



# Land between East Cowes Road and Fairlee Road Newport, Isle of Wight

Archaeological Evaluation



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Unit R6  
Sheaf Bank Business Park  
Prospect Road  
Sheffield  
S2 3EN

[www.wessexarch.co.uk](http://www.wessexarch.co.uk)

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St Cross Business Park  
Newport  
Isle of Wight  
PO30 5WB

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Fieldwork directed by Tom Dawkins

Assisted by Michael Elridge and Aga Misiak

Project management by Oliver Good

Document compiled by Tom Dawkins

Graphics by Carrie May

Document edited by Eleanor Legg

## Quality Assurance

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1	07/07/2022	TD	



## Contents

Summary .....	iii
Acknowledgements.....	iii
<b>1 INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Project and planning background.....	1
1.2 Scope of the report .....	1
1.3 Location, topography and geology .....	2
<b>2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1 Introduction.....	2
2.2 Archaeological and historical context.....	2
<b>3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1 General aims .....	5
3.2 General objectives .....	5
<b>METHODS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4 5 .....</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1 Introduction.....	5
4.2 Fieldwork methods.....	5
4.3 Monitoring.....	6
<b>5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE .....</b>	<b>6</b>
5.1 Introduction.....	6
5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits .....	7
5.3 Trenches 4 and 5.....	7
<b>6 FINDS EVIDENCE.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8 CONCLUSIONS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
8.1 Summary .....	7
8.2 Discussion .....	8
<b>9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION.....</b>	<b>8</b>
9.1 Museum.....	8
9.2 Preparation of the archive.....	8
9.3 Selection strategy .....	8
9.4 Security copy .....	9
9.5 OASIS .....	9
<b>10 COPYRIGHT .....</b>	<b>9</b>
10.1 Archive and report copyright .....	9
10.2 Third party data copyright .....	10
<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>APPENDICES .....</b>	<b>12</b>
Appendix 1 Trench summaries .....	12
Appendix 2 OASIS summary .....	18



## List of Figures

- Cover** Working shot showing excavation of ditch 503 in foreground and 403 in background. View from south.
- Figure 1** Site location and final trench plan
- Figure 2** Proposed development
- Figure 3** Sections:  
Section 1: North facing section of ditch 403  
Section 2: North facing section of ditch 503
- Figure 4** General shot of Trench 6. 1 m and 2 m scales, view from north-west. Photograph by Aga Misiak.
- Figure 5** General shot of Trench 13. 1 m and 2 m scales, view from south-south-east. Photograph by Aga Misiak.
- Figure 6** General shot of Trench 2. 1 m and 2 m scales, view from north-west. Photograph by Tom Dawkins.
- Figure 7** South facing representative section of Trench 4; 1 m scale, view from south. Photograph by Aga Misiak.
- Figure 8** North facing section of 100% excavated ditch 403; 1 m and 0.5 m scales, view from north. Photograph by Aga Misiak.
- Figure 9** North facing section of ditch 503; 1 m scale, view from north. Photograph by Michael Eldridge.



## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by South Coast Leisure Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 1.5 ha parcel of land located in Land off East Cowes Road, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO32 6NH. The evaluation area is centred on NGR 452060 91860. The land is part of a proposed development for the construction of a new Football ground for Newport Town FC and will include the construction of a grandstand and floodlights, clubhouse and associated access roads and parking.

A total of 13 trenches measuring 30 m in length, 1.90 m wide and approximately 0.35 m deep were excavated, revealing natural clays and gravels beneath a modern topsoil. A single archaeological feature was recorded during the evaluation, while the topsoil finds were limited to modern pottery, fragments of ceramic land drains and lumps of chalk.

The only recorded feature was a post-medieval ditch found in the north-east corner of site, located in trenches 4 and 5. Investigative slots were excavated through the ditch in both trench 4 and 5, with fragments of ceramic building material present in both slots 403 and 503. A small fragment of glass was also noted near the surface of the ditch in trench 4. This artefactual evidence is further corroborated by the presence of a similar feature seen in historic mapping by the Archaeological officer for The Isle of Wight County Archaeological and Historic Environment Service.

## Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank South Coast Leisure Ltd for commissioning the archaeological evaluation, in particular John Leeding. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of the Archaeological Officer for Isle of Wight County Archaeological and Historic Environmental Service (IOWCAHES), who monitored the project for The Isle of Wight Council, and to K. Cochlan and Simon Woodford for their cooperation and help on site.



# Land Between East Cowes Road And Fairlee Road, Newport

## Archaeological Evaluation

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by South Coast Leisure Ltd (the client) to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 1.5 ha parcel of land located in Land off East Cowes Road, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO32 6NH. The evaluation area was centred on NGR 452060 91860 (Fig. 1).

1.1.2 The proposed development comprises the construction of a football ground, grandstand and floodlights, clubhouse and associated access roads and parking.

