

Colley Hill Farm
Colmworth, Bedfordshire
(TL 106 582)

Archaeological Evaluation

(Planning Application Ref. 11/01704/FUL)



Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd

November 2011

for
John Wagstaff Associates

on behalf of
Mr G Palmer Esq.

Souterrain

Archaeological Services Ltd



Colley Hill Farm, Colmworth, Bedfordshire (TL 106 582)

Archaeological Evaluation Report

(Planning Application Reference 11/01704/FUL)

Souterrain Project: SOU11-217

November 2011

Produced for:
John Wagstaff Associates
Hidden Land Barn,
Main Road,
Biddenham,
Bedford MK40 4BE

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CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES	3
TABLES	3
<i>SUMMARY</i>	5
1. SCOPE OF THE REPORT	6
2. PLANNING BACKGROUND	6
5. BRIEF SITE HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	9
6. OBJECTIVES	10
7. FIELD METHODOLOGY	10
8. TRIAL TRENCHING RESULTS	11
9. DISCUSSION OF FINDS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE	18
10. ARCHIVE	19

List of Figures

- Figure 1 Location of site
Figure 2 Location of trenches and proposed development area
Figure 3 Trench 1: plan of features
Figure 4 Overviews of Trench 1. Top: facing N. Bottom: facing SW
Figure 5 Trench 1. Top: wall foundation (102) facing N. Bottom: wall foundation (106) facing W
Figure 6 Trench 2: plan and locations of sections
Figure 7 Trench 2: Sections 1 and 2
Figure 8 Trench 2. Top: Ditch 210, facing N. Bottom: Ditches [204], 207] and [208], facing NE
Figure 9 Trenches 3 and 4: plan of features
Figure 10 Trenches 3 and 4. Sections 3 to 6; Trench 5: Section 5
Figure 11 Top: Trench 3, Section 3. Bottom: Trench 4, Section 4
Figure 12 Top left: Trench 3 facing E. Top right: post-hole [404], facing W. Bottom: Trench 4 facing N, Colmworth Church in background to right.
Figure 13 Copper alloy brooch from Iron Age ditch in Trench 3 (302)
Figure 14 Trench 5. overview, facing W

(Illustrations follow the main text)

Tables

- Table 1: Quantification of Iron Age Pottery
Table 2: Iron Age Pottery
Table 3: Post-medieval Pottery
Table 4: Charred Plant Remains Assessment Data

Preface

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SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation by trial trenching was carried out in advance of proposed development at Colley Hill Farm, Colmworth, Bedfordshire (NGR TL 106 582), between the 7th and 11th of November 2011.

The purpose of the evaluation was to identify any buried archaeological remains that might be affected by the proposed development, and to assess their significance, condition and age in order to help formulate an appropriate level of mitigation to ensure that archaeological interest of the site is safeguarded.

A total of just over 117sq.m was investigated in five trenches providing just over 4% coverage of three areas of proposed ground disturbance, identified as Areas A, B and C.

In Area A, which had potential for archaeology pertaining to medieval settlement at Colley Hill, the investigation revealed no archaeological evidence earlier than the 18th century. This comprised fragmentary remains of two farm outbuildings which are understood to date from the 18th and 19th centuries and a sequence of field drainage ditches which date from c.18th century to the 20th century. The remains are considered to be of local interest relating to the occupation and development of Colley Hill Farm.

There was no archaeology revealed in Area B.

In Area C, a substantial curvilinear ditch was revealed containing artefacts and environmental data attesting to settlement at the site during the middle Iron Age (c.400-c.100BC) and the late Iron Age (c.100BC to 43AD). It is a probability that the ditch enclosed a farmstead. Other features in Area B comprised a post-hole and a gully, both undated, but which may be contemporary with the ditch. In view of the lacunae in present knowledge about the character and extent of Iron Age settlement beyond the valley and gravel areas of Bedfordshire, the discovery is considered to be both locally and regionally significant.

1. SCOPE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report documents the results of an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching in advance of proposed development at Colley Hill Farm, Colmworth, Bedfordshire (NGR TL 106 582) (Figs. 1 and 2). The evaluation, conducted by Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd (Souterrain) between the 7th and 11th of November 2011, was commissioned by John Wagstaff Associates, on the behalf of Mr G Palmer, the planning applicant, in compliance with a condition attached to planning consent.
- 1.2 The planning background and purpose of the evaluation is outlined in Section 2, and the archaeological potential of the site is presented in Section 5. The results of the trial trenching are described and interpreted at Section 7 and remarks on archaeological risk and potential are given at Section 8.

2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission (Reference 11/01704/FUL) was granted by Bedford Borough Council on the 25th October 2011 for the erection of a replacement farmhouse, garaging, new stables, hay barn and ménage with open storage barn. The consent includes change of use of part of an adjacent field from agricultural to recreational keeping of horses.
- 2.2 In view of the archaeological sensitivity of the locality (*post.5*), and in accordance with local and national planning policy¹, the following condition has been attached to the planning consent to ensure that the archaeological interest of the site is properly safeguarded and recorded:

6. *"No development shall take place until the applicant, or developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which had been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. REASON: To ensure that remains of archaeological importance likely to be disturbed in the course of the development are adequately investigated and recorded and in accordance with Policy BE24 of the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2002."*

- 2.3 Policy BE24 of the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2002 is as follows:

"In considering planning proposals, the Borough Council will have regard to the need to protect, enhance and preserve sites of archaeological interest and their settings. It will where appropriate require the archaeological aspects of development proposals to be examined and evaluated before a planning application is determined. In the absence of an adequate assessment of the archaeological implications, planning permission will be refused."

- 2.4 The Case Officer (planning) for Bedford Borough Council received the following specific advice and recommendations for the proposed development from the Archaeological Officer on 8th September 2011²:

"Comments:

¹ Policy BE24 of the Bedford Borough Local Plan 2002 and the Department for Communities and Local Government's Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS 5) 2010.

² Historic Environment Officer's Memo to Miss Rebecca Stroud (Case Officer), from Geoff Saunders, Archaeological Officer, Appl.No. 11/1704/FUL, 08/09/2011 Subject: Collyhill Farm, Church Road, Colmworth, Bedfordshire, MK44 2JX

Groundworks associated with the development have the potential to destroy or disturb significant archaeological remains associated with the former medieval settlement of Chapel End/Colley Hill. Additionally Roman remains associated with the cropmark site to the east may also extend into the development area.

Given the high archaeological interest of the site it is recommended that the applicant needs to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation prior to the commencement of development groundworks to advise on what further mitigation measures, if any, are required to allow the development to proceed.

Recommendations:

The following recommendation is made in line with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (DCLG 2010):

BCM16 PROGRAMME OF WORKS BRC68 - archaeological trial-trenching."

and

"Further recommendations:

The initial phase of archaeological work will comprise trial trenching in order to assess the presence or absence, significance, extent, condition, character and date of archaeological remains within the proposed development area and will inform the need for mitigation measures e.g. preservation in situ or open-area excavation. The results of the initial phase of work will be used to advise what mitigation measures will be necessary for the proposed development to proceed.

The archaeological work should be conducted by a professional recognised archaeological contractor in accordance with a brief issued by this office. Should significant archaeological deposits be uncovered by the trial trenching, then further stages of archaeological work may be necessary, and will be outlined in a separate brief.

The archaeological condition on the planning permission should not be discharged until the completion of the fieldwork and post-excavation process."

2.5 With respect to the above advice and recommendations, a pre-application discussion was held on behalf of the applicant, on 11th October 2011, between Martin Wilson, Archaeological Consultant for Souterrain, and Geoff Saunders, Archaeological Officer for Bedford Borough Council, in order to ascertain and clarify an appropriate level of site evaluation. It was confirmed that:

- An evaluation by trial trenching would be required in all areas of proposed ground disturbance.
- The evaluation would be required to cover all areas where topsoil stripping is to take place, to include the ménage and proposed gravelled areas.
- 4% of the areas of proposed ground disturbance would require evaluation by trial trenching, with up to 1% contingency, if deemed necessary to further characterise the nature and extent of any archaeology revealed.

2.6 A Written Scheme of Investigation³ for the areas of proposed ground disturbance⁴ was subsequently prepared by Souterrain on behalf of the applicant, and approved by the Archaeological Officer on the 21st October 2011.

³ Colley Hill Farm, Colmworth, Bedfordshire, MK44 2JX: Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation, (Application Reference 11/01704/FUL), Project: SOU11-217, 19th October 2011, Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd 2011

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AREA

3.1 The Application Area, marked by the red line on Figure 1⁵, is located approximately 270m northeast of Chapel End, Colmworth, and is centred at NGR TL 106 582. The site generally consists of topsoil overlying firm-to-stiff calcareous clay-with-flints⁶. The topsoil is generally between 150mm and 300mm in thickness. The site is relatively level, at approximately 65m OD. It is surrounded by arable farmland and is screened by mature trees and hedges which are to be maintained. It is presently occupied by a modern two-storey and part one-storey dwelling, a garage block and a dilapidated barn, all of which are to be demolished. The buildings are surrounded by a lawned garden with occasional mature trees. The lawned garden is generally to be retained. Access to the house and garage is from a driveway off the Colmworth Road 170m to the northwest.

3.2 Land parcels within the Application Area are referred to as follows:

- Area A: containing the house, garden and garage block
- Area B: the ménage
- Area C: containing the stable block and grass paddock
- Area D: change of land-use from agricultural to recreational keeping of horses

4 DEVELOPMENT EFFECTS

4.1 In Area A, the replacement house will be located partly over the footprint of the original dwelling and with the same orientation⁷. Similarly, the new garage will be located partly over the existing footprint, but with an orientation that reflects the different plan form and relating to the roadway serving the hay barn/stabling located in the paddock to the east of the house. There will be a gravelled extension of the existing driveway to serve the Hay Barn and Stables in Area C to the east. The construction of the driveway in Areas A will involve excavation of topsoil to a depth of c.300mm.

4.2 Ground disturbance in Area C will comprise excavation of the footprint of the new buildings and removal of topsoil (c.300mm) for laying a gravel surface between the Hay Barn and Stables. In Area C the walls of the Stables and Hay Barn are likely to be built on traditional strip foundations 450mm in width and generally between c.1200mm -1500mm in depth. Ground reduction (i.e. topsoil removal) over floor space areas is to be c.300mm.

4.3 In Area B, ground disturbance will comprise stripping of topsoil for the creation of the ménage.

4.4 The change of land-use in Area D will have no construction effects.

4.5 The total proposed area of ground disturbance (Figure 2) within the Application Area is understood to be c.2425.83 sq.m, including some previously disturbed areas that are presently occupied by buildings (c.187sq.m).

⁴ Based on Drawing No. 194/06, Colley Hill Farm, Church Road, Colmworth, Beds., July 2011, John Wagstaff Associates; submitted with the planning application.

⁵ Drawing No. 194/02, Colley Hill Farm, Church Road, Colmworth, Beds., July 2011, John Wagstaff Associates.

