



Roman Close, Sholden Deal, Kent

Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation



Planning Ref: 16/01476
Ref: 217891.03
January 2020



© Wessex Archaeology Ltd 2020, all rights reserved.

69 College Road,
Maidstone,
Kent
ME15 6SX

www.wessexarch.co.uk

Wessex Archaeology Ltd is a Registered Charity no. 287786 (England & Wales) and SC042630 (Scotland)

Disclaimer

The material contained in this report was designed as an integral part of a report to an individual client and was prepared solely for the benefit of that client. The material contained in this report does not necessarily stand on its own and is not intended to nor should it be relied upon by any third party. To the fullest extent permitted by law Wessex Archaeology will not be liable by reason of breach of contract negligence or otherwise for any loss or damage (whether direct indirect or consequential) occasioned to any person acting or omitting to act or refraining from acting in reliance upon the material contained in this report arising from or connected with any error or omission in the material contained in the report. Loss or damage as referred to above shall be deemed to include, but is not limited to, any loss of profits or anticipated profits damage to reputation or goodwill loss of business or anticipated business damages costs expenses incurred or payable to any third party (in all cases whether direct indirect or consequential) or any other direct indirect or consequential loss or damage.

Document Information

Document title Roman Close, Sholden, Deal, Kent
Document subtitle Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation
Document reference 217891.3

Client name RPS Group
Address 2 Farringdon Street
London
EC4A 4AB

Site location Roman Close, Sholden, Deal
County Kent
National grid reference (NGR) 636578 152729 (TR 36578 52729)
Planning authority Dover District Council
Planning reference 16/01476
Museum name Dover Museum

WA project name Sholden
WA project code 217891
Dates of fieldwork Phase 1 - 28/03/2019 to 12/04/2019
Phase 2 - 17/07/2019 to 20/08/2019
Phase 3 - 30/10/2019 to 05/11/2019

Fieldwork directed by Lisa McCaig, Emilia Seredynska and Mark Denyer
Project management by Rob De'Athe
Document compiled by Jon Sanigar
Contributions from Grace Jones, Erica Gittins, Lorrain Higbee, López-Dóriga, Samantha Rogerson, Nicki Mulhall
Graphics by Nancy Dixon

Quality Assurance

Issue & issue date	Status	Author	Approved by
1	Internal draft	JS	RMD
2	External draft	JS	RMD



Contents

Summary	iii
Acknowledgements.....	iii
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Project and planning background.....	1
1.2 Scope of the report	2
1.3 Location, topography and geology	2
2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	2
2.1 Introduction.....	2
2.2 Recent investigations.....	3
3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	3
3.1 Aims	3
3.2 General aims	3
3.3 General objectives	3
3.4 Specific aims	3
4 METHODS.....	4
4.1 Introduction.....	4
4.2 Fieldwork methods.....	4
4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies	5
4.4 Monitoring.....	5
5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS	5
5.1 Introduction.....	5
5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits	6
5.3 Prehistoric.....	6
5.4 Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age.....	6
5.5 Post medieval	6
5.6 Modern	7
5.7 Uncertain date	7
6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE	11
6.2 Pottery	11
6.3 Flint.....	12
6.4 Stone	14
6.5 Ceramic building material	14
6.6 Fired clay.....	14
6.7 Glass	14
6.8 Animal bone.....	14
6.9 Shell	14
6.10 Potential and recommendations.....	14
7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE.....	15
7.1 Introduction.....	15
7.1 Aims and Methods	15
7.2 Results	15
7.3 Discussion	16
7.4 Potential and recommendations.....	16
8 SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION.....	16
9 STORAGE AND CURATION.....	17
9.1 Museum.....	17
9.2 Preparation of the archive	17



9.3	Selection policy.....	17
9.4	Security copy.....	17
9.5	OASIS.....	18
10	COPYRIGHT.....	18
10.1	Archive and report copyright.....	18
10.2	Third party data copyright.....	18
	REFERENCES.....	19
	APPENDICES.....	21
	Appendix 1 KCC HER Form.....	21
	Appendix 2 OASIS form.....	23
	Appendix 3 Environmental Data.....	26

List of Figures

- Figure 1** Site location
Figure 2 Archaeological results

List of Plates

- Cover: Site viewed from the southeast
Plate 1 Southwest facing section of ditch terminus 1087
Plate 2 Southeast facing section of ditch 1290
Plate 3 South facing section of posthole 1004
Plate 4 Southwest facing section of ditches 1086 and 1100
Plate 5 Ditches 1301 and 1302 viewed from the south
Plate 6 Northeast facing section of pit 1147
Plate 7 Southeast facing section of ditches 1300 and 1301
Plate 8 Southwest facing section of ditch 1299
Plate 9 Ditches 1302 and 1298, and pit 1204, viewed from the east
Plate 10 Southeast facing section of ditch 1292
Plate 11 South facing section of posthole 1244
Plate 12 Southeast facing section of ditch 1256
Plate 13 Southwest facing section of pit 1279
Plate 14 Northwest facing section of pit 1042
Plate 15 Northeast facing section of ditch 1297

List of Tables

- Table 1** Quantification of excavation records
Table 2 Quantification of finds recovered during excavation and evaluation
Table 3 Quantification of pottery fabrics
Table 4 Composition of the flint assemblage
Table 5 Assessment of the environmental evidence/macrofossils/charred plant remains and charcoal



Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by RPS Group to undertake archaeological mitigation works comprising a strip, map and sample excavation covering 0.7 ha centred on NGR 636576 152723, at land located at land north of Roman Close, Sholden, Deal, Kent. The excavation was undertaken two phases - Phase 1 - 28/03/2019 to 12/04/2019, Phase 2 – 17/07/2019 to 05/11/2019 and Phase 3 - 30/10/2019 to 05/11/2019, following an archaeological evaluation. The evaluation identified five ditches, three parallel to each other, and two pits were recorded within the trenches. A single sherd of prehistoric pottery and a single worked flint were recovered from the second phase of trenching.

The archaeological strip, map and sample investigation revealed a system of ditched enclosures or field systems, two trackways, pits and postholes. The majority of the features were undated, however six are were dated comprising of one prehistoric pit, one Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditch, and three post medieval pits and one modern ditch.

The site lies immediately to the east of an area investigated by SWAT, which identified extensive occupation from the Neolithic to the Romano-British period. The features identified primarily date to the Bronze Age which includes multiple field systems, enclosures and ring ditches. The site also lies immediately to the south of another area investigated by SWAT, which identified extensive activity in the form of field systems, enclosures and ring ditches. The features identified in these areas continue into the site.

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank RPS, for commissioning the archaeological mitigation works, in particular Duncan Hawkins. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of Ben Found County Archaeologist for Kent County Council, who monitored the project for Dover District Council.

The fieldwork was directed by Lisa McCaig, Emilia Seredynska and Mark Denyer, with the assistance of Megan Smith, Charlotte Porter, Ashley Davis, Lance Lewis, Aleksandra Bialobrzewska and Finley Wood. This report was written by Jon Sanigar and edited by Rob De'Athe. The project was managed by Rob De'Athe on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.

The finds were assessed by Grace Jones, Erica Gittins (flint) and Lorrain Higbee (animal bone). The samples were processed by Jenny Giddins and Samantha Rogerson. The flots were sorted by Nicki Mulhall and assessed by Inés López-Dóriga. This report was written by Inés López-Dóriga, with contributions from Samantha Rogerson and Nicki Mulhall.



Roman Close, Sholden, Deal, Kent

Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by RPS, to undertake archaeological mitigation works comprising a strip, map and sample excavation covering 0.7 ha centred on NGR 636576 152723, at land located at land north of Roman Close, Sholden, Deal, Kent. (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 The proposed development comprises the erection of 70 dwellings, with associated access roads, footpaths, drainage, parking provision, groundworks, landscaping, open space and infrastructure, with all existing buildings to be demolished.