1.1.3 A planning application (19/00334/RVC) submitted to Isle of Wight Council (IOWC), was granted, subject to conditions. The following condition relates to archaeology:

Condition 5:

*No development including below ground site clearance works shall take place until the applicant or their agents has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The works shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.*

*Reason: To mitigate the effect of the works associated with the development upon any heritage assets and to ensure that information regarding these heritage assets is preserved by record in accordance with Policy DM11 (Historic and Built Environment) of the Island Plan Core Strategy.*

1.1.4 Following consultation with the Archaeological Officer for Isle of Wight County Archaeological and Historic Environmental Service (IOWCAHES), advisor to the IOWC, it was agreed that an archaeological evaluation would be required.

1.1.5 All works were undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed in order to undertake the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2022). The Archaeological officer for IOWCAHES approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.1.6 The evaluation comprising 13 trial trenches was undertaken from the 20th to the 24th of June 2022.

#### 1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a detailed description of the results of the evaluation, to interpret the results within a local, regional or wider archaeological context and assess whether the aims of the evaluation have been met.



- 1.2.2 The presented results will provide further information on the archaeological resource that may be impacted by the proposed development and facilitate an informed decision with regard to the requirement for, and methods of, any further archaeological mitigation.

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

- 1.3.1 The whole site comprises an irregular parcel of land of approximately 4 hectares (ha) located north-east of the town of Newport and west of the village of Wootton Bridge. The area to be monitored measures approximately 1.5 ha.
- 1.3.2 The site is currently under grass and is enclosed on its northern and southern sides by mature hedgerows (Fig. 1). It is formed from portions of two fields. The fields are divided by hedgerow which follows the line of a stream. The eastern and western limits of the site are not bounded by any fences or hedges.
- 1.3.3 To the north lies the Grade II Listed Brickfield Cottages and to the north-east is a small wooded area. A modern residential development lies beyond the field on the opposite side of East Cowes Road to the west. The A3054 Racecourse lies to the south. Beyond the stream (which is a tributary of the River Medina) and trees to the east, lies another grass field.
- 1.3.4 The site is situated within a relatively flat area of land at an elevation of approximately 10–12 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).
- 1.3.5 The underlying bedrock geology throughout the site is mapped as Hamstead Member Clay, Silt and Sand (British Geological Survey, Geology of Britain Viewer).

## **2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **2.1 Introduction**

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was assessed in a prior desk-based assessment (DBA: Wessex Archaeology 2018), which considered the recorded historic environment resource within a 1 km study area of the development. A summary of the results was presented within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022) and is presented below for reference. Relevant entry numbers from the Isle of Wight Historic Environment Record (HER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

### **2.2 Archaeological and historical context**

#### *Prehistoric (970,000 BC–AD 43)*

- 2.2.1 There are a number of sites and finds that demonstrate prehistoric use of the Study Area (2150, 4587, 4185, 5867, 5866, 7805, 3267, 3268, 3667, 2214, 2215, EIW165, 4582, 4585, 4586, 4168, 4201 and 4165). At all of these sites, flint has been found, often burnt and sometimes worked or as debitage (waste flakes). The majority of the flint tools that have been dated, date to the Neolithic or Bronze Age (4587, 4185, 5867, 5866, 4582, 4201, EIW83 and 2096). One flint blade predates the others and has been dated to between the Mesolithic and Neolithic 4168, although this find was discovered in the subsoil, rather than in situ within an archaeological feature. The presence of finds outside of their primary context indicate use of the wider landscape rather than the sites specifically.



### *Romano-British (AD 43–410)*

- 2.2.2 Evidence for Romano-British occupation of the Study Area is sparse, with only an unstratified tegula (tile) found during a watching brief in 1992 (2158). This trend is not confined to the study area and the scarcity of recorded Romano-British activity on the island is acknowledged in the Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment Resource Assessments and Research Agendas (Fulford 2014, 157). It is not known whether the Isle of Wight formed part of the area administered by the mainland or whether it was administered independently, however the conquest of the Isle of Wight is recorded in documentary sources (Fulford 2014, 155, 159).
- 2.2.3 The three sites that are recorded in the Resource Assessment occupy advantageous points within the landscape, on the coast, at Fishbourne Creek, on the River Yar at Brading and on the topographically prominent point of Carisbrooke. Carisbrooke Castle (NHLE1013870, NHLE1034657) contains some Roman walls but does not appear in Roman documentary sources, the reason for this remains open to interpretation (Fulford 2014, 161). The tegula was recorded as an unstratified find, so, similarly to the prehistoric finds, if considered with the three known Romano-British sites on the island, wider use of the landscape is implied, however specific knowledge of Romano-British use of the site and the Study area remains limited.

