture of (26801) and (26802), sieved at 22.5m.	
26834	Plough soil		Mixture of (26801) and (26802), sieved at 27.5m.	
26835	Plough soil		Mixture of (26801) and (26802), sieved at 32.5m.	
26836	Plough soil		Mixture of (26801) and (26802), sieved at 37.5m.	
26837	Plough soil		Mixture of (26801) and (26802), sieved at 42.5m.	

Trench 269	**42.50m x 1.90m x 0.40m**		**NGR 410802 141526 (centre of trench)**	**94.58 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
26901	Plough soil		Dark greyish brown sandy silt. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	0-0.24

26902	Subsoil		Probable colluvium. Light reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate chalk and flint fragments.	0.24-0.33
26903	Natural		Light yellowish white, heavily degraded chalk. Moderate flint fragments.	0.33+
26904	Bioturbation		Root hole. Sub circular. Concave moderate sides. Concave base. L 0.36m, W 0.35m, D 0.16m.	
26905	Fill	26904	Dark reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate flint and chalk inclusions.	0.16
26906	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26907	Fill	26906	Dark reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate flint and chalk inclusions. Loose compaction. Some rooting.	
26908	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26909	Fill	26908	Dark reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate flint and chalk inclusions.	
26910	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26911	Fill	26910	Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate flint and chalk inclusions.	
26912	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26913	Fill	26912	Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate flint and chalk inclusions.	
26914	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26915	Fill	26914	Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate flint and chalk inclusions.	
26916	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26917	Fill	26916	Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate flint and chalk inclusions.	
26918	Bioturbation		Root hole.	
26919	Fill	26918	Dark reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate flint and chalk inclusions.	
26920	Plough soil		(26901) sieved. 40L	
26921	Plough soil		(26901) sieved. 40L	

Trench 270	**10.00m x 10.00m x 0.30m**		**NGR 410779 141528 (centre of trench)**	**94.86 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
27001	Plough soil		Dark brown silt clay loam. Friable. Very common angular flint nodules <0.15m. Moderate chalk <0.05m. Clear horizon.	0-0.30
27002	Natural		Periglacial crushed chalk. Some broken chalk patches, flint, stripes and patches of orange brown silt clay, angular and frost shattered flints.	0.30+
27003	Tree throw		Sub circular. Irregular moderate-steep sides. Irregular base. L 2.40m, W 2.15m, D 0.73m (Max where vertical roothole, for most part 0-0.16m deep)	
27004	Fill	27003	Dark orange brown silt clay. Abundant subangular flint <0.15m. Friable-moderate compaction.	
27005	Tree throw		Irregular in plan. Irregular moderate sides. Concave base. L 1.60m, W 1.00m, D 0.25m. Clear boundary.	

27006	Fill	27005	Dark-mid orangey brown silty clay loam. Abundant medium angular flint. Moderate compaction. Clear horizon.	0.25
27007	Tree throw		Irregular in plan. Irregular moderate sides. Concave base. L 1.20m, W 1.00m, D 0.25m. Clear horizon.	
27008	Fill	27007	Dark-mid orange brown silty clay loam. Abundant medium angular flint. Moderate compaction.	0.25
27009	Sample		Enviro sample from (27004).	
27010	Bioturbation		Root hole. Highly irregular shape.	
27011	Bioturbation		Tree root disturbance. Sub rectangular, irregular base.	
27012	Tree throw		Irregular hollow.	
27013	Natural Feature		Linear hollow, possibly root disturbance.	
27014	Bioturbation		Irregular hollow. Natural or root disturbance.	
27015	Bioturbation		Irregular hollow. Natural or root disturbance.	
27016	Bioturbation		Irregular hollow. Natural or root disturbance.	0.14
27017	Bioturbation		Irregular hollow. Natural or root disturbance.	0.12
27018	Bioturbation		Irregular hollow. Natural or root disturbance.	0.23
27019	Bioturbation		Irregular hollow. Natural or root disturbance.	0.11
27020	Bioturbation		Irregular hollow. Natural or root disturbance.	0.06
27021	Bioturbation		Irregular hollow. Natural or root disturbance.	0.06
27022	Fill	27010	Dark orange brown silt clay and angular flint.	
27023	Fill	27011	Orange brown silt clay and flint.	
27024	Fill	27012	Orange brown silt clay and flint.	
27025	Fill	27013	Orange brown silt clay and flint.	
27026	Fill	27014	Orange brown silt clay and flint.	
27027	Fill	27015	Orange brown silt clay and flint.	
27028	Fill	27016	Orange brown silt clay and flint.	
27029	Fill	27017	Orange brown silt clay and flint.	
27030	Fill	27018	Orange brown silt clay and flint.	
27031	Fill	27019	Orange brown silt clay and flint.	
27032	Fill	27020	Orange brown silt clay and flint.	
27033	Fill	27021	Orange brown silt clay and flint.	

