

SOMERSET ARCHAEOLOGY 2021

EDITED BY CHRIS J. WEBSTER, SOUTH WEST HERITAGE TRUST

SOMERSET ARCHAEOLOGICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

In writing the Somerset Archaeology Report for 2020 we did not envisage that the working restrictions of the Covid pandemic would still be with us well into 2021. The Historic Environment Service (HES) team developed new ways of working with some time in the office, site visits and working from home for three or four days a week.

Development pressure picked up during the year and the number of planning applications submitted remained high (1,664), ranging from further work on the proposed A358 improvements, housing schemes, churches, quarries and the implementation of the Town Enhancement schemes at Chard and Yeovil. Archaeological planning advice continues to be a core function of our service, coordinated by Steve Membery, Tanya James and Jan Grove.

Unexpected archaeological excavations can often grab public attention and work in Palace Gardens, Wiveliscombe, revealed the remains of a large medieval building now identified as the foundations of the manor house of the Bishop of Bath and Wells. This discovery received national attention and was reported on BBC Radio 4 and in numerous national newspapers (see under Medieval below).

Opportunities for engaging with volunteers in the office were limited again due to the Covid workplace restrictions and only picked up at the end of the year with two volunteers, Mike Bisset and Chris Smith continuing to map the information on the 1840s title maps. The Hands-on-Heritage work at the Avalon Archaeology Park continued and work was started on laying a mosaic floor in the reconstructed Roman building alongside further work on decorating the Saxon-style hall. A funding bid to complete the work was successful and funding of almost £100,000 was confirmed to start in 2022.

Work on the post-excavation programme associated with the excavations at Hinkley Point C power station continued to be delayed but analysis restarted at the end of 2021 with plans for publication of reports in 2023. The HES continues to monitor the work of statutory undertakers such as Bristol Water and Wessex Water.

The development and expansion of the HER to cover both Somerset and BaNES continues and Tom

Sunley was appointed in 2021 to take on responsibility for BaNES and Local Listing work under supervision from Chris Webster. During the year 615 sites were added to the Somerset HER and 291 to the BaNES HER. A bid from SWHT, working with Somerset County Council, Exmoor National Park and the four District Councils, to undertake a pilot Local Listing project was successful. This will help to protect buildings, sites and structures that local people regard as important – from medieval cottages to unusual post-boxes. Somerset residents will be invited to nominate what is valuable in their community. This work is coordinated by Nic Wall and the project work is delivered by Tom Sunley on the HER and Mary Andrews and Hattie Induni working on the guidance and project outreach elements.

Countryside stewardship advice continues to be a key function of the HES and Jan Grove gave detailed comments on a wide range of agri-environment schemes during the year. As in 2020 the landscape heritage sites managed by the Trust were widely visited and appreciated by local people. At Marston Magna a programme of site management and new fencing works, and an access gate, were agreed with the Parish Council and Historic England. Partnership work with Quantock and Mendip AONB teams continued. Unfortunately, some damage continues to be caused on the scheduled earthworks at Charterhouse on Mendip by irresponsible 4x4 drivers and this damage has been reported to the police and Historic England. Ash dieback is seen as a problem across Somerset and several landscape sites are now suffering from this disease.

Bob Croft and Nic Wall continue to offer advice on archaeological and conservation matters in the Diocese of Bath and Wells. The final phase of work at Bath Abbey was completed in 2021 but detailed reporting and analysis on the post-excavation work has been delayed due to funding issues.

The Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS) provided an opportunity for a community archaeology programme beginning with an enigmatic earthwork bank on Cothelstone Hill. A training excavation was carried out by the SWHT, coordinated by Richard Brunning and Jan Grove. Over 40 volunteers were engaged in the project over the summer. The excavation confirmed that the bank and ditch started in the Bronze Age and was re-worked

in the Iron Age. A small excavation to help manage erosion on Dowsborough hillfort was completed in September 2021 and this work clarified the nature of the bank construction but it did not reveal and dating evidence for the construction of the hillfort.

Norton Fitzwarren Hillfort, now owned by Somerset West and Taunton Council, is now leased to the SWHT and a community heritage project is planned which will include a geophysical survey of the interior of the hill. A programme of conservation and scrub management was put in place in 2021 and a group of local conservation volunteers are now helping with this work.

Our partnership work with South Somerset District Council conservation section came to an end in 2021 and Heike Bernhardt transferred to SSDC as a Conservation Officer. We would like to record our thanks to Heike for all the work she did for the SWHT over the past five years. Work on maintaining and enhancing county heritage assets continues, and Andy Stevens has replaced several historic milestones along the A38.

The public outreach programme in 2021 focussed on the Quantock projects; a series of short videos were produced and put onto the QLPS website and YouTube channel. Improving the digital offer of the service is one way in which the work of the HES reaches a wider audience. This is a key task for the future.

(Bob Croft)

NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

The first half of 2021 saw continued disruption to heritage provision and limited opportunities for community engagement, but a new remotely hosted Historic Environment Record database and mapping software have enabled officers to work more flexibly, and the social media accounts set up for Know Your Place - North Somerset continued to see high levels of engagement.

In 2017 we set up the North Somerset Heritage Forum, which allows community groups across the district with an interest in archaeology and heritage to come together and share information, ideas, skills (and equipment). The Forum also provides an opportunity for the Council's heritage officers to give updates on key developments and offer advice and guidance on groups' projects. The two virtual meetings last year were well attended, and an in-person event was planned for May 2022.

A new Conservation Area was adopted in Banwell in September 2021, which is centred on the historic core of the village. A Conservation

Area Appraisal and Management Plan was created in collaboration with local residents. It is hoped some of the recommendations for improving the Conservation Area can be implemented as part of the wider mitigation and public realm work through the Banwell Bypass project.

The Heritage Action Zones in Weston-super-Mare continue to go from strength to strength and the last year has seen successes in the redevelopment of shopfronts and key historic buildings within the town centre. One completed shopfront is that of Walker and Ling, a department store that has been in business in Weston for over 115 years.

New guidance has been produced on stone walls and how they contribute to the character of the town, supporting the case for retaining them. Work is currently under way on introducing an Article 4 Directive for their protection.

A NLHF application for funding was made in August 2021 for the Worlebury Camp Hillfort project to implement the objectives outlined in a management plan adopted in 2019. Unfortunately, the bid was unsuccessful, but felling of the ash trees must take place in the Winter of 2022/23 to ensure no further damage is caused to the hillfort. A second application will be made in 2023 for the remaining aspects of the management plan, including a suite of research and analysis of finds from the 19th-century excavations, as well as community engagement projects.

The main programme of archaeological investigation on the Hinkley Point C Connection Project has been completed in North Somerset, with some stages of monitoring and recording to finish in the next few months. A programme of post-excavation analysis and publication has been agreed and discussions are ongoing around the ways in which we can showcase the discoveries to local communities.

A management plan was adopted for the long-term management of Middle Engine Pit (also known as Elm's Colliery) in September 2021. This colliery in Nailsea was saved from total loss in the 1980s and was subsequently scheduled as an exemplary example of a late 18th-century colliery. NSC officers are working with Historic England, Avon Gardens Trust, the Avon Industrial Buildings Trust, Nailsea Town Council and Nailsea and District Local History Society to bring this important heritage asset into public use.

The first round of nominations for the Local Heritage List were reviewed by the independent panel and will be put forward for adoption in 2022. Most nominations were in Weston-super-Mare, as they were identified as buildings of merit through the Heritage Action Zone project. Nominations can be made via Know Your Place - North Somerset, or by emailing the heritage officers.

The Senior Archaeologist and Conservation and Heritage Officers are continuing to review high numbers of planning applications and are also involved in upcoming planning inquiries and appeals where heritage matters have been refusal reasons. They have also fed into the emerging Local Plan and rewritten the heritage policies for development management.

In October 2021 the five-year Historic England audit cycle required a new audit to be undertaken for the North Somerset Historic Environment Record. This was completed in March 2022 and outlines a range of priorities for the next five years including focussing on reducing grey literature backlog, implementing policies and procedures relating to disaster management and system security, and significant data enhancement projects. One of these projects is the National Record for the Historic Environment (NRHE) to HER which will result in the accession of over 2,400 records from Historic England's National Record of the Historic Environment to the North Somerset HER over a period of twelve months.

(Cat Lodge)

EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK ARCHAEOLOGICAL OFFICERS' REPORT

Historic Environment Team staff have continued to have been primarily based at home during 2021, but with an increase in site visits and office working when restrictions were lifted. The Team continued to respond to consultations relating to the planning process, utilities works and Countryside Stewardship applications, as well as from other maintenance, conservation and management projects. A number of online workshops have been hosted by the HE Team as part of work to update the Research Framework for the National Park. The information generated by these workshops is being collated and a new framework will be available in 2022.

The National Park Authority has been pleased to join the South West Heritage Trust in their project to establish a Local Heritage List for Somerset and Exmoor. The Exmoor section of the List will be hosted and curated by the Exmoor National Park Historic Environment Record (ENPHER) and will cover both the Somerset and Devon parts of the National Park. Work to design and implement the project is ongoing and is expected to be in place later in 2022. To support this project, data from the ENPHER is now available on the Know Your Place web platform (<http://www.kypwest.org.uk/>) and can be accessed via the Devon and Somerset mapping environments.

Work has been ongoing to accession data

provided by Historic England from the NRHE to the ENPHER. The data will be curated by the National Park Authority and the project aims to make access to heritage data simpler for heritage researchers and practitioners, as well as the wider public.

The Historic Environment Team have been pleased to support a number of outreach opportunities, including the Festival of Archaeology and Heritage Open Days. Events have included open days at the Second World War radar station and tank training ground at North Hill, Minehead; Holwell Castle, run jointly with the Parracombe Archaeological and Historical Society; and Barlynch Priory, near Dulverton. Other work at the Priory has included the preparation of a report by John Allan into the medieval tiles recovered from the site, with funding from Historic England through the Monuments Management Scheme, in conjunction with other conservation and interpretation work.

