

**REPORT  
FOR STAGE 1  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION,  
AT  
TOWER CLOSE,  
TOPLER'S HILL  
BIGGLESWADE, BEDFORDSHIRE  
NGR TL 2164 4019**

on behalf of Edna Gudgin



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September 2010  
A1A105/2r1



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## Site Summary

Project code:	A1A105	Accession n°:	BEDFM 2010.35	OASIS n°:	a1archae1-81862
Site name	Tower Close, Topler's Hill				
Town/Village	Biggleswade				
Civil parish	Astwick CP				
District	Central Bedfordshire				
County	Bedfordshire				
NGR	TL 2164 4019				
Planning proposal	Construction of side and rear extensions to house and new detached garage				
Application number	CB/09/00784/FULL				
Client	Edna Gudgin				

## Abbreviations

A1 .....A1 Archaeology Ltd  
 ADS .....Archaeological Data Service  
 ALGAO .Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers  
 BCC.....Bedfordshire County Council  
 BCAS ....Bedfordshire County Council Archaeology Service  
 BSG .....British Geological Survey  
 CBA ..... Council for British Archaeology  
 CBC .....Central Bedfordshire Council  
 CBCA ....Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologist  
 CRO..... County Records Office  
 DC .....District Council  
 EH .....English Heritage  
 HER .....Historic Environment Record  
 IFA .....Institute for Archaeologists  
 LPA .....Local Planning Authority  
 MGC .....Museums & Galleries Commission  
 NMR .....National Monuments Record  
 OD .....Ordnance Datum  
 OS .....Ordnance Survey  
 PD.....Project Design  
 PPG .....Planning Policy Guidance Note  
 SSEW .....Soil Survey of England & Wales  
 WSI Written Scheme of Investigation

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## Summary

*During August 2010 a Stage 1 archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Tower Close, Topler's Hill, Biggleswade. The work was required to fulfil a planning condition imposed by Central Bedfordshire Council. Trial trenches were excavated to the west and south of the existing house and to the south west of the house on the site of a proposed garage. The only features exposed were a small gully and a larger ditch in the area of the proposed garage. Both these features were orientated northwest – southeast, and though no artefacts or dating material was recovered it is likely they are associated with a late Bronze Age/ Iron Age settlement to the north.*

### 1. Introduction

1.1 This document has been prepared by A1 Archaeology Ltd (A1) on behalf of Edna Gudgin. The report discusses the results and significance of the findings of a Stage 1 archaeological evaluation by trial trench at Tower Close, Topler's Hill, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. Under the terms of *PPG16*, archaeology was a material factor in considering planning applications. A condition (n<sup>o</sup>. 2) attached to the planning permission required the implementation of a staged scheme of archaeological investigation:

- STAGE 1– an archaeological field evaluation.
- STAGE 2– an appraisal of the results of the field evaluation and their significance (this report). This may lead to the production of a brief by the CBCA defining a further phase of investigation and recording.
- STAGE 3– the implementation of an agreed programme of archaeological investigation and recording, if required.

The required work for Stage 1 was been defined in a brief (Oake 2010, parts 1 & 2) issued by the CBCA, archaeological advisor to the local planning authority CBC:

The planning application number is CB/09/00784/FULL

1.2 This document provides the following information:

- Archaeological and historical background (Section 2)
- The aims of the project and methods which were deployed (Section 3)
- The results of the evaluation (Section 4)
- Interpretation and discussion of the findings (Section 5)

### 1.3 *The Site*

#### 1.3.1 *Location & Description (Fig. 1)*

Tower Close, lies within the Central Bedfordshire administrative district about 5km south of central Biggleswade. To the north the site is bounded by Edworth Road, to the east by the A1 trunk road and to the west and south by farmland. The single storey brick-built property sits in its own grounds, which are mainly set down to rough lawn. The site of the proposed eastern extension on the southern side of the house was until recently occupied by a small extension to the original property. The site of the proposed garage to the south west of the bungalow was occupied by a series of rundown wooden sheds which were removed before the evaluation commenced.

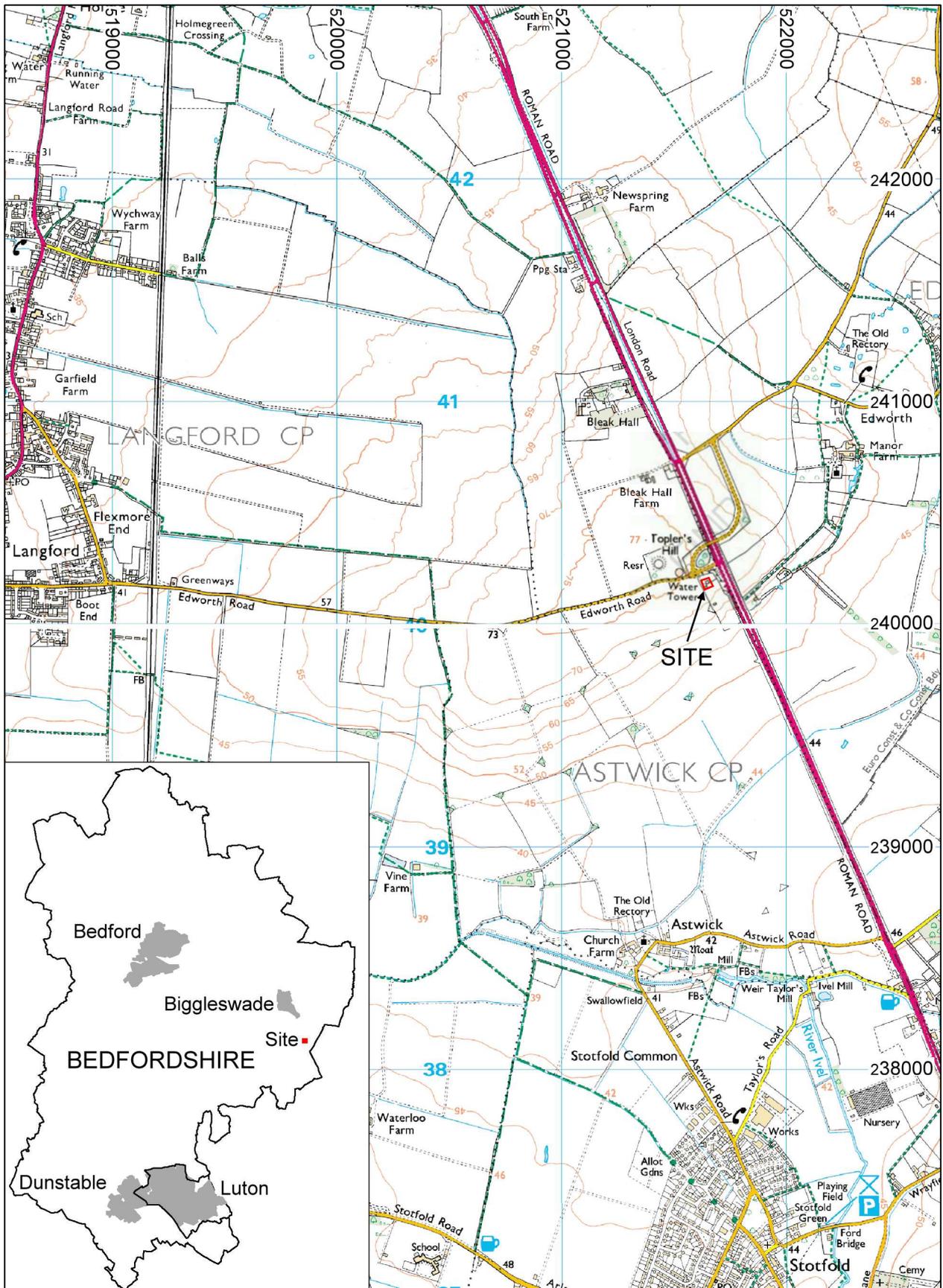
#### 1.3.2 *Topography and Geology*

The site is level and situated just off the crest of a low ridge on its gentle south facing slope at a height of about 73m OD.