Trench 271	**50.00m x 2.00m x 0.30m**		**NGR 410754 141564 (centre of trench)**	**95.69 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
27101	Plough soil		Mid-dark brown sandy clay with greyish hue. Moderate stone inclusions.	0-0.30
27102	Natural		Yellowish grey silty clay with brown hue. Very common chalk inclusions.	0.30+
27103	Bioturbation		Tree rooting disturbance.	0.30-0.35
27104	Fill	27103	Fill of tree rooting.	0.30-0.35
27105	Bioturbation		Tree rooting disturbance. Irregular, moderate sides. Irregular base. L 1.25m+, W 0.95m, D 0.10m.	

27106	Fill	27105	Mid brown sandy silt. Abundant chalk and flint inclusions.	
27107	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27108	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27109	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27110	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27111	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27112	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27113	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27114	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27115	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27116	Plough soil		Sieved.	

Trench 272	**50.00m x 2.00m x 0.39m**		**NGR 410784 141561 (centre of trench)**	**95.14 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
27201	Plough soil		Dark brown silt clay loam. Friable. Abundant angular-subrounded flint <0.12m on surface, common throughout layer. Clear horizon.	0-0.28
27202	Natural		Periglacial deposit, comprising dissolved chalk, with lines of broken chalk running through it.	0.28+
27203	Natural Feature		Oval. Concave moderate sides. Concave base. Clear boundary.	
27204	Secondary fill	27203	Mid brown silty clay loam. Angular medium flint inclusions. Moderate compaction. Clear horizon.	0.15
27205	Tree throw		Sub square. Irregular, moderate-steep sides. Irregular base. L 1.92m, W 1.24m D 0.24m.	
27206	Secondary fill	27205	Dark orange brown silt clay. Friable. Abundant angular flint < 0.10m. Moderate chalk <0.03m.	
27207	Natural Feature		Small hollow L 0.81m, W 0.52m, D 0.07m.	
27208	Tree throw		Under W section.	
27209	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27210	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27211	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27212	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27213	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27214	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27215	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27216	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27217	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27218	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27219	Secondary fill	27207	Orange brown silty clay and abundant angular flint <0.07m.	
27220	Secondary fill	27208	Orange brown silty clay and common angular flint.	

Trench 273	**50.00m x 2.00m x 0.34m**		**NGR 410807 141581 (centre of trench)**	**95.79 OD**
Context	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**

No				
27301	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown sandy silt. Abundant chalk and flint fragments.	0-0.34
27302	Natural		White chalky bedrock. Abundant flint fragment inclusions. Periglacial striping.	0.34+
27303	Tree throw		Shrub bowl. Sub rectangular. Concave shallow sides. Irregular base. L 0.55m, W 0.90m, D 0.17m.	
27304	Secondary fill	27303	Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Sparse flint inclusions and rooting. Derived from natural erosion processes.	
27305	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
27306	Secondary fill	27305	Fill of tree throw	
27307	Animal Disturbance		Cut of animal burrow.	
27308	Secondary fill	27307	Fill of animal burrow.	
27309	Natural Feature		Shallow depression	
27310	Secondary fill	27309	Light grey sandy silt. Abundant flint. Very compacted.	
27311	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw	
27312	Secondary fill	27311	Fill of tree throw.	
27313	Plough soil		Sieved at 0-5m. E end.	
27314	Plough soil		Sieved at 5-10m.	
27315	Plough soil		Sieved at 10-15m.	
27316	Plough soil		Sieved at 15-20m.	
27317	Plough soil		Sieved at 20-25m.	
27318	Plough soil		Sieved at 25-30m.	
27319	Plough soil		Sieved at 30-35m.	
27320	Plough soil		Sieved at 35-40m.	
27321	Plough soil		Sieved at 40-45m.	
27322	Plough soil		Sieved at 45-50m. W end.	

