

Walker's Bridge Farm  
Lavendon Road, Olney  
Buckinghamshire MK46 4DF  
(NGR 489667, 252834)

## Archaeological Evaluation

Interim Report

Historic Environment Record Event No. EMK1457  
Souterrain Project SOU21-747

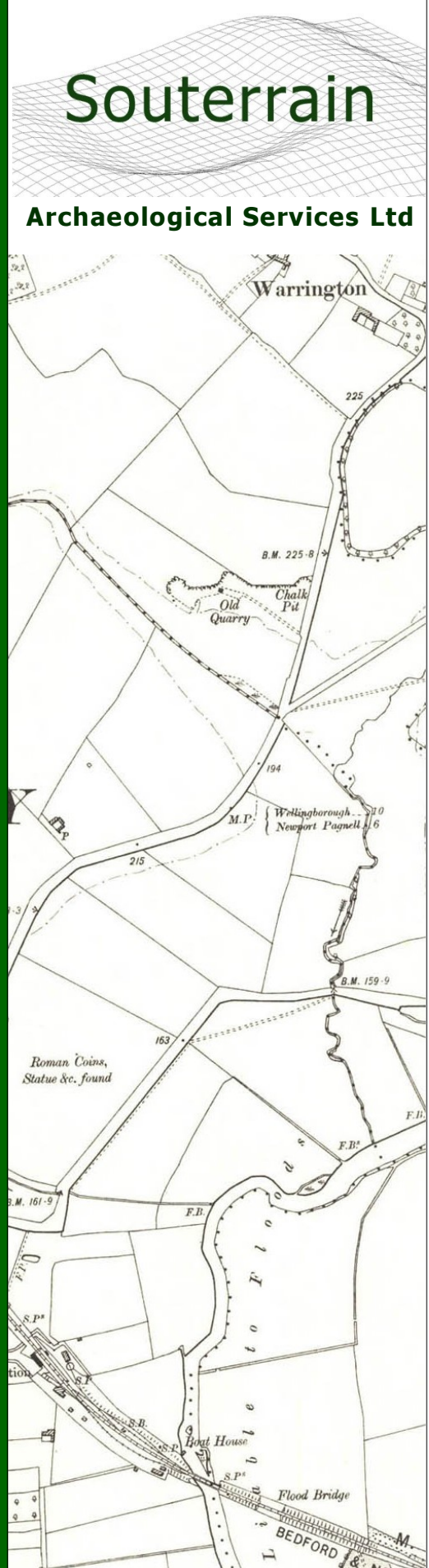


August 2021

**Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd**

for

**Mr Robert Parkhouse**  
(Olney, Buckinghamshire)



**WALKER'S BRIDGE FARM  
LAVENDON ROAD, OLNEY,  
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE MK46 4DF  
(NGR 489675, 252890)**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

Interim Report

MILTON KEYNES  
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD EVENT NO. EMK1457

SOUTERRAIN PROJECT: SOU21-747

August 2021

*Produced for:*

**Mr Robert Parkhouse**

(Olney, Bucks)

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Registered Office: 15 Grove place, Bedford MK40 3JJ  
Registered in England and Wales No. 03394485  
e-mail: [gps@souterrain.biz](mailto:gps@souterrain.biz) [www.souterrain.biz](http://www.souterrain.biz)

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**Preface**

All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd (Souterrain) 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.

**Interpretative Fieldwork:**

Martin Wilson *BA Hons, MCIfA, MIEnvSc, MEAGE, FSASc*

Mercedes Planas *BA Hons, MSc, MSc (Eng), MCIfA*

**Report:**

Martin Wilson

**Report Editor:**

Mercedes Planas

## **Summary**

*In July 2021, an evaluation trench was excavated in a small 20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> century coniferous plantation at Walker's Bridge Farm, Olney, Buckinghamshire. The site lies on a south-facing slope above the River Great Ouse.*

*On account of the site's proximity to a Romano-British settlement at Ash Furlong (a Scheduled Monument) the purpose of the investigation was to determine whether or not significant buried archaeological remains might be affected by the construction of a new farm dwelling. This, in turn, would assist the planning authority's archaeological advisor to decide, if required, the scope and level of any archaeological mitigation work.*

*The trench (c. 13 m by c. 1.8 m) was positioned along the length of the proposed building footprint, to provide a representative sample (c. 25 %) of the area to be affected by the development.*

*A substantial depth of topsoil and subsoil (c. 1 m) was encountered, which appeared to be the combined result of modern plantation groundwork and post-medieval cultivation. Buried beneath this were the truncated remains of three 'negative' features of Romano-British date. These comprised a pit, a ditch, and a ditch or pit.*

*A small assemblage of pottery sherds was recovered, together with a few animal bones. The pottery was largely a locally-produced type, one rim sherd of which is considered to date from the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD. The assemblage includes residual regional and imported wares of late 1<sup>st</sup> to early to mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century date.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report has been prepared by Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd (Souterrain) for Mr Robert Parkhouse (the Landowner and Planning Applicant). It presents the results of an archaeological evaluation of a proposed building plot at Walker's Bridge Farm, Lavendon Road, Olney Buckinghamshire MK46 4DF (The Application Site).
- 1.2 The evaluation took the form of a trial trench. The aim of the investigation was to determine the presence or absence of buried heritage assets and, if present, to ascertain their significance. This, in turn, would assist in the determination an appropriate form of archaeological mitigation, in line with National Planning Policy.
- 1.3 The report presents an outline of the site's deemed archaeological potential prior to the evaluation, the rationale for the work, and provides a descriptive and illustrative account of the evaluation results.