1.1.3 A planning application (16/01476) submitted to Dover District Council, was granted 18/06/2018, subject to conditions. The following conditions relate to archaeology:

Condition 10 No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of:

i. Archaeological field evaluation works in accordance with a specification and written timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority; and

ii. Following on from the evaluation, any safeguarding measures to ensure preservation in situ of important archaeological remains and/or further archaeological investigation and recording in accordance with a specified and timetable which has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority.

Any archaeological works undertaken shall include any necessary measures to prevent the emission of dust from the site.

1.1.4 *Reason: to ensure appropriate assessment of the archaeological implications of any development proposals and the subsequent mitigation of adverse impacts through preservation in situ or by record, and in the interest of the amenity of nearby residents.*

1.1.5 The excavation was the final stage in a programme of archaeological works, which had included an archaeological evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2019a) which identified five ditches, three parallel to each other, and two pits were recorded within the trenches. A single sherd of prehistoric pottery and a single worked flint were recovered from the second phase of trenching.

1.1.6 The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI), which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed, for both the fieldwork and the post-excavation work (Wessex Archaeology 2019b). The County Archaeologist for Kent County Council (KCC) approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing. The excavation was undertaken two phases - Phase 1 - 28/03/2019 to 12/04/2019, Phase 2 – 17/07/2019 to 20/08/2019 and Phase 3 - 30/10/2019 to 05/11/2019.



1.2 Scope of the report

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the provisional results of the excavation, and the preceding evaluation, to assess the potential of the results to address the research aims outlined in the WSI. Where appropriate, to recommend a programme of further analysis work, and outline the resources needed, to achieve the aims (including the revised research aims arising from this assessment), leading to dissemination of the archaeological results via publication and the curation of the archive.

1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The proposed SMS area is located east of Sholden, 1.2km west northwest of Deal Pier and 2.2km north east of Great Mongeham. The site is bounded to the west by the recent modern development Timperley Place, to the south and east by modern residential development and to the north by undeveloped agricultural land. The excavation area itself was formerly occupied by several former agricultural buildings and hard standing, which have now been removed in advance of the current phase of work.
- 1.3.2 The underlying geology is mapped as Seaford Chalk Formation, chalk, with superficial deposits of Head, clay and silt (British Geological Survey online viewer).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological background of the site was assessed in a brief survey of the resources within 200m during the preparation of this WSI. A summary of the results is presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the Kent Historic Environment Record (KHER) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.
- 2.1.2 Neolithic pits and gullies, and later prehistoric field systems were recorded during an evaluation west of the site, undertaken in advance of the Timperley Place development (TR 35 SE 874, TR 35 SE 875). A series of undated ditches and gullies were recorded during the evaluation, along with some prehistoric flintwork (TR 35 SE 876).
- 2.1.3 A subsequent archaeological excavation was undertaken, revealing extensive occupation from the Neolithic to the Romano-British period, primarily dating to the Bronze Age, including multiple field systems, enclosures and ring ditches. Several archaeological features were recorded directly adjacent to the proposed evaluation area, with two ditches appearing to continue into the area. (SWAT 2016).
- 2.1.4 Excavations in Areas 1/B, 2, 3 and 4 of the proposed development revealed a series of ditches and enclosures, along with a prehistoric structure comprising a segmented ditch and postholes. Several of the ditches recorded during this phase of excavations appear to continue into the proposed evaluation area (SWAT Forthcoming).
- 2.1.5 A previous evaluation directly south of the evaluation area recorded undated ditches, possibly dating to the Romano-British period (TR 35 SE 117). A findspot consisting of Romano-British pottery and a vase were recovered directly east of the evaluation area (TR 35 SE 5). Two 1st to 2nd Century Romano-British cremations were recorded approximately 250m southwest of the site (TR 35 SE 39).
- 2.1.6 The nearest entry in the Domesday book of 1086 is for a Deal to the east of the site, a moderately large settlement (OpenDomesday.org). The Grade II* Listed *Church of St*



Nicholas Parish church of Sholden dates to the 13th century, indicating some form of settlement was present during the medieval period (Historic England online).

- 2.1.7 There are no specific records relating to the Anglo-Saxon or medieval periods within the immediate vicinity of the site on the KHER, however due to the neighbouring settlement during these periods it is likely that the site was used for agricultural purposes or was occupied by woodland.
- 2.1.8 Two post-medieval farmsteads are recorded on the KHER, one approximately 200m to the east of the evaluation area (MKE87115) and a second directly adjacent to the south (MKE87108).

2.2 Recent investigations

- 2.2.1 In February 2019 Wessex Archaeology (WA 2019a) undertook an archaeological evaluation at the site comprising 7 trenches. Results showed that truncation had occurred predominantly in the western part of the site whereas archaeological features did survive in the northern and eastern parts of the site which have been dated to the prehistoric period

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

3.2 General aims

- 3.2.1 The general aims of the excavation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2019b) and in compliance with the ClfA's *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2014a), and *KCC's Manual of Specifications Part B: strip map and sample requirements*, are:
- To provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
 - To 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.

3.3 General objectives

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

3.4 Specific aims

- To investigate whether features recorded in previous phases of work to the west and the previous evaluation;
- To establish a date for any features continuing into the area from previous phases of work;



- To test the level and extent of truncation; and
- To establish if any funerary monuments of occupation activity is located in the area.
- To establish if any further Neolithic pits or associated activity is present within the excavation area
- To examine the archaeological resource within a given area or site within a framework of defined research objectives;
- To seek a better understanding of the resource;
- To compile a lasting record of the resource; and
- To analyse and interpret the results of the excavation and disseminate them.

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 2019b) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The excavation area was set out using GPS, in the same position as that proposed in the WSI (**Figure 1**). The topsoil/overburden was removed 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 in level spits until the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.2 Where necessary, the surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand to aid visual definition. A sample of archaeological features and deposits identified was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the excavation. A sample of natural features such as tree-throw holes were also investigated.

4.2.3 Spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological features was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. A metal detector was also used. Where found, artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not 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 (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD: Newlyn) heights of all principal features were calculated, and levels added to plans and section 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



heights above OD (Newlyn), 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 and will 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 2019b). 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) 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 County Archaeologist for KCC, on behalf of the LPA, monitored the watching brief. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with both the client and the County Archaeologist.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 The following sections summarise the results of the archaeological strip, map and sample excavation (**Figure 2**).

- 5.1.2 A total of 34 archaeological features were identified during the archaeological excavation, comprised of 22 ditches, 8 pits and 4 postholes. A main concentration of ditches towards the centre and the western parts of the site. Observed across the site were large areas of modern disturbance which truncated many archaeological features. Of the 34 archaeological features identified, six are were dated, one prehistoric pit, one Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditch, and three post medieval pits and one modern ditch. The majority of features were undated, and a number of ditches were observed continuing both to the north and west beyond the limit of excavation into areas that had been previously investigated (SWAT forthcoming).

Methods of stratigraphic assessment and quantity of data

- 5.1.3 All hand written and drawn records from the excavation have been collated, checked for consistency and stratigraphic relationships. Key data has been transcribed into an Access database for assessment, which can be updated during any further analysis. The excavation has been preliminary phased using stratigraphic relationships and the spot dating from artefacts, particularly pottery.



5.1.4 **Table 1** (below) provides a quantification of the records from the excavation.

Table 1 Quantification of excavation records

Type	Quantity
Context records	329
Context registers	10
Graphics (A4 and A3)	64
Graphics (A1)	0
Graphics registers	4
Environmental sample registers	1
Object registers	0

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

5.2.1 The archaeological investigation identified a soil sequence 1.1m in thickness overlaying the natural geology. The sequence comprised of an imported topsoil measuring 0.23m in thickness, which overlaid a layer of made ground 0.39m in thickness. The made ground layers overlaid a subsoil comprised of a dark reddish-brown silt loam containing rare worked flint, measuring 0.17m in thickness, which in turn overlaid a buried soil horizon of dark reddish grey clay silt measuring 0.23m in thickness, which also contained worked flint.

