

**LAND AT VAN DIEMAN'S LAND, WOBURN ROAD,  
KEMPSTON RURAL, BEDFORDSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION**

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## **Preface**

*Every effort has been made in the preparation of this document to provide as complete an assessment as possible, within the terms of the specification. All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Albion Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.*

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*Albion Archaeology is grateful to Kate Sylvester-Kilroy of Old Road Securities plc for commissioning the project. We would also like to acknowledge the comments of Lesley-Ann Mather, the Bedfordshire County Council, Assistant County Archaeological Officer.*

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## **Structure of this Report**

Section 1 serves as an introduction to the site, describing its location, archaeological background and the aims of the project. The methodology and results of the of the trial trenching are discussed in section 2, while section 3 provides a synthesis of the results, and states their significance within the surrounding landscape. Section 4 is a bibliography and Appendix 1 contains summary information for all the trenches.



## **Non-Technical Summary**

*In April 2004 Albion Archaeology undertook an archaeological field evaluation at Van Dieman's Land, Woburn Road, Kempston Rural, Bedfordshire on behalf of Old Road Securities plc. The aim was to assess the archaeological potential of the site in response to a condition on the planning permission (02/02531/FUL) for the construction of a new surface water balancing facility and associated ditch improvements.*

*The development area lies within a landscape rich in archaeological remains. Excavations at Marsh Leys Farm (Albion Archaeology 2002) approximately 300m to the north-east of the site, have revealed traces of an extensive Iron Age and Roman settlement. The evaluation of land immediately to the north of the site revealed ditches which are thought to be part of a field system associated with the Marsh Leys Farm settlement (Albion Archaeology 2004b). By contrast, another evaluation of land to the immediate south of the development area (Albion Archaeology 2003) recorded a very low density of archaeological features.*

*The evaluation at Van Dieman's Land represented an opportunity to augment existing knowledge of the distribution of archaeological features within the immediate vicinity of the important Marsh Leys Farm excavations. In particular, one of the main objectives was to determine whether or not evidence for Iron Age or Roman settlement extended to the west of the present-day Woburn Road.*

*Six trial trenches were opened. Five of the trenches were placed within the footprint of the surface water balancing facility to assess the archaeological potential within the area to be directly impacted by the proposed works. A further trench was placed outside the footprint of the balancing pond, to the north-west, to assess the archaeological potential of the wider study area. These trenches represented a total sample of 525m<sup>2</sup>.*

*A total of eight archaeological features were recorded: five pits and three ditches, contained within three of the six trenches. None of these features produced any artefactual or ecofactual material.*

*The evaluation suggests that the site of the proposed surface water balancing facility has relatively low archaeological potential, compared to land to the north-east. Only a low density of archaeological features was revealed. The absence of any artefactual or ecofactual material suggests that this area was on the periphery of the settlement at Marsh Leys Farm. It is possible that it was under cultivation, explaining the presence of ditched features which may have functioned as land boundaries. However, all of the features recorded during the evaluation are undated and their association with the Iron Age and Roman settlement at Marsh Leys Farm remains unproven.*



## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 *Planning Background*

Planning permission was granted by Bedford Borough Council for the '*formation of surface water balancing facility and associated ditch improvements*' at Van Dieman's Land, Woburn Road, Kempston Rural, Bedfordshire (Approval No. 02/02531/FUL). A condition (no. 5) was attached to the permission, requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. Albion Archaeology was commissioned by Old Road Securities plc to undertake the archaeological work required to discharge this condition.

As the local planning authority's archaeological adviser, BCC's ACAO issued a brief (BCC 2004a), outlining a three-staged approach to the programme of archaeological work:

- Stage I – archaeological field evaluation.
- Stage II – appraisal of the results of the archaeological field evaluation.
- Stage III – implementation of an agreed programme of archaeological investigation and recording (if required, following completion of Stage II).

The ACAO issued a brief for the Stage I archaeological field evaluation (BCC 2004b). This confirmed that trial trenching was required on the site of the surface water balancing facility but not on the site of the ditch improvements (*c.*300m to the south-west), which fell within a land parcel already evaluated as part of the Wootton Development Area (Albion Archaeology 2003). In response to the brief a project design (Albion Archaeology 2004a) was prepared; it was approved by the ACAO before work began.

