



Lake Farm Wimborne, Dorset

Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Report
(Scheduled monument no. 736)





**LAKE FARM,
WIMBORNE, DORSET**

**Archaeological Evaluation and
Watching Brief Report**

SCHEDULED MONUMENT NO. 736

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation and watching brief was undertaken at Lake Farm, Wimborne Dorset for C.G. Pitcher and Son Ltd on behalf of Mr John George. Conditional planning permission (08/31146/6) including an archaeological condition, has been granted for the construction of an agricultural barn.

The Site lies within an area defined as a Scheduled Monument (SM736), a 1st century Roman military site, which contains a 16.8 hectare (vexillation) fort, although the Site itself lies outside the south east corner of the fort's defensive ditch circuit. The Scheduled Monument has been subject to small scale investigations and geophysical survey since the late 1950's. Scheduled Monument Consent (HSD 9/2/14217) for the evaluation was granted prior to any fieldwork commencing.

The fieldwork comprised a cross-shaped evaluation trench, within the footprint of the proposed barn. The evaluation revealed and confirmed the presence of Roman features on the Site. At a depth of 0.8m below the current ground surface a substantial ditch was uncovered. Pottery, glass and metalwork was recovered from this feature dating to the mid 1st century AD/early conquest period. The dating of this feature conformed to evidence gathered during the earlier investigations undertaken within the scheduled area.

The trench also contained a small stakehole in association with a possible gully. Although no datable artefacts were recovered from these features it is reasonable to assume that they are also Roman in date.

These results confirm the presence of archaeology within the south east corner of the scheduled area and outside the known boundary of the Roman fort itself. The evaluation confirms the results of previous geophysical survey work undertaken in the 1970s and 1980s, which seemed to indicate activity outside of the bounds of the fort ditches. It was not possible to confirm, whether or not the features revealed in the evaluation were military or associated with *Vicus* activity around the outskirts of the fort enclosure.

The evaluation has confirmed the presence of archaeological features on the Site dating to the Roman period most probably associated with the Roman fort. Being within a Scheduled Monument these features qualify as being of national importance and will be suitably militated against within the development programme to ensure that the archaeological horizon/features are preserved *in situ*.

An impact assessment of the proposed development on the archaeological remains within the Site has been set out demonstrating how preservation *in situ* of the archaeological remains can be achieved. The impact assessment takes into consideration the design and depth of the proposed new barn in relation to the known depth of the archaeological horizon revealed during the evaluation. An archaeological

mitigation strategy, comprising a strictly monitored watching brief during all groundworks on the Site, is to be undertaken in order to ensure that preservation *in situ* is complied with and that no damage or truncation of the known archaeological horizon occurs.

The evaluation report was formally submitted to English Heritage and Dorset County Council (DCC), acting on behalf of the Local Planning Authority for approval. Following approval of the evaluation report, Scheduled Monument Consent (HSD 9/2/14320) was granted by the Department of Culture Media and Sport allowing development to be undertaken at the Site subject to the details set out in the evaluation report. The approval of the evaluation report by DCC allowed for the addressing/discharging of the condition attached to planning application 08/31146/6 ensuring that development at the Site could be undertaken.

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the groundworks for the barn development on the 28th September 2009. The watching brief continuously monitored all groundworks undertaken at the Site, to ensure that they strictly complied with the proposed scope of works as specified in the evaluation report impact assessment (Section 8).

The monitored works comprised the stripping of the barn footprint to a depth of up to 0.45m, excavation of foundation trenches to a maximum depth of 0.60m and topsoil removal to a maximum depth of 0.20m for the area of hardstanding to the south of the proposed barn. All upcast from the excavations was placed around the specified edges of the Site to allow for the landscaping detailed in the impact assessment.

All upcast and exposed surfaces were scanned visually and with a metal detector, but no artefacts other than modern refuse were observed.

The monitored groundworks were seen to comply with the scope of works set out in the evaluation report (Section 8) and the terms of the Scheduled Monument Consent (HSD 9/2/14320). The groundworks were shown to have only disturbed the topsoil and subsoil 'b-horizon'. The depth of potential archaeological deposits, as demonstrated by the evaluation, are 0.2m below the maximum depth of the groundworks and have therefore been preserved *in situ* within the footprint of the barn.

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Acknowledgements

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The fieldwork was undertaken by Jon Milward assisted by Jon Smith. This report was compiled by Jon Milward. The finds and environmental information was contributed by Rachel Seager-Smith and Dr Chris Stevens respectively. Nicki Mulhall processed the environmental samples. The illustrations were prepared by Rob Goller. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Damian De Rosa.

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Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) has been commissioned by C.G. Pitcher and Sons Ltd on behalf of Mr J George (the Client) to carry out an archaeological evaluation and watching brief prior to and during the construction of an agricultural store on land to the east of Lake Farm, Wimborne Minster, Dorset (hereafter 'the Site') centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 400227 98977(**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The Site lies within an area defined as a Scheduled Monument (SM736), a 1st century Roman military site, which contains a 16.8 hectare (vexillation) fort, although the Site itself lies outside the south east corner of the fort's defensive ditch circuit (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.3 Planning permission for the proposed development has been granted by the Borough of Poole (08/31146/6).
- 1.1.4 The proposed development has been through a number of revisions dating back to 2001. The current proposed position for the barn is to the east of an original proposed location, evaluated by AC Archaeology in 2002 (AC Archaeology 2002). Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) for the evaluation was approved in advance of the fieldwork (HSD 9/2/14217). On completion of the evaluation and approval of the report of the investigations, SMC (HSD 9/2/14320) allowing for groundworks for the barn to be undertaken under strict archaeological watching brief conditions. All work undertaken at the Site was carried in accordance with the terms and conditions of both consents.
- 1.1.5 The evaluation Fieldwork was undertaken on the 5th and 6th August 2009 and the watching brief on 28th September 2009.

