## Somerset Archaeology 2019

Chris Webster (ed)

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# SOMERSET ARCHAEOLOGY 2019

EDITED BY CHRIS WEBSTER, SOUTH WEST HERITAGE TRUST

# COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

As the South West Heritage Trust (SWHT) moves into its sixth year the role of volunteers is becoming increasingly important part of the everyday research and engagement going on within the Trust. The Historic Environment Service (HES) has numerous dedicated volunteers who help in a variety of ways. The mapping and plotting of the tithe map information onto the HER is now mostly completed for the modern county after thousands of hours of volunteer work. The database of field names and tithe apportionment information is now freely available on the HER base maps. This is a major achievement and shows how volunteers can make a valuable contribution to Somerset's heritage. Most of this work has been done by Jill Abercrombie, Joan Hadland, Mike Bisset and Chris Smith, supervised by Chris Webster.

A second area of volunteer engagement has been at the Avalon Marshes Centre near Shapwick, where a programme of archaeological reconstruction work continues. This work has seen the continued development of the reconstructed Roman dining room and Saxon-style long hall. A bid to the local Leader funds brought in over £80,000 towards outreach work at the site including the construction of a new classroom and meeting room. The area of the archaeological reconstructions has now been re-named as the Avalon Archaeology Park. Over 30 volunteers regularly work on the Hands-on-Heritage programme at the site. Several open days were held in 2019 to show the work in progress and over 1,000 people visited the site over two days clearly showing the interest in the site and buildings. A bid is being prepared to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for a final programme of access and interpretation works on the site. For further information on the work of the volunteers at the Avalon Archaeology Park see https://avalonarchaeology.com/

Delivering archaeological planning advice is a key role for the archaeological team in the Historic Environment Service. Our work programme has now expanded to cover archaeological advice on planning to Bath and North East Somerset council as well as Somerset. This service is coordinated by Steve Membery, Tanya James and Jan Grove. In 2019 the team commented on over 1,600 planning applications ranging from major infrastructure schemes such as the proposed A303 improvements and housing schemes through to advising on planning policy matters. On the north side of Somerton proposals for a new Somerset County Council (SCC) primary school revealed the remains of an extensive archaeological site dating from the Bronze and Iron Ages through to a large cemetery of Roman date (below, Later Prehistoric and Roman). This project demonstrates the value of partnership working between SCC, Wessex Archaeology and the South West Heritage Trust. The story of the discoveries here were widely reported in the national and local press.

Work on the post-excavation programme associated with the excavations at Hinkley Point C power station continues and Steve Membery and Bob Croft monitor this work for Somerset County Council. During the year, the first monograph report was published by Cotswold Archaeology covering archaeological remains recorded on the line of the Cannington Bypass. Presentation of the archaeological information to the public has been a major objective of the work at Hinkley Point, and EDF Energy and Cotswold Archaeology held a public book launch inviting local people to hear about the archaeological research.

The management of the HER continues to be a key element of HES work and during the year over 540 new records were added to the Somerset HER. In addition to managing the Somerset HER the SWHT now manages the HER for Bath and North East Somerset. This work is managed and coordinated by Chris Webster and Jack Fuller. During the year Historic England commissioned additional HER project under their Heritage an Information Access Strategy. This project will run into 2020 and involves transferring all the national records of the historic environment into the HER. Work is now well underway in both BaNES and in Somerset with over 18,000 records to be concorded and rationalised. The national record will then be closed, removing a layer of duplication and confusion that has existed for many years.

The Countryside Stewardship programme supported by DEFRA continues to change and evolve in the light of the current proposals around Brexit and future land management issues. In 2019 Jan Grove gave detailed comments on several hundred different landholdings and the likely impact of proposed schemes on the historic environment. The HES also works closely with the three AONB services in Somerset and has set up a partnership arrangement with the Quantock and Mendip AONB teams to help to manage sites.

Improvement and proposed changes to many medieval parish churches is scrutinised through the Bath and Wells Diocesan Advisory committee and Bob Croft and Nic Wall continue to offer advice on archaeological and conservation matters in the diocese. The major programme of refurbishing work at Bath Abbey has continued into 2019 and work by Wessex Archaeology has revealed further evidence of the Saxon phase of the site. Smaller scale, but significant archaeological investigation and recording was undertaken at St John's church Glastonbury by Context One Heritage and Archaeology which revealed the foundations of the earlier nave (below, Medieval).

Partnership projects continue to be a main part of the annual programme and a recent project with Historic England, Somerset West and Taunton Council and the local Parish Council has resulted in the taking of Norton Fitzwarren hillfort into public ownership. This site was identified by Historic England as a Monument at Risk due to the continual ploughing of the interior which was gradually destroying the archaeological remains. Management and interpretation plans are now being developed alongside a bid for additional funding from the NLHF.

Somerset County Council supports a small programme of public realm conservation repair work each year. This programme is delivered by Nic Wall and Andy Stevens. Work continued to repair and refurbish historic milestones on the A38 in the Sedgemoor area and other projects worked on several SCC-owned heritage sites. A new partnership arrangement was set up in 2019 to work with South Somerset District Council to offer conservation and listed building advice and Heike Bernhardt is seconded to cover this important service. A major conservation achievement for the year was the completion of a programme of repair and refurbishment of the historic pack horse bridge at Cannington. This work was funded by EDF Energy and SCC and the project was designed and supervised by Nic Wall and completed by Andy Stevens and Keith Faxon.

Each year the service is expanding its portfolio to take on new opportunities and to work with partners to deliver new conservation and research projects around the county whilst continuing to deliver its core services to its local authority partners. A programme of outreach, walks and talks continues each year and staff from the HES give regular lectures around the county and beyond to publicise the wide range of advice and research undertaken in the county.

(Bob Croft)

### SURVEY, FIELDWORK AND EXTENSIVE SITES

### Bath, Victoria Park, ST 740 655,

### BaNES HER 68278

Geophysical surveys by Bath and Counties Archaeological Society have been completed over recent years. Settlement from the Bronze Age through to the Roman period is known to the north, east and south of this work but none in the current area. However, the results do indicate the remains of considerable activity. This includes a large number of long (mostly) straight linear features, many of which cross the area in several directions and bear no relation to the park or earlier field boundaries. Some of them relate to the routing of water through the area, and we may have detected the possible remains of an old roadway.

(Janet Pryke and John Oswin)

### Batheaston, Charmy Down, ST 780 690, BaNES HER 68063

Geophysical survey was carried out along a narrow spur heading SSE from Charmy Down. The site is just south of a new reservoir, which had produced prehistoric remains during construction. A long, narrow mound, 1 to 2m high, some 60m by 20m occupies the top of the spur. Earth resistance measurements suggested that this was not natural, but stone had been cut away and then soil mounded up. There were signs of a ditch on the west side, but on the east, the side of the mound merged with the hill slope. There were signs of a possible stone-made chamber at the southern end. No dating evidence was found, so activity from Neolithic to Second World War could be possible.

#### (John Oswin)

### Lansdown, Monument Field, ST 724 703, BaNES HER 68069

Monument Field was surveyed by Bath and Counties Archaeological Society by magnetometer, but time only allowed a partial resistance survey (Fig. 1). Roman archaeology continues through into the southeastern portion of Monument Field but does not extend further. There is further disturbance in the central and eastern portions in the north of the field, along the highest part of the field, which is thought to relate to the Battle of Lansdown in 1643. Lines to the south of this probably relate to practice trenches from the First World War, though they appear to be quite shallow from resistivity profiling.

(John Oswin and Janet Pryke)



Fig. 1 Magnetometry combined for Monument and Settlement Field, Lansdown. Anomalies to far East are probably prehistoric; South central are probably Roman; those to North are probably from Civil War Battle of Lansdown. Long lines central may be First World War practice trenches.

### *Martock, Bower Hinton, ST 452 176,* Somerset HER 41675

Geophysical survey by South Somerset Archaeological Research Group recorded a complex system of intersecting linear magnetic anomalies on varying alignments. There appeared to be a dominant NW-SE linear trend crossing both fields, with a major trapezoidal enclosure, possibly from a different phase. There was also a general scatter of non-linear anomalies across the site. Although some of these could be due to modern agricultural practice, it is possible they could also indicate archaeological features.

(Liz Caldwell)

### *Milverton, Houndsmoor Farm, ST 127 253,* Somerset HER 41577

South Somerset Archaeological Research Group surveyed a small area with both fluxgate gradiometer and resistivity meter as a training exercise. There was a local belief that a building had stood here but no magnetic or resistance anomalies could confidently be assigned to structural features.

(Liz Caldwell)

### *Montacute, Welhams Brook, ST 500 173,* Somerset HER 41578

A linear area was surveyed by South Somerset Archaeological Research Group with fluxgate gradiometer in advance of proposed flood alleviation measures. No coherent magnetic anomalies were recorded and it may be the results represent deposition of ferrous materials during flood episodes.

(Liz Caldwell)

### *Queen Camel, West Camel Road*, ST 5911 2451, Somerset HER 39437

A geophysical survey by fluxgate gradiometer was carried by Archaeological Surveys Ltd. The eastern part of the field has been subject to previous geophysical surveys and evaluation and contains a Roman villa which lies within a complex of rectilinear enclosures. This part of the site was re-surveyed to be able to place anomalies located within the rest of the field in context. The results demonstrate the presence of structural remains and surrounding enclosure ditches associated with the villa in the eastern part of the site. A number of discrete positive responses lie to the west of the villa enclosure and it is possible their morphology could indicate an association with burials. Within the central part of the site there is evidence for further enclosures on a slightly different orientation to the villa complex which have been truncated by a trackway that is associated with the villa. These enclosures could relate to an earlier prehistoric field system and a more complex enclosure further to the north could be associated. In the western part of the site there are numerous rectilinear enclosures flanking the trackway and revealing several phases of development. Some of these contain and truncate earlier ring ditches associated with round houses.

