

2023 Archaeology in Hampshire



Annual Report



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Annual Report of **Archaeology in Hampshire** for 2023. This summary of archaeological work in the county, initially published by Hampshire County Council, has been available since 1977. From 2004 onwards the report has been produced by the Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society and is freely available on their website.

STRUCTURE and CONTENT of the REPORT

The report is organized by **District** and then alphabetically by location. Individual entries consist of a location with a grid reference. This is followed by an identifier, usually a Site UID, which relates to a record held in the **Historic Environment Record** (HER) databases for Hampshire, Winchester, Southampton or Portsmouth. It is through this identifier and the relevant HER search facility, that further information about a particular project can be found. If an unpublished 'grey literature' report is available online this is referenced.

PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES SCHEME (PAS)

Since 2011 the Finds Liaison Officers for Hampshire have compiled a selection showcasing some of the more interesting and important finds reported in this way.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It would not have been possible to produce the 2023 report without the assistance of numerous individuals and organisations and the Hampshire Field Club is particularly thanked for its financial contribution.

I am especially indebted to Alan Whitney (Hampshire County Council), Tracy Matthews (Winchester City Council), Jennifer Macey (Portsmouth City Council) and Ingrid Peckham (Southampton City Council) for providing information from their HER databases.

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Special thanks are extended to Alexie Kendell and Anne Thom for pulling together so admirably the selection of PAS finds. Finally, I am grateful to Mike Broderick for uploading the report onto the Hampshire Field Club website and managing its content on my behalf.

Jane King, Editor

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Front cover: A medieval cast copper alloy annular figurative brooch from Bishops Sutton (p 55)
©Portable Antiquities Scheme.

BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE

Basingstoke and Deane

Basingstoke Golf Centre (SU 61061 52036) (Site UID: 72691)

Evaluation

A single trench was excavated focused on a cropmark seen on an aerial photograph and believed to represent a Neolithic long barrow. The evaluation confirmed the presence of a ditch cut into the chalk, 1.87m wide x 0.62m deep and showing signs of having been re-cut. The ditch fills contained animal bone, pottery of Late Neolithic / Early Bronze Age date and flint. Within the subsoil there was pottery of Middle to Late Iron Age date.

See also: Clemente, P 2023 *Basingstoke Golf Centre, Basingstoke, Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation Report*, unpubl report.

Bramley

Land at Minchens Lane (SU 64775 59785) (Site UID: 72578)

Geophysical survey and Evaluation

A magnetometry survey revealed a number of negative linear anomalies, possibly ditches related to a trackway, however most were of uncertain origin. A small number of positive anomalies included a 'C' shaped enclosure and several pit-like features.

Evaluation by Red River Archaeology opened 30 trenches. Iron Age activity included three oval post holes all containing sherds of Iron Age pottery, three N-S aligned ditches with fills containing Iron Age pottery and a sub-circular post hole 0.2-0.24m diameter, with a fill containing Iron Age pottery. Post-medieval activity was represented by a rectangular post hole surrounded by an L shaped brick structure and an area of hard standing, and two N-S field boundaries matching a trackway/boundary shown on an 1897 Ordnance Survey map.

A number of undated features were excavated including: two pits, both showing signs of heating/burning and containing charcoal and ash which are thought to indicate charcoal production sites; two gullies or beam slots both oriented NE-SW and roughly parallel, the fill of both contained pieces of slag; a number of pits, post holes and stake holes.

See also: Donaldson, K. & Sabin, D 2023 *Land at Minchens Lane, Bramley, Hampshire, Magnetometer Survey Report*, unpubl report.

Baron, I 2023 *Land at Minchens Lane, Bramley, Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation Interim Statement*, unpubl report.

Chilton Candover

Stanchester (SU 58040 41080) (Site UID: 18647)

Excavation

Excavations on the site of a Roman building by Basingstoke Archaeological and Historical Society (BAHS) focused on an ancillary building recorded in 2022 and a sunken area within the main building. A trench over the north-east corner of the ancillary building revealed footings with two courses of flint set on the chalk bedrock. A shallow ditch (0.5m wide x 0.3m deep) was recorded running parallel to the east wall. The building would have been approximately 20m by 8m. Its interior revealed a scatter of limestone roof tiles lying on top of a packed chalk floor (Fig 1). This building is interpreted as a barn or agricultural building open on its western side, with an upper structure of timber.

Excavation on the northern edge of the sunken feature within the main building revealed a short section of flint wall approx. 0.5m long, with a return on the interior eastern edge lining up with the eastern interior wall found in 2022. To the west of the trench were found the beginnings of a return flint wall lining up with footings found in 2022. This feature is interpreted as a shallow cellar.



Fig 1 Stanchester: Interior of the ancillary building with the layer of limestone roof tile

See also: Peryer, M 2023 *Stanchester 2023 Interim Report* Basingstoke Archaeological and Historical Society Newsletter Number 245.

See also: Archaeology in Hampshire 2021 and 2022 *Stanchester Excavation*.

Monk Sherborne

Land at Monk Sherborne (SU 60821 55166) (Site UID: 72643)

Geophysical survey

A geophysical survey over 57ha. identified anomalies relating to two possible enclosed settlements, curvilinear enclosures, a ring-ditch, a braided hollow way and other features.

Lester, J & Goodchild, J 2023 *Geophysical Survey of Land at Monk Sherborne*, unpubl report.

Preston Candover

Preston Farm (SU 58812 42658) (Site UID: 72456)

Excavation

Geophysical survey by Headland Archaeology in 2022 was followed up by excavation in 2023. A single prehistoric ditch was identified cut into the geology and corresponding with an anomaly identified during the geophysical survey. This confirms the presence of the ditch identified in the HER as UID 38255. The ditch, aligned NW-SE, was 1.55 to 2.55m wide and up to 1.07m deep and probably represents a boundary associated with the Iron Age settlement complex.

See also: James, P 2023 *Land at Preston Farm, Preston Candover, Hampshire, Post-Excavation Assessment*, unpubl report.

See also: Archaeology in Hampshire 2022 *Preston Farm Geophysical survey*.

Sherfield-on-Loddon

Redlands Phase 2 (SU 67170 55933) (Site UID: 72629)

Evaluation

An evaluation by Wessex Archaeology excavated 16 trenches over 1.8ha. A ditch (0.55m wide x 0.18m deep) with concave sides and base seems to be a continuation of an Iron Age boundary ditch recorded during an earlier phase of excavation. Undated features include: a sub-oval pit (0.56m x 0.8m and 0.24m deep) with steep irregular sides and an undulating base; a shallow ditch (0.5m wide x 0.35m deep); two post holes, both sub-circular in plan and of similar dimensions (0.38m diameter x 0.08m deep and 0.3m diameter x 0.10m deep). A drainage ditch (0.2m wide x 0.1m deep) aligned NW-SE may be a continuation of a similar ditch noted in another trench. A NE-SW aligned ditch (0.62m wide x 0.15m deep) with concave sides and flat base contained a single fragment of burnt flint in its fill.

Dawkins, T 2023 *Redlands, Sherfield-on-Loddon, Hampshire, Phase 2, Archaeological Evaluation*, unpubl report.

Silchester

The Mount (SU64456264) (Site UID: TBC)

Evaluation

An evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) on the line of replacement water supply works at The Mount in Silchester. The site lies within the scheduled monument, immediately north and partially on top of the amphitheatre which stands just outside the north-east corner of the walled Roman town. The evaluation was excavated to the required depth below ground level and no significant archaeological evidence was revealed. It is possible that archaeological features and deposits could still be present deeper than the level that was excavated.

See also: Whyatt, E. 2023 *The Mount, Silchester, Hampshire, RG7 2HG: An archaeological evaluation report*, unpubl report.

EAST HAMPSHIRE

Alton

Alton House Hotel, Normandy Street (SU 72220 39618) (Site UID: TBC)

Evaluation

Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation on a 2400m² parcel of land located at the Alton House Hotel. Only one of the five excavated trial trenches contained archaeological remains in the form of a single, possible linear feature. If this feature was indeed man-made and not geological, it was likely to have been significantly truncated by groundworks associated with the construction of a tennis court. The complete lack of pre-modern finds, either from the topsoil or other deposits, also indicates that the area has little potential to contain remains related to the medieval leper hospital of St Mary Magdalene (HER 54719) or the Roman road, projected to be in the vicinity of the site.

See also: Orczewski, P 2023 *Alton House Hotel, Normandy Street, Alton, Hampshire: Archaeological Evaluation*, unpubl report.

Buriton

Buriton pipeline (SU 75570 21551) (Site UID: 72638)

Geophysical Survey and Evaluation

Wessex Archaeology conducted a detailed gradiometer survey followed by an archaeological evaluation on a 4.3km (9.3ha) linear scheme extending between two Wastewater Treatment Works at Buriton and Petersfield. A watching brief also took place at the Buriton end of the scheme. The gradiometer survey identified anomalies relating to agricultural use of the land. Several field

boundaries recorded on Ordnance Survey first and second edition mapping (1869 and 1895) were detected. As the wider area had been used agriculturally since at least the Iron Age, it is possible that the field boundaries originated from before the post-medieval period.

Archaeology was recorded in eight of the 52 evaluation trenches. Agricultural land use was identified alongside prehistoric activity. Two pits of unclear function were uncovered 2.2m apart, toward the middle of the scheme. One pit contained a single sherd of heavily abraded prehistoric pottery, whereas the other contained a mixed assemblage of artefacts including Neolithic worked flint, burnt flint and Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age pottery. Another mixed deposit was also identified toward the north end of the scheme. A layer, or indeterminate feature, contained a 'spread' of typically Late Mesolithic / Early Neolithic and Late Neolithic flint, as well as burnt flint and Late Bronze Age pottery. The layer/feature had no clear morphology and had suffered plough disturbance. Interestingly, further Late Mesolithic / Early Neolithic flint was also collected from the topsoil of trenches located in the same area as the spread.

Capps, R 2023 *Buriton Pipeline Scheme Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation*, unpubl report.

Horndean

Land at Horndean Phase A (SU 71104 12161) (Site UID: 72690) Evaluation

An evaluation by RPS opened eleven trenches. Three ditches of post-medieval / modern date were recorded towards the south of the site.

See also: Street, T 2023 *Archaeological Evaluation, Land at Horndean (Phase A), Horndean, Hampshire*, unpubl report.

Idsworth

Huckswood Field (SU 74049 15165) (Site UID: 70284) Geophysical Survey

A resistivity and magnetometry survey by Chichester and District Archaeology Society (CDAS) investigated a circular feature identified from aerial photography. The feature was interpreted as a Bronze Age roundhouse, based on its size and similarity to other examples, as well as the presence of worked flint on the site.

See also: Wilcox, W & Seaman, M 2023 *Huckswood Field (Idsworth) Geophysical Resistivity and Magnetometry Survey 2023 Results and discussion*, unpubl report.

Petersfield

Petersfield Big Dig 2023, Avenue Playing Fields and 11 garden test pits (Site UID: TBC)

Geophysical Survey and Excavation

The Petersfield Big Dig took place over the last two weeks of July 2023 as part of the British Festival of Archaeology, with a further investigation being carried out in October 2023. The project was conceived to mark two important anniversaries, the Golden Jubilee of the Petersfield Area Historical Society and 20 years since the foundation of Liss Archaeology. Both organisations took part in the project. A series of 1m test pits, plus 2m x 1m and 3m x 1m trenches, were excavated in 11 gardens within the old core of the town of Petersfield and in the Avenue Playing Fields near Petersfield Heath (Fig 2). Although the origins of Petersfield have traditionally been ascribed to the 12th century, when St Peter's Church was built, the town is surrounded by sites much earlier in date. Petersfield Heath has a nationally significant Bronze Age barrow cemetery and evidence for activity in the Mesolithic and Palaeolithic periods. Romano-British buildings have been identified at Stroud, Liss, Colemore, Froxfield and Queen

Elizabeth Country Park, all within a few miles of Petersfield. Could an archaeological investigation produce evidence of occupation 1000 years or so before the Norman town was built?