1.2 Scope of Document

- 1.2.1 This document presents the results of the archaeological evaluation and considers the impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource. The results of the archaeological watching brief are set out in **Appendix 3**.

1.3 The Site, location and geology

- 1.3.1 The Site comprises a sub-rectangular parcel of land c. 0.15ha in size, located c. 200m to the east of Lake Farm Cottage. The Site is bounded to the south by Willets Road and lies to the south of the A31 Wimborne bypass (**Figure 1**).

1.3.2 The Site, which currently lies under pasture, is relatively flat, at a height of 24m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as tertiary sands and gravels of the Poole Formation, part of the Hampshire basin complex (GSGB 1979).

1.4 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.4.1 The Site is located immediately to the east of the south east corner of the defensive ditches that surround a Roman fort or supply base at Lake Farm. A series of excavations undertaken since the 1950s have shown the fort to date to the 1st century AD (RCHM 1970, Field 1992). The work undertaken suggests that there are two phases to the fort, with the first established shortly after the Roman invasion in AD 43, which was seemingly in use for only a short period of time before being superseded by a fort or base covering a slightly smaller area. Occupation would appear to have continued up to AD 65 with the fort possibly being garrisoned by Legio II Augusta. The fort would have been linked to the Roman supply base at Hamworthy near Poole to the south. Remains of a Roman road heading out of the fort can still be seen to the north-west, leading to the Roman settlement of Vindocladia (Badbury Rings).

1.4.2 Seasonal excavations took place on the fort between 1959 and 1973 as well as during the construction of the Wimbourne by-pass (Horsey and Jarvis 1979). The excavations revealed evidence for internal roads, a timber lined water tank and possibly the southwest corner of the defensive ditch and bank circuit. Evidence of industrial activity outside of the defensive ditches was also identified. The defences are interpreted as being of two phases, with the first phase comprising a single ditch and the second of three ditches. The excavations in advance of the by-pass identified the major defensive ditch, as well as a water channel and foundation slots for timber buildings. Finds recovered from all phases of the work included a bronze buckle and military strap end, a statuette of a lion, glass vessels and large quantities of native and traded pottery (RCHM 1970).

1.4.3 A geophysical survey carried out intermittently by the Ancient Monuments Laboratory between 1976 and 1983 identified the full extent of the fort as probably 16.8 hectares (David 1976, 1980 etc.) The survey also identified a number of internal features, such as large pits, ditches and probable roads. The survey also indicated features outside the north east corner of the defensive ditches, which could be interpreted as a Vicus (extra-mural settlement activity).

1.4.4 Archaeological monitoring during the construction of a pipeline in the field immediately to the east of the Site (Watkins 1989) identified several large quarry pits, each containing considerable amounts of Roman native and traded pottery.

1.4.5 The evaluation undertaken in 2002 (AC Archaeology 2002) on the previous proposed location of the agricultural store, consisted of the hand excavation of four trial pits each 1m² in plan, located in the positions of four support stanchions for the proposed new barn. Two of the pits located features or deposits of Romano-British date, which, based on the results of previous work, were interpreted as quarry pits. The archaeological features were

revealed at 0.50m below ground surface. The quarry pits identified during the archaeological monitoring in 1989 were interpreted as being dug to provide aggregate for the construction of roads within the fort.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 The archaeological work aimed to establish the date, nature, extent and quality of preservation of any archaeological remains on the Site, and specifically to:

- Confirm the depth and thickness of the remains below ground level toward providing a deposit model of the remains and overburden.
- Provide information toward determining the impact of the proposed development on the remains
- To determine in particular the presence of Roman features, which may help to determine extra-mural activity outside of the defensive ditches e.g. Vicus, quarrying, industrial activity etc.
- Inform the design of a strategy to mitigate the impact of the proposed development on archaeological remains.
- Consider the results of the evaluation in light of the perceived archaeological potential of the Site to contribute to current local, regional and wider archaeological research objectives
- The watching briefs objective was to ensure that the development groundworks were undertaken in strict compliance with the terms of SMC HSD 9/2/14320.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1.1 An eight tonne tracked excavator with a toothless bucket was employed to open a single 20m by 10m cross-shaped trench under archaeological supervision. Overburden was removed to the depth of natural deposits. Archaeological features were defined in plan and sample excavated by hand to provide information on their character and date.

3.1.2 The Site was recorded using Wessex Archaeologies *pro forma* recording system including the production of a full photographic record.

3.1.3 Features were hand planned and located in relation to the Ordnance Survey National Grid using GPS surveying equipment.

3.1.4 An eight tonne tracked excavator with a toothless bucket supported by a 6 tonne dumper was employed to undertake all groundworks during the course of the watching brief.

4 RESULTS

4.1.1 Detailed contextual information is available in **Appendix 1**. Details of the watching brief are set out in **Appendix 3**.

4.1.2 The evaluation trench contained three archaeological features and a probable tree throw. The modern ground surface was recorded at a height of 24.20m aOD with the archaeological horizon sealed by an overburden of 0.80m at 23.40m aOD. The soil profile comprised a 0.3m deep agricultural

topsoil and a sandy clay subsoil 'b-horizon' which was 0.5m in depth (**Figure 2 – section**).