### *Saxon (AD 410–1066)*

- 2.2.4 There are no Saxon sites recorded within the HER, however eleven settlements are recorded in the Domesday book within 5 km of the site. All of these settlements are described as 'quite small' or 'very small' with the exceptions of Whippingham, which is described as 'quite large' and Shide, which is described as 'very large'.
- 2.2.5 To the southwest of the Study area, on the edge of the ZTV lies Carisbrooke Castle, a scheduled monument (NHLE1013870) and grade I listed building (NHLE1034657) which contains Roman, pre-Domesday, medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains and standing structures. The pre-Domesday earthworks may be interpreted as Saxon, however documentary evidence for the development of the castle during this period is limited as the Isle of Wight falls outside the administrative area for the Saxon kingdom of Wessex, the nearest political entity for which documents of this kind survive. There are documentary sources that suggest that some parish boundaries may be based on earlier Saxon estate boundaries on the island, particularly around Carisbrooke (Dodd 2014, 197). The presence of the castle suggests that there may have been substantial activity on the island during this period, and that such sites cast a level of influence over the wider landscape but the degree to which this activity impacts upon the site would require further evidence for interpretation.
- 2.2.6 Archaeological evidence suggests that there was a focus on water courses for fishing during the Saxon period, as the site lies approximately 1 km east of the River Medina it may lie outside the area utilised for these activities (Dodd 2014, 196).

### *Medieval (AD 1066–1500)*

- 2.2.7 Claybrooke fishponds (8493), associated through documentary sources with Quarr Abbey, are the only heritage assets recorded in the Study area. The Abbey is located north-east of the site, approximately 4 km away and near to the coast. The fishponds lay approximately 740 m to the west of the site where the Island Harbour Marina is currently. Given the large agricultural estates ran by monasteries in this period the site may have under agricultural use controlled by the Abbey (quarrabbey.org).

- 2.2.8 Carisbrooke Castle also underwent a substantial program of building and development during this period with a masonry shell keep being constructed within 150 years of the Norman conquest, replacing the earlier timber structure. St Nicholas' chapel at Carisbrooke Castle was also associated with the Benedictine monks at Quarr Abbey for a period of time, demonstrating the link between a variety of institutions across the island.
- 2.2.9 Carisbrooke Castle is not the only castle on the island during this period, two other stone-built castles are also recorded (Munby 2014, 246).
- 2.2.10 Sherds of medieval pottery have been found during a field walking and excavations (2214, 2215, EIW165, 4168, 4201, EIW83 and 2096), however as these finds were not in situ their contribution to knowledge of medieval occupation of the Isle of Wight is severely limited. It is possible that the sherds were deposited through processes such as manuring.
- 2.2.11 The site was likely to be in agricultural use to support the surrounding villages. Occupation debris has been found during excavations in the north of the Study area (4582). Furlongs shown (2228, 2250, EIW164 and 5337) on aerial photographs of the north of the Study Area further support this theory.

*Post-medieval (AD 1500–1800)*

- 2.2.12 There is a significant increase in the number of entries in the HER for the later postmedieval period compared to earlier periods. The HER entries for this period suggest a time of building and development signified by houses and cottages (14371 and 12914), commercial interests (1501, 8087 and 4152), farms (12905, 1206, 12907, 12908, 14618, 14617, 9457 and 8979) and the infrastructure which linked these assets such as trackways and bridges (4584 5438, 5439 and 5440). The frequency of finds from this period suggest that the landscape was in widespread use, including the fields and shorelines (2157, 3689, 4166 and 4167). The archaeological remains of this use, however, may be limited if the activities were in part restrained to activities such as manuring resulting in the broad distribution of finds.
- 2.2.13 Unstratified finds and a drove way have also been found dating to this period (2214, 2215, EIW165, 2228, 2250, EIW164, 5337, 4582, 4168, 4201, 4165, EIW186, EIW44, EIW183, EIW83 and 2096).

*19th Century (AD 1800–1900)*

- 2.2.14 A largest number of entries in the HER from one period are dated to the 19th century. The entries from this date predominantly record buildings or other structures such as bridges (14187, 14190, 14191, 14194, 14195, 14196, 14197, 14198, 14192, 14199, 14189, 14193, 14188, 9437, 14466, 14470, 14472, 12915, 12917, 12918, 14842, 5303, 5435, 5436, 14523, 8659, 8798, 14474, 14586 and 9555).
- 2.2.15 A number of these entries record farmhouses which were built or rebuilt by Prince Albert as part of his Model Farm Project (14187, 14190, 14191, 14194, 14195, 14196, 14197, 14198, 14192, 14199, 14189, 14193, 14188, 9437, 14474, 14586 and 9555). The bricks for the building work carried out as part of the project were made at Alverstone Cross Brickworks, which was originally called the Queen's Brickyard (4050).
- 2.2.16 Building work associated with the Royal Family in the 19th century is not limited to the Model Farm Project. The existing Osborne House was constructed after the estate was bought in 1845. The site falls within the 19th century extent of the Osborne Estate which covered over 800 hectares, however the estate currently covers 143 hectares (English-heritage.org.uk). Excavations in 2005 uncovered a boundary drive associated with the estate (4585).



- 2.2.17 The southern half of the site was used as a racecourse in the 1840s (7805). The association of the land with the racecourse is preserved in the name of the A3054, also named Racecourse. The temporary nature of the racecourse is not likely to have left archaeological remains although postholes may be found from the erection of temporary structures.
- 2.2.18 The 1841 Whippingham Tithe Map describes the fields of the site as pasture. A field boundary is present on the 1841 map that is not present on the 1863 OS map (not reproduced).

