



# Hawkeridge Road, Heywood Westbury, Wiltshire

Archaeological Monitoring and Recording



Planning Ref: PL/2021/05397  
Museum Ref: DZSWS:08-2022  
Ref: 255240.03  
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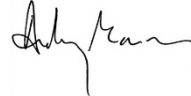
Client name Landowner  
Address Field View  
9 Hawkeridge Road  
Westbury  
Wiltshire  
BA13 4LB

Site location Field View, Hawkeridge Road, Heywood  
County Wiltshire  
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## Quality Assurance

Issue	Date		Author	Approved by
1	24/03/2022	Draft report for approval by WCAS	Jon K	 AIM
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## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the Landowner to undertake archaeological monitoring and recording during ground disturbance works associated with the construction of an outdoor horse-riding arena.

The excavation of a 60 m by 30 m area in the footprint of the outdoor riding arena was monitored.

No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the course of the archaeological monitoring and recording, although Romano- British, medieval and post-medieval pottery was recovered from the topsoil.

The pottery finds are consistent with the evaluation at Hawkeridge Farm and the linears and enclosures identified in the geophysical survey and aerial photography of cropmarks. It is reasonable that the material could have moved in the ploughsoil and would further support evidence of Romano-British activity and medieval/post-medieval fields and settlement in the immediate area, although no evidence of significant archaeological activity was observed.

## Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the client for commissioning the archaeological monitoring and recording. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service, who monitored the project for Wiltshire Council, and to the contractors for their cooperation and help on site.



# Hawkeridge Road, Heywood, Westbury, Wiltshire

## Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the Landowner (“the client”), to undertake archaeological monitoring and recording (AMR) during ground disturbance works associated with the construction of an outdoor horse-riding arena. The monitored works are centred on NGR 386206 153549, at Field View, Hawkeridge Road, Heywood, Westbury, Wiltshire (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 The development comprises the construction of an outdoor riding arena to be utilised for the training of horses. The development required the excavation of the total area, measuring approximately 60 m x 30 m, to a depth of c. 300 mm. Following this two drainage channels, aligned parallel to the north-east – south-west edge of the proposed arena, were excavated along with a central collection pipe with spurs positioned at a 45° angle to the pipe (**inset, Figure 1**). Clean stone was then be used as an infill within the drainage channels prior to the laying of a geotextile lining upon which a hardcore base was laid to varying depths, as required according to soil conditions, before being topped with a standard sand/fibre mix horse arena surface.

1.1.3 The site, positioned on the periphery of the historic core of Hawkeridge, contains cropmark traces of former field systems located to the south, as identified by previous investigation. The same investigation concluded the field systems dated to the post-medieval period, with some medieval activity also evidenced. Elements of the former field system appear to traverse the north-western extent of the site, which also has the potential to contain sub-surface remains of unrecorded Romano-British and medieval activity.

1.1.4 A planning application (PL/2021/05397) submitted to Wiltshire Council, was granted 15 September 2021, subject to conditions. Condition 3 relates to archaeology:

*No development shall commence within the area indicated by application PL/2021/05397 until:*

- a) A written programme of archaeological investigation, which should include on-site work and off-site work such as the analysis, publishing and archiving of the results, has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority; and*
- b) The approved programme of archaeological work has been carried out in accordance with the approved details.*

*REASON: To enable the recording of any matters of archaeological interest.*

1.1.5 During consultation with the client, Wiltshire Council Archaeological Service (WCAS), archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), advised that archaeological monitoring and recording of ground disturbance works undertaken in association with the development be carried out.



1.1.6 Further consultation with WCAS following excavation of the arena area confirmed that it was not necessary for the archaeologist to monitor the excavation of the drainage trenches.

1.1.7 The AMR was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed (Wessex Archaeology 2022). WCAS approved the WSI, on behalf of the LPA, prior to fieldwork commencing. The fieldwork was undertaken between 28 February 2022 and 2 March 2022.