- 4.1.3 A ditch **104** aligned approximately north-south was the dominant feature in the trench (**Figures 1 to 3** and **Plate 1**). This was defined in plan and partially excavated to investigate its character and to retrieve datable artefacts. The ditch was relatively wide at 3.5m in relation to its rather shallow depth of 0.65m. The base of the ditch was ascertained using an auger. Further excavation to the base of the ditch was curtailed by the weather. Four fills were identified during the excavation. Fills **105**, **107** and **108** were all gradually formed secondary deposits with incorporated anthropogenic material. Fill **106** was a quickly deposited thin lens of redeposited, locally-derived natural.
- 4.1.4 Pottery was recovered from all of the secondary fills **105**, **107** and **108**, with glass and metalwork exclusive to fill **107**. These artefacts have been dated to the mid 1st century AD and conforms with the evidence retrieved during previous work within the Scheduled Monument.
- 4.1.5 Struck flint was recovered from ditch **104**. This must be intrusive in light of the Romano-British artefacts from the same contexts. The flint has been dated to the Neolithic and can only be used to describe undiagnosed/unspecified activity of this date in the general vicinity.
- 4.1.6 A stake-hole (**111**) and a small feature considered to be the end of a gully (**109**) were also recorded (**Figure 2** and **Plate 2**). Although no datable artefacts were recovered, they are probably associated with each other and it is reasonable to assume they are also of Romano-British date.
- 4.1.7 The only other feature revealed is most probably a tree throw or natural hollow **113**. This was fully excavated and was very irregular in plan and profile (**Figure 2** and **Plate 3**). Several other small circular features, initially thought to be stake and post holes were revealed to be bioturbation/natural hollows.

5 FINDS

- 5.1.1 A small collection of finds were recovered from five contexts. These have been washed, marked and quantified by material type within each context; this information is summarised in **Table 1**. The artefacts were then visually scanned to gain an impression of the range of types present, their condition and potential date range.

Table 1: Finds by context (number of pieces/weight in grammes)

Material	Unstratified.	Subsoil	Ditch 104			
Context	100	102	105	107	108	Total
Burnt flint				16/81g		16/81g
Flint		4/67g			2/2g	6/69g
Glass				4/18g		4/18g
Iron				3/162g		3/162g
Pottery	3/21g	12/233g	1/5g	24/1884g	4/84g	44/2217g
Slag				3/167g		3/167g

Stone					1/86g	1/86g
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5.1.2 With the exception of a single, unstratified sandy coarseware jar rim of 13th – 14th century AD date, all the pottery was of Romano-British date and survived in a good, fresh condition. The range and quantity of the various ware types present are summarised in **Table 2**. All the fabrics and forms present are already known at this site (Darling unpub. manuscript).

Table 2: Ware types by context (number of pieces/weight in grammes)

Ware	Unstratified	Subsoil	Ditch 104			Total
Context	100	102	105	107	108	
South Gaulish Samian	1/4g			2/90g		3/94g
Dressel 20 oil amphora		7/150g		12/1683g		19/1833g
Gallic wine amphora		3/63g				3/63g
Lake Farm fabric 103/104 mortaria				3/91g		3/91g
Black Burnished ware	1/4g		1/5g	7/20g	4/84g	13/113g
Unsources oxidised wares		2/10g				2/10g
Medieval coarseware	1/13g					1/13g
	3/21g	12/233g	1/5g	24/1884g	4/84g	44/2217g

5.1.3 Although small, the assemblage from ditch **104** is of particular significance because all the chronologically diagnostic pieces are of consistent mid 1st century AD date and, unusually, it is dominated by imported wares. The Samian sherds were both from platters (forms 15/17 and 18R) both of pre- or early Flavian date (Webster 1996, 30-31 and 35) while the Dressel 20 amphora included pieces from two vessels, one a type dated to around the middle of the 1st century AD at Augst (Martin-Kilcher 1983, no. 8). The wall-sided mortaria are also considered unlikely to date after AD 60 (Hartley 1991, 207; Darling unpub. manuscript) while one of the Black Burnished ware sherds decorated with impressed dots (context **108**) can be paralleled by pieces from Late Iron Age (1st century BC/AD) contexts from sites on the Ower Peninsular and to the east of Corfe River (Lancely and Morris 1991, 131, fig.61, 75 and 76). This date is also appropriate for the glass found in context **107**. All four pieces derive from the base of a small, cast cylindrical bowl, dated to c. AD 43 – 60/65 (Isings form 22-23 in Price and Cottam 1998, 50-51, fig. 10), made in translucent dark green metal.

5.1.4 Although intrinsically undatable, the iron objects and small quantity of ironworking slag from this feature are also likely to be contemporary. The iron objects consisted of two small hobnails or upholstery tacks and pieces from a flattish object, now too broken to be identifiable. The absence of food remains (e.g. animal bones, oyster shell) is somewhat surprising but may be the result of the soil conditions in the area. The single piece of stone (very fine-grained ironstone) from context **108**, showed no obvious signs of deliberate working or utilisation although its surfaces were naturally weathered to a smooth, almost polished finish. Ironstone occurs in a variety of local lithologies including beds of Upper Jurassic age from the Dorset coast around Abbotsbury, in the Tertiary deposits of Reading Beds and London Clays in the Frome and Piddle valleys and in Poole Harbour (e.g. Agglestone Grit).

- 5.1.5 The worked and burnt flint is residual in the contexts in which it occurred. Four of the struck flints are likely to be of Neolithic date. These comprised two flakes from ditch **104**, a third from the subsoil and a complete Y-shaped tool or tribrach also from the subsoil. The other two pieces, a flake core and a recently-broken joining flake, from ditch **104** are likely to be of Bronze Age date. Small quantities of flintwork, including a scraper of later Neolithic date, were also found during a previous evaluation of the Site (AC Archaeology 2002, 5). Although undatable, burnt flint is generally interpreted as indicative of prehistoric activity and both these material types therefore indicate the potential for as yet undiscovered archaeological remains predating the Roman occupation of the Site.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 A single bulk sample was taken from a fill of a large boundary ditch **104**. The sample was processed for the recovery of charred plant remains and other potential environmental material.

