



**Land West of Chesterton
Oxfordshire**

**Written Scheme of Investigation
for Archaeological Watching Brief**

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Figure 1: Site location and watching brief areas with evaluation trenches and geophysical survey results



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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) has been commissioned by Taylor Wimpey (UK) Ltd (hereafter 'the Client') to undertake an archaeological watching brief at land to the west of Chesterton in Oxfordshire (**Figure 1**), hereafter "the Site" (NGR 455775 221400).

1.1.2 An outline planning application (14/01737/OUT) for a residential development of 45 dwellings and associated access and landscaping was submitted to Cherwell District Council, together with a Desk-based Assessment (CSa 2014) and Geophysical Survey (Archaeological Surveys 2014). An initial review of the likely archaeological requirements by the Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), acting as the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) indicated that the Site was within an area of archaeological interest and recommended that a staged programme of archaeological investigation be undertaken ahead of any development on the Site, to assess and mitigate any existing archaeological remains.

1.1.3 Two archaeological conditions were attached to the consent:

Condition 24: *Prior to any demolition on the site, the commencement of the development and any archaeological investigation, a professional archaeological organisation acceptable to the Local Planning Authority shall prepare a first stage archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation, relating to the application area, which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

REASON – To safeguard the recording and inspection of matters of archaeological importance on the site in accordance with Policy BE6 of the South East Plan 2009 and Government guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework.

Condition 25: *Prior to any demolition on the site, the commencement of the development and following the approval of the first stage Written Scheme of Investigation referred to in condition [a], a programme of archaeological evaluation, investigation and recording of the application area shall be carried out by the commissioned archaeological organisation in accordance with the approved first stage Written Scheme of Investigation.*

REASON – In order to determine the extent, character and significance of the surviving remains of archaeological interest and to safeguard the recording and inspection of matters of archaeological importance on the site in accordance with Policy BE6 of the South East Plan 2009 and Government guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework.



- 1.1.4 An initial Written Scheme of Investigation for an evaluation and a program of archaeological trial trenching was carried out in December 2015 (Wessex Archaeology 2015 (WSI) and 2016 (evaluation report)).
- 1.1.5 The evaluation identified archaeological features in seven of the ten trenches, all of which were ditches and a rectilinear compound and corresponded well with the previously identified geophysical anomalies. Although many of the features had been heavily truncated by previous agricultural activity, one area of better preservation was identified along the line of an undated boundary ditch at the western boundary of the Site.
- 1.1.6 Subsequent consultation with the Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), identified that further archaeological mitigation, in the form of a Watching Brief, is required during initial construction groundworks and that this mitigation should be concentrated within the western part of the Site.

1.2 Scope of Document

- 1.2.1 A formal application for discharge of condition application (16/00034/DISC) is to be submitted in early April 2016 to allow the initial construction to commence.
- 1.2.2 This specification sets out the initial strategy and methodology by which WA will implement the programme of archaeological mitigation works and will satisfy Condition 24 (related to the preparation of an archaeological scheme of works) and how it is intended to satisfy Condition 25 (relating to the final investigation, reporting and archive deposition).
- 1.2.3 In format and content this document conforms with current best practice and to the guidance outlined in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE, EH 2009) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance: archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2014a). It will be submitted to and approved by the Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), acting on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Location, topography and geology

- 2.1.1 The Site comprises of two fields under pastoral cultivation and is located on the western edge of Chesterton in Oxfordshire at NGR 455775 221400 (**Figure 1**). The Site is bounded to the north-west by an unnamed road which connects Green Lane to the A4095. Immediately to the south-west is an arable field and residential housing to the south and south-east. To the north and north-east are allotments and beyond this, the northern part of Chesterton village.
- 2.1.2 The land is set on a very gentle south-east facing slope at a height around 78 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to 75 m aOD. The nearest watercourse is the Gagle Brook which lies c.400 m to the north and east.
- 2.1.3 The bedrock geology mapped on the Site is Cornbrash Limestone Formation. There are no superficial deposits recorded on the Site (BGS website 2015).