## 2. LOCATION & ASPECT OF THE APPLICATION SITE

- 2.1 The proposed Application Site is located in open countryside on the north side of the B565 (Lavendon Road), c. 800 m to the northeast of Olney and c. 1.5 km west of Lavendon (Fig. 1); centred on NGR 489667, 252834. It comprises an agricultural plot of land of 2.5 hectares, containing a barn, temporary buildings, access and a parking area.
- 2.2 The site is located c. 310 m north of the River Great Ouse. Topographically, the ground slopes down north to south, from c. 54 m OD to c. 49 m OD. In the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and early part of the present century, the site was used as a spruce plantation for Christmas trees. An upper (northern) portion of the site retains a small plantation (c. 0.3 ha) in which the proposed dwelling is to be located.
- 2.3 The underlying solid geology is mapped by the British Geological Survey as Great Oolite Group "*a variety of mudstone-dominated and ooidal, bioclastic and fine-grained limestone formations*" (BSG 2021).

## 3. PLANNING BACKGROUND

### Relevant Planning History

- 3.1 In 2019 planning permission was approved for the construction of a temporary worker's dwelling (location shown on Fig. 2), associated works and change of use of part of the land from agricultural to a dog kennels and exercise area.

### Present Planning Proposal

- 3.2 Pre-application advice (21/00293/PRESMA) has been acquired by the Planning Applicant from Milton Keynes Council for two development proposals:
  1. Construction of a permanent two-bedroom dwelling for occupation by the workers of Walker's Bridge Field;
  2. Retention of the temporary worker's dwelling, subject of the 2019 planning permission, and change of use for renting out as holiday accommodation.

- 3.3 In view of the archaeological and historic significance of the immediate locality, Nick Crank, Senior Archaeological Officer (SAO) for Milton Keynes Council has recommended the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). This is to ensure that any buried remains of archaeological significance at the Application Site are adequately investigated and recorded, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019).
- 3.4 It was subsequently agreed between the SAO and the Planning Applicant (via Souterrain) that the initial approach to mitigation would be to test the proposed area of development impact by means of an archaeological trial trench. A WSI was duly prepared on behalf of the Planning Applicant (Souterrain 2021) which was accepted by the SAO and the Local planning Authority.

## 4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE & POTENTIAL

### Sources of Information

- 4.1 In 2018, a Heritage Statement was commissioned by the Planning Applicant for a previous planning application (Zeepvat, 2018). The archaeological information within the document is still valid, and is thus cited here directly:

*"The study area lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest, and the assessment site has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods, the focus of attention being Iron Age and Roman. HER asset numbers are prefixed 'MMK', event numbers are prefixed 'EMK' and Scheduled Ancient Monument numbers are prefixed 'SAM'.*

### **Prehistoric & Iron Age (before AD 43)**

*Human activity in the Ouse valley during the earlier prehistoric periods is characterised mainly by the presence of worked flint, and flint and stone implements. A principal feature of the Bronze Age landscape is the presence of numerous 'ring ditches', ploughed-out burial monuments. Examples have been excavated in Milton Keynes (Green 1974) and more recently at Gayhurst (Chapman 2007). A number have been recorded by aerial photography in the Olney area (Field 1974, 65), the nearest being 600 m south-west of the assessment site. The HER records a number of spot finds (e.g. MMK225, MMK228, MMK238, MMK251, MMK252, MMK5432) demonstrating an early Neolithic to Bronze Age presence in the study area.*

*Iron Age activity in the Ouse valley is represented primarily by farmsteads consisting of rectangular ditched enclosures with associated hut gullies, pits, ditches and field systems. Examples have been excavated at Gayhurst (Chapman 2007) and Biddenham (Dawson 2000, 118), but none are recorded in the immediate vicinity of the site. In the study area, the recovery of a number of spot finds of Iron Age date (e.g. MMK243, MMK245, MMK256) may suggest that the Roman settlement at Ashfurlong (see below) has Iron Age origins.*

### **Roman (AD 43-c.450)**

*During the Roman period the Olney area fell within the tribal territory of the Catuvellauni, with its capital at Verulamium (St Albans). A road linking the small Roman towns of Magiovinium (Fenny Stratford) and Irchester probably crossed the Ouse near Olney. Associated with the river crossing, on rising ground on the north bank of the Ouse and c.400 m south-west of the development site, is an extensive Roman site known as Ashfurlong, now a scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM1006918). Here, discoveries over time have included a possible hypocaust (MMK239), significant amounts of Roman pottery, building materials and*



coins (e.g. MMK224, MMK226, MMK227, MMK230, MMK232, MMK234, MMK235, MMK240, MMK242, MMK244, MMK246, MMK254, MMK258, MMK260, MMK5424, MMK5427, MMK5433), recorded from an area covering several hectares. A 2<sup>nd</sup> century Roman building was identified during road construction in the 1950s (MMK253). Aerial photographs of the site have revealed circular features, enclosures and rectangular stone buildings (Zeepvat & Radford 2010, 80-81). Further Roman finds, possibly connected with the Ashfurlong settlement, have also been identified at Lavendon Road Farm (MMK3857), c.400 m SSE and during river dredging nearby (MMK 3890). Despite all this information, little is known of Ashfurlong, or of its precise extent: it could be a settlement, a posting station, or possibly a large villa establishment" ...

#### **Saxon, Medieval and Post-medieval Periods.**

- 4.2 The Heritage Statement deduced that from the Saxon periods onwards, the site lay beyond the settlement of Olney and appears to have been in agricultural use, and it was considered that buried archaeological features may have been disturbed by ploughing. Walkers Bridge Field appears to have witnessed very little change since first mapped by Ordnance survey in 1880.

#### **Potential for Buried Archaeology**

- 4.3 Overall, the Heritage Statement concluded that the site has **high** potential for the presence of buried archaeological features from the Romano-British period and **low** potential for significant evidence from the later periods. Concerning the prehistoric periods there was insufficient evidence for a reliable assessment to be made of potential. It would be expected that shallower archaeological features may have suffered some disturbance from ploughing.