6.2 Charred Plant Remains

- 6.2.1 The bulk sample was processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. The flot was then scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the presence of charred remains quantified (**Table 3**) to record the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).
- 6.2.2 There was a reasonable amount of charcoal, but few other charred remains, those present being quite poorly preserved. The flot had quite a large number of modern uncharred seeds, including numerous larger seeds of ivy-leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*), bogbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*) and elder (*Sambucus niger*). The deposit lay at 37cm depth below the bottom of the sub-soil, itself 80cm below the current ground level. The depth of the modern soil overburden is likely to be due to alluvial input and it is probable that the seeds are of more recent antiquity perhaps having been incorporated into this uppermost fill of the ditch through a mixture of alluvial activity and subsequent ploughing.
- 6.2.3 The small amount of charred material comprised of several badly preserved glume bases of hulled wheat (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*) and a few grains of barley (*Hordeum vulgare* sl.). The only weed seeds were those of vetch/tare (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.) and black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*). Although the glumes were extremely degraded at least two could be identified as probable emmer wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*).
- 6.2.4 While it is possible that the barley, and some of the charred weeds could be intrusive elements, the remains of hulled wheats (emmer and possibly spelt) can certainly be related to the Roman occupation of the fort, these cereals being rare after the Roman period.

6.2.5 While spelt is often the more predominant crop in Dorset during the Iron Age and Romano-British period, with emmer being relatively rare (Straker 1997; Evans and Jones 1979), it is interesting to note that emmer was also identified from a probable Iron Age pit at the nearby Hillfort of Badbury Rings (Wessex Archaeology 2005). The finding of chaff would imply that crops were brought to the fort and processed there. The source of crops to the fort is more problematic, although it might be noted that the harvesting of local native fields was a common military tactic (see Caesar, *de Bello Gallico*) at least prior to securing a more reliable source through local taxation (see Tacitus *Agricola* 19).

6.3 Wood Charcoal

6.3.1 Wood charcoal was reasonably common in the 2mm fraction and under (recorded in **Table 3**), but comprised mainly of fragments of ring-porous (probably oak) large wood, with no round wood in evidence.

6.4 Potential

Charred plant remains

6.4.1 While the charred plant remains confirm the processing and utilisation of hulled wheat the paucity of the sample means there is no further potential for analysis. No further work is proposed

Wood charcoal

6.4.2 While there is some potential for examination for wood charcoal to inform on potential local woodland resources, such potential is limited given that the sample on assessment appeared to comprise predominately oak wood. No further work is proposed.

Table 3: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Samples				Flot				
Feature	context	sample	ltrs	flot (ml)	% roots	Grain, chaff and seeds	Charcoal >4/2mm	Other
Romano-British Ditch 104								
104	107	1	40	170	10	14x Tri d/s glume bases, 2x rootlets, 1x hulled barley grain, 3x barley 2x <i>Vicia</i> sp., 1x <i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> ,	3ml/20ml	-

Key: A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5 sab/f = small animal/fish bones, Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs, Moll-f = freshwater molluscs; Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant, M = molluscs, C14 = radiocarbon

7 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1.1 The importance of the results of the evaluation are that they confirm Roman activity dating to the middle of the 1st century AD, which must be associated with the Roman fort to the west of the Site. The results further indicate the short period of time that the fort would have been occupied for, most probably due to the Roman military campaigns being completed in this part of Roman Britain and therefore there was no further strategic requirement for the fort to be occupied. The results provide further evidence for extra mural activity being undertaken outside of the forts ditched boundaries, which may be linked to activity being undertaken by the Roman military themselves or by the camp followers or retinue who would have undoubtedly been following in the wake of the Roman army.
- 7.1.2 The evaluation has demonstrated that Roman features exist within the footprint of the proposed development Site at a depth of 0.80m below current ground surface. The features identified and recorded during this evaluation pertain to activity associated with the Roman military fort. This is further confirmed by the dateable material recovered from ditch **104**, which has been dated to the mid first century AD and conforms to material excavated and recorded during previous work undertaken at the Scheduled Monument.
- 7.1.3 It is unclear whether ditch **104** was a specific fort boundary at some stage or whether it served another function. It's proportionally wide width and shallow depth is not indicative of a major defensive feature so it may instead have provided definition and drainage to an area of *Vicus* activity to the east of the fort. Although only a tiny segment of this ditch was exposed, it appeared to be orientated on a north-south alignment. This is similar to but not exact conformation of the strict planned layout of the fort as demonstrated by previous geophysical survey of the scheduled Site (**Figure 3**). This may also suggest a non-military association or the possibility of a further previously unidentified phase of the fort.
- 7.1.4 The significance of these remains is high due to their presence within a Scheduled Monument. These remains are also important in terms of their potential to provide information on the Roman fort and associated extra mural activity which has only been subjected to limited investigation in the past.
- 7.1.5 The presence of archaeological features on the Site will need to be suitably mitigated against in the design plan for the development. A site meeting held on 5th August 2009 with Wessex Archaeology, English Heritage, Dorset County Council and C.J. Pitchers concluded that preservation *in situ* of the archaeological horizon supported by a strictly monitored watching brief (**Appendix 3**) would be the preferred option. The means by which this will be achieved is set out in Section 8 below in an impact assessment of the proposed development on the archaeological resource.
- 7.1.6 Groundworks for the development were strictly monitored by an archaeological watching brief (**Appendix 3**) on 28th September 2009 and seen to comply with the scope of works set out in the evaluation report (Section 8) and the terms of the Scheduled Monument Consent (HSD 9/2/14320). The groundworks were shown to have only disturbed the topsoil

and subsoil 'b-horizon'. The depth of potential archaeological deposits, as demonstrated by the evaluation, are 0.2m below the maximum depth of the groundworks and have therefore been preserved in situ within the footprint of the barn.

8 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 Current usage and Impact

8.1.1 The field in which the Site is located currently lies under pasture and is used for the grazing of sheep. This activity by its nature has had no impact on the underlying archaeological features/horizon within the Scheduled Monument area.

8.2 Proposed Impact

8.2.1 Planning permission with conditions (08/31146/6) has been granted by The Borough of Poole for the construction of an agricultural barn and associated works.

