Land North of Church Lane Carhampton, Somerset

Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

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wessexarchaeology

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Summary

Following archaeological investigations by another party, Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Heritage Planning Services Ltd, on behalf of Ware Construction, to undertake a 0.3 hectare archaeological excavation on land north of Church Lane, Carhampton, Somerset (centred on National Grid Reference 300972 142634). The work was required to satisfy a condition of planning set by West Somerset District Council to allow the construction of four residential properties.

The majority of the archaeological features and deposits included a series of intercutting ditches, which, as well as managing drainage, served to delineate, modify and re-establish tracts of land during the Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval periods. Domestic and probable craft-related activity spanning the medieval period were represented by an oven and associated working area, the remains of a three-sided structure (probably a workshop or shelter), a number of pits and debris found within some ditch fills.

The finds assemblage, whilst fairly small, includes a number of interesting artefacts, including a possible pin beater made of bone and two iron objects resembling either a heckletooth or perhaps leather-working awls. The discovery of an iron stylus is particularly important, as these are generally associated with monastic sites. Most of the pottery assemblage derives from the medieval period, though there are some slightly earlier pieces (10th–12th century) as well as a single Roman and several post-medieval sherds. A moderate assemblage of animal bone, a single human bone and a tooth, and samples of charred plant remains and wood charcoal were also recovered.

The assessment illustrates how the current and potential results might contribute to the understanding of the development of the village of Carhampton during the Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval periods, how the inhabitants interacted with the landscape, which activities they might have been involved in and what resources they appear to have had access to/chose. Whilst the importance of the findings are on a local to regional scale, there are some aspects of the results that might contribute towards national studies eg, those concerned with medieval economy, subsistence, agriculture and water management.

It is proposed that, following further analysis of the evidence, an article describing the findings will be published in an appropriate journal such as the *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History* Society. A summary of the results will also be submitted for inclusion in *Medieval Archaeology's* annual fieldwork summary.

The project archive will be deposited with the South West Heritage Trust, who has agreed, in principle, to accept the project archive on completion of the project under the accession code TTNCM 13/2017.

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Land north of Church Lane, Carhampton, Somerset

Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Heritage Planning Services Ltd, on behalf of Ware Construction, to undertake a 0.3 ha archaeological excavation centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 300972 142634, on land north of Church Lane, Carhampton, Somerset (the 'site'; Figure 1).

1.1.2 The work was required to satisfy a condition attached to the planning permission, granted by West Somerset District Council in July 2015 (3/05/14/011):

No works (other than that required by this condition) shall be undertaken on site unless a programme of archaeological work, including excavations, has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been first submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that archaeological remains and features are adequately recorded having regard to the provisions of Saved Policy AH/3 of the West Somerset District Local Plan (2006).

1.1.3 The excavation was requested in order to fully record and characterise the archaeological remains identified in a preceding evaluation (AA LPP 2015), and at risk by works associated with the development.

1.1.4 The archaeological investigations were undertaken in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; WA 2017), which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed for the project. The Senior Historic Environment Officer (SHEO) approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.1.5 The excavation took place between the 22nd June and 22nd July 2017.

1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 This report provides the provisional results of the excavation and assesses their potential to address the research aims outlined in the WSI, and in their revisions detailed below. Where appropriate, it recommends a programme of further analysis, outlining the resources needed to achieve the aims including the curation of the archive and dissemination of the findings via publication.

1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The site is located within the north-eastern part of the village of Carhampton, some 2 km to the south-east of Dunster and around 5 km to the south-east of Minehead. It comprises a 0.3 ha, L-shaped parcel of land, immediately to the north of Church Lane. It is bounded

to the west by the current vicarage, by the Old Vicarage to the east and open fields to the north (Figure 1).

1.3.2 The site slopes gently from 25.8 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the south down to 24.5 m aOD towards the north.

1.3.3 The underlying bedrock is recorded as the Mercia Mudstone Group with no superficial deposits recorded (BGS 2017).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 A summary of the archaeological and historical background for the site is provided in the WSI (WA 2017); a précis follows.

2.2 Previous works related to the development

Trial Trench Evaluation, March 2015

2.2.1 An evaluation by Absolute Archaeology (AA LLP 2015) uncovered medieval ditches and an oven, with in the eastern area of the site, which are likely to be associated with known occupation to the north and east.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Bronze Age to Romano-British (2400 BC – AD 410)

2.3.1 Bronze Age activity, evidenced by worked flint and pottery associated with a possible barrow mound, was identified approximately 135 m to the north of the site, at Eastbury Farm (Hollinrake and Hollinrake 2017).

2.3.2 Significant Iron Age activity is known in the area to the west of Carhampton, including defended Iron Age settlements at Gallox Hill, Bat's Castle and Grabbist Hill (list entries 1007668, 1007667 and 1021060 respectively).

2.3.3 Although little Romano-British activity is known in the area, the former coach road from Gallon Cross to Carhampton could have originated in the Roman period (Hollinrake and Hollinrake 2017).

Post-Roman to medieval (AD 410–1500)

2.3.4 The settlement of Carhampton appears to have post-Roman origins, with evidence for 5th–8th century occupation, industrial activity and a number of burials found to the north and east of the site. The village is first mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle as '*aet Carrum*' as the site of two supposed battles between the King of Wessex and the Danes in the early to mid-9th century.

2.3.5 Documentary sources relating to the 12th and 13th centuries record two churches in the village and restored aspects of the present church to the west of the site date from the 14th–15th century.

2.3.6 A possible medieval beamslot was discovered on the site of a 13th-century, or possibly earlier, former manor at Eastbury Farm, whilst excavations to the north and east of the site revealed evidence of 12th–16th century occupation and a number of similarly dated graves (AA LPP 2015; Hollinrake and Hollinrake 2017).

2.3.7 The later medieval period saw much of the land to the north of the village converted into water meadows (AA LLP 2015).

19th Century to Modern (1800–present)

2.3.8 Ordnance Survey maps between 1887 and 1950 (see references section) show the plot encompassing the site as an open plot of land between the current church and old Vicarage, backing on to a small valley leading towards Blue Anchor Bay, and the water meadows of Ker Moor.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

3.1.1 The general aims of the excavation, as stated in the WSI (WA 2017) and in compliance with the CIfA *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (2014a) were to:

- examine the archaeological resource within a given area or site within a framework of defined research objectives;
- seek a better understanding of the resource;
- compile a lasting record of the resource; and
- analyse and interpret the results of the excavation, and disseminate them.

3.2 Research objectives

3.2.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site and the regional research framework (Grove and Croft 2012), the research objectives of the excavation defined in the WSI (WA 2017) were to:

- excavate and identify, within the constraints of the works, the date, character and condition of any surviving remains within the site;
- ensure their preservation by record to the highest possible standard;
- confirm the approximate date or date range of the remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;
- determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains;
- determine the condition and state of preservation of the remains;
- determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present; and
- prepare an assessment report on the results of the excavation and assess the potential and significance of the data for any further analysis and publication.

3.2.2 Specifically, the project aim was to establish the character and extent of medieval activity within the site and relate it to the known contemporary activity in the area.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (WA 2017) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in CIfA guidance (2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The excavation area was set out using GPS, in the same position as that proposed in the WSI (Figure 1). The topsoil was removed in level spits using a 360º excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the supervision of the monitoring archaeologist, and proceeding until the archaeological horizon was exposed.

4.2.2 Where necessary, the surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand to aid visual definition. A sufficient sample of archaeological features and deposits were hand-excavated to address the aims of the excavation.

4.2.3 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological features was scanned for finds visually and using a metal detector. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context; all those from excavated contexts were retained.

Recording

4.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits 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 (1:20 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (aOD) heights of all principal features were calculated and levels added to site drawings.

4.2.5 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and aOD, as defined by OSGM15 and OSTN15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.

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

4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies

General

4.3.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of artefacts and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2017). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

4.4 Monitoring

4.4.1 The SHEO for Somerset monitored the excavation on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with both the client and the SHEO.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

Summary of archaeological features and deposits

5.1.1 The archaeological features (Figures 1 and 2) comprise a number of ditches representing changing land divisions between the Saxo-Norman and post-medieval periods. Other features included a series of pits, the remnants of a shelter or workshop-type structure and an oven with an associated working area all dating to the medieval period, demonstrating domestic activity with probable elements of craft-working.

5.1.2 The features and deposits in the southern and eastern parts of the site were severely truncated due to a slightly elevated plateau; the remains were better preserved to the west and north, where the land gradually slopes down towards the Bristol Channel 2.6 km away (Figure 1).

Methods of stratigraphic assessment and quantity of data

5.1.3 Hand written and drawn records have been collated, checked for consistency and stratigraphic relationships. Key data have been transcribed into a database for assessment, which will be updated during any further analysis. Table 1 provides a quantification of the physical records from the excavation. The features and deposits have been phased using stratigraphic relationships and spot dating from artefacts.

Table 1 Quantification of excavation records

Type	Quantity
Context records	315
Context registers	8
Graphics (A4 and A3)	42
Graphics (A1)	1
Graphics registers	3
Environmental sample registers	1
Object registers	1
Digital photographs	275

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

5.2.1 The turfed topsoil (context 100) was a dark-reddish-brown clay-silt, on average 0.15m thick. It overlay a mid-reddish-brown clay-silt subsoil (101) that varied between 0.35 m and 0.55 m in depth across the site, matching the site gradient. The underlying natural bedrock (102) comprised a mid-red-brown marl/mudstone. Archaeological features were revealed upon the removal of the subsoil.

5.3 Romano-British (AD 43–410)

5.3.1 A fragment of Roman pottery was found residually in the latest fill of post-medieval boundary ditch 304 (see below; Figure 2).