Excavations in the Avenue Playing Fields focused on three potential features: a possible wall near the tennis courts; a trackway running across the field towards the church, NW-SE (SU74939 23025/SU75007 22978); and a circular bank, close to the modern pavilion. Trench 1 revealed a right-angled feature suggestive of an insubstantial building. Finds included a clay pipe dated to 1610-40, late medieval cooking pot rims, one probable Early Bronze Age sherd and struck flint dating from the Neolithic or Bronze Age. The feature in Trench 2 appeared to be a trackway with ditches on both sides and a camber of just under 13m (17m from the centre of the ditches). Finds included a few sherds of Romano-British pottery, early 17th century clay pipe and Neolithic flints. Trench 3 was opened over the possible mound, ditch and bank of a circular-shaped anomaly. Due to safety concerns and appalling weather the trench was excavated no further than 40cm, but it is intended to revisit the site in 2024.

Archaeological features were identified in seven of the 11 test pits in town gardens, including previously unknown walls under one lawn which appear to be Tudor in origin. All of the sites showed disturbed stratigraphy consistent with well-worked garden soil and the dating material was thoroughly mixed. Romano-British sherds were found on two sites and one piece of Iron Age pottery was also identified. Otherwise, the earliest dating material seemed to be scratch-marked sandy ware dating to the 11th - 13th century, consistent with a Norman foundation for the town.



Fig 2 Petersfield: One of the garden test pits in the early stages of excavation



Fig 3 Petersfield: Early 14th century cooking pot from The Spain

West Worldham

Manor Farm West Worldham (SU 73015 37632) (Site UID: 72688)

Evaluation

An evaluation by Wessex Archaeology opened 14 trenches targeting anomalies identified through geophysics. A number of ditches and other features contained Iron Age pottery, including a ditch (2m wide x >1m deep), four discrete features which may relate to a round house or other post-built structure and two parallel ditches (1.13m wide x 0.61m deep and <1.0m wide x 0.27m deep). A number of features contained late prehistoric / Romano-British pottery including a ditch (2.8m wide x 0.7m deep), two ditches which may relate to an enclosure and an oval pit only 0.17m deep which also contained animal bones and charcoal.

Romano-British activity was represented by three ditches forming an enclosure seen on the geophysics, the northern ditch (0.6m wide x 0.44m deep) had a U-shaped profile. A smaller ditch north-east of the enclosure was recorded and, to the south, two parallel ditches, one just under 1m wide x 0.56m deep and the other 1.3m wide x 0.48m deep. A possible trackway running along the internal southern side of the outer enclosure ditch was also recorded. Two ditches, both over 1m wide with one 0.64m deep, may form part of a field system or enclosure. Six ditches were recorded within the enclosure but it is unclear how these relate to each other.

A single ditch (0.35m wide x 0.14m deep) contained post-medieval building material. Further undated ditches and a shallow pit were recorded.

See also: Dawkins, T & Capps, R 2023 *Manor Farm, West Worldham Hampshire Archaeological Evaluation*, unpubl report.

Whitehill

Bordon Garrison, Oxney village, Bordon (SU 78795 36510) (Site UID: TBC)

Evaluation

Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation on a 2.5ha parcel of land located at the former Bordon Garrison. Five of the seventeen excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits comprising four ditches and a probable hedge or hedgerow. Two, possibly three, of the ditches appeared to be on the same alignment and could have been part of the same feature. While all features were undated, an 1870 map of the area shows the whole site to be woodland forming part of Woolmer Forest. This suggests that the ditches and hedgerow were likely to pre-date modern mapping.

The integrity of the archaeological horizon may have been affected by the heavy tree cover and subsequent removal, but the features uncovered during the evaluation show that archaeology at least survived. Twentieth century Ordnance Survey mapping also shows that although considerable military activity occurred around the site, it never actually occurred within it.

See also: Kaines, J 2023 *Oxney Village, Bordon, Hampshire: Archaeological Evaluation*, unpubl. report

EASTLEIGH

Botley

Sherecroft Farm (SU 51829 13141) (Site UID: 72682)

Evaluation

Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation on an 8ha parcel of land located at Sherecroft Farm. Twenty-one of the thirty excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features comprising ditches, gullies, pits, a possible posthole and a number of less defined features. Four periods of activity were identified: Late Bronze Age, Late Iron Age / early Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval, although most of the features were of uncertain date.

Late Bronze Age activity was represented by two sherds of pottery recovered from two ditches that also contained burnt and worked flint. However, one of the ditches also contained Late Iron Age/Romano-British material so the earlier material may well be residual.

A substantial ditch (0.9m wide x 0.47m deep) following a NE-SW alignment most likely served as a drainage ditch and field boundary. Pottery and environmental material recovered from its fills date it to the Late Iron Age / early Romano-British period. The environmental evidence, spelt wheat and heathy vegetation for fuel, is typical of Late Iron Age / early Romano-British sites and likely reflects background settlement 'noise'. This suggests that the ditch was located near to settlement features where domestic refuse, like hearth sweepings and crop-processing debris, was discarded. Two parallel ditches, 17.5m apart, and a possible pit equidistant between them were also identified. One of the ditches and the pit contained artefacts from the Late Iron Age / Romano-British period, and all three features contained material associated with prehistory. Assuming the prehistoric material was residual, the features may have been contemporary and formed, or be part of, a Late Iron Age / Romano-British rectangular enclosure.

The medieval period was represented by a spread of material which contained High Medieval pottery. The spread appears to be isolated but could be related to a ditch to the west of the site which contained medieval / post-medieval tile. Post-medieval activity was largely characterised by a series of ditches relating to field boundaries that were removed in more recent times. Two of the ditches are tentatively dated by sherds from an 18th century Verwood earthenware pancheon bowl and a small unfeatured sherd of late 18th to 19th century pearlware. Two other ditches and a possible pit are dated by generic medieval / post medieval tile.

See also: Kaines, J 2023 *Sherecroft Farm, Botley, Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation Report*, unpub report.

Bursledon

Land at 'Misery' (SU 48580 10707) (Site UID: 72584)

Excavation

Evaluation by Wessex Archaeology in 2022-3 saw 30 trenches opened across the 3.5ha site. Two areas were excavated in 2023. Two charcoal-rich pits of Iron Age date were recorded, one shallow and circular (0.35m x 0.29m and 0.05m deep) with a U-shaped profile had evidence of in-situ burning, the second was irregular (1.37m x 0.38m and 0.24m deep) and the fill contained charcoal, burnt flint and Iron Age pottery. Another sub-circular pit (0.74 x 0.69m and 0.15m deep) was recorded in Area 2 close to two Iron Age pits identified during the evaluation. The fill of a ditch terminal (>0.95m long x 1.38m wide and 0.4m deep) contained early medieval pottery, an iron nail head and burnt material. Area 1 revealed a further four ditches associated with the previously identified field system. A NE-SW oriented ditch (0.53m wide x 0.14m deep) with a U-shaped profile had a single post-medieval brick in its fill. Undated features included four pits, a few ditches with a V-shaped profile and numerous undated NE-SW and NW-SE oriented ditches with U-shaped shallow profiles.

See also: Fitzpatrick, R & Dinwiddy, K 2023 *Misery, Bursledon, Southampton, Hampshire, Post-Excavation Assessment and updated Project Design*, unpubl. report.

See also: Trim, M.B 2023 *Misery, Bursledon, Southampton, Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation*, unpubl report.

Eastleigh

Land west of Allbrook Way (SU 45608 21318) (Site UID: 72672)

Evaluation

An evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology opened 22 trenches. The concentration of pits and ditches suggest an Iron Age / Romano-British settlement and the charred organic material recovered is indicative of domestic hearths. A number of sub-oval and sub-circular pits were excavated, variously containing Roman pottery, CBM and fragments of quern stone. A sub-oval pit (1.81m wide x 0.54m deep) with steep concave sides was lined with a wooden structure, built from overlapping burnt timbers. A linear ditch terminus with a rounded end (1.06m wide x >0.64m deep) contained Early Roman pottery. A circular pit (1.45m wide x 0.83m deep) with steep concave sides and a concave base contained late prehistoric / early Roman pottery. The fill of a NW-SE aligned gully (0.4m wide x 0.07m deep) contained Roman pottery.

Undated features include a pebble deposit forming a linear NE-SW aligned feature (2.05m wide x 0.2m deep) which could be a trackway or footpath. At least six undated ditches were recorded aligned NW-SE and NE-SW, including a ditch terminus (0.65m wide x 0.29m deep). An undated E-W aligned gully (0.35m wide x up to 0.28m deep) appeared in two trenches.

See also: Jablonski, P 2023 *Land west of Allbrook Way Eastleigh, Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation*, unpubl report.

Southampton Airport runway extension (SU 45543 17784) (Site UID: 72625)

Watching brief

A watching brief by Wessex Archaeology recorded three ditches aligned NW-SE. These may relate to the nearby Bronze Age field system although no dating evidence was recorded. Ditch 1 (0.62m wide x 0.23m deep) had a concave profile. Ditch 2 (0.24m wide) ran parallel to ditch 1 at a distance of 1m. Ditch 3 (0.66m wide x 0.24m deep) ran for 6.5m and its fill contained burnt flint and degraded pottery.

See also: Capps, R 2023 *Southampton Airport Runway Extension, Eastleigh, Hampshire, Archaeological Watching Brief*, unpubl report.

North Stoneham Park (SU 43976 17434) (Site UID: 72639)

Excavation

Following an evaluation in 2017, Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) undertook an excavation at Park Farm, Stoneham. Two areas were stripped in this phase of work. Area 1, totalling 900m², recorded a post-medieval ditch and several discrete features which have been dated to the later prehistoric by a small amount of pottery. Area 2 totalled 0.5ha and here the remains comprised very large pits, some intercutting, all containing refuse and demolition material thought to derive from the first Stoneham House on the estate. Assessment of the building material attested to the presence of an unidentified earlier medieval stone predecessor to this, perhaps a Manor House. The pits were sealed by levelled layers composed of similar deposits, possibly formed as part of the later landscaping of the estate grounds corresponding to the construction of the second Stoneham House in the early 19th century.

The work produced assemblages of glass, particularly intact or nearly intact 18th century wine bottles and a quantity of building materials. An intrinsically significant assemblage of animal bone (equid) was also recovered from the pits and levelled demolition layers upon which further academic work has been recommended.

See also: Baker & McAtominey, 2024, *Land at Park Farm, North Stoneham Park, Eastleigh, Hampshire: Post-Excavation Assessment Report*, unpubl report.

FAREHAM

Fareham

Land east of Newgate Lane (SU 57400 03249) (Site UID: 72538)

Excavation

Following evaluation in 2022, excavation by Cotswold Archaeology took place in 2023. An area of 1,751m² was excavated to investigate a Late Iron Age / early Roman field system and a pit containing quern stone. A series of Late Iron Age to early Roman boundary ditches were recorded in the north of the site. The lack of evidence for settlement activity makes it likely that these ditches represent a field system. Seven pits were also dated to the Late Iron Age to early Roman period. The pits ranged in size from the largest at 4.21m x 3.46m x 1.11m deep, to the smallest at 0.51m x 0.49m x 0.09m deep. A rectilinear enclosure (26m x 30m) with rounded NW and NE corners was dated to the same period. The ditch was 0.78m wide and 0.23m deep.

Two late Roman ditches were identified during excavation: a NE-SW ditch (27m long x 1.46m wide x 0.49m deep) and an east-west ditch (13.1m long x 1.91m wide x 0.19m deep).

See also: Klemenic, S 2023 *Land at Newgate Lane East Fareham, Hampshire, Archaeological Excavation*, unpubl report.

See also: Archaeology in Hampshire 2022 *Land east of Newgate Lane Evaluation*.

GOSPORT

Browndown Ranges (North) (SU 458380 99720) (Site UID: 64709)

Earthwork Survey

An Analytical Earthwork Survey was carried out by Historic England in 2023 prior to scheduling in 2024. The monument includes the earthworks and buried remains of a prehistoric round barrow, the earthworks and buried remains of a First World War practice trench network, and the earthworks, buried and standing remains of a Second World War heavy anti-aircraft gun battery, all situated on relatively level heathland and woodland.