(Kerry Donaldson and David Sabin)

### Shipham, Broadway, Stonehips Farm, ST 438 579 Somerset HER 36197

A gradiometer survey by ALERT identified a linear feature at ST 439 578 which is almost certainly a continuation of the line of the Roman road recorded as Somerset HER 29809 to the east. A ground resistance survey recorded two ditches about 20m apart on both sides, parallel to the line of the feature. At ST 437 578 at the western end of a low ridge, a resistivity survey suggested a double ditched enclosure, possibly measuring about 80m across at its widest point and encompassing the highest ground. The survey indicates that the ditches were about 4m wide. Within the enclosure a gradiometer survey showed a circular feature about 18m in diameter. A flint side scraper fashioned from a river pebble was found close to the enclosure. Records show that this area, part of Old Down, has been greatly disturbed by mining activity.

(John Matthews)

### *Templecombe, Manor Farm*, ST 7109 2210, Somerset HER 41408

Detailed magnetometry by fluxgate gradiometer was carried out by Archaeological Surveys Ltd. The site is associated with the medieval Preceptory of the Knights Templar and later Commandery of the Knights Hospitallers and contains several rectilinear earthworks, although these are believed to be associated with postmedieval features. The results of the survey indicate a number of potential features in the northern part of the site that could pre-date the extant earthworks. In the south-eastern part of the site, discrete positive responses appear to cluster and could relate to pit-like features of archaeological potential. In the southern part of the site some weakly positive linear anomalies are likely to relate to former ditch-like features and may also be of archaeological potential.

(Kerry Donaldson and David Sabin)

### MULTIPERIOD SITES

### Bath, The Recreation Ground, ST 7536 6486, BaNES HER 66422

Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation and geoarchaeological assessment to inform the proposed redevelopment of a 3.4ha parcel of land. This comprised eight trenches targeted using an earlier geophysical survey. A very small quantity of prehistoric, Roman and medieval material was recovered as residual material in later features, but there was no evidence for anything other than agricultural activity on the site prior to the 18th century.

Archaeological features were uncovered in seven trenches. The earliest features comprised boundary ditches of an 18th-century pleasure garden known as the Spring Gardens. Two parallel ditches within the Spring Gardens enclosure may have defined a path within the gardens. Ditched enclosures defining a series of late 18th-century kitchen gardens were uncovered to south and east of the Spring Gardens. A further ditch towards the eastern edge of the site may have been dug as part of a planned late 18th-century housing development.

Excavated structural remains of the Victoria Iron and Brass works comprised a stone boundary wall that defined the eastern extent of the yard. Fragments of brass-melting crucibles were recovered from made ground and ditch infill deposits to the west of this wall. The main engineering works building lay beyond the limits of the excavation, below the west stand of the Recreation Ground.

Remains associated with the development of The Recreation Ground comprised dumps of imported soil and rubble. The evaluation has demonstrated that within the playing field, there has been little disturbance to pre-1895 deposits.

(Ray Holt)

### *Cannington, land to the north of Park Lane,* ST 2524 4001 and ST 2534 4001, Somerset HER 41330

Six evaluation trenches were opened during late April 2019. In the western site, extensive dumps of clay, limestone and sandstone cobbles associated with medieval and Romano-British material were identified, seemingly laid within a shallow terrace cut that crossed the site; the most likely interpretation of this is a former road. A Romano-British pit, undated post holes and a substantial post-medieval enclosure ditch were also recorded here. Trenching in the eastern site revealed the presence of a dense metalled surface within a linear feature, filled during the 16th-century and possibly representing an east-west hollow way. In the centre of the site a large, shallow pit or scoop of uncertain form or function was found to contain exclusively Bronze Age pottery and struck chert. It seems that the rubble, dumps, surfaces and hollow way may represent the remains of the medieval line of Park Lane suggesting that this was deflected to the south during the 16th century.

(James Brigers)

### *Puriton, Gravity Energy Park access road,* ST 3171 4131 to ST 3300 4188, Somerset HER 41448

Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation and subsequent mitigation of a 6.65ha parcel of land. The evaluation comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of sixteen trial trenches to target geophysical anomalies. The mitigation comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of an area measuring 0.14ha centred around two of the evaluation trenches, to target a potential Bronze Age enclosure and an undated ditch. Twelve of the 16 excavated trial trenches contained archaeological features and deposits, a further two trenches identified alluvial/colluvial deposits containing cultural material, indicating archaeological remains were present across the site, with a slight concentration of features in the northern part of the development. The recorded features comprised ditches, gullies, furrows, pits, postholes and quarrying representing four main periods of activity: Early to Middle Bronze Age, Romano-British, medieval and modern, though several features remain of uncertain date. Limited stratigraphic evidence of potential post-Roman activity was also represented by several artefactually sterile ditches which post-dated Romano-British deposits, were in turn sealed by medieval ridge and furrow and tentatively interpreted as possible rhynes. Features, including mole drains and ceramic land drains, relating to recent agricultural activity were also identified. Trenches in the southern part of the site revealed some level of disturbance with widespread post-medieval and modern quarrying.

(Daniel Conner and Ray Holt)

### Taunton, Nexus 25, ST 25693 24201,

Somerset HER 41233

An evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology identified an Iron Age layer. Iron Age pottery from a single vessel was present in the basal fills of a ditch which also contained Roman pottery in the upper fills. Several ditches, probably part of a field system, and a small number of pits potentially associated with in situ burning and industrial activity, all date to the Roman period. Medieval furrows and several undated ditches were also present.

(Jerry Austin)

### PREHISTORIC

#### Banwell, Locking Parklands, ST 37636 60632

Ongoing archaeological monitoring work, by South West Archaeology, at this complex, multi-phase site uncovered a post-medieval/modern field-drain system overlaying an extensive late prehistoric and Roman fenland edge settlement. Works across this extensive landscape are ongoing, but as part of the first phases of works a sub-rectangular late prehistoric enclosure, c. 50m x 60m, was excavated. The enclosure was largely defined by a single c. 3m wide and 1-1.5m deep ditch with two entrances to the south, with an outer ditch present only along its south-west side. The enclosure ditches fed into a natural combe at the north end of the enclosure. No internal features were observed, although a reasonable-sized assemblage of pottery was recovered from the enclosure ditches. Much of the assemblage is of Iron Age date, but with Neolithic pottery recovered from the same fills. The animal bone is dominated by primary butchery waste of cattle, but small quantities of dog, horse, sheep/goat and pig are also present.

(Sam Walls)

# Bridgwater, land at Junction 24 East, ST 30955 34404,

Somerset HER 39396

An evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology identified a concentration of ditches and pits containing Early/ Middle Bronze Age pottery, corresponding to rectilinear and sub-circular enclosures recorded during a preceding geophysical survey. The pottery assemblage from the enclosures is suggestive of occupation in the vicinity. Other features of this period comprised several outlying ditches and pits. Former post-medieval/modern field boundary ditches were also present.

(Jonathan Orellana)

# *Cheddon Fitzpaine, Nerrols Farm*, ST 2415 2680, Somerset HER 41332

Oxford Archaeology carried out excavations following earlier evaluations. The earliest features comprised a group of early Neolithic pits, containing Plain Bowl pottery and worked flint and chert. A sample from one pit contained hazelnut shells and alder charcoal. Close to this pit group, a small ring ditch produced a radiocarbon date in the early Bronze Age (late 19th to 18th century cal BC) from its upper fill. No evidence for burials survived.

A sub-rectangular middle Bronze Age enclosure measuring 44m by 38.5m was also recorded. The enclosure had two phases and contained a roundhouse defined by a curving ditch surrounding pits and postholes. Seven pits were found to contain snugly fitting pottery vessels. No cremated remains were discovered, and these were probably used as sunken storage and/or cooking pots. A programme of lipid analysis on the pottery demonstrates that dairying was an important element of the site economy. The pottery belongs to the Trevisker-related series primarily found in Somerset. Another significant find was a piece of clay mould used for casting a bladed implement, possibly a rapier. A sequence of radiocarbon dates was taken from the enclosure ditch demonstrating that it dated to the 14th century cal BC.

Other discoveries include a small middle Iron Age settlement comprising two roundhouses, one of which produced pottery in the South Western Decorated tradition. See also Early Medieval.

(Kirsty Smith)

# *Chilton Trinity, land to the South of Combe Lane,* ST 2957 3909,

#### Somerset HER 41596

Monitoring of excavations prior to the construction of a single dwelling at the above location was conducted in October 2019. At the limit of excavation an extensive deposit containing quantities of burnt clay, stone and other occupation-derived material including quantities of late Iron Age pottery was found to seal two hearths constructed of burnt clay and stone, and at least two post holes indicative of the presence of the remains of structures of probable late Iron Age date. The excavations did not penetrate through the overlying material and the decision was made to preserve the more complex remains in situ. Metal-detecting survey of the topsoil removed during the project led to the recovery of several coins spanning the 2nd to 4th centuries AD and suggestive of intensive Romano-British activity in the vicinity possibly continuing from the Iron Age settlement.