Trench 274	27.50m x 2.00m x 0.39m		NGR 410826 141543 (centre of trench)	94.75 OD
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
27401	Plough soil		Dark brown silt clay loam. Friable. Abundant angular and subrounded flint <0.15m. Moderate chalk <0.03m. Clear horizon.	0-0.24
27402	Subsoil		Possible colluviial deposit Intermittently present across trench in depressions. Orange brown silty clay. Friable. Very common chalk <0.03m, angular flint <0.08m.	0.24-0.39
27403	Natural		Periglacial deposit, comprising dissolved chalk, stripes of broken chalk and flint, and lines of subsoil.	0.39+
27404	Plough soil		Sieved at 0-5m.	
27405	Plough soil		Sieved at 5-10m.	
27406	Plough soil		Sieved at 10-15m.	
27407	Plough soil		Sieved at 15-20m.	
27408	Plough soil		Sieved at 20-25m.	
27409	Plough soil		Sieved at 25-30m.	

Trench 276	10.00m x 10.00m		NGR 410895 141573 (centre of trench)	98.37 OD
Context No	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl)
27601	Plough soil		Grey brown silt clay loam. Friable. Common chalk <0.04m. Moderate flint <0.12m. Clear horizon.	0-0.28
27602	Natural		Chalk, compacted in areas, broken in others.	0.28
27603	Natural Feature		Small hole. L 0.53m, W 0.41m, D 0.70m.	
27604	Tree throw		Irregular in plan. Very irregular, moderate-steep sides. Concave base.	
27605	Secondary fill	27604	Orange brown silt clay. Friable. Moderate chalk <0.03m. Moderate angular flint <0.13m.	
27606	Bioturbation		Ragged edges. Area of root disturbance rather than tree throw. L 2.04m, W 1.34m, D 0.18m.	
27607	Bioturbation		Area of root disturbance.	
27608	Bioturbation		Area of root disturbance.	
27609	Bioturbation		Area of root disturbance.	
27610	Bioturbation		Area of root disturbance.	
27611	Plough soil		Sieved NE corner.	
27612	Plough soil		Sieved SE corner.	
27613	Plough soil		Sieved NW corner.	
27614	Plough soil		Sieved SW corner.	
27615	secondary fill	27603	Loose orange brown silt clay. Assigned post ex.	
27616	Secondary fill	27606	Orange brown silty clay. Assigned post ex.	
27617	Secondary fill	27607	Orange brown silty clay. Assigned post ex.	
27618	Secondary fill	27608	Orange brown silty clay. Assigned post ex.	
27619	Secondary fill	27609	Orange brown silty clay. Assigned post ex.	
27620	Secondary fill	27610	Orange brown silty clay. Assigned post ex.	

Trench 277	50.00m x 2.00m		NGR 410886 141601 (centre of trench)	98.28 OD
Context No	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl)
27701	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown sandy silt. Moderate chalk and flint fragments. Deeper in shallow coombe at NW end of trench only, elsewhere 0.2m thick.	0-0.20/0.40
27702	Natural		Chalky bedrock with periglacial banding.	
27703	Tree throw		Sub circular. Concave, moderate sides. Concave base. L 1.50m, W >0.85m, D 0.30m. Partially covered by trench edge	
27704	Secondary fill	27703	Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Moderate chalk inclusions. Loose compaction. Poorly sorted.	
27705	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
27706	Secondary fill	27705	Fill of tree throw.	
27707	Primary fill	27703	Light grey sandy silt. Loose compaction. No inclusions.	
27708	Plough soil		Sieved at 0-5m.	
27709	Plough soil		Sieved at 5-10m.	

27710	Plough soil		Sieved at 10-15m.	
27711	Plough soil		Sieved at 15-20m.	
27712	Plough soil		Sieved at 20-25m.	
27713	Plough soil		Sieved at 25-30m.	
27714	Plough soil		Sieved at 30-35m.	
27715	Plough soil		Sieved at 35-40m.	
27716	Plough soil		Sieved at 40-45m.	
27717	Plough soil		Sieved at 45-50m.	