#### **Archaeological Investigations at the Application Site**

- 4.4 In 2017, a watching brief was carried out of excavations for the footings of a new agricultural building in the north-eastern corner of the site (Fig. 2). It revealed a Roman ditch oriented northwest / southeast and a Roman pit cutting an undated pit. (Walker 2017).
- 4.5 In 2019, soil-stripping for the installation of a (6 m x 12 m) foundation slab for a caravan (Fig. 2), was monitored by an archaeologist. There were no archaeological features revealed although 22 sherds of Roman pottery and a fragment of hypocaust flue tile were recovered from the subsoil (Genna 2019). The pottery largely dated from the mid to late 2<sup>nd</sup> century, with a small component of late first century material.

### **5. OBJECTIVES**

- 5.1 It was considered that if archaeological remains were present at the Application Site they would likely to pertain to the Roman period. The broad purpose of the evaluation was therefore to attempt to:
- i. Ascertain the location, extent, nature, and date of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present;
  - ii. Establish the integrity and state of preservation of any archaeological features or deposits that may be present;
  - iii. Assess the significance (by sample excavation) of archaeological remains and to determine an appropriate level of mitigation;

- iv. Establish the date, nature and extent of past activity or occupation at the proposed development site;
- v. Recover artefacts to assist in the development of type series within the region;
- vi. Recover palaeo-environmental remains to determine local environmental conditions.

## 6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPROACH

### Location of Trial Trench

- 6.1 The footprint of the proposed building 13 m x 7 m was set out by the Planning Applicant prior to trenching. Figure 2 shows the location of the proposed building (red) and position of the evaluation trench 'as dug' (blue); centred at NGR 489675, 252890. Figure 3 shows the general aspect of the site prior to excavation of the evaluation trench.
- 6.2 The site investigation and recording was carried out between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2021. The investigation was conducted with due consideration to Health and Safety and observed the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014).
- 6.3 Topsoil and subsoil was carefully removed by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, under direct guidance of an experienced archaeologist. The surface of the trench and long sections were then cleaned using hand-tools, and all suspected archaeological features and deposits were investigated.
- 6.4 An archaeological context recording system was used for registering textual descriptions and stratigraphic relationships of deposits. High resolution digital photographs were taken.
- 6.5 Trench location, features and investigative sections, were surveyed to Ordnance Survey National Grid co-ordinates and orthometric heights by combined use of Total Station and RTK Differential GNSS.

## 7. RESULTS

- 7.1 The trench was positioned with respect to existing trees, and aligned approximately WNW/ESE. The topsoil (001) consisted of very dark brown sandy loam-like soil, with abundant tree roots. This was c. 0.34 m thick at the WNW end of the trench, gradually increasing in to c. 0.46 m at the ESE end. The division with the subsoil was not clearly discernible throughout the trench. The subsoil (002) was of variable thickness, between 0.22 m and 0.40 m and composed of dark brown loam. Its lower boundary was very ragged, with a subsoil-geology mixed interface layer (011) existing between the subsoil and undisturbed geological horizon; most probably the result of post-medieval cultivation.
- 7.2 The geological stratum was reached around 51.15 m OD at the WNW end of the trench and around 50.02 m OD at the ESE end. It comprised firm clay, varying in colour, from light yellowy brown, to light orange brown, with patches of light bluish grey. Towards the WNW end of the trench a few sherds of locally-produced Romano-British coarse-ware pottery were present at the lower boundary of the subsoil (Fig. 6 & Fig. 8). Three archaeological features were encountered in the trench.

### Remains of a possible pit

- 7.3 A scoop-like feature, ovoid in plan [003], was present in the centre of the trench (Figs 4 & 5, Section 1; Fig. 7, A & E), which was quite possibly an extremely truncated pit. The feature was c. 1.2 m long by c. 0.58 m wide, with a maximum depth of 0.1 m. It contained a single homogeneous fill (004), from which four sherds of pottery were recovered. The assemblage broadly dates from the late 1<sup>st</sup> to early-mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD (*post*, 8.4).

### Remains of probable ditch

- 7.4 Two inter-cutting features were encountered at the ESE end of the trench (Fig. 4, [007], [008]/[010]; Fig. 7, C). Stratigraphically, the earliest feature was [008]/[010], which appeared to be linear (e.g. a ditch), with a terminus. Aligned NW/SE, this was c. 1.2 m wide and visible for c. 2 m. Its depth and form was variable. Where sectioned at the terminus there was a shallow U-profile with sides gently inclined at 30° (Figs. 4 & 5, Section 3; Fig. 7, F & G), whilst further along its course the depth increased to c. 0.38 m with sides having steepened to 65° (Figs. 4 & 5, Section 4). It was considered likely to be the remains of a ditch, albeit much-truncated by ploughing. Sixteen sherds of pottery were recovered (*post*, 8). For the most part, these are very small pieces, which fall within the date range of late 1<sup>st</sup> to early-mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, and include three heavily abraded sherds of Samian ware. However, the presence of a large un-abraded rim sherd from a locally-produced carinated bowl (Fig 8, (009) & Fig. 9, 3) would suggest that the deposit (005)/(009) dates from the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD.
- 7.5 Feature [007] was encountered in the southern corner of the trench (Figs. 4 & 7, G). Either a curvilinear feature or a pit, it was not explored beyond the footprint of the proposed house. There were no artefacts present.
- 7.6 A soil sample, for palaeo-environment evidence, was taken from each of the features. The results are not a part of this interim report.