(James Brigers)

### *Crewkerne, Kithill*, ST 44500 08600, Somerset HER 39281

An evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology identified two ditches containing pottery broadly dated to the prehistoric period.

(Jonathan Orellana)

### Frome, Little Keyford, ST 7707 4626,

Somerset HER 41721, 41811

A geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation trenching were carried by South West Archaeology. The geophysical survey indicated one main area of interest, with an apparent geological variation, a series of probable ditches, banked and ditched boundaries, probable drains, and a possible pit. The remaining surveyed land demonstrated anomalies relating to modern and postmedieval agricultural activity. The evaluation validated the geophysical survey and demonstrated that a large geophysical anomaly related to a dry valley, whilst the other excavated features included three ditches, a gully and a tree-throw. Two ditches and the gully cut the lowest fills of the dry valley and date to the Bronze Age. (Sam Walls) Monkton Heathfield, Hartnells Farm, ST 2570 2726 An excavation by Cotswold Archaeology identified a Middle Bronze Age rectilinear enclosure with opposing entrances. The interior contained pits and postholes. Ditches, pits and postholes 150m to the west also date to this period and there was a single early Neolithic pit. Two post-medieval/modern ditches were also present along with undated ditches and pits.

(Jonathan Orellana)

# *North Petherton, Stafflands Farm*, ST 2932 3261, Somerset HER 39478

An evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology identified a probable prehistoric rectangular enclosure and a sub-circular structure or enclosure. Two isolated undated postholes were also present.

(Paul Clarke)

### *Penselwood, Home Pits*, ST 757306, Somerset HER 37556

SSARG undertook further earth resistance survey in order to examine the area where a previously identified bank should be present, and the interior of the enclosure. However, this has so far indicated that in the north-west quadrant the enclosure boundaries have been destroyed, or at least masked on the survey by the later postmedieval field boundary or the 'pits'. Some features have been noted within the interior. Thanks are due to Geoff Parcel of the Pen Selwood History Society and to Charles Buckler and his family for facilitating access to the field.

(Clare Randall)

#### *Priddy*, ST 531 510, Somerset HER 41419

#### Somerset HER 41419

In July 2019, research excavations were undertaken at the site of a pit circle in Priddy, discovered through geophysical survey by local community archaeology group ALERT. The excavations form part of the Priddy Environs Project, which is investigating the origins and development of human activity in Priddy, run by Dr Jodie Lewis and Dr David Mullin, now in its ninth year.

Excavations of a sample of the c. 16m-diameter circle revealed it to comprise deep, rock-cut pits, which had once contained posts (Fig. 2). The posts had been deliberately removed and the pits backfilled at the end of the site's life. The only finds from the pits were struck lithics but there is a possibility that these represent residual material, present in the soil used to backfill the pits, rather than deliberate deposits contemporary with the use of the site. Thus, there is no artefactual evidence to confidently date the site.



Fig. 2 Priddy Neolithic post circle. One of the Neolithic pits half-sectioned.

Results from the analysis of the environmental samples and radiocarbon dating have now been received. These confirm that the site is definitely a Neolithic timber circle, dating to the centuries around 3000 BC. This is the first Neolithic timber circle in Somerset and highlights once again the importance of Priddy in the Neolithic period. Previous work on nearby North Hill, as part of the Priddy Environs Project, revealed another previously unknown Neolithic monument, predating the timber circle by around 400-500 years. It is becoming obvious that there is a cluster of Neolithic ceremonial monuments around North Hill, including the iconic Priddy Circles, suggesting that this hill had some significance to Neolithic communities. This has previously been suggested and now new evidence is confirming this.

New gradiometry and ground penetrating radar surveys were undertaken at the timber circle, along with a detailed site and topographical drone survey. Images were also taken for photogrammetry and these, along with the rest of the survey data, are being worked on.

(Jodie Lewis)

### *Westonzoyland, Upper Liney Farm*, ST 3568 3500, Somerset HER 41237

Monitoring was conducted during extensive groundworks prior to the construction of holiday cottages and a swimming pool during June and August 2019. Most features of archaeological interest were found to be of post-medieval date and included drainage features, a probable large pond and sand quarries resulting from 16th- or 17th-century activities. There were also two undated ditches running on alignments at variance to the surrounding property boundaries and possibly representing components of later prehistoric and Romano-British field systems on the periphery of the known settlement activity of this period to the south west of the site.

(James Brigers)

### LATER PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN

# Bath, Claverton Down, Bushey Norwood, ST 777 647, BaNES HER 68273

The National Trust requested Bath and Counties Archaeological Society to carry out a resistivity survey to ensure tree planting did not impact any of the pre-Roman field banks recorded on the site. The opportunity was taken to also survey three specific areas where previous excavations and lidar evidence had indicated an Iron Age or earlier building enclosure (ST 777 647), round depressions in one field bank (ST 776 647), and a possible Roman road (ST 781 641). Clear evidence of the stone perimeter to the enclosure excavated by Skrine in 1888 could be seen and also a possible road line. It is hoped that excavation can be permitted to investigate these two features further.

(Tim Lunt)

### Somerton, Northfield, ST 4814 2918, Somerset HER 41441

Wessex Archaeology undertook an excavation as part of the construction of a new primary school. Eight near-complete roundhouses were identified with the remains of a further five also uncovered. The remains of a probable four-post structure were encountered near one roundhouse. Two intercutting crop drying ovens were found in the south-east corner of the site; with a third adjacent to the south-west edge of the site. A flagstone floor surface was uncovered to the southwestern edge of the excavation sea, measuring 5.8m by 5.4m.

A total of 56 graves were encountered during the excavation, 52 having been provisionally dated to the Romano-British period. Seventeen shallow graves, those of neonates/young infants, were dispersed across the site. Several graves were found in association with one of the crop driers, including one of an individual initially identified as a gracile elderly woman (>60yrs), buried with a pot suggesting a late 3rd-4th century date. Other graves have been spot dated to the 4th and 5th centuries. Three large ditches formed part of a regular enclosure system covering the whole site, with some internal sub-divisions.

(Finn Cresswell)

# Wincanton, Holbrook Farm, Holbrook Park, ST 69303 28451

Following geophysical survey, four trial trenches were excavated by SSARG. Linear features were located in three of the trenches, and all provided cultural material indicating a Romano-British date. A curvilinear feature seen in the fourth trench appears to be Late Iron Age in origin. SSARG would like to thank the landowners Steve and Tanya Miller, and Caroline and Gary Hunt who proposed the project.

(Clare Randall)

### ROMAN

### Bath, Combe Down, ST 764 620, BaNES HER 65996

A stone coffin containing an articulated skeleton was uncovered during groundworks. No dateable artefacts were found associated with the burial, but the style would suggest a Romano-British date.

(Keith Faxon)

### Bath, Roman Baths, ST 751 647, BaNES HER 68068

Electrical Resistivity Tomography (ERT, otherwise known as resistivity profiling) was used by Bath and Counties Archaeological Society to look as deeply as possible below the building footings to the south of the Great Bath, with depths down to 5m below floor, which would be approximately 14m above Ordnance datum. Profiles were set north-south in order to intercept any east-west water channels. There were but slight signs of any deep-running channel, running a little to the south of the south wall of the Great Bath, but there was not enough corroborative evidence to confirm this.

(John Oswin)

# *Bower Hinton, High Close and Pit Close*, ST4524 1768, Somerset HER 41675

SSARG undertook gradiometer survey over an area which had produced a concentration of cultural material of Romano-British date. This revealed a series of probable rectilinear enclosures, structures and tracks to which the distribution of artefacts could be related. It would appear from the plot that there was alteration and development of the complex of enclosures and boundaries over a period of time, which is also reflected in the wide date range of the material from the ploughzone. SSARG would like to thank the landowner Patrick Palmer, and Greg Wales and Johnny March who proposed the project.

(Clare Randall)

# *Highbridge, Brue Farm*, ST 3145 4654 and ST 3184 4690,

Somerset HER 39393, 39419

A watching brief and evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology recorded deep alluvial layers across the site that were cut by a series of Roman ditches and a posthole. The ditches were mostly field boundaries although at least one enclosure may also have been present. Associated briquetage fragments are indicative of mid to late Roman period salt extraction.

(Jerry Austin)

#### Martock, Stapleton Mead, ST 4424 2267

Four test pits were excavated in Hens Leaze and Hammers Close targeted on linear and other anomalies on previously obtained gradiometer plots. In two cases the anomalies related to relatively shallow patches of burnt material whilst the linears targeted in two other trenches, which are on the same alignment as known Romano-British features in the adjacent field, were not reached. The trenches were excavated to a depth of nearly 2m but had to be abandoned due to safety concerns and the water table. SSARG and the Martock Local History Club once again extend thanks to the Yandle family for facilitating access to the fields and being so supportive of the project. (Clare Randall)

#### Misterton, Twenty Acres, ST 4511 0837

A previous gradiometer survey of the site by SSARG had indicated a network of linear and curvilinear anomalies, arranged in a ladder-like pattern and running west-east across the centre of the field. A rectilinear series of plots was discernible, with some fainter and apparently underlying curvilinear anomalies. The area of these anomalies coincides with a dense area of a surface scatter of artefacts recovered over a number of years by metal detecting, and ranging in date from the later prehistoric, through the Romano-British period to the post-Roman/ early medieval. A single small trial trench was positioned on observed geophysical anomalies to explore the nature of the anomalies and investigate the condition of the resource, given that the field is frequently ploughed. The plough zone was relatively shallow. Two features were identified, a post-hole or small pit and a west-north-west oriented linear. Both features appeared to be truncated, but both produced cultural material which indicated a Romano-British date. SSARG would like to thank Mr Bowdege and Mr Charles.