5.4 Saxo-Norman (10th–12th century)

5.4.1 The earliest feature was 317 (Figure 2), a roughly 3 m long section of a shallow (0.06 m) ditch-like anomaly with irregular but steep sides. It was typically 0.9 m wide and contained a single dark fill with inclusions of charcoal and animal bone. It was cut by medieval ditch 312 to the east (see below) and by equally shallow feature 167, the remnants of which suggest it was originally subcircular, though its western extent was cut by ditch 301 (see below). A single piece of animal bone was recovered from the fill. Stratigraphically, these features are unlikely to have been later than 10th to 12th century.

5.4.2 The approximately 25m length of northeast–southwest ditch 301 was on average 2.20 m wide and 1.25 m deep, and contained up to six fills (Figures 2 and 3; Plates 1–4). The former presence of a bank along the eastern edge was indicated by fills 193 and 287, which appear to represent accumulated weathered bank material followed by gradual silting. Domestic debris in the lower fill includes pottery of 10th to 12th century material, while later fills held sherds more consistent with a 12th to 13th-century date, suggesting that – if the earliest material represents the initial phase of infilling rather than derived from preceding features (see above) – the deposition process had been gradual, or at least intermittent. The alignment of this feature is incongruent with most of the others on the site, including those of potentially similar date.

5.4.3 Parallel to 317 around 3 m to the north, an 11 m length of concave-profiled ditch 307 contained a single, gradually accumulated fill, from which further 10th–12th century artefacts were recovered.

5.5 Medieval (11th–15th century)

5.5.1 The majority of features, comprising a series of enclosure ditches, pits and structural remains have been assigned to this date range (Figure 2).

5.5.2 A 26 m section of 1 m wide, north-south ditch 302, revealed on the western edge of the site survived to a depth of up to 0.58 m, despite being horizontally truncated to the south. It was possible to identify two phases of intermittent and predominantly gradual infilling. The incorporated domestic debris has been broadly dated to the 10th–13th-century; some may have come from the underlying fills of ditch 301. It was later truncated by ditch 304.

5.5.3 Probably part of the same network, ditch 312 comprised a 20 m long section parallel to ditch 301, 5 m to the west. Though the relationship had been truncated by later features and disturbance, it is likely that the returning southern portion once met with ditch 302, forming a long narrow strip of enclosed land. The feature was typically 0.5 m to 1 m wide and 0.21 m deep; the finds from its gradually accumulated fills are indicative of nearby 10th–12th/13th-century domestic occupation.

5.5.4 A 16 m long portion of ditch 303, parallel with 302 and 312, was on average 1 m wide and 0.56 m deep, and like the latter, returned to the west at the southern end demarcating the south-east corner of an enclosure or field. If contemporaneous, as suspected, ditches 303 and 302 would have been separated by a 1 m to 1.5 m wide corridor. The fills reflect gradual natural silting; a sherd of post-medieval pottery and a nail were recovered from the uppermost (tertiary) fill.

5.5.5 Adjacent and parallel ditches 308, 309 and 316 may have represented successive manifestations of the southern boundary of an area enclosed to the east of ditch 312. Ditch 308 (0.80 m wide, 0.07 m deep) narrowed to a rounded terminal around 3.6 m from the eastern edge of the site, largely following the southern edge of earlier ditch 307. Ditch

309, immediately to the south, though also shallow (0.11 m) was more regular in width (0.67 m) and terminated around half a metre further to the west. Just under a metre to the south of that was slightly more substantial ditch 316 (approximately 11 m long, 0.75 m wide and 0.25 m deep). Its terminal coincided with the corner of ditch 312, and would have closed the possible field entrance seemingly demonstrated by 308 and 309. Unfortunately the relationship with the masonry remains 254, associated with oven 243 see below) was truncated by a modern service trench. Animal bone and stone artefacts were recovered from the two fills of 316, whilst a single sherd of 12th–13th-century pottery was found in ditch 309.

5.5.6 L-shaped ditch 315 (typically 0.54 m wide and 0.15 m deep) measured 4.37 m along its longest side, which extended towards the eastern ends of the 308, 309 and 316. Any potential relationship evidence, however, would have been beyond the edge of excavation. The 1.5 m southern leg of the ditch extended to the west, where it was truncated by pit 135, destroying any evidence regarding its possible association with structure 310 and ditch 313 (Figure 2; see below). A small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from its fills.

5.5.7 North–south aligned ditch 313 (9 m x 1.21 m x 0.31 m) truncated both 316 and 309, terminating as it reached the latter. It appears to be contiguous with the eastern side of structure 310 (below), though it is truncated by pit 315 at their intersection and by similar pit 139 slightly further along its length to the north. Though no artefacts were recovered, it is almost certainly associated with the structure and possibly the ovens, the uppermost fills being comparable to some of the material associated with the latter (Figure 2, Plate 8; see below).

Structure 310

5.5.8 At the southern ends of ditch 313 and 315, a series of 0.40 m wide beamslots represent the northern, eastern and southern elements of 5.70 m long by 5.26 m wide three-sided rectangular structure (310; Figures 2 and 3). Stone post-packing was identified within posthole-like terminals (0.48–0.64 m diameter), flanking the open western side and between which was a 0.06 m thick trample deposit (213), covering an area approximately 3.60 m x 1.52 m.

5.5.9 The internal space was bisected by a 0.60 m wide, shallow (0.04 m) gully, and there was a cluster of truncated vertical post- and stake-holes within a 1.5 m square area in the north-eastern corner of the structure (0.05–0.22 m in diameter; Group 311). Whilst it is not possible to draw confident conclusions about these internal features, they almost certainly relate to the use of the structure.

5.5.10 Pottery from components of the structure are of 13th–15th-century date, and a small piece of lead off-cut was found in one of the beamslots.

5.5.11 A 0.30 m length of gully or ?beamslot (306), cut by posthole 208 to the east and ditch 304 to the west, may have been related to this structure, perhaps suggesting a slightly larger building with an entrance to the south. It is also possible that it was associated with perpendicular ditch 302.

5.5.12 Posthole 112, around 0.50 m in diameter and 0.14 m deep, was situated 3.5 m to the east of the south-eastern corner of the structure, following the same trajectory as the southern beamslot. Comparable fills further corroborate a possible connection between this otherwise undated posthole and structure 310.

Oven and associated deposits

5.5.13 Initially investigated during the evaluation stage, medieval activity in centre of the site was represented by the remains of an oven-type feature and an associated spread, probably the remains of a working area (Figure 2 – group numbers only, Plates 5–8).

5.5.14 A 0.50 m diameter pit, 0.26 m deep with steep straight sides and a flat base formed the construction cut of an oven. The partially upstanding remains (0.25 m high, 0.90 m wide) of a sub-circular, probably domed, superstructure was built of rough local rock, with a slate layer incorporated into the southern part. A succession of charcoal-rich layers within the pit as well as some heat-altered clay and stone indicated *in situ* heating and accumulation of related debris. Wood charcoal and charred plant remains have been collected, and with further analysis may help to interpret what the feature was used for. Probably representing the final use-phase, dark reddish-grey deposit 247 spread beyond the confines of the pit.

5.5.15 A 5.29 m x 2.38 m sub-rectangular probable working surface (305) occupied the area to the south and west of the oven. It comprised a mixed deposit of compacted natural and residual charcoal flecking from nearby activity, ie, trampling. Pottery from here has been dated as 12th–13th century.

5.5.16 Collapse of the superstructure is represented by a dense scattered of rocks and loose, paler deposit 254, 248 and probably layer 279 (latter two not illustrated). Quirks of preservation, evaluation and the location of sections have led to this rubble layer being misleadingly linear in plan, so it is worth noting that it did not represent the remains of *in situ* structural remains. Rubble from here may also have been used to consolidate soft ground over infilled ditch 313, about 2 m to the east.

Pits

5.5.17 Several pits, excavated in the southern half of the site, were of medieval or probable medieval date. Their functions are currently unconfirmed.

5.5.18 Similar to the pit excavated during the evaluation (Figure 2), 1.13 m diameter pit 103 was 0.24 m deep and contained material of 12th–13th-century date. A comparable pit (110) was recorded approximately 10 m to the south-east, immediately to the south of structure 310. It was 1.65 m in diameter and 0.31 m deep, and contained a single fragment of medieval pottery.

5.5.19 A smaller pit (114; 0.60 m diameter, 0.10 m deep) was situated around 15 m to the north, close to the eastern extent of ditch 307. Only two fragments of animal bone were recovered although, like the other pits, the fill suggests gradual stabilisation of the sides and episodic deposition of domestic debris.

5.5.20 Pit 135 (1.21 m x 1.21 m x 0.20 m) cut through the remains of structure 310 and ditches 313 and 315, and contained 13th–15th century pottery – some of which are likely to be from the underlying deposits. Similar, but shallower, pit 139 was situated immediately to the north and truncated ditch 313. Whilst the fills of these two pits were similar, the latter did not contain any finds.

5.6 Post-Medieval (16th–18th century)

5.6.1 A 31 m stretch of ditch (304; generally 2 m wide and up to 0.70 m deep) cut into a number of the medieval ditches. Its fills indicate episodic silting, stabilisation and edge collapse, and heavy rooting suggests the former presence of a hedgerow along the eastern side,

although according to historic mapping, this had gone by the late 19th century. Artefacts include a sherd of Roman pottery, an possibly early medieval stylus, some post-medieval pottery and an 18th-century button.

6 FINDS

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The finds assemblage recovered from mitigation work on the site is relatively small. It is dominated by animal bone, with other material types occurring in much smaller quantities. The date range is Romano-British to post-medieval/modern, with a focus on the medieval period. Finds derived from a number of cut features (pits, ditches and beamslots belonging to a structure), with a few coming from subsoil and topsoil contexts.

6.1.2 This section discusses the finds by material type, providing basic identifications and assessing their nature, condition and date range. On this information is based an assessment of the potential of the finds for further research, and proposals for further analysis and reporting.