⁶ Trial Hole Investigation, Development, Colley Hill Farm, Church Road, Colmworth, Beds MK44 2JX, Philip Harvey Associates Ltd, Job No. 4924, June 2011

⁷ Design and Access Statement, Colley Hill Farmhouse, Colmworth, Beds, MK44 2JX, John Wagstaff Associates, 25 July 2011

5. BRIEF SITE HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

Medieval and post-medieval settlement

- 5.1 The proposed development is located in an area of archaeological interest within the former medieval settlement of Chapel End/Colley Hill⁸. The Application Area was formerly situated in the medieval open fields of Colmworth, within the furlong field called the Near East Brook Field. The map which accompanies the Inclosure Award for Colmworth⁹ of 1838 shows that a great number of piecemeal enclosures had already taken place¹⁰; the date for these, however, is uncertain. Prior to parliamentary enclosure in the parish, the main north–south road ran along the west side of Collyhill Farm¹¹, the upstanding remains of which survive between Areas B and D for a distance of c.100m. The Application Area straddles three of the old enclosures which were known as: Colley Hill Farm House and Homestead (No.98, 0a:2r:17p); Home Close (No.99, 1a:0r:29p); and Well Close (No. 101, 1a:3r:35p)¹². The Inclosure map shows four structures in a close (No.99) situated on the east side of the remains of the former lane. The land was in the ownership of the Bedford Old Meeting Trust (aka The Bunyan Meeting Trust), but the tenant's name is not shown. The 1841 census for Colmworth gives the household of farmer, John Loxley living at Colley Hill¹³, although the name Colley Hill Farm does not specifically appear. At least two, possibly three, of the farm buildings appear to have been still in existence at the time of the Land Rate Surveys of 1910¹⁴, when the farm was rented by George King of Colmworth, and 1920¹⁵, when farmer John Houghton is given as the occupier. The survey map is based on the OS 1901 edition. The Surveyor's Reference Book of 1920 gives an idea of the type of dwelling and other farm structures then in existence, which were of half-timber construction with thatched roofs, suggesting that they may have originated a century or two earlier:

Valuers Notes:

Lot of thatch – house partly thatched.

House

1 half B&T [brick and tile], ½ Stud & Tim[ber].

Parlour. Living Room, Dairy.

Up[per Storey] 3 B[edrooms] (2 render thatch)

Out[side] Privy

Water:Well or Soft

(well 25 yds distant, bad quality)

Buildings

3 Bay Cart House, Hen House,

Main Horse Box, Chaff & Haybarn, Stable

2, Calf box, 2 horse Boxes

“Remarks:, Cowpeases

2 bay hovel, meal barn, cowpease

Mostly W[?attle] on B[rick], found, T[ile] & C[?] 2 roof

Pond water

⁸ Bedfordshire Historic Environment Record No. HER17142

⁹ Bedford & Luton Archives: A/MA64, C4, Colmworth Award, 'An Act for inclosing and exonerating from Tythes lands in the 'Parish' of Colmworth in the County of Bedford', 1838

¹⁰ See also Emmison, F.G., 1937, *Some Types of Common-Field Parish with Maps*, page 15, map 7

¹¹ c.f Bryant, A., 1826, A Map of Bedfordshire

¹² Bedford & Luton Archives: AA72, The Schedule of Estates, 1838, p.63; Bedfordshire Historic Environment Record No. HER8034

¹³ Bedford & Luton Archives: HO 107/1/2, 1841, Colmworth Census, Transcribed by the Colmworth and Neighbours History Society, Public Record Office, 9

¹⁴ Bedford & Luton Archives: Duties on Land Values, 1910, Parish of Colmworth, DV2/1/30, p.11, No. 100

¹⁵ Bedford & Luton Archives: DV1/H22, DV2/J/9, 1920, Rating Map and Surveyors Reference Book, p60-61

- 5.2 In the course of the preparation of the WSI, the 1838 Inclosure Award map and early 20th century Ordnance Survey maps were digitally overlain with modern mapping to ascertain the approximate position and layout of former structures at Colley Hill Farm, and the site of the roadway which preceded the turnpike road. The results suggested that the existing modern house and barn, to a large extent, stand upon the same site as one or two of the earlier buildings shown on the 1838 map. It is uncertain which of the structures depicted on the old maps represents the farm house, but it is assumed that it was the larger isolated building, orientated east-west on the 1901 OS map, which corresponds with the position of a smaller building shown on the 1838 map.

Romano-British Settlement Evidence

- 5.3 Aerial photographs taken in 1996 show a number of, as yet, undated rectilinear enclosures immediately to the east of the proposed development, which may belong to the Romano-British period. Elsewhere in the parish there have been occasional finds indicating settlement during the period. These include a ditch containing Romano-British pottery (HER 9831) observed during pipeline construction east of Mill End in 1976, a coin and pottery sherds reportedly found to the south of Colmworth (HER469), coins found at Horseshoes Farm [HER 15973], and the identification of a Roman road north of The City, in Colmworth (HER 5163).

6. OBJECTIVES

- 6.1 The purpose of the evaluation was as follows:
- to assess the likelihood of the survival of buried archaeological features;
 - to gain an understanding of possible *in situ* archaeological remains, particularly relating to Romano-British to post-medieval periods;
 - to gain an understanding of the nature of any earlier remains of archaeological interest;
 - to help formulate an appropriate level of mitigation for any archaeological remains where present, to assess significance (by sample excavation) and determine an appropriate level of mitigation.

7. FIELD METHODOLOGY

- 7.1 The field procedure, was conducted with due consideration to Health and Safety and in accordance with the requirements of the Written Scheme of Investigation. The archaeological work was carried out by appropriately qualified and experienced archaeologists and in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct and Standard Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (2001).
- 7.2 Five trial trenches were opened by mechanical excavator to provide a 4% representative sample of the proposed area of ground disturbance; a total of just over 117sq.m was investigated (Figure 2). As far as constraints allowed, the trench positions conformed to the indicative locations set out in the WSI, the exceptions being Trench 1, situated immediately north of the existing house, which was adjusted to avoid damage to water mains, and a proposed trench to the north of the existing garage, which had to be abandoned due to ground water and health and safety considerations. The unused sample area percentage was ultimately utilised to characterise the extent of archaeological features encountered in Trenches 3 and 4 (*post.* 8.13; 8.16). Trench positions and archaeological features were accurately surveyed to Ordnance Survey National Grid co-ordinates and orthometric heights. At the monitoring meeting held on the 8th November 2011, the

Archaeological Officer for Bedford Borough Council decided that the use of the contingency trenching provision would not be necessary.

- 7.3 The trenches were excavated using a toothless bucket, under direct guidance of an experienced archaeologist. Topsoil and overburden were removed to the top of archaeological deposits or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever was encountered first. The trenches were then cleaned as necessary using appropriate hand tools and a written, drawn and photographic record was made of features and deposits in line with standard archaeological recording practice. Archaeological visibility was good in spite of persistent rainfall throughout the first two days of investigation. A sufficient sample of surviving archaeological deposits was investigated to meet the objectives of the evaluation (i.e. sufficient to adequately characterise each feature encountered).
- 7.4 An archaeological context recording system was used for registering textual descriptions and stratigraphic relationships of archaeological features (Appendix 1). All records are referenced with the Site Code BEDFM 20011 allocated for this site by Bedford Museum. Drawings were made on drafting film at appropriate scales for archaeological work. The photographic record, 35mm monochrome film and digital images, includes working shots to represent more generally the nature of the fieldwork. Archaeological features were surveyed to Ordnance Survey National Grid co-ordinates.
- 7.5 Topsoil and subsoil was stored separately, and on back-fill, was returned to the trenches in the reverse order to which it was excavated, followed by ground surface compaction by machine.

8. TRIAL TRENCHING RESULTS

- 8.1 In the descriptions which follow, context numbers in square brackets denote 'cuts' (i.e. dug features), whilst those in round brackets denote layers, deposits, fills or structures.

Trench 1

- 8.2 The trench was situated in Area A (Figures 2 and 3), in the patio and garden area immediately north east of the existing house, and within the development footprint of the proposed new dwelling. It was 10.87m in length and aligned north-northeast / south-southwest. Its width was irregular, between 1.57 and 2.32m, due to physical constraints and buried services. The overall area investigated was approximately 24.3sq.m.
- 8.3 The earliest archaeological remains encountered in Trench 1 appear to be the wall foundations and dirt floor of a small farm outbuilding or hovel, on the same alignment as the existing building (i.e. west-northwest/ east-southeast). The feature was located at the southern end of the trench (Figure 3). The floor (103) of the building was in effect the compact calcareous clay geology, a dirty creamy yellow-brown surface impressed with chalk fragments, occasional small pebbles and small brick fragments, including a piece of underglazed printed-transfer earthenware pottery which possibly dates to the early 19th century (*post.* 8.21, Table 3). The surface was bounded on its north and south sides by the remains of wall foundations. The southern wall foundation (102), which was only partially revealed, consisted of irregular cobbles set in a dirty yellow-brown clay matrix (possibly 'puddled'). It was probably the foundation pad for a sill beam. It also contained small fragments of crushed brick and several fragments of yellowy-buff pan-tiles. The northern wall foundation (106), again a probable sill beam pad, consisted of a raised strip of dirty creamy yellow-brown clay, not dissimilar in colour and texture to the floor/geology (103), into which with irregular cobbles and bricks were set to form a flat surface. A small sherd of terracotta earthenware was impressed into the clay matrix (*post.* 8.21, Table 3). The building was probably of late 18th or early 19th century origin.

- 8.4 The western extent of sill beam pad (102) had been cut through at some time in the 19th or 20th century, to insert a brick building (101) upon concrete foundations (107), yet the manner in which these foundations adjoined and complemented the northern sill beam pad (106), seems to indicate that the earlier building was retained at least in part. The eastern extent of the early outbuilding was not defined since the trench of modern drainage ran along the east baulk of the trench. The north side of the wall foundation was partly overlain by re-deposited clay (108) which had been used to infill areas disturbed during 20th century construction work.
- 8.5 The aforementioned brick building (101) survived to a height of c.0.5m and comprised five courses of stretcher bonded bricks, each brick possibly hand-made, measuring approximately 230mm x 80mm x 110mm. It was possibly the remains of another farm outbuilding.
- 8.6 The only other feature exposed at the south end of the trench was a 20th century post-hole [104], in-filled with clay and modern bricks (105).
- 8.7 All of the above features, (102), (103), (105) and (106) were sealed by turf, beneath which was up to 0.60m of dirty black soil containing large cobbles (113). This deposit abutted the remains of the brick building (101) and a pottery sherd of 19th / 20th century date (*post.* 8.21, Table 3). was found at its interface with the floor surface (103). The soil deposit (113) is likely to have been laid down after demolition and building extension work took place in the 20th century.
- 8.8 The remainder of the trench, to the north, revealed that severe disturbance had taken place during 20th century construction work, which involved the burial of rubble and building waste, (108) and (109). At the northern end of the trench there was evidence of excavation of the geology and a brick ramp (?for barrows) had been built of 19th century bricks (Figure 3).

Trench 2

- 8.9 Trench 2 was sited within the proposed new access route between areas A and C (Figure 2), aligned west-northwest / east-southeast. It was c.10.20m in long and c.1.9m wide, the area investigated being approximately 19.75 sq.m. The geological stratum exposed in Trench 2 comprised yellowish-brown calcareous or clay with abundant small stones and chalk fragments.
- 8.10 A succession of post-medieval to modern field drainage ditches were exposed, all of which respected the northeast / southwest alignment of the existing hedge. Ditch [210], situated on the west side of the hedge was cut into the natural geology of light yellow-brown sandy calcareous clay (Figures 6, 7 (section 2) and 8). It was 1.6m wide and very shallow (up to c.0.10m) with sides sloping at 15°. The fill consisted of homogenous mid grey-brown sandy clay (211) with occasional small stones and contained 18th / 19th century domestic farm rubbish - pottery sherds (*post.* 8.21, Table 3), animal bone fragments and two pieces of iron scrap (a broken horse shoe and a broken bladed implement). The ditch was sealed by a subsoil interface layer of dark brown clayey soil (202/212), between c.0.20-0.30m in thickness, from which a piece of 19th / 20th century pottery was recovered (*post.* 8.21, Table 3). Above the subsoil interface layer was up to c. 0.36m of dark brown/black silty clay topsoil (201).
- 8.11 Another ditch, [208], was situated between ditch [210] and the hedge (Figures 6, 7 (Section 1) and 8). It too was dug into the geology and sealed by the subsoil interface layer (212). It was about 1.5m in width with a shallow 'V' profile and sides sloping at 40° to a depth of c.0.43m. Its east side was disturbed by roots, so that its stratigraphic relationship with an adjacent ditch [207] could not be established. Its fill comprised dark brown clayey soil. There were no artefacts present. Above this subsoil interface layer was c. 0.25m of topsoil (201).