(Clare Randall)

### Saltford, Coffin Field, ST 874 666, BaNES HER 68272

Volunteers from Saltford Environment Group and Bath and Counties Archaeological Society joined forces for a second year of excavation. A geophysical survey was undertaken prior to the placement of eleven trenches of varying sizes but no remains of buildings were located. Numerous Roman artefacts were recovered including pottery, coins, iron objects, bones, tesserae, slag, glass and fragments of pennant sandstone.

(Robin Holley)

Weston-super-Mare, Oldmixon Road, ST 34050 58908 An archaeological strip-map-sample exercise was undertaken by South West Archaeology prior to development on part of a 12ha site. A series of archaeological features were identified including ditches, postholes, and possible retaining wall, sealed beneath and between bands of alluvium; these features contained Romano-British pottery and animal bone. At the western end of the site five partial or complete inhumation burials, set within four grave cuts were excavated. The site represents part of a small fen-edge settlement with Iron Age antecedents and is likely to represent one among a number of sites around the North Somerset basin.

(Sam Walls)

# Weston-super-Mare, West Acres Caravan Park, ST 37379 62016

An evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology identified boundary or enclosure ditches and a possible settlement area, comprising ditches, postholes and possible pits; several fills contained crop-processing waste. These features were undated but were sealed by a layer which, although lacking finds, is interpreted as dating to the Roman period. The layer was cut by a pond/channel of probable post-Roman date.

(Daniel Sausins and Sara-Jayne Boughton)

#### *Yeovil, land off Stone Lane*, ST 5551 1797, Somerset HER 41484

An evaluation by TVAS South West covering some 3.2ha revealed six linear ditches and one gully, mostly undated with the exception of one ditch which was tentatively dated to Roman period.

(Agata Socha-Paskiewicz)

#### EARLY MEDIEVAL

### *Cheddon Fitzpaine, Nerrols Farm*, ST 2415 2680, Somerset HER 41332

Oxford Archaeology carried out excavations following earlier evaluations. As well as significant prehistoric evidence (above), there was also a pair of early-medieval pits, one containing an iron knife and the other providing a radiocarbon date in the 7th–8th century cal AD.

(Kirsty Smith)

#### Frome, Spring Gardens, NGR withheld

During the summer of 2019, a metal detectorist discovered a continental throwing axe (francisca) dating to about AD 500 and reported it to the Portable Antiquities Scheme, reference SOM-C39446 (see above, Burnett, p. 241; fig. 6). The find spot was on a level terrace, 2 or 3m above river level. From (still incomplete) test pitting by Bath and Counties Archaeological Society, it appeared to be set in cobbled (outdoor) flooring. There are no signs at present that it is associated with any burial. Geophysical survey indicates a busy area, with pits, post holes, a couple of

possible round houses and a possible large rectangular building some 30m north-south by 12m. While investigation on the ground continues, we are looking to ensure the axe is conserved and stabilised, with its handle-socket micro-excavated, and its form recorded in three dimensions.

(John Oswin and Robin Holley)

### Locking, Parklands, ST 3629 6035

AC Archaeology recorded a cemetery with 18 graves dating to the early-medieval period. Seven of these graves were present in the uppermost fills of an earlier enclosure ditch of Romano-British date which extended across the site. The burials included six probable adult females, three probable adult males and six children/ adolescents. There were two different alignments of graves and one of the individuals was buried face down. The remains of this individual, an adult, were not wellenough preserved to determine the sex, but he or she had suffered a compound fracture to the lower leg which had healed but would have left him or her with an obvious limp. Eight of the individuals had been buried with one or more objects ranging from iron knives, glass beads and other necklace components, a buckle, a bone and antler comb, an iron purse ring and a whetstone. The artefacts present suggest that the individuals lived and died in the 7th to 8th centuries AD.

(Chris Blatchford and Naomi Payne)

### MEDIEVAL

### Axbridge, Church of St John, ST 431545

Archaeological monitoring of repairs to the churchyard wall and excavations associated with the construction of new steps and an access ramp on the south side of the church recorded an insubstantial wall foundation below the existing 19th-century steps. The wall was sealed by rubble containing 18th- and 19th-century pottery associated with the construction of the existing steps.

(Keith Faxon)

### *Bridgwater, 11 Penel Orlieu*, ST 2956 3691, Somerset HER 41454

Trenching prior to the construction of a small extension at the above location was monitored in July 2019. Removal of modern hardcore and surfaces revealed the surface of natural gravel which was found to be cut to the north by a pit containing exclusively medieval pottery and to the south by a post-medieval pit with a western edge defined by a wall of mortared lias rubble. The results appear to suggest the archaeological horizons in the area have been denuded by modern activities.

(James Brigers)

### Brockley, Church of St Nicholas, ST 4659 6698

Monitoring was conducted to the north of the church during trenching for new drainage in March 2019. To the east of the site a substantial masonry wall foundation was encountered at shallow depth running north from the standing church and cut by a 19th-century culvert. Only a small area was available for examination, but this may represent the remains of a former component of the church plan, possibly a medieval side chapel. Excavation to the west revealed largely undisturbed natural cut only by two charnel pits containing disarticulated human bone.

(James Brigers)

### Brompton Regis, Bury, Bidgoods, SS 9455 2724, ENP HER EEM14886

Archaeological monitoring and recording were carried out by South West Archaeology at this Grade II Listed, detached, two-storey stone and cob house. The works focused upon monitoring and recording the lifting of the present floor surfaces inside the ground floor of the building. This confirmed that the modern and postmedieval floors hid a much earlier medieval origin for the building. The fabric of the building was then further analysed and assessed to put these discoveries within the context of the upstanding building fabric. It is most likely that the mid-17th-century occupiers of Bidgoods followed the regional trends, seen directly within the wider village, of developing a simple open 'hall' into a floored cottage, with a lateral stack and stair, with further small extension of agricultural function to the east in the post-medieval period and the division of spaces often seen aligned with changing social attitudes to privacy.

(Sam Walls)

# *Brompton Regis, Church of St Mary*, SS 9514 3149, ENP HER EEM14887

Monitoring was conducted in November 2019 during the formation of new drainage to the south and west of the tower. Several burials were encountered during the works at shallow depths and of potentially early date as some were found to be cut by the construction of the 13th-century tower foundation. The south-west corner of the existing nave was found to overlie a potentially early feature, possibly part of an east-west aligned gully or slot that may represent a component of the earlier pattern, possibly a structure pre-dating the later medieval stone church.

(James Brigers)

### Charlton Musgrove, Church of St Stephen, ST 7201 2991,

Somerset HER 41235

Archaeological monitoring was conducted in March and April 2019 during groundworks to provide new drainage, services and a path in the churchyard. During the works a number of previously unknown graves were exposed, both to the north and south of the church. To the north of the church a deep sequence of deposits was observed which commenced with a buried land surface containing quantities of slate and tile rubble including late medieval glazed ridge tile, almost certainly derived from an earlier roof covering of the church.

(James Brigers)

## Chewton Mendip, ST5967 5321,

Somerset HER 31671

This is the ninth year of archaeological excavations undertaken by members of Community Archaeology on the Mendip Plateau (CAMP) on the site of a large, rectilinear building complex believed to have been granted to the Abbey of Jumièges, Normandy by William the Conqueror, soon after the Norman Conquest. Beneath parts of this building lie the remains of Saxon occupation, strongly suggesting a connection with the earlier minster church at Chewton Mendip.

A trench dug in 2019, placed immediately south of the building complex, sought to answer an outstanding question from 2012, about the function of a buttresstype feature extending south of the central section of the façade. In attempting to answer this question, the north-west corner of a further building, 4m to the south and on roughly the same alignment, was unexpectedly discovered. Its west wall was found to be in a direct line with the feature in question, though no physical connection was proven. A well-constructed drip gulley drained downhill along the base of this west wall, curving as it passed the north-west corner and heading eastward beyond the limit of the trench. A second trench in August 2019 confirmed that the gulley became a capped drain passing under a cobbled passageway between the two buildings, before tracking south-east alongside the main complex's south facade. The drain was found to be associated with an earlier cobble and slab surface. A third trench uncovered the north-east corner of the building, which was found to partly overlie a well shaft of undetermined date, which had been backfilled in one event prior to building's construction. The fill contained mortar fragments, possibly representing part of the wellhead demolition tipped into the shaft. The north wall was of 1.18m thickness and external building width 9m.

Finds of pottery fabric types, both glazed and unglazed, matched that found elsewhere on the site, now part of the Chewton Mendip Medieval Pottery Fabric Type Series. This confirmed the building to be contemporary with at least part of the main complex, although finds evidence suggests that it was demolished prior to the early 14th century whilst the main complex remained in use.

(Pip Osborne)

# Compton Martin, Church of St Michael the Archangel, ST 5448 5701,

BaNES HER 68169

Archaeological monitoring was conducted during groundworks prior to the construction of a new disabled access in late September 2019. The works revealed the remains of a former path that may have fallen out of use in the early 19th century suggesting that the principal access to the church was either via the west or south doors prior to the construction of the existing school room. At other locations two unmarked burials were exposed both of probable medieval date and to the west of the churchyard the remains of an earlier boundary wall were exposed, sealed by a dump of rubble of possible 18th-century deposition.