## 8. THE FINDS

### *Roman Pottery* by Jackie Wells MA<sup>1</sup> & Martin Wilson

- 8.1 A total of 26 sherds were recovered, 19 of which came from stratified deposits (Table 1). The assemblage has an overall weight of 341 grams (Table 2), with 18 vessels represented (minimum number of vessels/ MNV).
- 8.2 The assemblage is comprised largely of locally-produced shelly coarseware: 16 sherds with an overall weight of 312 g (MNV= 9). These are fragments of cooking pots or jars and dishes, or bowls. The production site is uncertain, though quite possibly Harrold (Beds)<sup>2</sup>, c. 4.4 km to the NE, where a major Roman kiln complex produced vessels in this type of fabric. However, the similarity of this fabric with early medieval products (12<sup>th</sup> / 13<sup>th</sup> century) from a kiln complex at Olney Hyde (c. 1.7 km to the NNW) seems to suggest that a Romano-British precursor may also exist in the locality. Examples recovered from Walker's Bridge Farm are illustrated (by context) at Figure 8. Notably, sherds contexts (005) and (009) which show little or no signs of abrasion. A carinated bowl with drooping rim from context (009) would not be out of place within the range of Harrold Phase IV bowl forms (Brown, 1994, figs. 30-31, esp. Nos 193-197) which have been dated (by associated pottery from other regions) to the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century.

<sup>1</sup> The identification of local coarse-wares was done by Jackie Wells

<sup>2</sup> Brown, A.E., 1994 A Romano-British Shell-gritted Pottery and Tile Manufacturing Site at Harrold, Bedfordshire, *Bedfordshire Archaeology* 21, 19–107.

8.3 The rest of the assemblage is comprised of very small sherds (< 40 mm) in a range of fabrics. It includes: a small abraded body sherd (2 g) of a Nene Valley colour-coated ware beaker (context 005) which would probably date from the mid 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> century; small fragments of reduced wares; the rim of a lid-seated cooking pot and four small sherds of much-abraded Samian-ware (total 11 g), three from context (005), which date from the late 1<sup>st</sup> to mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century. Undoubtedly, the latter fragments were long-exposed to erosive forces (e.g. weather, human occupation activity) before deposition in the features.

#### 8.4 Table 1. Roman pottery types and chronology

(Note: Fabric ('F') codes refer to the Milton Keynes Roman Ceramic Type Series; Marney 1989<sup>3</sup>).

Context No.	Description	Period
002	X 6 body sherds Shelly ware (F1a), inc. 3 adjoining	Late CI /early-mid CII
004	Body sherds: x1 Reduced sandy ware (F9), abraded x1 Fine grey ware (F3), v. abraded x1 Fine sandy oxidised ware (F41), v. abraded x1 Shelly ware (F1a)	Late CI /early-mid CII
005	x6 sherds Shelly ware (F1a), inc. x 1 rim sherd of lid-seated cooking pot x3 small sherds Samian (F20), inc. footring, v. abraded x1 body sherds Nene Valley Colour-coated ware (F6)	Late CI /early-mid CII
009	x3 sherds Shelly ware (F1a), inc. rim sherd of carinated bowl, drooping undercut rim, grooves on top of rim x3 sherds Nene Valley grey wares (F12/14) inc. rim sherd, small jar	Late 3 <sup>rd</sup> century Late CI /early-mid CII
+	x1 small body sherd, Samian (F20), decorated, v. abraded, panel décor with ?deity figure, poss. Central Gaul CII	Roman c. CII

#### 8.5 Table 2. Roman Pottery Quantification (MNV= minimum number of vessels)

Context	No. of sherds	Weight (grams)	MNV
002	6	91	3
004	4	12	4
005	10	115	7
009	6	123	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>18</b>

#### 8.6 Table 3. Other finds

Context	Type		Date
002	Fired-brick fragment, shelly fabric, reduced core	401	Prob. Roman
005	Daub, x1 small abraded piece		Roman
009	Daub, x1 small piece, v. abraded		Roman

<sup>3</sup> Marney, P.T., 1989, *Roman and Belgic Pottery from excavations in Milton Keynes 1972-82*, Bucks. Arch. Soc. Monograph Ser.No. 2.

**Animal Bones** by Matilda Holmes PhD

8.7 A few animal remains were recovered from Romano-British features. A cattle maxillary tooth came from context (009) and a fragmentary *equid* (horse or donkey) pelvis, cattle *radius* (sub-adult) and *metatarsal* from context (004). The sample is too small for further analysis.

8.8 **Table 4: Species and anatomical elements represented (NISP)**

Context	Taxa	Element	Comments
004	equid	pelvis	fragmentary
004	cattle	radius	distal end unfused
004	cattle	metatarsal	left, gnawed
009	cattle	maxillary tooth	
009	medium mammal	mandible fragment	
009	medium mammal	longbone fragment	

**9. CONCLUSIONS**

9.1 The evaluation represented an examination of c. 25 % of the proposed building footprint. It proved the presence of negative features (e.g. pits, ditches) dating to the Romano-British period, albeit much-truncated, which concurs with the conclusions of the predictions of the desk-based study (*ante*, 4.2 – 4.3).

9.2 The evidence denotes either a spatial continuation of the Romano-British settlement at Ash Furlong (to the immediate west of Walker's Bridge Farm) or possibly peripheral activity. Based on the pottery evidence this activity would appear to date from the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD, with a background of material reflecting activity from the late 1<sup>st</sup> to early/mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century.

**10. ARCHIVE**

10.1 The resultant archaeological archive from the development project is to be dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Milton Keynes Museum. Artefacts from archaeologically significant features are temporarily retained by Souterrain. The artefacts will remain the property of the landowner although the landowner will be invited to transfer finds ownership to the Milton Keynes Museum (under Accession Number MILSH.2021.85). The planning applicant/owner will be responsible for any costs pertaining to long-term museum storage of the archaeological archive.

10.2 The OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) record UID for this project is **souterra1-428046**. In due course, the report is to become a publically-accessible record, available via the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) website, in accordance with the NPPF. A hard copy and a digital copy of the report are to be issued to the Milton Keynes Historic Environment Record.