- 8.12 To the east of ditch [208], and beneath the hedge was a 20th century field drainage cut [207] (Figures 6, 7 (Section 1) and 8) with a corrugated ceramic pipe at the base. The stepped sides, (c.30° to 55°) seemed to suggest that it was a re-cut ditch. It was c.2.01m in width and 0.70 in depth. There was no trace of the subsoil interface layer (212), the ditch sealed by up to 0.36m of topsoil (201). The most recent drainage cut in the sequence was [204], situated immediately on the east side of the hedge (Figures 7 (Section 1) and 8). This had been cut into the topsoil (201) and penetrated the fill of ditch [207]. It was c. 1.08m in width with sides inclined between c.60° (w) and c.80-60° (E) to a depth of c.0.72m. Its fill (205) comprised homogenous grey-brown sandy clay.

Trench 3

- 8.13 Trench 3 (Figures 2, 9 and 11) was situated in Area C, on a west-northwest / east-southeast alignment, straddling the proposed footprint of the new stable block and proposed gravelled area on its north side. The geological stratum exposed comprised yellowish-brown calcareous or clay with abundant small stones and chalk fragments, similar that in Trench 2. Initially, 10m in length and 2m in width, the trench was extended eastwards 3m (x c.1.7m wide) to join up with an extension of Trench 4, in order to determine the character and extent of exposed archaeological deposits. The combined area of investigation in Trenches 3 and 4 amounted to 53.09sq.m.
- 8.14 The trench was dominated by a large prehistoric feature [301] dug into the natural geology (Figures 9, and 10 (section 3) and 11), which appeared to be the same feature as that exposed in the north extension of Trench 4 (i.e. [408]). An edge of the feature was visible at the west end of Trench 3 for a distance of about 3m, on an approximate northwest-southeast alignment. Considered initially to be a pond or a quarry, it was sample excavated by two segments, one in Trench 3, the other in Trench 4. The segment in Trench 3 followed the side of the feature down to its base for a distance of 3.05m (Figures 10 and 11, Section 3). The side was inclined 35° to a flat base at a depth of c.0.86m and continued beyond the baulk to the southeast. The northern side of the feature was concealed by the baulk, with only part of an upper fill (possibly (302)) being vaguely distinguishable. The segment excavated in Trench 4 (*post.* 8.17, [408]) indicated that the feature was likely to be linear, or curvilinear in form, suggesting a large ditch enclosure ditch.
- 8.15 Three fills were present in Trench 3. The primary fill (304) was c.0.2m in thickness and comprised dark grey-brown compact, but crumbly silty clay with organic content and some water snail shells. It contained Late Iron Age domestic pottery (*post.* 8.21 Tables 1 and 2) and fragments of animal bone (*post.* 8.23). An environmental sample was taken for analysis and assessment of its archaeological potential (*post.* 8.24 Table 4). The intermediate fill (302), between c.0.20m and c.0.40m in thickness, lay against the side of the feature and consisted of mid-yellow clay with frequent small stones. It was interpreted as an erosion product, derived either from the side of the feature or a bank of earth above its side. Artefacts recovered comprised Early to Late Iron Age pottery (*post.* 8.21 Tables 1 and 2) and a copper alloy brooch (*post.* 8.22; Figure 13). The upper fill (303) of the feature was the main deposit at a thickness of up to 0.65m. It consisted of mid to dark greyish brown compact silty clay, with charcoal flecks and frequent small stones. It contained Early to Late Iron Age pottery (*post.* 8.21 Tables 1 and 2). The feature was sealed by a layer of subsoil (305) c.0.20 in thickness, composed of mid grey-brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks, which in turn was overlain by c.0.30m of dark brown clayey topsoil (306).

Trench 4

- 8.16 Trench 4 (Figures 2, 9 and 11) was likewise positioned in Area C within the proposed footprint of the stable block, on a north-northeast / south-southwest alignment. The geological stratum exposed comprised yellowish-brown calcareous or clay with abundant small stones and chalk fragments, similar to that in Trenches 2 and 4. Initially, 10m long and 2m wide, the north end of the trench was extended (c. 3.4 x 1.7m) in order to gain a better understanding of the character and extent of the large prehistoric linear feature [301] in Trench 3 (*ante.*8.13). There were two

other archaeological features in Trench 4; a post-hole [404] and a gully [406], all of which were cut into the natural geology (403) of yellowish-brown calcareous or clay with abundant small stones and chalk fragments.

- 8.17 A further extent of the large prehistoric linear feature [301] was exposed at the northern end of Trench 4, where it proved to continue beyond the east baulk on a northwest-southeast alignment. The northern edge was still concealed by the baulk. It was sampled by a hand-excavated segment (Figures 10 and 11, Section 4). The south side [408] of the feature sloped 45° to a flat base at a depth of 0.73m, and although the full width of the feature was not visible in the 2.3m long section, the northern inclination of its primary fill (410) suggests that it could be at least 2.9m in width.
- 8.18 There were two discernible fills. The primary fill (410) was up to 0.18m in thickness and consisted of mid to dark grey brown compact silty clay, with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent small stones. It was not dissimilar to the primary fill (304) in Trench 3 and is considered to have been a silting deposit. At the base was a large decorated body sherd of a Late Iron Age cooking vessel (*post.* 8.21, Table 2, F06c) laying flat, with several medium-sized pebbles. An environmental sample was taken for assessment (*post.* 8.24, Table 4). The upper and main fill (409) was c.0.55m in thickness and consisted of compact mid greyish-brown sandy silty clay, containing frequent small stones, chalk fragments and occasional charcoal flecks. It was probably a product of natural silting and waste discard over a period of time; there were no signs of deliberate back-fill. Artefacts recovered comprise Late Iron Age domestic pottery (*post.* 8.21, Table 2) and animal bone (*post.* 8.23). The feature was sealed by a layer of subsoil (402) c.0.20 in thickness, composed of mid grey-brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks, in which a single sherd of Iron Age pottery was found along with two fragments of medieval or post-medieval ceramic building tile (*post.* 8.27). The subsoil was overlain by c.0.30m of dark brown clayey topsoil (401).
- 8.19 Parallel to the southern edge of the large linear feature, at a distance of less than 0.2m, was a shallow 'U'- profiled gully [406], c.0.5m wide and c.0.20m deep (Figures 9, 10 and 11). This feature spanned the trench width. It contained a single discernible fill (407) of homogenous compact mid grey-brown sandy clay, with infrequent charcoal flecks. There were no finds and the date and function of the feature could not be established. Similarly un-dateable, was a small shallow post-hole [404] towards the southern end of the trench, c.0.3m in diameter, with sides inclined 50° to 65° to a depth of c.0.12m. It contained a single fill of homogenous compact mid grey-brown sandy clay, with infrequent charcoal flecks (405).

Trench 5

- 8.20 Trench 5 (Figures 2, 10 (Section 7) and 14) was positioned in the footprint of the ménage in Area B and aligned east-west. It was c.9.65m long and between 1.9 and 2.1m wide (total area 19.87sq.m). It was excavated to a geological stratum (503) of yellow brown clay with occasional med stones and flints, which was reached at a depth of c.0.7m (Figure 10, Section 7). It was overlain by a subsoil interface layer (502), c.0.2m thick, composed of mid-brown clay with occasional medium-sized stones, above which was between c.0.30 to 0.34m of dark brown clayey topsoil (501). There were no archaeological features or artefacts present.

The Pottery

- 8.21 A total of 47 pottery sherds was recovered from stratified deposits and features, 37 of which were recovered from ditch [301/408] in Trenches 3 and 4. The majority of prehistoric sherds fall within the date range 100BC to 43AD (Late Iron Age), the others, c.400-100BC (Middle Iron Age) (Tables 1 and 2). The prehistoric assemblage was compared with the Bedfordshire Reference Collection. Notably, there are no 'Romanised' vessels in the assemblage (*pers. comm.* J. Wells). The remainder of the pottery was recovered from Trenches 1 and 2. It dates from the 18th to early 20th centuries

(Table 3) and is a common domestic assemblage associated with the occupation of Colley Hill farm during this period.

Table 1: Quantification of Iron Age Pottery

Context No.	Quantity (sherd count)	Weight (grams)	Minimum Number of Vessels
302	5	50	4
303	8	85	7
304	4	55	2
305	1	4	1
401	1	15	1
409	7	50	4
410	11	191	4
Totals	37	450	23

Table 2: Iron Age Pottery

Note: Fabric codes used in descriptions refer to those of the Bedfordshire Reference Collection.

Context No.	Description	Suggested Period
302	x 1 body sherd of cooking vessel in medium coarse grog fabric F06b. Combed outer decoration	Late Iron Age
302	x 1 body sherd of cooking vessel in fine sand fabric, F028	Early to mid Iron Age
302	x 2 body sherds of cooking pot in shelly fabric, F07. Oxidised inner margin	Late Iron Age
302	x 1 body sherd of cooking pot in fine sandy fabric, F28	Broadly mid – Late Iron Age
303	x 1 body sherd of cooking vessel in fine sandy fabric, F28. Very abraded	Early to mid Iron Age
303	x 1 base sherd of cooking vessel in grog fabric, F17. Abraded	Broadly mid Iron Age
303	x 1 body sherd of cooking vessel. Mixed inclusions, F15. Abraded	Broadly mid Iron Age
303	x 1 body sherd of cooking vessel. Medium-fine orange fabric, grog and shell, F05. Very abraded	Late Iron Age
303	x 1 body sherd of cooking vessel. Grog and shell, F05. Very abraded	Late Iron Age
303	x 3 body sherds of cooking vessel. Grog and shell, F07. Oxidised interior. Abraded	Late Iron Age
303	x 1 body sherd of cooking vessel. Grog and shell, F07. Abraded	Late Iron Age
304	x 3 body sherds of cooking pot in medium coarse grog fabric F06b. Combed outer decoration	Late Iron Age
304	x 1 body sherd of cooking pot in grog and shell fabric, F05. Lightly combed outer surface. Partly abraded.	Late Iron Age

Context No.	Description	Suggested Period
305	x 1 body sherd of cooking pot. Shelly fabric, F07	Late Iron Age
401	x 1 rim sherd of cooking pot. Lid-seated rim. Grog and shell fabric, F05	Late Iron Age
409	x 3 body sherds of cooking pot in grog and shell fabric, F05	Late Iron Age
409	x 1 body sherd of cooking pot in coarse grog fabric, F06c	Late Iron Age
409	x 1 body sherd of cooking pot in fine grog fabric, F06a	Late Iron Age
409	x 2 body sherds of cooking pot in shelly fabric, F07	Late Iron Age
410	x 1 large body sherd of cooking vessel with combed decoration on outer surface. Coarse grog fabric, probably F06c	Late Iron Age
410	x 1 rim sherd of cooking vessel. lid-seated rim with impressed 'cord' decoration. Shelly fabric. F07	Late Iron Age
410	x 7 sherds of cooking pot with beaded rim, rilled decoration around neck and carination. Grog and sand fabric, F03	Late Iron Age
410	x 1 rim sherd of cooking pot with lid seat. Shelly fabric, F07	Late Iron Age

Table 3: Post-medieval Pottery

Context No.	Description	Suggested Period
103	x 1 base sherd, saucer/small plate. Underglaze transfer-printed earthenware: Refined white earthenware with clear lead glaze and dots pattern blue on white. Form: plate. Peak production for field dots pattern on British willow pattern views: c.1816-1841. Reference: Chaney, E, <i>Underglaze Painted Earthenwares</i> , Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab. 2003	Early 19 th century
106	x 1 whiteware. Rim, tea-ware	19 th -20 th centuries
106	x 1 body sherd, fine terra-cotta. ?plant pot	18 th /20 th century
211	x 3 body sherds of pitchers or bowls in coarse orange sandy fabric, with light yellow-brown semi-transparent lead glaze on both surfaces	c.18 th -19 th centuries
211	x 1 body sherd of large ?storage vessel in coarse orange sandy fabric, with light yellow-brown semi-transparent lead glaze on interior	c.18 th -19 th centuries
211	x 2 rim sherds of large earthenware storage vessel with uneven black 'metallic' lead glaze on interior. For introduction of metallic lead glaze see Philpott, R. A., 1985 Black Glazed Ware. <i>Journal of the Merseyside Archaeological Society</i> , 4:85-105	mid-to-late 18 th century to 19 th century
212	x 1 body sherd, yellow-bodied dipped earthenware bowl or canister with mocha (tree-like or dendritic pattern) decoration blue on white, and brown-glazed banding, production: 1790s-early 20 th century.	c.19 th century

Copper Alloy Artefact

- 8.22 A broken copper-alloy (Cu) brooch (SF1) was recovered from the intermediate fill (302) of a large ditch revealed in Trenches 3 and 4 [301]/[408]. While the brooch is in-keeping in style with Roman forms, the presence of mid-to late Iron Age pottery and notable absence of 'Romanised' ceramic forms in any of the contexts, seems to suggest that the brooch is a pre-conquest item.