The soils of the area have been mapped by the SSEW as belonging to the Cannamore Association and are described as “*Deep calcareous fine loamy and clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoil and slight seasonal waterlogging. Some slowly permeable seasonal waterlogged fine loamy over clayey and clayey soils.*” (Soil Survey 1983 411c). The underlying geology comprises mid-Pleistocene Till overlying West Melbury Chalk (BGS).

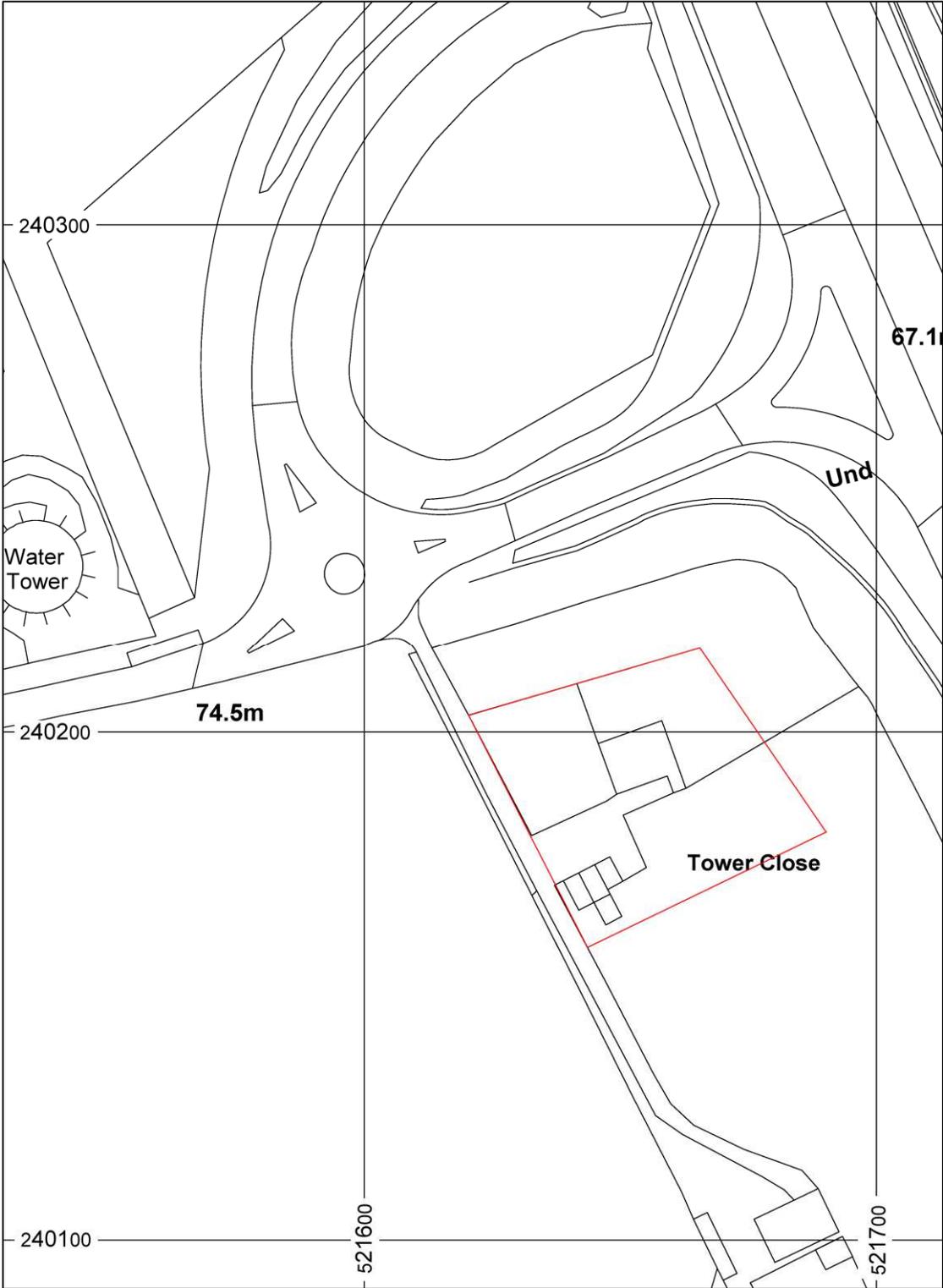
### 1.3.3 *Proposed Development (Fig. 2)*

The proposed development comprises of two elements; extensions to the west and south sides of the property and a replacement detached garage. Footings for the western extension were excavated in 1982. However, the work did not progress beyond filling the trenches with concrete.



**Figure 1: Site location (scale 1:25000)**

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**Figure 2: Site plan (scale 1:1250)**