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

Introduction

- 2.2.1 A detailed archaeological desk-based assessment for the Site was carried out in 2014 (CSa 2014) which concluded that there was a potential for buried archaeology of Roman

date on the Site. A geophysical survey of the Site was recommended to allow for an informed decision to be made regarding future archaeological mitigation works on the Site (CSa 2014).

- 2.2.2 A detailed magnetometer geophysical survey was carried out on the Site in April 2014 (Archaeological Surveys 2014). The results indicate the presence of cut features of archaeological potential in the form of a large rectilinear enclosure and linear ditch. The survey also revealed several other linear and discrete anomalies which were interpreted as possible archaeological features (Figure 1). Field 1 in the north-eastern part of the Site contains widespread magnetic debris which may have affected the identification of linear and discrete anomalies in the survey area.
- 2.2.3 The following information on the archaeological background is derived from the archaeological assessment (CSa 2014), the OHER and the OCC Planning Archaeologist's comments, in response to consultation on the development proposal for application 14/01737/OUT.

Prehistoric and Romano-British

- 2.2.4 Two contiguous circles with a raised central area located 1km to the north-east of the Site are visible on aerial photographs. These features may represent Bronze Age ring ditches (Oxfordshire SMR MOX5629).
- 2.2.5 The Site is located in an area of high archaeological potential with the Roman Road of Akeman Street (MOX1783) situated 100 m to the south of the Site where Green Lane is now situated (Fig. 1). Akeman Street connected Alchester to Cirencester. Alchester is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM OX18) and is situated 1.4 km to the south-east of the Site. Alchester was bounded by defences and grew from a military camp to be Oxfordshire's largest Roman town, recent fieldwork by Eberhard Sauer at the entrance recovered a gate post that has been dated to AD 44/45 (Sauer 2015).
- 2.2.6 A hoard of late Roman coins was recorded 0.7 km to the south-west of the Site (MOX11297) which suggest there may have been a Roman villa or settlement nearby.
- 2.2.7 Roman activity has been recorded along the route of Akeman Street. A trackway and system of rectilinear enclosures visible on aerial photographs have been recorded immediately to the south of Akeman Street, 1.5 km to the south-east of the Site and probably represent an extramural settlement to the Roman Alchester (Monument No. 933034).
- 2.2.8 Aerial photographs indicate a possible large Roman rectilinear enclosure with possible interior enclosure and pits 0.5 km to the south-west of the Site (MOX2682).
- 2.2.9 The size, form and location of the rectilinear enclosure and linear identified in the geophysical survey on the Site (AS 2014) thus indicate that these anomalies possibly represent Roman or Iron Age settlement activity. The anomalies are also visible as cropmarks in a photograph taken in 1994 and on modern Google mapping (CSa 2014).

Saxon and medieval

- 2.2.10 An archaeological watching brief investigation 0.5 km to the east of the Site revealed an Anglo-Saxon to early medieval rubbish pit and ditch (MOX23847).
- 2.2.11 The deserted medieval village of Bignall and the ruins of a medieval chapel are located 0.7 km to the north of the Site (MOX5586).



Post-medieval and modern

- 2.2.12 The post-medieval site of Manor Farm Mill is situated to the south-east of Chesterton village (MOX5459).