(James Brigers)

# *Glastonbury, St John the Baptist's church,* ST 5000 3902

Context One Heritage and Archaeology carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording as part of the 'Securing the Future' reordering project, jointly funded by the congregation of St John's and the Heritage Lottery Fund with a contribution from Viridor Credits. The nave floor had become unstable and the long-term solution was to lift the Victorian slabs, remove the underlying loose material, stabilise any voids, and replace the Victorian underfloor heating system. This work exposed the medieval level at a depth of c. 0.46m below the current floor and provided an opportunity to investigate surviving medieval fabric and address key questions about the history and development of St John's.

During installation of the first underfloor heating system in 1856, the Norman pier bases were revealed along with walls belonging to the previous central tower, which collapsed in 1403. In recent decades there have been opportunities to archaeologically investigate the Norman church, mostly carried out by Charlie and Nancy Hollinrake, including extensive work in the choir in 1987. Smaller investigations throughout the nave have previously recorded a Norman pier base, floors, and indications of a possible additional north aisle to the nave. In 2014, a Ground Penetrating Radar survey was carried out which suggested that the long Norman and later medieval nave replaced an earlier shorter nave.

The present work found that the Victorian flooring was supported on closely spaced dwarf walls which also housed the heating conduits. These walls incorporated pieces of architectural stone from the medieval church, including a small capital with traces of Norman chevron decoration, mouldings from door and window surrounds, string-coursing, and large pieces of medieval tomb covers. Numerous blue lias slabs used to cap the dwarf walls were cut down ledger stones, including several with medieval foliate crosses and one piece showing the top of a bishop's mitre. The medieval font was also discovered beneath the site of the later Victorian font where it had been utilised as a drain. Other pieces of this font and possibly part of the medieval pulpit were discovered nearby.

The earliest walls found were those running below the nave arcades. These appear to have been the north and south walls of a short aisleless nave, and floor horizons found beneath the known Norman level must also relate to an earlier Norman or possibly Late Saxon phase. The first distinctive Norman work was the tower between the nave and chancel. Arcades ran west of the tower, with two half-drum bases at the western corners of the tower suggesting a late 11th-century or early 12th-century date. One of these bases is now visible through a Perspex floor panel in the new floor. The nave may have been extended westwards to the current length, although the side aisles were much shorter. The presence of a narrow north aisle was established in 1980 and evidence for a corresponding south aisle has now been found.

The church underwent some rebuilding towards the end of the Norman period, the narrow side aisles replaced by aisles of the same width and length as the present aisles, and the arcades remodelled. However, the aisles do not appear to have been replaced simultaneously as the pier bases of the north aisle are earlier in style than those of the south aisle. Following the collapse of the tower the 15th-century columns were constructed above the Norman pier bases, with the first two columns west of the chancel built directly on the Norman tower walls. This inflicted immense pressure on the stones and resulted in cracking and bowing. The columns throughout the nave were placed progressively closer to the edges of the bases, suggesting that the spacing of the new arcade did not fit exactly with the Norman pier bases (Fig. 3). Floor levels were raised using crushed debris from the tower collapse. These layers were mostly removed by the Victorians during heating installation so that in general they were only found intact around the edges of the church or around the pier bases. The most dramatic evidence of the tower collapse from the recent work, was the recovery of numerous pieces of painted plaster tracery from the east end of the nave. This was also found in the chancel excavations of 1987 and probably fell from inside the tower during the collapse.

(Cheryl Green)



Fig. 3 Church of St John the Baptist, Glastonbury. Fifteenthcentury column perched near the edge of a late Norman pier base.

### Keynsham, 39 High Street, ST 6546 6867, BaNES HER 66179

An archaeological watching brief was conducted by Avon Archaeology Limited in March 2019, during groundworks associated with the development of a new residential building. The site had been evaluated in 2017, revealing a number of archaeological features including the lowest courses of a broad, stone-built structure. This had also been recorded to the south in 1994 when it was interpreted as the boundary of the Augustinian abbey founded in Keynsham just after the mid-12th century. During the current watching brief, foundation trenches revealed a further three segments of the wall. Stratified deposits supported the narrative of the evaluation results, which indicated that the abbey boundary was respected long after the abbey went out of use. A layer of stone rubble and mortar, spreading east from the remains of the wall, suggests a deliberate action of demolition, which probably coincided with the realignment of the rear property boundaries, which were moved east to the current position sometime during the latter half of the 19th century. The archaeological evidence is supported by the physical evidence remaining in the adjacent buildings, most notably the Baptist church, the rear wall of which respects the line of the abbey wall, not the modern rear boundary.

(Rachel Heaton)

### Lovington, Lovington Lane, ST 59372 31634, Somerset HER 41617

An archaeological evaluation by South West Archaeology demonstrated a previous geophysical survey was a poor guide to the archaeological potential of the site. A series of features were exposed and investigated, including a holloway, a raised and well-built track, several ditches and other shallow and more ephemeral features. A fairly large assemblage of medieval coarseware pottery was associated with most of these features, pointing to domestic occupation dating to the 13th-15th century. The raised track appears to be post-medieval in date and would have required considerable investment. It appears to link Lovington village with the river/Old Rectory and its line is perpetuated by an extant footpath; it was perhaps superseded by Lovington Lane in the 18th or early 19th century.

(Sam Walls)

### Nynehead, Church of All Saints, ST 1378 2271, Somerset HER 41641

Monitoring was conducted in late October 2019 during limited excavation within the tower in advance of a heating upgrade. Aside from the recent disturbance associated with 19th-century heating systems, at least two earlier features were recognised, neither of which could be dated with any accuracy. The form of one and its position in the centre of the tower suggests that it may be a grave, quite possibly of medieval date. It is uncertain as to whether the features relate to the period of current usage of the site or some earlier activity.

(James Brigers)

### *Rodney Stoke, Church of St Leonard*, ST 4823 4985, Somerset HER 41595

Monitoring was conducted during the excavation of a service trench at the eastern edge of the churchyard. The excavations exposed an extensive homogenous horizon most likely consisting of medieval and later fills of numerous inter-cutting graves in the area. Immediately to the east of the chancel the 'grave earth' was sealed by an extensive dump of stone rubble and crushed mortar possibly dumped during the extensive 19th-century restoration of the church.

(James Brigers)

# *Templecombe, Church of St Mary*, ST 7085 2266, Somerset HER 41594

Monitoring was conducted in August 2019 during excavations prior to the construction of a new soakaway to the west of the church. No evidence of graves was encountered in the area and the surface of natural substrate was sealed by a shallow sequence of re-deposited clay and limestone rubble over an eastwest aligned stone-capped culvert of probable postmedieval date.

(James Brigers)

### Yeovilton, Bineham Lane, The Florins, ST 5435 2304, Somerset HER 41327

Context One Heritage and Archaeology evaluated a proposed development in an area where Romano-British occupation has been recorded. The evaluation encountered eight archaeological features and deposits comprising five linear features, most of which were probably ditches, a possible path and two occupation deposits. Two of the ditches correspond with the location of a field boundary shown on the 1838 tithe map. A modest assemblage of finds was recovered from the features and was dominated by medieval coarse wares with some fineware, all dating to the 13th-15th centuries. Combined, the evidence leans towards a medieval burgage plot with light occupation or close to a focus of settlement. The lack of any meaningful evidence post-dating the medieval period suggests an abandonment of the plot.

> (Clare Randall, Tara Fairclough and Richard McConnell)

### POST-MEDIEVAL

### Bath, Coombe Down, Prior Park, ST762 629, BaNES HER 68274

A pinery (pineapple house) was established by Ralph Allen in the early 18th century at Prior Park and is thought to be shown in a famous 1750 etching of the mansion by Anthony Walker. This pinery may have been demolished after Allen's death in 1764 and the materials recycled as a bath house nearby. A resistivity survey was carried out by Bath and Counties Archaeological Society at sites where these two buildings could have existed. Evidence of pathways and a possible fountain base were seen at the possible pinery site which may correspond to features shown in the 1750 etching. No clear results were visible at the bath house site but research has shown that a stray Luftwaffe bomb in 1942 exploded at this spot throwing up ashlar masonry. Excavation is proposed to investigate both sites further.

(Tim Lunt)

# *Bath, Prior Park, Ralph Allen Drive*, ST 760634, BaNES HER 68018

Extensive restoration of the Middle and Lower Dams in the 18th-century landscape garden required the installation of a new haul road in the meadow to the north of the house. Evaluation on the route of this proved largely negative but did reveal the remains of probable 18th-century path surfaces on the line of the 'Horseshoe Path' above the upper pond which had been cut by a large clay pit of 20th-century date. One of the fills of the latter contained fragmentary architectural mouldings the original setting of which remains unknown. At the southern edge of the meadow a sequence of dumps was excavated, the dating of which suggests they were deposited as part of the extensive landscaping to the north of the house associated with the mid-late 18th-century development of the garden.

Preliminary work on the Middle Dam involved the dismantling of the formal cascade and removal of silt from the base of the headwall. The cascade was found to consist of at least two phases of work involving a raising in height from its original form supporting the findings of the 2017 evaluation that suggested the present structures were the result of a later re-modelling. Masonry structures revealed at the base of the headwall in the Middle Pond may represent the remains of an earlier division between the main pond and the lobe to the east. Work on the Middle and Lower Ponds and Dams continues in 2020.