8.2.2 The proposed development impact will comprise; (**Plans - Appendix 2**)

- The construction of a barn measuring 18.56m east to west by 9.22m north to south.
- the creating of an area for a hard surface to the south of the barn footprint measuring 18.56m east to west by 9.5m north to south.
- Landscaping and screening of the barn along the northern, eastern and western sides of the Site and planting of shallow rooting plants. Removal of an existing hedge and planting of a new hedge along the southern boundary of the Site.

8.2.3 The proposed construction of the barn will comprise

- The stripping of the existing ground surface to a maximum depth of 450mm (23.75m aOD) within the barn footprint for the creation of the base slab. The slab will be created by building up layers comprising consolidated grade stone to be filled in 150mm layers, 25mm of blinding sand to be covered by 1200 gauge Damp Proof Membrane (DPM). A 150mm concrete slab will overlie the DPM. A Metal reinforcing mesh (A393 mesh) will be placed at a depth of 75mm within the concrete.
- To the south the slab will be grounded on the existing ground surface. To the north where the existing ground surface falls by up to 500mm the slab level will be built up above the existing ground surface to create a level base.
- The walls of the barn will be grounded on strip foundations. The foundations will be excavated to a maximum depth of 600mm (23.60m aOD) below the existing ground surface. This depth will provide a 200mm buffer above the archaeological horizon at 23.40m aOD. The base and sides of the foundation trenches will be lined with 1200 gauge DPM. Concrete will then be poured into the trenches to form the foundation.

8.2.4 The groundworks for the proposed hard surface will comprise;

- Scraping back of the existing ground surface to a maximum of 400mm to provide a levelled area for the creation of an area of hard standing in front of the barn to the south.
- The hard surface will comprise of a hard compacted stone to create a surface suitable for cars and other vehicles.

8.2.5 Landscaping:

- Material removed during the excavation of the barn footprint, foundations and area of hard surface will be utilised for landscaping and screening purposes. No below ground excavation will be undertaken in regard of landscaping.
- The material will be banked up around the northern and southern sides of the Site to a height of 1.5m.
- Along the northern edge of the Site shallow rooting plants comprising mixture of 65% Hawthorn, 25% Hazel and 10% field maple will be planted.
- Along the western edge of the Site shallow rooting plants comprising a mixture of dogwood and blackthorn is to be planted. Remaining trees will comprise a mixture of holly, hazel, rowan and beech.
- Along the southern edge of the Site the existing hedge will be removed and a new hedge planted with a mixture of 70% hawthorn, 15% blackthorn, 15% hazel with the occasional field maple.

8.3 Proposed development impact on the archaeological remains.

8.3.1 It is considered that the proposed development impact detailed above has been designed in such a way that it will not compromise the known archaeological horizon identified in the evaluation. As such the proposed development will allow for the preservation *in situ* of the identified archaeological remains/horizon.

8.3.2 The archaeological horizon was identified at a depth of 0.80m (23.40m aOD) below current ground surface. The maximum depth of excavation to be undertaken during construction of the barn will be 0.60m (23.60m) below current ground surface. This will therefore provide a buffer of 0.20m between the archaeological horizon and the base of the foundation trenches. Further protection of the archaeological horizon will be provided by the lining of the trenches with a 1200 gauge DPM.

8.3.3 Excavation within the footprint of the barn for the establishment of a base slab and scraping back for an area of hardstanding will not exceed 0.45m in depth. This provides a buffer of 0.35m between the depth of excavation and the archaeological horizon.

8.3.4 Landscaping will involve no below ground excavation. The ground surface will be built up and shallow rooting plants will be planted. As such landscaping and screening proposals can be shown to have no impact on the below ground archaeological resource. A minimum 0.80 m buffer will lie between the areas of landscaping and the archaeological horizon.

8.4 Discussion and mitigation controls

-
- 8.4.1 It is considered that the proposed development impact demonstrates that the archaeological remains revealed in this part of Scheduled Monument 736 can be mitigated against by preservation *in situ*.
- 8.4.2 In order to ensure that the proposed development impact adheres to the details listed above in section 8.2 it is recommended that an archaeological watching brief is undertaken to strictly control all groundworks undertaken at the Site.
- 8.4.3 The method by which a watching brief will be carried out will be set out in a written scheme of investigation, which will be prepared following approval of this document and prior to any groundworks commencing.
- 8.4.4 Scheduled Monument Consent for works relating to the construction of the barn, associated works and undertaking of an archaeological watching brief is in the process of being applied for and for which this document forms an integral part. No groundworks will be undertaken until Scheduled Monument Consent and all documents in support of it have been approved and granted.

9 WATCHING BRIEF

9.1 Introduction

- 9.1.1 In order to ensure that the proposed development impact adheres to the details listed above in section 8.2 an archaeological watching brief will be maintained to strictly control all groundworks undertaken at the Site.
- 9.1.2 The watching brief will be carried out in accordance with Scheduled Monument Consent having been granted prior to any groundworks commencing and the relevant guidance given in the Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (revised 2008).
- 9.1.3 The following methodology is proposed for the monitoring of the archaeological watching brief.

9.2 Monitoring

- 9.2.1 The Client will provide a minimum of 5 days notice prior to the commencement of groundworks so that Wessex Archaeology can provide archaeological attendance to undertake the monitoring. The period of notice will also allow for English Heritage and the Dorset County Council Archaeological Officer to be notified of the commencement of groundworks.
- 9.2.2 A suitably qualified archaeologist will be in attendance at all times to guide and monitor machine excavation during the groundworks to ensure that the details listed above in section 8.2 are adhered to.
- 9.2.3 Although it is anticipated that based on the results of the evaluation that no archaeological features or deposits will be revealed at the proposed depth of impact (section 8.2), if they are encountered the Client, English Heritage and Dorset County Council Archaeological Officer will be informed of their location and a variation to this method statement may be required. Any such

variation will be agreed with the Client, English Heritage and Dorset County Council Archaeological Officer prior to any further groundworks commencing.

