Adminston Farm, Athelhampton Road Puddletown, Dorset

Archaeological Evaluation

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Lewis Wyatt Construction Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 1.7 ha parcel of land located at Adminston Farm, Athelhampton Road, Puddletown, Dorset.

Six trial trenches, each measuring 30 m in length and 1.8 m wide, were excavated.

The evaluation in corroboration with the previously undertaken geophysical survey has demonstrated that there is a low potential for the presence of archaeological remains within the site.

One of the trenches contained archaeological features and deposits. Two parallel linear features were recorded in trench 1, and a small quantities of worked flint and clay pipe were recovered from the topsoil layers of trenches 1, 4 and 5.

The worked flint indicates a general background of prehistoric activity tentatively dating to the Later Neolithic or Bronze Age within the site, and larger assemblages of worked flint dating to these period have previously been recovered from several sites in and around Puddletown.

Geophysical anomalies indicating a possible ditch or enclosure targeted in trenches 3 and 5 could not be identified.

The two undated linear features identified in trench 1 were tentatively interpreted as rainwater gullies or drains although they are wide enough to be considered as boundary ditches. They are not indicated on any historic mapping, so potentially predate the 1843 Tithe map, and are an indication of earlier land divisions within the site, and wider landscape.

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Lewis Wyatt Construction Ltd, for commissioning the archaeological evaluation. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of the Senior Archaeologist at Dorset Council, who monitored the project for the LPA, and to G Crook & Sons for their cooperation and help on site.

Adminston Farm, Athelhampton Road, Puddletown, Dorset

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Lewis Wyatt Construction Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 1.7 ha parcel of land located at Adminston Farm, Athelhampton Road, Puddletown, Dorset, centred on NGR 376183, 094116 (Figure1).

1.1.2 The proposed development comprises the construction of residential housing and green space and a planning application is currently being prepared for submission.

1.1.3 In discussions with the Senior Archaeologist at Dorset Council (SA DC) it was agreed that geophysical survey followed by archaeological evaluation would be an appropriate response.

1.1.4 This evaluation is part of staged approach in determining the archaeological potential of the site, and follows other non-intrusive archaeological work, including an archaeological and historical assessment (Heaton 2017) and a geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2022).

1.1.5 All works were undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed in order to undertake the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2023). The Senior Archaeologist at Dorset Council approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.1.6 The evaluation comprising six trial trenches (2 % sample) was undertaken between 20 and 23 February 2023.

1.2 Scope of the report

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

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

1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The evaluation area was located immediately south-east of the village of Puddletown and 7 km north-east of Dorchester, in the county of Dorset, within agricultural land currently utilised for arable farming. The site is bounded by Athelhampton Road and a small area of residential housing to the north, hedgerow and further agricultural land to the east, an area of woodland and further agricultural land to the south, and by Milom Lane to the west.

1.3.2 The site falls from 66 m above Ordnance Datum (OD) on Athelhampton Road to around 64 m aOD before rising again to 67 m aOD on the south-west. It also slopes from 64 m aOD in the west to 67 m aOD in the east.

1.3.3 The bedrock geology comprises chalk of the Portsdown Chalk Formation, with a superficial deposit of clay, silt, sand and gravel (British Geological Survey 2023).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was prepared by Michael Heaton Heritage Consultants in 2017 for land at Adminston Farm which examined the potential for the survival of buried archaeological remains within the development area and a 1 km study area (Heaton, 2017). A summary of the results is presented below, with relevant entry numbers from the Dorset Historic Environment Record (DHER) and the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) included. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development

Geophysical survey (2022)

2.2.1 Wessex archaeological carried out a geophysical survey of the site in November 2022 (Wessex Archaeology 2022). The results were affected by large areas of increased magnetic response likely to have been associated with modern agricultural practices and area of disturbance probably associated with fertilisation processes. However, evidence of ridge and furrow agriculture was observed. Its curved form and spacing suggests a medieval origin and they are probably related to ridge and furrow cropmarks of the same date, identified 500 m to the north-east of the site, close to the deserted village of Bardolfeston (NHLE 1002435).

2.2.2 Sub-rounded anomalies recorded in the eastern portion of the survey site (but outside of the area evaluated) may be the remains of extraction pits or small-scale quarrying.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Prehistoric (970,000 BC–AD 43)

2.3.1 There are no known prehistoric heritage assets within the site but wider landscape contains burial mounds, field systems and settlement earthworks of Neolithic to Iron Age date.