5.2.2 Overlaying the natural geology was a thin layer of pale yellowish grey alluvial sandy silt, measuring 0.07m in thickness, which also contained rare worked flint.

5.2.3 The natural geology encountered comprised of a mid-yellowish red sandy clay silt with a rare amount of small sub-rounded flint pebbles throughout.

5.3 Prehistoric

5.3.1 Pit **1147** was located close to the northern boundary of the site. The feature was circular in shape with steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.56m in diameter and 0.11m in depth (**Plate 6**). The pit contained a single deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown sandy clay silt with a moderate amount of worked flint and rare charcoal flecks throughout.

5.4 Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age

5.4.1 Ditch **1299** was linear in shape orientated northeast to southwest, with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 7.36m in length, 0.64m in width and 0.15m in depth (**Plate 8**). The feature contained a single secondary fill of mid-greyish brown sandy clay silt with rare amounts of pottery, worked and burnt flint, and charcoal flecks throughout. The ditch was later cut by modern ditch **1302**.

5.5 Post medieval

5.5.1 Pit **1204** was located in between ditches **1298** and **1302**. The shape of the feature was incomplete with steep concave sides and undulating base, measuring 0.94m in length, 0.9m in width and 0.25m in depth (**Plate 9**). The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown sandy silt with a common amount of animal on the base of the pit, and rare pottery and CBM. The pit cuts ditch **1298** and was late cut by ditch **1302**.

5.5.2 Pit **1279** was circular in shape with shallow concave sides and flat base, measuring 1.24m in diameter and 0.1m in depth (**Plate 13**). The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown sandy silt, with a rare amount of charcoal flacks, glass and CBM.



5.5.3 Pit **1281** was sub-circular in shape with moderate concave sides and an undulating base, measuring 0.7m in length, 0.66m in width and 0.12m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay with a common amount of animal bone, and a rare amount of glass and charcoal flecks.

5.6 Modern

5.6.1 Ditch **1302** was linear in shape orientated northwest to southeast with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 24.93m+ in length, 0.62m in width and 0.11m in depth (**Plate 5 and 9**). The feature contained a single secondary fill of dark greenish grey sandy clay silt with rare amounts of pottery and CBM throughout. The ditch cuts ditches **1299**, **1301** and **1303**.

5.7 Uncertain date

Postholes

5.7.1 Posthole **1004** was circular in shape with steep convex sides with a narrow flat base, measuring 0.8m in diameter and 0.55m in depth (**Plate 3**). The feature contained two fills, the first being a post-pipe of dark brown sandy silt with rare charcoal flecks. Around the post-pipe was a deliberate backfill of mid-greyish brown sandy silt with one Early Neolithic transept axe flake and pottery fragments.

5.7.2 Posthole **1027** was circular in shape with steep concave sides and a concave base measuring 0.37m in length, 0.32m in width and 0.18m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of mid greyish brown sandy clay silt. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.

5.7.3 Posthole **1140** was circular in shape with steep concave sides and a U-shaped base, measuring 0.36m in diameter and 0.35m in depth. The feature contained four fills, the first being a primary fill of orangish brown silty clay measuring 0.1m in thickness. The second fill was a deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay measuring 0.09m in thickness. The third fill was a secondary fill of light greyish brown sandy clay measuring 0.11m in thickness, and the fourth fill was a secondary fill of mid greyish brown silty clay measuring 0.08m in thickness. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.

5.7.4 Posthole **1244** was sub-circular in shape with steep convex sides and a narrow concave base, measuring 0.55m in length, 0.5m in width and 0.45m in depth. The feature contained one deliberate backfill of greyish brown sandy silt (**Plate 11**).

5.7.5 Posthole **1285** was sub-circular in shape with moderate stepped sides and a concave base, measuring 0.42m in length, 0.4m in width and 0.15m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of mid greyish brown sandy silt with a rare amount of charcoal flecks. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.

Pits

5.7.6 Pit **1025** was located towards the southern boundary of the site, and next to posthole **1027**. The feature was sub-oval in shape with shallow concave sides and a concave base, measuring 1.1m in length, 0.8m in width and 0.16m in depth. It contained a single secondary fill of mid greyish brown sandy clay silt. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.

5.7.7 Pit **1042** was located in between ditches **1050** and **1100**. The feature was oval in shape with steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 1.76m in length, 0.92m in width and 0.35m in depth (**Plate 14**). The feature contained three fills, the first being a primary fill of light greyish white sandy silt measuring 0.08m in thickness. The second fill was a



secondary fill of light greyish brown sandy silt measuring 0.15m in thickness. The third fill was a secondary fill of mid-greyish brown sandy silt measuring 0.15m in thickness with one piece of burnt flint.

- 5.7.8 Pit **1196** was sub-circular in shape with shallow concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.54m in length, 0.38m in width and 0.1m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown sandy clay silt with a common amount of animal bone.
- 5.7.9 Pit **1283** was sub-circular in shape with moderate stepped sides and a flat base, measuring 0.8m in diameter and 0.2m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of mid greyish brown sandy silt with a rare amount of charcoal flecks.

Ditches

- 5.7.10 Ditch **1074** is linear in shape, orientated northeast to southwest with steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 2.71m+ in length, 0.64m in width and 0.34m in depth. The feature contained three fills, the first being a primary fill of light reddish-brown sandy clay silt measuring 0.1m in thickness. The second was a secondary fill of mid greyish brown sandy clay silt measuring 0.14m in thickness, and the third was a secondary fill of mid greyish brown sandy clay silt with a rare amount of pottery and burnt flint, measuring 0.16m in thickness. The ditch was later cut by ditch 1086 and was observed continuing to the southwest in a previous investigation.
- 5.7.11 Ditches **1087** and **1132** were located near the western boundary of the site, laying both parallel with one another, orientated northeast to southwest and continuing beyond the limit of excavation to the northeast. The features form the southwestern end of a trackway with a 1.66m gap between them. This trackway can be seen continuing to the northeast in a previously investigated area (SWAT forthcoming). Ditch **1087** was linear in shape with steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 2.55m+ in length, 0.4m in width and 0.28m in depth (**Plate 1**). The feature contained two secondary fills, the first being a mid-reddish brown sandy silt measuring 0.08m in thickness. The second fill was a mid-greyish brown sandy silt with a rare amount of worked flint and burnt flint and charcoal flecks. Ditch **1132** was linear in shape with steep straight sides and a concave base, measuring 2.11m+ in length, 0.32m in width and 0.3m in depth. The feature contained four fills, the first being a primary fill of mid-reddish brown sandy silt measuring 0.09m in thickness. The second fill being a secondary fill of mid greyish white sandy silt measuring 0.17m in thickness. The third fill being a secondary fill of mid greyish white sandy silt measuring 0.1m in thickness, and the fourth fill being a secondary fill of dark greyish brown sandy silt with a rare amount of charcoal flecks throughout, measuring 0.12m in thickness.
- 5.7.12 Ditch **1086** was linear in shape, orientated northeast to southwest with steep concave sides and an undulating base, measuring 20m+ in length, 0.6m in width and 0.35m in depth (**Plate 4**). The feature contained two fills, the first being a secondary fill of light greyish brown sandy silt measuring 0.19m in thickness. The second fill was secondary fill of mid-greyish brown sandy silt with a rare amount of worked and burnt flint and charcoal flecks. The ditch cuts ditches **1074** and **1099** and can be observed continuing to the southwest in a previous investigation. The ditch cuts the southwestern end of curvilinear ditch **1100**.
- 5.7.13 Ditch **1099** was located near to the western boundary of the site. It was linear in shape, orientated northwest to southeast measuring 28.40m+ in length, 0.6m in width and 0.12m in depth. The feature contained three fills, the first being a primary fill of mid-greyish brown silty clay measuring 0.13m in thickness. The second fill was a primary fill of mid-orange brown silty clay measuring 0.08m in thickness. The third fill was a secondary fill of mid



greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of abraded pottery and worked and burnt flint. The ditch was later cut by ditch **1086**.