- 9.2.4 Stripped material will be visually examined for archaeological material. A metal detector may be used to enhance artefact retrieval.
- 9.2.5 A full photographic record will be maintained using both colour transparencies and black and white negatives (on 35 mm film). Digital photography will be employed as appropriate.
- 9.2.6 Areas under archaeological observation will be surveyed using a GPS and tied in to the Ordnance Survey.
- 9.2.7 The archaeological monitoring will be concluded when it is clear, and has been confirmed by the Client, that all groundworks detailed in the impact assessment have been completed, ensuring that preservation *in situ* of the archaeological horizon has been adhered to.

9.3 Notice and inspection

- 9.3.1 English Heritage and the Dorset County Council Archaeological Officer will be notified by Wessex Archaeology a minimum of five days prior to the start date of the groundworks and of the name of the attending archaeologist.
- 9.3.2 Access to the Site will be provided to English Heritage and the Dorset County Council Archaeological Officer who may wish to make Site inspections to ensure that the archaeological monitoring and agreed impact assessment is being adhered to.
- 9.3.3 Any variations to the method statement detailed in Section 9.2 above will be agreed with English Heritage and the Dorset County Council Archaeological Officer prior to implementation.

9.4 Reporting

- 9.4.1 A brief summary of the results of the archaeological watching brief have been appended here (**Appendix 3**) to the approved evaluation report and submitted to the Client, English Heritage and Dorset County Council Archaeological Officer within 2 weeks of the completion of the groundworks.
- 9.4.2 Publication of the results will as a minimum be submitted as a summary to the *Proceedings of the Dorset and Natural History Society* within one year of completion of all fieldwork.

10 ARCHIVE

- 10.1.1 The archive is currently at Wessex Archaeology's office in Salisbury under the project code 72110. The complete project archive will be prepared in accordance with the relevant standards set out in 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (MoRPHE), English Heritage (2006), Wessex Archaeology's Guidelines for Archive Preparation and in accordance with *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage (UKIC 1990)*. On completion of the project to publication

level the complete archive will be deposited with a repository to be agreed with Dorset County Council. It is anticipated that subject to agreement the repository will be the Dorset County Museum.

11 COPYRIGHT

11.1 Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988

- 11.1.1 Wessex Archaeology shall retain full copyright of any report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. Excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of the report by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the specification. Any document produced to meet planning requirements may be copied for planning purposes by the Local Planning Authority.

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APPENDIX 1 – CONTEXT INFORMATION

Trench 1		Height = 24.2m aOD
Context No.	Description	Depth below ground surface (m)
100	Unstratified artefacts.	N/A
101	Topsoil. Dark grey-brown sandy loam with sparse small sub rounded/angular flints. 0.3m deep.	0 – 0.3
102	Subsoil. Mid grey-brown sandy clay with sparse fine-small sub rounded/angular flints and very rare charcoal flecks. 0.5m deep.	0.3 – 0.8
103	Natural. Yellowish brown sandy clay with pea grit and small angular flints in common concentrations.	>0.8
104	Partially excavated ditch. Parallel sided and aligned on a roughly north-south orientation. Length >2.25, width 3.5m, depth of feature ascertained as 0.65m using an auger.	0.8 – 1.45
105	Secondary fill in ditch 104 , gradually formed through natural processes of siltation. Comprises mid brown sandy clay with very rare charcoal flecks and rare small sub rounded/angular flints. >0.24m deep.	0.8 – >1.2
106	Primary fill in ditch 104 derived from erosion and redeposition of natural deposits at edge of feature. Comprises thin lens of light yellowish brown sandy clay. 0.06m deep.	0.8 – >1.2
107	Secondary fill in ditch 104 . Comprises mid brown sandy clay with very rare small charcoal flecks and very rare small-medium sized sub-rounded flint. Slow formed through natural siltation processes. 0.38m deep.	0.8 – 1.15
108	Secondary fill in ditch 104 , gradually formed deposit through processes of natural siltation. Comprises mottled mid brown/mid grey-brown sandy clay with rare small sub-rounded flints. >0.44m deep.	0.8 – >1.2
109	Feature. Not fully exposed in plan within trench. This is considered to be either the terminal of a gully or a small discrete feature of unspecific function. Slightly concave sides and base in profile. >0.7m in length, 0.4m wide and 0.09m depth. Located in association with stake hole 111. This may be significant in terms of interpretation.	0.8 – 0.9

110	Single secondary fill of feature 109 representing gradual silting. Comprises mottled light grey-brown/light brown sandy clay with rare medium sized sub-rounded flint. 0.09m deep.	0.8 – 0.89
111	Stake hole. Circular in plan with diameter of 0.13m and depth of 0.15m. Near vertical sides with a slightly concave base in profile. Located in association with feature 109 . This may be significant in terms of interpretation.	0.8 – 0.95
112	Single secondary fill of stake hole 111 , represents gradual silting of void left by removal of stake. Comprises mid grey-brown sandy clay. 0.15m in depth.	0.8 – 0.95
113	Tree throw/natural feature. Irregular shape in plan with irregular concave profile. 1.05m in length, >1m wide and 0.35m deep.	0.8 – 1.15
114	Single secondary fill of bioturbation hollow 113 , formed gradually after removal of root bowl either physically or if tree was blown down. Comprises mid brown sandy clay with very rare small sub-rounded flints 0.35m deep.	0.8 -1.15

APPENDIX 2:- DEVELOPMENT PLANS

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APPENDIX 3:- WATCHING BRIEF

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the groundworks for the barn development on the 28th September 2009. The watching brief continuously monitored all groundworks undertaken at the Site, to ensure that they strictly complied with the proposed scope of works as specified in the evaluation report impact assessment (Section 8).