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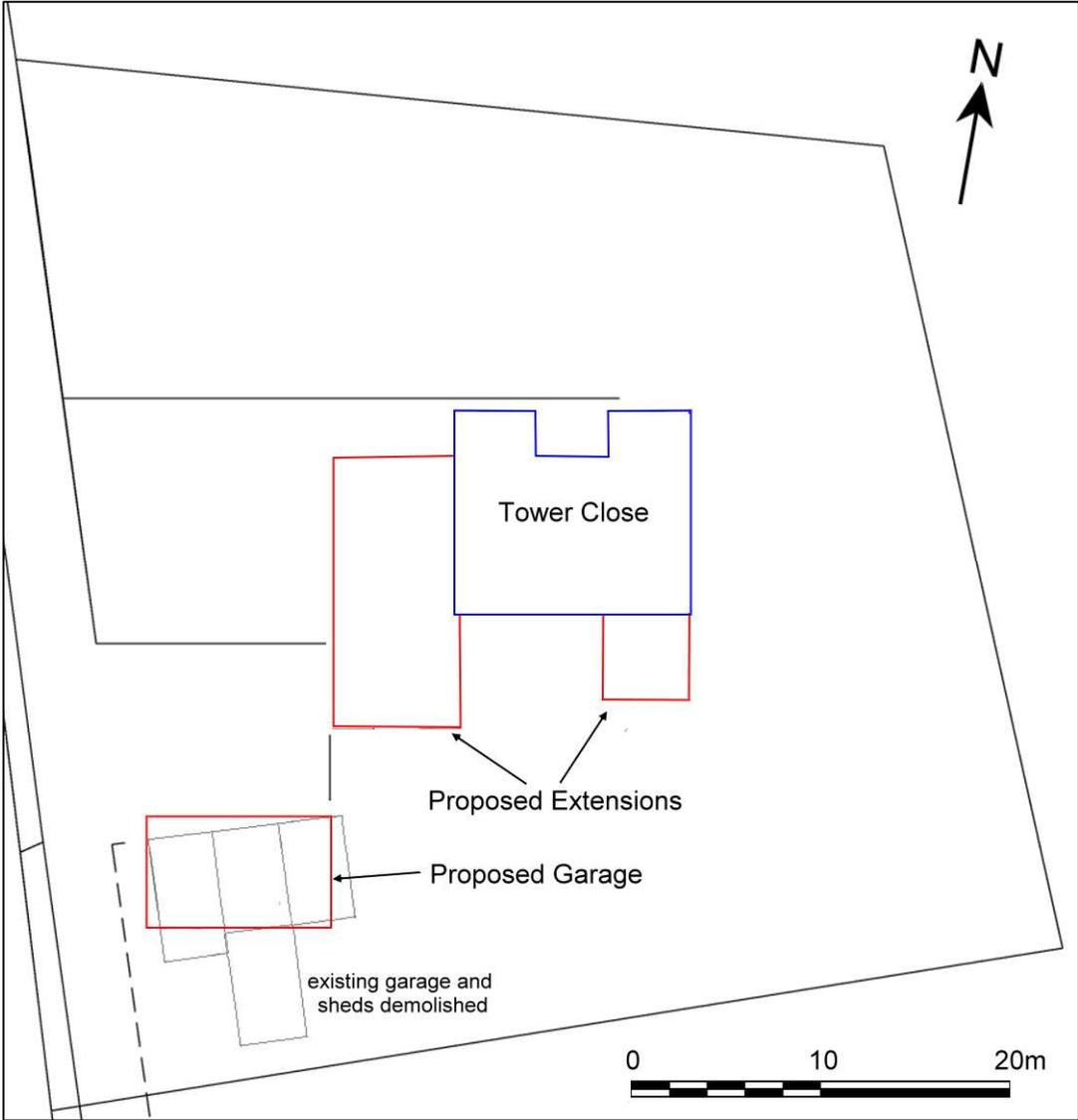


Figure 3: Proposed development (scale 1:400)

## 2. Archaeological & Historical Background

2.1 The following section provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs. The site lies within an area of considerable archaeological and historical interest, and has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods but especially the Iron Age.

This section has been compiled with information supplied by the Central Bedfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) on the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2010 (Fig 4), (Appendix 1) and other sources.

### 2.2 *Prehistoric* (up to 43 AD)

Little is known of the development area during the earlier prehistoric period. However by the late Bronze Age or early Iron Age the area seems to have been settled, as evidenced by the BCAS excavations between 1998-2000 in advance of improvements to the A1 road junctions to Langford and Edworth (BCCAS 1999, Luke 2004). A single pit of this date was also revealed during the watching brief on a water pipeline to the southwest of the Topler's Hill Water Tower (Zeepvat & Wilson 2002). During the BCCAS excavation part of what seems like a significant Iron Age settlement and associated field system was excavated on the eastern side of the A1 trunk road. Aerial photography of the area also indicates that further evidence for this period survives in the fields to the east and north of the development site (HER 3545, 16825).

### 2.3 *Roman* (AD43-c.450)

The most significant Roman feature in the study area is the line of the modern A1 trunk road which up to Biggleswade follows the course of a Roman road (HER 505) which run between Baldock and Godmanchester (Viatoris 1964, p232). It is suggested that Edworth Road follows the line of a second Roman road (HER 5342), (*ibid*, p289).

Other than a small assemblage of pottery recovered during field-walking, no evidence for Roman occupation in the immediate area of the proposed development was revealed during the BCC programme of investigations. However about 1km south of the site an extensive area of regular rectilinear crop-marks have been indentified, and judging by their scale are almost certainly a Roman villa complex (HER 3550). These crop-marks were linked to the line of the Roman road, now the A1, by at least one straight double-ditched track or road.

### 2.4 *Saxon* (c.450-1066)

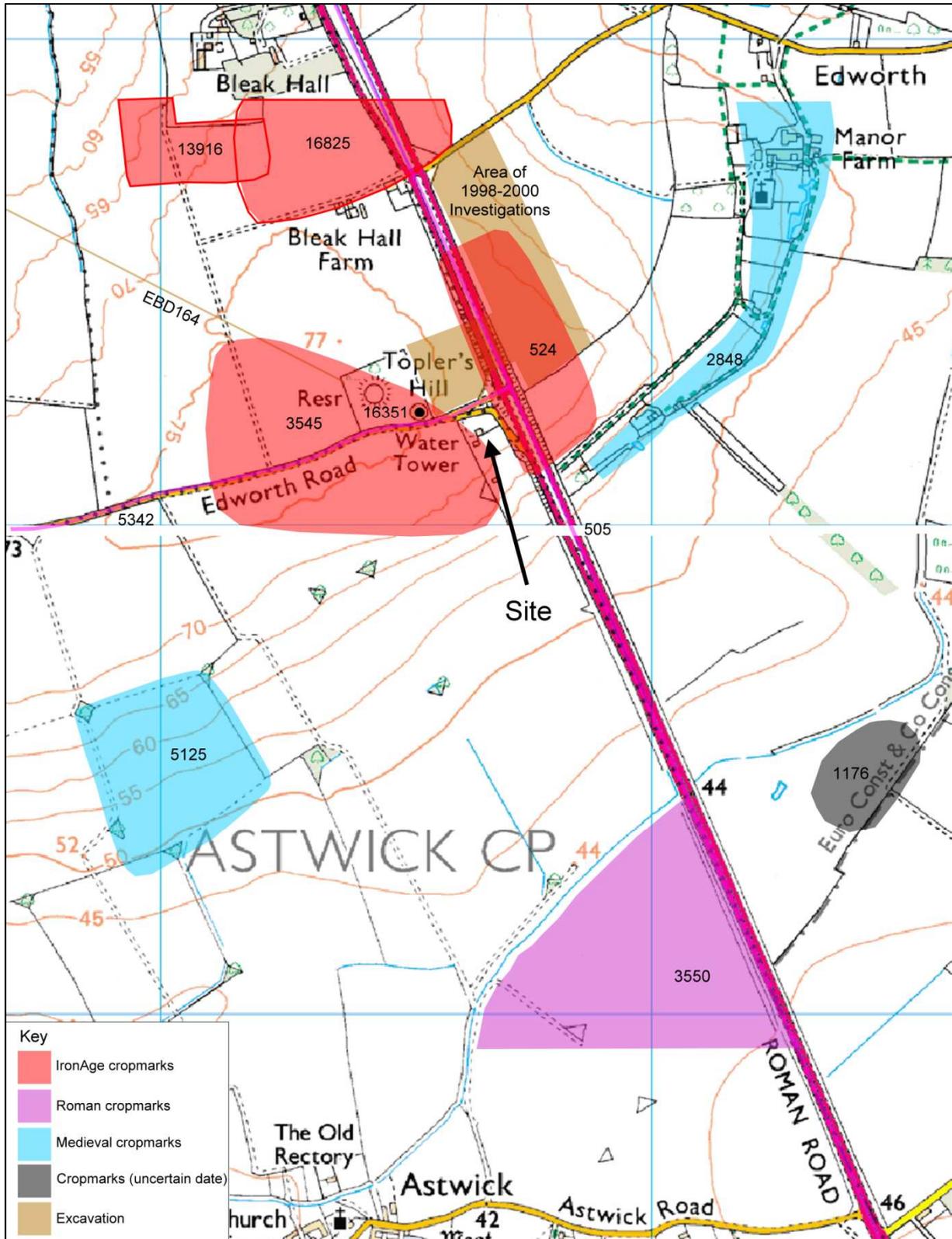
Though Edworth, the nearest village to the site was mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 (Williams & Martin 2005, p569) the only evidence for Saxon activity in the area was a chance find during the construction of a cutting on the Great North Road during the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. A burial with a richly ornamented brooch, which has since been dated as Saxon was uncovered during this work.