- 5.7.14 Ditch **1100** was curvilinear in shape, orientated approximately northeast to southwest with irregular convex sides and an undulating base measuring 49.16m in length, 0.84m in width and 0.33m in depth (**Plate 4**). The feature contained two fills, the first being a primary fill of mid grey sandy silt measuring 0.22m in thickness. The second fill was a secondary fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt with a rare amount of worked flint, pottery and charcoal flecks, measuring 0.14m in thickness. The ditch became thinner and shallower towards the southeast, measuring 0.33m in width and 0.12m in depth. The ditch cuts **1292**, **1293** and **1298** towards the centre of the site, and its southwestern end was cut by ditch **1086**.
- 5.7.15 Ditches **1050** and **1290** were parallel with one another orientated north to south, with their northern ends curving slightly to the NNW and terminating. The two ditches are possibly forming a trackway with a 1.54m gap between them, but an area of disturbance runs through the ditches masking them partially. Ditch **1050** had moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 5m+ in length, 0.8m in width and 0.22m in depth. The feature contained three fills, the first being a primary fill of dark reddish-brown sandy clay silt measuring 0.07m in thickness. The second fill was a primary fill of greyish white sandy silt measuring 0.09m in thickness, and the third fill was a secondary fill of very dark greyish brown with a rare amount of burnt and worked flint. Ditch **1290** had steep concave sides and U-shaped base, measuring 12.17m+ in length, 0.84m in width and 0.4m in depth (**Plate 2**). The feature contained two fills, the first being a secondary fill of mid-greyish brown sandy silt measuring 0.2m in thickness. The second was a secondary fill of mid greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of worked and burnt flint and charcoal flecks, measuring 0.3m in thickness.
- 5.7.16 Ditches **1249**, **1292** and **1293** were linear in shape and all orientated northwest to southeast with a 2m gap between them, forming a possible trackway. Ditch **1249** and **1293** are in line with one another with a 1m gap between them, forming a small causeway. The trackway was observed continuing to the northwest in a previously investigated area (SWAT forthcoming). Ditch **1249** had moderate straight sides and flat base measuring 5.8m+ in length, 0.98m in width and 0.31m in depth. The feature contained two fills, the first being a primary fill of dark greyish brown sandy silt measuring 0.07m in thickness. The second fill was a secondary fill of mid-greyish brown sandy silt with a rare amount of charcoal flecks, measuring 0.25m in thickness. Ditch **1292** had moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 32.98m+ in length, 0.78m in width and 0.21m in depth (**Plate 10**). The feature contained three fills, the first being a primary fill of light whiteish brown sandy silt measuring 0.05m in thickness. The second fill was a secondary fill of dark greyish brown sandy silt measuring 0.14m in thickness, and the third fill was a secondary fill of mid-greyish brown sandy silt measuring 0.14m in thickness. The south eastern end of the ditch was later cut by ditch **1100**. Ditch **1293** had moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 26.48m in length, 0.62m in width and 0.17m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of mid-greyish brown sandy silt. The south eastern end of the ditch was later cut by ditch **1100**.
- 5.7.17 Ditches **1256** and **1294** were linear in shape and both on the same alignment of northwest to southeast, but both segments are separated by a large area of disturbance. The ditch was observed continuing to the northwest in a previously investigated area (SWAT forthcoming). Ditch **1256** had moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 2.71m+ in length, 1.24m in width and 0.55m in depth (**Plate 12**). The feature contained three fills, the first being a deliberate deposit of dark greyish brown sandy silt with a sparse amount of charcoal flecks, measuring 0.34m in thickness. The second fill was a primary fill of light reddish yellow sandy clay silt measuring 0.38m in thickness. The third fill was a



secondary fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt with a rare amount of charcoal flecks, worked flint and one piece of pottery, measuring 0.21m in thickness. Ditch **1294** had moderate concave sides and a U-shaped base, measuring 10.20m in length, 0.68m in width and 0.34m in depth. The feature contained three fills, the first being a primary fill of light yellowish grey sandy silt measuring 0.08m in thickness. The second fill was a secondary fill of dark greyish brown sandy clay loam with a rare amount of burnt flint, measuring 0.15m in thickness. The third fill was a secondary fill of mid orangish brown sandy silt loam measuring 0.2m in thickness. The south eastern end of the ditch terminates near to ditch 1100 with a 0.52m gap between them.

- 5.7.18 Ditch **1276** had moderate concave sides and an undulating base, measuring 1.88m+ in length, 1.04m in width and 0.19m in depth. The feature contained two fills, the first being a secondary fill of mid yellowish-brown sandy silt with a rare amount of charcoal flecks and worked flint, measuring 0.06m in thickness. The second fill was a secondary fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt, with a rare amount of charcoal flecks. The feature continues beyond the limit of excavation to the northeast.
- 5.7.19 Ditch **1295** was linear in shape orientated NNE to SSW with steep straight sides and U-shaped base, measuring 3.6m in length, 0.6m in width and 0.23m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of dark greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of burnt flint and pottery. The ditch terminates at its NNE end and its SSW ends abruptly due to disturbance.
- 5.7.20 Ditch **1296** was linear in shape with a slight curve towards the middle. The feature was orientated northeast to southwest, with moderate concave sides and a flat base, measuring 16.22m+ in length, 0.74m in width and 0.16m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of mid-greyish brown sandy clay silt with one piece of worked flint. The ditch continued to the northeast beyond the limit of excavation, and its south eastern was masked by disturbance.
- 5.7.21 Ditch **1297** was linear in shape orientated northwest to southeast with steep convex sides and a U-shaped base, measuring 15.43m in length, 0.62m in width and 0.41m in depth (**Plate 15**). The feature contained two fills, the first being a primary fill of light greyish brown silty clay, measuring 0.07m in thickness. The second fill was a secondary fill of dark greyish brown silty clay, measuring 0.37m in thickness. The ditch is parallel with ditch **1100**, and its southwestern end was cut by ditch **1298**.
- 5.7.22 Ditch **1298** was linear in shape orientated northwest to southeast with steep concave sides and concave base, measuring 15.56m in length, 0.76m in width and 0.22m in depth (**Plate 9**). The feature contained two fills, the first being a primary fill of mid reddish grey sandy silt, measuring 0.08m in thickness. The second fill was a secondary fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt, measuring 0.15m in thickness. The ditch cuts ditches **1297** and **1301**, and its north western end was cut by ditch **1100**.
- 5.7.23 Ditch **1300** was curvilinear in shape, orientated NNW to SSE with a slight curve to the south (**Plate 7**). The feature had steep convex sides and a concave base, measuring 18.51m+ in length, 0.56m in width and 0.23m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt with a rare amount of flint flakes. The ditch was cut by ditch **1301** at its northern end, and its southern end continues beyond the limit of excavation.
- 5.7.24 Ditch **1301** was curvilinear in shape, orientated approximately northwest to southeast, with a slight curve to the south (**Plate 5 and 7**). The feature had steep concave sides and a flat base, measuring 21.96m in length, 0.46m in width and 0.29m in depth. The feature



contained a single secondary fill of dark greyish brown sandy silt. The ditch cuts ditch **1300** and was later cut by ditch **1302**.

- 5.7.25 Ditch **1303** was linear in shape, orientated NNW to SSE with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 9.80m in length, 0.47m in width and 0.21m in depth. The feature contained single secondary fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt with a rare amount of worked flint. The ditch was later cut by ditches **1298**, **1301** and **1302**.

Tree throws and shrub bowls

- 5.7.26 A total of 34 tree throws and shrub bowls were scatter across the site, none of which produced any datable material.