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 General aims**

- 3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022) and in compliance with the *CIfA Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a), were to:
- provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
  - inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

#### **3.2 General objectives**

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

### **4 METHODS**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

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

#### **4.2 Fieldwork methods**

##### *General*

- 4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the approximate positions proposed in the WSI (Fig. 1).
- 4.2.2 13 trial trenches, each measuring 30 m in length and 1.90 m wide, were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant

supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

- 4.2.3 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.
- 4.2.4 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval.
- 4.2.5 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and the Archaeological officer for IOWCAHES were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

#### *Recording*

- 4.2.6 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including 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.
- 4.2.7 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.8 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.
- 4.2.9 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 2: Appraisal).

### **4.3 Monitoring**

- 4.3.1 The Archaeological officer for IOWCAHES monitored the evaluation on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the client and the Archaeological officer for IOWCAHES.

## **5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 A single archaeological feature was encountered during the evaluation, with the same ditch found to be present in trenches 4 and 5 (Fig. 1). The remaining 11 trenches were all blank, with similar underlying geology found across the site.



5.1.2 The following section presents the results of the evaluation with detailed descriptions of individual contexts provided in the trench summary tables (Appendix 1). Figure 1 shows all archaeological features recorded within the trenches, while Figure 2 shows the trenches in relation to the proposed development. Figure 3 comprises relevant section drawings.

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

5.2.1 The soil sequence across the site was generally consistent, with some slight variations to the north-west and south-east of the investigated area. The geology was predominantly a yellowish brown, heavy, stiff gravelly clay with irregular patches of greyish reduced clay (Figure 4). The south-east corner on the lower ground (trenches 12 and 13) displayed higher percentages of gravel (Figure 5), while the irregular reduced greyish clays were more prevalent higher up slope to the north-west (Figure 6).

5.2.2 The natural was overlain by approximately 0.30 m of mid greyish brown loamy clay topsoil containing some sparse natural gravel, modern plastics, glass, cbm and rare chalk lumps (Figure 7).

## **5.3 Trenches 4 and 5**

5.3.1 The only archaeological feature recorded during the evaluation was a roughly north – south aligned ditch, revealed in the eastern end of trench 4 (Figures 3 and 8) and the south-eastern end of trench 5 (Figures 3 and 9). In both cases the sides and base of the feature were roughly concave to flat, with a single deposit of greyish loamy clay formed through natural erosion and weathering of the soil profile.

5.3.2 The most obvious difference recorded in the two trenches was that the slot in trench 5 was considerably wider at 1.65 m compared to the 0.69 m wide slot in trench 4. However, the depth in both slots was similar at 0.34 m and 0.28 m respectively. Both deposits contained a fragment of CBM, while a single fragment of glass was recovered from the surface of 403.

## **6 FINDS EVIDENCE**

6.1.1 The finds recovered from site consisted of small sherds of glass, modern pottery, plastic and some small fragments of CBM. These were all discarded on site.

## **7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

7.1.1 No environmentally significant features or deposits were encountered during fieldwork and so no samples were recovered.

## **8 CONCLUSIONS**

### **8.1 Summary**

8.1.1 Very little evidence for human activity was recorded in the evaluation, with only a single post-medieval ditch present across all of the 13 trenches. The artefactual evidence recovered from topsoil contexts was also limited, further demonstrating that the site is of very limited archaeological significance.

8.1.2 Following correspondence with the Archaeological officer for IOWCAHES a possible post-medieval date was given for the ditch within trenches 4 and 5. It appears to be shown on post-medieval mapping for the area as a ditch in a similar location is present on the Whippingham Tithe Map and Mudge Survey of 1794. Furthermore, it is recorded on the Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) as part of enclosed waste/common/green. The



artefactual evidence recovered during the evaluation further verifies the historic mapping evidence as both slots recovered fragments of CBM.

## 8.2 Discussion

- 8.2.1 The lack of any earlier archaeological finds and features is not surprising given that very little evidence of human occupation has been recorded in the immediate area. This could be attributed to the heavy clay geology present on the site and the likelihood that the area was often wet, with other locations on the island being far more attractive for settlement.
- 8.2.2 However, this evaluation was only small in scale and so does not demonstrate definitively that there isn't any archaeological activity in this part of the Isle of Wight. Future research will help clarify this question.

## 9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

### 9.1 Museum

- 9.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Isle of Wight Heritage Service has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code IWCMS: 2021.14994. 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 archive, which includes paper records and graphics, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Isle of Wight Heritage Service, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014c; SMA 1995).
- 9.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the **site/accession code**, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 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, i.e., 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.
- 9.3.5 Given the very limited results of the fieldwork, it is recommended that only selected digital data are deposited with ADS, an approach commensurate with the scale and significance of the project. Deposition will involve the uploading of the site report via OASIS only.