See also: Bayer, O, Bowden, M & Small, F 2023: *Browndown Ranges (north), Gosport - Analytical Earthwork Survey and Aerial Investigation and Mapping*, Historic England Research Report Series 49/2023, unpubl report.

HART

Bramshill

Bramshill House and Park (SU 75765 59527) (Site UID: TBC) Geophysical Survey

A ground penetrating radar survey was conducted over a 1.43ha parcel of land at Bramshill. The site comprises parkland and grounds associated with the Grade I Listed Bramshill House, which lies within the Grade I Registered Park and Garden. Anomalies identified as being of archaeological origin relate to structural remains associated with earlier phases of the house, as well as surviving aspects of the formal garden layout and landscaping. While a number of anomalies can be related to features on historic plans and maps from the 17th to 19th centuries, some could be earlier. Confirmation of the exact date and character of many of the features would require further investigation.

See also: Brennan, N & Howard, B 2023 *Bramshill House and Park, Bramshill, Hampshire: Heritage Statement and Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report*, unpubl report.

Odiham

Land adjacent to Alton Road, Odiham (SU73585 50710) (Site UID: 72541) Excavation

Evaluation in 2022 comprising 24 trenches was followed by excavation in 2023 in two areas. Excavation revealed a large ditch with steep sides and a flat base. Its width varied between 3.81m and 1.12m and its depth between 0.94m and 0.61m. The fill contained calcined flint and a Bronze Age scraper, although this could be residual. A later re-cut with a V-shaped profile was recorded. A break in the ditch indicates it was excavated in segments. A feature of uncertain function could represent a ditch terminal or could be a tree throw. A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered although this was in poor condition and could possibly be of Iron Age date. Two post holes were identified and believed to be contemporary with the potential ditch terminal. Both contained fragments of calcined flint. Five undated shallow pits may relate to past agricultural activity. Four ditch-like features were recorded aligned with field boundaries shown on the 1894 Ordnance Survey map.

See also: Weller, W 2023 *Land Adjacent to Alton Road, Odiham, Hampshire. An Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation*, unpubl report.

See also: Weller, W 2022 *Land Adjacent to Alton Road, Odiham, Hampshire, Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation Report*, unpubl report.

HAVANT

There are no reports from this district.

NEW FOREST

Fawley

Calshot Activity Centre campsite, Calshot (SU 48810 02040) (Site UID: TBC) Geophysical Survey
Wessex Archaeology conducted a ground penetrating radar survey over a 1.4ha parcel of land located at Calshot Activity Centre. The survey identified the remains of former structures, all of which are visible in historic documents or photographs from 1918 to 1961, when the area was in use as RAF Calshot. The machine gun range and 'Dining Room & Institute' were identified, likely in the form of foundation walls and rubble from demolition. A possible wall that would have separated the RAF camp from the beach was also seen to run on the eastern side of the survey area but there was no indication of the railway that once connected the RAF base to the mainland.

See also: Plesnicar, R 2023 *Calshot Activity Centre Campsite, Calshot, Hampshire: Ground penetrating radar report*, unpubl report.

Harbridge

Bleak Hill III Phases 15, 16, 19 (SU 12891 11261) (Site UID: 72674) Excavation

A strip map and record excavation by Wessex Archaeology revealed six pits dating from the Late Neolithic to the Iron Age, a post-medieval pit containing a fragment of Verwood pottery and a feature aligned NNE-SSW which indicated a late 18th century hedgerow. Undated features included four circular to sub-oval pits, two of which contained burnt flint and charcoal, three post holes and a curvilinear ditch 8m long on a NE-SW alignment. A possible cremation deposit was found within a pit. See also: Williams, R 2023 *Bleak Hill III Phases 15 and Parts of 16 and 19, Hamer Warren Quarry Harbridge, Hampshire, Interim Statement*, unpubl report.

Milford-on-Sea

Milford Cottage (SZ 2907 9194) (Site UID: TBC) Watching Brief

A watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) to monitor groundworks associated with the construction of a new garage and alterations to the driveway of the property. Milford Cottage is a Grade II listed 18th century cottage within the historic core of Milford-on-Sea. Three ditches were investigated and recorded. Medieval pottery, dating between the 11th to 13th centuries, was recovered from the ditches. The relationship between the ditches is unclear. Two ditches run parallel to each other while the other appears to be at a right angle to them both. The ditches appear to be on a similar alignment to boundaries shown on the 1867 Ordnance Survey map and may represent relic property or field boundaries close to the historic core of Milford-on-Sea.

See also: Hatt, G. 2023. *Milford Cottage, Church Hill, Milford-on-Sea, Hampshire, SO41 0QJ: An Archaeological Watching Brief*, unpubl report.

Ringwood

A31 Road Widening Scheme (SU 14343 05245) (Site UID: 72636) Borehole Survey

The geoarchaeological investigation comprised the drilling of two purposive geoarchaeological boreholes to a maximum depth of c.5m and the extraction and retention of the cored samples. Together with local geotechnical records, these were used to produce deposit models. The assessment has identified well preserved paleoenvironmental remains from sealed deposits dating to the prehistoric onwards.

Taylor, J 2023 *A31 Road Widening Scheme - Archaeological Boreholes, Ringwood Hampshire: Post-Excavation Palaeoenvironmental Assessment Report*, unpubl report.

PORTSMOUTH

Farlington Marshes, Farlington (SZ 68800 03686) (Site UID: EPM289) Geophysical Survey

Wessex Archaeology conducted a detailed gradiometer survey over a 6ha parcel of land located at Farlington Marshes. The survey identified post-medieval agricultural activity comprising two areas of ridge and furrow cultivation and two former field boundaries. One of the field boundaries is recorded on historic Ordnance Survey mapping and one was previously unrecorded. Both were identified in the west of the site. A possible spread of demolition material was also identified in the south-west of the

site and could represent the remains of an agricultural building, also recorded on historic Ordnance Survey mapping, from at least the 1810s-1850s. The remaining anomalies were thought to be modern or natural in origin.

See also: Howard, B 2023 *Farlington Marshes, Hampshire: Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report*, unpubl report.

Southsea Coastal Defence Scheme Sub Frontage 4, Southsea Castle (SZ 643 979) (Site UID: EPM287) Watching Brief

Wessex Archaeology monitored the excavation of a test pit within the moat of Southsea Castle as part of a wider series of works for the Southsea Coastal Defence Scheme. The foundations of the caponier and interior castle walls were exposed and recorded. No other archaeological features or deposits were identified.

See also: McCarthy, J 2023 *Southsea Coastal Defence Scheme, Sub-Frontage 4, Southsea Castle: Archaeological Watching Brief - Caponier Investigation*, unpubl report.

SOUTHAMPTON

Junction of Arliss Road and Romsey Road (SU 3919 1436) (Site UID: ESH2694) Watching Brief

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out a watching brief on groundworks for a new car park at the junction of Arliss Road and Romsey Road, Southampton. The site is in Local Area of Archaeological Potential 3 (Old Shirley). Shirley is mentioned in 1086 and a house is shown nearby on the 1846 Tithe map. The natural consisted of River Terrace gravel overlain by brickearth. The foundations of a house that first appears on a map of 1896/7 were found. The location of the earlier house was probably destroyed in the post-war redevelopment of the area. The site had been heavily disturbed and no other archaeological remains were seen.

Bedford Place and Carlton Place (SU 4182 1274) (Site UID: ESH2702) Watching Brief

A watching brief was carried out but a report is not yet available.

Quilter's Vault, High Street (SU 4198 1101) (Site UID: ESH2706) Watching Brief

A watching brief was carried out on investigative drilling but a report is not yet available.

Newlands Primary School, Windermere Avenue (SU 3840 1430) (Site UID: ESH2708)

Watching brief (with provision to excavate)

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out a watching brief at Newlands Primary School, Windermere Avenue, Southampton, on groundworks for a new single storey extension. In 2011 archaeological features and deposits of Iron Age, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval date were found adjacent to the current site (SOU 1564). During the 2023 watching brief a ditch and two pits were identified cutting the natural brickearth. All three features had pale fills leached of iron, which are a marker for prehistoric features in the Southampton area. By analogy with the features found on the adjacent site, all three features have been assigned to the Iron Age, although none produced dating evidence. The ditch was not large and was probably a field boundary. One of the pits contained evidence of in-situ burning and both pits may have related to agricultural practices.

25 Weston Lane (SU 4437 1011) (Site UID: ESH2709) Watching Brief

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out an archaeological watching brief at 25 Weston Lane, Southampton. The watching brief was on the removal of an early 19th century embankment that formed a feature in the park around Weston Grove House, built c.1801 for local landowner William

Chamberlayne (1760-1829). The medieval village of Weston had previously occupied the valley but no medieval evidence was recovered. A ditch of uncertain date ran down the north side of the valley and was later sealed under the embankment. The ditch was at a slight angle to the embankment and did not run at a right angle to the road/valley. It does not seem to relate to any boundaries on the title map and its purpose is not known. The ditch was backfilled and the embankment for the bridge was built over it in the first half of the 19th century.

31-33 High Street (SU 4208 1137) (Site UID: ESH2715)

Evaluation

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit undertook an evaluation at the rear of 31-33 High Street, Southampton as sub-contractors to Wessex Archaeology. The site lies in the centre of the historic medieval town, which had its roots in the Late Saxon period. In the late 1930's the plot was developed as a branch of the Bank of England. The archaeology at the west end of the evaluation trench had been disturbed, if not removed, in the late 1930s when a covered garage was built for the Bank of England incorporating a basement air raid shelter with a 500mm thick reinforced concrete roof. The garage and shelter took up 28% of the area of the evaluation. To the east archaeological deposits survived, although deep foundations for an airlock gate house system had removed another 30% of the evaluated area. By positioning small trenches between these modern disturbances, the evaluation reached a depth of 3.88m below ground level, but the natural was not reached and all the deposits encountered were post-medieval or later, probably the fills of intercutting rubbish pits, overlain by garden soils. Pottery from the Late Saxon period was recovered, together with Anglo-Norman, high, and late medieval finds, but all were residual in post-medieval deposits. The most prolific period in terms of finds was the mid to late 17th century when the historical documents suggest the plot was occupied by the Thackham family, two generations of apothecaries. Fragments of several tin-glazed drug jars were recovered, all probably commissioned from London potteries by the Thackhams.

Honister Close (SU 3848 1369) (Site UID: ESH2718)

Watching Brief

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out a watching brief on groundworks for the construction of a new car park, including a soakaway, at Honister Close, Southampton. Evidence of prehistoric and Romano-British activity has been found in the vicinity of the site. One worked secondary flint flake was found in the weathered brickearth, indicating there had been prehistoric activity in the vicinity. Post-medieval and later pottery found in the garden soils corroborates the map evidence showing fields into the 1940s.

Castle Bailey Wall, Albion Place (SU 4192 1150) (Site UID: ESH2719)

Excavation

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out excavation work within the arches of Castle Bailey Wall, associated with repair works to the wall and resurfacing work for the Albion Place Bus Hub. Work is still ongoing and a report is not yet available.

Weston Secondary School/Chamberlayne College for the Arts, Tickleford Drive (SU 4521 1006) (Site UID: ESH2746)

Evaluation and Watching Brief

Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out an archaeological evaluation followed by a watching brief at Weston Secondary School, Southampton, ahead of the erection of a new sports hall. The site lies adjacent to Tickleford Gully where evidence of medieval activity associated with Netley Abbey has been found. There is also evidence of prehistoric and Romano-British activity in the vicinity of the site. The evaluation recovered a sherd of Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age flint-tempered pottery and exposed gravel deposits of Palaeolithic date, which led to a watching brief on the groundworks. The natural was gravel, much of which was removed for foundations, a soakaway and service trenches, but no Palaeolithic artefacts were found. One area of natural brickearth survived in the northeast of

the site, the rest of the deposit would seem to have been turned into subsoil (which produced a sherd of post-medieval Verwood pottery) by millennia of bioturbation and ploughing. The subsoil was very stony and this may relate to the carriageway of Weston Park which crossed the site in the 19th century. Two features with brickearth-rich fills may have been tree throws of prehistoric date but they produced no artefacts.