The Animal bones by Matilda Holmes

- 8.23 A very small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from ditch [301]/[408]. It was in fair condition, though extremely friable and over half the fragments could be refitted together. There were no signs of butchery, burning or gnawing. The assemblage is too small to warrant detailed analysis, but it contained a cattle metacarpal (303), a fused horse tibia (304), sheep/ goat 3rd molar (303) and fragments from a medium sized mammal mandible (409) and a large mammal vertebra (303). These species are not uncommon on Iron Age sites, and there is nothing remarkable about the sample as a whole.

Charred Plant Remains by Hayley McParland

- 8.24 Two bulk samples were taken from the primary fills ((304) and (410)) of a ditch of Iron Age date ([301]/[408]). The samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoal.
- 8.25 Samples were deflocculated with Sodium hexametaphosphate solution prior to processing and were processed using a 'Siraf' style flotation tank, with meshes of 0.5mm aperture for both retention of the flot and the residue. Following air-drying the residue was sorted, weighed and discarded. The residue contained a single pottery sherd (304) and two worked flint flakes (410). The floated material was fractionated to 5mm, 2mm and 0.5mm, then sorted and assessed using a stereo zoom microscope.
- 8.26 Both flots contained modern root material with some intrusive modern seeds and plant remains (Table 4). The charred plant remains were clinkered, suggesting charring had occurred at high temperatures and preservation was poor. Both flots contained small quantities of highly clinkered and degraded *Triticum* sp. some of which may be wild grasses. Given the small amount of material present and the level of preservation, no further work is recommended.

Table 4 : Charred Plant Remains Assessment Data

Sample No.	Context	Sample Vol (litres)	Flot Vol (ml)	Residue weight (g)	Comments
1	(304)	10	55	1215	50 % modern roots present in flot, with occasional intrusive modern seeds and plant remains. Occasional small fragments of non-diagnostic charcoal present. Three <i>Triticum</i> sp. cf. grains present but highly clinkered. Five unidentified small weed seeds were also present. Land snails were also noted.
2	(410)	13	70	1733	25% modern roots present in flot. Occasional small fragments of non-diagnostic charcoal present. Four <i>Triticum</i> sp. cf. grains present. A variety of land snail species were noted.

Ceramic building material

- 8.27 A small assemblage of pan-tile fragments was recovered from Trench 1. These had been impressed into the puddle clay matrix of a wall foundation (probably a sill-beam pad) together with cobbles. The tiles are hand-made and have a yellowy-buff fabric are likely to date to the 19th century, though possibly earlier and were typically used on single-storey buildings. Two small fragments of

red-orange roof tile were recovered from the topsoil (401) in Area C, which probably date to the late medieval to post-medieval periods.

9 DISCUSSION OF FINDS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

9.1 The evaluation revealed the presence of archaeological remains in Areas A and C. There was no archaeology revealed in Area B. There were no archaeological remains associated with the former medieval settlement of Chapel End/Colley Hill, nor were there any remains of the Roman period.

Area A: Post-medieval to early modern remains

9.2 In Area A, the remains of two farm outbuildings were exposed in Trench 1, immediately northeast of the existing house. The earliest outbuilding which had an earthen floor, is understood to have been a timber structure standing upon sill beam pads. It probably dates from the 18th or early 19th century. At some time in the 19th or 20th century, a brick structure was built upon concrete foundations, adjoining at least part of the earlier outbuilding. Notably, both outbuildings respect the alignment of the existing house.

9.3 There was no archaeological evidence earlier than the 18th century. Subsequent to site inspection and study of cartographic evidence, it is postulated that the existing house stands upon the location of the earliest known farmhouse, and that the dwelling was extended incrementally eastwards in the 19th to 20th centuries. The evaluation showed that this part of the site had been severely disturbed by 20th century demolition and construction work. Taken in aggregate it is considered that evidence of the earlier farm buildings is fragmentary.

9.4 To the northeast of the existing house, a sequence of field drainage ditches were investigated in Trench 2, which attested to the longevity of the field boundary, now hedge-lined, which dates back to at least the 18th century, based on the domestic waste in one of the ditch fills.

Area C: Iron Age remains

9.5 Trenches 3 and 4 in Area C revealed a large prehistoric curvilinear ditch containing artefacts and environmental data indicative of a settlement at the site in the middle to late Iron Age. The ditch was exposed for a distance of 12m. Its width, which exceed 2.3m could not be fully ascertained, but is considered to be at least 2.9m. The ditch is understood to have filled up gradually through a combination of natural processes and discarded domestic waste.

9.6 The pottery is predominantly from the late Iron Age (c.100BC to 43AD) with a few abraded pieces from the Middle Iron Age (c.400-c.100BC), thus indicating the longevity of settlement at Colley Hill. A small Roman-style bow brooch was found in the intermediate fill (an erosion by-product) of the ditch in Trench 3 and is considered to be a pre-conquest item, since there are no 'Romanised' pottery sherds present in the assemblage.

9.7 The animal bone assemblage is indicative of the domestic economy comprising cattle, horse and sheep or goats, species which are not uncommon on Iron Age sites. The bulk environmental samples taken from the primary fill of the ditch contained just seven highly clinkered and degraded grains of wheat (*Triticum* sp), some of which may be wild grasses, but nevertheless evidence of a mixed agrarian economy.

9.8 The quantity and nature of finds recovered from the two excavated segments at Colley Hill suggest that habitation was in close proximity. The ditch was in use during the Late Iron Age, though may have originated in the Middle Iron Age.

- 9.9 A common type of site in the Late Iron Age is a farmstead enclosure by a ditch, usually set within a wider system of land management. Another common form is the farmstead (circular huts and ancillary buildings) placed within a field system. If it is an enclosure ditch at Colley Hill, based on the present evidence it would be imprudent to speculate as to which side is its interior, since despite the presence of a post-hole and a gully, although both undated, it is not uncommon to find settlement evidence on the outside of an enclosure¹⁶.
- 9.10 Since the 1990s there has been a considerable increase in our knowledge of Iron Age sites in Bedfordshire and surrounding counties as a result of development-initiated research. However, with the exception of linear developments (e.g. roads and pipelines) archaeological investigations have been biased to valley sites or gravel deposits, beyond which less is known about the Iron Age landscape¹⁷.
- 9.11 Occasionally, excavation has extended our understanding of the location of Iron Age settlements in Bedfordshire within areas where they had not previously been identified¹⁸, for example: on ridges, as at Stotfold¹⁹ (early to middle Iron Age), and on the clay lands, such as Thurleigh Airfield²⁰ (late Iron Age) and Topley's Hill (early to middle Iron Age)²¹.

Archaeological Significance

- 9.12 The post-medieval to early modern archaeological remains in Area A, which are mundane in character, are considered to be of local interest relating to the occupation and development of Colley Hill Farm.
- 9.13 The Iron Age remains found in Area C are considered to be both locally and regionally significant in view of the gaps in our knowledge of the extent and character of Iron Age settlement beyond the valley and gravel areas.

10. ARCHIVE

- 10.1 All identified finds and artefacts from archaeologically significant features will be collected and retained by Souterrain for analysis. All artefacts will remain the property of the landowner although the landowner will be invited to transfer finds ownership to the Bedford Museums.
- 10.2 The archaeological site archive is to be prepared and deposited at Bedford Museum in accordance with the policy set out in "Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition with Registered Museums"

¹⁶ Cooper, N, ed., 2006. *The Archaeology of the East Midlands*, Leicester Archaeology Monograph 13, 111

¹⁷ Dawson, M, 2007. 'Late Bronze Age to Roman', pp.63-66 in Oake, M., Luke, M, Dawson, M, Edgeworth, M and Murphy, P. 2007, *Bedfordshire Archaeology. Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy*. Bedfordshire Archaeology Monograph No.9, 2007

¹⁸ Medlycott, M (ed) 2011 *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No.24, 2011ALGAO East of England, pp.22-23

¹⁹ A large residential development at Fairfield Park: Webley, L, Timby, J and Wilson M.D, 2008. *Fairfield Park, Stotfold, Bedfordshire: Later Prehistoric Settlement in the Eastern Chilterns*, Oxford Archaeology / Bedfordshire Archaeological Monograph Series, No. 7 (Oxford University Committee for Archaeology).

²⁰ Crick, J & Luke, M. 1997. *Satellite Installations, Thurleigh Airfield. Archaeological Field Investigations. Stage One*. Bedfordshire County Archaeological Service, evaluation report.

²¹ Investigations in advance of road works in 1998 and 2000: Luke, M, 2004. 'The Investigation of an Early-Middle Iron Age Settlement and Field System at Topley's Hill'. *Bedfordshire Archaeology*, 25, pp. 43-44 *Bedfordshire Archaeology* 25, 23-54.

10.3 An OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations – see www.oasis.ac.uk) Data Collection Form ID for this project is to be confirmed. All artefacts will remain the property of the landowner.

11. Copyright and Confidentiality

11.1 Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it will provide an exclusive licence to the Owner in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the WSI. Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd retains the right to be identified as the author of all project documentation and reports as defined in the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. A licence is to be also granted to Bedfordshire Historic Environment Record for the use of all reports arising from projects for planning purposes and *bona fide* research requests.

11.2 Souterrain undertakes to respect all requirements for confidentiality about the Applicant's proposals provided that these are clearly stated. It is expected that owners respect Souterrain's and the Institute for Archaeologists' general ethical obligations not to suppress significant archaeological data for an unreasonable period.