This report represents stage II of this strategy, presenting the results of stage I, which will allow the need for stage III to be assessed.

### 1.2 *Site Location and Description*

The development area is located approximately 5km south-west of central Bedford, and *c.*1km east of Wootton village (Figure 1). The proposed surface water balancing facility is located in the eastern half of a larger field and comprises an area *c.*1.9ha in size. The archaeological field evaluation focussed on the site of the water balancing facility. The evaluation area is referred to hereafter as the "study area".

The study area was an irregular, roughly square-shaped area (Figure 1), centred on National Grid Reference TL 0208 4543. It lay at *c.*32m above Ordnance Datum (AOD). It was generally flat pastureland with some slight surface undulations. The land immediately to the north-west and south-east had recently been planted with young trees. The study area was bordered by open fields to the north and south, and further tree plantations to the west. A sewage works lies on the south-western corner of the field and the A421 forms the eastern border.



The natural soils of the area are derived from clay, and the underlying geology of the site is Oxford clay overlain by gravel with alluvial deposits.

### **1.3 Archaeological Background**

#### **1.3.1 Recent Fieldwork in the Vicinity**

Albion Archaeology has undertaken three large pieces of fieldwork within the vicinity of the study area. Excavations at Marsh Leys Farm (Albion Archaeology 2002) revealed a series of settlements dating from the middle Iron Age to the Roman periods. The western extent of this work was located only 300m east of the study area.

A further piece of fieldwork was undertaken on land north of Fields Road, Wootton (Albion Archaeology 2003). Part of this evaluation was located on land immediately to the south of the study area. It revealed the presence of several linear features, including ridge and furrow and agricultural land drains. As already stated (section 1.1) the land evaluated during this earlier piece of fieldwork included the modern ditch which is to be improved as part of the current proposed scheme.

A separate archaeological field evaluation took place on land immediately north of the study area (Albion Archaeology 2004b). This revealed relatively few archaeological remains, suggesting that the focus of activity recorded at Marsh Leys Farm (Albion Archaeology 2002) did not continue west of the present-day Woburn Road. The small number of undated archaeological features included a north-east to south-west aligned ditch located immediately north-east of the study area. No artefactual material was recovered from this ditch. However, it is considered highly likely that it served as a field boundary related to settlement activity at Marsh Leys Farm. The continuation of this ditch, and other possibly related features, would not be unexpected within the study area. The location and orientation of the trial trenches partly reflected this possibility (Figure 2).

#### **1.3.2 Relevant Sites Listed in the Historic Environment Record (HER)**

A number of sites are known within the vicinity of the study area, all medieval or post-medieval in date. A moated enclosure (HER 303) on the edge of Kempston Hardwick is adjacent to a partially sunken lane, which at one time formed the Kempston parish boundary (HER 11532). This lane is associated with Hardwick Bridge, which was first recorded as *Herwykbrigg* in AD1430 (HER 4442). It ran along the southern boundary of the development area, although outside the study area itself, and ultimately connected to the Portway (HER 11535) to the north-west.



## 2. TRIAL TRENCH EXCAVATION

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### 2.1 Introduction

The trial trenching took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> April 2004. A total of six trenches were opened. Five of the trenches were placed within the footprint of the proposed surface water balancing facility to assess the archaeological potential of the area to be directly impacted by the proposed works. A further trench was placed outside the footprint of the pond, to the north-west, to assess the archaeological potential of the wider study area. These trenches represented a total sample of 525m<sup>2</sup>.

### 2.2 Aims and Method Statement

Throughout the project the standards set out in the following documents were adhered to:

- IFA's *Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluation*;
- Albion Archaeology's *Procedures Manual for Archaeological Fieldwork and the Analysis of Fieldwork Records* (1996);
- IFA's *Code of Conduct*;
- English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects* (1991).

The trench plan (Figure 1) was discussed with, and approved by, BCC's ACAO prior to any trial trenching taking place. Appendix 1 defines the main objectives of the individual trenches. Their general purpose was to assess the archaeological potential of the study area. Research objectives included the following questions. Did the settlement activity recorded at Marsh Leys Farm continue west of the Woburn Road into the study area? Would some form of lesser 'hinterland' occupation or land use be seen? Or would the study area contain a very low density of archaeological features indicating that it was peripheral to the settlement at Marsh Leys Farm?