6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

- 6.1.1 A small quantity of finds was recovered during the excavation and preceding evaluation. The assemblage ranges in date from Early Neolithic to modern. All finds have been washed and quantified by material type in each context. A summary is provided in Table 2.

Table 2 Quantification of finds recovered during excavation and evaluation

	Excavation		Evaluation	
Material	No.	Wg (g)	No.	Wg (g)
Pottery	37	81	1	7
Ceramic building material	10	54		
Fired clay	46	71		
Flint	191	-	7	-
Burnt flint	74	430	3	49
Stone	2	134		
Glass	8	27		
Shell	1	1		
Animal bone	339	6080		

6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 A small quantity of prehistoric and modern pottery was recovered. A basic record has been made of the assemblage, in accordance with national guidelines (Barclay *et al* 2016). The prehistoric pottery comprises 32 sherds (48g) from eight ditches, one pit, one posthole and one tree-throw hollow. Most are abraded, featureless body sherds with a mean sherd weight of 1.5 g; the largest feature group is just 7g. The material was quantified by broad fabric type in each context; details of form, decoration and abrasion were noted as appropriate. A range of fabrics is represented, these are quantified in Table 3. The only featured sherd is a body sherd from ditch 1202 with a fingernail-impressed cordon, in a fine flint-tempered fabric; it is of probable Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date. Three small sherds from posthole 1004 are in a poorly sorted flint-tempered fabric of probable Neolithic date. The remainder of the assemblage is broadly of prehistoric date.
- 6.2.2 Six sherds of modern pottery, including bone china, pearlware, English stoneware and refined whiteware, were recovered from topsoil 1201, ditch 1209 and ditch 1223.

Table 3 Quantification of pottery fabrics

Fabric	No.	Wg (g)
<i>Prehistoric</i>		
Fine flint and sand-gritted fabric	15	10
Flint and grog-tempered fabric	2	7
Flint-tempered fabric	9	21
Glauconitic sandy ware with flint inclusions	1	2
Grog-tempered ware	2	3
Sandy fabric with sparse flint	1	2
Sandy ware	2	3
<i>Sub-total</i>	32	48
<i>Post-medieval/modern</i>		
Bone china	1	2
English stoneware	1	2
Pearlware	1	1
Refined whiteware	3	35
<i>Sub-total</i>	6	40
Total	38	88

6.3 Flint

6.3.1 A total of 198 pieces of worked flint were recovered from 47 contexts. The assemblage is quantified by type in Table 4.

Table 4 Composition of the flint assemblage

Flint types	No.	% of assemblage
<i>Retouched tools</i>		
Scraper	7	3.53
Knife	1	0.51
Projectile point	1	0.51
Miscellaneous retouch	11	5.55
<i>Sub-total retouched</i>	<i>20</i>	10.1%
<i>Debitage</i>		
Broken core/core fragments	4	2.02
Core rejuvenation tablet	1	0.51
Flake core	1	0.51
Bladelets (incl. broken)	2	1.01
Blades (incl. broken)	2	1.01
Flakes (incl. broken)	104	52.52
Transect flake	1	0.51
Debitage	14	7.07



Chips/micro debitage	49	24.74
<i>Sub-total debitage</i>	178	89.9%
Total	198	100%

- 6.3.2 The condition of the material is mixed, but the bulk of pieces are in a reasonable to mint state, with minimal post-depositional edge damage and no obvious signs of patina on most pieces. There are pieces that showed typical plough zone damage. The greatest concentration of finds came from subsoil 1002.
- 6.3.3 The raw material is consistent, consisting primarily of medium to dark grey to almost black flint with cherty inclusions and thin dark grey or buff cortex, alongside many instances of Bullhead. The source of this flint is likely to have been local, derived from beach and head deposits as well as the Thanet Sands for the Bullhead at a short distance away. There are also limited instances of chert.
- 6.3.4 The bulk of the assemblage comprises debitage, where most of the reduction sequence is represented. This may reflect both the high availability of flint and consistent knapping activities within the area. Despite the small size of the assemblage, 10% comprises of retouched pieces which is a relatively high number, further indicating widespread or longstanding domestic activity within the area of the site.
- 6.3.5 Specific chronological indicators are restricted to the leaf point arrowhead from ditch 1260 (fill 1261), the Tranchet Axe Flake from posthole 1004 (fill 1006) and the triangular core rejuvenation tablet from topsoil 1201. The former likely snapped during manufacture and shows skill. This clearly dates to the Early Neolithic. The tranchet axe flake is a tentative identification as the piece is both burnt and damaged, but this would date to the Mesolithic if not a core rejuvenation tablet. The triangular core rejuvenation tablet derives from a bladelet core and is similar to those identified by Clark (1932). This is likely to be Mesolithic or Early Neolithic. The two bladelets are also likely Mesolithic to Early Neolithic in date.
- 6.3.6 Although only two blades were found; there were also a number of instances of blade scars on flakes from subsoil 1002, posthole 1004 (layer 1006), ditch 1218 (fill 1219) and ditch 1270 (fill 1271). One of the Bullhead flakes from posthole 1004 also shows possible platform preparation, which may indicate an Early to Middle Neolithic date. Pressure flaking or soft hammer on Bullhead flakes are also evident from 1089, which again would tend to indicate earlier rather than later prehistoric knapping styles.
- 6.3.7 Later elements are likely among the debitage, particularly as some of the flakes are quite broad and thick but would require further metrical analysis to establish.
- 6.3.8 The material shows a good degree of knapping skill as well as raw material choice. There is also a relatively high proportion of miscellaneous retouch – three pieces of which may also be notched, likely reflecting expedient domestic use. Further domestic activity is indicated by the seven scrapers recovered from topsoil 1201, ditch 1050 (fill 1034), feature 1138 (fill 1139), ditch 1198 (fill 1199), ditch 1218 (fill 1219), and ditch 1256 (fill 1259), and the knife from ditch 1256 (fill 1259). None of these pieces are inherently dateable.
- 6.3.9 As a whole the assemblage likely dates from the Mesolithic through to the Mid Neolithic, with probable later pieces in the flake debitage and perhaps the scrapers. The assemblage is largely redeposited with the possible exception of the material in pit 1147. However, the relatively fresh condition of the pieces, even from subsoil contexts, suggests that much of the material has not moved far from its original location.



6.3.10 Burnt flint was recorded from 15 ditches, two pits, a drain, subsoil and a layer. All features contained less than 100g. This material type is intrinsically undatable but is frequently associated with prehistoric activity.

6.4 Stone

6.4.1 A water worn cobble from ditch 1050 has some pitting at one end but it is not possible to ascertain if this derived from natural actions or use. However, it is an ideal size to have been utilised as a burnisher or grinder.

6.4.2 A single fragment of slate (probable roofing material) was recovered from ditch 1223.

6.5 Ceramic building material

6.5.1 Ten fragments of ceramic building material (CBM), weighing 54g, were recovered. These include plain, flat fragments from roofing tiles, probably peg tiles, of medieval or post-medieval date, and amorphous brick fragments.

6.6 Fired clay

6.6.1 The fired clay (46 pieces, 71g) comprises amorphous fragments that are likely to derive from structures, ovens or hearths.

6.7 Glass

6.7.1 With the exception of a single bead, the glass comprises vessel fragments of 19th or 20th century date. The translucent blue hexagonal bead, 2 mm in size, was recovered from a bulk soil sample of ditch 1087. The type cannot be closely dated; such a small object may be intrusive in this feature. Other finds recovered from the ditch include two pieces of worked flint and a very small fragment of burnt flint.

6.8 Animal bone

6.8.1 A total of 339 fragments (or 6.080kg) of animal bone came from several features located in the southern area of the site. The identified remains include calf and neonatal pig skeletons from ditch 1209 and pits 1196 and 1281, and further associated bone groups (or ABGs) of adult cattle from ditches 1191 and 1223. The large size of the cattle bones indicated that they are from improved modern breeds.