### 2.5 *Medieval* (1066-1500)

The medieval period saw little change in the area and most of the land seems to have been in agricultural use. In many places the typical ridge and furrow left by ploughing can still be seen either as earthworks in the landscape or as crop-marks on aerial photographs (HER 5125, 2848). During the BCC excavations a series of such features were recorded to the north of the Edworth Road.

2.6 **Post-Medieval** (1500-1900)

The agricultural nature of the area continued and except improvements to the Great North Road during the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the opening up of previously enclosed fields little has changed since medieval times.



**Figure 4:** Principal sites listed at the Historic Environment Record (scale 1:12000)

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### 3. Aims & Methods

- 3.1 The IFA define an evaluation as “*a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.*”

The definition goes on to define the purpose of an evaluation “*The purpose of field evaluation is to gain information about the archaeological resource within a given area or site (including its presence or absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality), in order to make an assessment of its merit in the appropriate context, leading to one or more of the following:*

- *The formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource*
- *The formulation of a strategy to mitigate a threat to the archaeological resource*
- *The formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research” (IFA 2008)*

#### 3.2 Objectives

In line with the requirements of the brief (part 2) section 2, the objective of the evaluation was to determine and understand the nature, function and character of the site in its cultural and environmental setting, to allow the effective targeting of further investigation of the site prior to or during the early phases of the work.

- The local and regional strategies (Oake *et al* 2007, Brown & Glazebrook 2000, Medlycott & Brown 2008) identify the need to address the development of Iron Age landscapes and settlement patterns, especially the development of early field systems and their relationship to contemporary settlements (Oake 2007, 11). Writing in Brown & Glazebrook, Stewart Bryant notes that recent research has revealed that there are significant areas of the Eastern Region which contain landscapes of surviving co-axial field boundaries (Bryant 2000, 15). Though dating for these boundaries is not clear it is possible that they may be Iron Age. Both (Bryant 2000, 14) and (Oake 2007, 11) note the importance of investigating later prehistoric sites on clays to contrast with the better known river valleys.

By adopting a staged programme of archaeological work at Tower Close it is possible that several of the research objectives discussed in the local and regional strategies can be addressed, specifically topics relating to the Iron Age, which are:

- Chronology
  - i) Absolute dating by various scientific techniques if appropriate
  - ii) Establishment of a regional pottery type series
  - iii) The investigation of dateable pottery assemblages
- Development of the agrarian economy
  - i) Examination of charred grain and animal bones from settlements.
  - ii) Micro-morphological analysis of dated buried soils.
- Settlement chronology and dynamics
- Social Organisation and settlement form and function in the Early and Middle Iron Age

The evaluation aimed to achieve these objectives by:

- establishing the date, nature and extent of activity or occupation on the development site;
- recovering artefacts to assist in the development of a type series within the region.
- recovering paleo-environmental remains where appropriate to determine local environmental conditions.

### 3.3 *Standards*

The work conformed to the requirements of the brief, to the relevant sections of the Institute of Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2008) and *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000a), to the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ALGAO 2003), to current English Heritage guidelines (EH 1991), and to the relevant sections of A1's own *Operations Manual*.

### 3.4 *Methods*

In line with the requirements of the brief (part 1) a staged approach has been adopted for this investigation:

- STAGE 1– An archaeological field evaluation of the site by trial trench to locate, define and characterise any archaeological remains that exist, as defined in the brief
- STAGE 2– An appraisal of the results of the field evaluation and their significance with regard to the definition of a programme of investigation and recording of archaeological remains which will be unavoidable destroyed by the development (this report). The Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeologists will prepare a brief for the next phase of the investigation for the agreement of the Client/Developer/Owner and LPA. The brief will also cover a programme of post-excavation analysis and publication.

The methods adopted for STAGE 1 were:

- Excavation of a series of trial trenches within the foot prints of the proposed extensions and detached garage, using a mechanical excavator fitted with a broad toothless bucket, under archaeological supervision. Mechanical excavation stopped at the undisturbed natural subsoil or the upper archaeological deposits, depending on which was encountered first;
- The spoil was scanned for artefacts, visually and with a metal detector;
- The trial trenches were hand-cleaned to define archaeological features sufficiently to produce a digitally recorded base plan of all features.
- Sufficient of all archaeological features or deposits revealed were excavated in order to provide the information required in section 2.2 of the brief (part 2). All excavation slots were at least 1m wide and did not compromise the integrity of the archaeological record more than necessary.
- The trial trenches were backfilled after they had been inspected by the AA.