The U3A at Minehead have continued to support the Historic Environment Team in transcribing a number of documents from the Knight family's archive, which is now held at the Somerset Heritage Centre in Taunton. The resource is proving to be a valuable insight into the historic and natural environment within the Royal Forest area and beyond, providing detail on land management, animal husbandry and the built environment, as well as other information on wider social and family history. The results have been provided to the 'Reclaiming Exmoor' project, in progress by the Universities of Exeter and Plymouth and due to be completed in 2022.

We are delighted to continue to support the Early Dunster Project which has received an extension to 2023. The volunteer project, run by SANHS with funding from Historic England, is recording early historic buildings in Dunster (see *SANH* 164, 203-11).

(Shirley Blaylock and Catherine Dove)

SURVEY FIELDWORK AND EXTENSIVE SITES

Charlecombe, Weston Spring Farm,
ST 716 677, BaNES HER 68532

Detailed magnetometry was carried out by Archaeological Surveys Ltd ahead of an orchard planting scheme. The results of the survey indicate the presence of a group of anomalies within the south-western corner of the site which correspond to a low, circular mound situated in the field. Although the mound may be suggestive of a Bronze Age round barrow, this type of monument is generally associated with an external ring ditch. The geophysical data do not show a ring ditch, but instead the results indicate a negative zone, with associated discrete negative

responses to the south and magnetic enhancement to the west. The negative zone could be consistent with scraping of the soil, subsoil and stone to form a mound, with the discrete negative responses associated with stones, and the magnetic enhancement associated with anthropogenic activity. However, it is not possible to provide a confident interpretation on the geophysical results alone. The survey also located several linear or rectilinear anomalies that may indicate former boundary ditches.

(Kerry Donaldson and David Sabin)

Cheddar, Nyland Hill,

ST 465 506, Somerset HER 45101

A detailed magnetometry survey was carried out by Archaeological Surveys Ltd, over 3ha at Nyland. The site comprises a narrow limestone ridge surrounded by lower ground. The results of the survey indicate the presence of a number of geophysical anomalies on the north-eastern side of the limestone ridge that could relate to archaeological features. These include an arc of discrete positive responses and a curvilinear anomaly situated on a narrow plateau towards the summit of the ridge; a group of positive and negative responses at the base of the slope to the north-east could be associated with industrial activity. Further north-east are a linear group of three pit-like features. In the north-western part of the site, positive linear anomalies could relate to cut features associated with the Romano-British settlement identified from previous archaeological investigations within the adjacent farm complex.

(Kerry Donaldson and David Sabin)

Crewkerne, Station Road,

ST 45230 09305, Somerset HER 42835

A geophysical survey comprising detailed magnetometry was carried out by Archaeological Surveys Ltd over 9ha. The results indicate the presence of three ring-ditch features, former land boundaries and a possible trackway. The parallel linear anomalies appear to relate to an early field system, but they are also parallel with former ridge and furrow in the southern part of the site and an association is possible. A zone of magnetic debris is associated with a number of positive linear and rectilinear responses, which could be associated with a demolished building or industrial activity. Within an area to the north-east, the majority of the anomalies are associated with land drainage and agricultural activity; however, there are some fragmented linear anomalies and a positive curvilinear and a patch of magnetic enhancement that appear to be associated with two low mounds. The entire western land parcel contains magnetic debris

and has been subject to ground make-up and dumping.
(Kerry Donaldson and David Sabin)

Keynsham, Minsmere Road,

ST 665 675, BaNES HER 68533

Detailed magnetometry was carried out by Archaeological Surveys Ltd. The results indicate the presence of a number of positive linear and discrete responses that, although lacking in a clearly defined morphology, could relate to cut features with archaeological potential. A zone of magnetic enhancement appears to have been truncated by ridge and furrow, although the source of the enhancement is uncertain. Negative linear anomalies could be associated with land drainage and magnetic debris indicating widespread dumping and/or burning primarily in the northern and western parts of the site.

(Kerry Donaldson and David Sabin)

Keynsham, Pixash,

ST 671 682, BaNES HER 68469

A geophysical survey, comprising detailed magnetometry, was carried by Archaeological Surveys Ltd. The area had been used as a plant nursery since at least the 1880s and the majority of the anomalies are associated with former cultivation and land divisions as well as material derived from dumping and demolition. A small number of short positive linear and discrete anomalies were located; however, they lack a coherent morphology and could not be confidently interpreted.

(Kerry Donaldson and David Sabin)

Norton St Philip, Frome Road,

ST 77905 55320, Somerset HER 45225

Detailed magnetometry was carried out over 2ha by Archaeological Surveys Ltd. The results indicate the presence of numerous pit-like responses that are likely to relate to naturally formed soil-filled features within the underlying Cornbrash geology. A small number have a more magnetically enhanced response, but it is not possible to determine if they relate to pits with an anthropogenic origin or if they are also likely to be natural.

(Kerry Donaldson and David Sabin)

Sidcot, Bottom Mead, ST 433 577

This field was surveyed by ALERT in an attempt to locate the line of a Roman road which is believed to run from close to Sandford quarry to cross Shipham Lane at a point identified by Tratman (*PUBSS* 9, 1962, 159-76) and continue along the north side of Winscombe Vale towards Winterhead. The gradiometer survey identified several linear features, probably field boundaries, running the length of the field on either

side of a watercourse which has been constructed to prevent the lower parts of the field becoming waterlogged. A rectangular enclosure approximately 60m by 40m was identified in the west part of the field which appears to be partly above a circular feature about 50m in diameter. Although a ditch cut along the predicted line of the Roman road was recorded, it was impossible to verify its purpose or date. A resistivity survey identified a curvilinear enclosure on the south-facing side of the valley at the east end of the field. A surface find here was identified as a fragment of flint debitage. Sources indicate some mining activity in the north side of the field and indications of walls and ditches recorded here are probably related to this.

(John Matthews)

Sidcot, Chatley, ST 434 573

This field on a north-facing slope shows much evidence of past ploughing. The north field boundary is a low bank marking the edge of a long narrow peninsula of higher ground. The ground level falls steeply from this ridge until it nears the bottom of the valley where a hedge separates it from Bottom Mead. A gradiometer survey of the entire field was undertaken by ALERT in November 2021 using a Bartington C60 single pole gradiometer. Selected areas were surveyed using a TRCIA resistance meter.

The gradiometer survey showed a dry river course running down the east side of the field. On the lower, flatter, ground there is a suggestion of an enclosure with a number of probable house circles just discernible. South of this, in the west of the field at a point where the ground rises more steeply, the resistance survey recorded a square feature measuring 9m on each side. In the adjacent hedge close to a disused gateway a fragment of Pennant sandstone tile was retrieved. On the 1840 tithe map part of a trackway or road is shown running from east to west north of the southern edge of the field. ALERT has concluded from fieldwork and fragmentary evidence that this trackway once continued towards Winterhead and perhaps beyond. It is suggested that it may once have continued to the west in the direction of Banwell. A resistivity survey across this feature shows it to have been about 18m wide and contained between banks. The surface of the possible trackway appears too regular to be regarded as purely geological in nature. The date is unknown but possibly of some antiquity.

(John Matthews)

Wellington, The Old Court,

ST 1372 2046, Somerset HER 47401

A resistivity survey was carried out in the gardens of Old Court by GeoFlow at the request of one of the residents as part of their research into the history of

the building. The survey results did not conclusively discover evidence for any former buildings. It is possible that some of the amorphous linears detected could suggest the location of foundation trenches, but the small survey area limited confidence in interpretation.

(Liz Caldwell)

Winscombe, Winscombe Hill and Shepherds Plantation, ST 413560

In 2011, ALERT surveyed an area around a collection of large stones that it had been suggested was the original site of a stone circle, reported by Knight in *Seaboard of Mendip* (1902) that had been dismantled and re-erected in the Manor at Locking in the late 19th century. This location had been suggested as the track is recorded as Ringstone Way on the Enclosure Award for Winscombe in 1799. A number of large stones was discovered within an area about 12m in diameter, the largest being a recumbent stone approximately 2m in length. The locations of the stones were recorded and a ground resistance survey using a TRCIA resistance meter undertaken to cover the immediate area (20m²). The results were disappointing as any traces of banks, ditches or large holes were not apparent although the area covered was so small that this evidence could easily have been missed. ALERT also recorded a gradiometer survey of an area 90m² north of the boundary wall close to this point. This survey showed a number of linear features, probably field boundaries, and also a possible circular feature suggesting the location of a whim although there is no record of quarrying or mining at his site.

In 2021 this area north of the Somerset/North Somerset boundary was surveyed to extend the original gradiometer survey and add to it a ground resistance survey. A number of linear features were recorded which were almost certainly a continuation of the 'trackways' reported on Cross Plain (Somerset HER 21336). It would appear that cultivation has destroyed much evidence here, but the results clearly show indications of curved ditches and perhaps enclosures, although some of the features may prove to be geological in nature.

(John Matthews)

MULTI PERIOD

South Petherton, Silver Street,

ST 4366 1741, Somerset HER 42557

Archaeological field evaluation was undertaken by Border Archaeology in advance of a housing development. Of the 29 trenches opened across the 2.99ha site, those in the central south-east and the entire south-west corner of the site revealed

large-scale disturbance as a result of post-medieval quarrying, most likely for clay extraction and possibly to supply local brickyards. However, the central northern part of the site revealed below ground remains of the trapezoidal and L-shaped rectilinear anomalies recorded during a magnetometer survey. No dating evidence was recovered from the ditch sections excavated and palaeoenvironmental analysis of the ditch fills did not produce material in sufficient quantities to meaningfully assist in archaeological analysis.