Recent archaeological investigations

- 2.2.13 Between 2000 and 2001, Wessex Archaeology were involved in the refurbishment of overhead power cables between Headington and Bicester which involved a watching brief passing near the Roman town of Alchester. This produced considerable evidence of Roman activity and some evidence for post-Roman occupation of the town and its immediate environs. (Wessex Archaeology 2002).
- 2.2.14 In 2008–2009 Wessex Archaeology undertook a large scale excavation approximately 3 kilometres to the north-east of the Site on land to the south-west of Bicester. This excavation revealed a multiphase landscape with features dating from the Early Bronze Age to the mid Anglo-Saxon period (Martin 2011). This site contained settlement evidence, domestic activity and possible evidence for quarrying. Other features identified included, enclosure ditches, refuse pits, postholes, ditches, trackways and corn driers.
- 2.2.15 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in December 2015 and comprised of a total of 10x 30 m by 1.8 m machine excavated trenches, representing a 2% sample of the development area. The trenches were mainly targeted on anomalies identified during the geophysical survey as well as a small number within blank areas in order to ground test the results.
- 2.2.16 The evaluation identified archaeological features in seven of the trenches, all of which were ditches, included a large rectilinear enclosure, and corresponded well with the geophysical anomalies. The earliest evidence from the Site was an Early Bronze Age arrowhead recovered from the topsoil. Five of the trenches targeted a rectilinear enclosure identified by the geophysical survey; the ditch was present in all of the trenches. The only dated material was a single sherd of Romano-British pottery which suggests a terminus post quem for the enclosure. The enclosure was fairly shallow and had been nearly completely truncated within the south-western field, but it survived to a greater depth towards the north-eastern boundary of the site.
- 2.2.17 An undated boundary ditch was recorded within trenches towards the western boundary of the site and may represent a road side ditch or earlier field boundary.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Project Aim

- 3.1.1 With due regard to the ClfA *Standard and guidance: archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014a), the principle aim of an archaeological watching brief is to identify and record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices, and in compliance with the *Code of conduct* and other relevant by-laws of ClfA.

3.2 Project Objectives

- 3.2.1 In furtherance of the project aim, the following objectives are defined:

- *to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established*

with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works; including

- *To ensure their preservation by record to the highest possible standard;*
- *To confirm the approximate date or date range of the remains, by means of artefactual or other evidence;*
- *To determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains;*
- *To determine the condition and state of preservation of the remains; and*
- *To determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present;*
- *To prepare a report on the results of the watching brief and to assess the historical context and significance of the findings; and*
- *Where significant archaeological remains are found to inform any requirements for further fieldwork and post-excavation work which may be required, following consultation with the Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC),*

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Health and Safety

- 4.1.1 Health and Safety considerations will be of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practices will override archaeological considerations at all times.
- 4.1.2 All work will be carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974* and the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.
- 4.1.3 WA will supply a copy of their Health and Safety Policy and a Risk Assessment to the Client before the commencement of any fieldwork. The Risk Assessment will have been read and understood by all staff attending the Site before any groundwork commences.
- 4.1.4 WA staff will comply with the standard PPE requirements for working on construction sites (hard hat, steel toe capped boots, high visibility clothing) and any specific requirements of the Principal Contractor.

4.2 Service Location

- 4.2.1 The groundwork contractor will be responsible for the identification and protection of any above- and below-ground services within the groundwork area.

4.3 Watching brief

- 4.3.1 The following methodology is proposed in order to meet the aims and objectives of the watching brief at the Site. All works will be carried out in accordance with the ClfA's *Standard and guidance: archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014a), excepting where superseded by statements made below.
- 4.3.2 The fieldwork will consist of the monitoring of groundwork and ground reduction, including service runs, through previously undisturbed soils within two main areas which have been identified as containing the highest archaeological potential (**Figure 1**). These areas are located within the northern and north-western parts of the Site, where the evaluation identified a lesser degree of truncation. The first area comprises the site of a proposed



attenuation pond along the northern boundary of the Site and the second area is focused on an area of the proposed houses which are located along the line of the previously undated boundary ditch c