2.3.2 A Bronze Age/Iron Age field system (HER 30651) extending over 9 ha has been identified 900 m to the south of the site.

Romano-British (AD 43–410)

2.3.1 There are no known Roman assets within the survey area. The Dorchester-Winchester Roman road (HER 00136) survives as an earthwork and cropmark, 700 m south of the site.

Anglo-Saxon–Medieval (410 –1500)

2.3.2 The site crosses the boundary between the parishes of Puddletown and Athelhampton, both of which are of early medieval origin. Puddletown is located on the crossing of two main routes across Dorset, and was the ‘Hundred’ capital.

2.3.3 Substantial remains of two 'deserted' medieval settlements survive within the search area: Bardolfeston (NHLE 1002435) and Athelhampton Hall (NHLE 1323995). The former is an

extensive array of earthworks defining the house platforms, thoroughfares and 'close' fields of the medieval village of *Pidele Bardolfeston* and is a Scheduled Monument. The latter is a substantial late medieval house and garden created within and displacing the medieval village of *Pidele Athelamston*.

Medieval / Post-Medieval (1066–1800)

2.3.4 There are 11 records pertaining to small quarries likely to be chalk quarries or marl pits. Eight of these are recorded in the HER (HER 303474, 30470/30662, 30468, 30473, 30465, 30467, 30477, 30482), and three were identified by in the Archaeological and Historical Assessment (Heaton 2017). One of these is a small, backfilled quarry located just outside the eastern site boundary which is recorded on 1887 Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping as 'old chalk pits'. Chalk quarrying has happened, in general, since at least the Roman period. Marl pits usually date to the 18th – 19th centuries and the quarries in this area are likely to date to between the medieval to post-medieval periods.

2.3.5 Three linear earthworks are visible as cropmarks 160 m to the north of the site and are likely to be either medieval or post-medieval field boundaries (HER 30649).

Post-medieval (1500–1800)

2.3.6 Mapping shows that the site and its wider area has retained its agricultural nature from the post-medieval period until the modern day. There has been an increase in residential housing in the wider area and the route of the A35, which borders the site to the north, appears to have been moved 90 m towards the site between the tithe maps of 1843 and the OS mapping of 1887.

2.3.7 Tithe maps from 1843 show that the site consisted of several fields. The 1887 OS map shows that some field boundaries in the centre and south of the site had been removed and the site resembled its current form apart from a small section in the north-west corner which was still a separate field. Within the west of the site an array of linear field boundaries is visible in aerial photographs. Some correspond with field boundaries visible on OS mapping or run parallel with existing boundaries indicating they are likely to be post-medieval in date. In the 1887 OS map shows a congregation chapel and two small plots of land along the northern edge of the site boundary. A pair of terraced houses were built after 1887 in these plots of land, and a larger house was built in 1893.

2.3.8 The water meadows of the River Piddle, 300 m to the north of the evaluation area, extend in a 200 m wide band and survive as earthworks. Cropmarks located 650 m to the south-west of the site show post-medieval field boundaries (HER 30650) and 500 m to the north-east is an area of ridge and furrow and water meadow (HER 2191, HER 2194) close to the scheduled monument of Bardolfeston.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General aims

3.1.1 The general aims of the evaluation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023) and in compliance with the CIfA *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a), were to:

- provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and

- inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

3.2 General objectives

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were to:

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

3.3 Site-specific objectives

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site, the site-specific objectives of the evaluation were to:

- Test the results of the geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2022)

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 2023) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in CIfA guidance (CIfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the approximate positions proposed in the WSI, although trenches XX had to be slightly moved because of obstacles such as trees and located services (Fig. 1).

4.2.2 Six trial trenches, each measuring 30 m in length and 1.8 m wide, were excavated in level spits using a 360º excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.3 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.

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

4.2.5 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and the Senior Archaeological were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

Recording

4.2.6 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.

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

4.2.8 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2023). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b), *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011), and CIfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2: Appraisal).

4.4 Monitoring

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

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 One of the six excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, (Figure 1). Two parallel linear features were recorded in trench 1, and a small quantities of worked flint and .clay pipe were recovered from the topsoil layers of trenches 1, 4 and 5.