Trench 3 had a more specific aim: to determine the presence or absence of a putative ditch feature, identified in the earlier evaluation to the north (Albion Archaeology 2004b). It was considered possible that this feature might have extended into the study area.

The location of all trenches was marked out on the ground in advance of machine excavation, using a differential Global Positioning System (dGPS), which ensured that the centre-line of the trenches were within 20mm of the desired location.

Topsoil and modern overburden were mechanically removed by a 180° wheeled machine (JCB) fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. This was conducted under close archaeological supervision. These deposits were removed down to the top of the archaeological deposits, or undisturbed geological deposits, whichever was encountered first. The spoil heaps were scanned for artefacts.

The bases and sections of all trenches were cleaned by hand. The deposits and any potential archaeological features were noted, cleaned, excavated by hand and





recorded using Albion Archaeology's *pro forma* sheets. The trenches were subsequently drawn, and photographed as appropriate. All deposits were recorded using a unique recording number sequence commencing at 100 for Trench 1, 200 for Trench 2 etc.

The trenches were inspected by BCC's ACAO prior to being backfilled.

## 2.3 Results

All six trenches are discussed below; detailed technical information on each trench can be found in Appendix 1. Only Trenches 3, 5 and 6 contained archaeological features.

### 2.3.1 Trench 1

This trench was located just to the north-west of the footprint of the proposed surface water balancing facility (Figure 1). It did not contain any archaeological features or finds.

Examination of the stratigraphic make up of the layers revealed by the trench indicated that a c.0.30m topsoil (a friable, dark brown silt) overlay two subsoils, one a firm orange brown silty clay (101) the other (102) a firm grey brown silty clay. These were each typically c.0.25m thick and sealed the natural geology (103), which consisted of mixed patches of bright blue clay and bright orange clayey gravel.

### 2.3.2 Trench 2

This trench was located in approximately the centre of the surface water balancing facility (Figure 1).

Again, this trench did not reveal any archaeological features or finds. The deposits in this trench were very similar to those seen in Trench 1, a 0.34m thick topsoil overlay a single subsoil layer. The latter was 0.32m thick and similar in nature to (101); in turn it sealed the natural geology.

### 2.3.3 Trench 3

This trench was 100m long and located along the eastern edge of the surface water balancing facility (Figures 1 and 2).

The stratigraphy in this trench was similar to that in Trench 1: a reasonably thick topsoil (0.40m) overlying a number of silty clay subsoils. Four distinct, slightly interleaved subsoil layers were seen along the length of the trench. All were of a fairly similar nature, with only slight variations in make up and colour. They were typically 0.30m thick and overlay the natural geology and the archaeological features described below.

A single, narrow, irregular, linear feature [308] (plate 1), running ENE – WSW, was recorded c.26m from the southern end of the trench. Its U-shaped profile contained a slightly clayey silt fill, which produced no artefactual material. [308] is too far to the south to be the continuation of the linear feature, identified in the previous evaluation to the north of the current study area. The absence of this



feature in Trench 3 probably reflects the difficulties inherent in projecting the alignment of linear features from observations made in relatively narrow trial trenches.

Three relatively small, shallow, irregular pits [306], [314] and [316] (plates 2, 3 and 4) were also investigated. All contained a similar grey brown silty clay fill, devoid of any artefactual material. It is unclear whether or not these features should be considered of archaeological or natural origin.

#### 2.3.4 Trench 4

This trench was located in the south-western quadrant of the proposed surface water balancing facility (Figure 1).

Trench 4 exhibited a similar stratigraphic make-up to Trench 1: a 0.24m layer of topsoil overlay a thin (0.14m thick) upper subsoil (401), which was similar in nature to (101). This sealed another, slightly thicker (0.19m) subsoil (402), similar to (102), which in turn overlay the natural geology (403). No archaeological features or finds were present in this trench.

#### 2.3.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was located in the south-eastern quadrant of the proposed surface water balancing facility (Figures 1 and 2). It exhibited a similar stratigraphy to that observed in Trenches 1 – 4: a 0.30m thick topsoil overlying a number of interleaving silty clay subsoils, typically 0.30m thick, which in turn sealed the natural geology and the archaeological features.

Two moderately sized linear features [505] (plate 5) and [507] were recorded. Both were aligned NW-SE with irregular, concave profiles. The fill of [505] was clay, whereas the fill of [507] was a clay silt mix. Neither ditch contained any artefactual material.

