Lime Down
Solar Park

Environmental Statement

Volume 3, Appendix 12-5: Interim Evaluation Trial Trenching Reports Part 1

September 2025

Revision 1

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010168
Document Reference: APP/6.3
APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Professional cultural heritage consultants - branches nationwide
info@cfa-arch.co.uk

www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Lime Down Solar Park
Lime Down A
Wiltshire

Interim Report: Archaeological Trial Trenching Evaluation

Report No. 4667

Authors:
Rosie Howard BSc MSc, Kieran Mason, Christopher Griffiths BA

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

info@cfa-arch.co.uk
www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Author	Rosie Howard BSc MSc, Kieran Mason, Christopher Griffiths BA
Illustrator	Sarah Baillie BSc ACIfA
Approver	Phil Mann BA MCIfA
Commissioned by	Lime Down Solar Park Ltd
Version	V4
Date Issued	June 2025
Grid Ref	ST 86292 84757
Oasis Reference	cfaarcha1-531917

This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard operating procedures.

Lime Down Solar Park
Lime Down A
Wiltshire

Archaeological Evaluation

Interim Report
Report No. 4667

CONTENTS

Tables

Figures

Appendices

Plates

Summary

Archaeological evaluation trial trenching was undertaken by CFA archaeology Ltd, at Lime Down A, Fields: A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9 and A10 of the proposed Lime Down Solar Park from 18th February to the 14th March 2025 to inform a planning application for a solar farm development, The purpose of the archaeological works was to identify and record any remains of archaeological and historical significance.

The archaeological features recorded across Area A comprised of rural settlement and agricultural practices dating from the prehistoric to the medieval periods; Most of these features were likely linear water management systems and field boundaries dating to the medieval period although the evidence for Iron Age activity was recorded in the form of a roundhouse drip gully in A1 TR01-03 and other ditches in Fields A2, A3, A5 and A10.

1 INTRODUCTION

This report represents the results of the evaluation trial trenching undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) for Lanpro on behalf of Lime Down Solar Park Ltd, with archaeological evaluation trenching taking place between the 18th February 2025 and the 14th March 2025. The CFA site code and project number used for the works is LIDO2 and 5348 respectively.

Work has been conducted in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by Lanpro (2024, Appendix 4) and was approved by the County Archaeologist Wiltshire Council (WC).

The works required were in support of an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for a solar development, consisting five electricity generating sites, each with a capacity of over 50 megawatts (MW) consisting of mounted solar arrays and 'associated development' comprising of: energy storage, grid connection infrastructure and other associated infrastructure integral to the construction, operation and maintenance of the scheme.

1.1 Site Location and Description

The proposed Lime Down Solar Park comprises five sites (Lime Down A, B, C, D, and E). The solar sites are located south and south-west of Malmesbury and cover an area of c.901ha within a swathe of land measuring approximately 9.5km from west to east and 4.5km from north to south.

Lime Down A is located in the parish of Sherston centered on NGR ST 86292 84757 (Fig. 1) It comprises 94 hectares (Ha) of arable land. The Foss Way runs north-east to south-west to the south-east of Site A but does not directly bisect any areas in Site A. Utility buffer zones have been identified within Lime Down A, with no trenches crossing them as detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). The topography across Lime Down A ranges from 104 m aOD to 119 m aOD.

The bedrock geology across Lime Down A is comprised of the Forest Marble formation (Silicate-mudstone with limestone crossbedding), based on BGS borehole data, with no other lithographical units within the excavated areas (BGS 2025).

The soils of Lime Down A are comprised of a Shallow lime-rich soils over chalk or limestone (soilscape 3) which is freely draining in the area. Fields A9 and A7 comprised of Lime-rich loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (soilscape 9).

The subsurface geology, determined by the trenching that has taken place, of the area comprises of shallow lime-rich soils over chalk and limestone and is formed by steady erosional processes of the underlying formation and deposition based on the erosion of the nearby river Avon.

1.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

A full archaeological and historic background is available in the Desk Based Assessment (Lanpro 2025), and the relevant information from this document is summarised below.

There are no designated heritage assets within Sites A to E of the scheme. Fourteen non-designated heritage assets listed on the HER within the bounds of Lime Down A. They are described with their HER number below.

Medieval

Ten blocks of medieval or post medieval ridge and furrow are recorded on the HER from aerial photographs taken in 1946 (MWI72515). No associated extant earthworks are present within Lime Down A.

19th century

Outfarm east-northeast of Widley's Farm, Sherston. Extant 19th century outfarm of loose courtyard plan. One side of the loose courtyard is formed by working agricultural buildings. Isolated location (MWI65930).

Site of outfarm east-northeast of Widley's Farm, Sherston. Demolished 19th century outfarm of loose courtyard plan. One side of the loose courtyard is formed by working agricultural buildings. Isolated location (MWI65931).

Site of Outfarm east-northeast of Widley's Farm, Sherston. Demolished 19th century outfarm constructed as a singular structure. Isolated location. The farmstead and all historic buildings have been lost (MWI65949).

Unknown Date

Undated ring ditches were identified in Field A1, Field A9 and spanning Fields A6 and A7 (MWI79621, MWI79263, MWI79622), which are likely to be of a prehistoric date.

Oval enclosure of unknown date was identified in Field A10 (ST88SE617 / MWI79624). Undated enclosure and linear features (MWI79181, ST88SE608 and ST88SESE617) were identified in Field A7. The eastern half of a rectangular enclosure is located in the west of Field A1 (MWI79624).

1.3 Previous Work

A geophysical gradiometer survey has been undertaken across the entirety of the Lime Down Solar Park area, where this was feasible (ASWYAS in prep.).

In Site A, geophysical survey has mapped several anomalies that are likely to relate to buried archaeological features. Two sub-circular anomalies, likely indicative of prehistoric activity, are located in the north and east of Field A1. Three sides of a rectilinear anomaly are recorded in the west of Field A1 and are likely to be associated with a buried feature of a prehistoric or Roman date that extends outside of the study site. A sub-circular anomaly spans across Fields A6 and A7 and is possibly indicative of prehistoric activity (HER MWI79622). Rectilinear anomalies, of either prehistoric or Roman date, have been mapped in Field A7 that correspond with an oval enclosure and surrounding pits recorded as cropmarks on aerial photographs (HER ST88SE617). It is possible that these features extend into the west of Field A9, and a subcircular anomaly identified on the western side of this field may be of prehistoric date (HER MWI79263). Three sides of an oval-shaped enclosure, of possible prehistoric or Roman date, have also been recorded by geophysical survey in Field A10 (HER MWI79645). In Field A3 several linear anomalies have been identified at the former site of a 19th century outfarm known from cartographic sources (HER MWI65931)..

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

In accordance with the WSI (Lanpro 2024), the overall aim of the archaeological evaluation trial trenching was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts, and record and report on the nature, extent, preservation and significance of such archaeological remains.

This would allow reasoned and informed recommendations to be made for further archaeological mitigation works, the scope of which would be detailed in a project design in agreement with the Archaeological Advisor(s) to the relevant Local Planning Authority(s).

This was achieved through the following objectives:

- To determine the location, extent, date, character, condition and significance of any archaeological remains within the Scheme;
- To excavate and record identified archaeological features and deposits to a level appropriate to their extent and significance;
- To assess vulnerability/sensitivity of any exposed remains;
- To assess the impact of previous land use on the site;
- To assess the potential for survival of environmental evidence;

- To inform a strategy to avoid or mitigate impacts of the proposed development on surviving archaeological remains;
- To undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment to confidently interpret identified archaeological features;
- To report the results of the archaeological assessment and place them in their local and regional context; and
- To compile and deposit a Lime Down Archive and to provide information for the HER.

2.1 Regional Research Framework

Targeted research priorities will be identified from the South-West England Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF 2024) in the complete report. These may include:

- Research Aim 1: Extend the use of proven methodologies for site location and interpretation, and encourage the development of new techniques.
- Research Aim 10: Address our lack of understanding of key transitional periods.
- Research Aim 29: Improve our understanding of non-villa Roman rural settlement.
- Research Aim 41: Assess the impact of the Roman empire on farming.

3 WORKING METHODS

3.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd is a registered organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). CFA Archaeology follows all relevant CIfA and Historic England (formerly English Heritage) Standards and Guidance (CIfA 2020a, 2020b, 2022, 2023a & 2023b, English Heritage 2004, 2006, 2008, 2011 & 2012 and Historic England2015a & 2015b).

All features and trenches were surveyed using an industry standard Trimble GPS. The same equipment was used to establish the levels above Ordnance Datum for the areas of archaeological investigation. Modern finds (c. 20th-century onwards) were identified but not retained.

A summary of the results of the archaeological works has been submitted for inclusion in the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS V, Appendix 2). The OASIS reference is cfaarcha1-531917.

3.2 Method of Excavation

A total of 83no. 30m x 1.8m evaluation trenches were excavated across fields (Fields; Figs. 1 & 2). These works were carried out in accordance with the methods specified in the WSI.