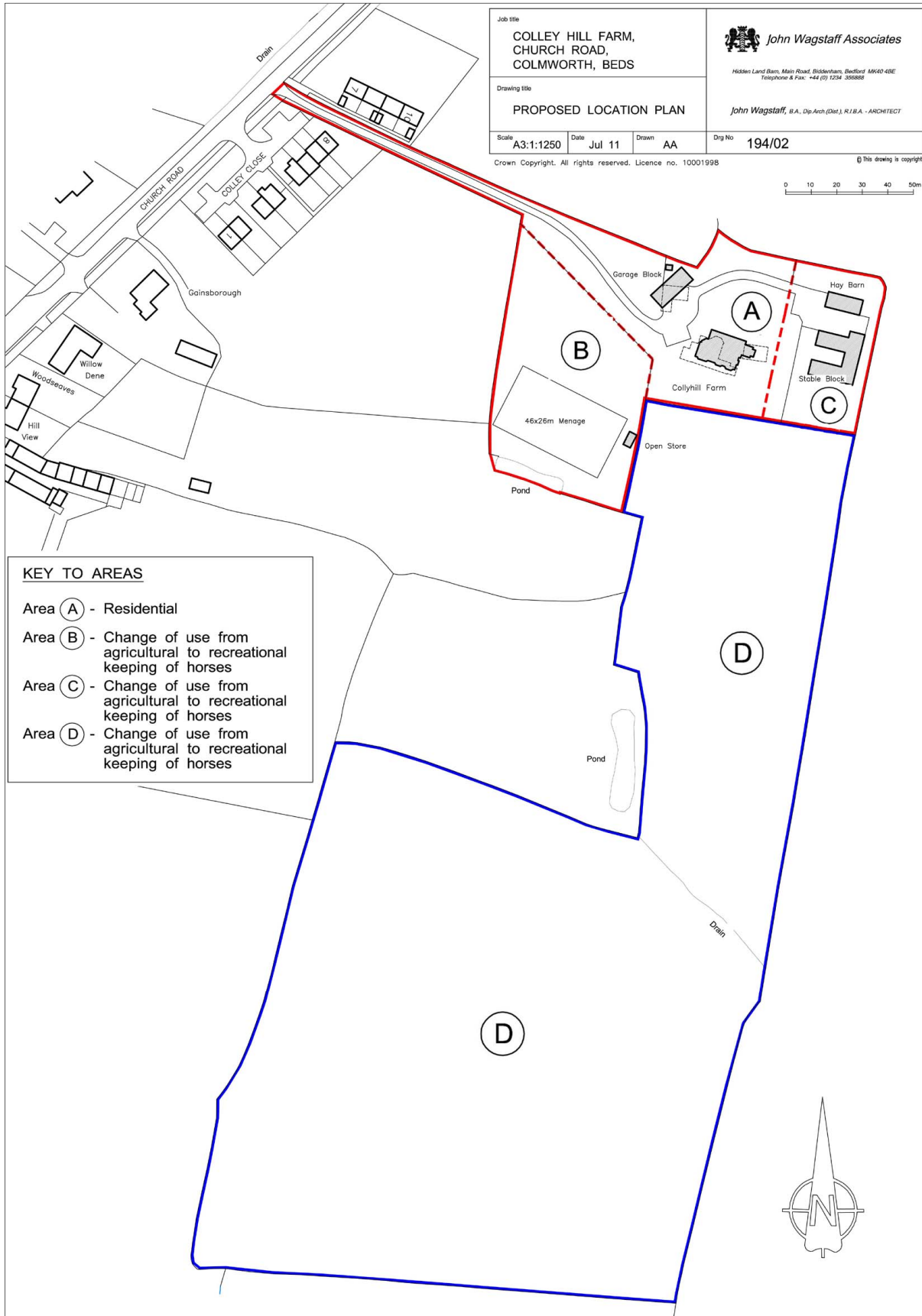
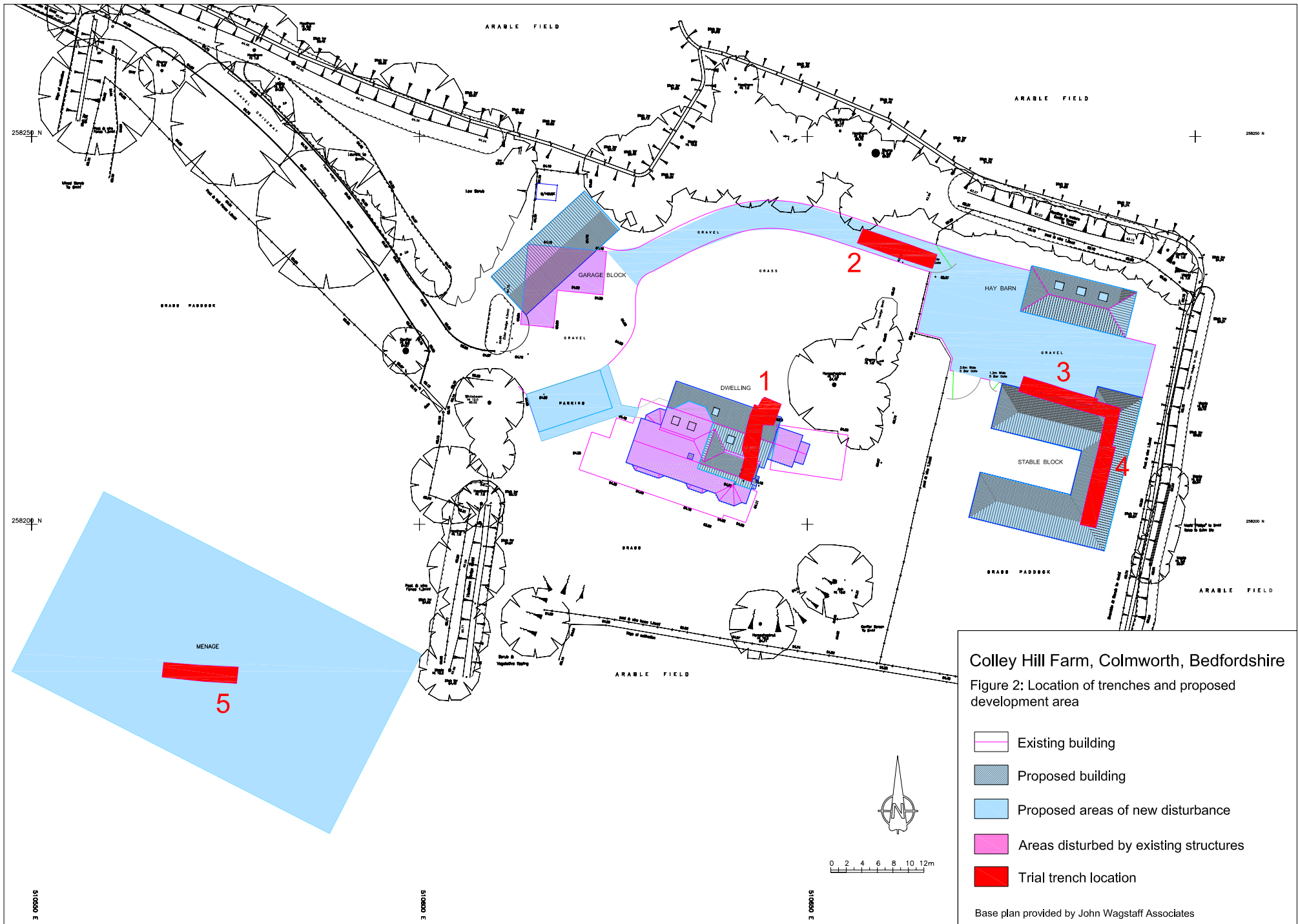


Figure 1. Location of Site



Colley Hill Farm, Colmworth, Bedfordshire

Figure 2: Location of trenches and proposed development area

- Existing building
- Proposed building
- Proposed areas of new disturbance
- Areas disturbed by existing structures
- Trial trench location

Base plan provided by John Wagstaff Associates

Figure 3. Trench 1: plan of features

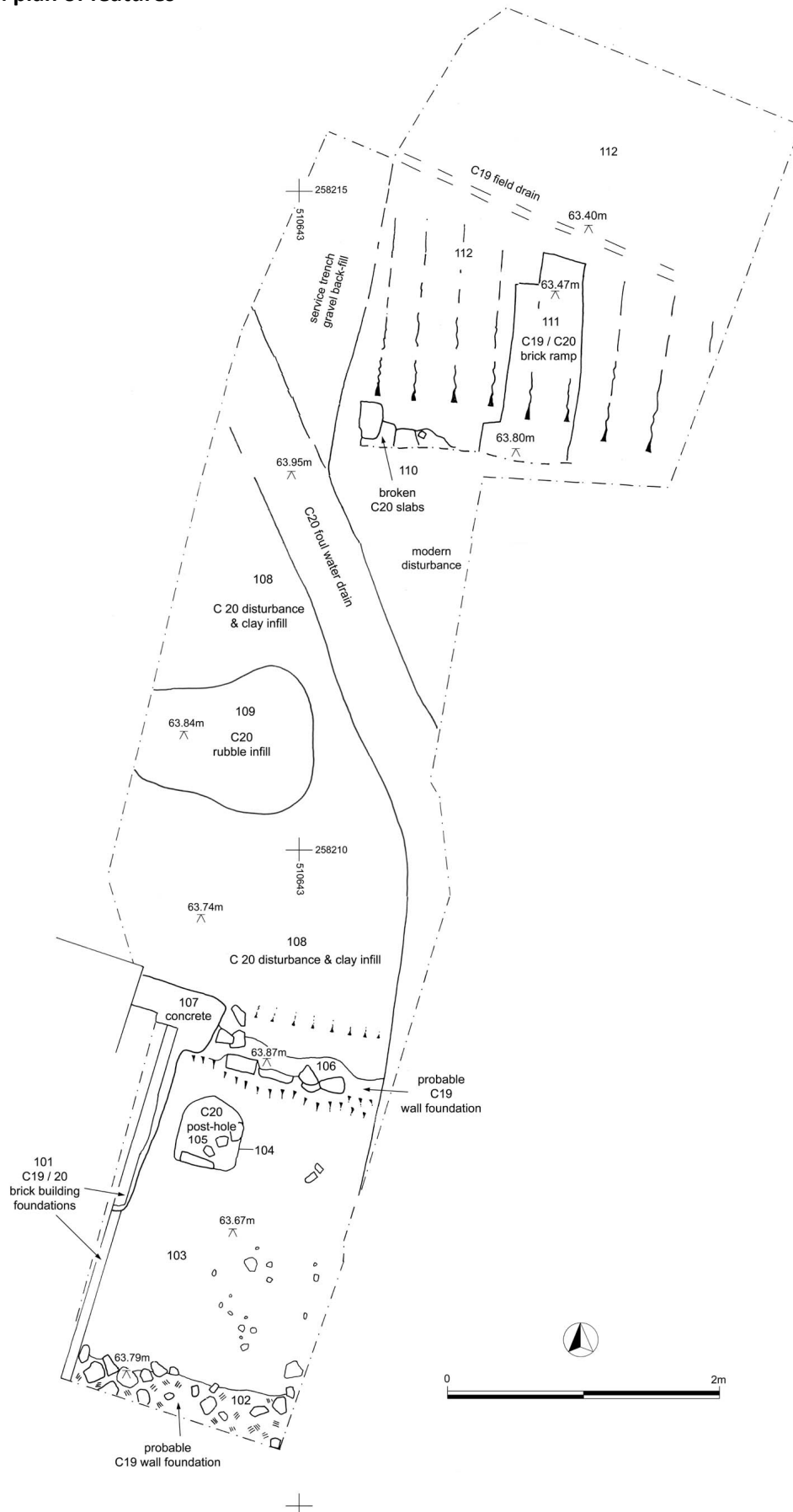




Figure 4.
Overviews of Trench 1
Top: facing N.
Bottom: facing SW

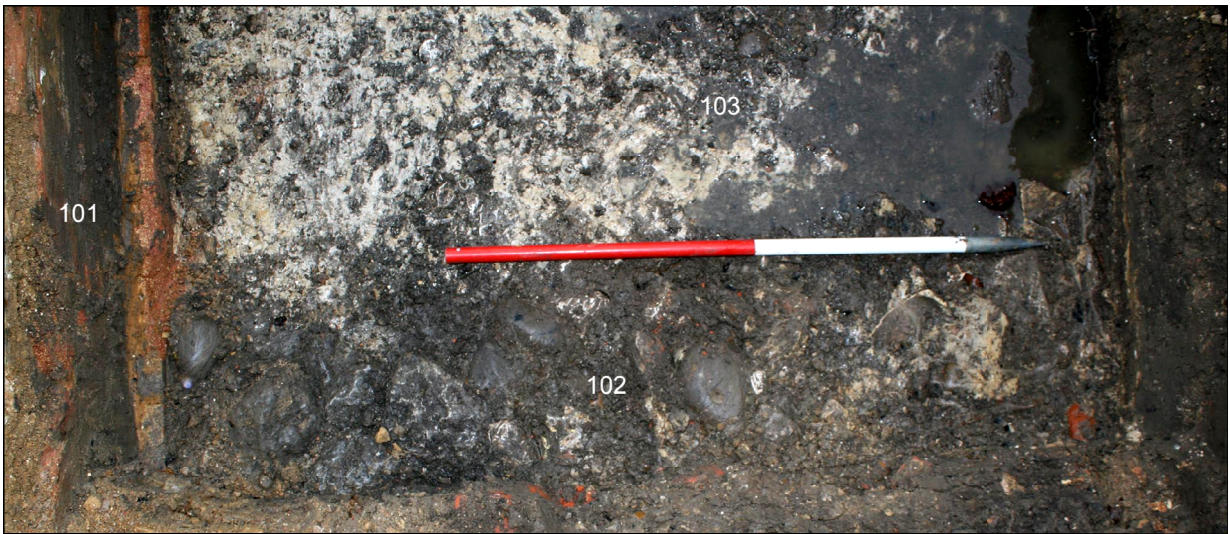


Figure 5. Trench 1. Top: wall foundation (102) facing N (vt.). Bottom: wall foundation (106) facing W