(George Children)

Sutton Mallet, Church Lane, Little Hollow,
ST 3733 3701, Somerset HER 42559

Avon Archaeology Limited monitored groundworks during construction of a house. A linear cut, which contained medieval ceramics in its upper fill was recorded. In addition, a surprising level of well-preserved Romano-British material was retrieved from both the topsoil and subsoil, suggesting some level of occupation activity during that period in the vicinity of the site.

(Nick Corcos)

PREHISTORIC

Ashbrittle, church of St John,
ST 0522 2134, Somerset HER 47402

A resistivity survey was carried out by GeoFlo to investigate the nature of the mound upon which the yew tree stands. The mound has been suggested to be a Bronze Age round barrow and one of the aims of the survey was to attempt to locate any evidence for an encircling ditch. The survey results did not detect any evidence of a ditch, but clearly defined the extent of the earthwork. The survey also detected what appears to be concentrations of buried stone which could be related to c. 1874 alteration/restoration of the church.

(Liz Caldwell)

Bridgwater, East Side Farm,
ST 3254 3769, Somerset HER 41459

Evaluation in 2019 by AC Archaeology recorded features of Late Bronze Age date buried beneath at least 0.6m of alluvial deposits.

(Paul Rainbird)

Cannington, Main Road, Grange Farm,
ST 2619 3905, Somerset HER 42962

An excavation by Cotswold Archaeology revealed two pits containing Early to Middle Bronze Age pottery. Three narrow ditches, one of which contained a residual worked flint flake of broad prehistoric date, were also found. The limited quantity of artefactual

material within the ditches suggests that they were agricultural, rather than having been part of a settlement.

(Cliff Bateman)

Charlcombe, Fairfield,
ST 725 686, BaNES HER 68665

The site is a small triangle of land on the Lansdown plateau, some 60m east-west by 45m north-south, just west of the road, to the north of the Charlcombe Inn (formerly Blathwayt Arms) and the Golf Club. There were two known barrows within it, subject to excavations in 1905 (BaNES HER 64240). A footpath enters from the south-east corner and crosses along the south-west diagonal, purportedly following the line of a Roman road across Lansdown, diverging from the line of the present road. The barrow, upstanding some 2m, against the southern boundary, appeared to be of very stony construction, though with signs of a very wet area, possibly its ditch, at the base. The second barrow, much lower, in the centre of the area appeared to be an earthen structure. Geophysical survey by Bath and Counties Archaeological Society recorded a circular area of low resistance just to the south of the central barrow that proved to be only a shallow depression, probably a pond. The south-eastern corner, where the footpath entered, gave high signals in both resistance and magnetometry. This may have been a hard standing, possibly of brick, dating from the use of the area for fairs. No other features were noted.

(John Oswin and Henry Lowe)

Charlcombe, Lansdown Camp,
ST 722 699, BaNES HER 68664

The enclosure, on the Lansdown plateau, is bisected by the modern road. The field containing the eastern portion (Paddock) was subject to geophysical survey in early 2020 by Bath and Counties Archaeological Society. The field containing the western portion (Playing Field) was surveyed in 2021. The eastern portion had been disrupted and damaged some long time ago. The western portion is still visible as earthworks. Indeed, some early maps only show the western portion. The site had been subject to some excavation by Bush in 1908 (BaNES HER 64264). In the eastern portion, the north-eastern corner had been disrupted by quarrying, the south-eastern corner by a ramp, with the portion between still showing. A further north-south bank crossed the field some 30m further east. A line diagonally across Paddock field from just south of the enclosure to the north-east corner appeared to show a Roman road heading to the settlement on the north-east spur of Lansdown. This road was indicated in twin-probe resistance by two

ditch lines some 8m apart.

Investigation of the western side could not detect a south-west continuation of this road line, suggesting it was only a branch to the settlement from a Roman road underlying the present road. The western and north-western banks of the enclosure showed well on the ground as well as in magnetometry and twin-probe resistance. According to magnetometry, there were signs that the western bound had at one time continued northwards beyond the point where the northern bound meets. There were no indications which might identify the purpose of the enclosure. Just to the west of the enclosure bank, there was a patch some 20m by 20m in area of very high readings of magnetic susceptibility, and there were patches of very dark soil. This suggests intense burning or some form of industrial activity just outside the enclosure.

Study of the recently available lidar digital terrain model indicated that the road broke through the enclosure on its own alignment and did not respect the enclosure. If a Roman road underlies the current road, then the enclosure must have been prehistoric and of less consequence than the road alignment.

(John Oswin)

Compton Pauncefoot, Hicknoll Slait,
ST 6413 2500, Somerset HER 45329

An evaluation was carried out by TVAS South West which recorded a variety of deposits dispersed over c. 1.5ha including an inhumation burial in a pit, large and small pits, gullies and ditches that were dated by struck flint and other finds to the Early Neolithic period with one sherd of middle to later Bronze Age date recovered from a ditch. Two isolated pits to the south of the site contained pottery dated from the early to middle Iron Age.

(Mariusz Paszkiewicz)

Cothelstone, Cothelstone Hill,
ST 1897 3271, Somerset HER 45156

Two trenches were excavated by the South West Heritage Trust across a cross ridge dyke (Somerset HER 17910) as part of a community archaeology project for the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme. During the excavation newly obtained lidar data suggested that the earthwork was just a section of a complete enclosure on the western spur of the hill, enclosing c. 6.1ha. Both trenches showed marked similarities in the construction and life history of the monument. On the outer side was a flat bottomed ditch, c. 4m wide at the top and just over a metre deep. The internal rampart appeared to have had an external dry stone facing with an earth bank to the rear. Evidence for possible wooden framing between the walling and the bank was evident in one of the

trenches. Collapse of the stone rampart facing into the ditch appears to have occurred shortly after its creation in the Late Bronze Age. Evidence of burning and pottery of middle to late Iron Age date in the partially filled ditches, suggests the possibility that the sheltered ditch location may have been chosen for domestic occupation or other activity at that time. Dating evidence came from pottery, flint and five radiocarbon dates. The northern trench contained stone and mortar rubble in the upper ditch fill, derived from the demolition of the nearby Beacon Tower folly shortly before 1919 (Somerset HER 43025).

(Richard Brunning and Jan Grove)

Crewkerne, Station Road,
ST 0724 4148, Somerset HER 43139

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by AC Archaeology comprising the excavation of two areas totalling 1,165m², following geophysical survey and evaluation trenching. The first area was entirely negative but the other contained a ring gully for a roundhouse and several features likely to be associated, including pits, postholes and stake holes. The preservation of the ring gully was variable but it appears to have had a diameter of approximately 10m. Inside this feature there were three shallow pits, which could potentially represent the positions of domestic hearths, although no evidence for burning survived. Other potentially associated features within the enclosed area included four postholes and four stake-holes. Two of the postholes may have formed part of a structural post-ring for the roundhouse. Although no artefacts were recovered from the internal features, they are likely to be contemporaneous with the ring gully. Finds recovered included 40 pottery sherds dated to the Middle Bronze Age and five pieces of prehistoric worked flint.

(Vince Simmonds)

Holford, Dowsborough hillfort,
ST 1596 3920, Somerset HER 45287

Two trenches were excavated through the upper rampart on the north side of Dowsborough Hillfort in advance of the installation of drainage during September 2021. The rampart was found to have been most likely formed in a single phase although it was composed of numerous dumps of stone rubble of varying component size, including some large material forming parts of the northern face of the bank. No features of significance indicative of the existence of a palisade or retaining walls were encountered and the bank sealed what appeared to be the pre-existing ground surface of weathered natural substrate. No dating evidence of any form was present.

(James Brigers)

Monkton Heathfield, Hartnell's Farm,
ST 2570 2726, Somerset HER 42961

Excavation by Cotswold Archaeology revealed an Early Neolithic pit, an Early Bronze Age pit, and two Middle Bronze Age enclosures. The Early Neolithic pit contained pottery, flint and charred food remains whilst the Early Bronze Age pit produced only charcoal; both features were dated by radiocarbon. The Middle Bronze Age enclosure ditches and associated pits contained Trevisker-related pottery (broadly datable to 1500-1000 BC), but there was an absence of material for absolute dating. One enclosure was sub-rectangular with two entrances and postholes for a possible gate structure, while the other, of a different form, extended beyond the site limits.

(Jonathan Orellana and Andrew Mudd)

Pawlett, Walpole landfill site, ST 3130 4355, Somerset HER 47267

The excavation of a landfill cell was monitored by Hollinrake Archaeology. The southern end of the cell removed the lower northern slopes of a raised geological outcrop ('lias island') that was an exposed area of drier ground throughout most of the prehistoric period. Alluvial clay deposits interspersed with bands of Phragmites peat descending from the higher, drier ground of the raised geology, into the surrounding wetland environments were recorded, including multi-phase, natural, ancient watercourses (palaeochannels). Neither the Neolithic nor Roman features recorded elsewhere on the site extended into this area and finds were very rare.

(Arthur Hollinrake)

Shepton Mallet, Cannard's Grave Road,
New Mid-Somerset Showground,
ST 6235 4219, Somerset HER 45008

Archaeological mitigation involving a programme of Strip, Map and Excavate (SME) and subsequent monitoring during ground reduction for access tracks was undertaken by Archaeology England. In the majority of the watching brief area, excavations did not generally penetrate below post-medieval plough disturbed layers and no features were recorded. This accords with an earlier geophysical survey. A trench was cut through an archaeological feature which still survives as an earthwork to a height of up to 0.5m and corresponds with a ring ditch identified by the geophysical survey. This can now be confidently interpreted as the remains of a Bronze Age barrow rather than a round house.