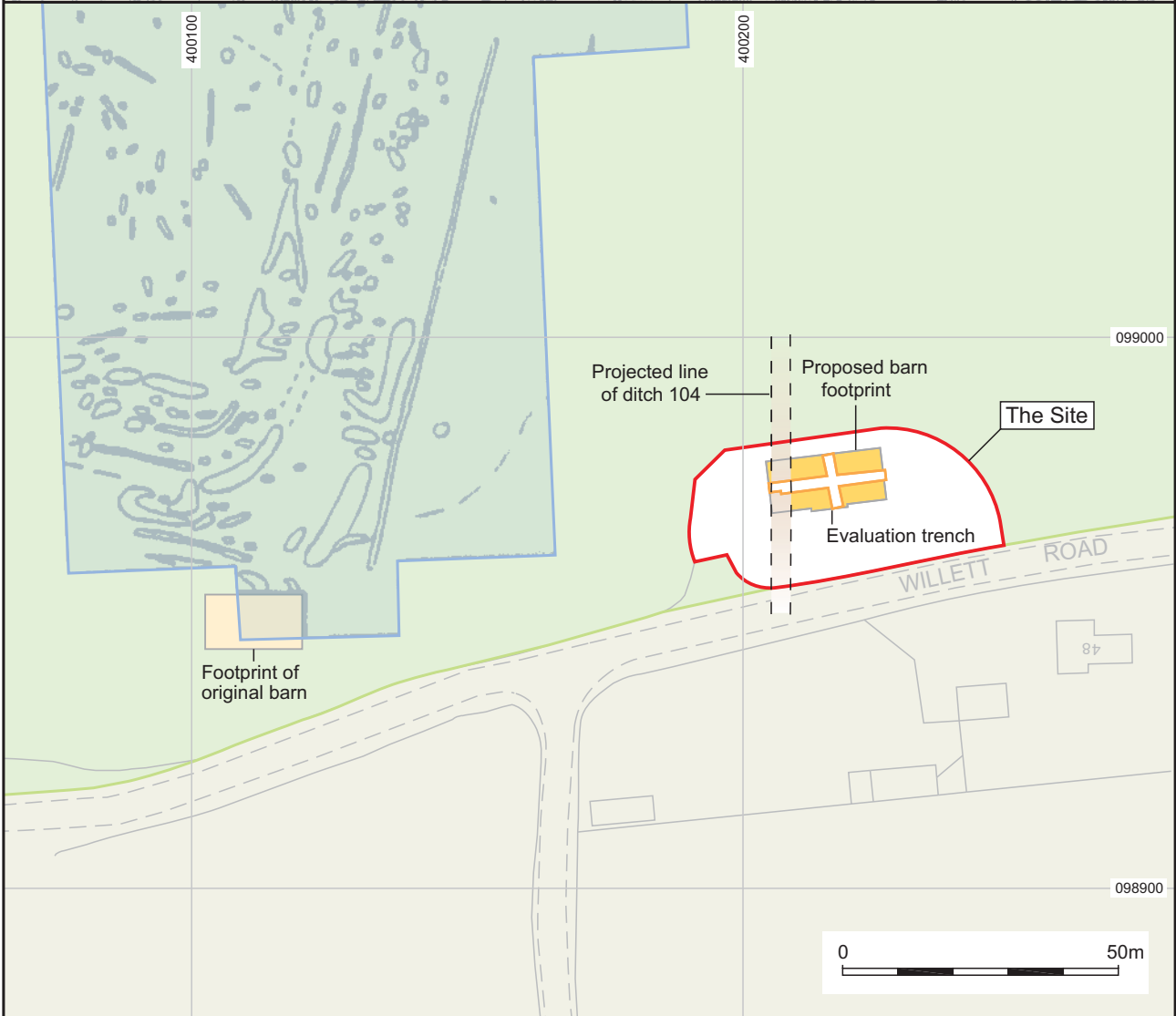
The monitored works comprised the stripping of the barn footprint to a depth of up to 0.45m, excavation of foundation trenches to a maximum depth of 0.60m and topsoil removal to a maximum depth of 0.20m for the area of hardstanding to the south of the proposed barn (**Plates 4 and 5**). All upcast from the excavations was placed around the specified edges of the Site to allow for the landscaping detailed in the impact assessment (Section 8).

All upcast and exposed surfaces were scanned visually and with a metal detector, but no artefacts other than modern refuse were observed. No archaeological features or deposits were revealed.

The monitored groundworks were seen to comply with the scope of works set out in the evaluation report (section 8) and the terms of the Scheduled Monument Consent. The groundworks were shown to have only disturbed the topsoil and subsoil 'b-horizon'. The depth of potential archaeological deposits, as demonstrated by the evaluation, are 0.2m below the maximum depth of the groundworks and have therefore been preserved *in situ* within the footprint of the barn.

APPENDIX 4:- SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONSENTS

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- Geophysical survey area
- Scheduled Monument