During the excavation of the evaluation trenches, the topsoil and any subsoils were removed down to the natural substrate or first significant archaeological horizon in successive level spits of a maximum 0.20m thickness, using a rubber tracked 14t machine equipped with a wide toothless ditching bucket. The groundwork was carried out under direct archaeological supervision. All the exposed features were cleaned and excavated by hand and recorded in accordance with MOLAS field manual (1994). The sections of the excavated features were drawn at a 1:10 scale and planned at a 1:20 scale (Figs. in prep.).

All archaeological features were scanned with an XR ADX150 metal detector prior, during, and after excavation. The trenches and all archaeological remains were surveyed and tied into the National Grid using a Trimble GPS.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

The locations of the excavated trenches can be seen in Figure 1. The trenches containing archaeological features are described below. These results should be read in conjunction with Figures 1 & 2. A table detailing depth of topsoil and subsoil for each trench can be found in Appendix 1. Recorded are prefixed by the site designation (A and field number (#).

Unless otherwise stated, no finds were recovered from the following features.

4.1 Factual Summary of Key Archaeological Findings

Field A1

Nine trenches were excavated in Field A1, of which three had archaeological features recorded in them (Trenches A1-03, A1-05, A1-09).

Field A2

Five trenches were excavated in Field A2, of which two had archaeological features recorded in them (Trenches A2-03, A2-04).

Field A3

Twelve trenches were excavated in Field A3, of which three had archaeological features recorded in them (Trenches A3-04, A3-11, A3-11).

Field A6

Six trenches were excavated in Field A6, of which one had archaeological features recorded in them (Trenches A6-03).

Field A7

Seventeen trenches were excavated in Field A7, of which one had archaeological features recorded in them (Trenches A7-07).

Field A9

Twenty-one trenches were excavated in Field A9, of which two had archaeological features recorded in them (Trenches A9-01, A9-03).

Field A10

Fifteen trenches were excavated in Field A10, of which four had archaeological features recorded in them (Trenches A10-05, A10-10, A10-11).

4.2 Results by Trench

4.2.1 Field A1

Trench A1-03 (Fig. 2.1)

Trench A1-03 contained two ditches.

Ditch **A1-0304** was a curvilinear ditch orientated north to south. It was also identified further east in the trench. This ditch measured 0.97m in width and 0.26m in depth with an irregular profile presenting steep sloping straight sides and a sharp break of slope at the base. It contained a single fill (**A1-0303**) which consisted of a mid-reddish brown firm silty clay from which finds of Late Iron Age to Romano-British pottery were recovered.

Plate 1: North facing section of Ditch A1-0304

Ditch **A1-0306** to the immediate east of Ditch **A1-0304**. It was orientated north to south and had a width of 1m and a depth of 0.26m. Its profile was irregular with steep sloping straight sides and a sharp break of slope at the base leading to a flat base. Its single fill (**A1-0305**) was a mid-reddish brown firm silty clay.

Plate 2: North facing section of Ditch A1-0306

Trench A1-05 (Fig. 2.1)

Trench A1-05 targeted two edges of a rectilinear anomaly. Four features were excavated in this trench.

Ditch **A1-0504** was oriented north-east to south-west and had a V-shaped profile with steep sloping straight sides and a sharp brake of slope at the base. It measured 2.30m in width and 0.58m in depth and contained three fills. The bottom fill, **A1-0505**, consisted of a light reddish brown firm clay with occasional charcoal flecks. The middle fill, **A1-0506**, was comprised of a mid-greyish brown firm silty clay with frequent small to medium angular sandstone inclusions and contained late Iron Age to Romano-British pottery. The uppermost fill, **A1-0507**, was a mid-reddish brown firm silty clay.

Plate 3 South-west facing section of Ditch A1-0504

Ditch **A1-0508** was orientated north to south and had a width of 1.80m and a depth of 0.56m. Its profile was U-shaped with steep sloping concave sides and a gradual break of slope at the base leading to a flat base. This ditch contained two fills. The lower fill, **A1-0509** was comprised of a mid-reddish brown malleable silty clay with moderate medium to very large sub-angular limestone. The upper fill, **A1-0510**, was a mid-reddish brown friable silty clay with inclusions of frequent small to very large sub-angular platy limestone.

Pit **A1-0511** was truncated by Ditch **A1-0508**. It was sub-circular in plan and had a U-shaped profile with steep concave sides, a gradual break of slope at the base and a rounded base. It measured 0.60m in width and 0.37m in depth. It contained a single fill, **A1-0512**, which was a mid-reddish brown malleable silty clay.

Plate 4: North facing section of Ditch A1-0508 and Pit A1-0511

Gully **A1-0513** was located in the north-west of the trench. It was orientated north-west to south-east and had a shallow U-shaped profile with gentle sloping straight sides and a rounded base. This gully had a width of 0.20m and a depth of 0.09m and contained a single fill. Fill **A1-0513** consisted of a light orangey brown loose silty clay.

Plate 5: North-east facing section of Gully Terminus A1-0513

Trench A1-09 (Fig. 2.1)

Trench A1-09 contained two features the northern most of which belongs to the same feature identified in Trench A1-05 (Ditches **A1-0504** and **A1-0508**).

Ditch **A1-0903** was orientated east to west and measured 1.23m in width and 0.17m in depth. Its profile was U-shaped with steep concave sides, a sharp break of slope at the base giving way to a flat base. Its single fill, **A1-0904**, consisted of a mid-reddish brown friable silty clay.

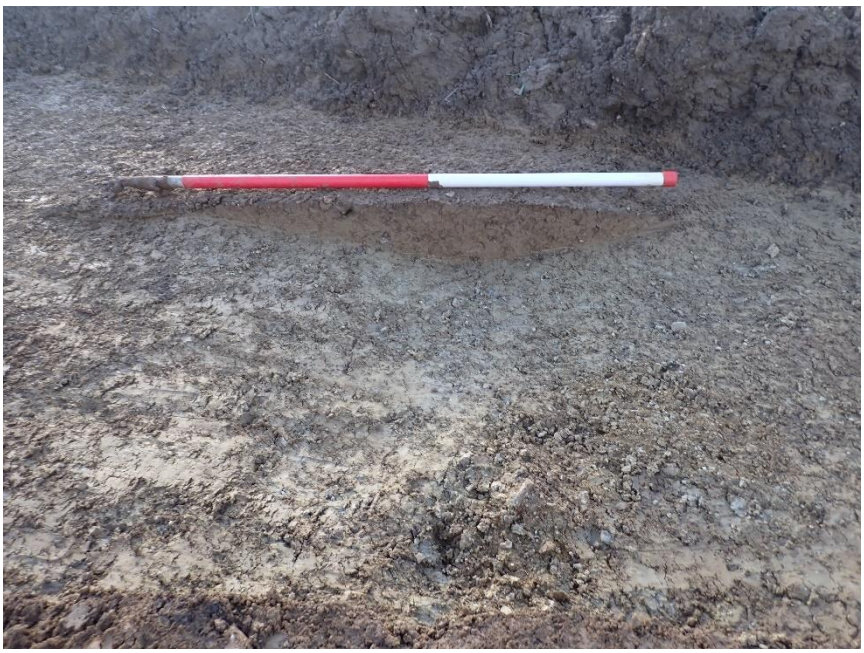


Plate 6: West facing section of Ditch A1-0903

Ditch **A1-0905** ran east to west and had a width of 1.65m and a depth of 0.52m. Its profile was U-shaped with steep sloping straight sides, a sharp break of slope leading to a flat base. It contained a single fill, **A1-0906**, which was comprised of a light brown firm silty clay with frequent small to large angular to sub-rounded limestone. Finds of Late Iron Age to Romano-British pottery and animal bone were recovered from this fill.

Plate 7: West facing section of Ditch A1-0905

4.2.2 Field A2

Trench A2-03 (Fig. 2.2)

Trench A2-03 targeted a curvilinear anomaly. A single feature was excavated in this trench.

Ditch **A2-0303** was orientated north-west to south-west and measured 0.74m in width and 0.27m in depth. It had a U-shaped profile formed by steep sloping concave sides with a gradual break at the base and a flat base. Its single fill, **A2-0304**, consisted of a light orangey brown friable sandy clay with frequent small to medium very angular limestone. Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery were recovered from this fill.

Plate 8: South-east facing section of Ditch A2-0303

Trench A2-04 (Fig. 2.2)

Trench A2-04 targeted two linear anomalies. Two features were excavated in this trench.

Ditch **A2-0403** was aligned north to south and measured 1.84m in width and 0.46m in depth. It had a U-shaped profile with a steep sloping eastern bank and a straight stepped west bank, a sharp break of slope leading to a flat base. Its single fill, **A2-0404**, was comprised of a reddish brown malleable silty clay with frequent small to very large sub-angular limestone inclusions as well as rare charcoal flecks.