A large (c.1.82m x 1.10m) sub-oval pit [509] was located towards the eastern end of the trench. It had a slightly irregular, concave profile and contained two silty clay fills, which were also devoid of any artefactual material.

#### 2.3.6 Trench 6

This trench was located in the southern part of the proposed surface water balancing facility (Figures 1 and 2). It exhibited similar stratigraphy to that observed in trenches 1-5.

A single archaeological feature [606] (plate 6), c.12m from the southern end of the trench, was sealed by the lower subsoil (603). It comprised a large circular pit, 1.42m in diameter and 0.42m deep, with an open, concave profile. It did not contain any artefactual material. Its atypical, friable brown fill (607) was suggestive of a high organic content. However, off-site processing and analysis of a soil sample failed to produce evidence for any ecofactual material.



## **2.4 Deposit Model.**

A fairly simple and uniform sequence of soils was recorded across the study area. A friable, dark brown, silty topsoil, typically c.0.30m thick, overlay between one and three subsoils. The latter were all naturally derived layers of silty clay. The precise amounts of silt, gravel and clay in their composition was variable. This affected the colour and cohesiveness of the deposits which varied from a light orange brown to a mid grey brown and from friable to compact. The lower layers tended to be lighter in colour and more compact.

Individually, these subsoils varied in thickness from 0.12m-0.35m and typically formed a layer c.0.35m thick. They overlay and sealed all the archaeological features noted during this work as well as the natural drift geology, a mixture of orange clayey gravel and blue clay.

It is noteworthy that no distinct islands of either pure gravel or pure clay geology were identified within the study area. There was thus no correlation between the distribution of archaeological features and the background natural geology.



### 3. SYNTHESIS

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#### 3.1 *Significance of Results*

The evaluation successfully demonstrated the presence of archaeological features within the study area. However, the density of features was low. Trenches 1, 2 and 4 were entirely blank. The other three trenches produced a total of eight archaeological features: five (probable) pits and three ditches; together with two (natural) treethrow holes. None of the excavated features produced any artefactual or ecofactual material, suggesting they lie some distance from any past settlement focus.

Overall, therefore, the archaeological potential of the study area appears to be low. Similar results were obtained during earlier evaluations of land immediately to the north and south of the study area (Albion Archaeology 2004b and 2003). This is in marked contrast to the relatively dense Iron Age/Roman settlement remains recorded immediately to the north-east at Marsh Leys Farm (Albion Archaeology 2002). This distribution pattern would appear to suggest that the core settlement area during the Iron Age/Roman period did not extend west of the present-day Woburn Road.

Within the study area it is interesting to note that ditches [505] and [507] in Trench 5 appear to run perpendicular to the line of ditch [308] in Trench 3 (Figure 2). The deposits within ditches [308] and [507] are relatively similar (Appendix 1), suggesting that these features may be related and possibly contemporary. At the very least, the fact that they contained similar material suggests they may have been backfilled at the same time. Field boundaries are known to sub-divide plots of arable land, using exactly this pattern. It is, therefore, possible that these features are the remnants of a field system. Such an interpretation would be consistent with their location on the periphery of the core settlement area at Marsh Leys Farm, which would undoubtedly have been surrounded by just such field systems.

#### 3.2 *Summary*

The study area is located in a landscape rich in archaeological remains. However, the focus of settlement activity in the Iron Age and Roman periods at least appears to have been to the north-east.

The evaluation has demonstrated that the archaeological potential of the study area is relatively low when compared to land to the north-east. The low density of archaeological features, combined with the lack of artefactual and ecofactual material, would suggest an absence of settlement in the immediate vicinity of the study area.

It is suggested that the study area was on the periphery of the Iron Age/Roman settlement at Marsh Leys Farm. It is possible that it was under cultivation, explaining the presence of ditch features which may have functioned as land boundaries. However, all of the features recorded during the evaluation remain undated and may in fact have no connection with the activity at Marsh Leys Farm.



#### 4. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## 5. APPENDICES

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### 5.1 Appendix 1 - Trench And Context Summaries



**Trench:** 1

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 48.00 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.55 m.