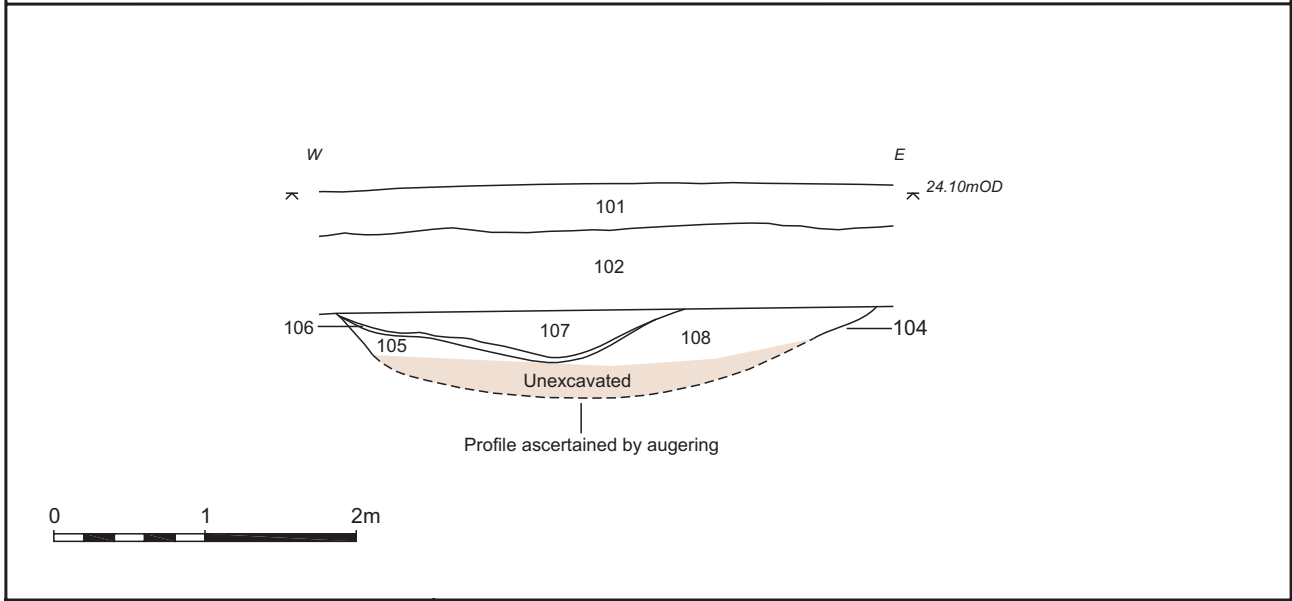
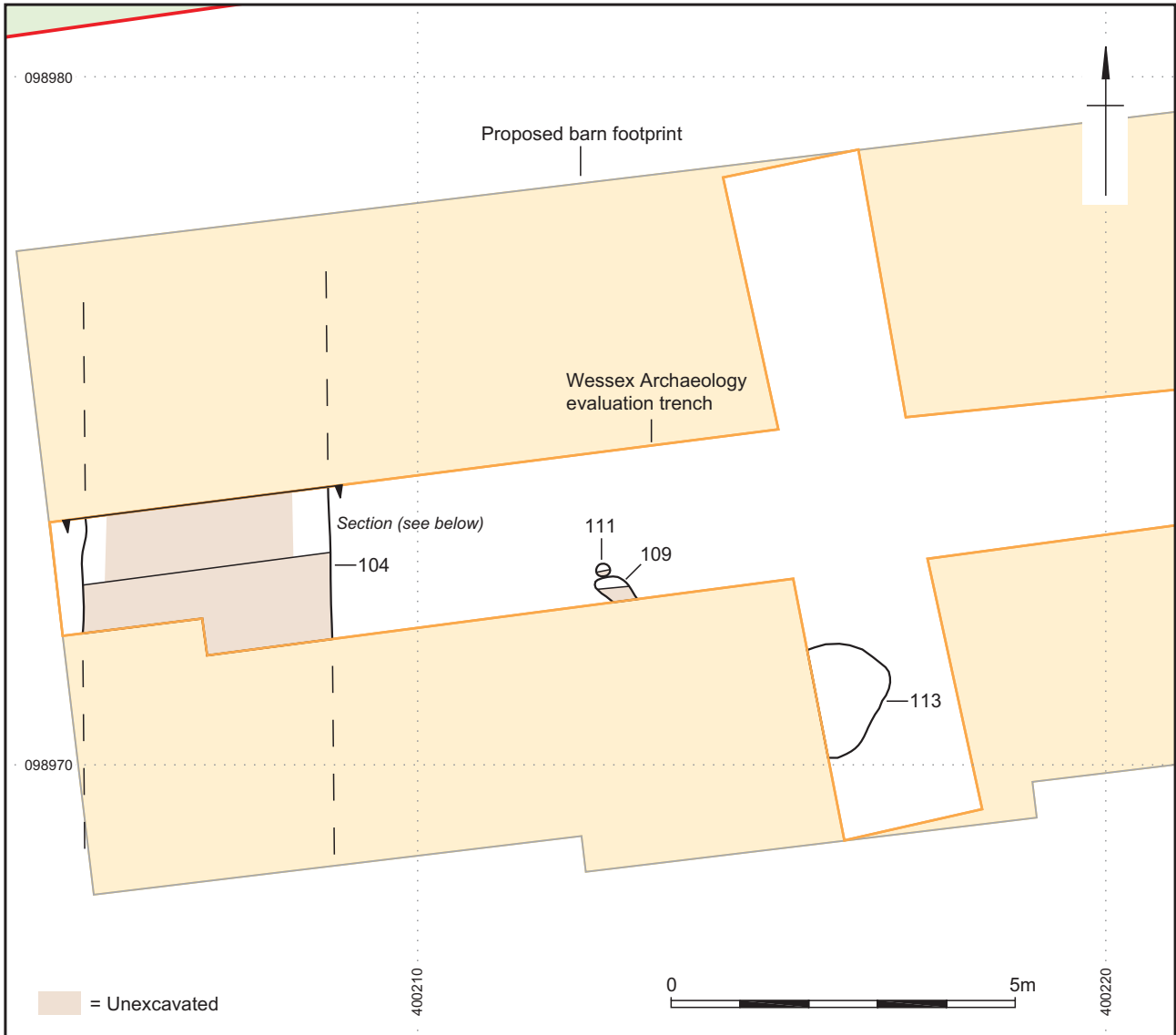



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Site and trench location

Figure 1



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Plan of Archaeological features and section through ditch 104

Figure 2

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Plate 1: Intervention through ditch 104 (only partially excavated), facing north (Scale = 2 m)



Plate 2: Gully terminus 109 and stakehole 111, Facing south (Scale = 0.5 m)




Plate 3: Tree throw 113, facing west (Scale = 1 m)



Plate 4: Stripped barn footprint and northern foundation trench viewed from the east



Plate 5: Stripped barn footprint and area of hard standing viewed from north east

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