(John Davey)

Westonzoyland, 27 Fore Street,
ST 3478 3476, Somerset HER 45017

Two evaluation trenches were excavated by Hollinrake Archaeology and recorded two sub-surface features. A large post-medieval pit cut through a NW-SE oriented prehistoric ditch of possible Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date.

(Sean O'Regan)

LATER PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN

Locking, Winterstoke Hundred Academy,
ST 3635 6026

Excavation by Cotswold Archaeology revealed Iron Age and Roman remains, as well as three post-medieval ditches and an undated pit. The Iron Age and Roman activity comprised a large rectilinear enclosure. Internal features were absent, and the enclosure ditch yielded few finds aside from some later prehistoric pottery. Iron Age and Roman dating is suggested by a previous excavation (outside the current site area) of part of the enclosure.

(Joseph Price)

ROMAN

Bath, Royal Crescent, ST 724 653,
BaNES HER 68662

The lawn below the Royal Crescent ha-ha in Bath was part of an archaeological investigation in 2002 for a Time Team television programme. They confirmed the route of, and excavated, a known Roman road across the lawn, and also revealed and excavated a ditch containing Bronze Age remains. Previous work by the Bath and Counties Archaeological Society had extended the geophysical part of this work, and results indicated other possible developments in the area. A further survey in 2021 using Electrical Resistivity Tomography (ERT) showed a linear high resistivity feature extending from the north-west towards the south-east under the lawn, appearing at depth beyond the proposed Roman road line. This is adjacent to and parallel to a very deep and wide low resistivity volume crossing the area. Results also indicated differential resistivity results at depth below the soil. These may indicate that these areas may have been filled or levelled over time, a process either man-made or following down-slip from the hillside, with subsequent development on the new ground level.

(Janet Pryke and John Oswin)

Bratton Seymour, Cattle Hill,
ST 6673 2988, Somerset HER 36216

Oxford Archaeology carried out archaeological investigations between 2015 and 2017 for Emily

Estate Ltd at Cattle Hill on the site of a Roman villa (Somerset HER 53569), first recorded in the 19th century and partially excavated in the 1960s. The 3rd-4th-century AD villa complex was substantial, comprising an arrangement of well-preserved structures, outlying buildings and enclosures (Fig. 1). Three buildings were identified, along with an open central area and external areas. Polychrome mosaic floors were uncovered in three rooms (4, 6 and 7).

Six broad phases were identified: Phase 1: Pre-villa activity, comprising traces of a prehistoric presence and a limited 2nd-century occupation. Phase 2: Construction of villa buildings during the mid-late 3rd century AD. This phase encompasses the construction of Building 3 and the probable hypocaust structure of Room 11. Phase 3: Apogee of the villa complex between the late 3rd and late 4th centuries. Two sub-phases were recognized: an initial phase of construction and use (Phase 3a), followed by alterations and additions, suggesting a rapid expansion (Phase 3b). Phase 4: Period of deterioration, repair, and changes in use between the late 4th to 5th centuries AD. Mosaic floors were repaired, while other floors were replaced. Rooms originally of high status appear to have become more utilitarian. Phase 5: Further deterioration during the 5th-6th centuries AD, characterised by the deliberate dismantling of walls, the collapse of roofs and the accumulation of detritus. Phase 6: Robbing of building materials from the 6th century onwards. The area reverted to an open field with medieval or later drainage and field systems being established. Finds recovered from the excavation including almost 7,000 sherds of Roman pottery, 100 copper-alloy objects (approximately half of them being coins), over 1,000 iron nails, shale objects, worked bone, glass fragments, numerous fragments of painted wall plaster and a large amount of worked stone, both as objects and building materials. A significant amount of charred plant remains, animal bones and industrial residues was retrieved through palaeoenvironmental sampling. A basic level of post-excavation analysis has been carried out, but there remains the potential to enhance understanding of the site through further study. The excavation report is available at <https://eprints.oxfordarchaeology.com/5973/>

(Vix Hughes, Edward Biddulph
and Stephen Macaulay)

Ilchester, 26 Kingshams,
ST 5243 2260, Somerset HER 42887

Context One Heritage and Archaeology carried out archaeological monitoring and recording during construction groundworks for an extension to a property.

Despite the potential for remains relating to the Roman and medieval town of Ilchester, no archaeological evidence of a domestic nature was observed. It is probable that the backfill of the 1974 archaeological excavations was encountered in one of the profiled deposit sequences recorded. A further profile, located within the projected area of the town defensive circuit, encountered layers that appeared to slope down from north to south. These might represent remnants of the town's fortifications but in the absence of any dating material this remains conjectural, and the deposits might equally relate to the 1974 excavations or the construction of Kingshams in the late 1970s.

(Tara Fairclough)

Ilchester, 11 Limington Road,
ST 5240 2252, Somerset HER 42894

Monitoring was conducted at the above location in mid February 2021 during the initial stages of the construction of a small extension to the property. The shallow excavations lay mostly within recent topsoil and other modern deposits but at the deepest point intact archaeological deposits became visible. The exposed material consisted primarily of a probable build up of cultivation soil sealed by dumps of yellow clay and gravel and cut probable pits of most likely medieval date. Although no Romano-British material was present it seems likely that well-preserved deposits of the period survive at greater depth within the site.

(James Brigers)

West Camel, Slate Lane Quarry,
ST 572 254, Somerset HER 47451

A first phase of excavation by TVAS South West in advance of quarrying covered 0.59ha. This revealed one length of a ditch, five quarry pits, and a large number of circular pits, nearly all sterile. The pits were most probably used for grain storage in the Iron Age. Most were found within two distinctive and neat clusters and two of the pits in each cluster had been dug adjacent to one another. These pits were divided, in one case by a deliberately laid dry stone wall and in the other by a large lias stone placed upright. The ditch was 25m long and 15m wide, containing distinctively different fills of black to dark grey silty clay with frequent charcoal, animal bone and Roman pottery at the top. The removal of the uppermost fill revealed a ring gully of Later Iron Age or Roman date, a linear gully and nearly a dozen pits and postholes. Removal of the level into which the roundhouse had been cut revealed further discrete features. Work continues.

(Mariusz Paszkiewicz)

Westbury-sub-Mendip, ST 505 480, Somerset
HER 47311

A rectangular area noticed as parchmarks was investigated by geophysical survey and trenching. This revealed well-constructed foundations of a building about 36m by 12m. Finds included Roman pottery and coins, a millstone reused as a hearth and roof slates.

(Andrew Buchanan)

Yatton, Arnolds Way, ST 4198 6685

AC Archaeology recorded six evaluation trenches in 2020. A Roman ditch and an undated pit may relate to other finds of that date to the south-west of the site.

(Paul Rainbird)

EARLY MEDIEVAL

Frome, Spring Gardens, Marston Mill,

ST 781 499, Somerset HER 47452

In 2019, a metal detectorist recovered a continental throwing axe (francisca), probably 5th century AD in date. It is recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database as SOM-C39446 (see *SANH* 163, 241). It has since undergone conservation and been replicated by photogrammetry and 3D printing. Since 2019, geophysical survey and test pitting have been undertaken by Bath and Counties Archaeological Society to give the find some context. The axe was found at about 0.5m depth. Test pitting showed the find on its own, with the soil above and around it possibly re-deposited, as it contained a little Roman and post-Roman pottery, an unstratified Roman coin and a number of Mesolithic flints. An enclosure bank 20m to the north was investigated and produced black pottery of the 10th-12th centuries AD.

Geophysical survey across Barn Close and neighbouring Millhayes has shown signs of east-west ploughing across the area, but not in the enclosure discussed above, and that enclosure contains a north-south structure, possibly a building, of unknown date. There are also strong signs of an earlier ground layout at an angle to the enclosure, and in two places there are rectangular sets of post holes, possibly timber buildings, which match this earlier alignment. Just outside the enclosure on its south-east corner, next to the drive on its causeway, a very strong rectangular magnetic anomaly was investigated. It was found to be a pit dug by spade, to some 80 cm below present ground surface, containing coal, ash and iron working waste. Pottery at the pit base suggested a date between the mid 19th and mid 20th century.

A geophysical survey was also undertaken in neighbouring Eagles Mead, to the north-west, which occupies the valley bottom of the Mells River. This

indicated that the river course has changed, and that previous river channels could best be detected here by resistance measurement.

(John Oswin)

MEDIEVAL

Ashcott, Pedwell, The Old Court,

ST 4265 3637, Somerset HER 45326

A standing building survey and recording was undertaken in advance of the conversion of outbuildings in November 2021. The earliest and most significant building was found to consist of a medieval structure, most probably originating as a barn of 15th-century date with an almost complete, but modified roof of raised cruck construction with arched wind braces. It seems likely that the structure extended by at least a further bay to the south into what is now a courtyard but this seems to have been removed by the mid 20th century and an extension added to the north seemingly during the later 19th century.

(James Brigers)

Bath, Weston, All Saints Church,

ST 7308 6635, BaNES HER 68475

Context One Heritage and Archaeology monitored geotechnical pits in advance of a planned extension. These exposed the depth and formation of the church foundations, a remnant pathway, and mixed deposits relating to the expansion of the church in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Overall, the monitoring appeared to confirm the results of a previous evaluation, that the graveyard was not intensively used and the burials that are present have been subject to very little in the way of historic disturbance.

(Tara Fairclough)

Brompton Regis, church of St Mary,

SS 9514 3149, Exmoor HER EEM14899

Trenching to accommodate new cabling was excavated in the churchyard to the south of the church in March 2021. The trenching was very shallow to the east and revealed little of interest. To the west and adjacent to the tower the route of the excavation lay within backfill of trenching excavated in 2010 and no new information was obtained.