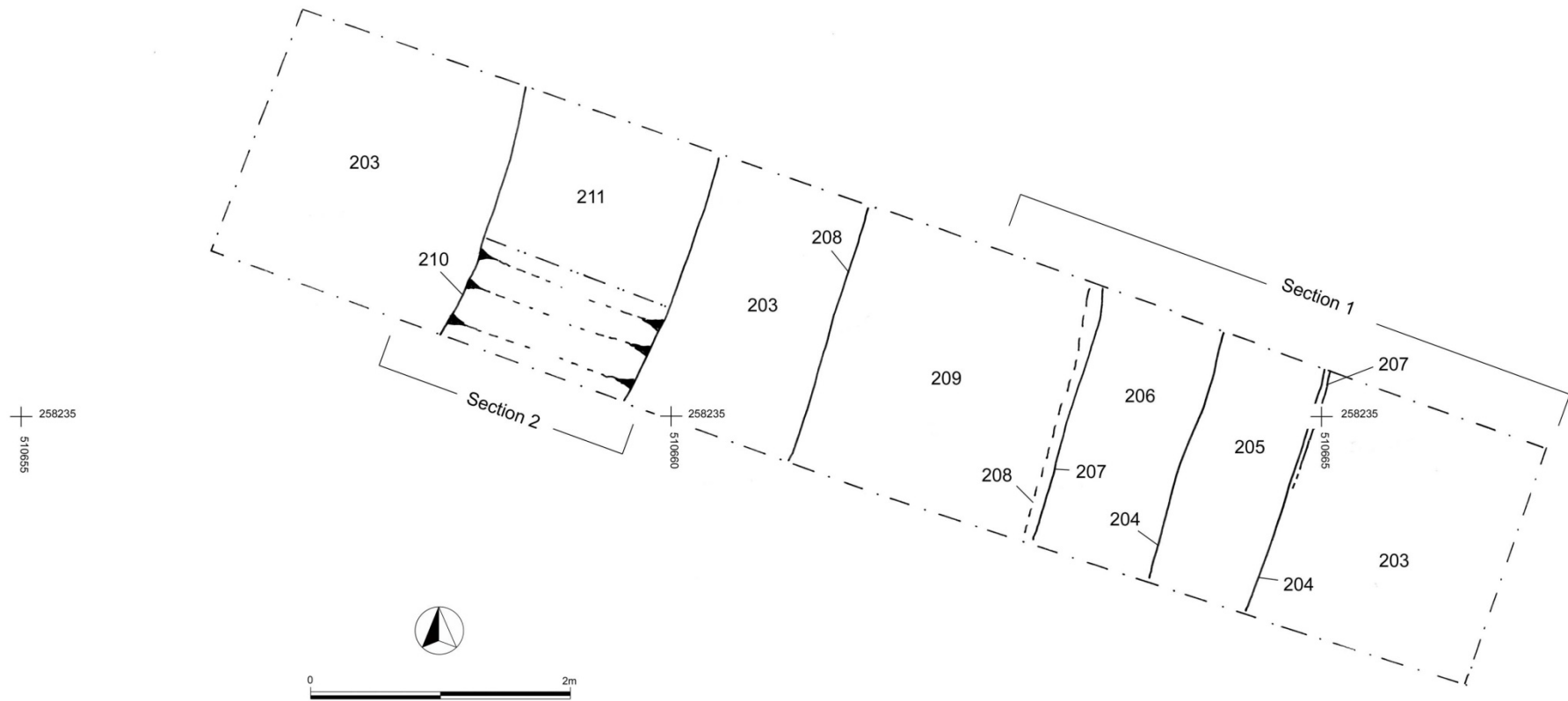


Figure 6. Trench 2: plan and location of sections

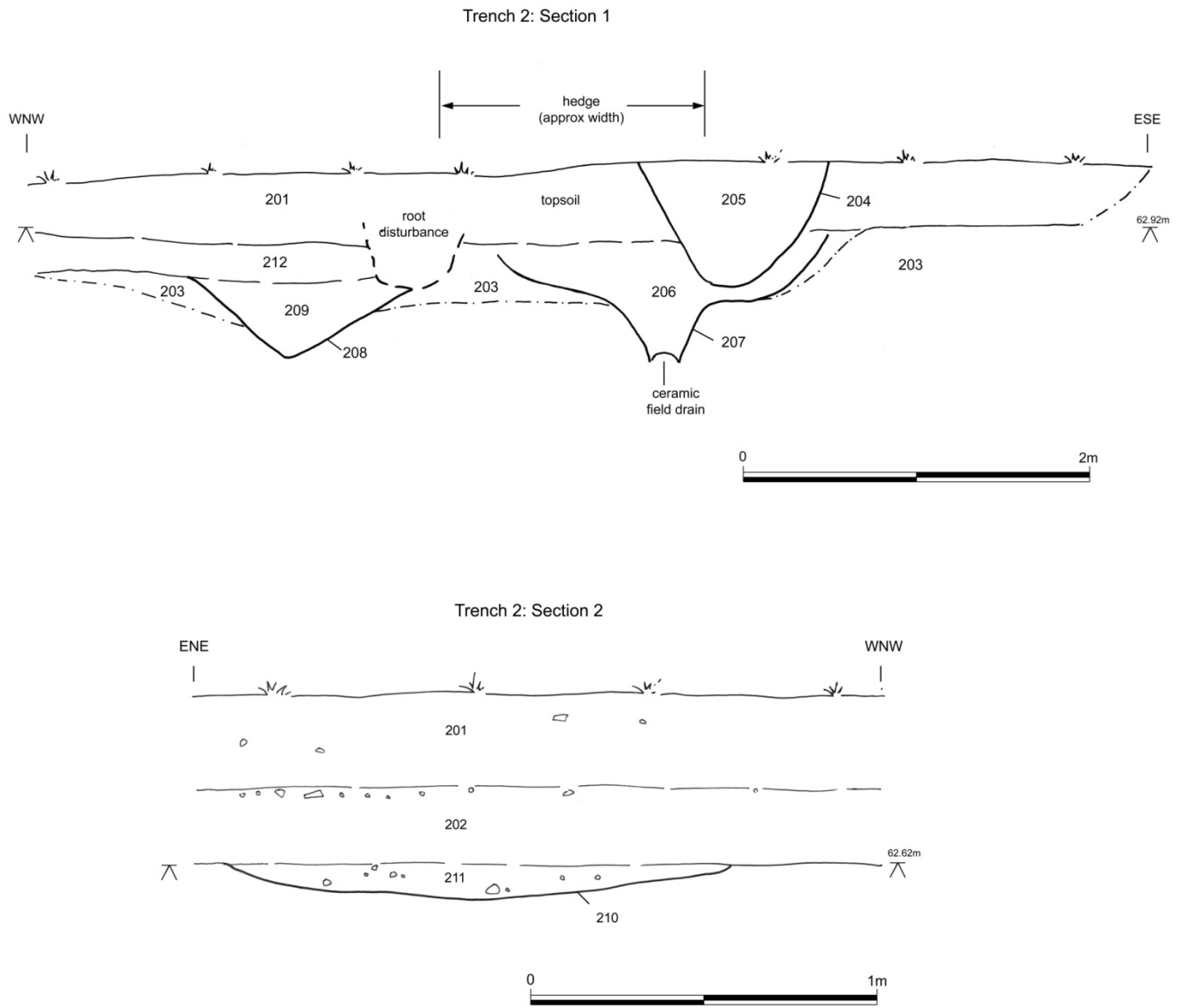


Figure 7. Trench 2: Sections 1 and 2



Figure 8. Trench 2. Top: Ditch 210, facing NE. Bottom: Ditches [204], [207] and [208], facing N