## 11. COPYRIGHT & 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.
- 11.2 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.
- 11.3 A licence is to be also granted to the Milton Keynes Historic Environment Record for the use of all reports arising from projects for planning purposes and *bona fide* research requests.
- 11.4 Souterrain will advise the Applicant of any such materials supplied in the course of projects which are not Souterrain's copyright.
- 11.5 Souterrain undertakes to respect all requirements for confidentiality about the Applicant's/Owner'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.

## 12. REFERENCES

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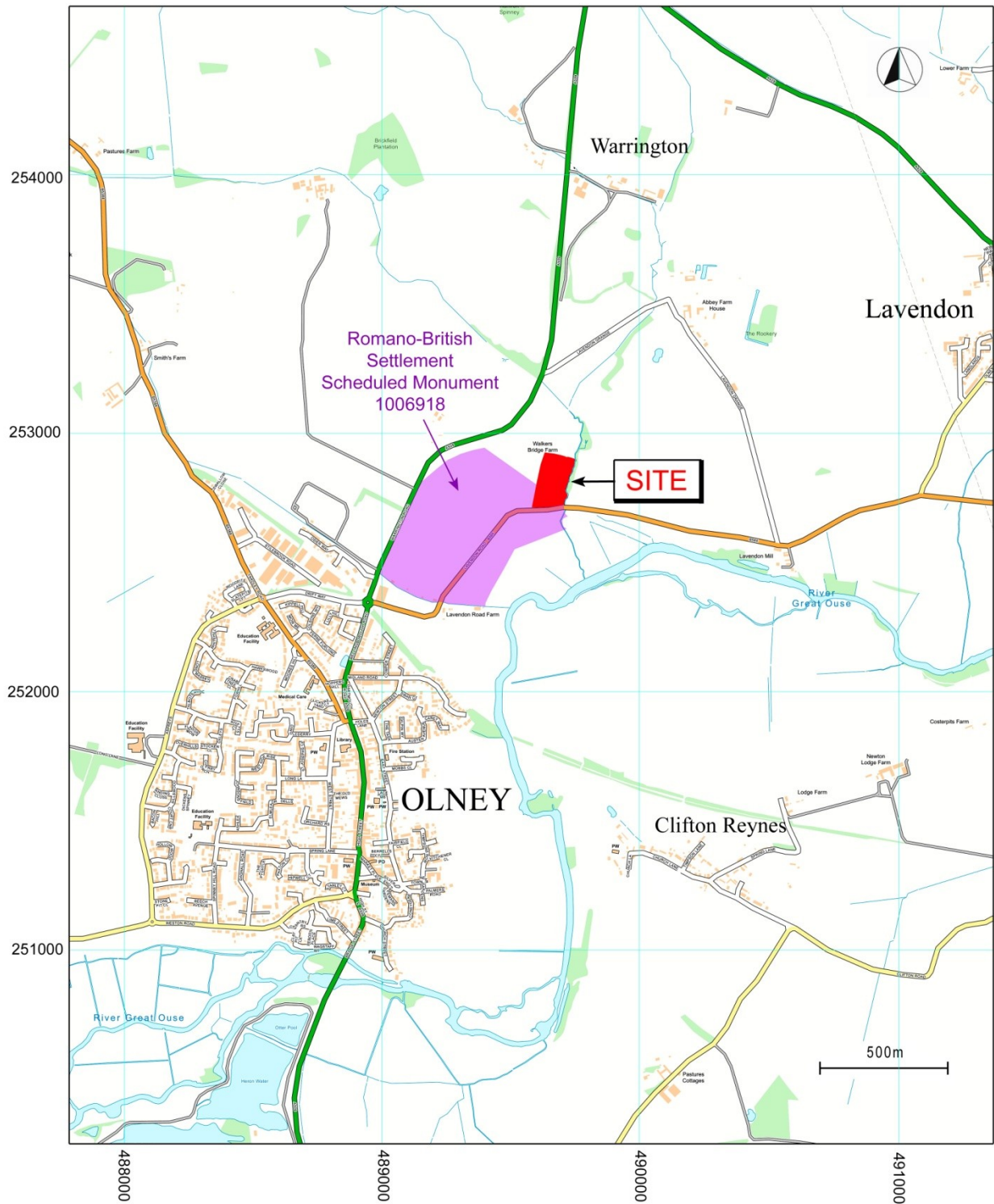
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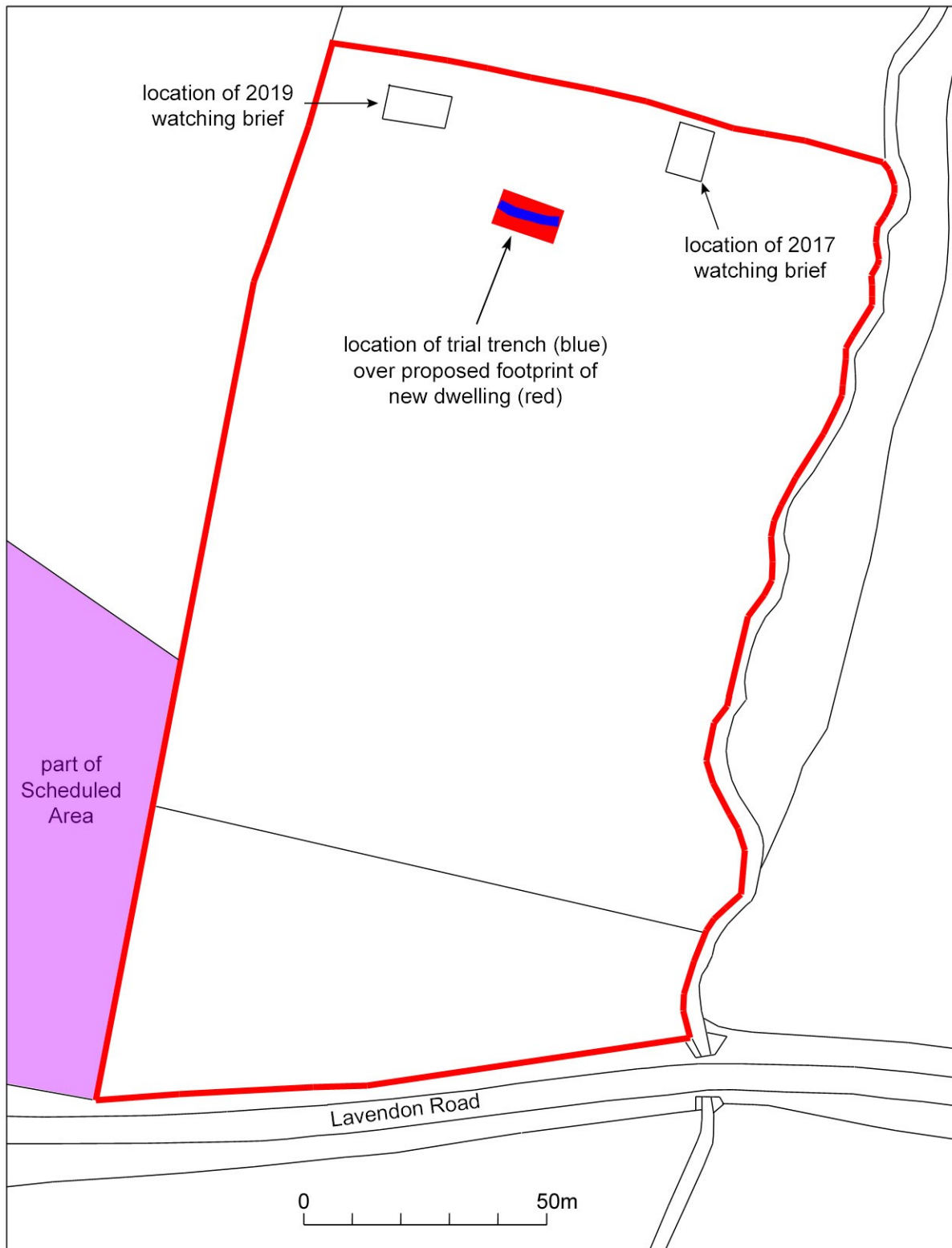
**13. FIGURES**