(James Brigers)

Castle Cary, The Park, ST 6388 3185, Somerset

HER 45330

Groundworks for a new house were monitored by Hollinrake Archaeology and recorded a broad, deep ditch of 12th-14th-century date that extended across the site and may have formed part of the

enclosure around a deer park. Two shallow, linear gullies were exposed immediately to the south; both features appearing to be associated with, and broadly contemporary to, the ditch. A large oval cooking pit was exposed within the area bounded by the above linear features, the fill of which contained pottery of a possible 10th-12th-century date.

(Sean O'Regan)

Charlecombe, church of St Mary,
ST 7485 6735, BaNES HER 68921

A burial in summer 2020 revealed the footings of a stone wall just below the surface at its eastern end. This was observed by the author. Map regression revealed that this was on the alignment of an earlier western churchyard wall, before the churchyard had been extended west in the mid 20th century (there had been a previous extension in the late 19th century from its original very small size). A few months later, a second grave revealed signs of masonry, but the author was not able to view it in time. This stone work did not align with any of the known earlier churchyard walls. The churchyard is very full of grave furniture, so the only possible means of geophysical survey was Electrical Resistivity Tomography (ERT). Bath and Counties Archaeological Society recorded profile lines along the north, east and west sides of the second grave which revealed signs of substantial masonry on the north-west side of the grave, although this appeared to be a discrete structure rather than a wall. However, this structure only appeared to go as far west as the churchyard wall from late 19th to mid 20th centuries.

(John Oswin)

Chewton Mendip, ST5967 5321, Somerset
HER 31671

This is the eleventh year of archaeological excavations being undertaken by members of Community Archaeology on the Mendip Plateau (CAMP) on the site of a large, rectilinear building complex of at least three phases, 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 early-medieval occupation, believed to date to the late 7th century, strongly suggesting a connection with the earlier minster church at Chewton Mendip. Excavations in 2021 were again restricted due to Covid regulations, with a maximum of six people on site at any given time. As in 2020, our objectives were to find more of the footprint of the building, first uncovered in 2019, and lying at 90° between the main complex and the north churchyard wall of the present parish church. Although a cobbled surface and possible

extension south of the drain which skirted the west of this building were discovered, the results were inconclusive, and it was felt that only a much larger excavation could give the answers. It was decided that this would be the final season and effort would be concentrated on post-excavation work in the future.

(Pip Osborne)

Compton Dundon, west of Mullions,
ST 4907 3294, Somerset HER 41627

Monitoring was conducted at the above location during groundworks in advance of construction of a new dwelling during February and March 2021. Throughout the majority of the site a largely undisturbed sequence of possible cultivation soils was found to be present indicating that the area of the site has always been open agricultural land. The only archaeological feature encountered consisted of a possible boundary ditch at a location, and on an alignment, suggestive of medieval origin.

(James Brigers)

Congresbury, Iwood Lane, Iwood Manor Cottage,
ST 4532 6307

Monitoring of groundworks associated with a barn conversion revealed the base of a heavily truncated ditch or pit containing 12th- to 13th-century pottery. The subsequent monitoring of the creation of a new access track did not reveal any cut features but a metal-detecting survey undertaken during the excavations recovered numerous copper-alloy artefacts which appeared to be medieval in date; these finds are awaiting formal identification.

(Keith Faxon)

Frome, St John the Baptist church,
ST 777 479, Somerset HER 45378

Context One Heritage and Archaeology carried out archaeological investigations beneath six areas of timber flooring within St John's Church. The primary purpose was to identify any archaeological issues with proposals to replace wooden flooring at the west end of the nave with stone paving; however, additional investigation was also permitted further east in the nave to provide information on ground conditions should the re-flooring scheme be extended in the future. The latter also had a research agenda, to seek archaeological clarity on the supposed position of the late 13th-/early 14th-century west end and any potential earlier medieval phases to the church. Due to the success of this endeavour, further targeted archaeological investigations were undertaken to address questions that arose from these excavations.

Previously, no firm archaeological evidence relating to the pre-14th-century church had been

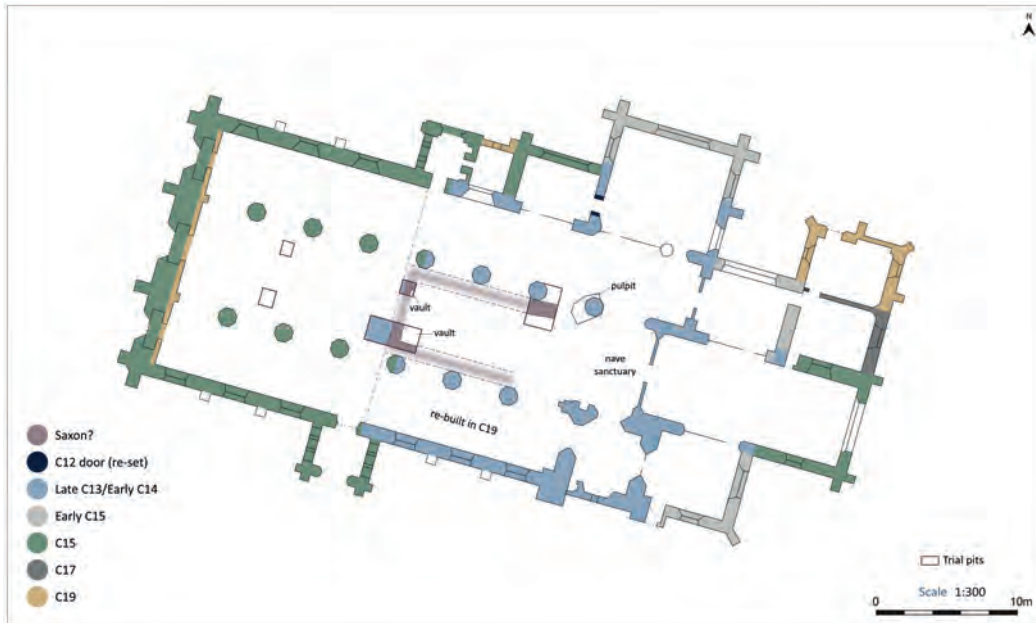


Fig. 2 Church of St John the Baptist, Frome, suggested phase plan (Context One)

formally recorded, and it was not known how the present church and churchyard related to the earlier site. Significantly, the present work has identified the west wall and long side walls of an earlier building, the west end broadly corresponding with the supposed location of the west end of the late 13th-/early 14th-century church, yet pre-dating it (Fig. 2). The north and south walls define a narrower plan, outlining a building with internal measurements exceeding 10m long and 4m wide. The walls were constructed of a mix of large boulders and smaller rubble (from the Forest Marble formation along with some Douling stone) with a clay soil bond, associated with what appeared to be a stone floor situated 1.10m below the medieval church floor level. This might relate to the Saxon church which is known to have stood on the same spot as St John's, as described by William of Malmesbury in the early 12th century. It most likely represents the nave – as opposed to a nave and chancel – and it is interesting to note that the dimensions slightly exceed those of the late Saxon church of St Lawrence, Bradford on Avon (which externally is 7.62m long and 3.96m wide, although the chancel adds an additional 3.96m length and is 3.23m wide). A Norman date for the remains is not discounted, when the former Saxon minster was given to Cirencester Abbey, however the mid-12th-century re-build is likely to have been equipped with a wider

nave even if parts of the Saxon building plan were retained. Indeed, a raised floor level identified during the archaeological investigation may relate to this remodelling.

A massive linear disturbance immediately west of and cutting through the west wall of the earlier church is likely to represent the robber trench for the late 13th-/early 14th-century west end. However, in the absence of detailed historic building recording of the upper levels of the church exterior where the building phases may have survived a thorough Victorian restoration, the exact location of the late 13th-/early 14th-century west end remains debateable. Certainly, the abundance of disarticulated bone and burial soils within the western end of the nave reflects the use of this space as part of an extensive churchyard.

Overall, the investigations within the nave of St John's have provided valuable information on the level of ground disturbance beneath the pew platforms, with all locations either encountering brick burial vaults, cut graves, or interference resulting from the Victorian restoration. The survival of earlier remains within the late 13th-/early 14th-century area of the church demonstrates the archaeological potential for discovering structural evidence relating to phases of St John's that pre-date the present later medieval plan, while also confirming the level of disturbance from post-medieval graves and vaults.

However, there are also large swathes of the interior where the level of disturbance from graves is more profound, as discovered on lifting floorboards south of the pulpit area.

(Cheryl Green)

Lovington, church of St Thomas,
ST 5967 3084, Somerset HER 45327

Archaeological monitoring was conducted at the above location during excavations to accommodate the installation of new drainage and services in the churchyard. Deep deposits encountered towards the southern boundary indicate that the ground surface had been built up over time to conceal the slope of the natural ground surface here. These deposits contained some medieval material and disarticulated human bone and were cut by a probable ditch of post-medieval date and following the line of the existing boundary. Elsewhere the outlines of some graves were noted but were not as frequent as may have been expected. To the north the natural drift deposits were found to be largely undisturbed and sealed by the remnants of a probable buried soil horizon that contained some undated occupation derived material. The upper profile of a possible large ditch was also observed in this area but this produced no archaeological material and may represent a natural feature.

(James Brigers)

Loxton, church of St Andrew, ST 3763 5583

Monitoring was conducted during the removal of the east churchyard boundary wall. The works revealed a long and complex section which included the profiles of three undated, but potentially early, east-west aligned ditches sealed by an early ground surface which in turn was cut by a number of graves of probable medieval date. These were concentrated in an area immediately to the east of the church and were sealed by an extensive dump of building material including roof slates, wall plaster and medieval glazed tile. The position of some of the graves indicated that they had been cut by the construction of the post-medieval wall, suggesting that the burial ground may have originally extended further to the east.

(James Brigers)

Mark, church of the Holy Cross,
ST 3808 4782, Somerset HER 45325

Monitoring was conducted in early November 2021 during removal of pews and a small excavation in the north aisle. The investigation revealed the possible remains of an earlier floor surface in the aisle overlying building waste, sealing what was possibly a former ground surface.