## 4. Results

- 4.1 As agreed with the CBCA six evaluation trenches were excavated (Fig. 5). Trenches 1–4 were located in the areas affected by the proposed extensions to the bungalow, whilst Trenches 5–6 targeted the area of the garage. Details regarding the; location, dimensions, and stratigraphy of each trench is tabulated in Appendix 1. Within the text numbers appearing in round brackets refer to deposits and those in square brackets cuts.
- 4.2 Each trench was mechanically excavated to the first archaeologically significant layer or undisturbed natural, depending upon which was reached first. They were then hand cleaned sufficiently to enable a pre-excitation plan to be drawn. A temporary benchmark at a height of 73.74m OD was established, at the entrance to Tower Close, at the base of the western gatepost.
- 4.3 The four trenches around the house were all archaeologically sterile. The observed layers in Trenches 1 and 2 on the western side of the bungalow comprised turf and topsoil overlying the natural yellowish brown clay with flints. The only variations to this were the concrete filled footings excavated in 1982. The area of Trench 3 was covered by a concrete slab, sitting on a makeup layer of 250-300mm of hardcore. This in turn overlay the natural. Two modern features were recorded in this trench a N-S orientated drain, and a soakaway. Trench 4 located next to the earlier extension on the south side of the bungalow was also covered by concrete. The makeup for this slab comprised about 400mm of brick rubble sitting directly on the natural clay.
- 4.4 The site of the proposed garage had previously been occupied by a number of rundown sheds. Various gravel and paving slab surfaces associated with these structures survived.
- 4.5 The area of Trench 5 (Fig. 6) was covered in gravel (500) below which lay a levelling layer (501) comprising a mixed deposit of gravel, ash and small rounded stones. This layer in turn overlay the original 20<sup>th</sup> century ground surface (502), which sloped down to the south and east. Layer (502) comprised dark yellowish brown silty clay, up to 400mm in thickness. Layer (502) sealed two features, both of which produced no dating material. Gully [505] was orientated NNW–SSE, and was filled with a mid yellowish brown silty clay (504). Ditch [507] (Plate1) was cut into the dark yellowish brown silty clay subsoil (510). It was also orientated NNW–SSE, and had been cut by gully [505]. The ditch had a surface width of 2.4m and was 0.7m deep. Three silty clay fills were recorded within this feature (506, 508 and 509). It is possible that this ditch is a continuation of a ditch recorded during the 1999 evaluation to the north by BCAS (Fig. 6).
- 4.6 The area of Trench 6 was also covered in gravel with a makeup layer of ash and clinker, overlying the original ground surface (602). The natural comprised yellowish marly clay with frequent chalk fragments (10-50mm), and was highly disturbed by large tree roots. No features of archaeological interest were observed.

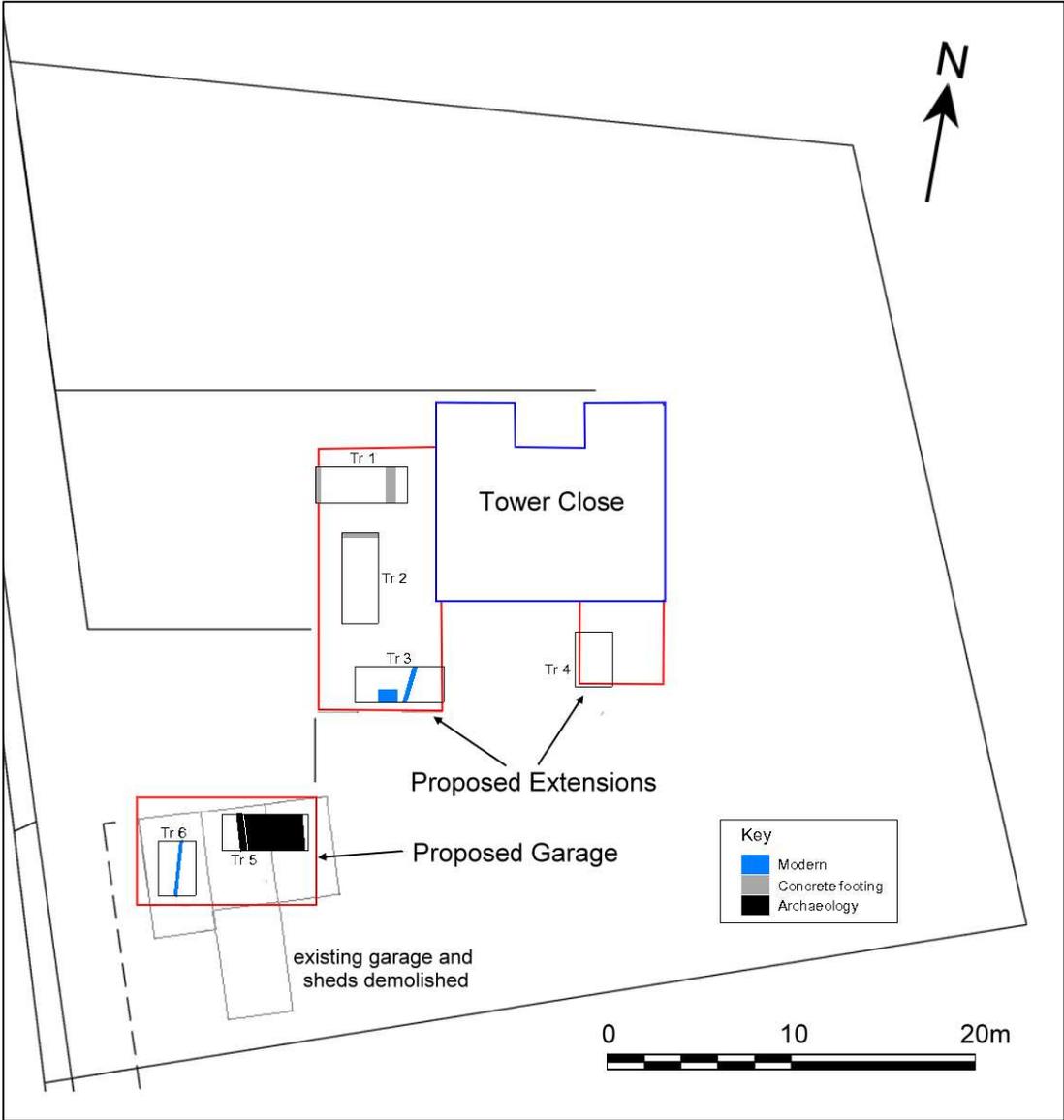


Figure 5: Trench location plan (scale 1:400)