5.1.2 The following section presents the results of the evaluation. Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the trench summary tables (Appendix 1). Figure 1 shows the archaeological features recorded within the trenches, together with the preceding geophysical survey results (Wessex Archaeology 2022). Figure 2 shows the section drawing of the excavated features and the plan of trench 1.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

5.2.1 The uppermost layer was a ploughsoil which was consistent across all trial trenches. It was a 0.25 m to 0.32 m thick dark brown silty loam with chalk and flint inclusions.

5.2.2 A subsoil was also present in all trenches. It was a yellowish brown silty sandy clay chalk and flint inclusions. It was shallower, at 0.1 m thick, on the northern side of the site (Figure 3), deepening to 0.55 m in the centre and 0.62 m on the southern side (Figures 4).

5.2.3 A mixed chalk and natural geology were observed in the northern trenches (Figures 5 and 6) giving way to a solid yellowish brown silty clay across the rest of the site (Figure 7).

5.3 Uncertain date

5.3.1 Two approximately north/south aligned, 3 m apart roughly parallel linear features were found at the western end of trench 1 (Figures 1 and 2). Feature 104 terminated within the trench. It had a concave base and sides, 0.56 m wide and 0.26 m deep, with a single fill (105) of mid brown silty sandy clay (Figures 2 and 8). The terminus end formed a step although the distribution of deposit material may suggest that it had a gradual slope (Figures 2 and 9). No dating evidence was recovered.

5.3.2 Feature 106 was V-shaped with steep sides and a concave base. It was 0.36 m wide and 0.28 m deep with a single fill (107) of light brown silty sandy clay and a diffuse interface with the subsoil (102) above(Figures 2 and 3). No dating evidence was recovered.

6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A small finds assemblage (116 g) consisting largely of worked flint was recovered. The finds have been cleaned and quantified by material type in each context and scanned to assess their nature, condition and potential date range. Totals by material type are presented in Table 1.

Table 1 Summary of finds by material type (no. and wt. in grammes)

Material	No.	Wt.
Flint	7	91
Burnt flint	1	17
Clay pipe	1	8
Total	**9**	**116**

6.2 Flint

6.2.1 Seven pieces of worked flint were recovered, all of which derive from the topsoil in trenches 1, 4 and 5 or are unstratified finds. Their condition is typical of flint collected from reworked surface deposits (particularly plough soil), exhibiting considerable edge damage and surface glossing, with iron staining most extremities. Three pieces are also patinated white or blue. Flint is locally available from exposures of chalk but could also be sourced from secondary deposits in nearby river terrace or head deposits. Little cortex remains on the examples discussed here, but enough survives to imply both primary and secondary sources are represented.

6.2.2 Six of the pieces of flint are flakes (one broken) and are chronologically undiagnostic. All are rather thick, have broad unprepared butts and have been detached with a hard hammer. These characteristics are most typical of Later Neolithic or Bronze Age technologies, but examples exhibiting these traits often form a small part of any assemblage. The minimal quantity of material here means that any suggested date must remain tentative.

6.2.3 The remaining piece is a relatively well-made blade with a curved profile from the topsoil of trench 5. This has a very small butt and has been produced with a soft hammer, although no obvious platform preparation is evident. The proximal, lefthand edge might retain a region of backing (blunting) for use as a knife but pronounced edge damage renders this uncertain. This piece is the only one demonstrably formed of flint derived directly from a chalk source. Again, dating must remain tentative when assessing a small number / single pieces of debitage, but this is most typical of Neolithic technology.

6.2.4 Assemblages of a comparable character, some of considerable size, have been found on several sites in and around Puddletown. Work by Wessex Archaeology on the A35 Tolpuddle to Puddletown bypass encountered Neolithic and Bronze Age flint at Burleston Down (1297 pieces) approximately 1 km to the east, and from Home Farm (201 pieces) and Lower Eweleaze (198 pieces) on Puddletown's northern fringes (Harding 1999).

6.3 Burnt flint

6.3.1 One piece of burnt, unworked flint was recovered from gully 104 in trench 1. This is an intrinsically undiagnostic material type but is commonly taken as providing evidence of prehistoric activity.

6.4 Clay pipe

6.4.1 A single plain fragment of clay pipe stem was collected from the surface near trench 4 (unstratified). It is not possible to attribute a precise date, but these objects were in use from the late 16th century onwards.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

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

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Summary

8.1.1 One of the six excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits. Two parallel linear features were recorded in trench 1, and a small quantities of worked flint and clay pipe were recovered from the topsoil layers of trenches 1, 4 and 5.