(James Brigers)

Norton St Philip, Bell Hill, ST 7735 5589, Somerset HER 43140

Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation of a parcel of land to the south of Bell Hill. Despite the proximity of the site to the medieval core of Norton St Philip, no evidence of anything other than agricultural/horticultural activity was recorded during the evaluation. Thirteen sherds of 11th-12th-century pottery were recovered as residual finds from the subsoil. Although not thought to be indicative of occupation in the immediate vicinity of the trench, the age of the pottery is worthy of note, as it predates the transfer of the village into the hands of Hinton Priory in 1232. Before this date, Norton, as it was then known, is thought to have been a small settlement clustered around the parish church of St Philip and St James. The presence of pre-13th-century finds on the hillslope above the church is therefore noteworthy, as it may be an indication of early activity on the higher ground, possibly in the vicinity of the later medieval George Inn. The evaluation produced no evidence to indicate that a medieval fair, thought to have been focussed along the Bell Hill frontage, extended into the proposed development site.

(Elizabeth Darlington)

Shepton Mallet, church of St Peter and St Paul,
ST 6197 4367, Somerset HER 47308

Archaeological excavation (in advance of potential reordering works) of a trial hole on the north side of the west door and removal of floorboards and wood cladding around a column in the nave revealed what appeared to be the 14th-century tower foundations and 19th-century deposits.

(Keith Faxon)

Williton, Doniford wayside cross,
ST 0884 4290, Somerset HER 45328

Monitoring was conducted in an area immediately adjacent to the medieval roadside cross during the construction of a new footpath in early November 2021. The excavations revealed only modern hardcore forming the verge on which the monument stands. The findings of the investigation confirms that the cross no longer stands in its original context and was, in fact, moved to its current location during the 20th century.

(James Brigers)

Wiveliscombe, Palace Gardens,
ST 0831 2760, Somerset HER 42240

Monitoring was conducted through February and March 2021 during the early stages of construction of a new dwelling. Excavations for footings and service trenches revealed a complex archaeological



Fig. 3 Wiveliscombe, Palace Gardens, the footings of the medieval bishop's house (South West Aerial Surveys)

sequence that included at least three principal phases of activity during the medieval period culminating with the remains of a substantial structure with significant architectural pretension (Fig. 3). Early medieval boundary ditches were sealed by a sequence of multiple floor surfaces associated with a very large open hearth possibly commencing in the 13th century. The early structure was replaced by a later medieval building with substantial masonry foundations incorporating the well-preserved remains of a large, high-quality fireplace adjacent to the base of an integral stair turret indicating that the building, or part of it, was of at least two storeys. The building appears to have remained standing in some form until the 18th or 19th century when the medieval floor surface was removed and replaced by one of pitched sandstone and slate. Given the undoubted status of the medieval structure it seems certain that the remains of this phase are those of part of one of the principal ranges of the episcopal manor house of the Bishops of Wells that is known to have stood to the south of the town from the 13th to the 16th centuries.

(James Brigers)

POST MEDIEVAL

Cheddon Fitzpaine, Hestercombe gardens,
ST 2426 2891, Somerset HER 47456

A clear rock-cut alcove in the west side of the Combe at the above location was subjected to limited

excavation in early June 2021. The feature was found to contain the weathered remains of a possible historically weathered surface but no other features of archaeological interest. It seems that it originated as a small quarry that may have been in-filled for use as a possible viewpoint or seat setting during the period of use of the area as a landscape garden from the mid 18th century.

(James Brigers)

Cheddon Fitzpaine, Hestercombe, The Decoy,
ST 237 286, Somerset HER 47457

Monitoring and targeted investigation work continued during the restoration of the pond at the above location in 2022. Limited excavation was undertaken within and surrounding the remains of the boathouse to the north-east at the end of August and this established that much of the timber superstructure of the building survived, well preserved, in sediments retained by the surviving foundations. The building remains contained possibly two phases with the latest being most likely of the late 19th or early 20th centuries and the entrance to this was revealed to the east, at the end of a sunken path. Natural deposits to the north of the foundation were found to have been cut by the truncated remains of a possible ditch continuing the alignment of a potentially Iron Age feature recognised to the west in the previous year.

(James Brigers)

Cheddon Fitzpaine, Hestercombe, The Shrubbery,
ST 2419 2879, Somerset HER 47455

An excavation undertaken at the above location in early August 2021 re-examined structural remains first explored in the summer of 2000. At the conclusion of the original investigation the remains were interpreted as those of the post-medieval park boundary wall and the foundations of the Octagon Summer House, known to have existed in the 18th-century landscape. With the discovery of the actual site this building, to the east in 2005, the remains were tentatively reinterpreted as those of a detached kitchen block ancillary to the summer house.

(James Brigers)

Chedzoy, Glebe House,
ST 3409 3754, Somerset HER 45010

Hollinrake Archaeology monitored two evaluation trenches and recorded a possible medieval ditch and prompted further archaeological monitoring during the excavation of foundation trenches for the new buildings. The ditch continued, terminating in a broad pool. Two further ditches were exposed at the southern limit of the watching brief area. All appeared to be post-medieval in date.

(Sean O'Regan)

Clevedon, Court Farm, ST 4181 7153

Avon Archaeology Limited undertook a four trench archaeological evaluation associated with redevelopment. Part of the structure of the barn wall was noted in one trench, where its foundation course seemed to overlay a backfilled pit, from which a single datable sherd of Somerset Redware (late 16th-early 18th century) pottery was recovered. The remaining trenches were largely negative.

(Nick Corcos and Emma Ings)

Compton Pauncefoot, Manor House,
ST 6439 2622, Somerset HER 43147

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by AC Archaeology on groundworks for a swimming pool. A single archaeological feature representing a former wall foundation trench was revealed and single piece of 18th-century glass bottle neck and a small quantity of animal bone was recovered from the surface of this feature. Although the date of the wall foundation is uncertain, its position appears to correspond with a building recorded in this area of the site as a mansion and shown on the 1811 First Series Ordnance Survey map.

(S Robinson)

Curry Rivel, Burton Pynsent,
ST 3725 2461, Somerset HER 45009

Monitoring was conducted during the construction of a new boiler house. The small area of the investigation was found to have been disturbed by services, but it was possible to determine that the c. 1750 foundation of this wing of the house was found to directly cut the natural clay directly overlying the lias bedrock. Remnants of further dumps, soil build-ups and a rudimentary gravel surface were present, but all material can be considered to post-date the construction of the latest phase of the main house, which here would appear to be of a single phase of construction.

(James Brigers)

Dunkerton, Church House,
ST 7113 5927, BaNES HER 68984

Monitoring was conducted during groundworks in advance of the construction of a swimming pool. Most of the archaeological strata were found to have been removed by terracing for a modern farmyard and the only surviving features of earlier origin comprised the remains of a waterlogged depression, possibly in a gateway of 19th-century date, fragments of yard surfaces and a post-medieval stone-lined field drain. These remains were sealed by extensive dumps of demolition debris and subsequent landscaping.

(James Brigers)

Misterton, Misterton Bridge,
ST 4555 0818, Somerset HER 45025

Monitoring was conducted during significant refurbishment of Grade II listed Misterton Bridge. The results demonstrated that during three principal phases of activity the bridge had been extended to the south-west and north-east, widening the original carriageway by over 2m. The extension to the south-west was angled to the north of the earlier opening creating the existing dog leg in the structure, possibly to accommodate a change in course of the stream. During this phase a vaulted brick relief culvert was installed to the north and the facades modified to accommodate with the insertion of circular openings. The sub structure of the bridge was not exposed to sufficient extent to determine the presence of earlier features or structures.

(James Brigers)

Taunton, St Mary Magdalene,
ST 228 246, Somerset HER 47312

Removal of pews and flooring associated with the enlargement of the café in the north aisle revealed, brick-constructed dwarf supporting walls, partially collapsed brick-lined burial vaults and a mortared

floor surface 0.7m below the existing floor levels.
(Keith Faxon)

Westonzoyland, 51 Liney Road,
ST 3576 3529, Somerset HER 43136

Monitoring was conducted during excavations in advance of the construction of a new dwelling. Throughout the site, deep deposits of cultivation soil and modern dumps were found, interrupted by large pits containing modern debris. Features of earlier date encountered consisted of a large probable drainage ditch of post-medieval date running parallel to the modern road and a steep-sided ditch or slot to the west of the site which contained no dating evidence but also appeared to be late in date. A further north-south aligned cut feature at the northern limit may represent the western edge of a hollow way on the same line as Liney Road.

(James Brigers)

Westonzoyland, 63 Liney Road,
ST 3547 3542, Somerset HER 42890

Avon Archaeology Limited undertook an evaluation by two trenches, from which a single ditch of unknown date was recorded. A metal-detecting survey failed to find evidence that the site had formed part of the battlefield.

(Kevin Potter and Emma Ings)

Winscombe, Coombe Farm, ST 4197 5834

Wessex Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation of a 3.2ha parcel of land located in Coombe Farm, Winscombe. The evaluation consisted of the excavation and recording of six trenches measuring 50m x 2m targeted on the results of a preceding geophysical survey. The evaluation identified a limited number of archaeological features within the site, with features revealed in one of the excavated trenches. Four parallel drainage gullies were identified in Trench 2. The gullies were post-medieval in date, functioned as land drainage and correspond with land drains recorded by the preceding geophysical survey. Modern made ground deposits were encountered in Trenches 2 and 3.

(Elizabeth Darlington)

INDUSTRIAL

Bath, Ambury, ST 7491 6449, BaNES HER 68421

Archaeological monitoring of a series of trial pits was carried out by AC Archaeology. Part of the same cobbled surface was encountered in two of the trial pits, along with a section of wall. The cobbled surface and wall foundation appear to represent part of the former road surface and properties relating to The Ambury, as shown on the 1888 Ordnance Survey map.