Plate 9: South facing section of Ditch A2-0403

Ditch Terminus **A2-0405** was aligned north to south and had an irregular U-shaped profile with steep concave sides, a gradual break of slope giving way to an uneven base. It measured 0.70m in width and 0.26m in depth and contained a single fill. Fill **A2-0406** consisted of a light orangey brown friable sandy clay with occasional small to medium very angular to angular limestone inclusions.

Plate 10: North facing section of Ditch Terminus A2-0405

4.2.3 Field A3

Trench A3-04 (Fig. 2.2)

Trench A3-04 targeted one linear anomaly. Three features were excavated in this trench.

Gully **A3-0405** ran north to south and measured 0.84m in width and 0.15m in depth. It had a U-shaped profile with gentle sloping concave sides and a flat base. Its contained a single fill, **A3-0406**, was a light brown firm silty clay with rare charcoal flecks from which finds of animal bone and worked stone were recovered.

Plate 11: South facing section of Gully A3-0405

Ditch **A3-0407** ran north-east to south-west and had a U-shaped profile with moderate sloping concave sides, a gradual break of slope leading to a rounded base. It had a width of 0.60m and a depth of 0.15m and contained a single fill. Fill **A3-0408** consisted of a light brown firm silty clay.

Plate 12: South-west facing section of Ditch A3-30407

Ditch **A3-0409** was orientated north to south and measured 2.25m in width and 0.5m in depth. The ditch had a U-shaped profile with moderate sloping straight sides and a sharp break at the base leading to a tapered base. It contained a single fill, **A3-0410**, which was comprised of a light yellowish brown malleable sandy clay with rare small angular limestone from which finds of animal bone was recovered.

Plate 13: North facing section of Ditch A3-0409

Trench A3-11 (Fig. 2.2)

Trench A3-11 targeted an area of anomalies. Two features were excavated in this Trench.

Gully Terminus **A3-1103** ran north to south and had a U-shaped profile with vertical sloping straight sides, a sharp break leading to a tapered base. It measured 0.60m in width and 0.13m in depth and contained a single fill. Fill **A3-01104** consisted of a dark reddish brown loose silty clay.

Plate 14: South-west facing section of Gully Terminus A3-1103

Small Pit **A3-1105** was circular in plan and measured 0.50m in length, 0.45m in width and 0.14m in depth. It had a U-shaped profile with moderate sloping concave sides with a gradual break running into a flat base. Its lone Fill **A3-1106** was a mid-greyish brown friable silty clay with rare charcoal flecks.

Plate 15: South-west facing section of Pit A3-1105

Trench A3-12 (Fig. 2.2)

Trench A3-12 targeted two linear anomalies. Seven features were excavated in this trench.

Ditch **A3-1203** ran east to west and measured 1.36m in width and 0.18m in depth. It had gently sloped concave sides and a rounded base. Its single fill **A3-1204**, was a mid-greyish brown firm silty clay which contained finds of prehistoric to early Roman pottery and animal bone.

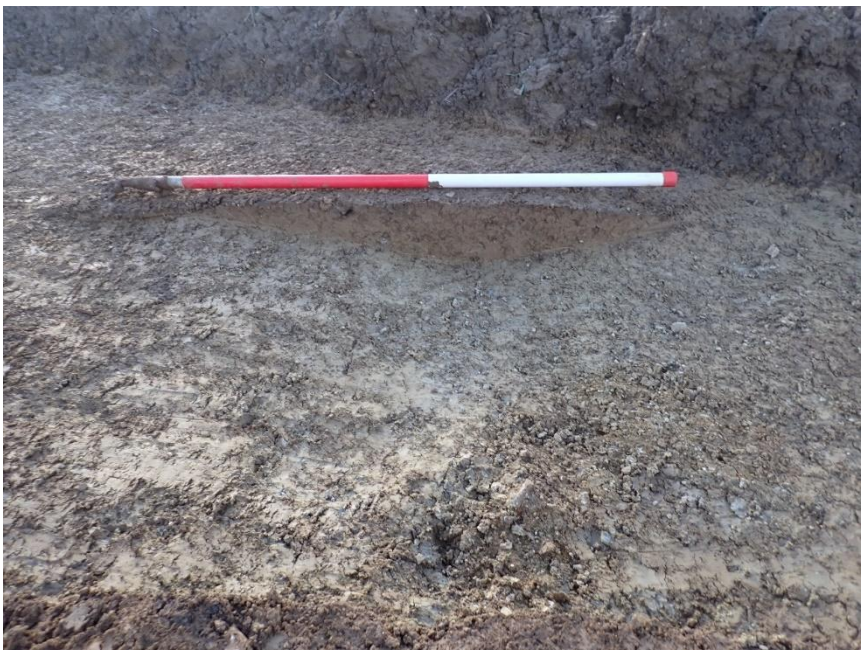


Plate 16: South-east facing section of Ditch A3-1203

Gully **A3-1205** ran north-east to south-west with a width of 0.41m and a depth of 0.10m. It had moderate sloping concave sides with a rounded base and contained a single fill. Fill **A3-1206** consisted of a mid-greyish brown friable silty clay containing finds of animal bone.

Plate 17: South-east facing section of Gully A3-1205

Pit **A3-1207** was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.12m in diameter and 0.40m in depth. It had steep sloping straight sides with a sharp break at the base giving way to a flat base. It contained a single fill, **A3-1208**, which was comprised of a mid-greyish brown firm silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks and frequent small to large angular

to sub-rounded limestone inclusions. Finds of animal bone were recovered from this fill.

Plate 18: South-west facing section of Pit A3-1207

Small Pit **A3-1209** had a circular shape in plan and had a U-shaped profile with straight steep sloping sides, a sharp break at the base leading to a flat base. It measured 0.44m in length, 0.41 in width and 0.22m in depth and contained a single fill, **A3-1210**, which was a light yellowish brown firm silty clay with small charcoal flecks and occasional small sub-angular to sub-rounded spheroidal bits of burnt clay.

Plate 19: South facing section of Pit A3-1209

Small Pit **A3-1211** was circular in shape with a U-shaped profile made of straight moderate sloping sides with a sharp break at the base giving way to a flat base. It measured 0.30m in diameter and 0.13m in depth. It had a single fill, **A3-1212** which consisted of a light yellowish brown friable silty clay with frequent small charcoal flecks and frequent small sub-angular to rounded spheroidal burnt clay.

Plate 20: South facing section of Pit A3-1211

Pit **A3-1214** was sub-circular in plan and steep sloping straight sides with a sharp break at the base and a flat base. It extended 0.40m in length from the LOE, 1.17m in width and 0.42m in depth. Its single fill, **A3-1213**, was comprised of a mid-yellowish brown firm silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks. This fill was cut by Ditch **A3-1216** which ran north-west to south-east. It had a width of 1.08m and a depth of 0.22m and gentle sloping concave sides with a gradual break at the base leading to a rounded base. It contained a single fill, **A3-1215**, which consisted of a mid-greyish brown firm clayey silt.

Plate 21: North-west facing section of Pit A3-1214 and Ditch A3-1216

4.2.4 Field A6

Trench A6-03 (Fig. 2.3)

Trench A6-03 targeted two linear anomalies identified by geophysical survey. Two features were excavated in this trench.

Gully **A6-0307** ran north-west to south-east and was 0.75m wide and 0.33m deep. It had a V-shaped profile with steep sloping straight sides, a sharp break at the base leading to a rounded base. It contained two fills. The lower fill, **A6-0309**, was a light brownish yellow malleable silty clay. The upper fill, **A6-0308** was a brownish grey malleable silty clay.

Gully **A6-0307** was cut by Ditch **A6-0304** which also ran north-west to south-east and measured 2.40m in width and 0.55m in depth. It had a U-shaped profile with stepped concave sides a gradual break at the base leading to an uneven base and contained two fills. The lower fill, **A6-0305**, consisted of dark brown firm silty clay. The upper fill, **A6-0306**, was comprised of a dark brownish grey malleable silty clay with charcoal flecks. A flint lithic was recovered from this fill.

Plate 22: South-east facing section of Ditch A6-0304 and Gully A6-0307

Gully **A6-0310** ran north-west to south-east and had a U-shaped profile with moderate sloping straight sides, a sharp break at the base and a rounded base. It measured 0.64m in width and 0.16m in depth and contained a single fill. Fill **A6-0311** consisted of a mid-brown malleable silty clay with rare charcoal flecks.

Plate 23: South-east facing section of Gully A6-0310

Trench A6-05 (Fig. 2.3)

Trench A6-05 was located to target an anomaly identified by geophysical survey, however no features were present within the trench.

4.2.5 Field A7

Trench A7-03

Trench A7-03 targeted three linear anomalies identified by geophysical survey; however no features were identified within the trench.

Trench A7-07 (Fig. 2.4)

Trench A7-07 targeted a rectilinear anomaly. One feature was excavated.