Table 2 All finds by context/feature (number/weight in grammes)

Context	Animal Bone	CBM	Metal	Pottery	Stone	Other Finds
Pit 103	9/94			4/38		
Pit 110	13/102			1/8		
Pit 114	2/5					
Pit 135	7/54			2/38		
?Ditch 167	1/1					
Layer 213						1 human tooth
Oven 243	27/882					1 human bone
Pit 268				2/16		
Layer 276	5/37			2/14		
Ditch 301	720/9218		6 Fe	7/160		1 bone object
Ditch 302	28/188		1 Fe	3/97		1 glass
Ditch 303	6/54		1 Fe	1/10		
Ditch 304	53/395	1/114	1 Cu; 2 Fe	2/45		
Working surface 305	10/108			5/67		2 slag
Ditch 307	2/19			2/16		2 slag
Ditch 309	3/8					1 slag
Struct 310	42/312		1 Pb	14/188	1/262	
Ditch 312	97/834			10/160	2/90	
Ditch 313	7/20	11/1854			7/3778	
Ditch 315	13/152					
Ditch 316	10/220				2/51	
Ditch 317	7/17					
Topsoil	5/15	1/724	1 Fe	5/466		3 glass
Subsoil	11/324	1/44		1/161		1 shell
Total	**1110/13,136**	**14/2736**	**1 Cu; 11 Fe; 1 Pb**	**62/1497**	**12/4181**	

CBM = ceramic building material; Cu = copper alloy; Fe = iron; Pb = lead

6.1.3 As a basic record, all finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are summarised in Table 2.

6.2 Pottery

6.2.1 The pottery assemblage amounts to 62 sherds (weighing 1497 g). Of this total, one sherd is Romano-British, 54 are medieval and seven post-medieval/modern. Condition of the assemblage ranges from fair to poor (with the modern sherds, unsurprisingly, in relatively good condition, including one complete vessel). The medieval sherds are relatively small, and have suffered varying degrees of surface and edge abrasion; there are very few conjoining sherds. Calcareous inclusions have largely leached out, leaving voids. Mean sherd weight (excluding post-medieval/modern sherds) is 18.4 g. Sherds were recovered in very small quantities from a number of contexts; no context yielded more than five sherds.

6.2.2 The assemblage has been quantified (sherd count and weight) by ware type, with the presence of diagnostic vessel forms and other features noted. This information is presented in Table 3. Spot dates have also been recorded, on a context by context basis.

Table 3 Pottery totals by ware type

Period	Ware	No. sherds	Weight (g)
ROMAN	Whiteware	1	38
MEDIEVAL	Calcareous ware	2	17
	Glazed sandy ware	1	2
	Greensand-derived ware	6	343
	Misc rock-tempered ware	4	32
	North Devon coarseware	31	449
	Sandstone-rich ware	10	133
	Sub-total medieval	*54*	*976*
POST MEDIEVAL	Post-medieval redware	2	17
	Refined whiteware	2	14
	English stoneware	2	445
	English porcelain	1	7
	Sub-total post-medieval	*7*	*483*
	OVERALL TOTAL	**62**	**1497**

Romano-British

6.2.3 One Romano-British sherd was recovered (boundary ditch 304): a flagon neck in a whiteware fabric. The source is unknown; the fabric contains large mica flakes, which could indicate a continental origin.

Medieval

6.2.4 The majority of the assemblage (54 sherds; 976 g) is of medieval date. Within this chronological group, four regional ware types were identified, with a few sherds falling into miscellaneous categories.

6.2.5 Possibly the earliest material comprises six sherds containing polished, rounded quartz inclusions characteristic of the Upper Greensand-derived products of the industry based in the Blackdown Hills south of Taunton (some sherds also contain flint/chert and/or limestone). The Blackdown Hills industry was in operation from around the middle of the

10th century, and continued into the early 14th century (Allan *et al* 2010). There is one rounded basal angle here (fill 193 of ditch 301), and a jar rim with simple profile (subsoil), both typical of a Saxo-Norman date (10th to 12th century).

6.2.6 The majority of sherds (31) fall within the range of a type defined as North Devon coarseware (eg, Markuson 1980, fabric A; Allan and Perry 1982, fabric 1), and assumed to have been made in Barnstaple, from the evidence of wasters; they were probably also made in Bideford. More recent analysis on assemblages such as that from Launceston Castle, combined with petrographic analysis, has revealed a more complex picture, and it is apparent that a number of different types were in use, including a slate-tempered variant. Evidence from Launceston suggests that North Devon coarserware was in production from the 12th century (Brown *et al* 2006, 270–1), and it continued in use into the 15th century. North Devon coarsewares were recorded in small quantities at Cleeve Abbey (Allan 1999), but do not appear to have percolated far eastwards into Somerset. Vessel forms seen here are limited to three jars (one with a finger-impressed rim) and one strap-handled jug. The coarsewares do not lend themselves to particularly close dating, but the association with Upper Greensand-derived wares, combined with the almost total absence of glazed sandy wares (as seen at Cleeve Abbey) suggests a date earlier within the potential range rather than later, probably no later than 13th century and perhaps focusing on the 12th century.

6.2.7 Ten sherds are in sandy fabrics, containing abundant quartz which is probably sandstone-derived; one sherd also contains larger and more recognisable sandstone inclusions. Similar fabrics have been recorded across west Somerset, the coarser variants appearing at Shapwick, Brent Knoll and Steart Point peninsula (Gutierrez 2007, fabrics U3 and U6; Gutierrez 2008, fabrics 2–4; Mepham 2017, fabrics R400–R405), and the finer variants at Shapwick, Steart Point and Bridgwater (Gutierrez 2007, fabric Y; Mepham 2017, fabrics Q401–Q403; J Allan pers. comm.); they are considered to have a source somewhere in the Quantocks. The coarser variants appear to date from the late 10th to 12th centuries, and the finer variants from the 13th to 15th centuries. There are no diagnostic sherds here.

6.2.8 One rim sherd (grooved around the top of the rim) is in a coarse fabric with shelly limestone inclusions. This seems to belong to a type described at Ilchester (Pearson 1982, 171, pottery type A8), and which dates to the late 10th–11th century.

6.2.9 Five sherds are of uncertain type/source. Four are rock-tempered and may belong to the North Devon coarseware group, or may have another source in west Somerset. One small sherd is in a fine sandy glazed fabric, probably from a jug of 13th–15th-century date; it may be a Somerset or Donyatt product.

6.2.10 Medieval sherds were recovered in very small quantities from various pits and ditches, and one structure (see Table 2 – all contexts except ditches 303 and 304, and topsoil). The small quantities encountered limit the confidence that can be placed on these sherds as firm dating evidence. None of the pottery has the appearance of primary refuse, and is more likely to have been redeposited in the contexts in which it was found. Nevertheless, from the ware types present, some possible chronological sequence is suggested, with ditch 307 containing nothing necessarily later than 12th century, most other features dating around the 12th to 13th centuries, and pit 135 and structure 310 containing 13th–15th-century wares.

Post-medieval/modern

6.2.11 The remaining seven sherds are of post-medieval date. This includes two sherds of redware, one slip-coated (ditches 303 and 304 respectively). The other five sherds all came from topsoil, and comprise a small 19th-/20th-century group of two sherds of transfer-printed whiteware, one of English porcelain with underglaze decoration, and two of feldspathic glazed stoneware (flagon handle and complete cylindrical bottle).

6.3 Ceramic and Stone Building Material (CBM)

6.3.1 Both ceramic and stone building material is represented here. CBM amounts to 14 fragments (2736 g), and this total consists largely of hearth tile (11 fragments), all found in one context (fill 176 of ditch 313). These tiles are assumed to be medieval; they are all in a similar coarse fabric, which is comparable in terms of inclusion types to the North Devon coarseware pottery (see above), and which appears slightly underfired, resulting in friability. Upper surfaces are roughly smoothed. There are no complete tiles, and the only measurable original dimension is thickness (all examples are around 35 mm thick).

6.3.2 The other three fragments of CBM are all roof tile, and these comprise one medieval glazed ridge tile with knife-cut crests (ditch 304), one post-medieval flat (peg) tile (subsoil) and one post-medieval pantile (topsoil). The ridge tile is in a fabric which is comparable to the North Devon coarseware pottery in texture and range of inclusion types.

6.3.3 Stone building material consists entirely of roofing slate (12 fragments, weighing 4181 g). Seven of these fragments were found with the ceramic hearth tiles in ditch 313. Three further fragments were found in undated contexts, with two fragments from medieval ditch 312.

6.4 Metalwork

6.4.1 The metalwork includes objects of copper alloy (1), iron (11) and lead (1). All objects except the lead have been X-rayed as a basic record, to aid identification, and to inform any further conservation requirements (eg, cleaning/stabilisation)

6.4.2 The copper alloy object (from ditch 304) is a button of 18th-century date or later, a small plain disc form with rear loop attachment.

6.4.3 The ironwork includes a range of identifiable objects. Some of these are structural – three nails from various medieval and post-medieval contexts, a modern gate hinge from topsoil, and another possible hinge from an undated context - but there are also several implements. These include two knife blades, both from small whittle tang knives (from ditches 301 and 304 respectively). A tapering, circular-sectioned shaft (length 100 mm) could be a heckle tooth (ditch 301), used to disentangle and separate flax and wool fibres prior to spinning (Goodall 1980, fig. 44, no.s 49, 52), and there is a second possible example from the same context; alternatively, either or both could be leatherworking awls. Also from ditch 301 is a hooked implement with a looped end, of unknown function. Of particular interest, found in ditch 304, is a possible stylus. This comprises a narrow shaft, flattened at one end into an hourglass shape. A comparable example is known from an 11th-century context in Winchester, but the identification is not completely certain as this form varies from the standard stylus form with spatulate or T-shaped erasers (Biddle and Brown 1990, cat. 2282). Styli, along with other paraphernalia of writing, are generally associated with monastic sites.