## **1.2 Scope of the report**

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

## **1.3 Location, topography and geology**

1.3.1 The AMR was located at Field View, Hawkeridge Road, approximately 850 m west of Heywood and approximately 350 m south-west of Norleaze. The site currently comprises pasture bounded to the west by access tracks and stable buildings. The B3097 Hawkeridge Road is located further to the west. Additional fields are positioned to the north, separated from the site by an east – west orientated track. To the south a dense hedgerow/treeline comprises the boundary, with more agricultural land beyond and the same to the east. Post and rail fencing subdivides the field within which the arena is to be constructed into three separate plots.

1.3.2 The site is relatively flat with a slight slope from approximately 53 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the east to 52 m aOD in the west.

1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as mudstone of the Oxford Clay Formation, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 157 – 166 million years ago during the Jurassic Period (British Geological Survey 2022).

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background considers the recorded historic environment resource within a 500 m study area of the development. A summary of the results is presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the Wiltshire Historic Environment Record (HER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

### **2.2 Previous investigations**

#### *Geophysical survey (2011)*

2.2.1 Approximately 100 m to the south of the site a geophysical survey at Hawkeridge Farm was carried out by Archaeological Survey Ltd. In the northern portion of the area surveyed a series of north-east to south-west aligned linear features were identified which possibly represented a ridge and furrow field system, as well as the remains of a possible drove way, suggested by two linear north to south aligned features. A concentration of a possible field system or enclosure features along with discrete features were identified in the southern portion of the area south of Mill Lane.



### *Archaeological Evaluation (2011)*

- 2.2.2 An evaluation carried out by Wessex Archaeology at Hawkeridge Farm (Wessex Archaeology 2011), demonstrated that previously identified geophysical anomalies were derived from subsurface remains, though many were seen on investigation to be either modern disturbance or, more often, relatively modern land drainage. Discoveries of more significance included a small concentration of Early/ Middle Iron Age pottery in one trench, within a spread considered likely to be post-medieval in date. A single sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered from the subsoil in a different trench. Medieval (primarily 12th to early 14th century) pottery was recovered throughout the evaluation, though few features were identified that could be confidently described as belonging exclusively to this period (most occurrences of medieval pottery were in association with later post-medieval material) (EWI7197).

## **2.3 Archaeological and historical context**

### *Prehistoric – Romano-British (970,000 BC – AD 410)*

- 2.3.1 While no Iron Age sites have yet been positively identified within the study area the presence of a cluster of finds within the Westbury Ironworks area (MWI1447) and the late date of some of these finds could suggest continuity of occupation into the Romano-British period. Iron Age pottery was also recovered from a later layer uncovered during an evaluation at Hawkeridge Farm (EWI7197, Wessex Archaeology 2011).
- 2.3.2 Further Romano-British activity has been identified close to The Ham, including a settlement site and at least one burial first identified during the 19th century (Wessex Archaeology 2014). Another Roman settlement site has been identified to the south, on the opposite side of Hawkeridge Road (MWI1510), where several pits, postholes and ditches were identified during evaluation as well as a possible Iron Age ditch (Wessex Archaeology 2004). Two burials were also identified during this archaeological evaluation and all together the recorded evidence is thought to relate to Romano-British occupation activity (MWI1508 and MWI1509).

### *Medieval – post-medieval (1066-1800)*

- 2.3.3 First records of Hawkeridge date to the 14th century with the settlement being described as a hamlet in 1368 (ST85SE460).
- 2.3.4 Extensive cropmarks surrounding Hawkeridge are likely to be medieval to post-medieval field systems as demonstrated by the evaluation to the south. The cropmark data suggests two linear features traverse the site on a north-east to south-west alignment, to the north of the proposed riding arena. Further north-south aligned features cross the site to the north and south.
- 2.3.5 The presence of several post-medieval farmhouses within the study area (LB1181492, LB1021504) suggests a largely rural and agricultural setting for the site until the later modern period.
- 2.3.6 By the end of the 15th century Westbury had become the centre of the region's cloth industry with several fulling mills in and around the town (Haslam 1976, 65), for example Hawkeridge Mill to the south-west of the Site (MWI1616), which dates to at least the early 19th century.