8.2 Discussion

8.2.1 The evaluation in corroboration with the previously undertaken geophysical survey has demonstrated that there is a low potential for the presence of archaeological remains within the site.

8.2.2 One of the trenches contained archaeological features and deposits. Two parallel linear features were recorded in trench 1, and a small quantities of worked flint and clay pipe were recovered from the topsoil layers of trenches 1, 4 and 5.

8.2.3 The worked flint indicates a general background of prehistoric activity tentatively dating to the Later Neolithic or Bronze Age within the site, and larger assemblages of worked flint dating to these period have previously been recovered from several sites in and around Puddletown.

8.2.4 Geophysical anomalies indicating a possible ditch or enclosure targeted in trenches 3 and 5 could not be identified.

8.2.5 The two undated linear features identified in trench 1 were tentatively interpreted as rainwater gullies or drains although they are wide enough to be considered as boundary ditches. They are not indicated on any historic mapping, so may predate the 1843 Tithe map, and be an indication of earlier land divisions within the site, and wider landscape.

9 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

9.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Dorset Museum has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code **DM/2023/02**. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

9.2 Preparation of the archive

Physical archive

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

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

- 1 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts, ordered by material type
- 1 files/document cases of paper records

Digital archive

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

9.3 Selection strategy

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

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

(Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.

9.3.3 In this instance, given the relatively low level of finds recovery, the selection process has been deferred until after the fieldwork stage was completed. Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. These proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (museum, local authority). The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.

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

Finds

9.3.5 All finds have been recorded to an appropriate level prior to any selection proposals being implemented, and the selection process will be fully documented in the project archive. Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

- Flint (7 pieces): of local significance, providing evidence of prehistoric activity; some future research potential; retain.
- Burnt flint (1 piece): intrinsically undiagnostic; discarded.
- Clay pipe (1 piece): negligible quantity; no further research potential; discard.

Documentary records

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

Digital data

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

9.4 Security copy

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

9.5 OASIS

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

10 COPYRIGHT

10.1 Archive and report copyright

10.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.

10.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

10.2 Third party data copyright

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

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Wessex Archaeology 2023. Adminston Farm, Athelhampton Road, Puddletown, Dorset: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation. Unpublished Document Ref.: 267531.01

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Trench summaries

Trench No 1	**Length 30 m**	**Width 1.80 m**	**Depth 0.36 m**
Easting 376053.41	**Northing 94165.51**	**m OD**	

Context Number	**Fill Of/Filled With**	**Interpretative Category**	**Description**	**Depth BGL**
101		Topsoil	Top Soil. Organic, dark brown silty loam- flint nodules Jann	0.0–0.25
102		Subsoil	Mid brown with chalky gravel	0.25–0.36
103		Natural	Chalk - fractured at this level	0.36+
104	105	Gully- Terminus	Linear gully- terminus aligned E-W with moderate, concave sides and a u-shaped base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 0.46 m. Depth: 0.26 m.	0.36–0.0.62
105	104	Secondary fill	Mid brown with orangey hues silty sandy clay with chalky gravel 0.001mm- 0.05mm flint nodules in base ≤ 10mm	
106	107	Gully	Linear gully aligned E-W with steep, concave sides and a V-shaped base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 0.36 m. Depth: 0.28 m.	0.36 –0.64
107	106	Secondary fill	Mid brown silty clay with abundant chalk gravel 0.01mm - 0.01 m angular & sub angular flint nodules ≤100mm rounded	

Trench No 2	**Length 30 m**	**Width 1.80 m**	**Depth 0.36 m**
Easting	**Northing**	**m OD**	

Context Number	**Fill Of/Filled With**	**Interpretative Category**	**Description**	**Depth BGL**
201		Topsoil	Top Soil. Organic. Dark brown silty chalky loam.	0.0 – 0.26
202		Subsoil	Medium brown silty clay with chalky deposits	0.26–0.36
203		Natural	Chalk with mid orangey brown silty clay	0.36+

Trench No 3	**Length 30 m**	**Width 1.80 m**	**Depth 0.62 m**
Easting 376135.82	**Northing 94094.60**	**m OD**	