6.9 Shell

6.9.1 A small flake from an oyster shell was recovered from topsoil 1201.

6.10 Potential and recommendations

6.10.1 The finds assemblage has provided indications of chronology and evidence for prehistoric and more recent activities on the site. The pottery has very limited potential for further analysis, but the recorded data may be incorporated in any publication of the results of the archaeological investigations. The cobble from ditch 1050 may have been utilised as a processor and therefore provide evidence of domestic activity. The worked flint is the most significant category amongst the finds and requires further analysis. The ceramic building material, vessel glass, animal bone and shell derive from modern activity.

6.10.2 Further work is required for the flint. The group from pit 1147 shows a significant concentration (53 pieces), although derived from sampling. This sequence should be fully examined. The Bullhead material should also be subject to comparison with the other raw material types to determine if any differences in technology or chronology are discernible.



All the retouched tool forms should be illustrated, alongside the tranchet flake, core rejuvenation tablet and flake core. This site is close to a number of important Mesolithic/Early Neolithic and relatively newly known sites in the immediate area. The cobble from ditch 1050 and the glass bead should also be submitted for further analysis.

- 6.10.3 No further analysis is proposed for the pottery, ceramic building material, fired clay, vessel glass, slate, animal bone and shell.
- 6.10.4 The prehistoric pottery, flint and glass bead should be retained. The modern pottery, burnt flint, fired clay, ceramic building material, slate, animal bone and shell have little or no potential for further analysis and do not warrant retention for long-term curation.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 Five bulk sediment samples were taken from a range of features of prehistoric, modern and uncertain chronology, such as ditches, pits and a post hole, and were processed for the recovery and assessment of the environmental evidence.

7.1 Aims and Methods

- 7.1.1 The purpose of this assessment is to determine the potential of the environmental remains preserved at the site to address project aims and to provide data valuable for wider research frameworks. The nature of this assessment follows recommendations set up by Historic England (Campbell et al. 2011).
- 7.1.2 The size of the bulk sediment samples varied between 4 and 33 litres, and on average was around 21 litres. Some of the samples were pre-soaked in a solution of water and hydrogen peroxide to help break up the clayey sediment. The samples were processed by standard flotation methods on a Siraf-type flotation tank; the flot retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6/4 mm and 1 mm fractions. The coarse fractions (>5.6/4 mm) were sorted by eye and discarded. The environmental material extracted from the residues was added to the flots. The fine residue fractions and the flots were scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy (Leica MS5 microscope) at magnifications of up to x40 for the identification of environmental remains. Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (e.g. *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains, such as burrowing snails or 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 terrestrial and aquatic molluscs and animal bone was recorded. 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), 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.

7.2 Results

- 7.2.1 The flots from the bulk sediment samples were generally small (Table XXX). There were low numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the low possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements.



- 7.2.2 Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation. Wood charcoal was noted in generally small quantities (with the exception of pit 1147, deposit 1148 which produced a fairly large amount) and was from mature wood. Remains of marine molluscs and animal bone fragments were also present. No other environmental evidence was preserved in the bulk sediment samples. Coal and slag were observed in most samples.
- 7.2.3 The bulk sediment samples from ditch 1078 (deposit 1080), posthole 1004 (deposit 1005) and pit 1147 (deposit 1148) all produced charred *Corylus avellana* (hazel) nut shell fragments. Pit 1147, deposit 1148 also contained a *Triticum* sp. (wheat) grain and a moderate amount of an unidentified burnt material that is likely to be organic in origin.
- 7.2.4 Ditch 1087 (deposit 1089) contained a poorly preserved Triticeae (unidentified cereal) grain, a *Persicaria* sp. (knotweed) seed and a fragment of *Prunus* sp. (plum/cherry/blackthorn) endocarp. No charred plant remains were recovered from pit 1281, deposit 1282 although a large amount of fragmented animal bone and several pieces of marine shell were noted.

7.3 Discussion

- 7.3.1 The environmental evidence recovered from the site is quite restricted but indicative of some plant processing activities (comprising the preparation of cereals and wild plant resources) and burning activities on the site, possibly involving the use of fuel sources other than wood.

7.4 Potential and recommendations

- 7.4.1 The assemblages recovered so far have little potential, due to the sparse environmental remains, other than radiocarbon dating for ascertaining the chronology of the activities on site. Therefore, no further analysis is recommended but these results should be included in prospective reports and publications.

8 SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION

- 8.1.1 The archaeological excavation identified a total of 34 archaeological features which comprised of 22 ditches, 8 pits, 4 postholes, and 34 tree throws and shrub bowls. A total of six features are dated to four main phases of activity on the site; prehistoric, Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, post medieval and modern; however, the majority of features were undated.
- 8.1.2 Features dating to the Neolithic period, or features relating to funerary monuments specified in the specific aims of the WSI were not identified. However, the flintwork recovered does indicate that there is activity dating to the Neolithic period within site.
- 8.1.3 The site lies immediately to the east of an area investigated by SWAT (2016), which identified extensive occupation from the Neolithic to the Romano-British period. The features identified primarily date to the Bronze Age which includes multiple field systems, enclosures and ring ditches. The site also lies immediately to the south of an area investigated by SWAT (forthcoming), which identified extensive activity in the form of field systems, enclosures and ring ditches. The features identified in these areas continue into the site.
- 8.1.4 One pit of probable prehistoric in date was pit 1147, located towards the northern boundary of the site, within proximity to a ring ditch identified by SWAT (forthcoming). This pit included a deposit of worked flint, however the assemblage could not be closely dated.



- 8.1.5 The majority of the ditches identified were undated, although one ditch dates to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age period, which was located towards the south eastern boundary of the site. Some of the ditches form two identifiable trackways, which are continuations of trackways identified during excavations by SWAT (forthcoming) to the immediate north of the site. A series of enclosures or field boundaries, and the possible re-cutting of enclosures and field boundaries were identified towards the centre and the west of the site. The postholes identified are scattered across the site forming no identifiable pattern to suggest a structure and all are undated.
- 8.1.6 The post medieval period was represented by three pits which contained glass and CBM. These were located near to the post medieval/modern ditch that was once a field boundary are possibly relating to later agricultural use.

9 STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

- 9.1.1 The archive resulting from the excavation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Maidstone. Dover Museum has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project. 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

- 9.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Dover Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 9.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the **site code**, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:
- 1 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type
 - 1 file/document case of paper records and A3/A4 graphics

9.3 Selection policy

- 9.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4). In accordance with these, and any specific guidance prepared by the museum, a process of selection and retention will be followed so that 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 is fully documented in the project archive.

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 record (<http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>) has been initiated, with key fields and a .pdf version of the final report submitted. 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.

10 COPYRIGHT

10.1 Archive and report copyright

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

10.2 Third party data copyright

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



REFERENCES

- ADS 2013 *Caring for Digital Data in Archaeology: a guide to good practice*. Archaeology Data Service and Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice
- Barclay, A, Knight, D, Booth, P and Evans, J 2016 *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology*, Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group, Study Group for Roman Pottery and Medieval Pottery Research Group
- British Geological Survey online viewer <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> (accessed 07/01/2019)
- Brown, D H 2011 *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (revised edition). Archaeological Archives Forum
- Campbell, G, Moffett, L and Straker, V 2011 *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (second edition). Portsmouth: English Heritage
- Clark, J G D 1932 *The Mesolithic Age in Britain*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press
- ClfA 2014a *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- ClfA 2014b *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- ClfA 2014c *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives*. Reading, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- English Heritage 2011 *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*. Swindon, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines
- Historic England online <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1237584> (accessed 14/02/2019)
- Open Domesday online <https://opendomesday.org/place/TR3752/deal/> (accessed 14/02/2019)
- SMA 1993 *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections*. Society of Museum Archaeologists
- SMA 1995 *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive*. Society of Museum Archaeologists
- Stace, C 1997 *New flora of the British Isles* (2nd edition). Cambridge, Cambridge University Press
- SWAT 2016 *Archaeological information on the proposed development (Phase 4) at Sholden, Deal*.
- Wessex Archaeology 2019a *Roman Close, Sholden, Deal: Archaeological Evaluation*. Unpublished client report Ref: 217890.03
- Wessex Archaeology 2019b *Roman Close, Sholden, Deal, Kent. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation*. Unpublished report ref. 217891.2