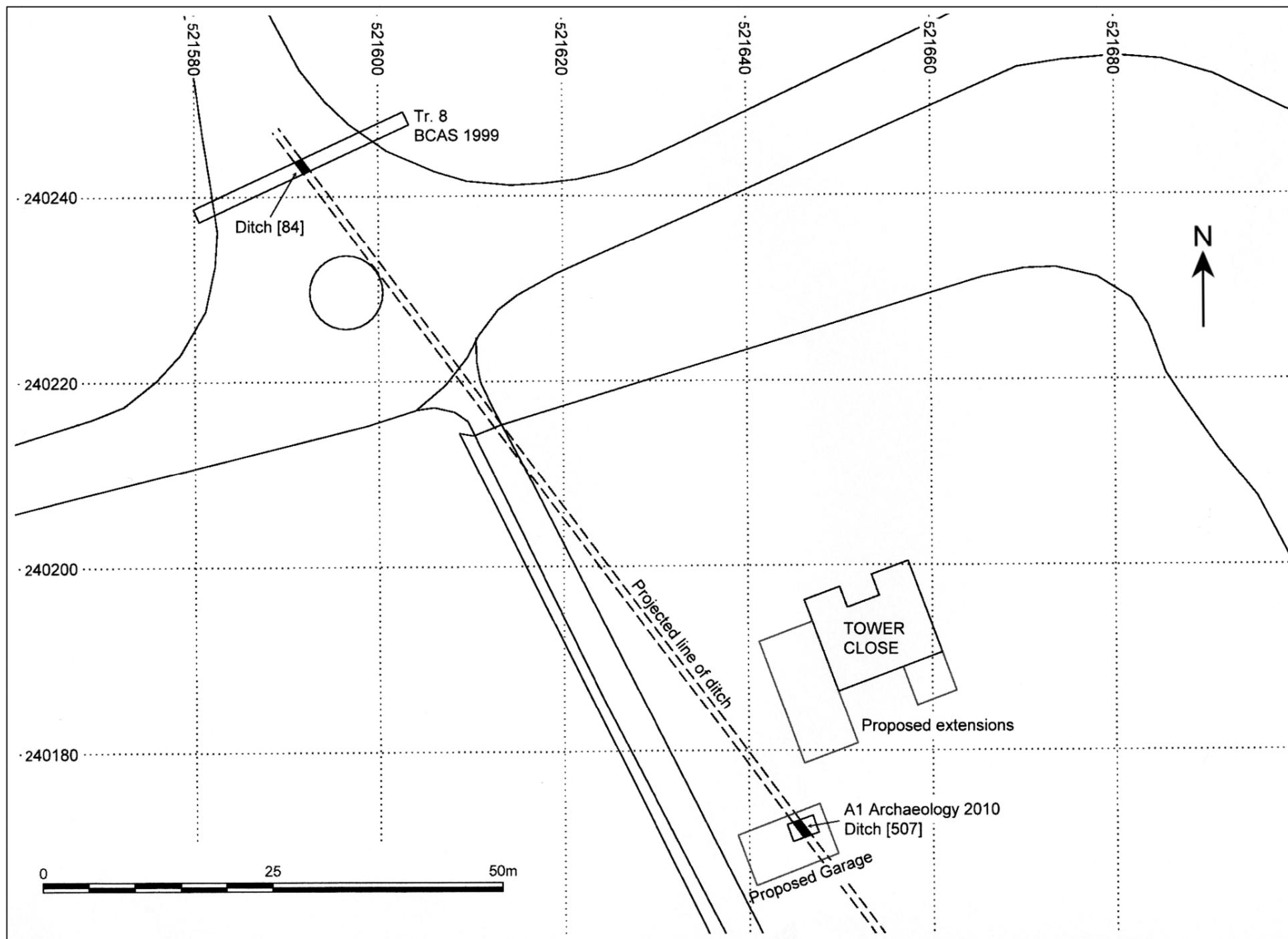


Figure 6: Plan showing the projected line of Ditch [507] (scale 1:500)



Figure 7: North facing section Trench 5 (scale 1:20)



**Plate 1:** North facing section of Trench 5 showing Ditch [507]& Gully [505]

## 5. Discussion

- 5.1 The evaluation at Tower Close had specific research aims, namely to establish the absence or presence, extent and date of archaeological remains, in particular material relating to the development of agricultural practice during the late Bronze Age and Iron Age. Though no dateable artefacts were recovered during the fieldwork, it has been possible to successfully determine the presence, and extent of the archaeology likely to be affected by the proposed development.
- 5.2 From the simple soil profile and absence of archaeological features and artefacts in the four trenches around the house, accompanied by the high level of disturbance it would seem clear that there is only a limited potential for fragmentary archaeological remains to survive in that area. The proposed extensions are therefore unlikely to pose a threat to any significant archaeology.
- 5.3 The two trenches excavated on the site of the proposed new garage, show that there is potentially stratified archaeology present in this area. Though no dating evidence was recovered from either Gully [505] or Ditch [507] it was observed that they were on a similar alignment to a number of late Bronze Age/ middle Iron Age agricultural ditches recorded by BCC during the A1 junction improvements to the north (Fig. 6). From the limited width of the evaluation trenches, the uncertainty in their precise alignment over an extended distance and the gap between the earlier work and the current programme of investigation, it would be unwise to try and join the features recorded in Trench 5 with any specific ditches excavated to the north. It would however seem possible that the large ditch [507] may represent a continuation of Ditch [84] recorded in Trench 8 during the Stage 2 evaluation by BCAS in 1999.
- 5.4 Finding significant features this far from the main settlement area investigated by BCAS to the north of Tower Close would seem to indicate that a considerable area of land was being used for agricultural purposes during the late Bronze Age and into the Iron Age. As previously suspected it would seem likely that the original field boundaries were deliberately laid out in an organised NW-SE pattern.

### 5.5 *Confidence Rating*

Mrs Gudgin, and her team of building contractors offered their full support during the initial opening and subsequent recording of the trenches. The initial work was carried out in dry conditions, and no obstructions to a successful conclusion of the project were encountered, and a pre-excavation clean and plan was completed. During the subsequent excavation and recording heavy overnight rain showers caused a certain degree of flooding in some of the trenches. However this was not sufficient to affect the overall satisfactory evaluation of the site. In light of the assistance given and the general weather conditions a high degree of confidence can be placed in the results.

## **6. Acknowledgements**

The writer is grateful to Edna Gudgin for commissioning A1 Archaeology Ltd to undertake the evaluation at Tower Close. I would also like to thank Martin Oake for preparing the brief and monitoring the work on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council. I would also like to acknowledge Stephen Coleman at the Central Bedfordshire HER for his assistance in preparing the background research. The fieldwork was under the overall management of Nigel Wilson who also prepared this report. And finally a special thank you to Kerstin Wilson who checked and edited the report.

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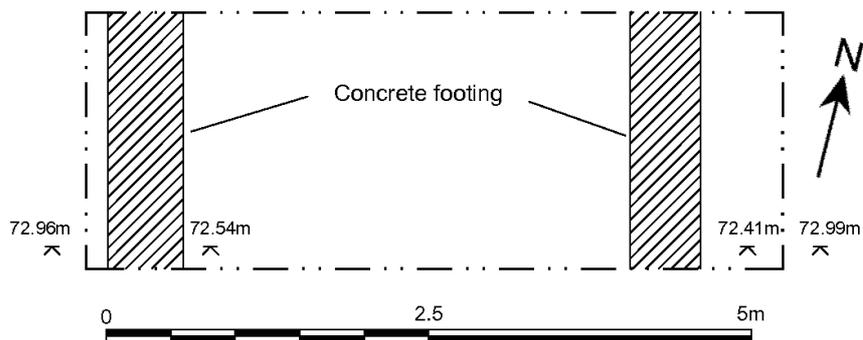
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## Appendix 1 Trench Summaries