- 4.3.3 The watching brief will be undertaken by at least one experienced archaeologist subject to the number of site operations being undertaken at any one time. The mechanical excavation will, where possible, be undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant supervision by WA. Machine excavation will proceed to the required construction levels or the top of archaeological levels whichever is the higher, whether during wide-scale ground reduction or limited foundation and service excavations.
- 4.3.4 In the event that complex archaeological deposits and features, including human remains (see below) are revealed, these will be identified and made clear to the Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), the Client and their groundwork contractor, who will allow reasonable access to WA staff, facilitating the excavation and recording of the archaeology present. Areas of archaeological interest will be marked up and suitably protected in advance of their investigation and clearance.
- 4.3.5 The watching brief will be maintained throughout initial excavations and will be concluded when, in consultation with the Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), it is clear that the potential for archaeological remains to be exposed has been exhausted.
- 4.3.6 WA staff will investigate archaeological deposits and features by excavation and recording commensurate with the scale of work and using WA's *pro forma* recording system. Where practical, and towards meeting the aims of the watching brief, excavation will include sampling of features and deposits in order to recover artefacts, ecofacts and dating evidence, and in order to determine stratigraphic relationships. Recording will include written, drawn, and photographic elements as conditions allow.
- 4.3.7 Archaeological features and deposits will be surveyed using a Total Station/GPS and related to Ordnance Survey. If required, arrangements will be put in place with the Client in order for the Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) to monitor progress of the watching brief in site visits.
- 4.3.8 Should extensive and well-preserved remains be found requiring a contingent excavation it will be necessary to agree with the Client and the Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) a programme for this, potentially extending the scope of archaeological works, whilst ensuring no unreasonable delay is caused to the groundwork programme.

4.4 Human remains

- 4.4.1 In the event of discovery of any human remains (articulated or disarticulated, cremated or unburnt), a Ministry of Justice Licence will be obtained immediately by Wessex Archaeology.
- 4.4.2 Should human remains require removal, all excavation and post-excavation will be in accordance with WA protocols, and undertaken in-line with current guidance documents (e.g. McKinley 2013) and the standards set out in ClfA Technical Paper *13 Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed remains*. Appropriate specialist guidance/site visits will be undertaken if required.



- 4.4.3 Excavation and post-excavation processing of human remains will be in accordance with WA protocols, and undertaken in-line with current guidance documents (e.g. McKinley 2013) and the standards set out in ClfA Technical Paper 13 Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed remains. Appropriate specialist guidance/site visits will be undertaken if required.
- 4.4.4 The final deposition of human remains subsequent to the appropriate level of osteological analysis and other specialist sampling/examinations will follow the requirements set out in the Ministry of Justice Licence.

4.5 Treasure

- 4.5.1 In the event of discovery of artefacts covered or potentially covered by *Treasure Act 1996*, their excavation and removal will be undertaken following notification of the Client, Coroner and the Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC).

5 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL

5.1 Finds

- 5.1.1 Finds will be treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given in ClfA *Standard and guidance policies*, the UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines *Conservation Guideline No 2* and the Museums and Galleries Commissions *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (1991), excepting where they are superseded by statements made below.
- 5.1.2 All artefacts from excavated contexts will be retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. No finds will, however, be discarded without the prior approval of the CAO and the designated museum repository. In such circumstances, sufficient artefacts will be retained in order to elucidate the date and/or function of the feature or deposit.
- 5.1.3 A suitable metal detector will be used to enhance artefact recovery during the course of the fieldwork. Spoil dumps along with archaeological areas will be scanned.
- 5.1.4 Specialist advice and conservation needs should unexpected, unusual or extremely fragile and delicate objects be recovered, will be sought. Costs will be agreed with the Client on discovery. Advice on dealing with conservation aspects of the archive will be sought from WA's in-house conservator based at Portway House, Salisbury, as appropriate.
- 5.1.5 All retained artefacts will, as a minimum, be washed, weighed, counted and identified. Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions will be dealt with immediately in line with *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson & Neal 1998) and in consultation with the designated conservator. Ironwork from stratified contexts will be X-rayed and stored in a stable environment along with other fragile and delicate material. The X-raying of objects and other conservation needs will be undertaken by WA's in-house staff or other appropriate approved conservation centre.
- 5.1.6 Information will be obtained from the designated museum repository concerning conditions and arrangements for the deposition of finds.

5.2 Environmental sampling

- 5.2.1 Sampling will follow the English Heritage (EH) guidelines *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (EH 2011, 2nd edition) and the WA *Guidelines for Environmental Sampling*. The sampling



strategy has been developed with the WA environmental manager and will be undertaken under the guidance of the geoarchaeologist.