6.4.4 One lead object was recovered (beamslot 124 in structure 310), a short, narrow bar fragment of uncertain function, possibly an offcut.

6.5 Worked Bone

6.5.1 A single bone object was recovered, from medieval ditch 301. This comprises a narrow shaft, tapering to both ends (both of which are broken off). The whole object is polished through use. It bears resemblance to pinbeaters (also known as threadpickers) of Anglo-Saxon date (eg, MacGregor 1985, fig. 101, 14, 15, 17) used with a warp-weighted loom to push the weft together, although this example is somewhat thinner than average. Single-pointed pinbeaters are recorded from Glastonbury Abbey, where they are dated as Saxo-Norman (Courtney *et al*, 310, fig. 8.44, 50–2), as this example may also be.

6.6 Human Bone

6.6.1 A complete bone and a tooth from two adjacent medieval contexts (255 – the fill of oven 243 and trample layer 213, within structure 310) were analysed.

6.6.2 Assessment of age and sex was based on standard methodologies (Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Scheuer and Black 2000).

6.6.3 The assemblage, comprising a complete mandibular first molar and a large, angular left second metacarpal, is in very good condition (grade 1; McKinley 2004) with only slight damage evident on the ends of the latter.

6.6.4 A minimum of one adult over 35 year of age (probably male) is represented. A slight build-up of dental calculus (calcified plaque) adheres to the former gum line and the occlusal surface is moderately and evenly worn. Slight marginal osteophytes are present on the palmar aspect of the distal articular surface, indicating some wear-and-tear of the joint at the base of the index finger.

6.6.5 It is likely that these stray finds derive from a disturbed burial or burials, potentially (but not necessarily) associated with the medieval and possibly ‘early Christian’ cemeteries found 70–80 m to the east of the site, just beyond the Old Vicarage (Hollinrake and Hollinrake nd.).

6.7 Animal Bone

6.7.1 A total of 1111 fragments (or 13.136 kg) of animal bone was recovered hand collection and sieving from excavated features and deposits. Once conjoins are considered the total falls to 915 fragments. The assemblage is quantified in Table 4 (below) by species and period, and includes material of medieval, post-medieval and modern date.

6.7.2 The assemblage was rapidly scanned and the following information quantified where applicable: species, skeletal element, preservation condition, fusion and tooth ageing data, butchery marks, metrical data, gnawing, burning, surface condition, pathology and non-metric traits. This information was directly recorded into a relational database (in MS Access) and cross-referenced with relevant contextual information.

Preservation Condition

6.7.3 Bone preservation varies from good to fair. Several contexts include bones in different states of preservation and this is a general indication that material is likely to have been reworked and redeposited from earlier contexts.

6.7.4 Gnaw marks were apparent on less than 2.3 % of post-cranial bones. This is a very low occurrence and suggests that the assemblage has not been significantly biased by the bone chewing habit of scavenging carnivores.

Table 4 Animal bone: number of identified specimens present (or NISP) by period

Species	medieval	post-medieval	Undated	Total
cattle	92	6	3	101
sheep/goat	92	1	2	95
pig	35	1	2	38
horse	4	-	-	4
dog	5	-	-	5
cat	1	-	-	1
roe deer	1	-	-	1
domestic fowl	34	-	1	35
goose	3	1	-	4
Total identified	**267**	**9**	**8**	**284**
Total unidentified	**614**	**7**	**10**	**631**
Overall total	**881**	**16**	**18**	**915**

Medieval

6.7.5 A total of 881 fragments of animal bone came from medieval features. The assemblage is reasonably fragmented and consequently only 267 fragments (30%) are identifiable to species and element. Most (88%) of this material came from ditches, especially 301, 302 and 312, and the rest from pits 103, 110 and 135, beamslot of structure 310 and working surface 305.

6.7.6 Bones from the following species have been identified and these are listed in order of relative abundance; cattle, sheep/goat, pig, domestic fowl, dog, horse, goose, cat and roe deer. Most parts of the beef, mutton and pork carcass are present indicating that the deposits comprise waste of mixed origins, however bones characteristic of domestic refuse are more abundant than those from primary butchery and this is especially true for the larger concentrations from ditches 301, 302 and 312. The horse bones came from pits 103 and 110, and ditch 301. The bones include fragments of radius showing signs of butchery and a complete mandible. The dog bones came from ditches 301 and 312, they include a pair of mandibles, scapula, metapodial and tibia. The latter is from a juvenile animal and has characteristic typical of certain small breeds of toy dogs that have bowed limbs such as the corgi and dachshund. The femur of an adult cat came from working surface 305, a piece of roe deer antler came from ditch 302, and most of the bird bones came from ditch 301.

6.7.7 The quantity of detailed information relating to the age, size and butchery of livestock should permit some direct comparisons with published data from Steart Point (Higbee 2017) near Cannington, a moated site with contemporary phases of occupation approx. 22 km to the east of Carhampton.

Post-medieval

6.7.8 The assemblage comprises just 16 fragments and came from ditches 303 and 304. The identified bones include cattle, sheep/goat, pig and goose.

Uncertain date

6.7.9 A small number of fragments came from undated, though probably medieval, ditches 316–7 and 167, and pit 114. The identified bones include cattle, sheep/goat, pig and domestic fowl.

6.8 Other finds

6.8.1 Other finds comprise small quantities of post-medieval/modern vessel glass (one green wine bottle base, 18th-century or later; three late 19th-/20th-century bottles/jars) and undiagnostic ironworking slag, and one oyster shell.

6.9 Conservation

6.9.1 Finds which may be considered as vulnerable, and thus potentially in need of conservation treatment, comprise the metal objects, particularly the ironwork and lead, which are actively corroding. Metal objects (apart from the lead) have already been X-rayed (see above), and the X-ray plates will act as a basic record for objects which may suffer further deterioration, and which may not be recommended for long-term curation.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Bulk environmental soil samples (normally up to 40 litres), for plant macro-fossils, charred plant remains, small animal bones and other small artefacts, were taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated/datable archaeological deposits following Wessex Archaeology's standard environmental sampling policy.

7.1.2 Twenty-one bulk samples were taken from a range of medieval features such as ditches, a structure, a layer and a pit, and were assessed for the presence of environmental evidence, mostly charred plant remains and charcoal. The bulk samples break down into the following groups:

Table 5 Sample provenance summary

No. of samples	Volume (litres)	Feature types
8	66	Boundary ditches
3	24	Other ditches
8	43.2	Structural features
1	9	Layer
3	24.5	Pit
21	**166.7**	**Totals**

7.2 Aims and Methods

7.2.1 The purpose of this assessment is the evaluation of the quality of environmental remains preserved at the site and the potential for further analysis to address specific site archaeological issues and to provide archaeobotanical data valuable for wider research frameworks.

7.2.2 The size of the samples varied between 0.3 and 17 litres, and on average was around 8 litres. The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. A riffle box was used to split large flots into smaller flot subsamples when appropriate. The flots were scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy at magnifications of up to x40 using a Leica MS5 microscope. Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (eg, *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains, such as earthworm eggs and insects, which would not be preserved unless 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, is recorded in Appendix 1.

7.2.3 Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, tables 3 and 5), 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 with moderate to rich assemblages of environmental remains. There were variable numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements.

7.3.2 Charred material was relatively well preserved and some good assemblages have been retrieved. Wood charcoal from mature and roundwood was noted in variable quantities from the flots of the samples. Some of the samples also contained shells of terrestrial molluscs and fish remains (bones and scales).

7.3.3 The charred plant assemblages are generally dominated by the remains of cereal grains and wild plant seeds. Very little chaff has been generally retrieved, hinting that the assemblages probably originated in the later stages of crop processing, such as screening for the removal of contaminants, or even roasting of final crop products, and that the grain had already been threshed and winnowed.

7.3.4 The cereals include wheat (*Triticum aestivum*), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) possibly of the naked variety, rye (cf *Secale cereale)* and oat (*Avena* sp.). The wheat species determination has been done on the basis of a few rachis segments positively identified as *T. aestivum*, whilst the grains are only determinable to the naked wheat group (which includes several species of which only *T. aestivum* and *T. turgidum* are known to have been cultivated in England) and therefore the presence of *T. turgidum* cannot be ruled out. The status of rye as a crop is uncertain since no rachis remains have been recovered and only a few grains have been tentatively identified. The latter is not identifiable to species level on the basis of grain morphology, and only the presence of chaff (lemma bases) can establish the wild (*Avena fatua*) or domestic (*Avena sativa*) status of the plant, but of which the large size of the grains suggests the domestic species.

7.3.5 Other crops such as broad bean (*Vicia faba*), garden pea (*Pisum sativum*), lentil (*Lens culinaris*) and flax (*Linum usitatissimum*) were also present. Both the seed and capsule fragments of this latter were recovered.

7.3.6 Abundant remains of wild plants were also recovered, including rye grass/fescue (*Lolium/Festuca*), trefoil/medick/clover (Trifoliae), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), corn spurrey (*Spergula arvensis*), corncockle (*Agrostemma githago*) and other pinks (Caryophyllaceae), sedges (Cyperaceae), wild radish *(Raphanus raphanistrum*), docks (*Rumex* sp.), knotsgrass (*Polygonum* sp.), cornsalad (*Valerianella* sp.), buttercups (*Ranunculus* sp.), composites (Asteraceae, *Centaurea* sp.), bedstraw (*Galium* sp.), red bartsia (*Odontites vernus*), heath (*Erica* sp.). Whilst many of these were probably weeds of agricultural fields and ruderals from hedges and other disturbed habitats, others might have been intentionally exploited or even cultivated. Some species of rye grass, fescue, trefoil, medick and vetches are edible and were cultivated in the past, particularly for

animal fodder, although the boundary between of human and animal food might fluctuate from year to year or vary between different communities. The presence of *Erica* sp. seeds, capsules, leaves and possible twigs indicates that whole plants growing locally were exploited.