(James Brigers)

### Bath, Weston, Church of All Saints, ST 7308 6635, BaNES HER 67521

Context One Heritage and Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation in advance of the proposed construction of a community centre at this 15th-century church. Three small trenches wide were excavated between surviving headstones and ledger stones. Definitive evidence for burials was seen in one trench where the eastern end of a 17th/18th-century stone tomb and a possible Victorian earth-cut grave were encountered. In a second trench, two brick vaults were apparently constructed side by side, with capping covering the void between the two. The brickwork could be as early as the late 18th century although a Victorian date is perhaps more likely. There was no evidence for intercutting graves or historic episodes of disturbance save for a very few instances of disarticulated bone. A clay and mortar layer was observed in all three trenches. This is likely to be related to the construction debris and landscaping resulting from the adjacent late 19th-/early 20th-century extensions to the church.

> (Clare Randall, Richard McConnell and Tara Fairclough)

# *Bathampton, Glebe Cottage*, ST 773 663, BaNES HER 68276

The front garden of Glebe Cottage was investigated by Bath and Counties Archaeological Society in 2018 using geophysics to test whether the gothic-style arch there was part of an unrecorded medieval building. That survey had indicated the possibility of a building and the presence of a circular feature mid lawn. Trial excavations revealed that there was no medieval structure other than the arch, but that this was probably a reconstruction by Edward Allen, who had been a tenant in 1848. The feature under the lawn was a large water tank, still filled by conduit from a local water source.

(John Oswin and Robin Holley)

### Burrowbridge to Stathe, River Parrett North-East Bank, ST 3607 3005 - ST 3752 2951,

### Somerset HER 41597

During September 2019 archaeological monitoring was conducted at three locations during stripping of topsoil prior to tipping of river silt derived from a programme of dredging of the channel of the River Parrett between Burrowbridge and Stathe. The strip was shallow and throughout much of the monitored areas remained within a horizon of top soil and previously dumped silt, but in an area of earthworks thought to be the remains of the deserted hamlet of Tappingweir a wall was exposed located on a distinct platform formed from a dump containing 16th-century pottery and other domestic waste. Within the same area a larger platform was sealed by material of the later 18th/early 19th century confirming documentary sources indicating the existence of a structure here into the 19th century. To the east, in a field identified as the site of Chard's brickworks, large quantities of kiln waste, including brick and tile fragments were revealed, possibly dumped to consolidate the bank here and almost certainly sourced from the brickworks, previously thought to have stood at the opposite side of the field; investigation there proved negative.

(James Brigers)

#### Cameley, church of St James, ST 610 576, BaNES HER 68060

Resistivity profiling by and Counties Bath Archaeological Society with supported wetted probes was used to look for vaults below the floor of Cameley Church. A line of 32 probes at half metre spacing was set out down the centre of the church. Very high resistance was encountered on the first reading, which may have been a wetting problem, or may indicate a vault under the altar space. A small vault, at 4-6m probably belongs to the Rev Seccombe (1796). The larger vault from 8 to 11.5m is presumed to be the Rees-Mogg vault. It appears to be partially filled. The high resistivity seen at 14m is probably supporting structure for the tower. The vaults appeared to be only about 1m deep, with moist soil below. A long, deep profile outside the church, immediately to the south showed similar soil down to 3m with firmer material beneath.

(John Oswin, John Samways and Fiona Medland)

### East Coker, Land to the North of Moor Lane,

#### ST 5416 1236,

### Somerset HER 41599

Two trenches were excavated within a small vacant plot in early October 2019. The investigation revealed the presence of shallow linear features and post holes marking boundaries defining the corner of an enclosure dating to the 17th century and seemingly contemporary with the construction of the cottage to the west. The enclosure seems to have been abandoned during the 18th century and the site reverted to garden enclosed by the existing boundary pattern and Moor Lane to the south.

(James Brigers)

#### Goathurst, Halswell House, ST 2539 3378

As part of the ongoing programme of groundworks between April 2019 and February 2020, Oakford Archaeology monitored trenching in the south garden, the stableyard and the parkland, revealing the remains of a 17th-century rubbish pit in the former. Full excavation in January 2020 retrieved an extensive artefactual and environmental assemblage. In addition, historic building recording was undertaken between September and October 2019 on Tower House and Quantock Cottage. Part of the former stables, the work showed that the building had gradually evolved over the course of the mid-17th and 18th centuries from a relatively simple L-shaped structure to the complex building that is visible today. Finally, in January and March 2020 further historic building recording was undertaken on the 'farmhouse' at the southern end of the stableyard and the top floor of the north range, revealing the widespread damage from the 1923 fire and extensive rebuilding undertaken between 1923-6.

(Marc Steinmetzer)

#### Long Ashton, Ashton Court, ST 55791 71816

An excavation was conducted by Archeoscan on the South Lawn of Ashton Court in response to a number of parchmarks becoming visible in 2018. A subsequent geophysical survey confirmed the presence of a number of features that could potentially be the remains of a wing of the mansion known from maps and engravings. Four trenches were excavated by volunteer members of the public. Six primary schools also participated in the excavation under the sponsorship of Historic England's Heritage Schools programme. Members of the Bristol and Bath Young Archaeologists Club also participated. Bristol Museum ran an inaugural Introduction to Archaeology course, the practical elements of which were conducted on this site.

The excavation uncovered the remains of buildings in three of the trenches. The walls of a well-constructed building, surviving to a height of 1.2m in places with an extensive block-paved courtyard-type floor were uncovered, which appeared to be the cellar to a large structure that extends further to the west as suggested by the geophysics parch marks. The building does not extend northwards towards the current mansion which suggests that this is not the documented wing but a hitherto unknown building. The remains of further walls, on a different angle to the main building further complicate the interpretation. Structures also project to the east suggesting that the remains of buildings are far more extensive than previously believed. These buildings have been cut through by substantial culvert drains dating from at least the Victorian period. Finds range in date from the 17th to 19th centuries.

(Tony Roberts)

### Newton St Loe, 'Dog Kennel', ST 691 638, BaNES HER 68062

'Dog Kennel' is the name of a small promontory on the east bank of the Corston Brook. The western side falls steeply towards the brook and there are terraces beside the stream. The southern side has a gently sloping path into the valley. The eastern side has been partly buried by the grading of Bath Spa University sports field. The hill has a slightly sunken top. Geophysical survey by Bath and Counties Archaeological Society revealed stone footings around the top of the hill and, south of the centre, a small building, some 7m by 3m, aligned northsouth. Subsequent excavation confirmed the footings of the building. Dating evidence was meagre but suggested late- or post-medieval period. Excavation of the terrace by the brook provided no dating evidence.

(John Oswin and Cassie Newland)

### Wellington, Fore Street, ST 1382 2060, Somerset HER 41631

In November 2019, Avon Archaeology Limited undertook a programme of archaeological trial trenching on land between North Street and Fore Street, following demolition of the existing structures on site. Six trenches of 10m x 2m were excavated across the site and recorded garden features, such as tree boles, possible rubbish pits, and a possible water feature. In addition, a modern brick-lined kiln or furnace was found and post-medieval structural remains, such as walls, culverts, drains and surfaces were recorded. Comparison of the surveyed archaeological features and historic maps, in particular the 1842 tithe map and 1888 town plan, show that several of the walls uncovered were of mid-19th-century date at the latest, which accords well with the finds assemblage. Stratigraphically earlier archaeological remains were seen at the base of several small sondages although recovered finds indicate that these, too, are of post-medieval date. Thick deposits of post-medieval garden soil and modern made ground, each between 0.35m and 0.5m in thickness, were a particularly striking feature of the site. Although the modern made ground was completely removed in every trench, the earlier garden soil, through which many of the features were cut, was not excavated to depth. The 17th- to 19th-century date range of the artefactual assemblage reflects a surprisingly short amount of time for these deposits to have occurred naturally, and it seems likely that the site has undergone a substantial degree of levelling during the recent period, which has potentially led to earlier deposits being sealed beneath a substantial depth of made ground.

(Emma Ings)

### Westonzoyland, Bussex Farm, ST 3550 3547, Somerset HER 41491

Monitoring was conducted in December 2019 during groundworks in advance of the construction of a new extension. The results demonstrated the presence of an extensive cultivation soil sealed by a dark, humic garden topsoil of recent formation. The only archaeological feature proved to be a ditch running the full length of the site running parallel to Straight Drove and continuing the line of an extant example surviving beyond the farm buildings to the north east of the site. The ditch is most likely of later or post-medieval date and served as a drain installed following the establishment of the drove. (James Brigers)

### INDUSTRIAL

Somerset Industrial Archaeological Society (SIAS) acted as hosts for the Association for Industrial Archaeology (AIA) 2019 national conference at Cannington, and in preparation for this a new gazetteer of industrial archaeological sites in Somerset was produced by SIAS replacing a previous edition of 1996. The revision process included visiting well over 700 sites and potential sites to record their current status and condition and to photograph them. About 450 were included in the final gazetteer, which is 80 pages, with many colour photographs, and produced to the standard AIA format. The gazetteer includes an index, a list of relevant museums, and suggestions for further reading.

Many sites had to be removed, mainly because they had been demolished, drastically altered or were no longer accessible. New sites were added which had been identified or re-assessed as important. New sites were also added as the scope was extended to include defence/military establishments and leisure industries. Other sites were added where categories or areas were under-represented last time (such as Sedgemoor and land drainage). Nevertheless, the total number was a reduction on the 1996 edition.