Context Number	**Fill Of/Filled With**	**Interpretative Category**	**Description**	**Depth BGL**
301		Topsoil	Top Soil. Organic dark brown silty loam. Chalk & flint nodules	0.0–0.32
302		Subsoil	Light to medium brown silty sandy clay with chalky nodules 0.01- 0.10 m	0.32–0.62
303		Natural	Orangey brown silty sandy clay	0.62+

Trench No 4	**Length 30 m**	**Width 1.80 m**	**Depth 0.62 m**
Easting 376151.78	**Northing 94144.60**	**m OD**	

Context Number	**Fill Of/Filled With**	**Interpretative Category**	**Description**	**Depth BGL**
401		Topsoil	Top Soil. Dark brown organic - flint nodules ≤ 0.07 m and chalky gravels	0.0–0.25
402		Subsoil	Light to medium brown silty, sandy clay with chalky gravel deposits on horizon and flint nodules 0.05 - 0.15 m	0.25 –0.62
403		Natural	Orangey mid brown silty clay with chalky deposits	0.62+

Trench No 5	**Length 30 m**	**Width 1.80 m**	**Depth 0.56 m**
Easting 376153.18	**Northing 94099.21**	**m OD**	

Context Number	**Fill Of/Filled With**	**Interpretative Category**	**Description**	**Depth BGL**
501		Topsoil	Top Soil. Organic, dark brown silty loam flint and chalk	0.0–0.30
502		Subsoil	Orangey brown silty sandy clay with flint nodules	0.30– 0.56
503		Natural	Orangey light to mid brown silty sandy clay	0.56+

Trench No 6	**Length 30 m**	**Width 1.80 m**	**Depth 0.55 m**
Easting	**Northing**	**m OD**	

Context Number	**Fill Of/Filled With**	**Interpretative Category**	**Description**	**Depth BGL**
601		Topsoil	Top Soil. Dark brown silty loam , organic with flint nodules	0.0 – 0.25
602		Subsoil	Mid orangey brown sandy clay with chalk nodules	0.25 – 0.55
603		Natural	Orangey light to mid brown silty sandy	0.55+

Appendix 2 OASIS summary

OASIS ID (UID)	wessexar1-513533
Project Name	Trial Trench at Adminston Farm, Athelhampton Road, Puddletown
Sitename	Adminston Farm, Athelhampton Road, Puddletown
Activity type	Trial Trench
Project Identifier(s)	Adminston Farm, Athelhampton Road, Puddletown
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Pre application
Organisation Responsible for work	Wessex Archaeology
Project Dates	20-Feb-2023 - 23-Feb-2023
Location	Adminston Farm, Athelhampton Road, Puddletown NGR : SY 76183 94116 LL : 50.7461549305333, -2.33893763991417 12 Fig : 376183,94116
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Dorset District : Dorset Parish : Puddletown
Project Methodology	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 1.7 ha parcel of land located at Adminston Farm, Athelhampton Road, Puddletown, Dorset. Six trial trenches, each measuring 30 m in length and 1.8 m wide, were excavated

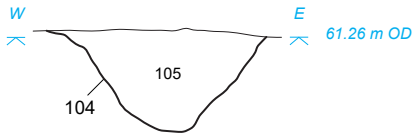
Project Results	The evaluation in corroboration with the previously undertaken geophysical survey demonstrated that there is a low potential for the presence of archaeological remains within the site. One of the trenches contained archaeological features and deposits. Two parallel linear features were recorded in trench 1, and a small quantities of worked flint and clay pipe were recovered from the topsoil layers of trenches 1, 4 and 5. The worked flint indicates a general background of prehistoric activity tentatively dating to the Later Neolithic or Bronze Age within the site, and larger assemblages of worked flint dating to these period have previously been recovered from several sites in and around Puddletown. Geophysical anomalies indicating a possible ditch or enclosure targeted in trenches 3 and 5 could not be identified. The two undated linear features identified in trench 1 were tentatively interpreted as rainwater gullies or drains although they are wide enough to be considered as boundary ditches. They are not indicated on any historic mapping, so potentially predate the 1843 Tithe map, and are an indication of earlier land divisions within the site, and wider landscape
Keywords	Drainage Ditch - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	
HER	Dorset HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	J, Kaines
HER Identifiers	