8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

8.1 Stratigraphic potential

8.1.1 The excavation results will contribute towards a discussion about the development of the landscape and activities associated with Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval Carhampton village. Further investigation of various aspects of the evidence uncovered will allow more detailed contributions to be made to the remaining original project aims and the research questions arising as a result of the investigations.

8.1.2 The development of villages and the relationship between the settlements and their surrounding landscapes are described as key research areas in the regional research agenda (Grove and Croft 2012, 20). Further stratigraphic and relational analysis of the various features would contribute towards this goal, particularly if their wider temporal and spatial settings are also considered.

8.1.3 The Saxo-Norman features and deposits are also important, in that they may relate to the origins of the current church or perhaps the second church mentioned in the documentary sources. They also provide evidence for activity during a period for which is, locally, less well-represented archaeologically. Their impact upon later land division and use is also worthy of comment.

8.1.4 The medieval ditches may well have been associated with the supposed medieval manor site at Eastbury Farm, and/or the 12th–16th-century settlement and funerary activity recorded to the north and east of the site. Investigation into how these may relate would contribute to a better understanding of the wider arrangement of the medieval settlement and landscape.

8.1.5 A detailed review of the medieval oven, working surface, and possible workshop/shelter remains will enable a more informed interpretation of their character and function, allowing inferences to made about how they related to the surrounding features, local settlement and population.

8.1.6 The evidence will also contribute towards the wider, nationally important research aims concerned with medieval economy, subsistence, agriculture and water management (Grove and Croft 2012, 28, 35).

Recommendations and proposed methodologies for analysis

8.1.7 Further analysis of the site stratigraphy and feature inter-relationships is recommended to clarify the sequence and to interrogate how the findings relate to the surrounding archaeological landscape.

8.2 Finds potential

8.2.1 This is a relatively small finds assemblage, which nevertheless has points of interest, although the potential for further analysis is limited. The single Romano-British find and the post-medieval material (largely confined to topsoil) are of no further significance, and the focus here is on the medieval period.

8.2.2 The assemblage is dominated by animal bone, by far the most common material type encountered on the site. The medieval component of the assemblage, particularly the groups from ditches 301, 302 and 312, offer the most potential for further study. These groups can be further analysed to record details relating to the age, size and butchery of livestock which will permit comparisons to be made with contemporary datasets from the region. It is therefore recommended that the information quantified in Table 6 is recorded and a report detailing the assemblage is prepared and included in any future publication of the fieldwork results.

Table 6 Animal bone: quantity and type of detailed information available for future study

Type of information	N
Age - mandibles 2+ teeth	13
Age - epiphyseal fusion	71
Biometric	27
Butchery	20

8.2.3 Amongst the other material, pottery has provided at least broad dating, and further analysis is unlikely to be able to refine that. The medieval wares fall into several local and regional ceramic traditions for which there is now a growing body of evidence. There are some structural indications (hearth tile, ridge tile, roofing slate), and some evidence for textile-working (possible heckle tooth, pinbeater).

Recommendations and proposed methodologies for analysis

8.2.4 No further detailed analysis of the finds is proposed, although some enhancement of the existing medieval pottery records will be required in order to bring them in line with nationally recommended minimum standards of recording (Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group *et al* 2016). A report on the pottery and all other medieval finds should be included in the publication report, but this can be adapted from the current report. A maximum of six pottery vessels will be illustrated, along with the bone pinbeater, and four iron objects (knife, heckle tooth, stylus, possible tool; drawn largely from X-radiographs).

8.2.5 The existing report on the human remains can be adapted for publication.

8.2.6 Age, biometric and butchery data of animal bones will be recorded following established methods and guidelines (Baker and Worley 2014).

Conservation

8.2.7 On the basis of the X-rays, and a scan of the metal objects concerned, no further recommendations for conservation treatment are proposed. Amongst the ironwork, there are a few objects of intrinsic interest (eg, heckletooth, possible stylus), but it is considered that investigative cleaning will not yield significant further detail of these objects that are not currently visible on the X-rays, and would moreover potentially make the objects more vulnerable to further deterioration. Some metal objects (eg, nails) may be targeted for selective retention (see below), and objects retained will be appropriately packaged in stable storage (airtight plastic tubs with drying agent) for long-term curation.

8.3 Environmental potential

8.3.1 The charred plant remain assemblages recovered are typical of a domestic site where crop processing activities were undertaken and are therefore informative about local agricultural practices and the local environment. A selection of assemblages is

recommended for further analysis, in order to clarify the status of some of the potential crops and obtain relevant information for the understanding of medieval agriculture at a local and regional level. The results of this analysis will provide a comparison with the data from other sites in the local and wider area, such as Stogumber (Stevens 2003), Taunton priory (Greig and Osbourne 1984) Whitegate Farm, Bleadon (Smith 2003) or Eckweek (Carruthers 1995).

8.3.2 The wood charcoal assemblages will probably represent the overall selection of fuel from the environs of the site and therefore will be of limited potential for the reconstruction of the landscape or for identifying the choice of fuel for specific activities. However, the wood charcoal assemblages from the domestic rubbish pit have potential for further work, to complement the information provided by the charred plant assemblages on the exploitation of the plant resources.

Recommendations and proposed methodologies for analysis

8.3.3 The charred plant remains samples proposed for analysis are indicated with a “P” in the analysis column in Appendix 1. All identifiable charred plant macrofossils will be extracted from the <5.6/4 residues and the flot, which may be subsampled with the aid of a riffle box in the case of very rich assemblages. The analysis will involve the full quantification (Antolín *et al* 2016) and taphonomic assessment of the charred plant assemblages.

8.3.4 A selection of the most representative assemblages of wood charcoal are recommended for further analysis, consisting in the anatomical and species ID. The selection of samples proposed for charcoal analysis are indicated with a “C” in the analysis column in Appendix 1. Identifiable charcoal will be extracted from the 2 mm residue together and the flot (>2 mm). Larger richer samples will be sub-sampled. Fragments will be prepared for identification according to the standard methodology of Leney and Casteel (1975). Charcoal pieces will be fractured with a razor blade so that three planes can be seen: transverse section (TS), radial longitudinal section (RL) and tangential longitudinal section (TL). They will then be examined under bi-focal epi-illuminated microscopy at magnifications of x50, x100 and x40. Identification will be undertaken according to the anatomical characteristics described by Schweingruber (1990) and Butterfield and Meylan (1980). Identification will be to the lowest taxonomic level possible, usually that of genus and nomenclature according to Stace (1997), individual taxon (mature and twig) will be separated, quantified, and the results tabulated.

Scientific dating

8.3.5 The charred plant remains and wood charcoal assemblages are suitable for radiocarbon dating, should this be required.

8.4 Documentary records

8.4.1 The DBA and recent work by the Hollinrakes (2017) provide a good basis for the background research aspects of the project. Further documentary research, targeted on aspects discussed above, will be necessary to aid interpretation.

8.5 Summary of potential

8.5.1 The assessment illustrates how the current and potential results will contribute to the understanding of the development of the village of Carhampton during the Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval periods, how the inhabitants interacted with the landscape, which activities they might have been involved in and what resources they appear to have had access to/chose. Whilst the findings are largely considered to be of local to regional importance, there are some aspects that will contribute towards national studies eg, those

concerned with medieval economy, subsistence, agriculture and water management (Grove and Croft 2012).

9 UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

9.1 Summary of recommendations for analysis

9.1.1 In general, further analysis (as summarised below and detailed above) will allow a greater understanding of the site. The collection of more detailed evidence will add to the existing corpus of data, enabling comparative analysis and informed, contextualised inferences.

- A review of the stratigraphic component of the evidence;
- Analysis of the animal bone assemblage;
- Limited enhancement of results of finds assessment;
- Conservation of selected objects;
- Illustration of a selection of ceramic vessels and other objects;
- Detailed study of the charred plant remains and wood charcoal; and
- Focused, pertinent documentary research.

9.2 Updated project aims

9.2.1 The majority of the aforementioned project aims (section 3) were met by the field investigations and by the production of this report. Those yet to be achieved are concerned with more detailed analysis and the interrogation, interpretation and dissemination of the results within their temporal and spatial contexts. The following updated project aims have been guided by the regional research framework (Grove and Croft 2012) and consider the areas of interest identified by this assessment:

- Clarify the stratigraphic sequence in order to fully comprehend and illustrate the site narrative;
- Gain a better understanding of the of the artefactual assemblages and ensure data is suitable for comparative study;
- Analyse the environmental remains to gain insights into the local environment, the agricultural regime and the choice/availability of fuel.
- Investigate the nature of the activity represented by the features, particularly the oven sequence and structure
- Investigate the archaeological, historical and socio-economic settings of the findings with particular regard to the interaction between settlement and landscape, the origins of the village and any potential evidence for the second church mentioned in the documentary sources;
- Include appropriate comparative analysis to enable inferences to be made about the character of the represented activities and the community that undertook them;
- Publish the results and conclusions in an appropriate format, including appropriate maps, plans, sections, drawings and images

10.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:

- 5 cardboard boxes and 2 airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type
- 1 file of paper records and A3/A4 graphics
- 1 A1 graphic

Digital archive

10.2.3 The digital archive generated by the project, which will include born-digital data (survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports) as well as a scanned security copy of the physical records (see below, Section 10.4), will be deposited with 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 full metadata.

10.3 Selection policy

10.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4). In accordance with these, a process of selection and retention will be proposed which allows for the retention of only those artefacts or ecofacts that are considered to have potential for future study will be retained. The selection policy will be agreed with the museum, and will be fully documented in the project archive.