Zohary, D and Hopf, M 2000 *Domestication of plants in the Old World: the origin and spread of cultivated plants in West Asia, Europe, and the Nile Valley* (3rd edition). Oxford, Clarendon Press



APPENDICES

Appendix 1 KCC HER Form

Site Name: Roman Close, Sholden, Deal, Kent	
Site Address: Roman Close, Sholden, Deal, Kent	
Summary of discoveries: The archaeological strip, map and sample investigation revealed a system of ditched enclosures or field systems, two trackways, pits and postholes. The majority of the features were undated, however five were dated comprising of one prehistoric pit, one Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditch, and two post medieval pits and one modern ditch. The site lies immediately to the east of an area investigated by SWAT, which identified extensive occupation from the Neolithic to the Romano-British period. The features identified primarily date to the Bronze Age which includes multiple field systems, enclosures and ring ditches. The site also lies immediately to the south of an area investigated by SWAT, which identified extensive activity in the form of field systems, enclosures and ring ditches. The features identified in these areas continue into the site.	
District/Unitary: Dover	Parish: Deal
Period(s): Prehistoric, Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age/ Post medieval and modern	
NGR (centre of site to nearest 1m): NGR 636576 152723 (NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs)	
Type of archaeological work (delete) Excavation	
Date of fieldwork (dd/mm/yy) From: Phase 1 - 28/03/2019 to 12/04/2019 Phase 2 - 17/07/2019 to 20/08/2019 Phase 3 - 30/10/2019 to 05/11/2019	
Unit/contractor undertaking recording: Wessex Archaeology	
Geology: The underlying geology is mapped as Seaford Chalk Formation, chalk, with superficial deposits of Head, clay and silt (British Geological Survey online viewer)	
Title and author of accompanying report: Title: <i>Roman Close, Sholden, Deal, Kent. Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation</i> Authors: Jon Sanigar	
Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate) A total of 34 archaeological features were identified during the archaeological excavation, comprised of 22 ditches, 8 pits and 4 postholes. A main concentration of ditches towards the centre and the western parts of the site. Observed across the site were large areas of modern disturbance which truncated many archaeological features. Of the 34 archaeological features identified, six were dated, one prehistoric pit, one Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditch, and three post medieval pits and one modern ditch. The majority of features were undated, and a number of ditches	



were observed continuing both to the north and west beyond the limit of excavation into areas that had been previously investigated (SWAT forthcoming).

Location of archive/finds: Wessex Archaeology Maidstone Office

Contact at Unit: Rob De'Athe

Date: 14/01/2020



Appendix 2 OASIS form

10.3 OASIS ID: wessexar1-382076

Project details

Project name	Sholden, Deal
Short description of the project	An archaeological excavation was carried out, revealing a system of ditches enclosures or field systems, two trackways, pits and postholes. The majority of the features were undated, however six are were dated comprising of one prehistoric pit, one Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditch, and three post medieval pits and one modern ditch.
Project dates	Start: 28-03-2019 End: 05-11-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	217891 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	16/01476 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 1 - Vacant land previously developed
Monument type	DITCH Late Prehistoric
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Neolithic
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Modern
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	KENT DOVER SHOLDEN Sholden, Deal
Postcode	CT14 9XJ
Study area	0.7 Hectares



Site coordinates TR 36578 52729 51.223970036857 1.388618183191 51 13 26 N 001 23 19 E
Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator RPS
Project design originator Wessex archaeology
Project director/manager Rob De'Athe
Project supervisor Emilia Seredynska
Project supervisor Mark Denyer
Project supervisor Jon Sanigar
Type of sponsor/funding body Consultant
Name of sponsor/funding body RPS

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Dover Museum
Physical Archive ID 217891
Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient Dover Museum
Digital Archive ID 217891
Digital Media available "Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient Dover Museum
Paper Archive ID 217891
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Diary", "Drawing", "Report", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Roman Close, Sholden, Deal, Kent: Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation
Author(s)/Editor(s) Sanigar, J



Other bibliographic details	217891.3
Date	2020
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Maidstone
Description	A4, comb bound, clear plastic cover, in colour
Entered by	Andrew Souter (a.souter@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	23 January 2020

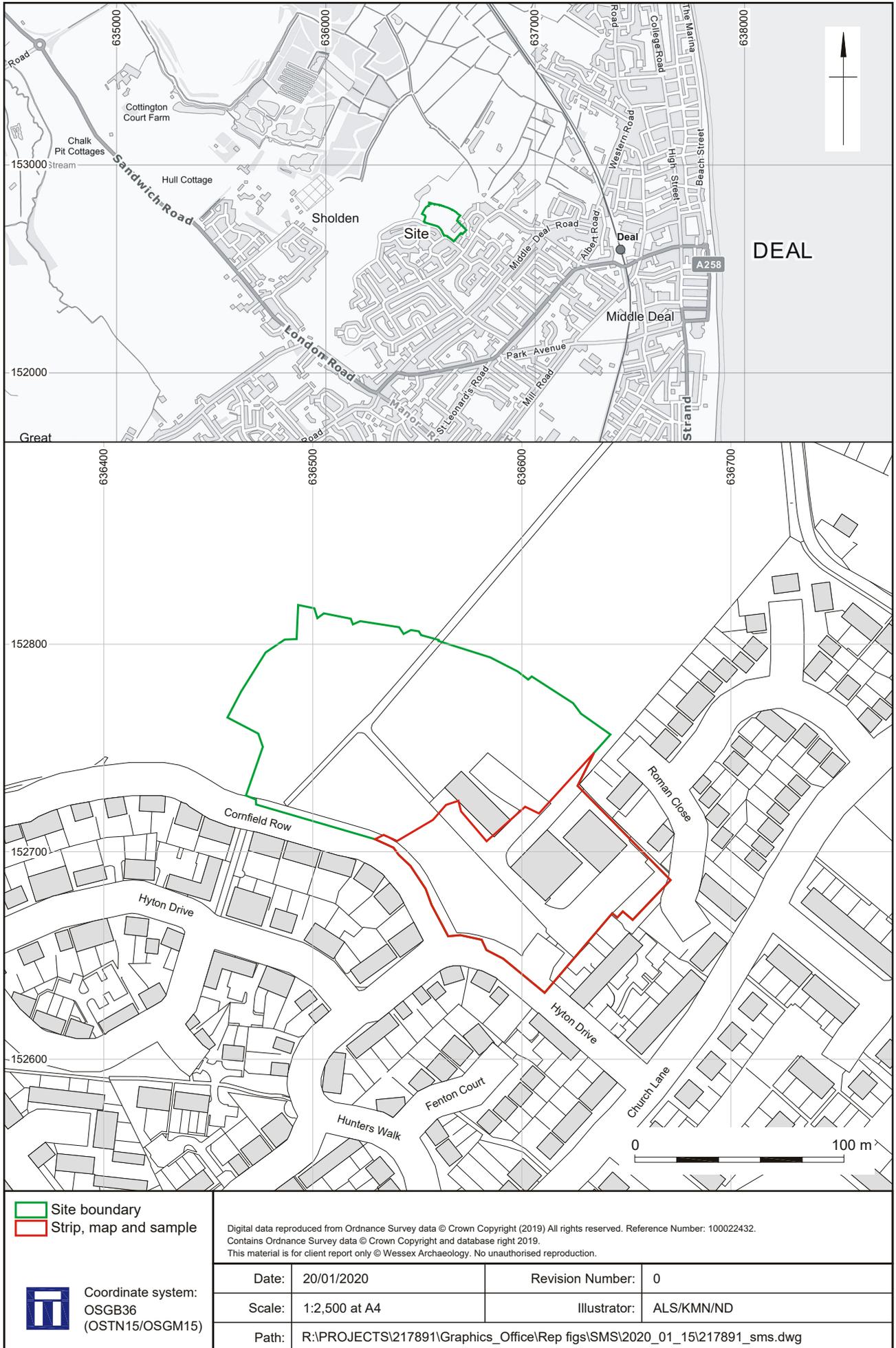


Appendix 3 Environmental Data

Table 5: Assessment of the environmental evidence/macrofossils/charred plant remains and charcoal