**OS Co-ordinates:** Ref. 1: TL5019824560 Ref. 2: TL5020224564

**Reason for trench:** To assess archaeological potential of area northwest of the surface water balancing facility.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
100	Topsoil	Friable dark brown clay silt occasional small stones. Topsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
101	Subsoil	Firm orange brown clay silt occasional small stones. Upper Subsoil, thickness and extent highly variable.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
102	Subsoil	Firm grey brown clay silt occasional small stones. Lower Subsoil - very similar to (101)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
103	Natural	Firm grey blue clay frequent small stones. Natural geology. Consists of patches of bright blue, plastic clay and bright orange, slightly silty/clayey gravel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench: 2**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 48.00 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.58 m. Max: 0.66 m.

**OS Co-ordinates:** Ref. 1: TL5020324558 Ref. 2: TL5020324553

**Reason for trench:** To assess archaeological potential of the northwestern part of the surface water balancing facility.

200	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silt occasional small stones. Topsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
201	Subsoil	Compact dark orange brown silty clay occasional small stones. subsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
202	Natural	Plastic mid blue clay frequent small-medium stones. Natural geology. Consists of patches of bright blue, plastic clay and bright orange, slightly silty/clayey gravel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>





Trench: 3

Max Dimensions: Length: 100.00 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.57 m. Max: 0.58 m.

OS Co-ordinates: Ref. 1: TL5020524562 Ref. 2: TL5020924553

Reason for trench: To assess archaeological potential of the northeastern part of the surface water balancing facility. Also to test for the existence of a ditch feature encountered to the north of the study

300	Topsoil	Friable dark brown clay silt moderate small-medium stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
301	Subsoil	Firm dark brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones. subsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
302	Subsoil	Firm light orange grey clay occasional small stones. subsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
303	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small stones. subsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
304	Natural	Plastic mid orange clay gravel frequent small stones. Natural geology. Consists of patches of bright blue, plastic clay and bright orange, slightly silty/clayey gravel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
305	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown clay silt occasional small stones. subsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
306	Pit	Sub-oval E-W profile: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 0.5m, max depth 0.12m, max length 0.75m. cut of irregular pit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
307	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones. fill of pit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
308	Ditch	Linear NNE-SSW profile: concave base: concave dimensions: max breadth 1.m, max depth 0.4m, min length 1.m. cut of linear feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
309	Fill	Friable mid orange grey silty clay occasional small-medium stones. fill of linear feature [308]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
310	Treethrow	Irregular NE-SW profile: concave base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.4m, max depth 0.15m, min length 0.7m. tree throw, same as [312]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
311	Fill	Friable mid brown grey silty clay occasional small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
312	Treethrow	Irregular NE-SW profile: concave base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.25m, max depth 0.07m, min length 0.5m. cut of treethrow, same as [310]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
313	Fill	Friable mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
314	Pit	Sub-oval NW-SE profile: 45 degrees base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 0.35m, max depth 0.11m, max length 0.5m. cut of pit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
315	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones. fill of pit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
316	Pit	Sub-circular profile: 45 degrees base: concave dimensions: max depth 0.2m, min diameter 0.6m. only half of feature visible, rest obscured by baulk.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
317	Fill	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones. fill of pit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench: 4**

**Max Dimensions:** Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.51 m. Max: 0.58 m.

**OS Co-ordinates:** Ref. 1: TL5019724550 Ref. 2: TL5020224550

**Reason for trench:** To assess archaeological potential of the western part of the surface water balancing facility.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
400	Topsoil	Friable dark brown silt occasional small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
401	Subsoil	Compact mid orange grey silty clay .	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
402	Subsoil	Compact mid orange brown silty clay occasional small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
403	Natural	Plastic light orange blue clay . Natural geology. Consists of patches of bright blue, plastic clay and bright orange, slightly silty/clayey gravel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Trench: 5

Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.52 m. Max: 0.57 m.

OS Co-ordinates: Ref. 1: TL5020524550 Ref. 2: TL5021024550

Reason for trench: To assess archaeological potential of the eastern part of the surface water balancing facility.