10.3.2 In this instance, the following categories could be targeted for selective retention:

- Stone building material (small quantity of roofing slate)
- Ironworking slag (very small quantity only)
- Glass (post-medieval bottle/jar)
- Shell (one oyster shell)
- Iron nails.

10.4 Security copy

10.4.1 In line with current best practice (eg, 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.

10.1 OASIS

10.1.1 An OASIS online record (http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main) has been initiated under the code **wessexar1-277415** (Appendix 2). Key fields and a .pdf version of the final report will submitted in due course. 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 ArchSearch catalogue.

11 COPYRIGHT

11.1 Archive and report copyright

11.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with

all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

11.1.2 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.

11.2 Third party data copyright

11.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, 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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Historical Mapping

Ordnance Survey 1:2500:

1887 (1st Edition) Somerset sheet XXXV.SE https://maps.nls.uk/view/101461129

1902-4 Somerset sheet XXXV.SE https://maps.nls.uk/view/101461126

1928-30 Somerset sheet XXXV.SE https://maps.nls.uk/view/101461123

Ordnance Survey 1:25 000:

1950 ST04 Sheet 31/04 https://maps.nls.uk/view/95749487

Appendix 1: Environmental Data

Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Group	Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot (ml)	Subsample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 4/2 mm	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (preservation)
Boundary ditches																	
312	218	219	112	10	25		10%, C	A	-	*Hordeum vulgare, Triticum* sp., Triticeae	B	Viciae, Poaceae (*Avena* sp.)	2 ml	Mature	Moll-m		Poor
301	191	192	107	9	10		80%, C, E	C	-	Triticeae	C	Viciae, Poaceae	1 ml	Mature	-		Poor
		194	110	4	250	50%	1%, C, E	A***	C	*cf. Secale cereale, Hordeum vulgare* and *Triticum* sp. (inc. *aestivum/turgidum*) grains, *Avena* sp., *T. aestivum* rachis and rachis segments and nodes	A***	Viciae (inc. *Lens culinaris, Pisum sativum*), Poaceae (*Lolium/Festuca*), *Galium* sp., *Rumex* sp., Asteraceae, *Linum usitatissimum* capsule fragment	10 ml	Mature + roundwood	Moll-t, fish bone and scales	P	Good
302	106 + 108	107 + 109	101	17	60		15%, A, I	A***		*Hordeum vulgare, Triticum aestivum/turgidum*, *Secale cereale*, *Avena* sp., Triticeae	A***	Poaceae (*Lolium/Festuca*), Viciae (inc. *Pisum sativum, Vicia faba, cf. Lens culinaris*), Asteraceae (inc. *Centaurea* sp.), *Plantago lanceolata*, *Spergula arvensis*, *Raphanus raphanistrum* seed capsules, *Rumex* sp., *Ranunculus* sp., *Polygonum* sp., Cyperaceae, *Valerianella* sp., *Linum* cf *usitatissimum*, indet seeds.	30 ml	Mature + roundwood	Moll-t	P	Good
301-304	191-198	193-199	108-109A	12	60		1%, C, E, I	B	-	*Triticum* sp. (inc. *aestivum/turgidum*)	C	Viciaeae, *Avena/Bromus*	60 ml	Mature + roundwood	-		Heterogeneous. Two samples labelled as 109, one should be 108; kept separate
			108-109B	14	35		50%, C, E, I, F	A	-	*Triticum* sp. (inc. *aestivum/turgidum*), *Hordeum vulgare*, *Avena* sp., Triticeae	A*	Viciae (inc. *Lens culinaris, Vicia faba*), Poaceae (*Lolium/Festuca*), *Galium* sp.	10 ml	Mature	Moll-t		
Other ditches																	
315	163	164	103	1	2.5		10%,	C	-	*Triticum* sp.	-	Trifoliae, *Avena/Bromus*,	1 ml	Mature	-		Poor

Group	Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot (ml)	Subsample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 4/2 mm	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (preservation)
							E					bud, indet.					
317	173	174	106	13	35		25%, A, I, F, E	A	-	*Triticum aestivum/turgidum, Hordeum vulgare*, *Avena* sp., Triticeae	A	Viciae (inc. cf. *Lens culinaris*), Poaceae (inc. *Lolium/Festuca*), *Galium* sp.	10 ml	Mature	-		Fair
	226	227	113	10	40		20%, C, E, I	A	-	*Triticum aestivum/turgidum*, Triticeae	A	Viciae, Poaceae, Cyperaceae	15 ml	Mature	-		Poor
Industrial structures																	
310	124	126	102	10	4.5		80%, C, E	B		*Triticum* sp., Triticeae	A	Poaceae (inc. *Avena* sp.), Trifoliae, Asteraceae, Indets	2 ml	Mature	-		Fair
	169	170	104	4	15		10%, C, E	A	-	*Hordeum vulgare, Triticum* sp. (inc. *aestivum/turgidum*), Triticeae	A	Viciae (inc. *Vicia faba*), Poaceae (*Avena/Bromus*, *Lolium/Festuca*), Asteraceae	8 ml	Mature + roundwood	-		Fair
	171	172	105	4	4.5		10%, C, I	B	-	*Triticum* cf. *aestivum/turgidum*, cf. *Hordeum vulgare*	C	Viciae, Poaceae	2 ml	Mature	-		Poor
	213	214	111	9	25		40%, A, E, I	A	-	*Hordeum vulgare, Triticum aestivum/turgidum*, *Avena* sp., Triticeae	A	Viciae, Asteraceae	1.5 ml	Mature	Moll-t		Heterogenous
	235	236	114	11	35		80%, A*, E, I	A*	-	*Hordeum vulgare, Triticum* sp. (inc. *aestivum/turgidum*), *Avena* sp., Triticeae	A*	Viciae (inc. *Vicia faba*), Poaceae (*Lolium/Festuca*), Asteraceae, *Raphanus raphanistrum* capsule, Cyperaceae, *Rumex* sp.	5 ml	Mature + roundwood	-		Heterogenous
	239	240	115	4.5	15		80%, B	C		*Triticum* sp., cf. *Avena* sp.	C	Poaceae, Viciae	<1 ml	Mature	Moll-t		Poor
311	256	257	116	0.4	1		25%, C	C	-	Triticeae	-	-	<1 ml	Mature	-		Poor
	258	259	117	0.3	0.5		2%	C	C	*Triticum aestivum/turgidum* grains and *T. aestivum* rachis node, *Avena* sp.	C	Viciae	Trace	Mature	-		Poor
Pit																	

Group	Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot (ml)	Subsample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 4/2 mm	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (preservation)
	243	246	118	2	30		10%, C, E	A**	A*	*Hordeum vulgare and Triticum aestivum/turgidum* grains, *T. aestivum* rachis segments, Triticeae culm nodes	A*	Poaceae, Viciae (inc. *Vicia faba*, *Pisum sativum*), *Rumex* sp., Asteraceae (inc. *Centaurea* sp.), Cyperaceae, *Erica* sp. capsule with seeds + leaves, indet.	10 ml	Mature + roundwood	-	P, C	Fair
			121	7.5	35		15%, A, I	A**	-	*Hordeum vulgare, Triticum aestivum/turgidum*, *Avena* sp., *Secale cereale*, Triticeae	A**	Poaceae (*Lolium/Festuca*), Viciae (inc. *Pisum sativum, Vicia faba*), Asteraceae, *Agrostemma githago*, *Rumex* sp., *Spergula arvensis*, Trifoliae, *Galium* sp., *Raphanus raphanistrum* capsule	15 ml	Mature	-	P, C	Heterogenous
		247	119	15	35		25%, C, E, I	A**	-	*Hordeum vulgare, Triticum aestivum/turgidum*, *Secale cereale*, Avena sp., Triticeae	A**	Poaceae (*Lolium/Festuca*), Viciaeae (inc. *Pisum sativum, Vicia faba*), Asteraceae, Caryophyllaceae, Cyperaceae, *Rumex* sp., *Odontites vernus*, *Raphanus raphanistrum* capsule, indet seed	10 ml	Mature	-	P, C	Fair
Layer																	
	-	275	120	9	3		80%, C, E, I	C	-	*Triticum* sp., Triticeae	A	Poaceae (*Avena/Bromus, Lolium/Festuca*), Viciaeae, Asteraceae, *Rumex* sp., *Odontites vernus*, Cyperaceae, *Erica* sp.	<1 ml	Mature	-		Poor

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; Sab/f/c = small animal/fish bones/charred faecal pellets, Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs, Moll-f = aquatic molluscs, Moll-m = marine molluscs; Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant

Appendix 2: OASIS form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-277415

Project details

Project name	Land North of Church Lane, Carhampton, West Somerset
Short description of the project	The majority of the archaeological features and deposits included a series of intercutting ditches, which, as well as managing drainage, served to delineate, modify and re-establish tracts of land during the Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval periods. Domestic and probable craft-related activity spanning the medieval period were represented by an oven and associated working area, the remains of a three-sided structure (probably a workshop or shelter), a number of pits and debris found within some ditch fills. The finds assemblage, whilst fairly small, includes a number of interesting artefacts, including a pin beater and a stylus. Most of the pottery assemblage derives from the medieval period, though there are some slightly earlier pieces (10th12th century) as well as a single Roman and several post-medieval sherds. A moderate assemblage of animal bone, a human bone and a tooth, and samples of charred plant remains and wood charcoal were also recovered. The assessment illustrates how the current and potential results might contribute to the understanding of the development of the village of Carhampton during the Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval periods, how the inhabitants interacted with the landscape, which activities they might have been involved in and what resources they appear to have had access to/chose. Whilst the importance of the findings are on a local to regional scale, there are some aspects of the results that might contribute towards national studies eg, those concerned with medieval economy, subsistence, agriculture and water management.
Project dates	Start: 22-06-2017 End: 22-07-2017
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	115570 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	TTNCM 13/2017 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	DITCH Early Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	BEAMSLOT Medieval
Monument type	OVEN Medieval
Significant Finds	SLAG Medieval
Significant Finds	WEFT BEATER Early Medieval