Ditch **A7-0703** ran north-east to south-west and measured 2.26m in width and 0.80m in depth. It had a V-shaped profile with steep sloping straight sides, a sharp break at the base leading to a flat base. It contained two fills. The lower fill, **A7-0704**, was a light brown firm silty clay with frequent small to large sub-angular limestone inclusions. Animal bone was recovered from this fill. The upper fill, **A7-0705,** was a mid-greyish brown firm silty clay with small to large angular to sub-angular limestone inclusions.

Plate 24: South-east facing section of Ditch A7-0703

Trench A7-08

Trench A7-08 targeted one linear anomaly identified by geophysical survey, however no features were identified within the trench.

Trench A7-13

Trench A7-13 targeted three linear anomalies identified by geophysical survey, however no features were identified within the trench.

4.2.6 Field A9

Trench A9-01 (Fig. 2.3)

Trench A9-01 contained five features.

Ditch **A9-0104** ran north-east to south-west and measured 2m in width and 0.25m in depth. It had gentle sloping concave sides with an uneven base and contained two fills. The lower fill, **A9-0105** consisted of a dark brownish grey firm silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks. The upper fill, **A9-0106**, was a light brownish red firm clay.

Plate 25: North-west facing section of Ditch A9-0104

Pit **A9-0107** was sub-circular in shape and had a U-shaped profile with moderate sloping straight sides and a gradual break of slope leading to a flat base. It measured 0.20m in length, 0.41m in width and 0.07m in depth and contained a single fill, **A9-0109** which was comprised of a mid-orangey brown malleable silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks.

Plate 26: North-west facing section of Pit A9-0107

Gully **A9-0109** ran north-west to south-east and measured 0.81m in width and 0.23m in depth. It had a V-shaped profile with moderate sloping straight sides and a sharp break at the base with a flat base. This ditch contained a single fill, **A9-0110**, which consisted of a dark brownish grey firm silty clay.

Plate 27: North-west facing section of Gully A9-0109

Pit **A9-0111** was sub-circular in plan and had an irregular U-shaped profile with a steep sloping straight south-west side whilst the north-east side was gentle sloping and straight. It had a gradual break at the base with an uneven base. This pit measured 0.20m in length, 0.45m in width and 0.13m in depth. Its single fill, **A9-0112**, was a mid-orangey brown malleable silty clay.

Plate 28: South-east facing section of Pit A9-0111

Pit **A9-0113** was sub-circular in plan and had a length of 0.23m, a width of 0.45 and a depth of 0.15m. Its profile was U-shaped with steep sloping straight sides with a gradual break at the base leading to a rounded base. This pit had a single fill, **A9-0114** which was comprised of a mid-orangey brown malleable silty clay.

Plate 29: South-east facing section of Pit A9-0113

Trench A9-03 (Fig. 2.4)

Trench A9-03 targeted one circular anomaly. Two ditches were excavated in this trench, which belonged to the same feature.

Ditch **A9-0303** ran north-east to south-west and measured 1.10m in width and 0.17m in depth. It had a U-shaped profile with steep sloping straight sides, a gradual break at the base leading to a base sloping to the south-east. It contained a single fill, **A9-0304**, which was a mid-orangey brown friable sandy clay with frequent small to medium limestone.

Plate 30: North-east facing section of Ditch A9-0303

Ditch **A9-0305** also ran north-east to south-west. It measured 1.13m in width and 0.33m in depth with an irregular U-shaped profile formed of a steep sloping straight side on the north-west edge and a gentle sloping concave south-east edge ending in a flat base. Its single fill, **A9-0306**, consisted of a mid-orangey brown friable sandy clay with frequent small to medium very angular to angular limestone.

Plate 31: North-east facing section of Ditch A9-0305

4.2.7 Field A10

Trench A10-05 (Fig. 2.5)

Trench A10-05 targeted one curvilinear anomaly. Two features were excavated in this Trench.

Ditch **A10-0503** ran north-west to south-east and measured 0.57m in width and 0.31m in depth. It had a V-shaped profile with steep sloping straight sides with a gradual break at the base leading to a rounded base. Its single fill, **A10-0504**, was a light yellowish brown malleable silty clay with occasional small angular platy limestone inclusions.

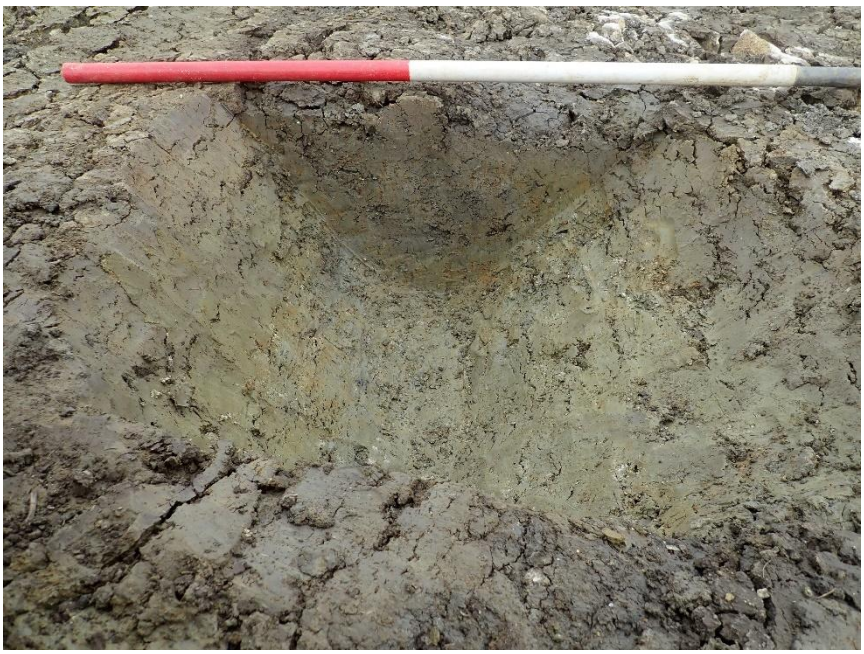


Plate 32: North-west facing section of Ditch A10-0503

Ditch **A10-0505** ran north-west to south-east and had a V-shaped profile with moderate sloping straight sides, a sharp break at the base giving to a flat base. It measured 2.50m wide and 0.71m deep and contained three fills. The lower fill, **A10-0506**, consisted of a mottled grey and dark orange firm silty clay from which finds of prehistoric to Romano-British pottery were recovered. The middle fill, **A10-0507**, was a mottled grey and dark orange firm clay with rare charcoal flecks. Animal bone was recovered from this fill. The uppermost fill, **A10-0508** was comprised of a light greyish brown cemented silty clay with rare flecks of charcoal.

Plate 33: South-east facing section of Ditch A10-0505

Trench A10-10 (Fig. 2.5)

Trench A10-10 targeted two linear anomalies. Two features were excavated in this Trench.

Ditch **A10-1003** ran east to west and measured 1.35m in width and 0.20m in depth. It had a U-shaped profile with moderate sloping straight sides and sharp break at the base with a flat base. It contained a single fill, **A10-1004**, which was comprised of a light yellowish brown malleable silty clay with occasional small very angular limestone.

Plate 34: West facing section of Ditch A10-1003

Ditch **A10-1005** ran east to west and had a U-shaped profile formed by moderate sloping straight sides with a gradual break at the base leading to a rounded base. It measured 1.22m wide and 0.40m deep. Its single fill, **A10-1006** consisted of a very light orangey brown firm silty clay.

Plate 35: West facing section of Ditch A10-1005

Trench A10-11 (Fig. 2.5)

Trench A10-11 targeted the curvilinear anomaly which was also targeted in Trench A10-05.

Ditch **A10-1103** ran north to south and measured 3m wide and 0.86m deep. It had a U-shaped profile with steep sloping concave western edge and a steep sloping straight eastern bank. It had a gradual break at the base leading to a flat base. It contained two fills. The lower fill, **A10-1104** consisted of a light greyish brown firm silty clay with rare charcoal flecks. The upper fill, **A10-1105**, was a light greyish brown firm silty clay with rare flecks of charcoal and contained animal bone.

Plate 36: South facing section of Ditch A10-1103

Trench 10-15 (Fig. 2.5)

Trench A10-15 contained three features.

A small Pit **A10-1503** was sub-rectangular in plan and had a U-shaped profile with steep sloping straight sides and a sharp break at the base leading to a flat base. It measured 0.20m in length, 0.15m in width and 0.04m in depth. Its single fill **A10-1504** consisted of a mid-reddish brown loose clayey silt.

Plate 37: North facing section of Pit A10-1503

Pit **A10-1505** was irregular in plan and had a length of 0.47m, a width of 0.30m and a depth of 0.10m. It had a U-shaped profile formed by moderate sloping straight sides and an uneven base. This pit contained a single fill, **A10-1506**, which was a mid-greyish brown loose clayey silt with charcoal flecks and occasional small sub-angular to rounded burnt clay flecks.