No evidence for any other archaeological deposits or pre-modern artefacts were present.

(Vince Simmonds)

Bath, Prior Park, Bath House,
ST762630, BaNES HER 68700

Previous work in 2019 and 2020 discovered the site of a building to the north of the east wing of Prior Park mansion which was thought to have been first built as a Pineapple House before later conversion to a Bath House. Further excavation aided by mechanical digger followed in 2021 to reveal much of the north side of the building together with the bath cavity. Remains matched the Ralph Allen Estate Plan of the Cold Bath except for the central doorway. Finds were largely Victorian, probably from elsewhere and used to landscape the area after the building demolition. Fragments of mid 18th-century Delft tiles found in situ showed evidence of bath and wall tiling. A culvert discovered under the bath floor acted as an overflow from the spring water source to the bath and as a probable drain. Examination of the Prior Park School sports pavilion confirmed the rearrangement of the two separate east and west end sections shown on the plan by joining them, together with adjustments to the windows.

(Tim Lunt and David Stubbs)

Combe St Nicholas, New Road, primary school,
ST 3017 1124, Somerset HER 42561

A programme of archaeological monitoring was undertaken by Avon Archaeology Limited during groundworks associated with remedial works. The work was largely archaeologically negative; however, two previously unknown ledger slabs, one of mid 18th- and the other of late 19th-century date, were found dumped out of context, within an overgrown hedge on the western boundary of the site.

(Nick Corcos)

Glastonbury, Bere Lane, Abbey Farm,
ST 5041 3857, Somerset HER 47458

Two trenches were excavated by hand in the orchard to the north of the museum courtyard in October 2021 in advance of proposed development. The results from both trenches indicated that the area had been substantially truncated probably during the 19th century, removing all archaeological deposits of earlier date. The surviving deposits consisted of a sequence of dumps of clay and topsoil, some of which contained medieval pottery. It is suggested that the re-deposited material was dumped here during the formation of the existing courtyard in the mid 19th century.

(James Brigers)

Ham Hill, Lime Kiln car park, ST 480 163, Somerset HER 45293

The Cambridge Archaeological Unit evaluated an area by four trenches in advance of proposals for a new visitor centre. Quarrying activity was encountered within each of the trenches, though in only one was there an obviously deep quarried void filled with loose quarry waste. Stone-masonry workings were recorded within the other three trenches, which included the foundation of a stone wall that corresponds with a structure depicted in the 1886 Ordnance Survey map but was no longer present by the 1906 edition. Iron files and zinc sheet templates were recovered from deposits associated with the building and its demolition, as well as window glass and ceramic roof tiles. A maker's stamp on one tile fragment may be securely dated to no earlier than 1867. Probably a stone-masons' workshop, the interior of the building showed no evidence for having previously been subject to quarrying, though it may have been subject to truncation. No pre-19th-century features were identified.

(Marcus Brittain and Andrew Chaplin)

Trudoxhill, St Lawrence chapel,
ST 7491 4379, Somerset HER 45290

The chapel benches were recorded by Hollinrake Archaeology in advance of the planned conversion of the chapel into a private residence. The benches were all of the 19th century with some 20th-century modification and contain elements from an earlier, complete set of 19th-century box pews.

(David Sampson)

Weston-super-Mare, ST 3214 6134

Over a period of several months in 2020/2021, Avon Archaeology Limited carried out an archaeological monitoring project during extensive groundworks for provision of a new bus interchange. The majority of the ground interventions produced only layers of sand, relatively pure and clean, some of which had undoubtedly been disturbed and/or redeposited in the 19th or 20th centuries. The only significant find was the lower courses of a substantial masonry wall, with intermittent internal buttresses, which acted as the boundary for Weston's second railway station. While the second passenger terminus opened on this site in 1866, it was an enlargement of a slightly earlier and smaller goods depot of 1861, and it is possible therefore that the recorded wall was constructed for the goods depot and continued in the passenger station five years later.

(Nick Corcos)

Yatton, North End Road, ST 4193 6690

Avon Archaeology Limited monitored groundworks during the construction of two new houses. This recorded the partial, and very damaged, lower foundations of a 19th-century building, which appears to have been demolished by the time of the First World War.

(Nick Corcos)

MODERN

Bath, Claverton Down, Rainbow Wood Farm,
ST777634, BaNES HER 68664

Flatwood Camp was used from 1892 until 1899 as the location for the 28-day summer camp of the 4th Battalion The Prince Albert's (Somersetshire Light Infantry) sited in a field of that name on Claverton Down, south-east of Bath. Permanent buildings are shown on the 1904 Ordnance Survey map and a geophysical survey was carried out in August 2021 by Bath and Counties Archaeological Society using magnetometry and resistivity equipment. Few clear results were produced suggesting that most buildings were wooden. Metal detecting in and around the survey areas produced items from the 18th to 20th century, with only coins, corrugated iron and a military button that could possibly be linked to the camp. A buried water pipe network once linking a windpump to the camp buildings and a later reservoir was also discovered.

(Tim Lunt and David Stubbs)

Taunton, County Hall,
ST 2248 2429, Somerset HER 16006

A photographic record was made of the external elevations of B Block (1962-64), prior to upgrading works.

(Keith Faxon)

OTHER REPORTS

Banwell, 11 West Street, ST 3981 5911

Avon Archaeology Limited monitored the groundworks for a small extension. No finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

(Nick Corcos)

Banwell, Riverside, ST 3990 5956

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by AC Archaeology of 120m of open-cut pipeline. Nothing of archaeological interest was found.

(Vince Simmonds)

Bath, city centre, ST 7491 6463, BaNES HER 69060
Archaeological monitoring undertaken by AC Archaeology during groundworks for water-bottle refill units. No evidence for any archaeological deposits or pre-modern artefacts were present, with only modern disturbance encountered.

(A. Miller)

Bath, Weston, Manor Road,
ST 7309 6615, BaNES HER 68370
Avon Archaeology Limited monitored groundworks during the construction of a small estate of new houses. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

(Nick Corcos)

Binegar, Rookery Farm,
ST 6031 4829, Somerset HER 42889
Monitoring was undertaken throughout 2021 during the erection of holiday lets to the north of the course of the Roman road. The work to date has revealed nothing of archaeological significance. Work continues in 2022.

(James Brigers)

Bishop's Hull, Bishop's Hull Hub,
ST 2050 2468, Somerset HER 41724
A long-running watching brief (June 2020 to January 2021) by TVAS South West revealed that the site had been severely truncated and terraced, probably very recently. A large pit/ditch of post-medieval date, a modern waste pit and made ground were recorded and two sherds of 17th-century pottery recovered.

(Mariusz Paszkiewicz)

Broomfield, Goathurst Hill, Arch Barn,
ST 6412 6499, Somerset HER 41630
Archaeological monitoring was carried out by Avon Archaeology Limited during groundworks but no features or finds of archaeological significance were encountered.

(Nick Corcos)

Butleigh, Sub Road,
ST 5171 3410, Somerset HER 42895
Archaeological monitoring, by Border Archaeology, of water mains renovation included observation of four initial trial holes in fields adjacent to Sub Road followed by a working strip traversing four fields and ten drill pits. No features or finds of archaeological significance were identified.

(George Children)

Chard, ST 3213 0858, Somerset HER 43144
Avon Archaeology Limited monitored groundworks

related to a major enhancement scheme in the centre of Chard. No features, other than modern drains, were encountered. The sole exception to this was a clearly in situ, flat stone setting in a very narrow trench in the northern part of Boden Street. The nature and date of this feature is unknown.

(Nick Corcos)

Chard, 6 Vicarage Close,
ST 2050 2468, Somerset HER 42244
TVAS South West monitored groundworks for a new house. No features or finds of archaeological interest were revealed, only modern landscaping and services.

(Agata Socha-Paskiewicz)

Charleton Horethorne, Stowell,
ST 6859 2212, Somerset HER 47464
Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by AC Archaeology during groundworks for a replacement water main and compound. No archaeological features or deposits were observed during the groundworks and no pre-modern artefacts were recovered.

(Vince Simmonds)

Charlton Adam, Tout Lane,
ST 5351 2808, Somerset HER 42236
Context One Heritage and Archaeology carried out archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks for the erection of a building for the concrete works. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded as the area was found to have been previously quarried.

(Tara Fairclough)

Cheddar, Helliars Lane,
ST448 533, Somerset HER 47317
L-P Archaeology undertook an archaeological evaluation consisting of nine trenches along with two smaller extensions to target anomalies detected in a previous magnetometer survey. The evaluation uncovered multiple features consisting of pits and linear drainage features. No dating material was recovered and all environmental samples produced no significant results. It is likely that these features are post medieval or modern in date.

(Sam Birchall)

Cheddar, Upper Draycott Road, Hayberry Farm,
ST 472 522, Somerset HER 47309
Monitoring of groundworks associated with the erection of a new dwelling recorded only geological deposits.

(Keith Faxon)

Chew Magna, 6 Madam's Paddock,
ST 5756 6297, BaNES HER 68539

Avon Archaeology Limited monitored groundworks for a house but this revealed no features or finds of archaeological interest.

(Nick Corcos)

Combwich, Brookside Road,
ST 2551 4213, Somerset HER 43149

An evaluation by AC Archaeology recorded only an undated ditch.

(Paul Rainbird)

Compton Dando, Peppershells, Lane, Woodborough,
ST 6412 6499, BaNES HER 67825

Avon Archaeology Limited monitored groundworks during development but no features or finds of archaeological significance were evident.

(Nick Corcos)

Crewkerne, Station Road,
ST 4517 0923, Somerset HER 45004

An evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology recorded three undated ditches.

(Francesco Catanzaro)

Curry Rivel, Back Lane,
ST 394 247, Somerset HER 42576

Evaluation in advance of house building recorded only a recent field drain.