**Figure 1. Location of the Application Site showing its proximity to Scheduled Monument 1006918**

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**Figure 2. Location of the Application Site showing the location of the 2021 trial trench (blue), the proposed footprint of the new dwelling, and areas of previous archaeological investigations mentioned in the text**



**Figure 3. General aspect of site, pre-excitation. Top: facing ESE. Bottom: facing WNW**



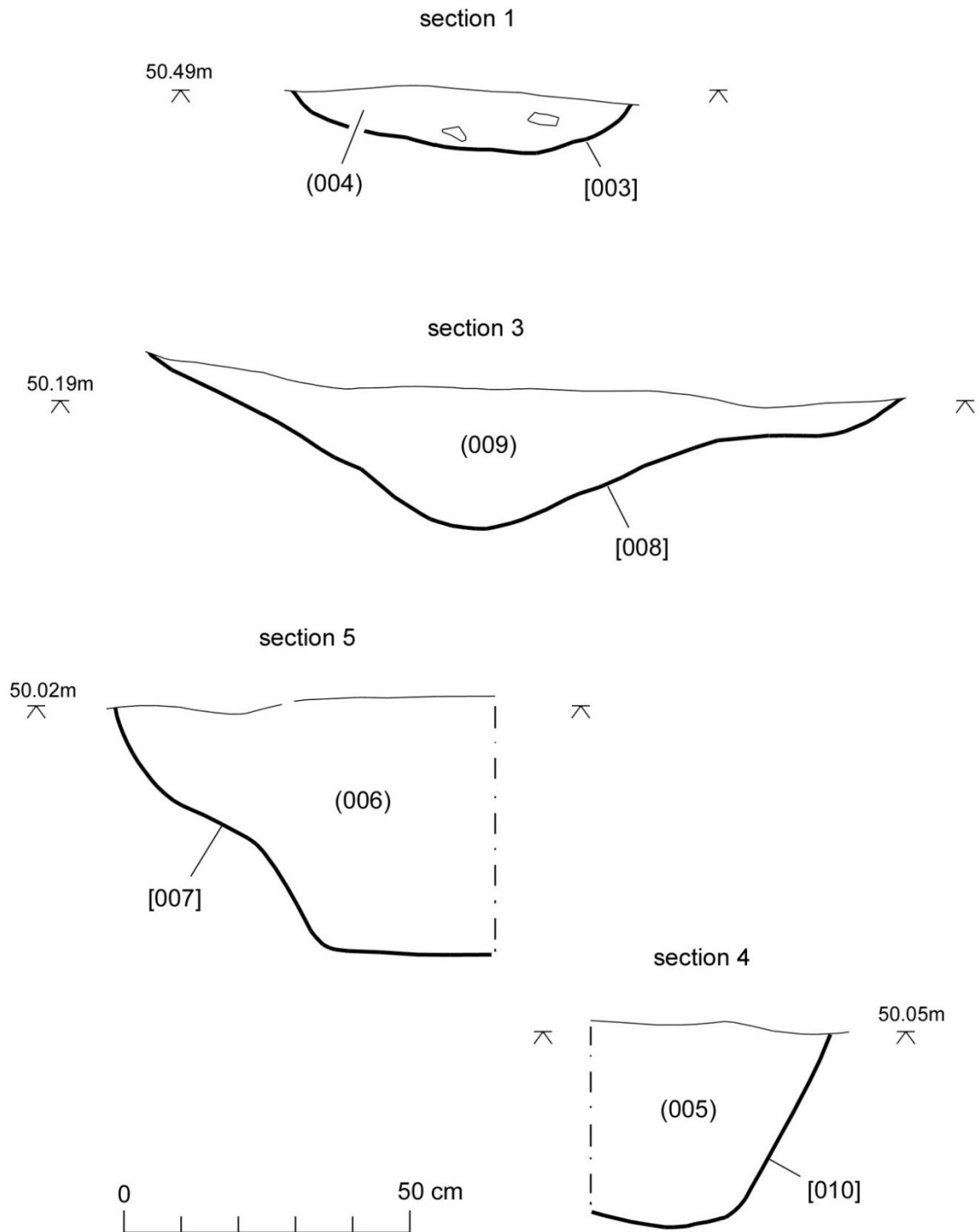


Figure 5. Section 1, 3, 4 & 5

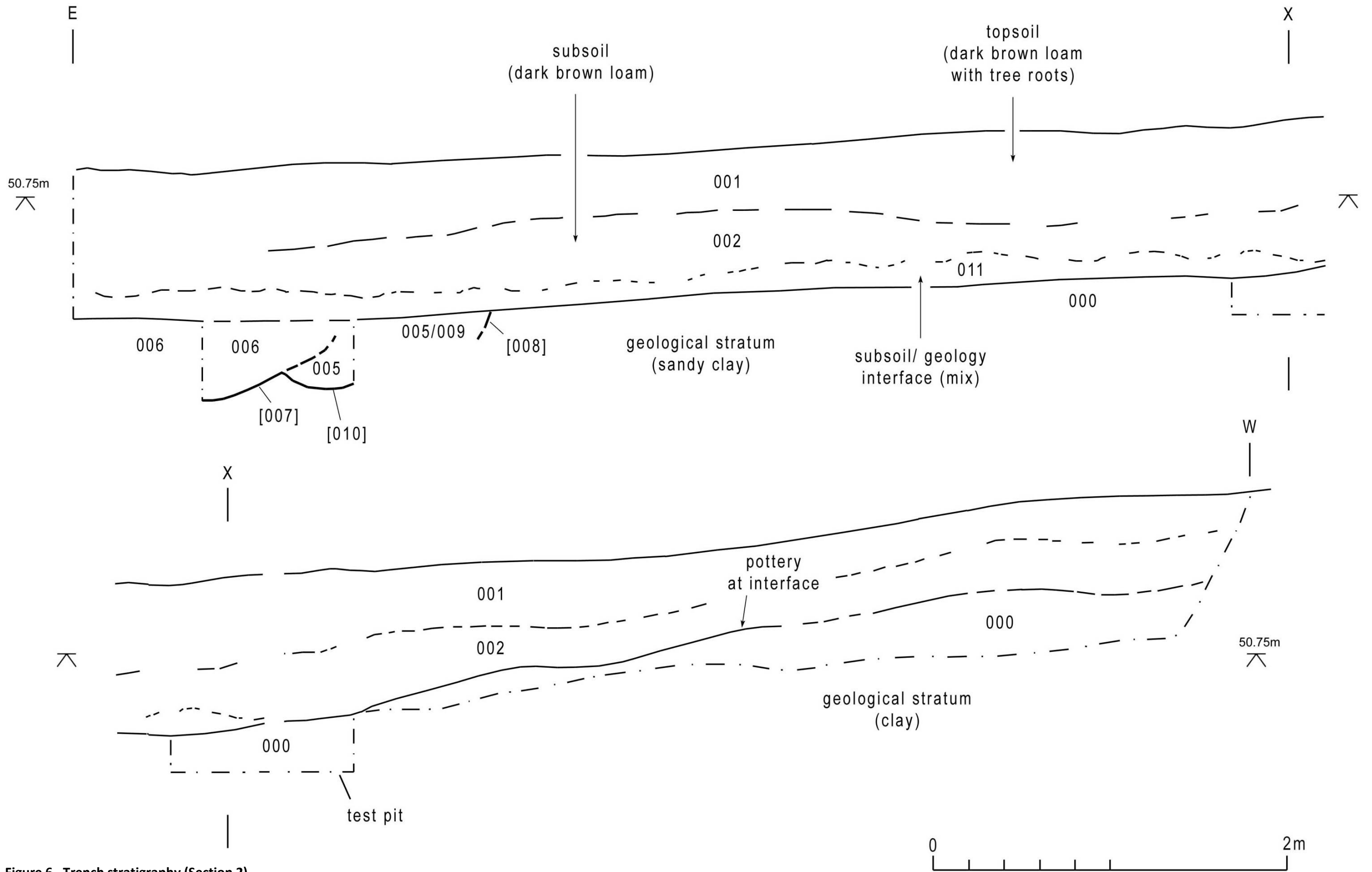


Figure 6. Trench stratigraphy (Section 2)