### Trench 1

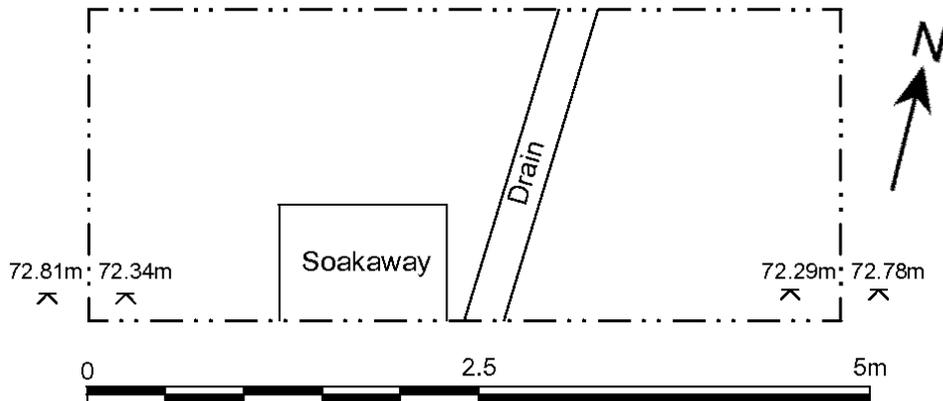
	<b>NGR Co-ordinates (centre of trench)</b>					
	<b>West end</b>		TL 21640.9 40191.3			
	<b>East end</b>		TL 21645.6 40193.1			
	<b>Orientation</b>		W - E			
	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>					
	<b>Length</b>	5.40	<b>Width</b>	2.00	<b>Depth</b>	0.35
	<b>Levels (m OD)</b>					
	<b>Trench top W</b>		72.96			
	<b>Trench base W</b>		72.54			
	<b>Trench base E</b>		72.41			
<b>Trench top E</b>		72.99				
<b>Reason for trench</b>		Test area of western extension				
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description/ Interpretation</b>	<b>Width (mm)</b>	<b>Thickness (mm)</b>	<b>Depth (BGL) (mm)</b>	
100	Layer	Turf & friable dark yellowish brown silty clay loam	-	250	0-250	
101	Natural	Yellowish brown clay with flints (<50mm)	-	-	>250	





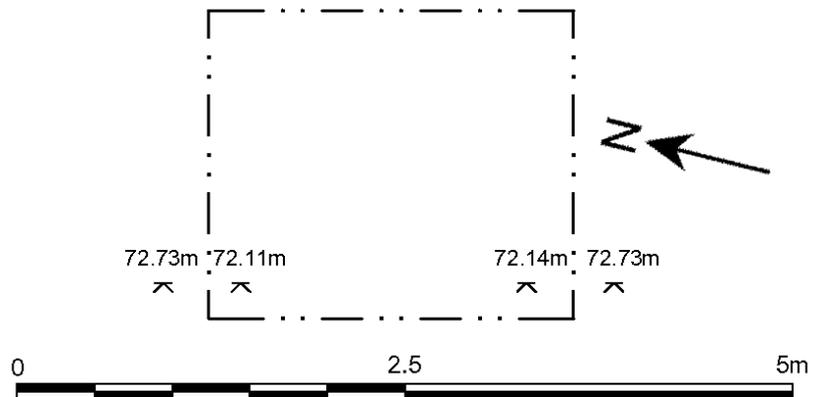
### Trench 3

	<b>NGR Co-ordinates (centre of trench)</b>					
	<b>West end</b>		TL 21646.7 40189.5			
	<b>East end</b>		TL 21651.2 40184.9			
	<b>Orientation</b>		W - E			
	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>					
	<b>Length</b>	4.80	<b>Width</b>	2.00	<b>Depth</b>	0.45
	<b>Levels (m OD)</b>					
	<b>Trench top W</b>		72.81			
	<b>Trench base W</b>		72.34			
	<b>Trench base E</b>		72.29			
<b>Trench top E</b>		72.78				
<b>Reason for trench</b>		Test area of western extension				
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description/ Interpretation</b>	<b>Width (mm)</b>	<b>Thickness (mm)</b>	<b>Depth (BGL) (mm)</b>	
300	Spread	Concrete surface over hardcore makeup	-	250	0-250	
301	Layer	Friable dark yellowish brown silty clay	-	150	250-400	
302	Natural	Yellowish brown clay with flints (<50mm)	-	-	>400	
303	Cut	Pipe trench cuts natural modern	240	-	>400	
304	Cut	Soakaway cuts natural modern	1100	-	>400	



### Trench 4

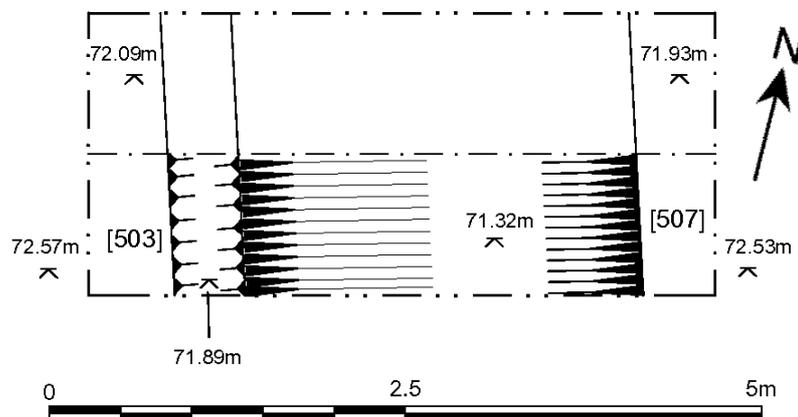
	<b>NGR Co-ordinates (centre of trench)</b>					
	<b>North end</b>		TL 21658.8 40188.7			
	<b>South end</b>		TL 21659.7 40186.7			
	<b>Orientation</b>		N - S			
	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>					
	<b>Length</b>	2.35	<b>Width</b>	2.00	<b>Depth</b>	0.60
	<b>Levels (m OD)</b>					
	<b>Trench top N</b>		72.73			
	<b>Trench base N</b>		72.11			
	<b>Trench base S</b>		72.14			
<b>Trench top S</b>		72.73				
<b>Reason for trench</b>		Test area of south-eastern extension				
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description/ Interpretation</b>	<b>Width (mm)</b>	<b>Thickness (mm)</b>	<b>Depth (BGL) (mm)</b>	
400	Spread	Concrete over hardcore makeup	-	550	0-550	
401	Natural	Yellowish brown clay with flints (<50mm)	-	-	>550	



### Trench 5

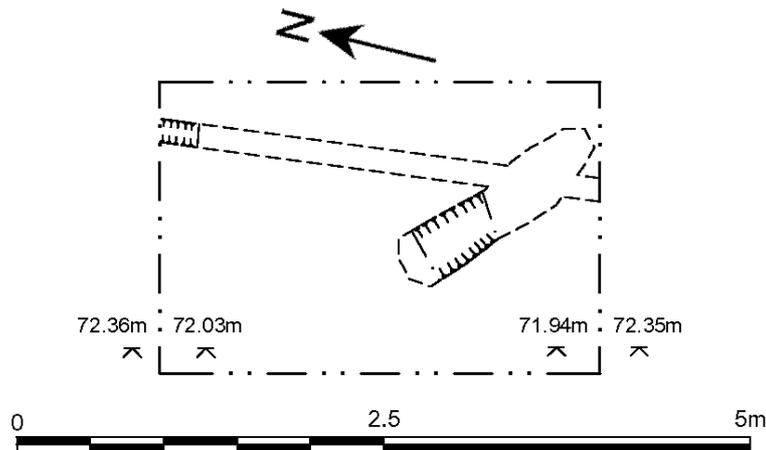
	<b>NGR Co-ordinates (centre of trench)</b>			
	<b>West end</b>		TL 21642.7 40171.6	
	<b>East end</b>		TL 21647.1 40173.2	
	<b>Orientation</b>		W - E	
	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>			
	<b>Length</b>	4.4	<b>Width</b>	2.0
			<b>Depth</b>	0.65
	<b>Levels (m OD)</b>			
	<b>Trench top W</b>		72.57	
	<b>Trench base W</b>		72.09	
<b>Trench base E</b>		71.93		
<b>Trench top E</b>		72.53		
<b>Reason for trench</b>		Test area of proposed garage		