## **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 the Archaeological officer for IOWCAHES 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.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 Trench summaries

NGR coordinates and OD heights taken at centre of each trench; depth bgl = below ground level

Trench No 1		Length 30 m	Width 1.90 m	Depth 0.40 m
Easting 451983.29		Northing 91868.32		m OD 12.36
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
101		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clay loam with moderate rooting and sparse flints generally Less than 0.10m in size. Very stiff, heavy clay excavated in dry hot weather. Rare modern plastics and very rare chalk lumps also present.	0–0.28
102		Natural	Yellowish brown gravelly clay with large irregular patches of brownish grey clay. These patches are similar to those seen in other trenches but much larger and more frequent in this part of the field.	0.28+

Trench No 2		Length 30 m	Width 1.90 m	Depth 0.35 m
Easting 452027.54		Northing 91845.78		m OD 11.99
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clay loam with moderate rooting and sparse flints generally Less than 0.10m in size. Very stiff, heavy clay excavated in dry hot weather. Rare fragments of glass and lumps of chalk also present.	0–0.30
202		Natural	Yellowish brown slightly gravelly clay with irregular patches of greyish brown clay.	0.30+

Trench No 3		Length 30 m	Width 1.90 m	Depth 0.35 m
Easting 452045.02		Northing 91897.13		m OD 11.03
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
301		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown clay loam with moderate rooting and sparse flints generally Less than 0.10m in size. Very stiff, heavy clay excavated in dry hot weather. Rare lumps of glass and chalk also present.	0–0.30



302		Natural	Brownish yellow slightly gravelly clay with infrequent patches of whitish blue reduced clay and sparse manganese. Some sparse flecks of calcium carbonate / chalk.	0.30+
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Trench No 4		Length 30.40 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.38 m
Easting 452103.07		Northing 91904.93		m OD 9.45
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
401		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. Loam Clay. Compact. Boundary diffuse. Components: Loam ~40%. Clay ~60%. sub-angular natural flint: ≤80mm, ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Manganese: ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Pottery, CBM, glass: occasional, poorly sorted. Rooting rare.	0.00 – 0.28
402		Natural	Light yellowish orange. Clay. Very compact. Boundary clear. Components: sub-angular natural flint: ≤100mm, 3% sparse, poorly sorted. Angular natural flint: ≤60mm, ≤5% sparse, poorly sorted. sub-rounded natural limestone - chalk: ≤40mm, ≤1% rare, poorly sorted. Iron oxides: ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Manganese: ~3% sparse, poorly sorted. Rooting occasionally and poorly sorted	0.29 – 0.38+
403	404	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned N-S with steep, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 0.69 m. Depth: 0.51 m.	0.23 – 0.52
404	403	Secondary fill	Mid yellowish grey loam clay with loam ~20%. clay ~80%. sub-angular natural flint: ≤60mm, ≤ 3% sparse, poorly sorted. manganese: <3% sparse, poorly sorted. iron oxides: ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. rooting visible occasionally	0.23 – 0.52

Trench No 5		Length 30.30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.36 m
Easting 452097.60		Northing 91866.84		m OD 10.02
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)



501		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. Loam clay. Compact. Boundary diffuse. Components: Loam ~50%. Clay ~50%. sub-angular natural flint: ≤60mm, ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Manganese: ≤1% rare, poorly sorted. Rooting and bioturbation: ≤10% moderate, moderately well sorted.	0.00 – 0.23
502		Natural	Light yellowish orange. Clay. Very compact. Boundary clear. Components: sub-angular natural flint: ≤50mm, <5% sparse, poorly sorted. Iron oxides: ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Manganese: ~3% sparse, poorly sorted. Rooting occasionally and poorly sorted.	0.24 – 0.36+
503		Ditch	DITCH	0.36–0.71
504		Secondary fill	SECONDARY FILL	0.36–0.71

Trench No 6		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.63 m
Easting 452066.06		Northing 91854.20		m OD 10.87
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
601		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. Loam clay. Compact. Boundary somewhat diffuse. Components: Loam ~30%. Clay ~70%. Angular natural flint: ≤60mm, ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. sub-angular natural flint: ≤80mm, ≤1%, rare, poorly sorted. Manganese: ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Rooting and bioturbation: ~15% moderate, moderately well sorted.	0.00 – 0.28
602		Natural	Light yellowish orange. Clay. Very compact. Boundary clear. Components: sub-angular natural flint: ≤120mm, 5% sparse, poorly sorted. Angular natural flint: ≤60mm, ≤15% moderate, poorly sorted. Iron oxides: ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Manganese: ~5% sparse, poorly sorted. Rooting occasionally and poorly sorted.	0.29 – 0.63+

Trench No 7		Length 30.80 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.36 m
Easting 452038.40		Northing 91814.24		m OD 10.87
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)



701		Topsoil	Mid dark brown, silty loamy clay. Consisted mostly of the turf and rooting system. Rare stone and chalk inclusions (1-3%, <10-30mm). mildly loose and moderate compaction. Somewhat diffuse horizon with subsoil.	0–0.09
702		Subsoil	Orangish yellowish mid brown, silty sandy clay, dense compaction with muddled diffusion, rare stone and chalk inclusions (≥10%, 0.01-0.03)	0.09–0.22
703		Natural	Yellowish orangish brown, sandy clay, dense compaction, occasional stones and chalk (≥15%, 0.01-0.03)	0.22+