- 5.2.2 Bulk environmental soil sample sizes will be as per the EH guidelines, with the option to review this following on site discussion / preliminary processing of samples. Samples will be taken from well-sealed and dated or datable archaeological features for plant macrofossils (charred and/or waterlogged and wood charcoal), small animal bones and small artefacts.
- 5.2.3 Where appropriate monolith and/or contiguous column samples will be taken. Monoliths will be taken from key and representative sequences on the site. These will be examined in laboratory conditions by a geoarchaeologist to further elucidate the depositional history of the Site and enable sub-sampling for microfossils and radiocarbon samples as appropriate. Particular attention will be paid to stabilisation horizons and buried land surfaces, with soil micromorphology considered.
- 5.2.4 Bulk environmental soil samples will be processed by flotation and scanned to assess the environmental potential of deposits, but will not be fully analysed. The residues and sieved fractions will be recorded and retained with the project archive. The monoliths will be subject to detailed description by the geoarchaeologist and sub-samples taken as appropriate for microfossils and radiocarbon dating, should suitable material exist. Samples may include those for pollen, diatoms, foraminifera, ostracods as deemed appropriate by the geoarchaeologist. These will be assessed, but not fully analysed at WA and the pollen/ diatoms by our external specialist.
- 5.2.5 Suitable samples for radiocarbon dating will be subsampled from the processed and identified plant remains in the bulk samples or well stratified remains from the monoliths as deemed appropriate.
- 5.2.6 Assessment analysis of charcoal from possible industrial contexts may provide useful data on both availability of species and their management and exploitation for fuel. This will be undertaken in tandem with assessment of slag and any other industrial by products that may be found.

6 REPORTING

6.1 OASIS

- 6.1.1 An OASIS online record¹ will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission and this will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive).

6.2 Watching brief report

- 6.2.1 Within four weeks of completion of all fieldwork, a report setting out the results will be produced and sent to the Client and the CAO for comment and approval. The finalised report will be submitted to the Client for distribution to relevant parties, including the county Historic Environment Record (HER).
- 6.2.2 Emphasis in the report will be given to placing the results into the context of the known archaeology of the area.

¹ <http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>



6.2.3 The report will include:

- *A non-technical summary;*
- *The aims and methods used in the watching brief;*
- *Plans and section drawings at appropriate scales to locate the Site and excavated and projected archaeological deposits;*
- *The tabulation of all artefacts recovered from the archaeological works, listed by context and by material type;*
- *A consideration of the archaeological and environmental potential of deposits;*
- *A consideration of the sites archaeological significance in its broader historic and landscape setting; and*
- *Where appropriate, a reconsideration of the methodology employed.*

6.2.4 A copy of the archive report and surveyed spatial digital data (.dxf or shapefile format) relating to the archaeological findings will be deposited with the HER.

6.3 Publication

6.3.1 In the event that the findings are of sufficient significance as to require a formal publication, the results of the fieldwork will be published as one body of work, at least to summary level, within one year of completion of all phases of fieldwork. Publication will be in an appropriate local, regional or national journal.

6.3.2 Other forms of publication (e.g. 'popular publication', electronic media/Internet) may be employed where appropriate. The final nature and most appropriate form of publication media and all publication matters will be discussed and agreed in advance with the Client and the Planning Archaeologist for Oxfordshire County Council (OCC).

7 THE ARCHIVE

7.1 Museum

7.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the evaluation be deposited with the Oxfordshire Museum Resource Centre. An accession number for the project will be sought prior to fieldwork commencing.

7.1.2 Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

7.2 Preparation of Archive

7.2.1 The complete Site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the appropriate Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; Brown 2011; ADS 2013; ClfA 2014b).

7.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the Site/accession code and a full index will be prepared.

7.2.3 The site archive will be prepared for long-term storage in accordance with current guidelines (e.g. Walker 1990 etc.). It is proposed in principle that, subject to the wishes of



the landowner, the entire archive (including the finds) will be donated to and deposited. Provision has been made for the cost of long term storage in the post-fieldwork costs.

7.2.4 Until final deposition with the museum the archive will be stored at the offices of WA Southern Region in Salisbury.