Trench 278	**50.00m x 2.00m**		**NGR 410945 141588 (centre of trench)**	**99.99 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
27801	Plough soil		Light greyish brown silty loam. Chalk gravel <60mm, poorly sorted. Rooting.	0-0.26
27802	Natural		Off white chalky bedrock. Very compact. Periglacial scarring.	0.26+
27803	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.29-0.35
27804	Secondary fill	27803	Fill of tree throw.	0.29-0.35
27805	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.33-0.44
27806	Secondary fill	27805	Fill of tree throw.	0.33-0.44
27807	Tree throw		Irregular in plan. Irregular, moderate sides. Concave, irregular base. L 2.40m, W <2.0m, D 0.25m.	
27808	Secondary fill	27807	Dark reddish brown silty loam. Abundant subangular chalk gravel <60mm, poorly sorted. Result of natural formation process.	0.25
27809	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	0.39-0.48
27810	Secondary fill	27809	Fill of tree throw.	0.39-0.48
27811	Plough soil		Sieved. N end.	
27812	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27813	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27814	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27815	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27816	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27817	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27818	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27819	Plough soil		Sieved.	
27820	Plough soil		Sieved. S end.	

Trench 279	**49.50m x 1.90m x 0.25m**		**NGR 410977 141638 (centre of trench)**	**101.51 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
27901	Plough soil		Light brown silty loam with grey hue. Frequent medium subrounded chalk inclusions. Very frequent fine gravel. Some bioturbation. Very loose compaction. Disturbed by recent ploughing. Clear horizon.	0-0.18

27902	Natural		Fractured chalk bedrock. Occasional large flint nodules. Some periglacial banding. Occasional bioturbation.	0.18-0.25
27903	Tree throw		Sub oval. L 1.40m, W 1.15m, D 0.30m.	
27904	Secondary fill	27903	Dark brown silt clay loam. Friable. Common chalk <0.03m. Moderate angular flint <0.06m.	
27905	Secondary fill	27903	Cream dissolved and broken chalk. Sparse angular flint <0.06m.	
27906	Plough soil		Sieved at 0-5m.	
27907	Plough soil		Sieved at 5-10m.	
27908	Plough soil		Sieved at 10-15m.	
27909	Plough soil		Sieved at 15-20m.	
27910	Plough soil		Sieved at 20-25m.	
27911	Plough soil		Sieved at 25-30m.	
27912	Plough soil		Sieved at 30-35m.	
27913	Plough soil		Sieved at 35-40m.	
27914	Plough soil		Sieved at 40-45m.	
27915	Plough soil		Sieved at 45-50m.	

Trench 280	**50.00m x 1.90m x 0.40m**		**NGR 411026 141600 (centre of trench)**	**100.89 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
28001	Plough soil		Powdery mid grey silty loam. Containing rooting and poorly sorted chalky gravel. Sharp horizon.	0-0.24
28002	Natural		Slight grey-off white silt. Very dense. Abundant chalk.	0.24+
28003	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28004	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28005	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28006	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28007	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28008	Tree throw		Irregular in plan. Irregular moderate sides. Concave irregular base. L 1.50m, W <1.25m, D 0.14m.	
28009	Secondary fill	28008	Dark orange brown silty loam. Abundant course subangular chalk gravel <60mm, poorly sorted. Result of natural formation processes.	
28010	Secondary fill	28003	Fill of tree throw.	
28011	Secondary fill	28004	Fill of tree throw.	
28012	Secondary fill	28005	Fill of tree throw.	
28013	Secondary fill	28006	Fill of tree throw.	
28014	Secondary fill	28007	Fill of tree throw.	
28015	Secondary fill	28008	Fill of tree throw.	
28016	Plough soil		Sieved.	
28017	Plough soil		Sieved.	
28018	Plough soil		Sieved.	
28019	Plough soil		Sieved.	
28020	Plough soil		Sieved.	
28021	Plough soil		Sieved.	