Coordinate system: OSGB 1936 British National Grid

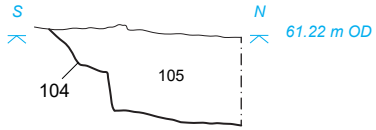
Date: 06/03/2023	Created by: CM	Revision: 0	Scale: 1:2,000 at A4

Figure 1: Site location and archaeological results

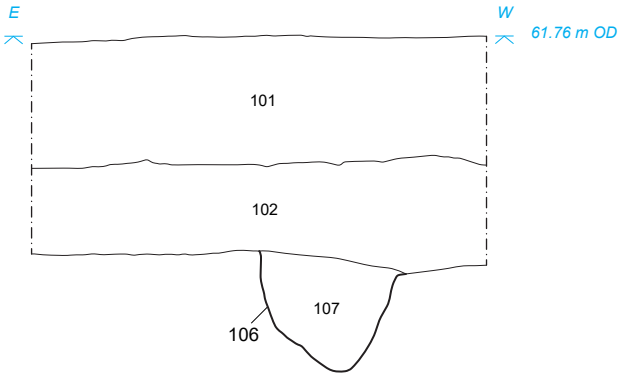
Section 1: South facing section of gully terminus 104

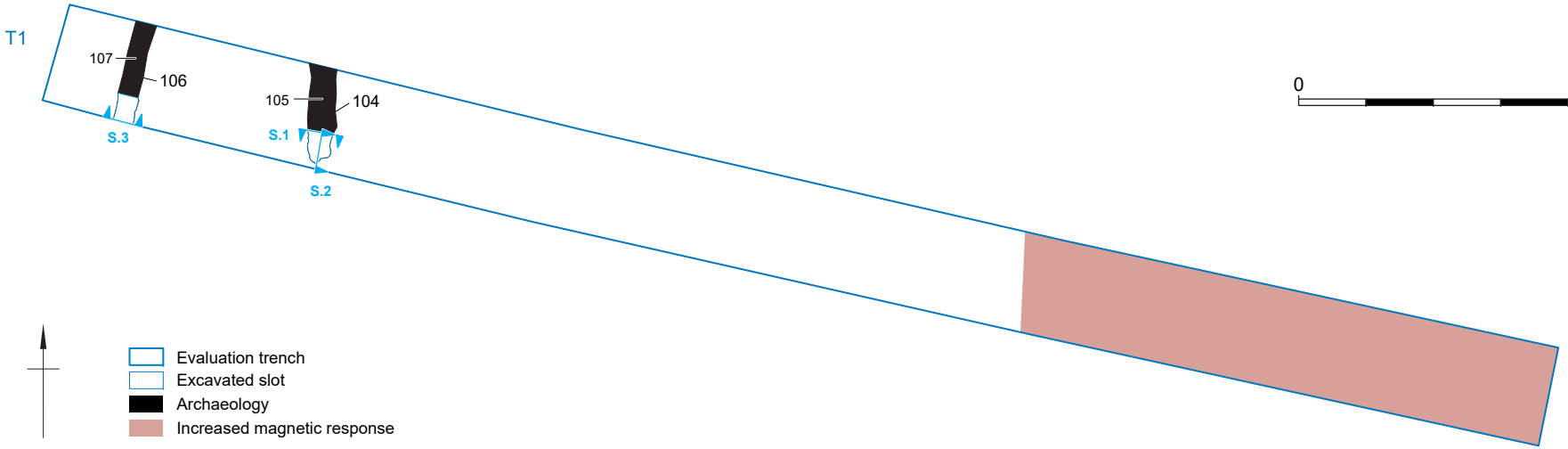


Section 2: East facing profile of gulley 104 terminus



Section 3: South Facing section of trench 1, with ditch 106





Date: 06/03/2023	Created by: CM	Revision: 0	Scale: 1:125 (trench plan); 1:20 (sections) at A4

Figure 2: Plan and sections of features in trench 1

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Figure 3: South facing section through trench 1, with ditch 106 (scale 1 m)

Figure 4: West facing section through trench 3 (scale 1 m)

Figure 5: View of trench 1 from west showing ditches 104 and 106 (scales 2 m and 1 m)

Figure 6: View of trench 2 from west (scales 2 m and 1 m)

Figure 7: View of trench 5 from north-west (scales 2 m and 1 m)

Figure 8: South facing section of gully 104 terminus (scale 0.3 m)

Figure 9: East facing profile of gully 104 terminus (scale 0.3 m)

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