Context	Type	Description/ Interpretation	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Depth (BGL) (mm)
500	Spread	Gravel, levelling	-	150	0-150
501	Spread	Mixed gravel and stones, levelling	-	200	150-350
502	Layer	Friable dark yellowish brown silty clay	-	350	350-700
503	Natural	Yellowish brown clay, with flints and chalk (<50mm)	-	>700	>700
504	Fill	Friable mid yellowish brown silty clay. Chalk fragments (<50mm)	-	250	450-700
505	Gully	Small gully orientated NNW-SSE. Cuts ditch [507]	800	250	450-700
506	Fill	Friable mid yellowish brown silty clay. Occasional chalk fragments(<50mm)	-	150	600-750
507	Ditch	Large ditch orientated NNW-SSE	2400	750	600-1350
508	Fill	Hard strong yellowish brown clay. Occasional chalk fragments (<20mm)	-	150	800-950
509	Fill	Friable mid yellowish brown silty clay. Occasional flint nodules (<50mm)	-	400	950-1350
510		Dark yellowish brown silty clay with chalk and flints, re-deposited/ disturbed natural	-	300	700-1000



## Trench 6

	<b>NGR Co-ordinates (centre of trench)</b>					
	<b>North end</b>		TL 21640.5 40170.2			
	<b>South end</b>		TL 21641.6 40167.4			
	<b>Orientation</b>		N - S			
	<b>Dimensions (m)</b>					
	<b>Length</b>	3.0	<b>Width</b>	2.0	<b>Depth</b>	0.5
	<b>Levels (m OD)</b>					
	<b>Trench top N</b>		72.36			
	<b>Trench base N</b>		72.03			
	<b>Trench base S</b>		71.94			
<b>Trench top S</b>		72.35				
<b>Reason for trench</b>		Test area of proposed garage				
<b>Context</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description/ Interpretation</b>	<b>Width (mm)</b>	<b>Thickness (mm)</b>	<b>Depth (BGL) (mm)</b>	
600	Spread	Gravel base for paving slabs	-	50	0-50	
601	Spread	Ash & clinker	-	100	50-150	
602	Layer	Friable yellowish brown silty clay	-	150	150-300	
603	Natural	Pale yellow marly clay with fragments of chalk (<50mm). Cut by large roots.	-	-	>300	



## Appendix 2: Photographic Register

Shot ID	B&W	Digital	Facing	Subject
019	√	√	E	Trench 1
020	√	√	W	Trench 1
021	√	√	S	Trench 2
022	√	√	N	Trench 2
023	√	√	W	Trench 3
024	√	√	N	Trench 4
025	√	√	S	Trench 5, north facing section showing ditch [507]
026	√	√	E	Trench 5
027	√	√	W	Trench 5
028	√	√	N	Trench 6
029	√	√	S	Trench 6
030	X	√	NE	General view of the area

## Appendix 3: Principal sites listed in the HER

HER no.	Description	Period/Date	NGR
505	Road (A1T)	Roman	Course of A1T
524	Crop-marks/ Burial	Iron Age/ Saxon	TL 217 403 (centre)
1176	Crop-marks	Uncertain	TL 224 394 (centre)
2848	Earthworks (Edworth village field system)	Medieval/ Post Medieval	TL 220 402 (centre)
3545	Crop-marks	Iron Age	TL 213 401 (centre)
3550	Crop-marks	Roman	TL 220 390 (centre)
5125	Lynchets	Medieval	TL 210 394 (centre)
5342	Road (Edworth Road)	Roman	Course of Edworth Road
13916	Barn Field (contained a barn)	Medieval/ Post Medieval	TL 210 408 (centre)
16825	Crop-marks	Prehistoric/ Iron Age	TL 213 407 (centre)
17169	Earthworks (Edworth village)	Medieval	TL 222 405 (centre)
EBD164	Route of water pipeline		Watching brief
EBD379	Area of archaeological investigation		Evaluation/ excavation in advance of A1 junction improvements

## Appendix 4: Archive

The Project archive to be deposited with Bedford Museum (BEDFM 2010.35) will comprise:

- Brief
- Project Design
- Report
- Trench Record Sheets (6)
- Context Sheets (6)
- Photographic Register (1)
- Survey Register (1)
- A4 Drawings (1)
- B& W negatives (11)
- CD containing all digital information (documents, images and drawings)

**Appendix 5: OASIS Form**

Project Details			
OASIS Number	a1archae1-81862		
Project Name:	Tower Close, Topler's Hill		
Summary:	During August 2010 a Stage 1 archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Tower Close, Topler's Hill, Biggleswade. The work was required to fulfil a planning condition imposed by Central Bedfordshire Council. Trial trenches were excavated to the west and south of the existing house and to the south west of the house on the site of a proposed garage. The only features exposed were a small gully and a larger ditch in the area of the proposed garage. Both these features were orientated northwest – southeast, and though no artefacts or dating material was recovered it is likely they are associated with a late Bronze Age/ Iron Age settlement to the north.		
Project Type:	Evaluation		
Site Status:	Area of Archaeological Significance		
Land use:	Garden		
Monument Types:	Ditch		
Significant finds (type & period)	n/a		
Location			
District:	Central Bedfordshire	Parish	Astwick CP
Address	Tower Close, Topler's Hill	NGR	TL 2164 4019
Study area (sq m, m, ha)	1000sq m	Height OD	73.00m
Project Creators			
Organisation:	A1 Archaeology Ltd		
Project brief:	Central Bedfordshire Council	Project Design	A1 Archaeology Ltd
Project Manager:	Nigel Wilson	Director/ Supervisor	Nigel Wilson
Sponsor/ Funding body	Owner		
Project Dates			
Start date:	20 <sup>th</sup> August 2010	End date:	24 <sup>th</sup> August 2010
Project Archives			
Museum:	Bedford Museum	Accession number	BEDFM 2010.35
Physical:	n/a		
Paper:	Site records, A4 drawing		
Digital:	Images, report		
Bibliography			
Title:	Report for Stage 1 Archaeological Evaluation, at Tower Close, Topler's Hill Biggleswade, Bedfordshire		
Publication details:	Unpublished client report (A1A105/2)		
Author	Wilson N.		
Page nos.	2	Date	September 2010