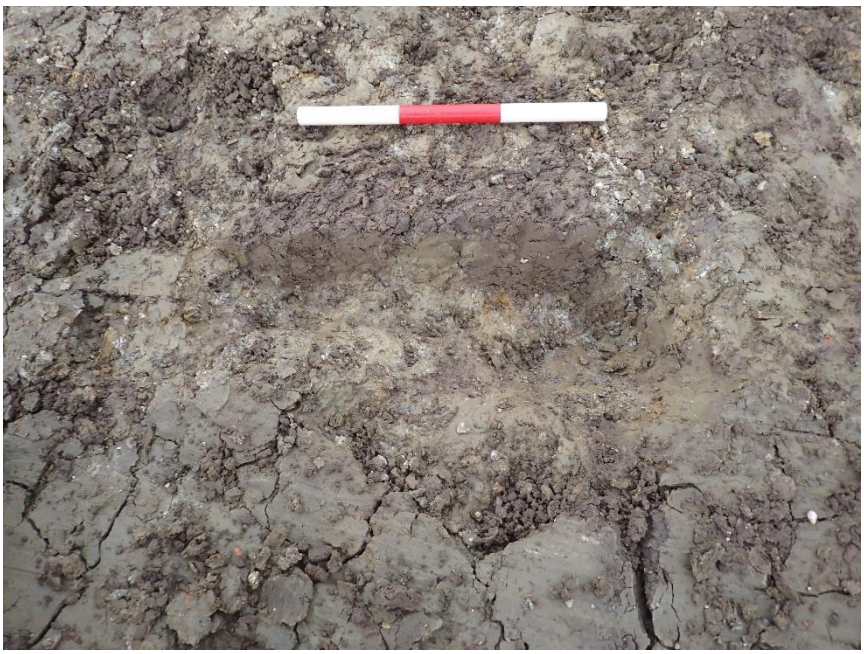


Plate 38: South facing section of Pit A10-1505

Pit **A10-1507** measured 0.50m in length, 0.40m in width and 0.20m in depth. It had an irregular square shape in plan with a U-shaped profile formed by steep sloping sides concave with a gradual break at the base leading to a rounded base. Its single fill, **A10-1508**, was comprised of a mid-greyish brown loose clayey silt with charcoal flecks and occasional small sub-angular to rounded burnt clay flecks.

Plate 39: South-facing section of Pit A10-1107

5 INTERIM FINDS SUMMARY

The pre-quantified finds from Lime Down A can be found in Table 1 below, organised by find type. At this stage, no cleaning or specialist assessment has been undertaken.

Find type	Sum of No.	Sum of Wt (g)
Animal Bone	110	1042
Burnt Clay	5	275
CBM?	2	2882
FE Nail	7	85
Flint	1	1
Pb object	1	7
Pottery	77	1474
Stone	1	97
Grand Total	**204**	**5863**

Table 1: Artefactual Finds Pre-Quantification

5.1 Interim Pottery Summary

The assemblage is small and mostly consists of locally produced reduced and oxidised body sherds broadly dating from the prehistoric to Roman period. Very few sherds had identifiable features such as rims or decoration, making dating groups difficult or not possible (Table 2).

The pottery can be considered as mixed and with a large span of dating due to the persistent use of fabrics being used such as the body sherds from **A2-0304** consisting of shell and grog tempered wares. Those from **A3-1204** consist of flint tempered body sherds, and one everted rim jar, suggesting an earlier date, possibly from the Neolithic. These were also associated with other grog and shell tempered body sherds, with two everted rim jars, a neckless plain rim jar, and a grog and sand bead rim jar dating from the Late Iron Age through to the 2nd century.

Other sherds include a mix of hand and wheel made sandy oxidised and reduced wares form **A1-0303**, **A2-0906**, **A3-0506**, all lacking identifiable features, and can only be broadly dated to Late Iron Age through to the Romano-British period

Context	Notes	Spot date
A1-0303	Handmade sandy body sherds	LIA-RB
A1-0506	Reduced sandy ware base	LIA-RB
A1-0906	Sandy grey ware and black sandy ware base	LIA-RB
A2-0304	Handmade body sherds with fossiliferous shell both fine and coarse occasional grog.	LIA-ERO
A3-1204	Flint tempered body and everted rim jar, fine shell tempered body sherds and 2 everted rim jar including neckless plain rim jar, 1 grog and sand bead rim jar	Prehistoric-ERO
A10-0506	Small handmade shell	Prehistoric-RB

Table 2: Pottery Preliminary Spot Dates

5.2 Interim Animal Bone Summary

Some animal bone has been recovered from a range of features reported on within this interim report. The results from the animal bone assessment will be included in the final report.

5.3 Interim Palaeo-Environmental Summary

Samples have been taken from a range of features reported on within this interim report. The results from the environmental assessment will be included in the final report.

5.4 Interim Metal Summary

Some metal has been recovered from a range of features reported on within this interim report. The results from the metal assessment will be included in the final report.

5.5 Interim Lithics Summary

Some lithics have been recovered from a range of features reported on within this interim report. The results from the lithics assessment will be included in the final report.

6 INTERIM DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

6.1 Field A1

The geophysical survey identified linear anomalies to the west of the field with an extension to the south as well as two circular anomalies to the east. The results of the trenches in these fields confirmed the presence of these features. The circular anomalies were typical of a double ring ditch and the presence of pottery provided a provisional Iron Age dating. No features were identified within the interior of this ring ditch.

The anomaly at the west of the field was interpreted as a square boundary enclosure with both sides seen in Trench A1-05 as well as the southern side which was identified in Trench A1-09. Finds recovered from this enclosure suggest a Late Iron Age/Romano-British date. The second anomaly targeted in Trench A1-09 is likely an extension of the same enclosure and is also likely dated to a similar period.

An isolated pit was recorded beyond the features identified in Trench A1-05.

6.2 Field A2

The geophysical survey identified several possible linear anomalies across the field of which only two were present upon inspection. These were the features recorded in Trench A2-04. These two ditches provided no dating evidence.

Beyond these linear features, a curvilinear anomaly from the geophysical data was confirmed in Trench A2-03. This feature returned a provisional dating from the Late Iron Age to Early Roman period.

6.3 Field A3

The linear geophysical anomalies targeted by Trench A3-12 were confirmed and pottery recovered from the feature suggests a date range of the prehistoric to Early Roman periods. There is further activity around this enclosure with several pits which also returned Romano-British dating.

The geophysical survey suggested a group of pits present in the field, which were targeted by Trench A3-11. Two pits were recorded in this trench although no dating evidence was recovered.

Trench A3-04 targeted a linear anomaly. This feature was confirmed along with other features, all of which were dated to the prehistoric to Early Romano-British periods.

6.4 Field A6

Two ditches corresponded with the geophysical data were identified but not found to contain dating evidence.

Other anomalies identified within the geophysical survey with a possible archaeological origin were not identified in the trenching.

6.5 Field A7

The geophysical survey identified linear anomalies in the south of the field which were targeted by Trench A7-07. The presence of these were confirmed in the trench and were interpreted as an enclosure, similar to those seen in other fields, although no dating evidence was recovered.

Other anomalies identified in the geophysical data with a possible archaeological origin were not identified in any of the other trenches.

6.6 Field A9

One curvilinear anomaly was identified in the middle of the field. The presence of this feature was confirmed in Trench A9-03, and it was interpreted as a ring ditch. Both

sides were excavated but no dating evidence was recovered from this feature. No features were identified in the interior of this ring ditch.

Trench A9-01 contained five features which may be part of a former field system, although no dating evidence was retrieved from any of these features.

6.7 Field A10

The geophysical survey identified two curvilinear anomalies in the centre of the field. The presence of these features was confirmed in Trenches A10-05 and A10-11 and these are interpreted as an enclosure ditch with a possible entrance between these two trenches. Pottery was recovered from both trenches suggesting a prehistoric to Romano-British date. A second linear was also identified in Trench A10-05 which was not identified by the geophysical survey and did not provide dating.

Trench A10-10 targeted two linear anomalies identified in the geophysical data. These were proven to exist and may be agricultural in origin but dating evidence was not recovered from either ditch.

Three small pits were recorded in the north-west of Trench A10-15.

Trenches A10-08, A10-09 and A10-13 were located to see if the western side of the enclosure was still extant, however this was not seen in neither the geophysical survey nor the trenching. This is possibly because of formation processes and changes in siltation processes.