Significant Finds	ANIMAL REMAINS Medieval
Significant Finds	BOTTLE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BOTTLE Modern
Significant Finds	HUMAN REMAINS Uncertain
Significant Finds	HEARTH TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	NAIL Medieval
Significant Finds	OFFCUT Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Early Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Roman
Significant Finds	BUTTON Post Medieval
Significant Finds	ROOF TILE Medieval
Significant Finds	ROOF SLATE Uncertain
Significant Finds	ROOF TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	KNIFE BLADE Medieval
Significant Finds	HECKLE TOOTH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	STYLUS Medieval
Investigation type	''Full excavation'',''Open-area excavation''
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SOMERSET WEST SOMERSET CARHAMPTON Land North of Church Lane
Postcode	TA24 6NT
Study area	0.3 Hectares
Site coordinates	ST 300972 142634 50.923036645053 -2.994659013132 50 55 22 N 002 59 40 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 24m Max: 25m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	HPS Professional Archaeological Services
Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Bruce Eaton
Project supervisor	Michael Fleming
Type of sponsor/funding body	Consultant

Name of sponsor/funding body	Heritage Planning Service Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	South West Heritage Trust
Physical Archive ID	TTNCM 13/2017
Physical Contents	''Animal Bones'',''Ceramics'',''Environmental'',''Glass'',''Human Bones'',''Industrial'',''Metal'',''Worked bone''
Digital Archive recipient	South West Heritage Trust
Digital Archive ID	TTNCM 13/2017
Digital Contents	''Animal Bones'',''Ceramics'',''Environmental'',''Glass'',''Human Bones'',''Metal'',''Stratigraphic'',''Survey'',''Worked bone''
Digital Media available	''Database'',''Images raster / digital photography'',''Spreadsheets'',''Survey'',''Text''
Paper Archive recipient	South West Heritage Trust
Paper Archive ID	TTNCM 13/2017
Paper Media available	''Context sheet'',''Drawing'',''Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes'',''Report'',''Unspecified Archive''
Entered by	Kirsten Egging Dinwiddy (k.dinwiddy@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	30 January 2018

OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice
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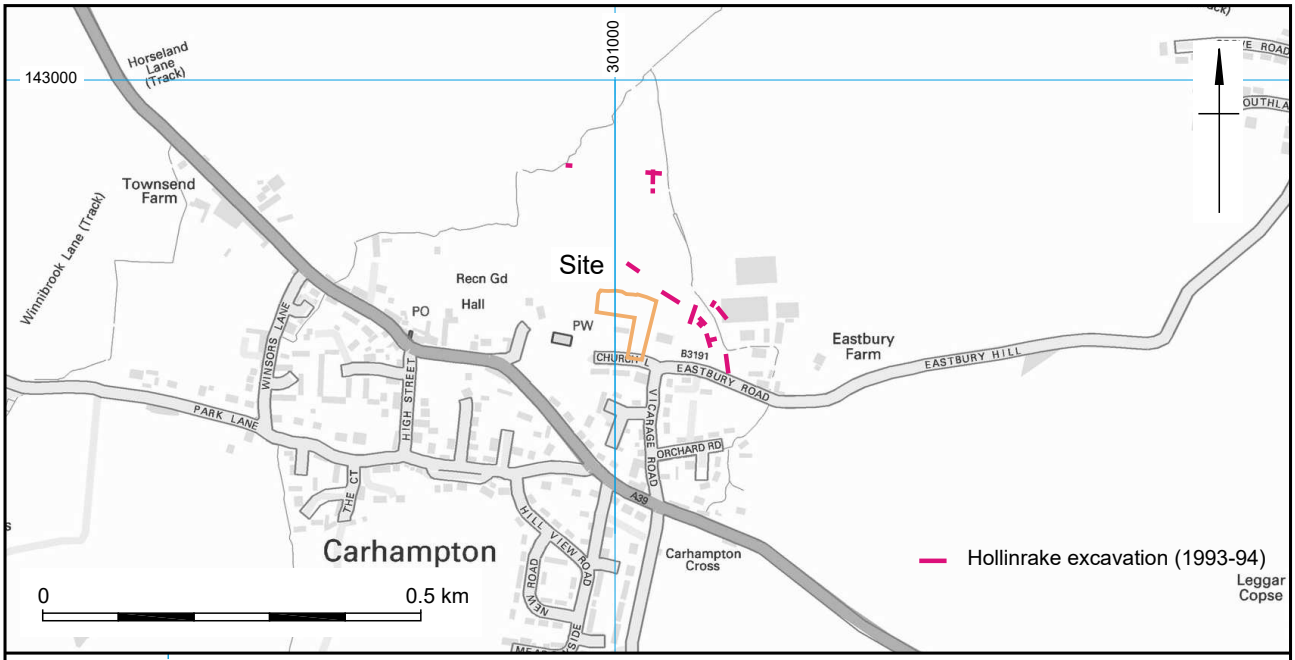
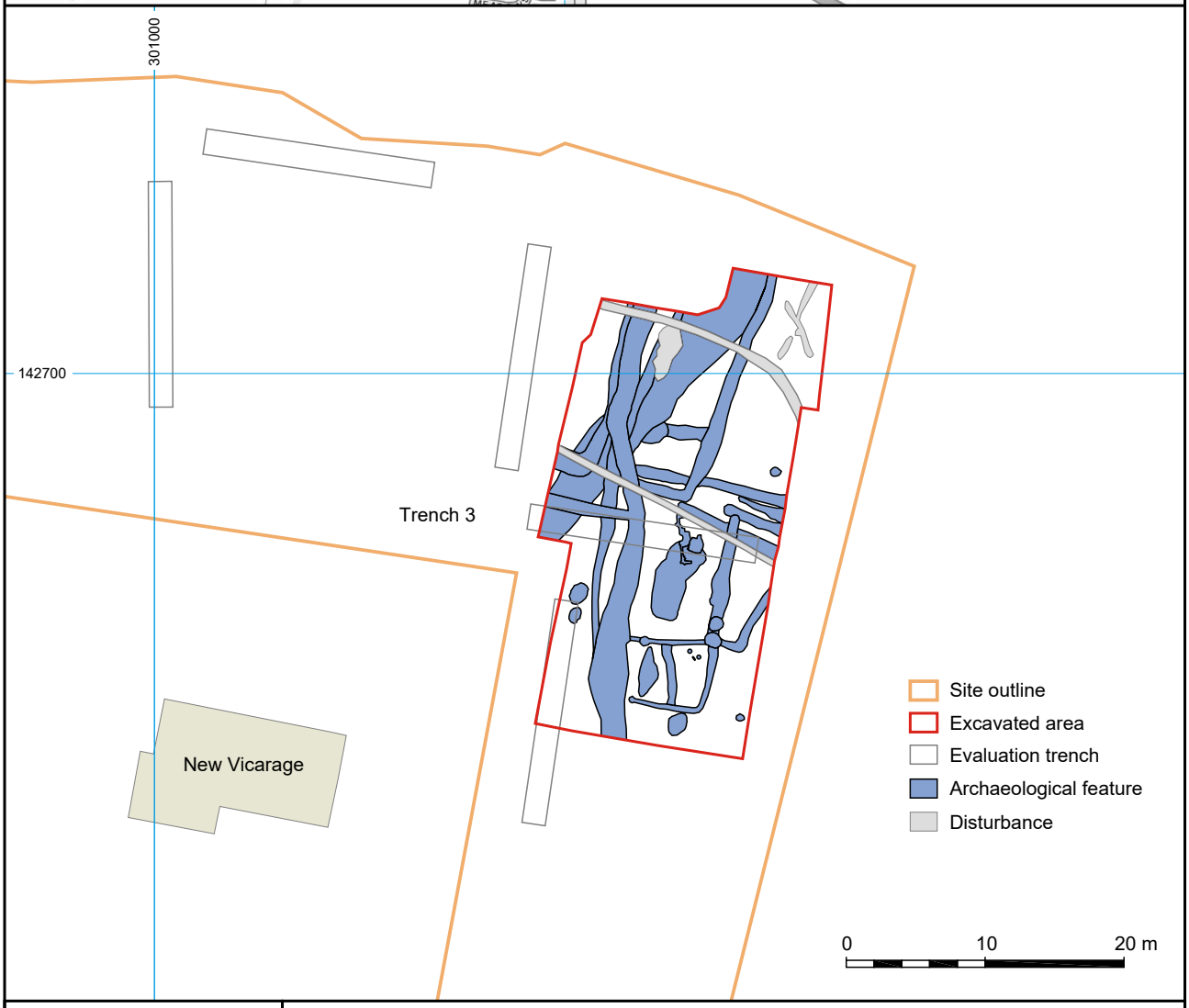
Cite only: http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm for this page