Trench 283	50.00m x 1.90m x 0.32m		NGR 411087 141586 (centre of trench)	100.90 OD
Context No	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl)
28301	Topsoil		Mid grey silty clay. Fairly loose compaction. Abundant small chalk flecks/nodules. Moderate subangular-subrounded flint fragments/nodules. Frequent fine rooting, under grass. Clear horizon.	0-0.27
28302	Natural		Chalk. Rare angular flint nodules.	0.27-0.32+
28303	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28304	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28305	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28306	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28307	Plough soil		Sieved at 0-5m. W end.	
28308	Plough soil		Sieved at 5-10m.	
28309	Plough soil		Sieved at 10-15m.	
28310	Plough soil		Sieved at 15-20m.	
28311	Plough soil		Sieved at 20-25m.	
28312	Plough soil		Sieved at 25-30m.	
28313	Plough soil		Sieved at 30-35m.	
28314	Plough soil		Sieved at 35-40m.	
28315	Plough soil		Sieved at 40-45m.	
28316	Plough soil		Sieved at 45-50m.	
28317	Secondary fill	28303	Fill of tree throw.	
28318	Secondary fill	28304	Fill of tree throw.	
28319	Secondary fill	28305	Fill of tree throw.	
28320	Secondary fill	28306	Fill of tree throw.	

Trench 284	10.10m x 10.00m x 0.35m		NGR 411039 141649 (centre of trench)	102.41 OD
Context No	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth (bgl)
28401	Plough soil		Mid greyish brown sandy silt. Moderate chalk and flint fragment inclusions.	0-0.17
28402	Natural		White chalky bedrock with periglacial banding.	0.17+
28403	Tree throw		Sub circular. Concave shallow sides. Irregular base. L 2.10m, W 1.20m, D 0.30m.	
28404	Secondary fill	28403	Dark greyish brown sandy silt. Abundant chalk and flint fragments. Formed by natural erosion.	0.19
28405	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28406	Secondary fill	28405	Fill of tree throw.	
28407	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28408	Secondary fill	28407	Fill of tree throw.	
28409	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28410	Secondary fill	28409	Fill of tree throw.	
28411	Secondary fill	28403	Mid reddish brown sandy silt. Loose compaction.	0.3

28412	Plough soil		Sieved NE corner.	
28413	Plough soil		Sieved SE corner.	
28414	Plough soil		Sieved SW corner.	
28415	Plough soil		Sieved NW corner.	

Trench 285	**50.00m x 1.90m x 0.30m**		**NGR 411090 141663 (centre of trench)**	**102.84 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
28501	Plough soil		Mid brown silty loam with a grey hue. Frequent fine gravel. Occasional medium subangular chalk fragments. Frequent rootlets. Very loose compaction, recently ploughed. Clear horizon.	0-0.20
28502	Natural		Chalk bedrock. Occasional large flint nodule. Some light brown periglacial gravel deposits.	0.20-0.30+
28503	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28504	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28505	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28506	Plough soil		Sieved at 0-5m. W end.	
28507	Plough soil		Sieved at 5-10m.	
28508	Plough soil		Sieved at 10-15m.	
28509	Plough soil		Sieved at 15-20m.	
28510	Plough soil		Sieved at 20-25m.	
28511	Plough soil		Sieved at 25-30m.	
28512	Plough soil		Sieved at 30-35m.	
28513	Plough soil		Sieved at 35-40m.	
28514	Plough soil		Sieved at 40-45m.	
28515	Plough soil		Sieved at 45-50m.	
28516	Secondary fill	28503	Fill of tree throw.	
28517	Secondary fill	28504	Fill of tree throw.	
28518	Secondary fill	28505	Fill of tree throw.	

Trench 286	**27.70m x 1.90m x 0.34m**		**NGR 411157 141592 (centre of trench)**	**99.82 OD**
Context No	**Interpretation**	**Fill of**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
28601	Topsoil		Mid grey silty clay. Fairly loose compaction. Abundant small chalk nodules and flecks. Moderate subangular-sub round flint fragments and nodules, poorly sorted. Low grass cover, frequent fine rooting. Clear horizon.	0-0.29
28602	Natural		Chalk with rare angular flint nodules.	0.29-0.34+
28603	Tree throw		Irregular in plan. Shallow-moderate, irregular sides. Concave, irregular base. L 1.0m, W 0.70m, D 0.07m.	
28604	Secondary fill	28603	Light grey chalky silt. Abundant subangular chalk gravel <60mm, poorly sorted. Result of natural formation process.	0.07
28605	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	

28606	Secondary fill	28605	Light grey sandy silt.	
28607	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28608	Secondary fill	28607	Light grey sandy silt.	
28609	Tree throw		Cut of tree throw.	
28610	Secondary fill	28609	Light grey sandy silt.	
28611	Plough soil		Sieved. E end.	
28612	Plough soil		Sieved.	
28613	Plough soil		Sieved.	
28614	Plough soil		Sieved.	
28615	Plough soil		Sieved.	
28616	Plough soil		Sieved. W end.	