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
500	Topsoil	Friable dark brown clay silt moderate small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
501	Subsoil	Firm orange brown silty clay occasional small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
502	Subsoil	Firm mid grey brown silty clay occasional small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
503	Subsoil	Firm mid orange brown silty clay occasional small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
504	Natural	Plastic light orange blue clay moderate small-medium stones. Natural geology. Consists of patches of bright blue, plastic clay and bright orange, slightly silty/clayey gravel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
505	Ditch	Linear NNW-SSE profile: concave base: uneven dimensions: max breadth 1.41m, max depth 0.3m, min length 1.5m. LINEAR FEATURE - EXTENT OBSCURED BY BAULKS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
506	Fill	Firm dark blue grey clay occasional small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
507	Ditch	Straight linear N-S profile: 45 degrees base: v-shaped dimensions: max breadth 0.54m, max depth 0.16m, min length 1.5m. EXTENT OBSCURED BY BAULKS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
508	Fill	Friable dark orange brown silty clay occasional small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
509	Pit	Sub-oval ESE-WNW profile: concave base: concave dimensions: min breadth 1.1m, max depth 0.24m, max length 1.82m. PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY BAULK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
510	Fill	Compact dark grey brown silty clay . UPPER FILL OF PIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
511	Fill	Friable mid orange brown silty clay occasional small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**Trench: 6**

**Max Dimensions: Length: 50.00 m. Width: 1.50 m. Depth to Archaeology Min: 0.5 m. Max: 0.6 m.**

**OS Co-ordinates: Ref. 1: TL5020624548 Ref. 2: TL5020624543**

**Reason for trench: To assess archaeological potential of the southern part of the surface water balancing facility.**

Context:	Type:	Description:	Excavated:	Finds Present:
600	Topsoil	Friable dark grey brown clay silt moderate small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
601	Subsoil	Compact mid brown grey silty clay .	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
602	Subsoil	Compact light grey brown silty clay .	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
603	Subsoil	Compact mid orange brown silty clay occasional small-medium stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
604	Natural	Plastic mid orange brown clay frequent small stones. Natural geology. Consists of patches of bright blue, plastic clay and bright orange, slightly silty/clayey gravel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
605	Subsoil	Friable mid orange brown silty clay frequent small stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
606	Pit	<b>Sub-circular profile: concave base: v-shaped dimensions: max depth 0.42m, max diameter 1.4m.</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
607	Fill	Friable dark brown grey clay silt occasional small-medium stones.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