### 3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

#### 3.1 Aims

3.1.1 The aims of the AMR, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022) and as defined in the ClfA *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014a), were to:

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

#### 3.2 Objectives

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the objectives of the AMR, also defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022), were to:

- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified works area;
- record and establish, within the constraints of the works, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains (a preservation by record);
- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource on the site by preparing a report on the results of the AMR.

### 4 METHODS

#### 4.1 Introduction

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

#### 4.2 Fieldwork methods

##### *General*

4.2.1 The AMR monitored the excavation of a 60 m by 30 m area in the footprint of the outdoor riding arena. Consultation with WCAS following the excavation of the arena area confirmed that it was not necessary for the archaeologist to monitor the excavation of the drainage trenches (**Figures 1**).

4.2.2 The watching archaeologist monitored all mechanical excavations within the specified area. Where necessary, the surfaces of features and deposits were cleaned by hand to aid visual



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

#### *Recording*

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

### **4.3 Finds and environmental strategies**

- 4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011) and ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 1: Description).

### **4.4 Monitoring**

- 4.4.1 WCAS monitored the AMR on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the client and WCAS.

## **5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the course of the AMR, although Romano- British, medieval and post-medieval pottery was collected from the excavated topsoil deposits.
- 5.1.2 The area monitored measured 60 m by 30 m and was dug to a maximum depth of 0.3 m below ground level (bgl) (**Figures 1**).
- 5.1.3 At that stage, the LPA Archaeologist was consulted and given the absence of archaeological remains, no further monitoring of the subsequent drainage excavation was required.

### **5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits**

- 5.2.1 The soil sequence was fairly uniform across the excavated area. The topsoil (101, 0.23 to 0.29 m deep) was a mid- brownish grey clay loam with a thin turf and humus rich surface and a clear horizon with the natural geology directly beneath (**Plates 1 and 2**). It contained



sparse angular flint gravel and rare and infrequent pottery sherds throughout the layer. Given its homogeneity and its rural location this is probably a ploughsoil or a prepared pasture.

- 5.2.2 Overlying the topsoil on the western edge was a gravel/asphalt path approximately 0.2 m thick. (103, **Figure 2** and **3**). And on the southern edge there was a spread of soil (104) probably associated with other work to the stables.
- 5.2.3 The natural geology was a consistent pale yellow clay with angular flint gravel. Signs of plough scarring were present and there was a set of probably modern wheel ruts visible (**Plates 1-5**).

## 6 FINDS EVIDENCE

- 6.1.1 A very small quantity of finds was recovered (**Table 1**) and comprised five sherds of pottery and one fragment from a clay tobacco pipe stem. All came from topsoil layer 101.

**Table 1** Quantification of finds by context

Context	Description	Material	Count	Weight (g)
101	Topsoil	Pottery	5	36
101	Topsoil	Clay pipe	1	4
<b>Total</b>			<b>6</b>	<b>40</b>

- 6.1.2 The pottery includes one fragment of Romano-British greyware, one sherd of medieval sandy coarseware and three pieces of post-medieval glazed redware. With the exception of one base fragment (post-medieval redware) all are undiagnostic body sherds. The plain clay pipe stem also dates to the post-medieval period. A similar range of datable finds were found during excavations on land immediately adjacent to the south-east at Hawkeridge Farm (Wessex Archaeology 2011) and along the route of the proposed Eastern By-pass (Wessex Archaeology 2004).

## 7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1.1 No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were encountered during the watching brief.

## 8 CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1.1 No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the course of the archaeological monitoring and recording, although Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval pottery was collected from the topsoil. The general visibility of the later modern features (wheel ruts) and a relatively clean and undisturbed natural surface would suggest that had archaeological features were present, they would have been observed.
- 8.1.2 The pottery finds are consistent with the evaluation at Hawkeridge Farm and the linears and enclosures identified in the geophysical survey and aerial photography of cropmarks. It is reasonable that the material could have moved in the ploughsoil and would further support evidence of Romano-British activity and medieval/post-medieval fields and settlement within the immediate area.