Highfield Campus, Hartley Avenue (SU 4273 1526) (Site UID: ESH2726) Watching Brief
A watching brief was carried out by Wessex Archaeology. The report is not yet available.

Castle Vault (SU 4184 1145) (Site UID: ESH2727)
Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out unspecified work. The report is not yet available.

Itchen Flood Scheme (SU 4296 1187) (Site UID: ESH2729) Watching Brief
A watching brief on ground investigation works was carried out by Wessex Archaeology. The report is not yet available.

Westgate (SU 4179 1122) (Site UID: ESH2735) Recording and Watching Brief
Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out recording work and a watching brief. The report is not yet available.

The Bargate (SU 4199 1164) (Site UID: ESH2740) Recording and Watching Brief
Southampton City Council Archaeology Unit carried out a watching brief and recording on repair works. The report is not yet available.

TEST VALLEY

Multi-parish: Andover/ Barton Stacey

Andover Link Main pipeline scheme (SU 45113 29109 to SU 36827 46714 full scheme length)
Evaluation

An evaluation by Wessex Archaeology along 24km of the pipeline route opened 278 trenches.

(SU 37631 44823) (Site UID: 72755)

South-east of Andover an undated ditch running NE-SW had a deep U-shaped base with an 'ankle-breaker', suggesting a Roman date. An undated cremation burial in a sub-oval pit (0.45 x 0.52 x 0.16m deep) with steep sides and an irregular base may relate to the nearby enclosure.

SU 42272 42543) (Site UID: 72758)

Near Bransbury a large linear ditch (1.5m wide x 0.8m deep) aligned NE-SW had six fills, the second to last fill containing Iron Age pottery. This feature may be a prehistoric boundary related to the Andyke. The fills of three more features contained Iron Age pottery: a sub-circular pit (0.56 x 0.5 x 0.2m deep), a ditch aligned NW-SE (4.3 wide x 1.5m deep) and an oval feature (0.7 x 0.57 x 0.46m deep). Three ditches appear to form a ladder-shaped enclosure, the ditches varying in width from 1-1.7m and in depth from 0.34-0.5m. An undated ditch aligned SE-NW (1.56m wide x 0.37m deep) could be a drainage or boundary ditch. Other undated features include fifteen post holes, varying in width from 0.2-0.78m and in depth from 0.06-0.24m.

(SU 43146 40828) (Site UID: 72759)

Near Barton Stacey a number of ditches were identified: an undated wide shallow ditch (2.5m wide x 0.23m deep) aligned NE-SW with a U-shaped base; a ditch (1.3m wide x 0.42m deep) also aligned NE-SW which could be a field boundary or drainage ditch; two undated ditches perpendicular to each other could be part of an old field system. One was aligned NE-SW the other NW-SE. A circular ditch with an approximate diameter of 8m and varying in width from 0.99-1.27m and in depth from 0.12-0.16m could be prehistoric. An undated grave cut (1.8 x 0.95m) aligned NW-SE, from which a single long bone was identified as human, was not excavated further. Three parallel trackways with clear wheel ruts were aligned NW-SE and varied in width from 2.27-3.34m and in depth from 0.3- 0.48m.

See also: Cullen, B & Capps, R 2024 *Andover Link Main, Andover to Winchester, Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation*, unpubl report.

See also: *Andover Link Main pipeline scheme* Geophysical survey and *Andover Link Main pipeline scheme* Evaluation, Winchester district, this report.

Romsey

Botley Road Park, Romsey (SU 36584 21025) (Site UID: TBC) Geophysical Survey

Wessex Archaeology conducted a ground penetrating radar survey over a 0.37ha parcel of land located at Botley Road Park. The results identified three possible rectilinear structures and a probable ditch, which may have been a boundary feature. No boundary feature is visible on Ordnance Survey mapping or on the 1808 Romsey Extra Enclosure Map, indicating that the feature may predate this. The three rectilinear responses suggest poorly preserved foundations which could represent the remains of walled enclosures or structures. No corresponding features are identified on historic Ordnance Survey mapping or in modern satellite imagery (Google 2023), so the feature closest to Whitenap Cottage, recorded on historic mapping from at least 1845, could be associated with it. However, it is also possible that all of the features are the remains of unmapped park or landscaping features.

WINCHESTER

Bishops Waltham

Abbey Mill, Station Road (SU 5503 1736) (Site UID: TBC) Evaluation

Evaluation trenching by Thames Valley Archaeological Services identified pond silts and the extent of a former medieval fishpond belonging to the Bishops of Winchester.

Locks Farm, Botley Road, Bishops Waltham (SU 5501 1160) (Site UID: TBC) Evaluation

Evaluation trenching was undertaken by MOLA (South and West) ahead of the construction of a solar farm on land at Locks Farm. This identified a number of archaeological features and deposits across the site, some dating to the Bronze Age and Iron Age, although many features remained undated. Most features were isolated, with no discernible zones of appreciable activity identified. A series of ditches correlated with field boundaries shown on the 1839 Tithe map.

Crawley

Andover Link Main pipeline scheme, Land West of Worthy Down Grove (SU 45389 34772) (Site UID: TBC) Excavation

Excavation by Wessex Archaeology for the proposed Andover Link Main (water pipeline scheme) was targeted over part of an enclosure identified by cropmark evidence and geophysical survey. Only part

of the excavation area was completed in 2023 and the remaining larger part of the mitigation work is to be completed in a future phase. A single ditch with an ankle-breaker profile was recorded. It aligns with a previously identified feature. No dating evidence was recovered from the ditch, but the profile suggests a Roman date. Other excavated features comprised two pits, ten postholes and a lynchet, all undated, although the postholes may relate to a modern structure and the lynchet could form part of a post-medieval field boundary system.

See also: *Wonston and multi-parish entries below.*

Curdrige

Land at Sherecroft Farm, Botley (SU 51830 13185) (Site UID: TBC)

Geophysical Survey

Geophysical survey undertaken by Archaeological Surveys Ltd identified a rectilinear feature in the eastern part of the site, together with other anomalies, some of which may be associated with anthropogenic features.

Land at Sherecroft Farm, Botley (SU 51830 13185) (Site UID: TBC)

Evaluation

Wessex Archaeology undertook trial trenching following an earlier geophysical survey. A range of archaeological features and deposits were identified across the site. These comprised ditches, gullies, pits, a possible post hole and other features dating to the Late Bronze Age, Late Iron Age / Early Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods. Many features however remained undated. The Bronze Age features appear to be isolated rather than indicating a concentration of activity in this area. The Late Iron Age / Roman features may be connected to further remains identified in earlier archaeological investigations undertaken in connection with the adjacent Botley By-Pass (2022) and may be associated with settlement activity in the area. A series of post-medieval ditches relate to former field boundaries.

See also: Archaeology in Hampshire 2022 *Botley Bypass* Evaluation.

Exton

Lomer Pond, Preshaw Estate (SU 59506 23245) (Site UID: TBC)

Watching Brief

A watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) to monitor the de-silting of the pond so it could be restored. The pond is a surviving historic feature within the wider Scheduled Monument of Lomer Deserted Medieval Village. However, no significant archaeological features or deposits were found.

See also: Wood, C. 2023 *Lomer Pond Preshaw Estate, Exton, Hampshire: An Archaeological Watching Brief.*

Fair Oak

Allington Lane Phase 3 (SU 48777 17990) (Site UID: 72669)

Evaluation

Evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology opened nine trenches with archaeology recorded in two of these. A north-south ditch (0.78m wide x 0.47m) deep was dated to the Iron Age by fragments of Iron Age pottery in the fill. A gully (0.49m wide x 0.13m deep) was also recorded, aligned NE-SW. The fill contained burnt flint and a small piece of worked flint was recovered from the topsoil. Proximity to the Iron Age ditch suggests a similar date.

See also: Street, T 2023 *Allington Lane (Phase 3) Fair Oak, Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation*, unpubl report.

Headbourne Worthy

Three Maids Hill (SU 4603 3412) (Site UID: TBC)

Excavation

Thames Valley Archaeological Services undertook an archaeological strip, map and excavation which revealed Bronze Age and Late Roman remains, including pits, post-holes, ditches, a small ditched enclosure and fence lines, together with further poorly or undated features. The Bronze Age features may represent a small or short-lived occupation site, whilst the Roman remains indicate farming activity within the vicinity of an area of settlement.

See also: Archaeology in Hampshire 2022 *Three Maids Hill* Evaluation.

Hinton Ampner

Manor Farm Estate, National Trust, Hurst Down field SW (SU 61613 26004), Big field NE (SU 61250 26930), Big Broom field (SU 60646 27864).

Fieldwalking and Geophysical Survey

The National Trust Heritage & Archaeology Ranger Team (HART) volunteers, assisted by members of Meon Valley, Liss and Winchester community archaeology groups, conducted fieldwalking, metal-detecting and geophysical surveys as a pre-requisite to tree planting planned for 2024. Geophysical surveys were carried out on all three field sites, but only those of Big field NE and Hurst Down field SW produced results showing anomalies that merited further investigation. Fieldwalking produced a variety of finds dating from the Iron Age to the 19th century. The fieldwalking survey of the Big field NE site has yet to be completed but among the finds so far collected are Iron Age and Roman pot sherds, a ceramic spindle whorl and a variety of metal items, including a crotal bell and several coins, one of which is a Romano-British Constantius I AE3. Figs 5-12 show the three survey areas and the geophysical survey results, finds distributions and sample finds from the Big field and Hurst Down field sites. The magnetometry survey of a known rectilinear enclosure in Big Broom field produced no evidence of the feature (Fig 4).