<b>Trench No 8</b>		<b>Length 30.90 m</b>	<b>Width 1.80 m</b>	<b>Depth 0.35 m</b>
<b>Easting 452083.58</b>		<b>Northing 91848.93</b>		<b>m OD 10.44</b>
<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Fill Of/Filled With</b>	<b>Interpretative Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth BGL (m)</b>
801		Topsoil	Mid dark brown, silty loamy clay. Consisted mostly of the turf and rooting system. Rare stone and chalk inclusions (1-3%, <10-30mm). mildly loose and moderate compaction. Somewhat diffuse horizon with subsoil.	0–0.9
802		Subsoil	Yellowish mid brown, silty sandy clay, dense compaction with muddled diffusion, rare stone and chalk inclusions (≥10%, 0.01-0.03)	0.9–0.28
803		Natural	Yellowish orangish mid brown, sandy clay, dense compaction, frequent stones and chalk (≥40%, 0.01-0.03)	0.28+

<b>Trench No 9</b>		<b>Length 31.10 m</b>	<b>Width 1.80 m</b>	<b>Depth 0.41 m</b>
<b>Easting 452122.92</b>		<b>Northing 91856.89</b>		<b>m OD 9.69</b>
<b>Context Number</b>	<b>Fill Of/Filled With</b>	<b>Interpretative Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth BGL (m)</b>
901		Topsoil	Mid dark brown, silty loamy clay. Consisted mostly of the turf and rooting system. Rare stone (1-3%, <10-30mm). mildly loose and moderate compaction. Somewhat diffuse horizon with subsoil.	0–0.13
902		Subsoil	Reddish yellowish mid brown, silty sandy clay, dense compaction with muddled diffusion, rare stone (≥5%, 0.01-0.03)	0.13–0.33
903		Natural	Yellowish orangish brown, sandy clay, dense compaction, rare stones and FE staining (≥10%, 0.01-0.03)	0.33+



Trench No 10		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.40 m
Easting 452031.94		Northing 91793.39		m OD 11.51
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
1001		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. Loam clay. Compact. Boundary diffuse. Components: Loam ~40%. Clay ~60%. Angular natural flint: ≤60mm, ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Manganese: ≤1% rare, poorly sorted. Natural limestone -chalk: ≤50mm, ≤1% occasional, poorly sorted. Rooting and bioturbation: ≤10% moderate, moderately well sorted.	0.00 – 0.32
1002		Natural	Light greyish yellow. Clay. Very compact. Boundary clear. Components: Manganese: ~5% sparse, poorly sorted. Iron oxides: ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Angular natural flint: ≤60mm, ≤10% moderate, moderately well sorted. sub-angular natural flint: ≤120mm, <1% rare, poorly sorted. Rooting and bioturbation rare.	0.33 – 0.40+

Trench No 11		Length 31.80 m	Width 1.83 m	Depth 0.43 m
Easting 452080.09		Northing 91784.13		m OD 10.88
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
1101		Topsoil	Mid dark brown, silty loamy clay. Consisted mostly of the turf and rooting system. Rare stone and chalk inclusions (1-3%, <10-30mm). mildly loose and moderate compaction. Somewhat diffuse horizon with subsoil.	0–0.10
1102		Subsoil	Orangish yellowish mid brown, silty sandy clay, dense compaction with muddled diffusion, rare stone and chalk inclusions (≥10%, 0.01-0.03)	0.10–0.27
1103		Natural	Yellowish orangish brown, sandy clay, dense compaction, occasional stones and chalk (≥15%, 0.01-0.03)	0.27+

Trench No 12		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.46 m
Easting 452092.49		Northing 91798.45		m OD 10.54
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)



1201		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. Loam clay. Compact. Boundary somewhat diffuse. Components: Loam ~40%. Clay ~60%. Angular natural flint: ≤60mm, ≤5% sparse, poorly sorted. Manganese: ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Rooting and bioturbation: ≤10% moderate, moderately well sorted.	0.00 – 0.28
1202		Natural	Light greyish yellow. Clay. Very compact. Boundary clear. Components: Angular natural flint: ≤60mm, ≤30%, common, well sorted. sub-angular natural flint: ≤150mm, <5% sparse, poorly sorted. Manganese: ~5% sparse, poorly sorted. Iron oxides: ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Rooting occasionally.	0.29 – 0.46+

Trench No 13		Length 31.30 m		Width 1.80 m		Depth 0.38 m	
Easting 452119.33			Northing 91827.15			m OD 9.94	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL (m)	
1301		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown. Loam clay. Compact. Boundary somewhat diffuse. Components: Loam ~30%. Clay ~70%. Sub-rounded natural limestone-chalk: ≤40mm, 3% sparse, poorly sorted. Sub-angular natural flint: ≤60mm, ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Manganese: ≤1% rare, poorly sorted. Rooting and bioturbation: ~15% moderate, moderately well sorted.			0.00 – 0.26	
1302		Natural	Light yellowish orange. Clay. Very compact. Boundary clear. Components: sub-angular natural flint: ≤100mm, <5% sparse, poorly sorted. Iron oxides: ≤3% sparse, poorly sorted. Manganese: ~5% sparse, poorly sorted. Angular natural flint: ≤60mm, ≤40%, common, well sorted. Sub-rounded natural chalk limestone: ≤1% occasional, poorly sorted. Rooting occasionally and poorly sorted.			0.27 – 0.38+	