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
1087	1089	2	31	10	1%, A	C	-	Triticeae	C	<i>Persicaria</i> sp., cf. <i>Prunus</i> sp.	2	Mature	Coal (A*), slag (C)		Heterogenous
1078	1080	3	33	20	20%, B	-	-	-	C	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	2	Mature	Coal (A*), slag (C)		Poor
1004	1005	4	19	10	2%, A	-	-	-	C	<i>Corylus avellana</i> <i>Corylus avellana</i> (C), indet burnt material (A)	<1	Mature	Coal (A*), slag (C)		Poor
1147	1148	5	18	60	<1%, B	C	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp.	A		30	Mature	-	P, C14	Heterogenous
1281	1282	6	4	2	<1%, A	-	-	-	-	-	1	Mature	Moll-m, coal (A*), slag (C), Animal bone (A**)		-

Key: Scale of abundance: A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = 30-10, B = 9-5, C = <5; Bioturbation proxies: Roots (%), Uncharred seeds (scale of abundance); Sab = small animal fish bones, Moll-m = marine molluscs



Site location and proposed strip map and sample area

Figure 1

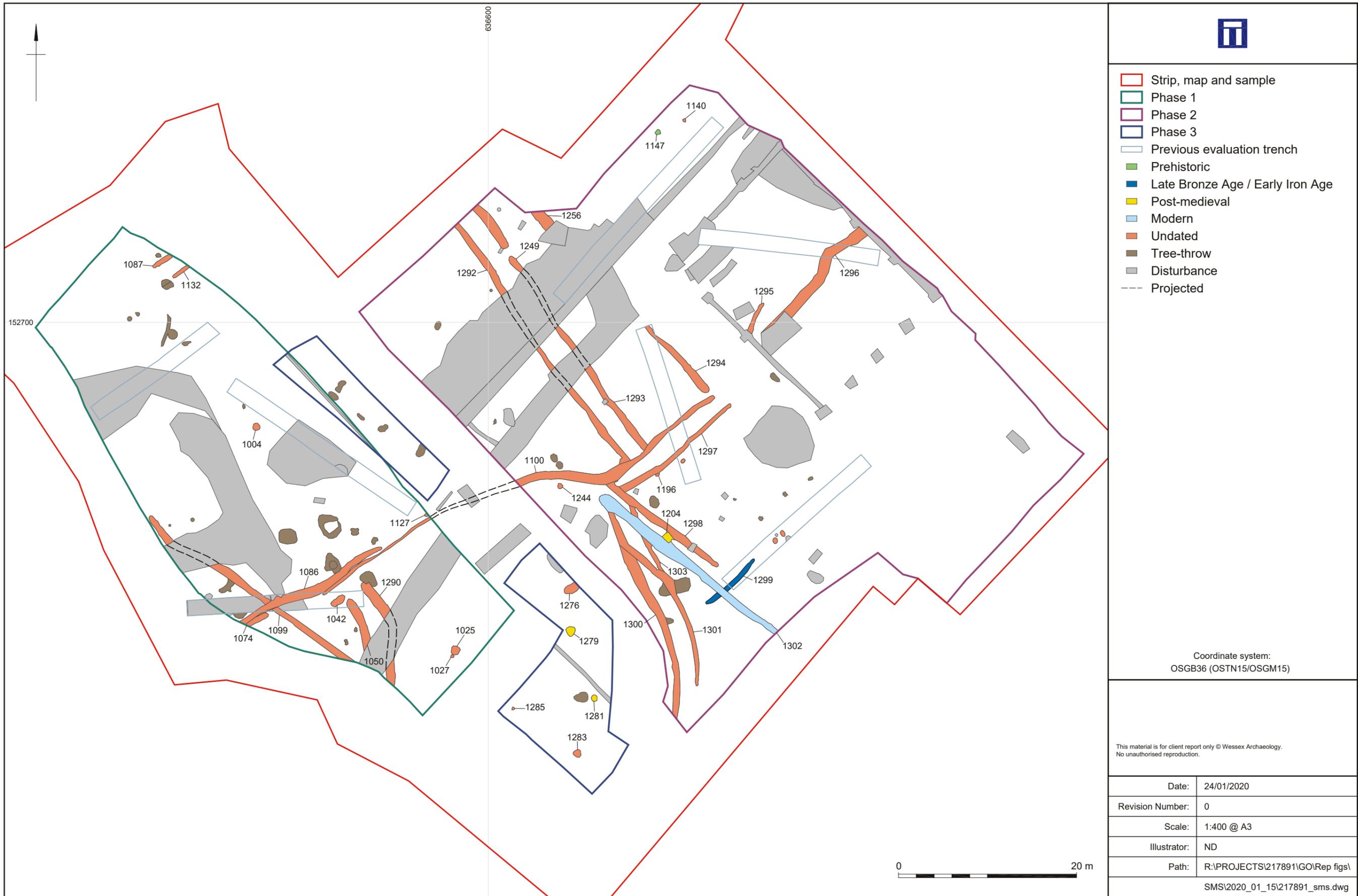




Plate 1: South-west facing section of ditch terminus 1087



Plate 2: South-east facing section of ditch 1290

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.			
	Date:	15/01/2020	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	ND
	Path:	R:\PROJECTS\217891\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\SMS\2020_01_15\217891_Plates.ai		



Plate 3: South facing section of posthole 1004



Plate 4: South-west facing section of ditches 1086 and 1100

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.			
	Date:	15/01/2020	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	ND
	Path:	R:\PROJECTS\217891\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\SMS\2020_01_15\217891_Plates.ai		



Plate 5: Ditches 1301 and 1302 viewed from the south



Plate 6: North-east facing section of pit 1147

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.			
	Date:	15/01/2020	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	ND
	Path:	R:\PROJECTS\217891\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\SMS\2020_01_15\217891_Plates.ai		



Plate 7: South-east facing section of ditches 1300 and 1301



Plate 8: South-west facing section of ditch 1299

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.			
	Date:	15/01/2020	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	ND
	Path:	R:\PROJECTS\217891\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\SMS\2020_01_15\217891_Plates.ai		



Plate 9: Ditches 1302 and 1298, and pit 1204, viewed from the east



Plate 10: South-east facing section of ditch 1292

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.			
	Date:	15/01/2020	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	ND
	Path:	R:\PROJECTS\217891\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\SMS\2020_01_15\217891_Plates.ai		



Plate 11: South facing section of posthole 1244



Plate 12: South-east facing section of ditch 1256

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.		
	Date:	15/01/2020	Revision Number: 0
	Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator: ND
	Path:	R:\PROJECTS\217891\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\SMS\2020_01_15\217891_Plates.ai	



Plate 13: South-west facing section of pit 1279



Plate 14: North-west facing section of pit 1042

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.		
	Date:	15/01/2020	Revision Number: 0
	Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator: ND
	Path:	R:\PROJECTS\217891\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\SMS\2020_01_15\217891_Plates.ai	



Plate 15: North-east facing section of ditch 1297

	This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.			
	Date:	15/01/2020	Revision Number:	0
	Scale:	Not to scale	Illustrator:	ND
	Path:	R:\PROJECTS\217891\Graphics_Office\Rep figs\SMS\2020_01_15\217891_Plates.ai		



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