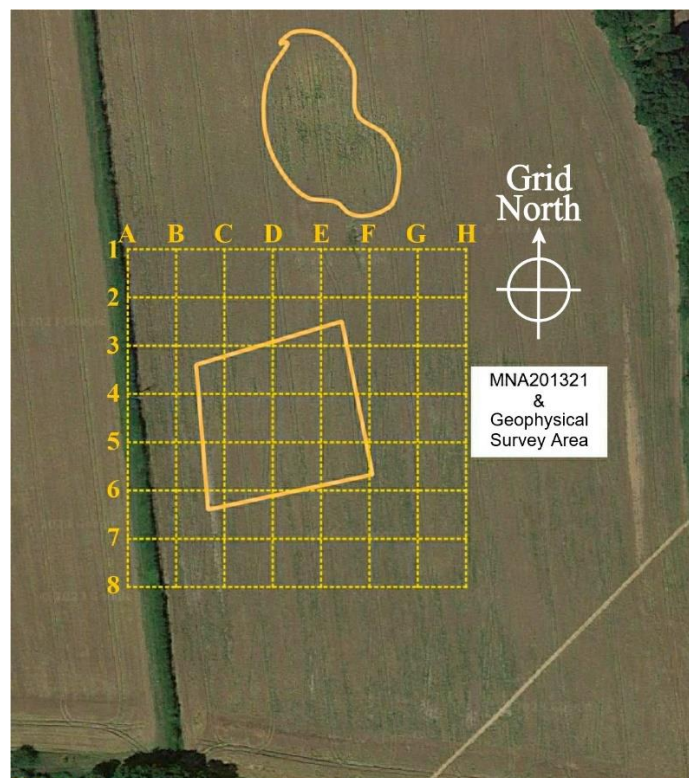


Fig 4 Big Broom field: Magnetometry survey grid over the enclosure

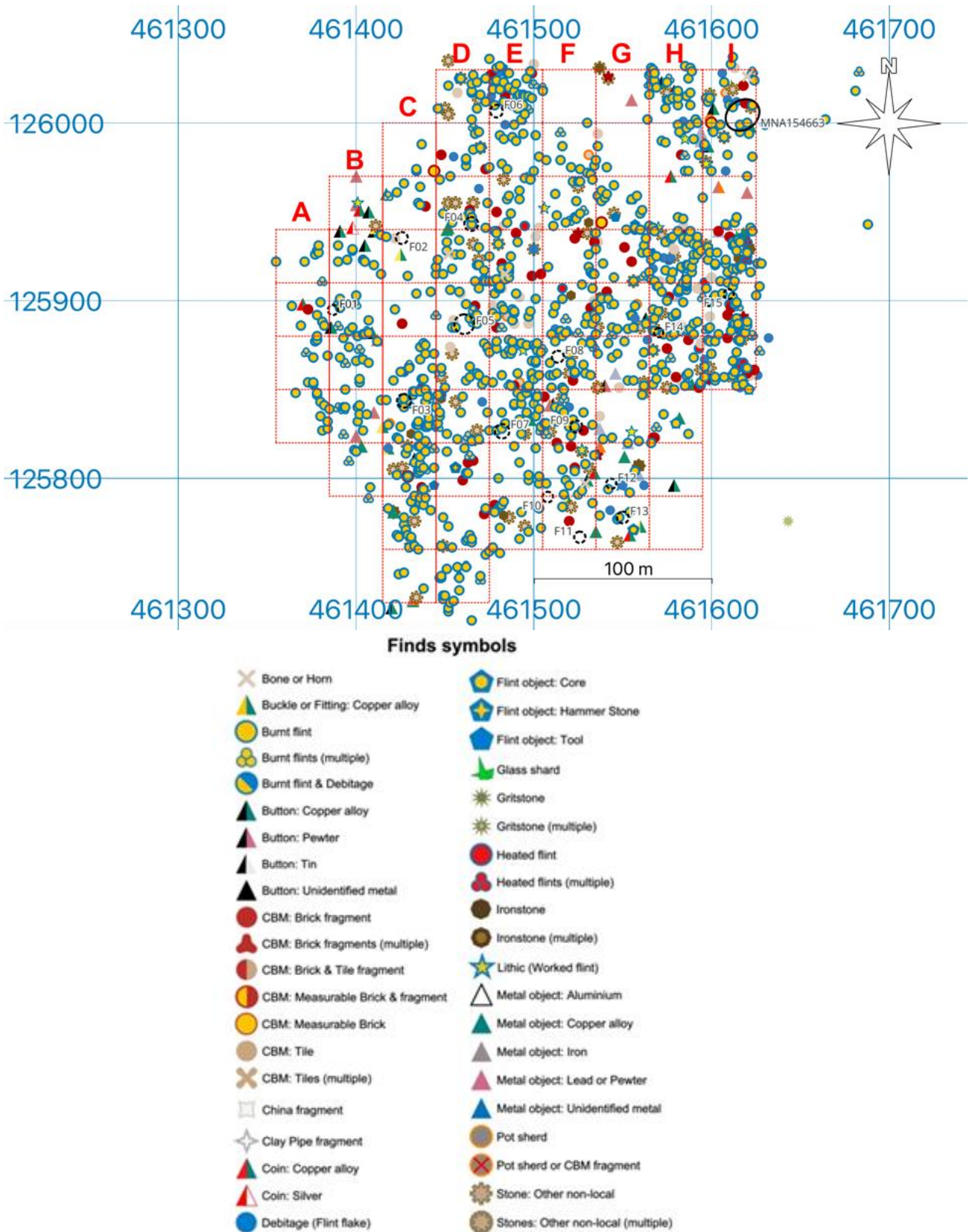


Fig 5 Hurst Down field SW: Fieldwalking and metal-detecting survey area finds distribution

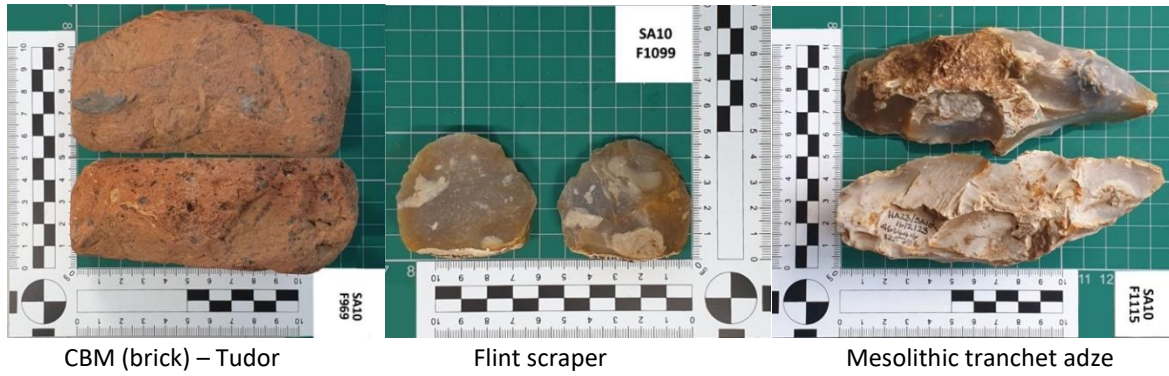


Fig 6 Hurst Down field SW: Fieldwalking survey sample finds



Fig 7 Hurst Down field SW: Metal-detecting survey sample finds

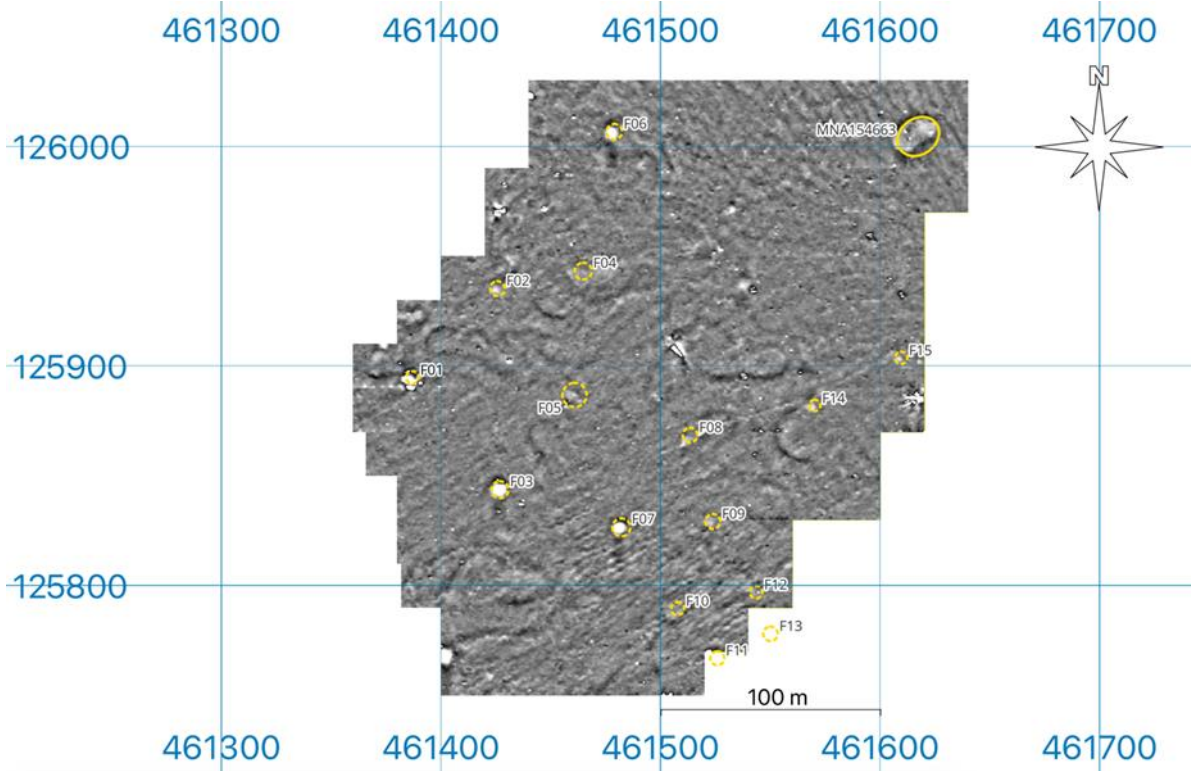
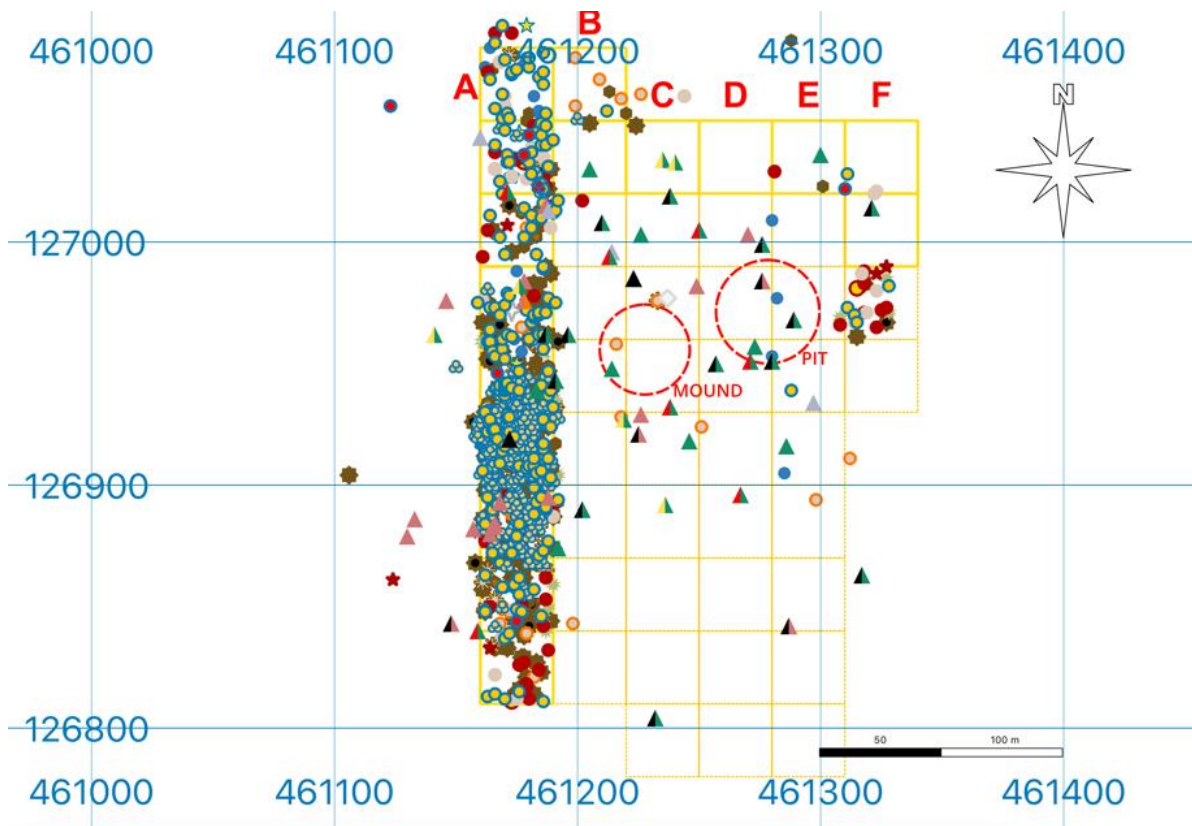


Fig 8 Hurst Down field SW: Annular features F01-F15 and pit (MNA154663)
Magnetometry survey results (courtesy of Liss Archaeology)



Finds symbols

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ✕ Bone or Horn | ⬠ Flint object: Core |
| ▲ Buckle or Fitting: Copper alloy | ⬠ Flint object: Hammer Stone |
| ● Burnt flint | ⬠ Flint object: Tool |
| ⊙ Burnt flints (multiple) | ▲ Glass shard |
| ⊕ Burnt flint & Debitage | ★ Gritstone |
| ▲ Button: Copper alloy | ★ Gritstone (multiple) |
| ▲ Button: Pewter | ● Heated flint |
| ▲ Button: Tin | ● Heated flints (multiple) |
| ▲ Button: Unidentified metal | ● Ironstone |
| ● CBM: Brick fragment | ● Ironstone (multiple) |
| ● CBM: Brick fragments (multiple) | ★ Lithic (Worked flint) |
| ● CBM: Brick & Tile fragment | △ Metal object: Aluminium |
| ● CBM: Measurable Brick & fragment | ▲ Metal object: Copper alloy |
| ● CBM: Measurable Brick | ▲ Metal object: Iron |
| ● CBM: Tile | ▲ Metal object: Lead or Pewter |
| ✕ CBM: Tiles (multiple) | ▲ Metal object: Unidentified metal |
| □ China fragment | ● Pot sherd |
| ☆ Clay Pipe fragment | ⊗ Pot sherd or CBM fragment |
| ● Clay Spindle Whorl | ● Slag |
| ▲ Coin: Copper alloy | ● Slag (multiple) |
| ▲ Coin: Silver | ● Stone: Other non-local |
| ● Debitage (Flint flake) | ● Stones: Other non-local (multiple) |