Appendix B Environmental data

B.1 Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
23403	23404	23407	97	250	30%, A**, E, I	C	-	*Triticum* sp., Triticeae	C	*Corylus avellana*	20ml	Mature	Moll-t	C14x2	Heterogenous, grain looks intrusive but large shell fragments
24005	24006	24008	8	30	70%, A, E, I, F	-	-	-	C	*Corylus avellana* shell and kernel	1ml	Mature	Moll-t		Fair
24005	24006	24009	17	30	70%, A, E, I, F	C	-	*Triticum* sp.	C	*Corylus avellana*	8ml	Mature	Moll-t	C14x2	Fair
24003	24004	24010	16	60	80%, A, E, I, F	C		Triticeae	C	*Corylus avellana*	1ml	Mature	Moll-t		Poor, small fragments
24003	24004	24011	15	50	70%, A*, E, F	-	-	-	-	-	1ml	Mature	Moll-t		-
24103	24104	24110	40	60	30%, C, E, I, F	A	-	*Triticum aestivum/turgidum* (inc. sprouted), Triticeae	A*	*Ranunculus ficaria* tubers, Poaceae, Cyperaceae, *Plantago lanceolata*	20ml	Mainly twigs/stems/roots	-	C14	Heterogenous
24105	24107	24111	39	20	80%, A, I, F	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t		-
24105	24108	24112	39	20	70%, A, E, F (A***)	C	-	*Hordeum vulgare*	C	Poaceae, Indet. *Ranunculus ficaria* and *Arrhenather*	Trace	Mature	Moll-t		Poor

										um elatius subsp. *bulbosum* tubers					
24105	24113	24114	40	15	60%, A, E, I, F	C	-	Triticeae	C	Indet. tuber epidermis, *Corylus avellana*, Poaceae	Trace	Mature	Moll-t		Poor, small shell fragment
24105	24115	24117	40	10	80%, A, E, F, I	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t		-
24105	24116	24118	17	3	90%, B, E, I	-	-	-	C	*Ranunculus ficaria* tuber	Trace	Mature	Moll-t		Poor
24105	24116	24121	0.7	0.5	50%, C, F	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-		-
24105	24116	24122	1	1	50%, C, F	-	-	-	C	*Corylus avellana*	Trace	Mature	-		Poor, small shell fragment
24105	24115	24123	1	1	30%, C, F	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-		-
24105	24115	24124	1	0.5	40%, C, F	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-		-
24105	24115	24125	1	0.5	40%, C, F	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-		-
24105	24113	24126	1	1	30%, C, F	-	-	-	C	*Plantago lanceolata*	Trace	Mature	-		Fair
24105	24113	24127	1	2.5	20%, C, E, F, I	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-		-
24105	24108	24128	1	1	40%, C, F	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-		-
24105	24108	24129	1	1	60%, C, E, F, I	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-		-
24105	24119	24130	0.6	0.5	60%, C, F						Trace	Mature	-		-
24105	24107	24131	1	1.5	30%, C, F	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-		-
24105	24106	24132	1	2	50%, C, F	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-		-
24105	24106	24133	1	2.5	60%, A, F, I	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-		-
24405	24406	24407	36	110	30%, A*, E, I, F	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t		-
24405	24409	24414	20	20	80%, C, E, I, F	C	-	*Triticum* sp.			Trace	Mature	Moll-t	C14	Poor
24403	24404	24415	20	35	70%, B, E, F	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t		-

24420	24421	24422	30	60	70%, A, E, I, F	C	-	*Triticum* sp.	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t		Poor, looks intrusive
24420	24423	24424	21	30	80%, A, I, F	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t		-
24405	24409	24426	0.8	2	80%, C, I	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t		-
24405	24423	24427	0.25	2	60%, I, F	-	-	-	C	Poaceae	Trace	Mature	Moll-t		Poor
27003	27004	27009	26	20	80%, A, E, F	-	-	-	C	Vicieae, *Corylus avellana*	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	c14	Fair, large shell fragments

Key: A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5; Bioturbation proxies: Roots (%), Uncharred seeds (scale of abundance), F = mycorrhyzal fungi sclerotia, E = earthworm eggs, I = insects; Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs; C14 = radiocarbon.

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