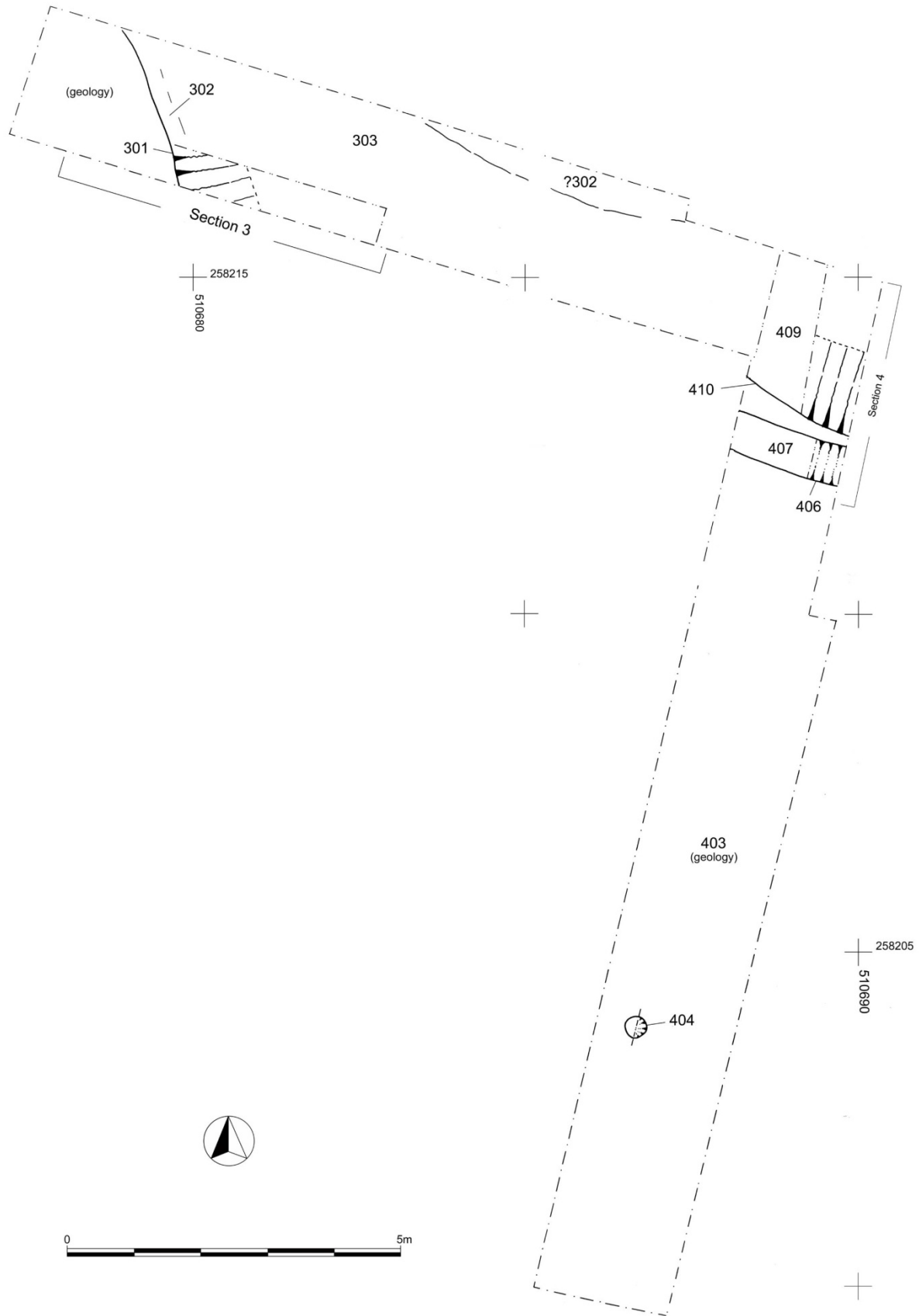


Figure 9. Trenches 3 and 4: plan of features

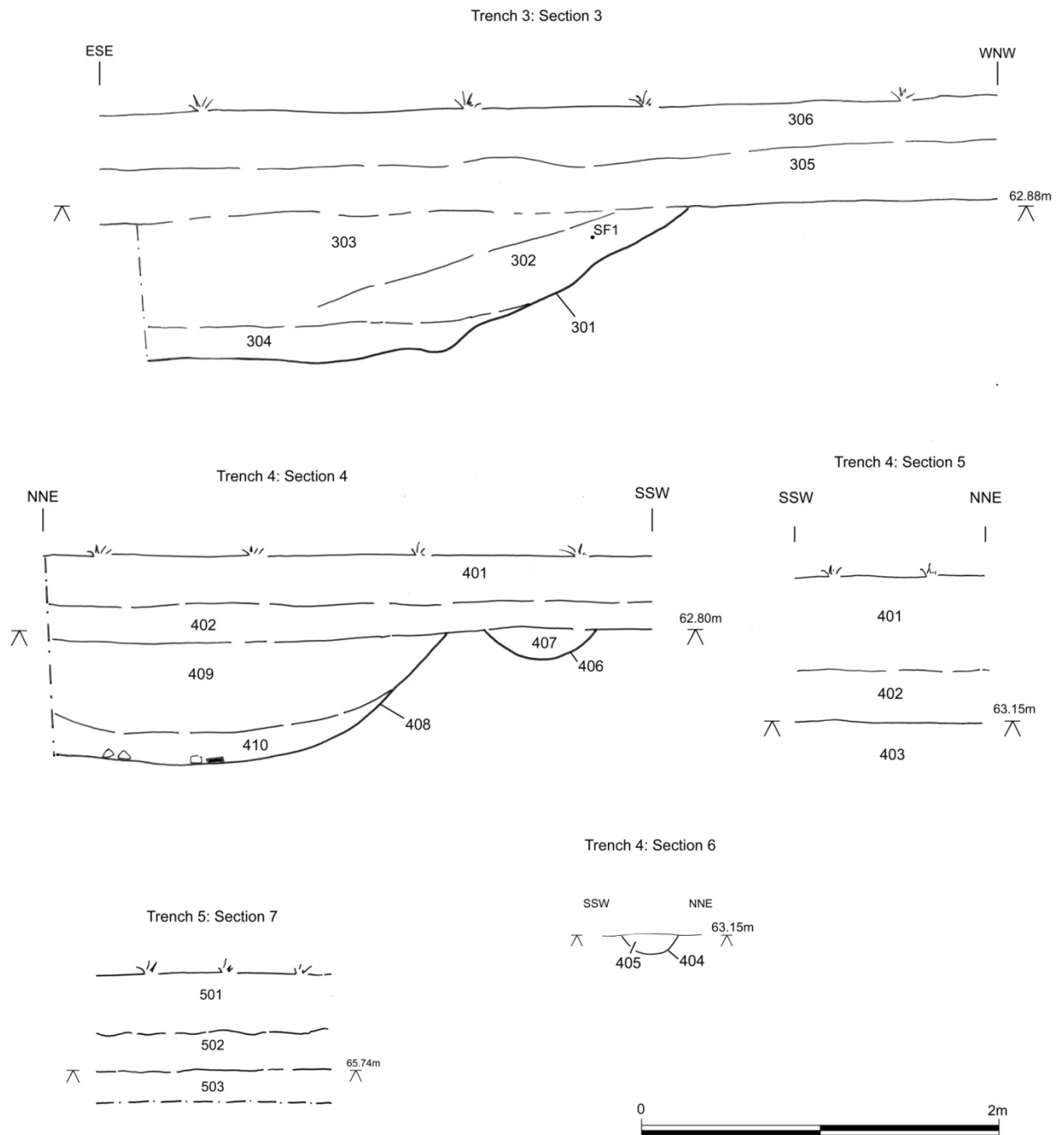


Figure 10. Trenches 3 and 4. Sections 3 to 6; Trench 5, Section 7

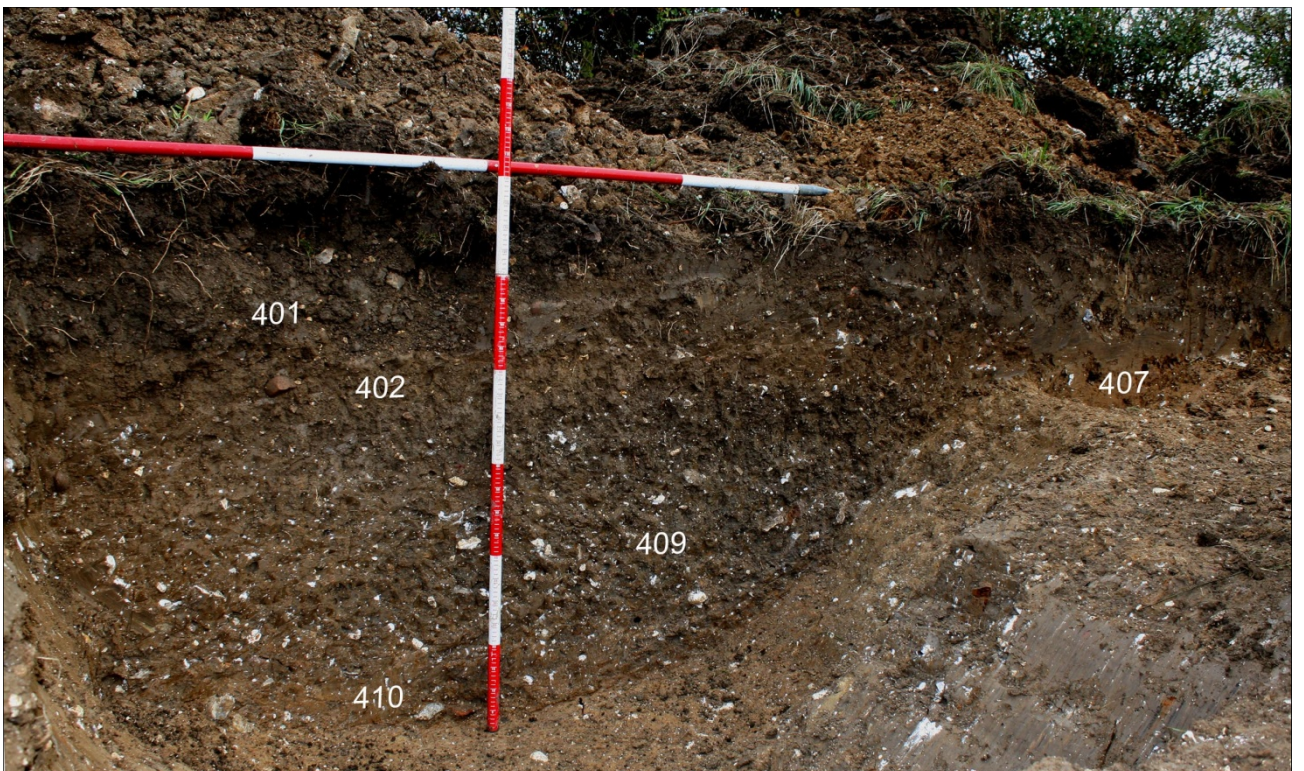


Figure 11. Top: Trench 3, Section 3. Bottom: Trench 4, Section 4



Figure 12. Top left: Trench 3 facing E. Top right: post-hole [404], facing W. Bottom: Trench 4 facing N, Colmworth Church in background to right



BEDFM.2011.74 (302). SF1

Figure 13. Copper alloy brooch from Iron Age ditch in Trench 3 (302)



Figure 14. Trench 5. overview, facing W

APPENDIX 1 List of Contexts

KEY: Relationships: **a.** above; **abt.** abuts; **b.** below; **c.** cuts; **cub.** cut by; **co.** contains; **wi** within
 Dimensions: **le.** length; **wid.** width; **de.** depth; **th.** thickness

Context No.	Type	Location	Description and Interpretation	Relationships	Dimensions	Drawing	Height (AOD)	Suggested Period	Date of investigation
101	Structure/layer	Trench 1	Brick wall, foundations of former building. Beneath C20 patio. Bricks are possibly hand-made. Aligned with wall of existing building. Probably remains of a former outbuilding.	a. (107); b. C20 patio; c. (102)	Visible for 2.4m; 0.48 m high (5 courses; Individual brick dimensions: 230mm x 80mm x 110m	Plan 1	64.24m	C20	8-9:11:2011
102	layer	Trench 1	Irregular cobbles set in dirty ?puddled yellow-brown clay matrix, revealed at the south end of the trench. Only partially revealed, but appears to be either a wall foundation (e.g. for a sill beam) or a floor make-up. Sill beam foundation is more likely, aligned approximately east-west. Also contains small fragments of broken brick and fragments of yellowy-buff pan-tiles.	a. (103); b. (113); cub. insertion of wall (101)	th. c.0.12 - 0.14m; le. indeterminate; wid. indeterminate	Plan 1	63.79m	C19 - early C20	8-9:11:2011
103	layer	Trench 1	Surface of natural geology with dirty residue of (113) impressed. Light yellowy brown/cream stiff calcareous clay. Occasional pebbles, chalk fragments and brick fragments impressed. Sherd of transfer 'willow' pattern pottery impressed.	b. (102)	-	Plan 1	63.67m	C19 - early C20	8-9:11:2011
104	cut	Trench 1	Post-hole	c. (103); b. (113); co. (105)	c.0.45 x c.0.52m	Plan 1			8-9:11:2011
105	fill	Trench 1	Fill of post-hole. Contains modern brick fragments (with 'frog') and cobbles	wi. [104]	de. c0.35m	Plan 1	63.66m	C20	8-9:11:2011
106	layer	Trench 1	A raised strip of dirty light-yellowy brown / creamy clay, not dissimilar in colour to the natural geology (103), with irregular cobbles and bricks set in to form a wall foundation – sill beam pad likely. Parallel to feature (102). Probably the remains of an opposite wall of the same building. An outbuilding. Partly overlain on its north side by modern fill of re-deposited clay (108).	b. (108)	wid. c.0.35-.0.40m; th. c.0.20m; le. indeterminate;	Plan 1	63.87m	C19 - early C20	8-9:11:2011