Fig 9 Big field NE:
Fieldwalking and metal-detecting survey area finds distribution



Ceramic spindle whorl Iron Age pot sherd Roman pottery sherds
 Fig 10 Big field NE: Fieldwalking survey sample finds



19th century filigree brooch or pendant Damaged crotal bell Romano-British AE3 coin
 Fig 11 Big field NE: Metal-detecting survey sample finds

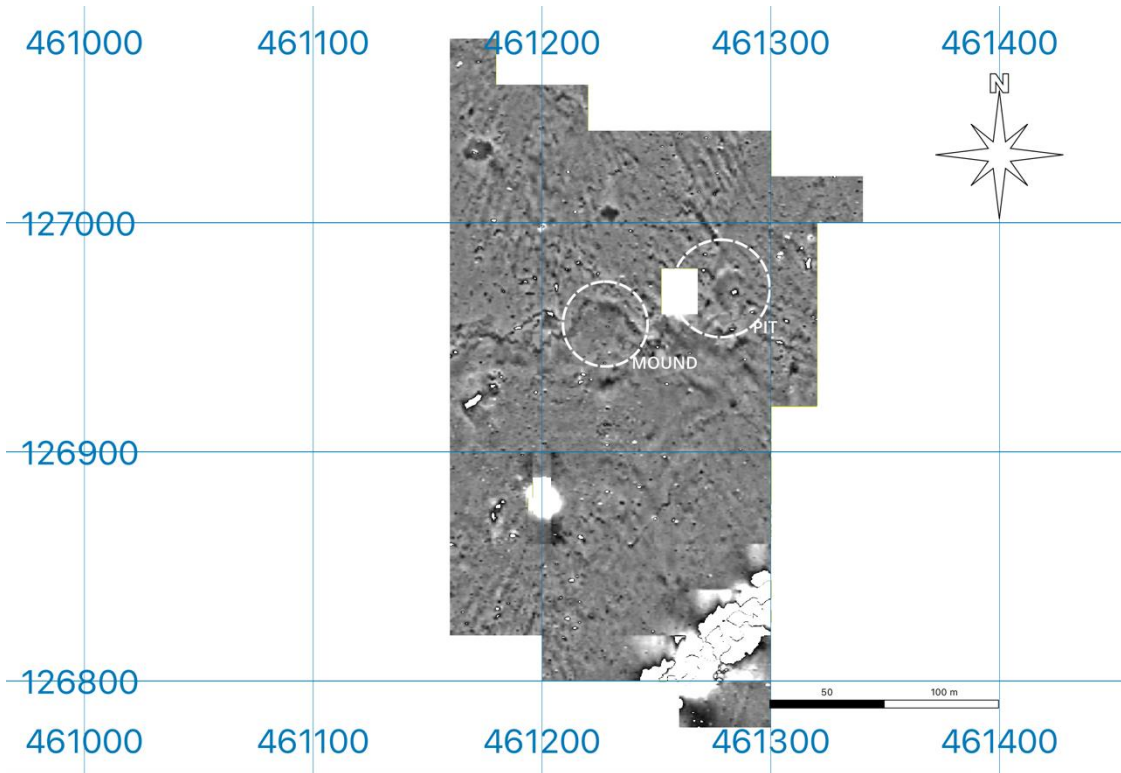


Fig 12 Big field NE: Magnetometry survey results (courtesy of Liss Archaeology)
 The white areas are powerline poles and the ESSO pipeline (bottom right)

Hursley

Hursley Park (SU 42249 25486) (Site UID: TBC)

Excavation

A third and final season of excavation was undertaken by Winchester Archaeology and Local History Group (WARG). Four trenches were opened. Trench four focused on the west end of the north, main residential, range. In this area the basement was bottomed, revealing a brick and stone flagged floor. This lower ground floor was shown to be a half basement, lit by windows in the north and west walls (Fig 13). In the southwest corner was a doorway, presumed to be a servant's entrance from the detached west service wing. Between the north range and the west wing was a brick-lined, stone-capped drain running east. The early stone wall and ditch, first encountered in 2022, were seen to continue northwards. Trench eight also revealed part of the north range, focusing on its north wall and eastern end. It was seen that the basement rooms encountered in trenches one and four occupied the whole length of the building. The north-east and north-west corners of the vaulted cellar, first seen in trench one, were found, allowing accurate calculations for the dimensions of this structure to be made. A disjuncture in the brickwork of the north wall suggests that the eastern end of the north range, including the vaulted cellar, was a later addition, possibly at the same time as the east wing.

Trench nine was located to the south of the main building and courtyard complex. The early stone wall and ditch seen in trench five continued southwards. An unexpected discovery was a large rectangular hollow, lined with clay and rammed chalk. The function of this is uncertain but is likely to be a garden water feature. Trench ten explored a mortared flint structure first encountered in trench five. This contained a recess and continued as a wall footing. The associated ceramic and other finds evidence, together with the surrounding stratigraphy, point to this being the remains of the early 15th century bishop's hunting lodge. Post-excavation work is continuing and a report is expected in 2027.



Fig 13 Hursley Park: Excavation of the lower ground floor in Trench 4

See also: *Archaeology in Hampshire 2021 and 2022 Hursley Park Excavation.*

Meonstoke

Stocks Lane (SU 61488 20672) (Site UID: TBC)

Geophysical Survey and Electrical Resistance Tomography

A geophysical survey was carried out by the Meon Valley Archaeology and Heritage Group (MVAHG) on land to the south of Stocks Lane in Meonstoke. Previous resistivity and magnetometry surveys conducted by the group to the north of Stocks Lane at Shavards Farm, had identified a low resistance feature resembling a sub-circular ditch, possibly indicating the presence of univallate hillfort. The size of the ditch, varying in widths from approximately 25-30m and probably of considerable depth, together with the enclosed sub-circular area approximately 195m in diameter, is indicative of a substantial defended settlement of the Iron Age. The nearest hillfort of Old Winchester Hill is 2.5 km away and it was postulated that the site, with its proximity to the River Meon, could have been a summer camp settlement.



Fig 14 Stocks Lane: Electrical Resistivity Tomography survey lines and resistivity results superimposed over Google imaging

The 2023 geophysical survey provided the first evidence of the continuation of the ditch, supporting the theory of a univallate hillfort, but there was still the possibility that the anomaly could be geological rather than anthropogenic. Therefore, a further non-invasive technique was suggested in the form of Electrical Resistance Tomography (ERT). Crucially this technique enables obtaining a soil profile to a depth of 10m beneath the ground surface. The survey was undertaken by Historic England on behalf of MVAHG as part of a training exercise for a new geophysics team member and equipment testing. Three 63m ERT profiles were measured, each consisting of a line of 64 electrodes spaced 1m apart (Fig 14). The measured sections did not exhibit the U- or V-shaped profile of an anthropogenic

ditch but were consistent with the mapped geology. The low resistance layer is likely to represent either a narrow band of clay between the lower and middle Cretaceous chalk, or groundwater draining along the interface between these two geological units.

See also: Linford, P and Clements, M *Meon Valley and Archaeology and Heritage Group, Meonstoke, Hampshire: Report on Geophysical Survey, September 2023*, unpubl report.

See also: Archaeology in Hampshire 2020 *Shavards Farm*, and 2022 *Prospect Cottage*.

New Alresford

Sun Lane (SU 59152 31884) (Site UID: TBC)

Excavation

A strip, map and sample excavation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) ahead of a new residential and industrial development. The programme of works centred on the presence of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery and three Bronze Age round barrows (Fig 15). Over 130 Saxon burials were excavated as well as two Bronze Age cremations, three prehistoric burials and one Roman burial.

The Anglo Saxons buried on the site may indicate that religious change was happening in the area at that time, with potential Christian practices inferred in the alignment of the bodies, supine with heads placed to the west. Some were also organized in neat rows in small groups, with few intercutting graves, suggesting a well-managed burial site.



Fig. 15 Sun Lane: Round barrows and Saxon burials

See also: Archaeology in Hampshire 2022 *Sun Lane* Evaluation.

Old Alresford

Pinglestone Winery, Old Alresford (SU 5807 3322) (Site UID: TBC) Geophysical Survey

A geophysical survey undertaken by MOLA (Northampton) ahead of a proposed winery development identified anomalies interpreted as a substantial ditch following a dog-legged course across the northern part of the survey area. Slighter anomalies were variously identified as small ditches or relating to agricultural activity such as terraces or lynchets of uncertain date.

Southwick and Widley

Pigeon House Lane (SU 6464 0693) (Site UID: TBC) Geophysical Survey

Wessex Archaeology undertook gradiometer and ground penetrating radar surveys on land at Pigeon House Lane, with the aim of identifying the crash site of a Second World War RAF plane near to Pigeon House Farm. The surveys were related to the Hampshire Water for Life Project.

A fragmented curvilinear outer ditch together with a smaller penannular ditch were located. They may represent a ring-ditch and outer enclosure of prehistoric date. One of two trenches known to have been excavated in 1979 to locate the site of the crashed RAF plane was also located, although there was no trace of the second trench.

Wickham

Land south-west of Oak Dene, Southwick Road (SU 58190 11043) Site UID: TBC) Watching Brief

A watching brief by Cotswold Archaeology recorded four pits, one a possible watering hole, and a ditch terminus, all containing sherds of middle to late Roman pottery (mainly of the mid-2nd to 3rd centuries AD) and ceramic building material. The artefacts and palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from the features are indicative of domestic activity. The remains are likely to be associated with a known Roman settlement previously excavated to the west of the site, along the projected route of the Roman road from Bitterne (Clausentum) to Chichester (Noviomagus Reginorum).

Titchfield Lane Solar Park (SU 56351 12091) (Site UID: TBC) Geophysical Survey

A magnetometer survey by Headland Archaeology identified two small areas of possible archaeological activity. Both clusters of anomalies comprise small, apparently isolated, enclosures.

Winchester

4 Alswitha Terrace, King Alfred Place (SU 48260 30116) (Site UID: TBC) Watching Brief

A watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) during groundwork to build a rear extension. The site lies in the northern Victorian suburb of Hyde in an area of known archaeological monuments and findspots and within the site of Hyde Abbey. Remains of the Abbey and the later prison, Bridewell, are known to survive extensively beneath the Victorian houses and gardens. The earliest deposits observed during the watching brief date to the medieval period and relate to Hyde Abbey and its demolition. However, the limited scope for investigation within the foundation trenches have precluded more meaningful interpretation of what it was possible to record. Nevertheless, the character and depth below ground of these deposits provides useful evidence of the archaeological potential of the site and wider area of the former Hyde Abbey. Medieval building material was also present in the later post-medieval deposits, along with a small assemblage of medieval pottery and tile and post-medieval pottery and clay tobacco pipe fragments. Examination of the CBM and worked stone assemblage has identified only high-quality medieval materials and

contains a mixture of Early English and Late Gothic (1200-1400) tile and stone, including a 12th to 13th century Minety peg tile manufactured in North Wiltshire and a later medieval floor tile with an unusual fabric of green/grey malmstone. The main feature of the assemblage are the high quality carved, fresh, moulded stone elements (Fig 16) in Caen stone and Oolitic Box/Corsham stone from western Wiltshire. They include a complete later Gothic sunken chamfer mould and a very unusual foot and sandal sculpture on a cornice (Fig 17). Both have traces of red paint and are of great individual artistic merit. Earlier Early English column bases were also present.