## **9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION**

### **9.1 Museum**

9.1.1 The archive resulting from the AMR is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Wiltshire Museum, Devizes has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code DZSWS:08-2022. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

### **9.2 Preparation of the archive**

#### *Physical archive*

9.2.1 The physical archive, which includes paper records, graphics, and artefacts, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Wiltshire Museum, Devizes, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011).

9.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 01 cardboard box or airtight plastic box of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type
- 01 files/document cases of paper records

#### *Digital archive*

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

### **9.3 Selection strategy**

9.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during the course of an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities, ie the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving Museum.

9.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's 'Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives'. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.

9.3.3 In this instance, given the relatively low level of finds recovery, the selection process has been deferred until after the fieldwork stage was completed. Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. These proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists and will be updated in line with any further



comment by other stakeholders (museum, local authority). The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.

- 9.3.4 Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

#### *Finds*

- 9.3.5 Finds comprise pottery sherds, which will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

#### *Documentary records*

- 9.3.6 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (Written Scheme of Investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

#### *Digital data*

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

## **9.4 Security copy**

- 9.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g., Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

## **9.5 OASIS**

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

## **10 COPYRIGHT**

### **10.1 Archive and report copyright**

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



## 10.2 Third party data copyright

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



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*Wessex Archaeology 2022 Hawkeridge Road, Heywood, Westbury, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording. Unpublished report ref. 255240.01*