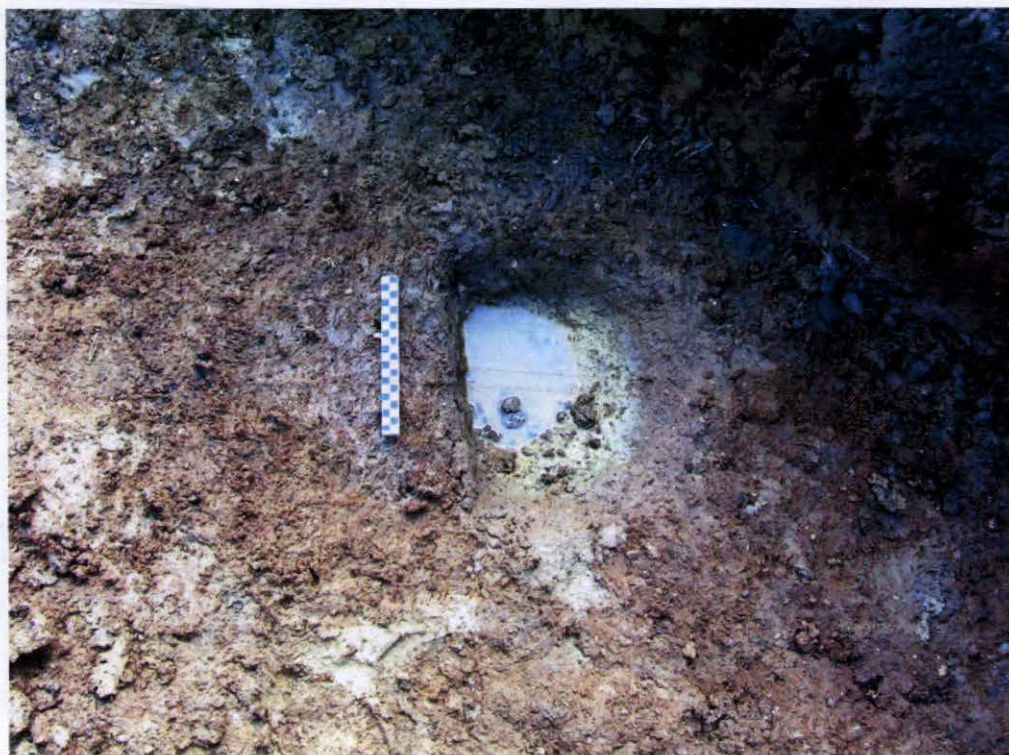
**PLATES**



**Plate 1:** Ditch [308], Trench 3



**Plate 2:** Pit [306], Trench 3



**Plate 3: Pit [314], Trench 3**



**Plate 4: Pit [316], Trench 3**

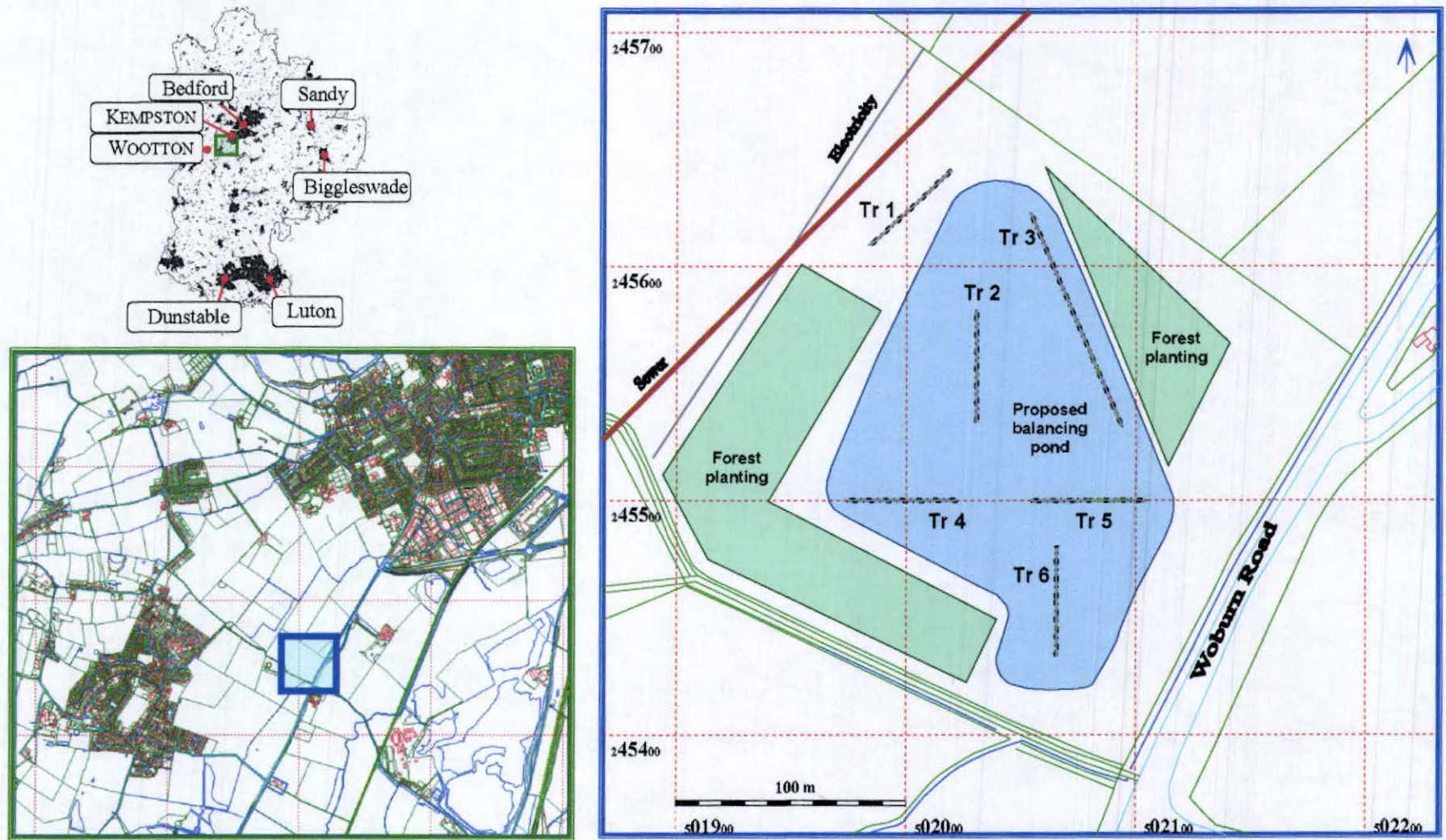


**Plate 5: Ditch [505], Trench 5**



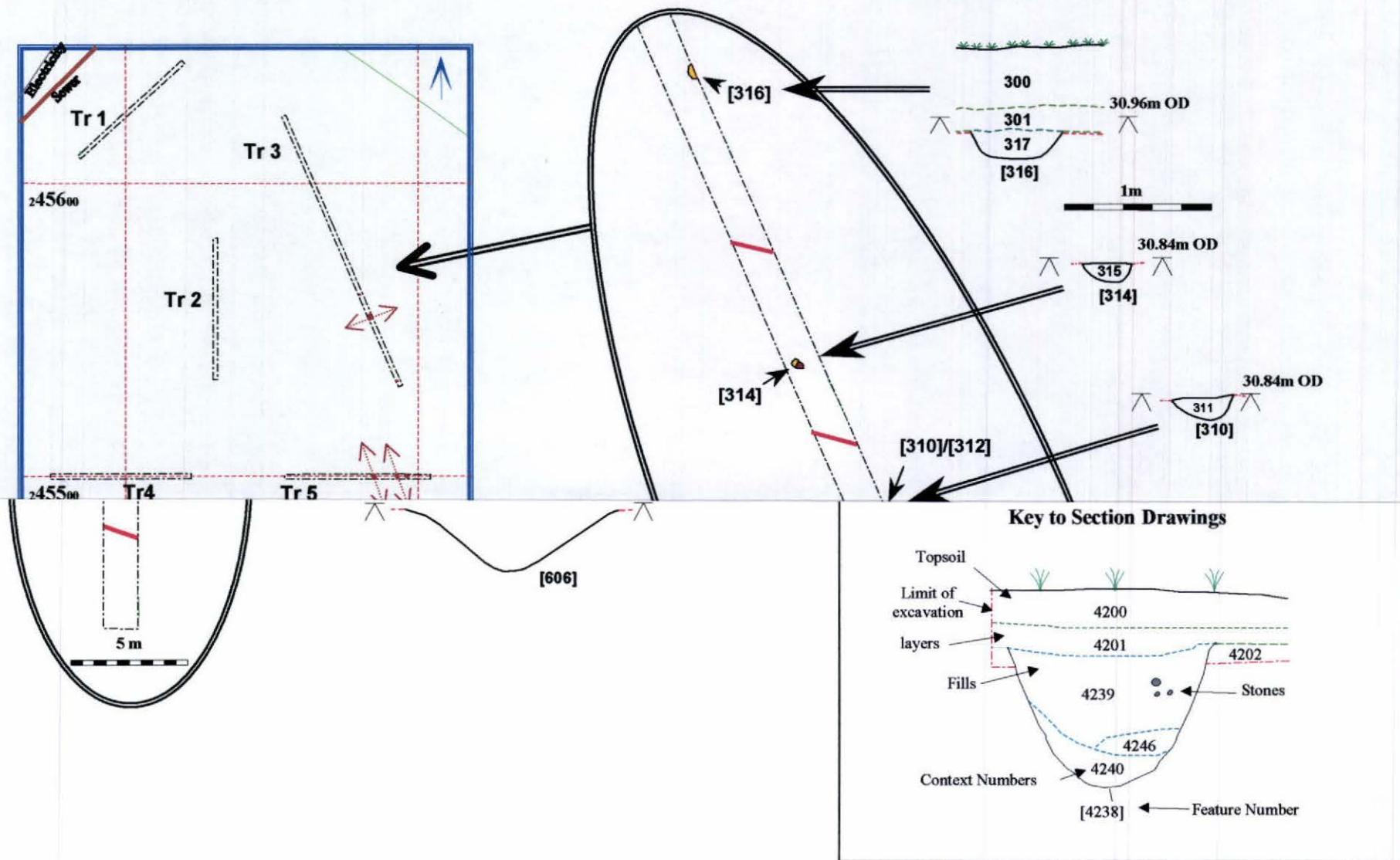
**Plate 6: Pit [606], Trench 6**





**Figure 1: Site location plan and location of trenches**

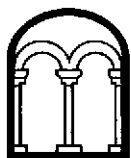
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**Figure 2: All features plan**

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