Fig 16 Alswitha Terrace: Arcade pier



Fig 17 Alswitha Terrace: Foot and sandal sculpture fragment

See also: Hatt, G. 2023 *4 Alswitha Terrace, King Alfred Place, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 7DQ: An Archaeological Watching Brief*, unpubl report.

Hyde900: 19 King Alfred Place (SU 482 301) (Site UID: TBC) & King Alfred Terrace (SU 482 300) (Site UID: TBC), 14 King Alfred Terrace (SU 482 300) (Site UID: TBC)

Excavation

Community excavations continued in 2023 as part of the Hyde900 project. Five trenches were opened in three gardens in King Alfred Place and King Alfred Terrace. The trench locations were based on existing knowledge of the archaeology and architecture of the Abbey, supported by ground penetrating radar and probing test results from local gardens.

Trenches 40 and 41 were located in the garden of 19 King Alfred Place which is shown on plans to be outside the Abbey cloisters but is likely to be at the western end of the county Bridewell, which opened in 1788 and closed in 1845. The two trenches were sited to explore the possible continuation of a foundation structure discovered in the adjacent garden in 2021 and to confirm the location of the west end of the county Bridewell. A chalk raft and demolition material associated with both the Abbey and the Bridewell were uncovered. Amongst the finds was a 'peace' pipe fragment, commemorating the Treaty of Paris which ended the Crimean War. The pipe was made in Winchester at the Bridge Street kiln site.

Trenches 42 and 43 were located at the north end of the garden at 8 King Alfred Terrace, likely to be the site of the south range of cloister buildings. In trench 42 a concrete base within which was a hole (120mm diameter) was the likely site of a 2nd World War Anderson shelter (Fig 18), complete with fragment of cast iron soil pipe. Below this level there was a layer of Abbey demolition material under which the foundation of a substantial Abbey wall (1m wide) was revealed. In trench 43 a layer of chalk rubble and flints could be associated with the demolition of the cloister buildings. Finds include decorated window mullions, non-local stone, a fragment of a medieval lead grill (Fig 19) and a large quantity of oyster shell.



Fig 18 Hyde900: concrete slab associated with the Anderson shelter alongside the Abbey wall foundation and robber trench



Fig 19 Hyde900: Fragment of a medieval lead ventilator grill

Trench 44 was located at 14 King Alfred Terrace. Over virtually the whole north-south length of this L-shaped trench was a layer (200mm deep) comprising Abbey demolition material including chalk blocks, medieval floor and roof tile fragments, glass, slate and oyster shells, together with Roman pottery. In the east-west part of the trench was a row of large flints with consistent dimensions (120mm X 120mm) forming the edge to a cobbled type surface. In the southern part of the north-south trench evidence for a robbed wall could be associated with the Abbey kitchens. Unstratified finds from the trench include a 15th century Flemish token and a 1750 George II farthing. See also: Spurling, D. *Report on the Hyde900 2023 Community dig*, unpubl report.

56 Middle Brook Street (SU 48416 2967) (Site UID: TBC)

Watching Brief

A watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) during groundworks associated with the construction of a rear extension. The site lies within the former precinct of a medieval Franciscan Friary that was established in the 13th century until the Dissolution in 1538. Two deposits recorded during the watching brief were consistent in characteristics and depth with known medieval layers seen during previous works in the area: watching briefs at 62-64 Middle Brook Street (PCA 2023) and 72 Middle Brook Street (PCA 2019) and excavations at Faberlux Yard (PCA 2023). See also: Hatt, G. 2023, *56 Middle Brook Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8DQ: Archaeological Watching Brief Report*, unpubl report.

62-64 Middle Brook Street (SU 47516 29632) (Site UID: TBC)

Watching Brief

A watching brief was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) during groundworks relating to the construction of a rear extension in both properties. The site lies within the former precinct of a medieval Franciscan Friary that was established in the 13th century until the Dissolution in 1538. Two deposits relating to the demolition of the medieval friary buildings were recorded. Disarticulated and articulated human remains were recorded and left in situ. These have been associated with an approximately 19th century date and it is likely that they are related to the earlier occupancy of 62 Middle Brook Street. There were no associated grave cuts or fills and no staining or organic matter was observed. The reason for the varying conditions of the two contexts and the background behind these individuals is unclear. The area is not a known burial site for this period. See also: Wortt, Z. 2023, *62 & 64 Middle Brook Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8DQ: Archaeological Watching Brief Report*, unpubl report.

73 Tower Street (SU 4796 2983) (Site UID: TBC)

Evaluation

An evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) as part of work to construct a two-storey rear extension. The site lies within the north-western part of the historic core of Winchester. Archaeological deposits were recorded at a depth of between 0.68m and 0.9m below ground level and were similar to large pits that have been recorded previously in the same area of the city. A mixture of Romano-British and early medieval pottery, ceramic building material, worked bone, iron objects, animal bone and oyster shell were recovered from the pits. The pits are thought to be medieval in date but containing residual artefacts of Romano-British date.

See also: Warburton, T. 2023 *73 Tower Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 9EB: An Archaeological Evaluation Report*, unpubl report.

Central Winchester Regeneration Site (SU 448483 129438) (Site UID: TBC)

Evaluation

Interim results from this evaluation project by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) have confirmed that, as expected, well-preserved archaeological remains are present below the site, but also present at higher levels than previously anticipated. Much of the stratigraphy was waterlogged. Evidence for multi-phased medieval and post-medieval occupation fronting onto Tanner Street was recorded, below which were alluvial and possible dark earth deposits. Elsewhere a late Saxon to early medieval timber channel revetment was encountered. This could represent an earlier incarnation of one of the Late Saxon 'brooks' in this part of the city, or be an offshoot servicing domestic or industrial areas. Within two further evaluation trenches there were deep sequences of medieval and Late Saxon occupation remains in the form of timber and masonry structures, timber posts, pits/postholes and part of a medieval street. These lay above, or were inserted into, an extensive post-Roman reed bed deposit. Below this reed bed traces of likely Roman occupation and activity were identified.

West Hill pipeline, Teg Down / Weeke Down (SU 4565 3029) (Site UID: TBC)

Evaluation

Archaeological remains of Middle Iron Age or earlier date, both funerary and settlement in nature, were located during an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Archaeology South East in connection with a proposed water pipeline at West Hill / Teg Down, Winchester. All remains were located at the northern end of the proposed pipeline route. A grave, possibly a crouched burial, was partially uncovered. It had been truncated by a later ditch. A significant quantity of large flint nodules found within the grave likely formed a small cairn over the burial. Nearby were a small ditch and a series of intercutting pits. The pits were flat based, circular or oval in plan and contained a similar fill sequence: a lower more sterile fill and an upper fill containing a greater number of artefacts. These included pottery sherds all likely to be contemporary, although the only diagnostic fragment present was a rim sherd from a Middle Iron Age plain Saucepan pot. Animal bone (cattle, sheep/goat and dog), some Neolithic to Early Bronze Age worked flint (likely residual) and a large quantity of fire-cracked flint were also present.

11 The Close, Winchester (SU 48154 29253) (Site UID: TBC)

Watching Brief

A watching brief by Urban Archaeology during replacement of the mains water supplies to Nos 11 and 11A The Close revealed masonry remains associated with the medieval cathedral precinct, including the possible western side of the western claustral range. Much of the architectural stone revealed showed signs of reuse, although some may be from the primary building of the western range. A multi-scalloped capital dates to c.1160 and probably derives from a response within a substantial rib-vaulted building within the cathedral precinct, such as the refectory or infirmary halls. No 11 The Close was constructed in 1665 and the groundworks revealed that its foundations were of Quarr stone and chalk blocks, with a half-basement superstructure building in brick.

See also: Archaeology in Hampshire 2022 *11 The Close* Watching Brief.

Kingsgate Park, St Cross Road, Winchester (SU 47877 28783) (Site UID: TBC) Excavation

Following evaluation trenching in 2022 over the site of a new girls boarding house and all-weather sports pitch development at Kingsgate Park Winchester College, excavation was undertaken by Border Archaeology between May 2023 and February 2024. Thick post-medieval to Victorian deposits deepened to the east and filled a large natural depression. A ditch excavated close to the line of the Roman road, now represented by St Cross Road, may be of Roman date as its profile is similar to 'ankle-breaker' ditches common in this period. It may have functioned as a roadside ditch. No other Roman period features were identified and the area may have formed part of the agricultural landscape around Winchester at this time.

Further activity comprised a small informal inhumation cemetery of probable Early Anglo-Saxon date. Twelve articulated inhumation burials, together with disarticulated remains of a further two individuals, were excavated. These were clustered in two separate areas on the banks of the large natural depression which would likely have formed a seasonal pool during this time. Adult and sub-adults were represented, placed in a variety of orientations with several in deviant positions. Most burials were accompanied by grave goods such as buckles, studs, blades, beads, brooches and pins, likely representing personal items.

Following an apparent period of abandonment, occupation and industrial activity commenced in the area during the medieval period. Evidence of property plots were revealed, together with pits producing horn cores, skulls and other animal bones indicating tawing or tanning activity with associated wells and cisterns. A number of pits elsewhere on the site produced a significant quantity of decorated worked bone that had clearly been broken and discarded during manufacture. A re-used sarsen stone may have been a plague stone located adjacent to the main road into the city from the south.

See also Archaeology in Hampshire 2022 *Kingsgate Park* Evaluation.

1 Rosemary Cottages, Rosemary Close, Blue Ball Hill (SU 48658 29600) (Site UID: TBC) Watching Brief Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) undertook a watching brief during groundworks for the construction of a rear extension to the property. Two partially exposed inhumation burials and a small pit cut into natural chalk were revealed. The burials (left in situ) are likely to date to the Roman period and form part of the extensive extra-mural eastern Roman cemetery.

Upper Brook Street car park (SU 448284 129603) (Site UID: TBC) Evaluation and Excavation Evaluation and excavation by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Winchester) located the remains of 19th century terraced housing (Ebenezer Terrace) at a shallow depth adjacent to Middle Brook Street, however no evidence of earlier remains was identified to a significant depth. Close to a previous excavation trench (1992) alluvial deposits were identified at depth. Within the alluvial deposits a timber-lined well was located, together with some wattles possibly forming shoring for construction of the well. Both trenches seem to confirm that medieval occupation was focused to the south, as indicated by the 1992 results and documentary evidence.

Wonston

Sutton Scotney to South Wonston pipeline scheme (SU 46380 39739 to SU 47631 35665) (Site UID: TBC) Geophysical Survey and Evaluation

A geophysical survey followed by trial trenching was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology along the route of a proposed water pipeline between Sutton Scotney and South Wonston. The geophysical survey identified a large amount of possible archaeological activity, with areas of pits, boundary and

enclosure ditches throughout. An enclosure ditch containing pits (or graves) and two enclosures meeting to form a possible trackway were identified. A group of three ring-ditches, one of which appeared to be causewayed and a further possible ring-ditch were also identified.

Subsequent evaluation trenching recorded archaeological features along the pipeline route, although in small concentrations. These largely comprised undated linear features, some likely relating to field systems. The only discrete features found were two post holes and one pit. The most significant remains located comprised part of a cluster of ring-ditches which had been previously identified in aerial photographs and from geophysical survey. Trenches excavated through the two ring-ditches did not recover any dating evidence, however they are likely to be Neolithic to Bronze Age in date. A central discrete feature in one ring-ditch was found to be large and complex and archaeological excavation was agreed here (see *Wonston Manor Farm* below). Several enclosure ditches were also located which produced Late Iron Age / Roman pottery and may be related to wider Iron Age / Roman settlement and activity in the area (see *Land south of West Stoke Farm* below).

Sutton Scotney to South Wonston pipeline scheme, Wonston Manor Farm (SU 4698 3800) (Site UID: TBC) Excavation

The excavation of two ring-ditches and a large central pit was undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. The pit may have been previously disturbed or excavated and may result from a previous excavation which was thought to have taken place within one of the other ring-ditches. A number of inhumation burials were located just outside the ring-ditches. They are thought to date to the Anglo-Saxon period.