## Appendix 2 OASIS summary

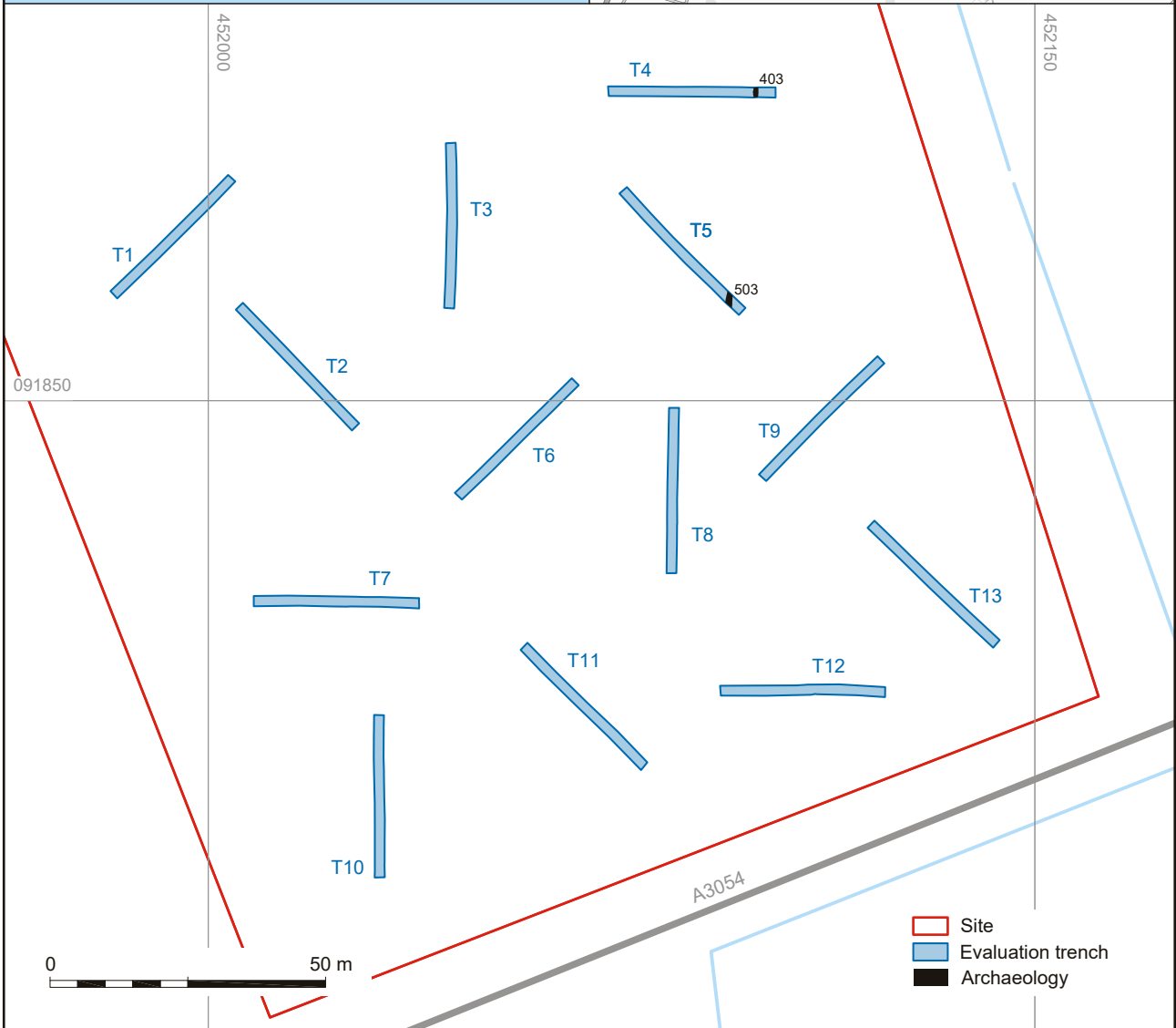
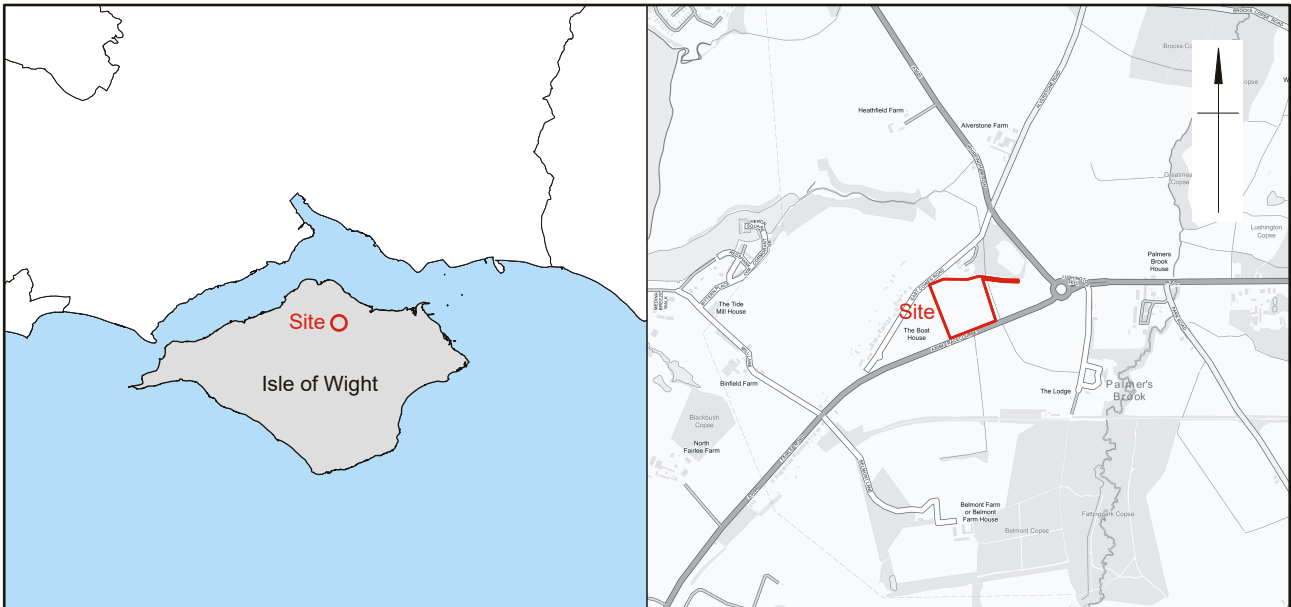
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Project Name	Land between East Cowes Road and Fairlee Road, Newport, Isle of Wight: Archaeological Evaluation
Sitename	Land between East Cowes Road and Fairlee Road, Newport, Isle of Wight
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	250540
Planning Id	19/00334/RVC
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Wessex Archaeology
Project Dates	20-Jun-2022 - 24-Jun-2022
Location	Land between East Cowes Road and Fairlee Road, Newport, Isle of Wight NGR : SZ 52060 91860 LL : 50.7240385886931, -1.26383181184427 12 Fig : 452060,91860
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Isle of Wight District : Isle of Wight Parish : Whippingham
Project Methodology	<p>A total of 13 trenches, measuring 30 m in length and 1.90 m wide, were excavated, investigated and recorded. The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS). Excavation of the trenches was undertaken in level spits under the constant supervision of the monitoring archaeologist. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand excavated. Spoil from the machine stripping and hand excavation was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and Archaeological Officer were backfilled using the excavated material in the order in which they were excavated and left level on completion. All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales. A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet Service surveyed the location of archaeological features. A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels.</p>