## APPENDICES

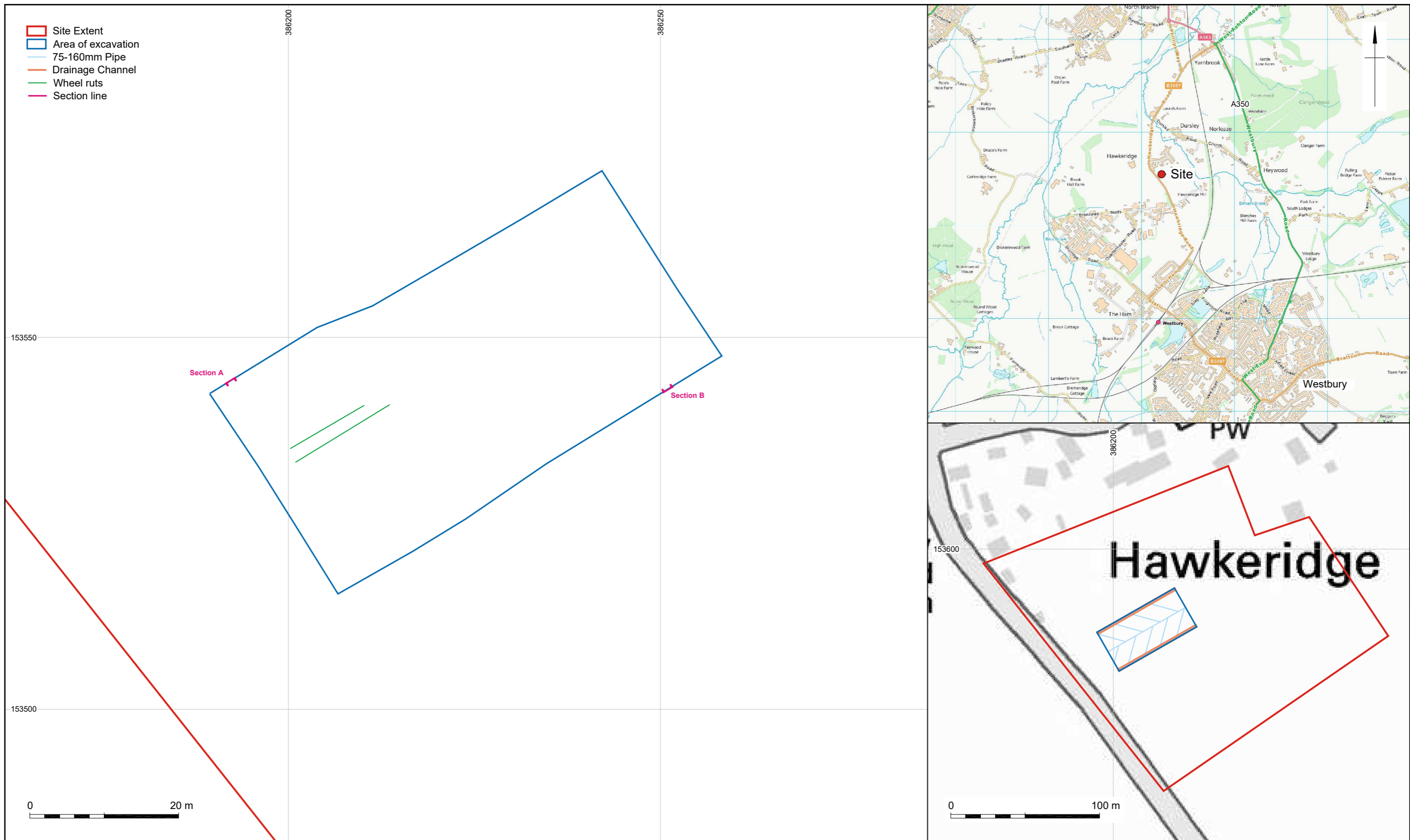
### Appendix 1 Context Record

Context Number	Type	Category	Fill of/Filled With
<b>101</b>	<b>Layer</b>	<b>Topsoil</b>	<b>n/a</b>
Mid brownish grey clay loam with sparse angular-sub angular flint			
<b>102</b>	<b>Layer</b>	<b>Natural</b>	<b>n/a</b>
Light yellow clay with sparse angular-sub angular flint			
<b>103</b>	<b>Layer</b>	<b>Made ground</b>	<b>n/a</b>
with gravel/asphalt			
<b>104</b>	<b>Layer</b>	<b>Made ground</b>	<b>n/a</b>
Mid brownish grey clay loam with sparse angular-sub angular flint			



## Appendix 2 OASIS record

OASIS ID (UID)	wessexar1-505453
Project Name	Watching Brief at Hawkeridge Road, Heywood, Westbury, Wiltshire
Site name	
Activity type	Watching Brief
Project Identifier(s)	Hawkeridge Road, Heywood, Westbury
Planning Id	PL/2021/05397
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Wessex Archaeology
Project Dates	28-Feb-2022 - 02-Mar-2022
Location	Hawkeridge Road, Heywood, Westbury, Wiltshire NGR: ST 86206 53549 LL: 51.2809127653685, -2.19915596870681 12 Fig: 386206,153549
Administrative Areas	Country: England County: Wiltshire District: Wiltshire Parish: Heywood
Project Methodology	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by the Landowner to undertake an archaeological monitoring and recording during ground disturbance works associated with the construction of an outdoor horse- riding arena.  The excavation of a 60 m by 30 m area in the footprint of the outdoor riding arena was monitored.
Project Results	No archaeological features or deposits were encountered during the course of the archaeological monitoring and recording, although medieval pottery was collected from the topsoil. The pottery may be connected to the nearby linears, and enclosures identified in cropmarks and the geophysical survey. It is reasonable that that material could have moved in the ploughsoil and would further support evidence of a medieval fields and settlement.
Keywords	
Funder	
HER	Wiltshire and Swindon HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	J, Kaines
HER Identifiers	
Archives	Physical Archive, Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Wiltshire Museum



Coordinate system: OSGB36 National Grid  
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Site location plan

Figure 1



Plate 1: Section A view through excavated area (1 m scale)



Plate 2: Section B view through excavated area (1 m scale)


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Plate 3: View of excavated area from west (2 m and 1 m scale)



Plate 4: View of excavated area from east (2 m and 1 m scale)



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Plate 5: Wheel ruts in the top of the natural geology

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