7.3 Discard policy

7.3.1 WA follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections* (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. Any discard of artefacts will be fully documented in the project archive.

7.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993 and 1995; EH 2011).

7.4 Security copy

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

7.5 Copyright

7.5.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by WA Ltd under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The Museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.

8 WA PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES

8.1 Personnel

8.1.1 The fieldwork will be directed and supervised by an experienced archaeologist from WA's core staff, who will be on Site at all times for the length of archaeological watching brief. The overall responsibility for the conduct and management of the project will be held by one of WA's Project Managers, who will visit the fieldwork as appropriate to monitor progress and to ensure that the scope of works is adhered to. The appointed Project Manager and experienced archaeologist will be involved in all phases of the evaluation through to its completion.

8.1.2 The analysis of the finds and environmental data will be undertaken by WA core staff or external specialists, using WA's standard pro forma recording system. The work will be carried out under the supervision of the following departmental managers under the overall direction of the Project Manager. The following staff are proposed:

- *Project Manager* *Andrew Manning*
- *Project Officer* *tbc*
- *Land snails* **Sarah Wyles, BA, MIFA**
- *Charcoal* **Sarah Wyles, BA, MIFA**
- *Charred Plant Remains* **Sarah Wyles, BA, MIFA**



- *Soils and sediments* Dave Norcott BA, MSc, MIFA
- *Animal Bone* Lorrain Higbee, BSc, MSc, MIFA
- *Human Bone* Jackie McKinley, BTech., MIFA
- *Flint/Worked Stone* Matt Leivers, BA, PhD
- *Prehistoric Pottery* Matt Leivers, BA, PhD
Rachel Seager Smith BA, MIFA
- *Roman Pottery* Rachel Seager Smith BA, MIFA
- *Medieval Pottery* Lorraine Mephram, BA, MIFA
- *Finds Manager* Alistair Barclay, PhD, MIFA
- *Environmental Manager* Dave Norcott BA, MSc, MIFA
- *Reports Manager* Pippa Barclay, BA, MPhil, MIFA

8.1.3 WA reserves the right, due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. annual leave, sick leave, maternity, retirement etc.) to replace nominated personnel with alternative members of staff of comparable expertise and experience.

8.2 Quality and Code of Practice

8.2.1 WA is an ISO 9001 accredited organisation (certificate number FS 606559), confirming the operation of a Quality Management System which complies with the requirements of ISO 9001:2008 – covering professional archaeological and heritage advice and services. The award of the ISO 9001 certificate, independently audited by the British Standards Institution (BSI), demonstrates Wessex Archaeology's commitment to providing quality heritage services to our clients. ISO (the International Organisation for Standardisation) is the most recognised standards body in the world, helping to drive excellence and continuous improvement within businesses.

8.2.2 WA operates a Project Management system. Projects are assigned to individual managers who monitor their progress and quality, and control budgets from inception to completion, in all aspects including Health and Safety etc. Projects are managed in accordance with English Heritage guidelines outlined in the document Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE, English Heritage 2006). At all stages the manager will carefully assess and monitor performance of staff and adherence to objectives, timetables and budgets, while the manager's performance is monitored in turn by the Regional Manager who will ensure that the project meets WA's quality standards and is adequately programmed and resourced within WA's portfolio of project commitments. A formal written report is made to the Executive Management Group once a month by the Regional Manager.

8.2.3 The work will be directed in the field by an appropriately experienced archaeologist who will normally be a member of the CfA's and a core member of WA's staff. Overall project supervision and monitoring will be undertaken by a Project Manager based in Salisbury who will undertake monitoring visits if and when appropriate. Monitoring visits may also be undertaken by WA's Health and Safety Manager in conjunction with a representative of Wiltshire's Historic Environment team where required.