6.8 Conclusion

The archaeological features recorded across Lime Down A are indicative of rural settlement and agricultural practices predominantly dating from the prehistoric to the Romano-British period. These are several examples of Late Iron Age to Romano-British square enclosures as well as evidence suggestive of ring ditches which indicate the possibility of habitation.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

ASWYAS, 2025, *Lime Down Solar Park Site D: Geophysical Survey*

Barclay A, Knight D, Booth P, Evans J, Brown DH, and Wood I, 2016, *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology*: http://Romanpotterystudy.org/new/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Standard_for_Pottery_Studies_in_Archaeology.pdf (November 2020)

Brickley, M. and McKinley, J.I. 2004*, Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains*, IFA Paper No. 7

British Geological Survey (BGS), 2025, *Geology Viewer*, available at: https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/ (accessed 27/02/2025)

CIfA 2020a*, Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*

CIfA 2020b, *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*

CIfA 2022, *Code of Conduct*

CIfA 2023a, *Standard for archaeological field evaluation*

CIfA 2023b, *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation*

English Heritage 2004, *Human Bones from Archaeological Sites: Guidelines for Producing Assessment Documents and Analytical Reports*

English Heritage *2006, Archaeological Science at PPG16 interventions: Best Practice Guidance for Curators and Commissioning Archaeologists*

English Heritage 2008*, Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE).* PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation

English Heritage 2011*, Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*

English Heritage 2012*, MIDAS Heritage; the UK Historic Environment Data Standard*

Historic England, 2015a, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment. The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*

Historic England 2015b*, Digital Image Capture and File Storage. Guidelines for Best Practice*

MOLAS 1994, *Archaeological Field Manual*

LandIS, 2024, *Soilscapes Viewer*, Cranfield University, available at: https://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/ (accessed 27/02/2025)

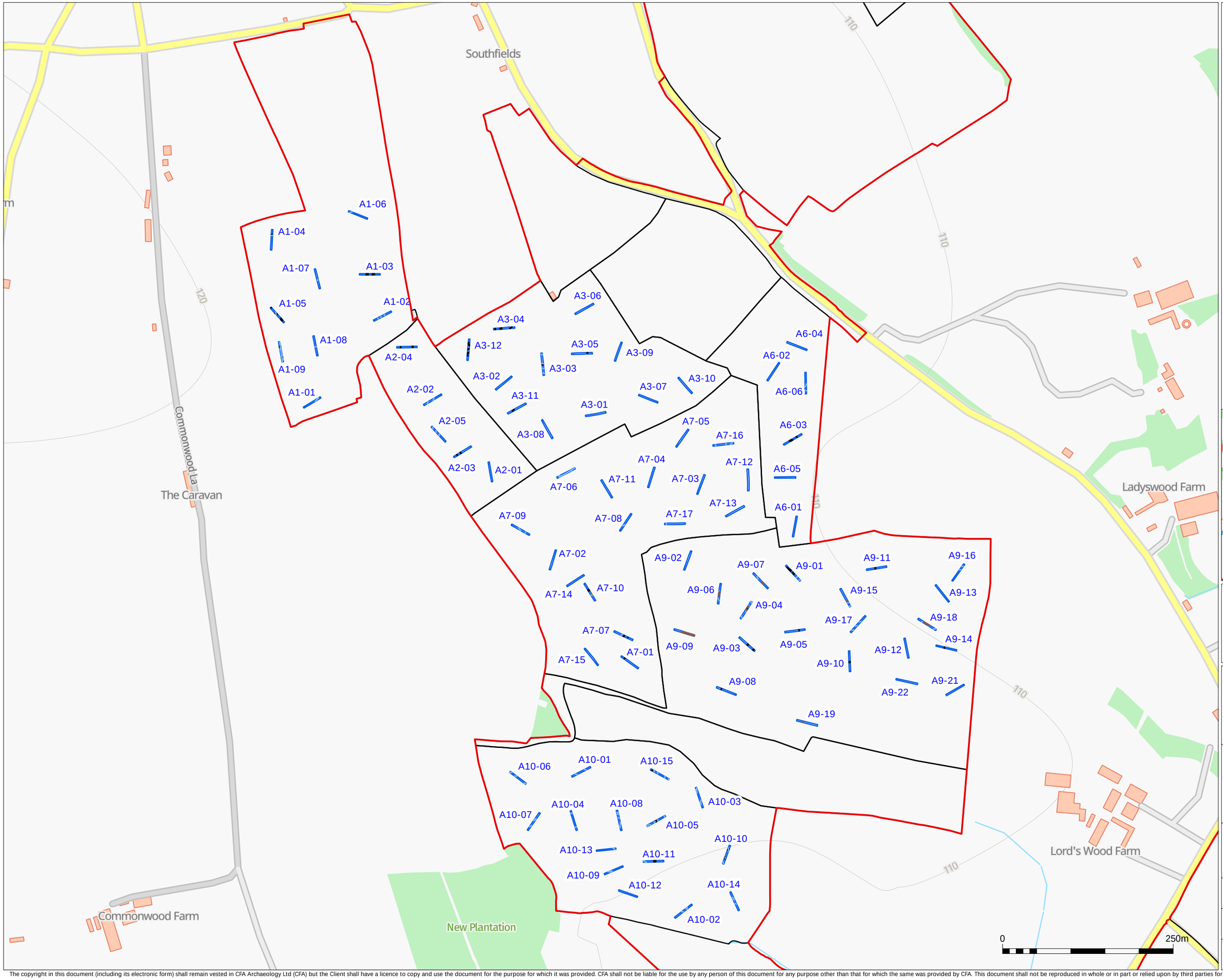
Lanpro 2025, *Lime Down Solar Park: Written Scheme of Investigation: Archaeological Evaluation Trenching*

Lanpro, 2025, *Lime Down Solar Park Site A: Desk-Based Assessment*

SWARF 2024, *South West England Historic Environment Research Framework*, online

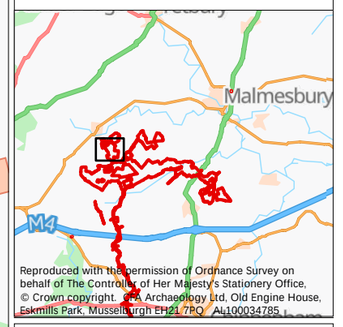
resource, https://researchframeworks.org/swarf/

FIGURES



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Excavated Feature
- Field Drain
- Furrow
- Natural
- Small_Find
- Points
- Drawing_Pt
- Section_Line
- Service
- Profile
- Break_of_Slope
- Base of feature
- Surface
- Structure
- Sondage



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Site Location and Plan

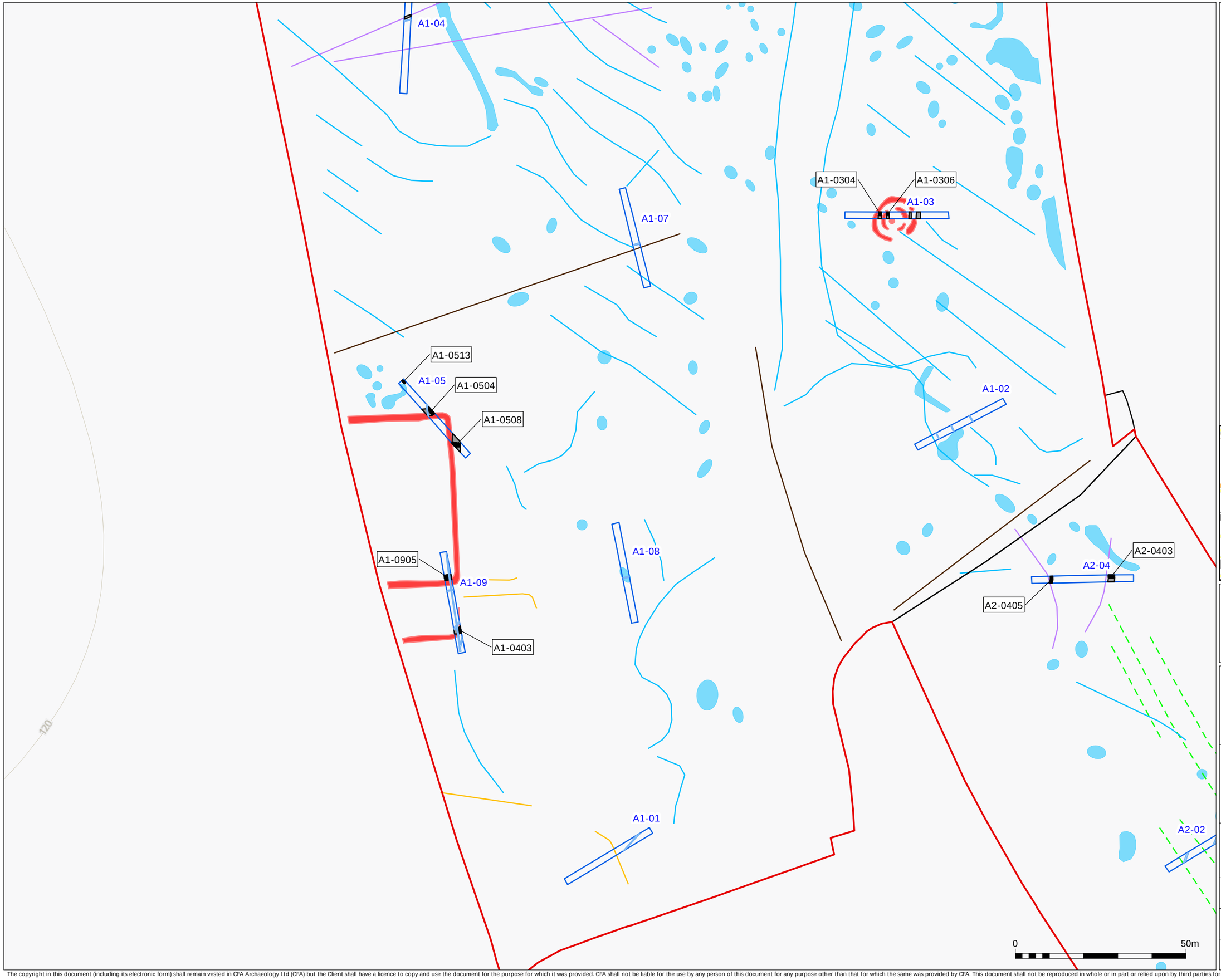
Project:
Lime Down Solar Park,
Site A: Interim Report