(Sean O'Regan)

Drayton, Middelney locks,
ST 41620 23378, Somerset HER 45014

Monitoring of trial pits by ADAS recorded no features or finds of archaeological significance.

(James McNicoll-Norbury)

Elworthy, Springwater Farm,
ST 0867 3576, Exmoor HER EEM14905

Monitoring of groundworks by AC Archaeology recorded no features or finds of archaeological significance.

(Paul Rainbird)

Frome, Saxonvale,
ST 7793 4800, Somerset HER 45022

A watching brief by Cotswold Archaeology recorded a thick sequence of natural sediments associated with the floodplain and the former channel of the River Frome.

(Agata Kowalska)

Ilchester, Hainsbury Farm,
ST 5279 2453, Somerset HER 43142

Context One Heritage and Archaeology evaluated by trenching the results of a geophysical survey. All the magnetic anomalies investigated had natural origins and no pre-modern finds.

(Tara Fairclough)

Ilchester, New Spittles Farm,
ST 5130 2232, Somerset HER 42881

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by AC Archaeology during groundworks for a new agricultural building on land at New Spittles Farm, Ilchester. With the exception of the remnants of a single post-medieval furrow, no other archaeological features or deposits were observed and no pre-modern artefacts were recovered.

(Vince Simmonds)

Langport, Portway, Portway Cottage,
ST 4088 2632, Somerset HER 41719

Context One Heritage and Archaeology monitored groundworks for a new house. Despite the potential for the discovery the remains of the medieval hospital, known to have been in the area, archaeological evidence was limited to a stone-lined well which coincided with a pump noted on modern maps.

(Tara Fairclough)

Leigh on Mendip, Quarry Lane,
ST 6928 4747, Somerset HER 41647

An archaeological evaluation by eight trenches was undertaken by AC Archaeology following a geophysical survey. Archaeological deposits were identified in two of the trenches, comprising an undated gully, two undated post-holes and a curvilinear ditch of medieval date, possibly representing part of a former enclosure.

(Vince Simmonds)

Long Sutton to Knole,
ST 4847 2508 to ST 4734 2512, Somerset HER 45160

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken along the route of an open cut pipeline. Apart from four unstratified pieces of pottery, nothing of archaeological significance was recorded.

(Paul Jones and Andrew West)

Luccombe, Mill Cottage,
SS 8984 4542, Exmoor HER EEM14995

Monitoring of groundworks by AC Archaeology recorded no features or finds of archaeological significance.

(Vince Simmonds)

Martock, 56a Bower Hinton,
ST 4573 1833, Somerset HER 41711
AC Archaeology monitored ground reduction but recorded only a 19th-century boundary ditch.
(Stephen Armstrong)

Moorlinch, Shapwick Right Rhyne,
ST 3944 3531, Somerset HER 45276
Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by AC Archaeology during groundworks for environmental enhancement. No archaeological features or deposits were observed during the groundworks and no pre-modern artefacts were recovered.
(Vince Simmonds)

Nailsea, Engine Lane, ST 4583 6962
An evaluation by Cotswold Archaeology identified no features or deposits of archaeological interest
(Ray Kennedy and Craig Jones)

Nether Stowey, Cricketer Farm,
ST 1957 3975, Somerset HER 45018
An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by L-P Archaeology, consisting of eight trenches. While numerous features were identified, most seemed to relate to modern agricultural practice and water management.
(Sam Birchall)

Nettlecombe Lodge,
ST 0492 3691, Exmoor HER EEM14937
Monitoring of an electricity cable trench by AC Archaeology recorded no features or finds of archaeological significance, including any remains of a known northern extension to the lodge.
(Paul Rainbird)

North Curry, Town Farm,
ST 3180 2525, Somerset HER 47453
Evaluation by AC Archaeology in 2020 recorded no features or finds of archaeological significance.
(Paul Rainbird)

North Petherton, Cliff Road, Hawkes Cottage,
ST 2847 3280, Somerset HER 45030
Monitoring of groundworks associated with the construction of a new dwelling and vehicular access only recorded 19th- and 20th-century disturbance and geological deposits.
(Keith Faxon)

Nunney, Court Farm House,
ST 7378 4565, Somerset HER 45027
Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by AC Archaeology during groundworks for an extension. No archaeological features or deposits were observed

during the groundworks but a small quantity of finds was recovered from a subsoil horizon and included post-medieval pottery sherds dating to the 17th to 20th centuries and a limited number of other post-medieval artefacts.
(Vince Simmonds)

Othery, ST 3845 3134 to ST 3793 3299,
Somerset HER 45011
A site compound together with 18 launch pits for directionally drilling a new water main were monitored by AC Archaeology. Nothing of archaeological interest was found.
(Vince Simmonds)

Pawlett, Walpole landfill site,
ST 3164 4350, Somerset HER 47268
Archaeological monitoring of four machine excavated test pits was carried out by Hollinrake Archaeology to a depth of around 4m below ground level. The sequence of estuarine alluvial deposits interspersed with bands of peat was generally consistent with the depositional regime extensively recorded elsewhere.
(Arthur Hollinrake)

Podimore, recycling centre,
ST 2050 2468, Somerset HER 45214
TVAS South West monitored groundworks for an extension to the recycling centre. Traces of ridge and furrow of medieval or post-medieval date were the only features observed and there were no archaeological finds.
(Nicholas Dawson)

Saltford, sewage treatment works,
ST 6928 6872, BaNES HER 68706
A watching brief by Cotswold Archaeology recorded no features or deposits of archaeological interest.
(Craig Jones)

Sharpham, Back River Drove, The Works,
ST 478 391, Somerset HER 47314
Monitoring of the creation of a new water storage lagoon for the extension of an industrial area only recorded undisturbed peat deposits to a depth of 2.7m.
(Keith Faxon)

Shepton Mallet, Sherring Road,
ST 6246 4255, Somerset HER 45285
Evaluation trenching by TVAS South West recorded nothing of archaeological interest.
(Agata Socha-Paskiewicz, Piotr Wróbel)

South Petherton, Hayes End,

ST 4361 1674, Somerset HER 41593

Monitoring was conducted in July 2021 during the formation of a new access road and installation of services. No archaeological features were noted and the area was found to contain a deep sequence of probable cultivation soil which contained post-medieval pottery in small quantities and a flint core of prehistoric date. Work continues in 2022.

(James Brigers)

Stogursey, church of St Andrew,

ST 2048 4284, Somerset HER 47313

Archaeological monitoring of the installation of a new underground electric cable from the north aisle into the vestry involved the removal of small areas of stone flooring and only revealed existing service routes.

(Keith Faxon)

Stoke sub Hamdon, Ham Hill,

ST 477 170, Somerset HER 45294

Thirteen trenches were opened in November 2021 by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit across 2.23ha of the north 'spur' of Ham Hill hillfort. No archaeological features were found during the investigation, which encountered only quarrying waste and, in three trenches, unquarried bedrock that represents the depth limit of historical quarry works.

(Marcus Brittain and Andrew Chaplin)

Stowey, The Street, Oak Tree Farm, ST 6021 5913

Monitoring of groundworks associated with the construction of a new dwelling recorded only geological deposits.

(Keith Faxon)

Stratton on the Fosse,

26 Linkmead, ST 6592 5117, Somerset HER 45005

Context One Heritage and Archaeology monitored the groundworks for a new house. Despite finds of Roman material from the area, no archaeological evidence was encountered, and no finds observed during monitoring of groundwork excavations.

(Tara Fairclough)

Tickenham, ST 4637 7180

Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by AC Archaeology during groundworks for a new main sewer. No archaeological features or deposits were observed during the groundworks and no pre-modern artefacts were recovered.

(Vince Simmonds)

Taunton, 5 and 6 The Crescent,

ST 2252 2436, Somerset HER 45007

Context One Heritage and Archaeology monitored groundworks for an extension to the rear of the property. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

(Tara Fairclough)

Tickenham, Cadbury Camp Road, Diamond Cottage,

ST 4352 7204

Avon Archaeology Limited monitored the groundworks for an extension and garage but no finds or features of archaeological significance were recorded.

(Nick Corcos)

Wedmore, Mudgley, Winburn Cottage,

ST 478 391, Somerset HER 47310

Monitoring of the groundworks associated with the erection of new extensions only recorded 20th-century disturbance and geological deposits.

(Keith Faxon)

Wedmore, Theale, Moorland Farm,

ST 4609 4651, Somerset HER 42345

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

(Tara Fairclough)

Weston-super-Mare, Bleadon Hill, ST 3346 5777

Archaeological monitoring of groundworks associated with the construction of stabling to the south of the Hillcote Estate was carried out by Border Archaeology. No features or finds of archaeological significance were recorded.

(George Children)

Westonzoyland, Liney Road,

ST 3555 3540, Somerset HER 42893

Context One Heritage and Archaeology carried out an archaeological monitoring and recording on land formerly occupied by outbuildings. Despite the archaeological potential, no evidence was observed during monitoring of groundwork excavations.

(Tara Fairclough)

Williton, Priest Street,

ST 0724 4148, Somerset HER 45151

An evaluation by AC Archaeology comprised 33 trenches totalling 990m in length following a geophysical survey. Most of the features recorded were drainage ditches and no significant finds were recorded.

(Stuart Randall)

Woolavington, Woolavington Hill, ST 3447 4067,
Somerset HER 45016

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by L-P Archaeology in February 2021 preceding the development of 100 residential properties. The evaluation consisted of one 10m by 10m trench, targeting an anomaly detected by previous

magnetometer survey (Somerset HER 39255). Two features were identified, a single pit and a linear ditch running north-west to south-east across the trench. Neither feature produced any dating material, but they are broadly in-keeping with the historic agricultural landscape and are most likely post-medieval in date.

(Sam Birchall)