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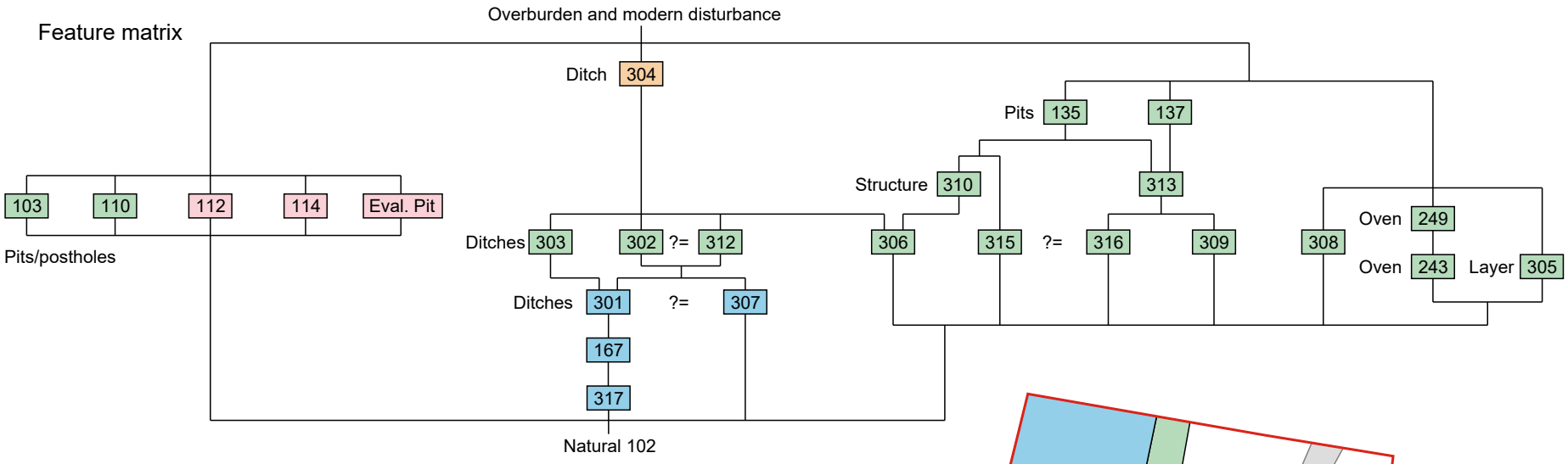
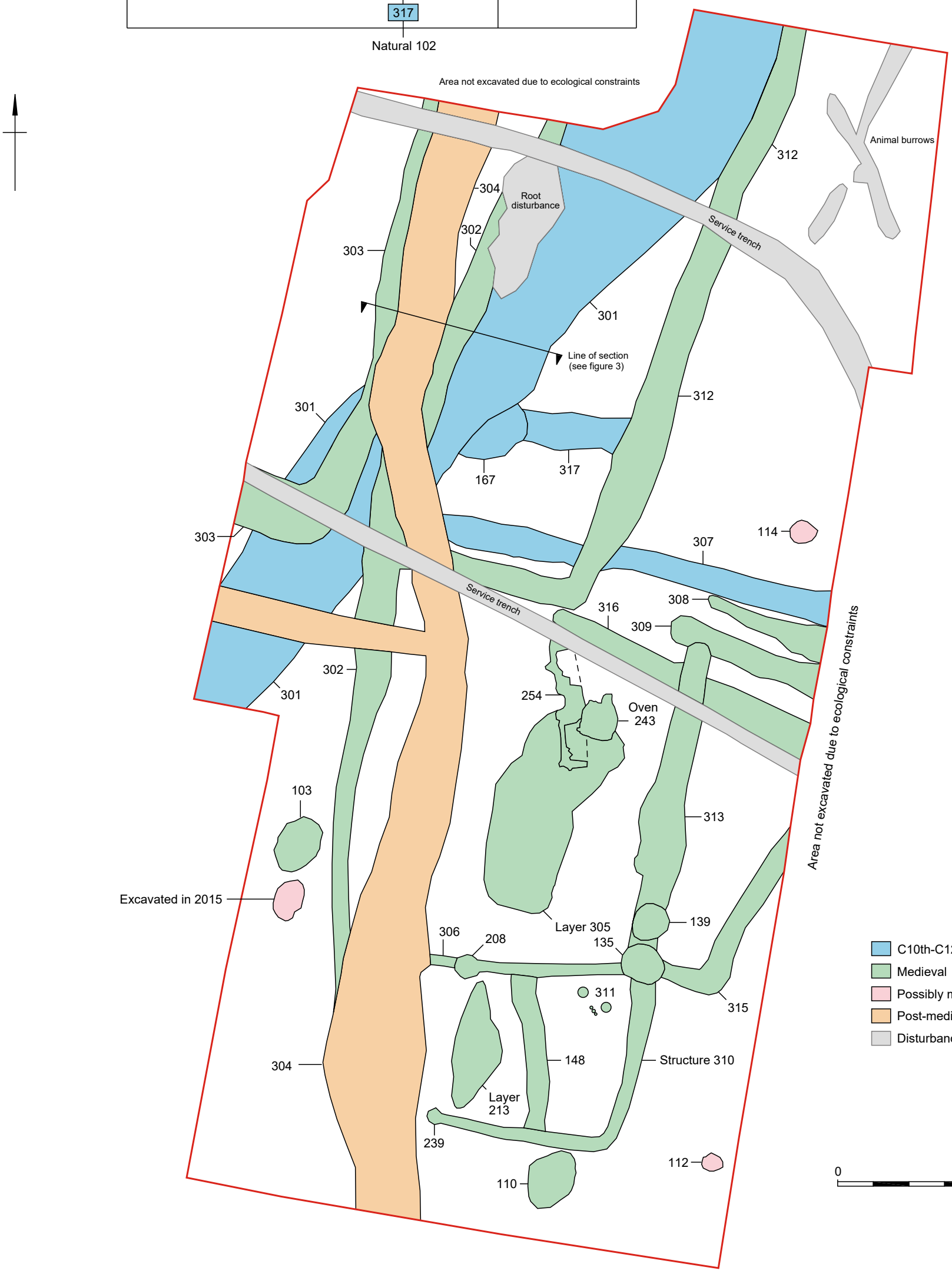
Site location plan

Figure 1

Feature matrix





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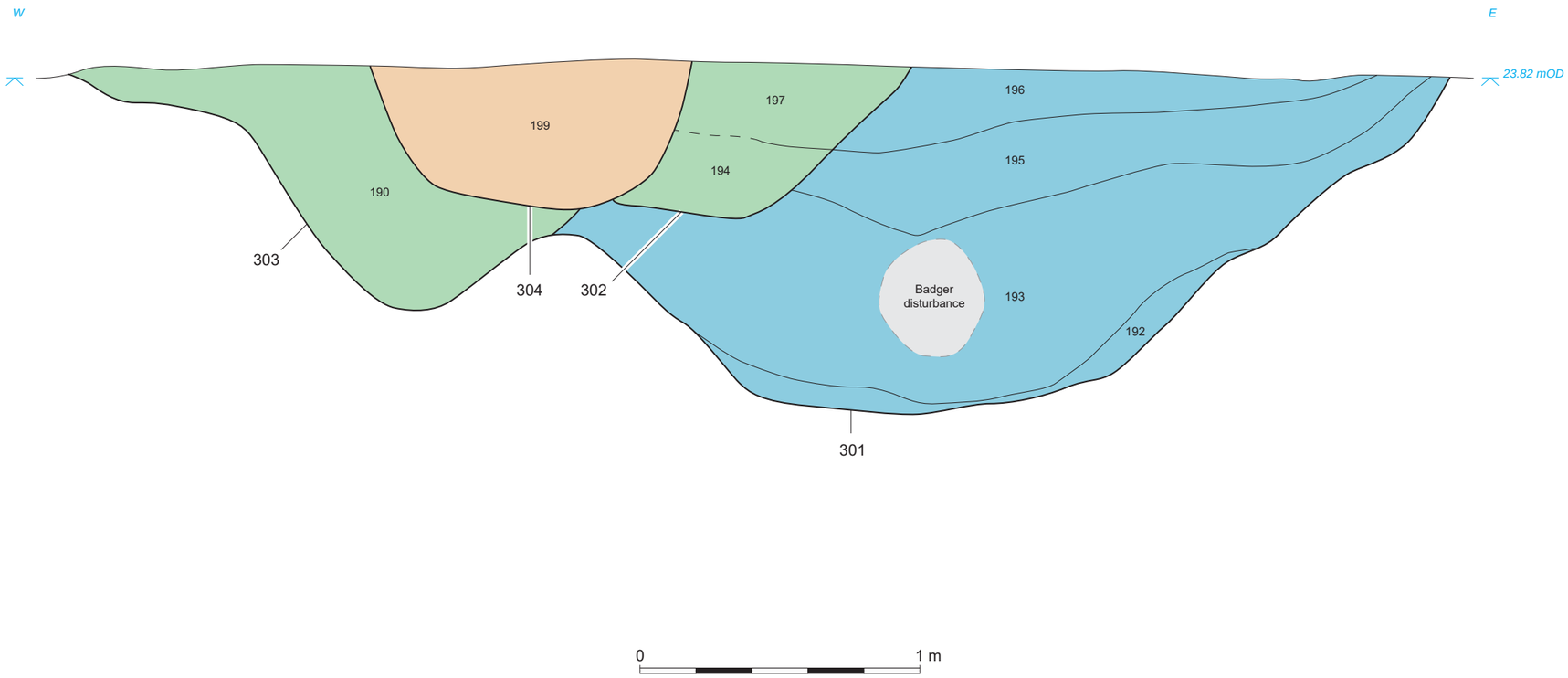
Phased site plan and feature matrix

Figure 2



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South-facing section through ditches 301–304

Figure 3

Plate 1: Working shot of Site from the north–west, with ditch 301 in the foreground

Plate 2: North-facing section of ditch 301 (2 m scale)

Plate 3: Ditches 301, 303 and 304 from NNW (2 m scale)

Plate 4: South-facing section of ditches 301 to 304. Note badger run (2 m scale)

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Date:	30/01/2018	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	RG
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Plate 5: Oven 243 from the east. Note evidence of previous excavation (1 m scale)

Plate 6: East-facing section of surface 305, oven 243 and rubble layer 254 (1 m scale)

Plate 7: Oven 243 from south–east

Plate 8: North-facing section of ditch 313 showing demolition rubble possibly associated with oven 243 (1 m scale)

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