Nearly all entries include the relevant Historic Environment Record (HER) numbers for Somerset or Exmoor National Park, which in many cases provides a link to further information or references. Sites identified and included which did not have an existing HER number were referred to the relevant HER officers.

(Peter Daniel)

### *Bridgwater, Bowrings Mill brick kiln*, ST 2950 3751, Somerset HER 31465

The western end of the south boundary wall of the feedmill incorporates one side of a brick kiln probably of the so-called scotch type (that is a rectangular open-topped structure to contain the clamp). The main part of the wall is heavily buttressed on either side of the four fire-mouths. There is an addition at the west end with has a fifth fire-mouth though this has been blocked. The structure was recorded by ScantoPlan (Fig. 4). The location suggests that the kiln and yard may have been operable at the time the Bridgwater and Taunton Canal was re-engineered from its original basin at Huntworth



Fig. 4 Bridgwater, Bowrings Mill. Rectified image of kiln wall with fire mouths at base.

to link with the inner basin of the docks. The regular availability of a relatively small supply of bricks would have contributed to dockside developments for building and repair work.

(David Dawson, Brian Murless and Bill Stebbing)

### *Cannington, Blackmore Farm Mill*, ST 24450 38730, Somerset HER 39275

An evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology recorded several 19th-century walls belonging to the former mill building.

(Jonathan Orellana)

### *Chard, Boden Lace Mill*, ST 32376 08490, Somerset HER 32111

Building recording was carried out by South West Archaeology at a complex of 19th-20th-century industrial buildings at Boden Lace Mill, Chard prior to their demolition. Historical and cartographic evidence suggests that the site had previously been used for grinding corn and later became a woollen mill, with buildings mainly fronting Mill Lane to the south. The site was redeveloped from 1818 by Wheatley & Riste for lace manufacturing, which became a major industry in Chard from the 1820s onwards.

The earliest building identified in the recording work was a pre-1818 building on a north-south alignment at the east end of the site, which may have been used for the handloom weaving of carpets. The destruction by fire of Wheatley's first lace mill in 1825 saw its immediate reconstruction as a purpose-built five-storey brick factory fronting Mill Lane, utilising fireproof construction in the form of brick jack-arches supported on cast iron beams and columns. This phase saw a long rectangular yard created behind the new mill, parts of whose north range of two-storey buildings survived and were recorded as part of this project.

The recording work demonstrated that the eastern parts of this north range were also of fireproof construction in their primary phase, comprising cast iron beams of inverted T-section, supported on cast iron columns built into the walls. It may have had a cast iron roof structure of the same type as that which survives in the mill, but this was replaced at a higher level with a timber roof in the 1840s. Its south elevation was well-lit with many windows, the three long rooms within were divided by brick walls and had fireplaces in the rear wall on both floors; the first floor was accessed by broad internal staircases at either end. It is possible that this fireproof range was used for hand-finishing or dry storage of lace prior to sale, but extensive 20th-century alterations made its interpretation difficult.

(Sam Walls)

# Chilton Polden, land to the south of 7 The Grange, ST 3740 3993,

### Somerset HER 41236

Excavations prior to construction of an extension disturbed a pit containing disarticulated human bone representing the incomplete remains of several individuals. Dating evidence suggested the bones had been buried here at some point during or after the 19th century following removal from their original context, the location of which remains unknown, but may have been the church of St Edward to the west which underwent significant reconstruction in the later 19th century.

(James Brigers)

### Dunster Castle, SS 9916 4351, ENP HER EEM14888

Archaeological monitoring and recording were carried out by AC Archaeology during repairs by the National Trust to a vaulted brick walkway beneath Green Court. Excavations exposed the top of the brick-vaulted passage and associated passage walls, along with an adjacent lightwell. These formed part of the remodelling of the castle carried out by Anthony Salvin in 1868-1872. The works also exposed a probable mid-20th-century phase of repairs and previous phase of external walkway leading to Tenants Hall. The repairs did not expose any features or deposits associated with the castle that predated the 1868-1872 phase of rebuilding.

(Simon Hughes)

### Dunster Castle Mill, SS 9906 4333, ENP HER EEM14889

Archaeological monitoring and recording were undertaken by AC Archaeology associated with the construction of an extension at the Dunster Water Mill Tea Rooms. These comprise a sandstone range with later lean-to additions that are likely to have originally formed part of the adjacent Castle Mill complex and probably formed stables constructed around the start of the 19th century, with subsequent extensions forming a pigsty and goose house also dating to the first half of the 19th century. A small number of structural and surface remains associated with these were exposed together with two broadly contemporary surfaces, one including part of a millstone.

(Laurence Vinnels)

### *Nailsea, Trendlewood Way*, ST 4798 6980, North Somerset HER ENS2178

Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation of a 1.2ha parcel of land comprising six trenches. Two ditches were recorded that appeared to have been two arms of a rectilinear enclosure identified by the geophysical survey. Although undated, the proximity of a 19th-century coal pit, immediately to the west of the rectilinear enclosure, may have been associated with the ditches' original purpose.

(Daniel Conner)

### MODERN

Yeovil, Park School, ST 5538 1617, Somerset HER 30390 A Second World War air raid shelter at the former school was recorded by TVAS South West before demolition. (Danielle Milbank)

### OTHER REPORTS

#### Backwell, Moor Lane, ST 4782 6907

Wessex Archaeology monitored groundworks for a residential development of 2.95ha. Three of the five observed trenches revealed evidence for land boundaries of post-medieval/modern and potentially Romano-British dates. Alluvial deposits were identified in the majority of trenches and made ground deposits of modern date identified covering the southern half of the development. (Finn Cresswell)

*Banwell, Wolvershill Road*, ST 3920 5950, North Somerset HER ENS2147

Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation of a 3.2ha parcel of land in advance of a proposed housing development. The evaluation consisted of eight trenches targeting anomalies revealed during previous geophysical survey. Two ditches were recorded, one undated, the other modern and heavily truncated by further modern activity.

(Daniel Conner)

#### Bath, Claverton Down, ST 7773 6418, BaNES HER 67704

Monitoring of new sports pitch construction by Avon Archaeology recorded no features or finds of archaeological significance.

(Nick Corcos)

#### Bath, Claverton Down, ST 7742 6439, BaNES HER 68275

Wessex Archaeology undertook a watching brief at the University of Bath. No archaeological features or deposits were revealed during the groundworks.

(Ray Holt and Marek Lewcun)

#### Bleadon, Purn Way, ST 3368 5718

Context One Heritage and Archaeology evaluated an area in advance of development. This recorded only two medieval boundaries with no evidence of the former building(s) or pond shown on 19th-century mapping.

(Cheryl Green)

### *Brent Knoll, Station Road*, ST3280 5144, Somerset HER 41326

Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation of a 0.55ha parcel of land comprising the excavation of four 30m by 1.8m trial trenches. The evaluation uncovered a uniform sequence of estuarine silty clays of the Wentloog Level Formation, overlain by subsoil and topsoil. Flecks of burnt clay and charcoal towards the top of estuarine silts are indicative of human activity in the wider environment, though not necessarily particularly close to the site. A thin and intermittent dark band at the interface between the estuarine silts and the overlying subsoil probably represents a stabilisation horizon within the gradually accreting silts. A small quantity of residual Roman pottery was recovered from the subsoil. This is considered to be indicative of nearby Romano-British activity, probably on the higher land to the east, but there is no evidence for anything other than agricultural activity within the development site at any period.

(Cai Mason)

### *Bridgwater, Bower Lane*, ST 321 382, Somerset HER 39463

Evaluation by borehole and trench excavation by Wessex Archaeology recorded a long sequence of alluvial deposits. The only features recorded related to drainage and might, from their depth, be Roman in date but there was no evidence.

(Simon Flaherty)

#### *Bridgwater, Monmouth Street*, ST 3031 3723, Somerset HER 39394

Context One Heritage and Archaeology monitored the redevelopment of a former petrol station. It was found that the construction of this had resulted in the clearance of previous structures and any evidence of associated activity. (Tara Fairclough)

### *Cannington, Currypool Farm*, ST 2272 3846, Somerset HER 38948

AC Archaeology monitored drainage works associated with the conversion of a barn into holiday lets and a dwelling. No archaeological features or deposits were exposed, and no finds were recovered.

(Simon Hughes)

*Cheddar, Batts Combe Quarry, Warrens Hill,* ST 47076 55528, Somerset HER 41457

A watching brief by Cotswold Archaeology identified no features or deposits of archaeological significance. (Jonathan Orellana)

#### *Cheddar, Police Station store*, ST4564 5319, Somerset HER 41618

Wessex Archaeology monitored groundworks associated with the construction of a new police store and associated service runs. No features or deposits pre-dating the 20th century were recorded.

(Ray Holt)

# *Churchill, Front Street, Barrowfield Cottage,* ST 4385 5997,

North Somerset HER ENS2163

The evaluation of a 0.24ha site by TVAS South West revealed no deposits nor artefacts of archaeological interest.

#### (Nicholas Dawson)

# Congresbury, Beechlands, 28 Paul's Causeway, ST 43624 63727

A watching brief by Cotswold Archaeology recorded no features or deposits of archaeological interest.

(Luke Brannlund)

### *East Lyng, Bramley Edge*, ST 3354 2898, Somerset HER 41238

Monitoring of groundworks by Avon Archaeology for a new garage recorded no features or finds of archaeological significance.

(Nick Corcos)

# *Exford, Edgcott*, SS 8428 3905 to SS 8527 3848, ENP HER EEM14777

Context One Heritage and Archaeology monitored a replacement water main but recorded no features or finds of archaeological significance.