Context No.	Type	Location	Description and Interpretation	Relationships	Dimensions	Drawing	Height (AOD)	Suggested Period	Date of investigation
107	layer	Trench 1	Concrete base of brick building, which respects the alignment of wall foundation (107). Probably an extension / addition to the outbuilding represented by wall foundations (102) and (106).	a. (103); b. (101)	wid. c. 0.40m; le. Visible for c.0.65m to W; th. c.0.16m;	Plan 1	-	C20	8-9:11:2011
108	Layer/fill	Trench 1	Dump of stiff yellow- brown clay with large cobbles randomly dispersed (impressed) on the surface. laps over wall foundation (106). Contains modern debris – plastic and brick. Probably represents re-modelling of the land waste material buried during C20 construction and extension work.	a. (106); b. (113)	Indeterminate dimensions: visible in central area of trench for c.3.5m x c.2m; cu. Modern service trenches.	Plan 1	63.74m-63.84m	C20	8-9:11:2011
109	Layer/fill	Trench 1	Differential dump of modern rubble within (108); contains plastic sacks. Probably waste material buried during C20 construction and extension work.	b. (113); wi. (108);	Spread: c. 1m x c.1.5m	Plan 1	63.74m	C20	8-9:11:2011
110	layer	Trench 1	Layer of broken C20 slabs below turf	b. turf		Plan 1	63.82m	C20	8-9:11:2011
111	Layer/structure	Trench 1	Bricks laid above excavated area above drainage ditch – probably a ramp for barrowing material	a. (112); b. (113)	c.1.06m x c.0.6m	Plan 1	63.45m to 63.80m	C20	8-9:11:2011
112	cut	Trench 1	19 th century field drainage ditch	b. (111); (113)		Plan 1	63.40m	C20	8-9:11:2011
113	layer	Trench 1	Layer of dirty black soil with rubble covering all C19-20 features in trench 2 except for modern services. Probably a topsoil laid down after C20 building and extension work, whereby the remains previous features (i.e.C19 buildings) were partly exposed and disturbed. Contained a C20 pot sherd at interface with (103)	a. (102); (108); (103); (106); (107) abt. (101)	Extent indeterminate; de. c.0.60m	Plan 1	63.98m	C20	8-9:11:2011
201	layer	Trench 2	Topsoil. Dark brown/black silty clay garden soil	a. (202)	de. c.0.25-0.36m	Section 1 & 2	63.07m W-63.22mE	C20	9:11:2011
202	layer	Trench 2	Subsoil interface layer. Mid-greyish, orange-brown sandy clay	a. (203); b. (202); same as (212)	de. c.0.20-0.30m	Section 2	62.82m-62.88m	C19-C20	9:11:2011
203	layer	Trench 2	Natural geology, cut by a series of post-med to modern drainage ditches. Light yello-brown sandy clay with frequent chalk fragments. Same material as encountered in Trenches 3 and 4.	b. (203)	-	Sections 1 & 2	62.61mW – 62.91E	-	9/11:11:2011
204	cut	Trench 2	Cut of ditch. Sides inclined c.60° (w), c.80-60° (E). The latest in a sequence of ditches aligned northeast /southwest (i.e. ditches [207], [208],	cu. (201) and (206); co. (205)	wid. c.1.08m; de. c.0.72m	Section 1	63.28m	C20	11:11:2011

Context No.	Type	Location	Description and Interpretation	Relationships	Dimensions	Drawing	Height (AOD)	Suggested Period	Date of investigation
			[210]). Drainage ditch.						
205	fill	Trench 2	Fill of ditch. homogenous grey-brown sandy clay	wi. [204]	th. c.0.72m	Section 1	63.28m	C20	11:11:2011
206	fill	Trench 2	Fill of field drainage ditch. Mid orange-brown silty clay.	wi. [207]; cub. [207]	th. c.0.70m; 2m length visible	Section 1	62.72m - 62.82m	C20	11:11:2011
207	cut	Trench 2	Cut of ditch. Sides stepped - c.30° to 55°. Contains modern (C20) corrugated ceramic field drain at base. Probably a re-cut of wider, shallower ditch to insert drainage pipe. Parallel with a sequence of ditches in proximity aligned northeast /southwest (i.e. ditches [204], [208], [210]). Partly below present hedgerow on same alignment.	co. (206); cu. (203)	wid. c.2.01m; de. c.0.70;	Section 1	62.72m - 62.82m	C20	11:11:2011
208	cut	Trench 2	Cut of ditch. Field ditch likely. Shallow V profile with sides sloping c.40°. Root disturbance above E side. One of a sequence of parallel ditches aligned northeast /southwest (i.e. ditches [204], [207], [210]).	co. (209); cu. (203)	wid. c.1.5m; de. c.0.43	Section 1	62.66m	C19-early C20	11:11:2011
209	fill	Trench 2	Fill of field drainage ditch. Dark brown clayey soil. No finds	wi. [208]	th. c.0.43	Section 1	62.66m	C19-early C20	11:11:2011
210	cut	Trench 2	Cut of ditch. Field ditch likely. Shallow, with sides sloping c.15°. Dug into geology Parallel with a sequence of ditches aligned northeast /southwest (i.e. ditches [210], [208], [204]). Probable re-cut of hedge boundary ditch	cu. (203); co. (211)	de. up to c.0.10; wid. c. 1.6m; 2m length visible in trench	Section 1	62.62m	C19	11:11:2011
211	fill	Trench 2	Fill of ditch. Mid grey-brown sandy clay with occasional small stones. Contains pottery sherds, animal bone and scrap iron	wi. [210]; b. (202)	th. up to c.0.10; wid. 1.6m	Section 1	62.62m	C19	11:11:2011
212	layer	Trench 2	Subsoil interface layer. Dark brown clayey soil. Much root disturbance. Sherd of early C19 painted pottery found.	Same as (202); b. (201); prob. cub. [207])	de. c.0.30-0.44m	Section 1	62.82m- 62.88m	C19	11:11:2011
301	cut	Trench 3	Cut of a large feature, possibly a large linear feature (?enclosure ditch), or a pond or quarry, running east-west. The cut is only visible in the west end of the trench over a distance of about 3m. The trench was too small a window to make a positive identification. Extends eastwards into Trench 4. Where sectioned the side sloped 35° to a flat base. The sample excavation followed the feature down to its base along a 3.05m long	cu. (307) geology; b. (305); co. (302), (303), (304)	de. c.0.86m; wid. Unknown: at least 2.3m. le. Unknown: at least 13m.	Section 3	62.88m	Late Iron Age (c.50BC-AD50); possibly originating in the Mid Iron Age	8-9:11:2011

Context No.	Type	Location	Description and Interpretation	Relationships	Dimensions	Drawing	Height (AOD)	Suggested Period	Date of investigation
			segment. The northern side of the feature was concealed by the baulk, only part of the upper fill (303) visible, suggesting a greater width than 2.3m where sectioned in Trench 4 (see (408). The exposed side where sectioned shows the feature continues to the south and north and is not a simple linear feature. The finds illustrate function and infill during the Late Iron Age, though perhaps originating/in use during the Mid Iron Age						
302	fill	Trench 3	Fill of ditch/large feature. Consists of mid yellow clay with frequent small stones. Appears to represent an erosion product derived from the collapse of the side of the feature. This layer overlies the primary fill. Finds comprise pottery and a copper alloy brooch (SF1)	wi. [301]; a. (304); b. (303)	de. up to 0.65m	Section 3	62.88m	LIA	8-9:11:2011
303	fill	Trench 3	The main and upper fill of ditch/large feature. Consists of mid to dark grey brown compact silty clay, with charcoal flecks and frequent small stones.	wi. [301]; a. (302); b. (305)	de. between c.0.30m and c.0.40m	Section 3	62.84m	LIA	8-9:11:2011
304	fill	Trench 3	The primary fill of ditch/large feature. Consists of dark grey-brown compact, but crumbly, silty clay with high organic content and some water snail shells. Contains pottery and bone. Environmental samples taken	wi. [301]; b. (302)	de. up to 0.20m	Section 3	62.22m	LIA	8-9:11:2011
305	layer	Trench 3	Subsoil interface layer. Mid greenish-brown silty clay with chalk flecks	-	de. c.0.30m	Section 3	c.62.98	unknown	8-9:11:2011
306	layer	Trench 3	Topsoil. Dark brown silty clay	-	de. c.0.30m	Section 3	c.63.38m	LIA	8-9:11:2011
307	layer	Trench 3	Natural geology. Light yellowish brown 'cornbrash' type clay with degraded chalk fragments	-		Section 3	62.88m	LIA	8-9:11:2011
401	layer	Trench 4	Topsoil. Dark brown silty clay	a. (402)	th. c.0.30m	Sections 4 & 5	c.63.22m	C19-20	8-9:11:2011
402	layer	Trench 4	Subsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks	a. (403); b. (401)	th. c.0.20m	Sections 4 & 5	c.62.74m	-	8-9:11:2011
403	layer	Trench 4	Natural geology, yellowish-brown sandy clay with high content of small stones and chalk fragments.	a. (402); cu. [404],[406], [408]; same as (307)	-	Sections 4 & 5	c.63.15m	-	8-9:11:2011
404	cut	Trench 4	Cut of small shallow circular post-hole. Sides	cu. (403); co. (405)	dia. c.0.3m;	Section 6	c.63.15m	unknown	9:11:2011

Context No.	Type	Location	Description and Interpretation	Relationships	Dimensions	Drawing	Height (AOD)	Suggested Period	Date of investigation
			inclined 50° to 65°		de. 0.12m				
405	fill	Trench 4	Fill of post-hole. Homogenous compact mid grey-brown sandy clay, with infrequent charcoal flecks	wi. [404]	th. 0.12m	Section 6	c.63.15m	unknown	9:11:2011
406	cut	Trench 4	Cut of gully. Aligned west-northwest/east-southeast. Sides inclined 35° to 40°. Visible across 2m width of trench	cu. (403); co. (407)	wid. c.0.5m; de. c.0.20m	Section 4	62.80m	unknown	8-9:11:2011
407	fill	Trench 4	Fill of gully, mid reddish-brown sandy clay. No finds	wi. [406]	de. c.0.20m	Section 4	62.80m	unknown	8-9:11:2011
408	cut	Trench 4	Cut of a large feature, possibly a large linear feature, running east-west. Encountered in north extension to Trench 4; extends west into Trench 3. Where sectioned the side sloped 45° to a flat base. Sample excavation was followed down to its base along a 2.3m long segment. The northern side was concealed by the baulk, possibly at distance of c.1m. Possibly an enclosure ditch. Finds suggest infill/usage during the Late Iron Age, though perhaps originating/in use during the Mid Iron Age	Same as: [301]; b. (410); co. (409), (410)	wid. at least 2.3m, possibly 2.9m + if linear; de. c.0.7m	Section 4	62.78m	Late Iron Age (c.50BC-AD50); possibly originating in the Mid Iron Age	8-9:11:2011
409	fill	Trench 4	The main and upper fill of a possible large enclosure date. Finds would indicate infill took place during the Late Iron Age. Consists of compact mid grey brown sandy silty clay with some orange mottling, containing frequent small stones, chalk fragments and occasional charcoal flecks. Finds: pottery.	Similar to (303) and probably the same deposit/layer; wi. [408]; a. (410); b. (402)	de. c.0.55m	Section 4	62.78m	LIA	8-9:11:2011
410	fill	Trench 4	Primary fill of a large feature, probable enclosure ditch. Consists of mid to dark grey brown compact silty clay, with charcoal flecks and frequent small stones. Large body sherd of LIA pottery laying flat at base with stones. Environmental samples taken	wi. [408]; b. (409)	de. c.0.15	Section 4	62.22m	LIA	8-9:11:2011
501	layer	Trench 5	Topsoil. Dark brown silty clay	a. (502)	de. c.0.30 -0.34m	Section 7	c.66.28m	-	8:11:2011
502	layer	Trench 5	subsoil interface layer. Mid-brown clay with occasional medium-sized stones	a. (503); b. (501)	de. c.0.20m	Section 7	c.65.96m	-	8:11:2011
503	layer	Trench 5	Geological Subsoil. Yellow brown clay with occasional med stones and flints.	b. (502)	de. c.0.18m	Section 7	c.65.74m	-	8:11:2011