Project Results	<p>A single post-medieval ditch was located during the evaluation. The date of the ditch was confirmed by ceramic building material recorded within the ditch, in addition to its depiction on historic mapping dating to 1794. Limited artefactual evidence was noted within the topsoil, with no other archaeological evidence revealed during the works.</p> <p>Given the apparent lack of evidence for earlier activity across the site and its immediate environs, it is postulated that the heavy clay geology resulted in the area being particularly wet and, when compared to elsewhere on the island, less favourable for settlement.</p>
Keywords	
Funder	

HER	Isle of Wight HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	T, Dawkins
HER Identifiers	
Archives	



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	Scale:	1:1250 at A4 (main graphic)	Created by:	CM
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Site location and final trench plan

Figure 1



- ▭ Site
- ▭ Evaluation trench
- ▭ Archaeology
- - - Extrapolated continuation of ditch

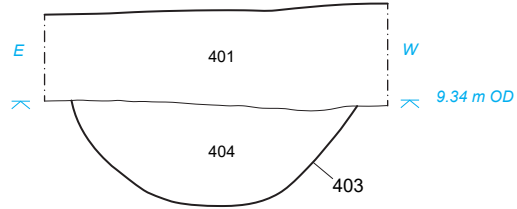
Coordinate system: OSGB36 National Grid  
 Development plan provided by the client.  
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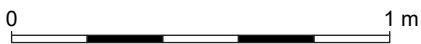
Proposed development

Figure 2

Section 1: North facing section of ditch 403



Section 2: North facing section of ditch 503



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Figure 4: General shot of Trench 6. 1 m and 2 m scales, view from north-west. Photograph by Aga Misiak.



Figure 5: General shot of Trench 13. 1 m and 2 m scales, view from south-south-east. Photograph by Aga Misiak.


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Figure 6: General shot of Trench 2. 1 m and 2 m scales, view from north-west.  
 Photograph by Tom Dawkins.



Figure 7: South facing representative section of Trench 4; 1 m scale, view from south.  
 Photograph by Aga Misiak.



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Figure 8: North facing section of 100% excavated ditch 403; 1 m and 0.5 m scales, view from north. Photograph by Aga Misiak.



Figure 9: North facing section of ditch 503; 1 m scale, view from north. Photograph by Michael Eldridge.

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Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB  
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk



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