Client:
Lime Down Solar Park Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:5,000

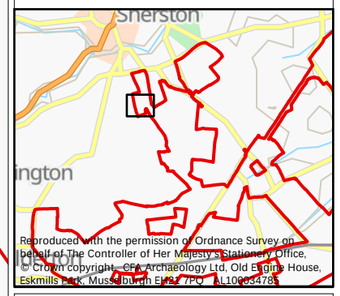
Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
SB	SW	20/08/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4667	1



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Excavated Feature
- Field Drain
- Archaeology
- Archaeology
- Archaeology?
- Ridge and Furrow
- Uncertain
- Geology
- Geology
- Former Field Boundary
- Service



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans

Project:
Lime Down Solar Park,
Site A: Interim Report

Client:
Lime Down Solar Park Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:1,000

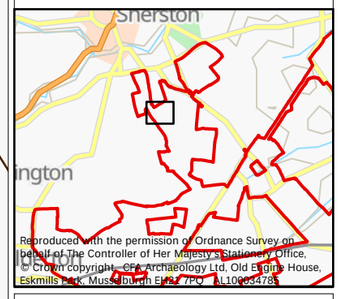
Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
SB	SW	20/08/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4667	2.1

A1-02
A2-0403
A2-04
A2-0405
A2-02
A2-05
A2-03
A2-0303
A2-01
A3-0405
A3-04
A3-0407
A3-0409
A3-1216
A3-12
A3-1209
A3-1211
A3-1214
A3-1205
A3-1203
A3-1207
A3-02
A3-03
A3-11
A3-1103
A3-1105
A3-08
A3-06
A3-05
A3-01
A7-06
A7-11
0
50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Excavated Feature
- Field Drain
- Archaeology?
- Archaeology?
- Ridge and Furrow
- Uncertain
- Uncertain
- Geology
- Geology
- Former Field Boundary
- Service



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans

Project:
Lime Down Solar Park,
Site A: Interim Report

Client:
Lime Down Solar Park Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:1,000

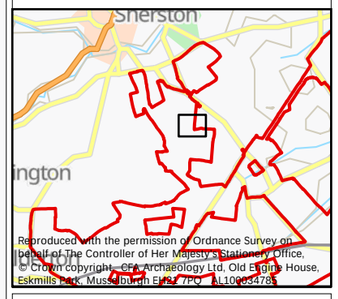
Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
SB	SW	20/08/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4667	2.2

A7-05
A7-16
A7-03
A7-12
A7-13
A7-17
A6-03
A6-0310
A6-0307
A6-0304
A6-05
A6-01
A9-02
A9-0109
A9-0104
A9-01
A9-0107
A9-0113
A9-0111
A9-07
A9-06
A9-04
A9-11
A9-15
110
0
50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Excavated Feature
- Field Drain
- Natural
- Archaeology
- Archaeology
- Ridge and Furrow
- Uncertain
- Uncertain
- Geology
- Geology
- Former Field Boundary
- Service



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans

Project:
Lime Down Solar Park,
Site A: Interim Report

Client:
Lime Down Solar Park Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:1,000

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
SB	SW	20/08/2025

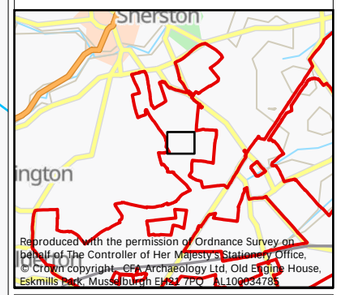
Report No:	Fig. No:
4667	2.3

A7-02
A7-14
A7-10
A7-07
A7-0703
A7-15
A7-01
A9-02
A9-01
A9-0109
A9-0104
A9-07
A9-06
A9-04
A9-09
A9-05
A9-03
A9-0303
A9-0305
A9-08

0
50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Excavated Feature
- Field Drain
- Natural
- Archaeology
- Archaeology
- Archaeology?
- Archaeology?
- Ridge and Furrow
- Uncertain
- Uncertain
- Geology
- Geology
- Former Field Boundary
- Service



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans

Project:
Lime Down Solar Park,
Site A: Interim Report

Client:
Lime Down Solar Park Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:1,000

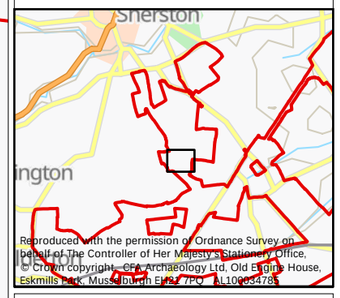
Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
SB	SW	20/08/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4667	2.4

A10-01
A10-1503
A10-1505
A10-1507
A10-15
A10-03
A10-04
A10-08
A10-05
A10-0505
A10-0503
A10-13
A10-1005
A10-10
A10-1103
A10-11
A10-1003
A10-09
A10-12
A10-14
A10-02
110
110
0
50m

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Excavated Trench
- Archaeological Feature
- Excavated Feature
- Field Drain
- Archaeology
- Archaeology
- Archaeology?
- Uncertain
- Geology
- Geology
- Service



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

Title:
Trench Plans

Project:
Lime Down Solar Park,
Site A: Interim Report

Client:
Lime Down Solar Park Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:1,000

Drawn by:	Checked:	Date:
SB	SW	20/08/2025

Report No:	Fig. No:
4667	2.5

APPENDIX 1

Trench Strata Summary

Context	Trench	Area	Title	Vertical span (m)
010101	A1-01	Field A1	Topsoil - Trench A1-01	0.28 (avg)
010201	A1-02	Field A1	Topsoil - Trench A1-02	0.32 (avg)
010202	A1-02	Field A1	Subsoil - Trench A1-02	0.09 (avg)
010301	A1-03	Field A1	Topsoil - Trench A1-03	0.33 (avg)
010401	A1-04	Field A1	Topsoil - Trench A1-04	0.40 (avg)
010402	A1-04	Field A1	Subsoil - Trench A1-04	0.09 (avg)
010501	A1-05	Field A1	Topsoil - Trench A1-05	0.35 (avg)
010502	A1-05	Field A1	Subsoil - Trench A1-05	0.08 (avg)
010601	A1-06	Field A1	Topsoil - Trench A1-06	0.35 to 0.38
010701	A1-07	Field A1	Topsoil - Trench A1-07	0.33 (avg)
010801	A1-08	Field A1	Topsoil - Trench A1-08	0.22 to 0.28
010901	A1-09	Field A1	Topsoil - Trench A1-09	0.28 (avg)
020101	A2-01	Field A2	Topsoil - Trench A2-01	0.20 to 0.30
020201	A2-02	Field A2	Topsoil - Trench A2-02	0.25 to 0.30
020301	A2-03	Field A2	Topsoil – Trench A2-03	0.20 to 0.30
020401	A2-04	Field A2	Topsoil - Trench A2-04	0.28 to 0.30
020501	A2-05	Field A2	Topsoil - Trench A2-05	0.22 to 0.33
030101	A3-01	Field A3	Topsoil - Trench A3-01	0.25 to 0.30
030201	A3-02	Field A3	Topsoil - Trench A3-02	0.20 to 0.30
030301	A3-03	Field A3	Topsoil - Trench A3-03	0.25 to 0.35
030401	A3-04	Field A3	Topsoil - Trench A3-04	0.20 to 0.30
030501	A3-05	Field A3	Topsoil - Trench A3-05	0.30 to 0.40
030601	A3-06	Field A3	Topsoil - Trench A3-06	0.30 to 0.40