8.2.4 WA is registered as an archaeological organisation with the CfA. WA endorses the Code of Practice of the CfA.

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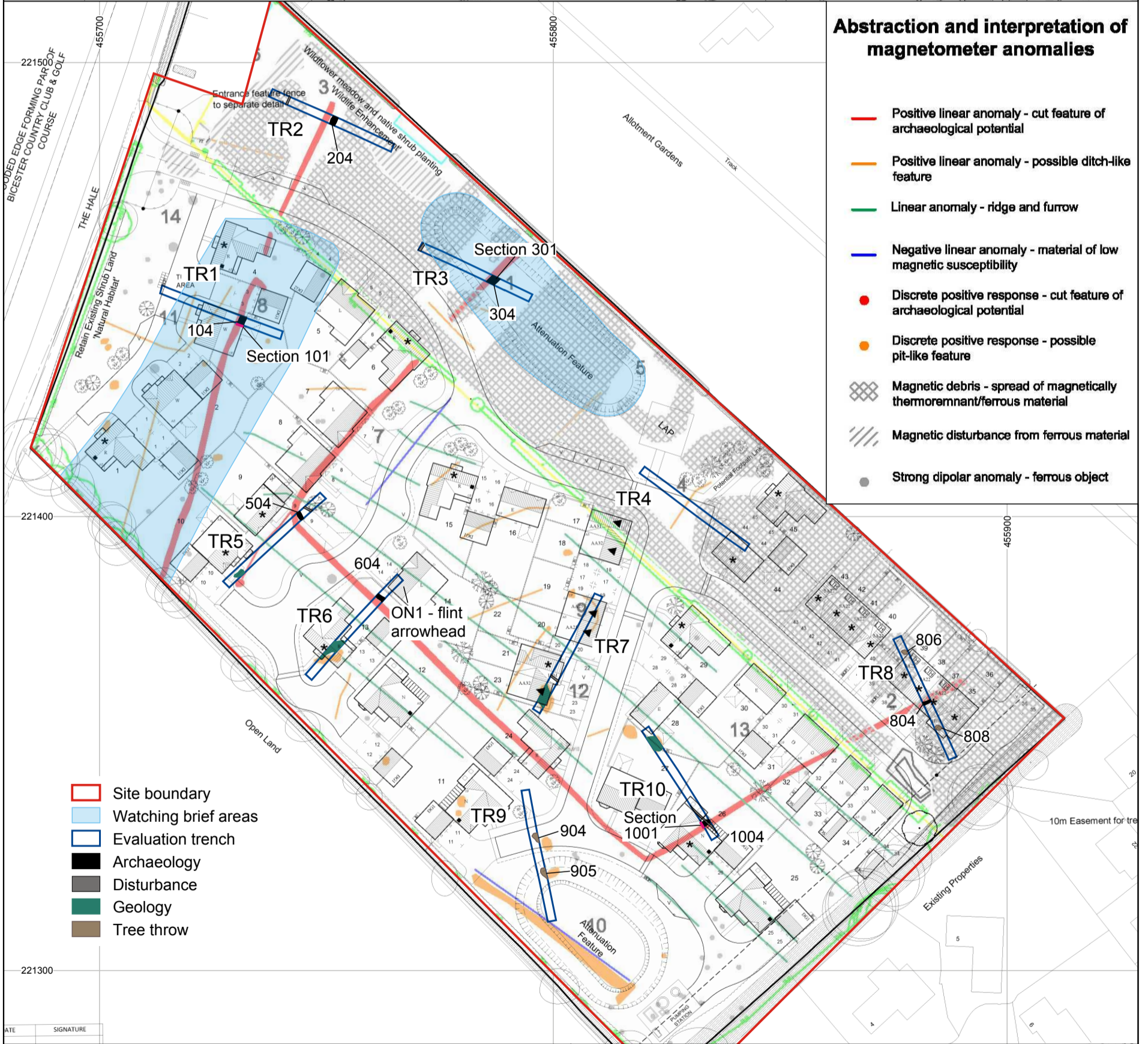
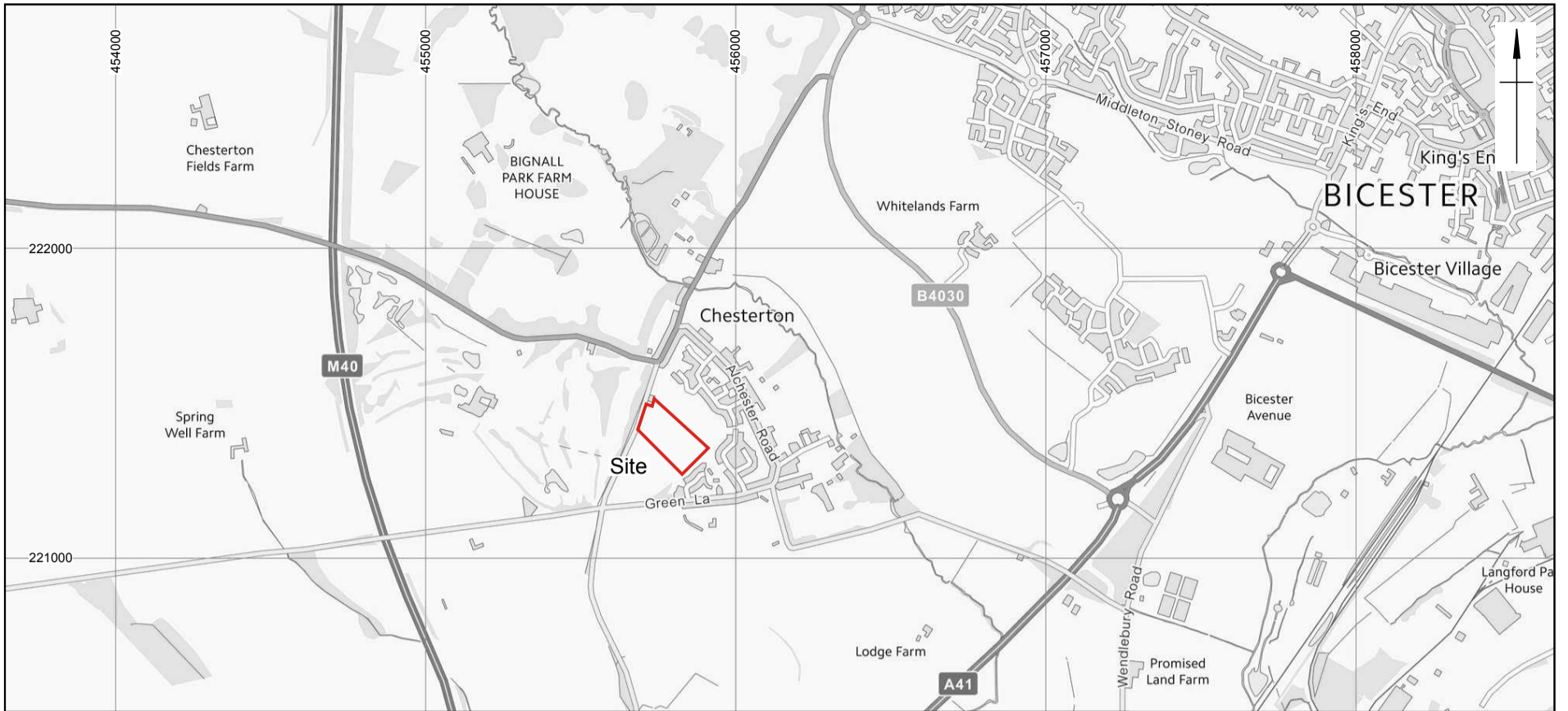
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Abstraction and interpretation of magnetometer anomalies

- Positive linear anomaly - cut feature of archaeological potential
- Positive linear anomaly - possible ditch-like feature
- Linear anomaly - ridge and furrow
- Negative linear anomaly - material of low magnetic susceptibility
- Discrete positive response - cut feature of archaeological potential
- Discrete positive response - possible pit-like feature
- Magnetic debris - spread of magnetically thermoremanent/ferrous material
- Magnetic disturbance from ferrous material
- Strong dipolar anomaly - ferrous object

- Site boundary
- Watching brief areas
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeology
- Disturbance
- Geology
- Tree throw

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Site location and watching brief areas with evaluation trenches and geophysical survey results

Figure 1