Sutton Scotney to South Wonston pipeline scheme, Land south of West Stoke Farm (SU 4743 3691) (Site UID: TBC) Excavation

Excavation by Wessex Archaeology was focused on an area of Late Iron Age to Roman settlement activity, which included a sub-rectangular enclosure within which were a series of deep Iron Age and Iron Age to Roman undercutting storage pits. A sheep/goat burial was present in the top of one of the pits and a large quantity of finds were recovered from these features. The pits may have been Iron Age storage pits later repurposed in ritualised ways.

Andover Link Main pipeline scheme, Land near to Sutton Down Farm (SU 44553 36331) (Site UID: 72760) Excavation

Archaeological excavation undertaken by Wessex Archaeology in connection with the proposed Andover Link Main (water pipeline) on land near to Sutton Down Farm revealed extensive archaeological remains including 17 graves, a flint-built structure, 16 ditches, four gullies, 21 pits, two postholes and a well. Towards the southern part of the excavation 12 crouched inhumations were recorded as a discrete cemetery. Although no datable artefacts were recovered from these graves the style of burial suggests that these are prehistoric. The remaining features include a possible Romano-British road-side shrine or small animal pound which lay within a more substantial enclosure. Within the enclosure ditch were five inhumation burials which stratigraphically are presumed to be mid to late Romano-British in date.

See also: *Andover Link Main* Multi-Parish Geophysical Survey and Evaluation entries below.

Multi-parish (Wonston, Crawley, Littleton and Harestock, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hursley)

Andover Link Main pipeline scheme (SU 37566 45489 to SU 44978 29437 full scheme length)

Geophysical Survey

A geophysical survey was conducted by Wessex Archaeology along the route options for a proposed water pipeline between Crab Wood Treatment Plant near Winchester and Andover. Evidence for archaeological activity was identified across the survey areas, attributable to multi-phase agricultural

and settlement activity. These include a complex of linear and a complex of linear and rectilinear features likely relating to settlement, associated field boundaries and a possible trackway to the west of Sutton Down Farm. Numerous features likely associated with former quarrying were also identified within the survey areas.

See also: *Andover Link Main pipeline scheme* Evaluation, Test Valley district and Winchester district, this report.

Multi-parish (Wonston, Crawley, Littleton and Harestock, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hursley)

Andover Link Main pipeline scheme (SU 45113 29109 to SU 36827 46714 full scheme length)

Evaluation

An evaluation by Wessex Archaeology along 24km of the pipeline route opened 278 trenches. Two areas along the pipeline route in the Winchester district were not evaluated, having been identified for archaeological excavation due to their identified potential from cropmark evidence and geophysical survey (see individual entries for *Worthy Down Grove in Crawley parish* and *Sutton Down Farm in Wonston parish* in this report).

(SU 44827 33855) (Site UID: 72761)

Near Littleton a sub-circular pit (1.04 x 0.98 x 0.23m deep) was recorded. The fill contained animal bone, burnt flint and Peterborough Ware pottery. West of Littleton the cut for a cremation burial (0.29 x 0.47 x 0.1m deep) contained the truncated remains of a Roman greyware vessel. A further feature resembling a cremation burial was also recorded. Undated rectangular features close to the cremation burial could represent inhumation burials. A number of undated ditches were recorded, including a NE-SW ditch which could be a Romano-British boundary ditch, two parallel NE-SW ditches which could either be flanking a trackway or be field boundaries, and a NW-SE ditch which appeared to have an ankle-breaker at the base. A ditch (1.1m wide x 0.49m deep) running E-W for 10m had Roman pottery in its fill and a curvilinear ditch (1.78m wide x 0.88m deep) running NW-SE for 8m had a fill containing Roman pottery, including Samian ware. Further undated features could represent drainage ditches.

(SU 45538 31509) (Site UID: 72762)

South of Littleton a large undated ditch (2.5m wide x 1.07m deep) aligned E-W with a V-shaped base could be a field boundary or drainage ditch. A second large undated ditch (2.36m wide x 0.86m deep) was aligned NE-SW.

(SU 45534 30418) (Site UID: 72763)

Near Weeke Down a Romano-British sub-circular grave (cut 0.51 x 0.49m x 0.21m deep) contained a cremation in a vessel alongside three accessory vessels and oyster shells. A circular pit (1.54 x 1.3 x >1.22m deep) with a bell-shaped profile was augured to a depth of 3m. The lowest fill sampled contained Late Iron Age and Roman pottery. Two undated ditches, one aligned NW-SE (2.92m wide and 0.89m deep) and the second aligned NE-SW (2.43m wide and 0.75m deep) cut an undated pit. These ditches form part of an undated sub-circular enclosure seen on NMP cropmarks. A ditch aligned NW-SE (0.9m wide and 0.5m deep) containing mid to late Roman pottery ran parallel to an earlier Iron Age ditch. Two ditches were found on the same NW-SE alignment with one cutting the other, apparently an extension to the first. The second ditch contained mid to late Roman pottery. Of three further ditches, one contained Iron Age and residual Neolithic pottery, one had a single Iron Age sherd in its fill and one was undated. Four additional undated ditches could be part of a field or drainage system. A sub-circular quarry pit (5 x 1.8 x 0.74m deep) is a possible chalk extraction site.

See also: Cullen, B & Capps, R 2024 *Andover Link Main, Andover to Winchester, Hampshire, Archaeological Evaluation*, unpubl report.

See also: *Andover Link Main pipeline scheme* Geophysical survey and *Andover Link Main pipeline scheme* Evaluation Test Valley district, Crawley parish and Wonston parish, this report.

Multi-parish (Colden Common, Durley, Bishops Waltham, Curdridge, Wickham, Southwick and Widley)

Hampshire Water Transfer & Recycling Project (SU 65721 070080) (Site UID: 72727); (SU 66955 06320) (Site UID: 72728); (SU 59386 08136) (Site UID: 72729); (SU 56346 12052) (Site UID: 72730); (SU 54813 15303) (Site UID: 72731); (SU 48574 20842) (Site UID: 72732) Geophysical Survey

Wessex Archaeology undertook a detailed gradiometer survey along various sections of a proposed water transfer scheme route between Otterbourne and Widley. A survey either side of Titchfield Lane near Wickham identified multiple weak linear anomalies which may relate to archaeological ditches, but could relate to former field boundaries, trackways or modern agricultural activity. Further weak linear anomalies on perpendicular alignments south of Titchfield Lane could relate to a ladder settlement, with a routeway between field systems, potentially of Roman or medieval date, although the presence of a Roman road junction is notable here. Again, they could however relate to modern agricultural drainage or ploughing. Former historic field boundaries, a pond and traces of former ridge and furrow were also identified in the survey areas.

Near to Fishers Pond weak anomalies may form ditch or enclosure features of archaeological origins but these could also relate to older field boundaries or drainage. Other linear anomalies can be related to former historic field boundaries. Potential evidence for former ridge and furrow or drainage was also identified, although again these weak responses could also relate to modern agricultural activity or land drains.

Other survey areas along the proposed route identified anomalies potentially relating to post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation, however these could equally relate to modern ploughing or land drains as well as former historic field boundaries. Survey areas along Portsdown Hill near Widley identified potential pre-post-medieval field systems, boundary and possible enclosure ditches, however many of the anomalies were weak and may derive from modern activity.

See also: Howard, B 2023 *Hampshire Water Transfer & Water Recycling Project, Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report*, unpubl report.

Multi-parish (Compton and Shawford, Hursley)

Southampton Link Main Pipeline (SU 4531 2646 to SU 3824 1809 full scheme length) (SU 44110 25561) (Site UID: 72733); (SU 46251 23890) (Site UID: 72765); (SU 45571 25574) (Site UID: 72766); (SU 42821 24160) (Site UID: 72767); (SU 41884 23538) (Site UID: 72768); (SU 40725 22682) (Site UID: 72769); (SU 38462 22132) (Site UID: 72770); (SU 38215 20527) (Site UID: 72771); (SU 38057 19121) (Site UID: 72772); (SU 38246 18183) (Site UID: 72773)

Geophysical survey & Evaluation

Compton and Shawford

A geophysical survey was conducted by SUMO Geophysics along the route options for a proposed water pipeline between Rownhams and Otterbourne. In Area 1 (centred at SU 4570 2428) no definite archaeological responses were recorded, and several weak linear trends are likely to have a natural or agricultural origin. Anomalies interpreted as relating to two former field boundaries, quarrying activity and ridge and furrow were recorded. In Area 2 (centred at SU 4490 2543) no definite archaeological responses were recorded, however a complex area of linear, rectilinear and discrete anomalies was identified south of Yew Hill Reservoir. These anomalies may relate to former occupation activity, enclosures and/or a possible field system. Other uncertain responses may be of archaeological origin but could equally have a natural origin or relate to agricultural activity. Other responses may relate to quarrying activity. A large discrete response close to the Yew Hill reservoir may relate to an extensive

settlement complex known here but may also relate to quarrying activity. Several responses equate with former field boundaries shown on historic mapping and areas of former ridge and furrow were also identified.

Evaluation trenching comprising 313 trenches and geoarchaeological test pitting were undertaken by Archaeology South East along a route from Otterbourne WSW (SU 46547 23399) in the east to Yew Hill WSW (SU 45348 26415) to the north to Rownhams WSW (SU 38263 18103) to the south. Evidence of scattered prehistoric activity was identified along the proposed pipeline route between Otterbourne and Yew Hill. This included a number of pits, one producing a small group of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery sherds and residual worked flint (Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age in date) as well as a large quantity of hazelnut shell fragments. Other pits contained burnt flint, undiagnostic worked flint, fragments of fired clay, charred plant remains, charcoal and hazelnut shell fragments. A cremation pit was also located which contained the inverted and truncated remains of a probable Early Bronze Age Biconical urn (c.2100-1600 BC) and burnt human remains, charcoal and burnt flint.

Adjacent to Yew Hill reservoir trenching located a concentration of Late Iron Age / early Roman activity, in the form of a possible enclosed settlement. Multiple linear features/ditches were located, many corresponding to cropmarks, together with a number of pits. Many of the features contained pottery, animal bone and unworked burnt flint. A large discrete feature previously located by geophysical survey and identified as a possible quarry pit produced a small quantity of finds of which only one was dateable, a piece of medieval to post-medieval peg tile. To the south-west of Yew Hill reservoir an undated linear feature and several pits were located, containing undiagnostic flints, burnt flint, Early Bronze Age pottery sherds and poorly preserved fragments of animal bone.

Hursley

A geophysical survey was conducted by SUMO Geophysics along the route options for a proposed water pipeline between Rownhams and Otterbourne. In Area 3 (centred at SU 4198 2357) a tentative partial rectilinear enclosure was detected, together with weak linear trenches and a group of discrete anomalies which may be archaeological in origin. Several former field boundaries, a former trackway and responses from modern land drainage were also detected.

Evaluation trenching and geoarchaeological test pitting were undertaken by Archaeology South East. To the south of Hursley / south of Poles Lane the trenching located a number of features including ditches, several gullies, post-holes and a shallow pit. Where finds were recovered, these included Late Iron Age to early Roman pottery, Roman ceramic building material, pieces of fired clay, charred plant remains and pieces of burnt flint. A possible midden layer containing Middle Iron Age pottery sherds was also located in this area, as was a spread of material thought to derive from post-medieval burning activity and several further ditches containing late post-medieval artefactual material.

To the west of Ladwell, geoarchaeological test pitting located a flint scatter within a fine-grained alluvial or colluvial deposit. Fourteen flakes together with a small burnt unworked flint fragment were recovered. Based on technological traits, these are likely to be of late prehistoric date (Middle Neolithic to Late Bronze Age / Iron Age).

See also: Cockcroft, T 2024 *Geophysical Survey Report Southampton Link Main Pipeline, Hampshire (phase 2)*, unpubl report.

See also: Vieira, T, Nicholls, H & Mansfield, C 2023 *Archaeological Evaluation Report Southampton Link Main Hampshire Phase 1*, unpubl report.