Context	Trench	Area	Title	Vertical span (m)
030701	A3-07	Field A3	Topsoil - Trench A3-07	0.25 to 0.35
030801	A3-08	Field A3	Topsoil - Trench A3-08	0.25 to 0.35
030901	A3-09	Field A3	Topsoil – Trench A3-09	0.20 to 0.30
030902	A3-09	Field A3	Subsoil - Trench A3-09	0.10 to 0.20
031001	A3-10	Field A3	Topsoil - Trench A3-10	0.20 to 0.30
031101	A3-11	Field A3	Topsoil - Trench A3-11	0.20 to 0.30
031201	A3-12	Field A3	Topsoil - Trench A3-12	0.30 to 0.35
060101	A6-01	Field A6	Topsoil - Trench A6-01	0.28 (avg)
060102	A6-01	Field A6	Subsoil – Trench A6-01	0.18 (avg)
060201	A6-02	Field A6	Topsoil - Trench A6-02	0.28 (avg)
060301	A6-03	Field A6	Topsoil - Trench A6-03	0.32 (avg)
060302	A6-03	Field A6	Subsoil – Trench A6-03	0.12 (avg)
060401	A6-04	Field A6	Topsoil - Trench A6-04	0.27 (avg)
060501	A6-05	Field A6	Topsoil - Trench A6-05	0.34 (avg)
060601	A6-06	Field A6	Topsoil - Trench A6-06	0.24 (avg)
060602	A6-06	Field A6	Topsoil - Trench A6-06	0.12 (avg)
070101	A7-01	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-01	0.25 to 0.35
070201	A7-02	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-02	0.20 to 0.25
070301	A7-03	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-03	0.20 to 0.25
070401	A7-04	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-04	0.25 to 0.35
070501	A7-05	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-05	0.30 to 0.35
070601	A7-06	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-06	0.23 to 0.35
070701	A7-07	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-07	0.25 to 0.35
070801	A7-08	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-08	0.30 to 0.35
070901	A7-09	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-09	0.20 to 0.25

Context	Trench	Area	Title	Vertical span (m)
071001	A7-10	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-10	0.20 to 0.25
071002	A7-10	Field A7	Subsoil - Trench A7-10	0.05 (avg)
071101	A7-11	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-11	0.25 to 0.30
071201	A7-12	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-12	0.15 to 0.25
071301	A7-13	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-13	0.28 to 0.35
071302	A7-13	Field A7	Subsoil - Trench A7-13	0.10 to 0.20
071401	A7-14	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-14	0.25 to 0.40
071402	A7-14	Field A7	Subsoil - Trench A7-14	0.20 (avg)
071501	A7-15	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-15	0.28 (avg)
071601	A7-16	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-16	0.20 to 0.30
071701	A7-17	Field A7	Topsoil - Trench A7-17	0.20 to 0.30
071702	A7-17	Field A7	Subsoil - Trench A7-17	0.15 to 0.25
090101	A9-01	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-01	0.23 to 0.40
090102	A9-01	Field A9	Subsoil - Trench A9-01	0.20 (avg)
090201	A9-02	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-02	0.23 (avg)
090301	A9-03	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-03	0.33 (avg)
090401	A9-04	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-04	0.26 to 0.34
090501	A9-05	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-05	0.22 (avg)
090601	A9-06	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-06	0.29 (avg)
090701	A9-07	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-07	0.34 (avg)
090801	A9-08	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-08	0.25 to 0.35
090901	A9-09	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-09	0.24 (avg)
091001	A9-10	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-10	0.27 (avg)
091101	A9-11	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-11	0.27 (avg)
091201	A9-12	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-12	0.26 (avg)

Context	Trench	Area	Title	Vertical span (m)
091301	A9-13	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-13	0.26 (avg)
091401	A9-14	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-14	0.28 (avg)
091501	A9-15	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-15	0.32 (avg)
091601	A9-16	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-16	0.32 (avg)
091701	A9-17	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-17	0.28 (avg)
091801	A9-18	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-18	0.28 (avg)
091901	A9-19	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-19	0.26 (avg)
092101	A9-21	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-21	0.28 (avg)
092201	A9-22	Field A9	Topsoil - Trench A9-22	0.29 (avg)
101001	A10-01	Field A10	Topsoil – Trench A10-01	0.22 (avg)
100201	A10-02	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-02	0.26 (avg)
100301	A10-03	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-03	0.22 (avg)
100401	A10-04	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-04	0.22 (avg)
100501	A10-05	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-05	0.26 (avg)
120601	A10-06	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-06	0.26 (avg)
120701	A10-07	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-07	0.28 (avg.)
120801	A10-08	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-08	0.15 to 0.28
120901	A10-09	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-09	0.27 (avg)
121001	A10-10	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-10	0.22 (avg)
121101	A10-11	Field A10	Subsoil - Trench A10-11	0.27 (avg)
121201	A10-12	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-12	0.26 (avg)
121301	A10-13	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-13	0.24 (avg)
121401	A10-14	Field A10	Topsoil - Trench A10-14	0.30 (avg)
121502	A10-15	Field A10	Subsoil - Trench A10-15	0.25 (avg)

OASIS Summary for cfaarcha1-531917

OASIS ID (UID)	cfaarcha1-531917
Project Name	Archaeological Evaluation Trenching at Lime Down Solar Park
Sitename	Lime Down Solar Park: Site D
Sitecode	LIDO
Project Identifier(s)	LIDO, LIDO4, LIDO3, LIDO2, LIDO5
Activity type	Evaluation
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Pre application
Organisation Responsible for work	CFA Archaeology Ltd, Lanpro Archaeology + Heritage
Project Dates	12-Nov-2024 - 20-Feb-2025
Location	Lime Down Solar Park: Site D NGR : ST 89907 83679 LL : 51.55190690978507, -2.146960674025795 12 Fig : 389907,183679
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Wiltshire Local Authority District : Wiltshire Parish : Hullavington
Project Methodology	A total of 157 30m x 1.80m evaluation trenches were excavated across 11 fields (Fields D1, D2, D3, D6, D11, D12, D13, D19, D20, D22 and D24). These works were carried out in accordance with the methods specified in the WSI. During the excavation of the evaluation trenches, the topsoil and any subsoils were removed down to the natural substrate or first significant archaeological horizon in successive level spits of a maximum 0.20m thickness, using a rubber tracked 14t machine equipped with a wide toothless ditching bucket. The groundwork was carried out under direct archaeological supervision. All the exposed features were cleaned and excavated by hand. The sections of the excavated features were drawn at a 1:10 scale and planned at a 1:20 scale. All archaeological features were scanned with an XR ADX150 metal detector prior, during, and after excavation. A burial licence was issued and adhered to when excavating human remains. The trenches and all archaeological remains were surveyed and tied into the National Grid using a Trimble GPS.
Project Results	Archaeological trial trenching was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd at Site D, Fields D1, D2, D3, D6, D11, D12, D13, D19, D20, D22 and D24 of the proposed Lime Down Solar Park from November 2024 to February 2025 to inform a planning application for a solar farm development. The purpose of the archaeological works was to identify and record any remains of archaeological and historical significance. The archaeological features recorded across Site D are indicative of rural settlement and agricultural practice dating from the Iron Age into the Roman period. These features include rectilinear enclosures of varying complexity, curvilinear ditches, a probable Romano-British settlement, and boundary ditches which may have served as land divisions or functional drainage.

Keywords	Enclosed Settlement - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Ring Ditch - UNCERTAIN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Boundary Ditch - IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Ditched Enclosure - IRON AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	Utilities and infrastructure Lime Down Solar Park Ltd
HER	Wiltshire and Swindon HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	Phil Mann
HER Identifiers	HER Monument No - MWI2480, HER Monument No - MWI2496, HER Event No - ST88SE612, HER Monument No - MWI2483, HER Monument No - MWI2485, HER Event No - ST88SE614, HER Event No - ST88SE629
Archives	

Report generated on: 22 Aug 2025, 10:10

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY Ltd

HEAD OFFICE - Musselburgh
Old Engine House
Eskmills Park, Musselburgh
East Lothian, EH21 7PQ

t: +44 (0) 131 273 4380
e: enquiries@cfa-arch.co.uk

Leeds
Clayton Works Business Centre
Midland Road
Leeds, LS10 2RJ

t: +44 (0) 113 271 6060
e: yorkshire@cfa-arch.co.uk

Milton Keynes
Suite 11, Letchworth House
Chesney Wold, Bleak Hall
Milton Keynes, MK6 1NE

t: +44 (0) 1908 226 124
e: miltonkeynes@cfa-arch.co.uk

Carlisle
Warwick Mill Business Village
Warwick Bridge, Carlisle
Cumbria, CA4 8RR

t: +44 (0) 1228 564 531
e: cumbria@cfa-arch.co.uk

Sheffield
Office 5, Ecclesfield Business Centre
46 Stocks Hill, Ecclesfield
Sheffield, S35 9YT

t: +44 (0) 114 327 1108
e: sheffield@cfa-arch.co.uk

Leicester
Business Box
3 Oswin Road, Brailsford Industrial Estate
Leicester, LE3 1HR

t: +44 (0) 116 279 5156
e: leicestershire@cfa-arch.co.uk

Hertfordshire
Amwell House
9 Amwell Street, Hoddesdon
Hertfordshire, EN11 8TS

t: +44 (0) 845 017 9847
e: herts@cfa-arch.co.uk

Registered Head Office - The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, East Lothian, EH21 7PQ • Company no. 208318 • VAT No. 751 4761 29