(Richard McConnell and Tara Fairclough)

#### *Failand, Clevedon Road*, ST 52703 71150, North Somerset HER ENS2212

Avon Archaeology Limited undertook a watching brief during groundworks associated with the installation of a new set of playing surfaces, together with all their ancillary services, at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital School sports ground. The only feature recorded was a road surface, probably relating to a Second World War camp and the only find was a worked flint of probable Neolithic date.

(Nick Corcos)

# *Frome, Christcurch Street East*, ST 7771 4777, Somerset HER 42196

Monitoring of drainage repairs in an area where the site of a medieval barn was known, showed that the groundworks were too shallow to have impacted on any significant deposits.

(Nick Corcos)

### *Horsey, Horsey Level*, ST 3211 3968, Somerset HER 41336

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook monitoring of the excavation of seven trial pits and a bore hole as part of the Hinkley Point C Connection Project to the north of Horsey deserted medieval village. No archaeological finds or features were recorded during monitoring works. Extant earthworks were noted in the east of the monitoring area which were indicative of land drainage and agricultural practices. Alluvial deposits were identified within a borehole, with an undated black peat deposit identified at a depth of 11.85m below ground level.

(Brett Archer and Peter James)

# *Ilchester, Priory Close, Croft House*, ST 52122279, Somerset HER 41231

Context One Heritage and Archaeology monitored the construction of an extension within the Roman and medieval town. A re-worked soil in excess of 1m deep is likely to reflect episodes of historic landscaping or more recent levelling relating to the construction of the existing modern house.

(Tara Fairclough and Richard McConnell)

### *Ilminster, Canal Way*, ST 4958 4802, Somerset HER 41489

Context One Heritage and Archaeology monitored groundworks but no features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

(Richard McConnell)

# *Isle Brewers, Church of All Saints*, ST 3693 2105, Somerset HER 41335

Monitoring of service trenching in the churchyard at the above location produced only material associated with the construction of the present 19th-century building. Work continues in 2020.

(James Brigers)

### Leigh Woods, Kingston Lodge, ST 5621 7283

Monitoring of the groundworks by Avon Archaeology for two new houses recorded the Victorian stables that had stood there previously and that no other features or finds survived.

(Nick Corcos)

### Locking, N of A371, ST 3781 5976,

North Somerset HER ENS2180

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Red River Archaeology Ltd which comprised 20 trenches targeted on geophysical anomalies. The evaluation confirmed the presence of drainage ditches with associated gullies, land drains and a probable field boundary ditch which pre-dated the Ordnance Survey map of 1883. A palaeochannel was located in the south of site. Ceramic land drains were prolific across the site along with more recent mole ploughing and subsoiling. A probably residual fragment of abraded Roman Severn Valley Ware pottery dated to the 2nd to 4th centuries was found in a north-west - south-east aligned gully and a small quantity of highly fragmented animal bone was also recovered from the field boundary ditch. A single modern green glass bottle fragment found in one ditch toward the south of site and the remaining features were undated.

(Louis Stafford)

### Long Sutton, Martock Road, Long Sutton Farm Cottage, ST 4690 2512, Somerset HER 39417

Archaeological monitoring was conducted in April 2019 during groundworks in advance of the erection of a new dwelling on the site of 19th-century farm cottage.

Aside from the remains of the former structure only one feature of archaeological interest was present within the site and this consisted of a shallow ditch of uncertain date at the north eastern edge of the site.

(James Brigers)

## Meare, Church Path, ST 4529 4170

Monitoring of the conversion of an existing farm building only revealed modern construction deposits associated with the barn and geological deposits.

(Keith Faxon)

### *Montacute, Welham's Brook*, ST 5010 1740, Somerset HER 41578

A small gradiometer survey of c. 0.30ha was undertaken by GeoFlo on behalf of the National Trust prior to the construction of flood prevention measures. This was carried out as the area is adjacent to the grounds of Montacute House, and it was possible that the area contained evidence of the surrounding park, or previous water management. A number of amorphous anomalies were located but these are likely to relate to farming practice and localised past flooding rather than archaeological features.

(Liz Caldwell)

### *Norton sub Hamdon*, ST 4502 1586 to ST 4679 1550, Somerset HER 41607

Context One Heritage and Archaeology monitored the construction of a new water main but no features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

(Richard McConnell and Tara Fairclough)

### *Pitney, land west of Nidons*, ST 4442 2836, Somerset HER 39462

Context One Heritage and Archaeology evaluated an area prior to development. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded suggesting that this area had been used for agriculture in the Roman and medieval periods.

(Clare Randall)

### *Priddy, Priddy Green, Coxton Lane End*, ST 5263 5091, Somerset HER 42553

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by AC Archaeology during groundworks. While within an area considered to be of archaeological interest, no features of archaeological significance were recorded.

(Dan Brace)

### Shepton Mallet, East Compton, Midsomer House Farm, ST 6125 4117,

Somerset HER 41487

A watching brief by TVAS South West monitored stripping of the area to be occupied by a planned tourism

development but revealed only a modern gully and a recent waste pit.

(Agata Socha-Paskiewicz)

#### Somerton, Bancombe Road, ST 4774 2892, Somerset HER 41340

The evaluation of a 1.63ha site by TVAS South West revealed only a recent field boundary and stone-lined land drains of modern date.

(Agata Socha-Paskiewicz)

# Stratton on the Fosse, former Stratton Motor Services, ST 6569 5057

Continued monitoring of the construction of new houses on the former garage site only revealed modern disturbance and geological deposits.

(Keith Faxon)

Street, Church Road, Crispin Academy, ST 489 370, Somerset HER 41485

Wessex Archaeology monitored groundworks associated with the erection of a teaching block. No significant features or finds were recorded.

(Ray Holt, Joe Whelan, Simon Flaherty and Roy Kracowicz)

# *Taunton, Park Street, Church of St John the Evangelist,* ST 2234 2438,

Somerset HER 41234

Trenching for new services in the churchyard to the west and south of the building were monitored in March 2019. The work exposed the presence of former ground surface sealed by dumps of building debris presumably associated landscaping activity associated with the 19th-century construction of the church.

(James Brigers)

### *Wedmore, Holdenhurst*, ST 4369 4811, Somerset HER 41606

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Red River Archaeology Ltd in an area of rough grassland. Six trenches were excavated targeted on previously identified geophysical anomalies. Below the topsoil was a colluvial deposit up to 0.8m thick which was cut by a north-eastsouth-west aligned post-medieval ditch, conforming to one of the geophysical anomalies and found on the Ordnance Survey map of 1884. The other geophysical anomalies appeared to be related to, and form part of, the landscaping of a 19th-century and later orchard. Sealed by the colluvium were six shallow ditches, five on an east-west and one on a north-east-south-west alignment forming part of an earlier drainage system. No finds were recovered from these ditch fills or the colluvial layer above.

(Nick Wells)

# *Wedmore, The Cottage Gallery*, ST 4366 4797, Somerset HER 41331

Context One Heritage and Archaeology monitored development in the centre of the 12th/13th-century planned settlement of Wedmore. Despite the high potential for the presence of archaeological features, no evidence was observed and it is likely that any archaeological remains have been lost due to historic landscaping and more recent levelling activity.

(Clare Randall and Tara Fairclough)

### *Wellington, Longforth Farm*, ST 1401 2126, Somerset HER 41452

In September 2019 Oxford Archaeology carried out a two-trench archaeological evaluation, which revealed thick layers of colluvium under plough-soil. One trench contained evidence for a trackway shown on 19th-century maps, running from Longforth Farm to Wellington. Glass and pottery sherds of 18th- to 19th-century date were collected from deposits associated with the trackway. The other trench contained two natural features (possible tree-throws) and one of these contained a broken piece of prehistoric struck flint.

(Kirsty Smith)

### *Wellington, The Wellington Monument,* ST 13740 17233, Somerset HER 41670

Archaeological monitoring and recording were undertaken by South West Archaeology during groundworks prior to the assembly of scaffolding on this National Trust landmark, in advance of essential repairs. A series of trenches up to 0.36m deep were excavated around the base of the monument. No archaeological features were identified and no archaeological finds were recovered, however partial areas of the upper parts of the monument's foundations were exposed.

(Sam Walls)

### Wells, Newhouse Farm, ST 5316 4574

A 2.3ha magnetometer survey by TVAS South West was subject to significant magnetic disturbance and debris, however no features of archaeological interest were detected.

(Kyle Beaverstock)

*Westhay, Avalon Marshes Centre*, ST 4261 4146 Monitoring of the creation of a Swale-style landscaping feature only recorded modern peat cutting activity.

(Keith Faxon)

*Winscombe, Max Mill Lane, The Oaks*, ST 040 757 Wessex Archaeology monitored drainage works related to the construction of a new self-build house and associated landscaping. No finds or features of archaeological significance were uncovered.

(Daniel Conner)

Yeovil, Tanyard Way, Country Park, ST 5611 1571 to ST 5623 1574,

Somerset HER 41453

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by AC Archaeology during construction of a new water main.

No archaeological features were recorded during the monitoring of the initial pipe easement strip. A small quantity of artefacts dating from the 12th to 19th centuries was recovered from the topsoil and subsoil strip and a single prehistoric worked flint.

(Kevin Trott)

Yeovil, West Coker Road, ST 5372 1444

Monitoring of the construction of a house only revealed modern disturbance and geological deposits.

(Keith Faxon)