A. Overview of WNW end of trench & feature [003] (pre-excavation)



B. Overview of trench, facing ESE



C. ESE end of trench. Pre-excavation view of features [007], [008] & [010]. Facing W



D. ESE end of trench. Overview of features [007], [008] & [010]. Facing E



E. Feature [003], Section 1



F. Feature [008], Section 3. Facing ESE



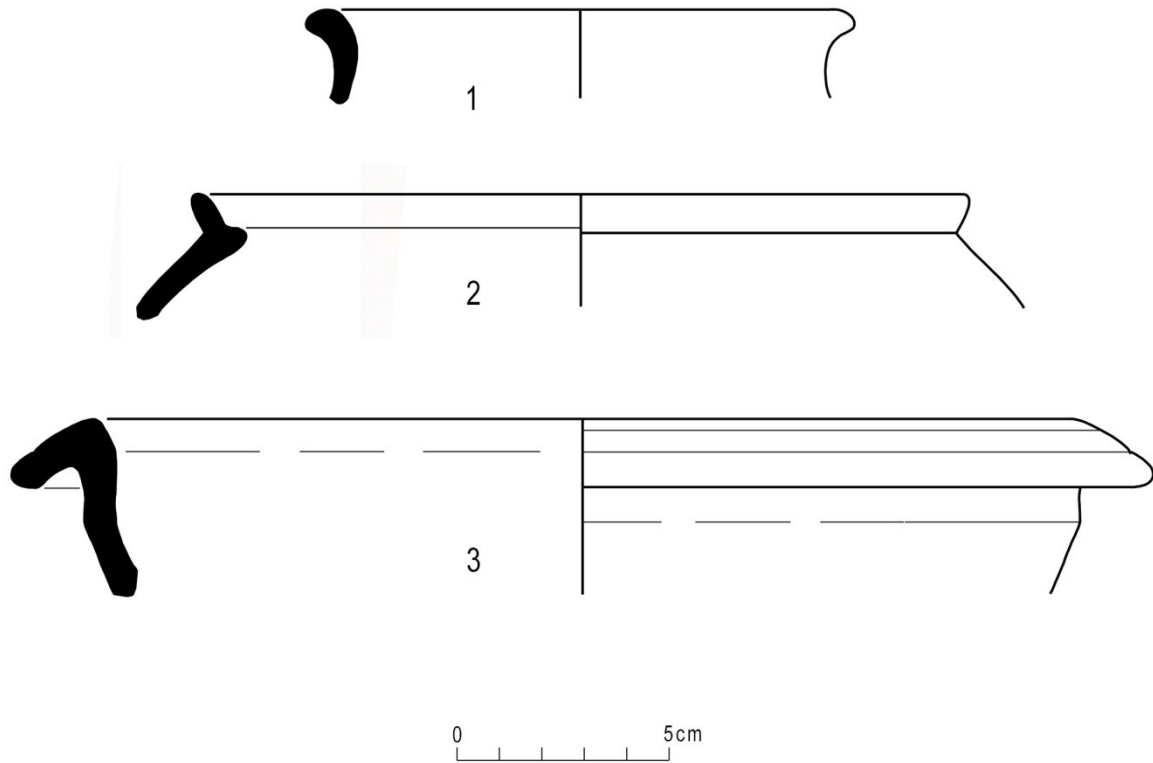
G. Features [010] & [007] & Section 5. Facing E

Figure 7. Photos of trench deposits and excavated features





Figure 8. Pottery types by context (1cm grid squares)



**Figure 9. Roman-British coarseware pottery: rim forms**

1. Jar, grey ware (context 009), late 1st century /early-mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century
2. Cooking pot/jar with lid-seated rim, shelly ware (context 005)
3. Bowl, shelly ware (context 009). C. late 3rd century



## APPENDIX 1: List of Contexts

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

Context No.	type	Description and Interpretation	relationships	dimensions	drawing	Finds	Suggested period	Date of record
<b>EVALUATION TRENCH</b>								
<p>13 m x c. 1.8 m (c. 23 sq.m).            Aligned WNW/ESE.            Ground ht: c. 51.54 m OD (WNW); c. 51 m OD. (ESE)            Average depth 0.92 m            Geological horizon: c. 51.15 m OD (WNW); c. 50.02 m OD. (ESE)</p>								
000	layer	Geological stratum. Clay. Colour variable – light yellowy brown, light orange brown, light bluish grey	b. (011) cub. . [003], [007], [008], [010]	-	S2	-	-	14.07.2021
001	layer	Topsoil. Dark brown loam with abundant tree roots	a. (002)	de. c. 0.46m (ESE) – c. 0.34m (WNW)	S2	-	C20/C21	14.07.2021
002	layer	Subsoil. Dark brown loam. The upper boundary with topsoil is not always determinable. The lower boundary is also uneven. Layer (011) below it is probably a mix of subsoil (002) and geology as a result of ploughing. Pottery at interface with (011)	b. (001) a. (011)	th. variable- 0.22m -0.40m	S2	pottery	C20/C21	13.07.2021
003	cut	Shallow scoop-like feature, ovoid in plan. Possibly a plough-truncated rubbish pit though possibly former location of a shrub that has gathered artefacts around its base	b. (011) c.(000) co. (004)	le. c. 1.2m wid. c. 0.58m de. up to 0.1m	S1, P1	-	Roman	13.07.2021

Context No.	type	Description and Interpretation	relationships	dimensions	drawing	Finds	Suggested period	Date of record
004	fill	Homogeneous fill of scoop-like feature. Very, occasional fragments of white limestone.	b. (011) wi. [003]	th. up to 0.1m	S1, P1		Roman	13.07.2021
005	fill	Homogeneous fill. Firm mid- brown clay	b. (011) wi. [010] cub.[007]	th. up to c. 0.38m	S4, S2, P1	pottery	Roman	14.07.2021
006	fill	Homogeneous fill. Firm mid- brown clay	b. (011) wi.[007]	th..0.44 m	S5, S2, P1	-	Roman	14.07.2021
007	cut	Linear feature. Stepped down at 60 ° to flat base	b. (011) c. [010], (000) co. (006)	wi. c. 1.2 m de..0.44 m	S5, S2, P1	-	Roman	14.07.2021
008	cut	Linear feature. aligned NW/SE. Possible ditch or rubbish trench. A part of [010]. Variable depth, though undoubtedly plough- truncated. Shallow V-profile, 30° at terminus (S3), steeper (65°) where sectioned at [010] (S4)	b. (011) c.(000) co. (007)	wi. c. 1.2 m de..0.24 m	S3, P1	-	Roman	14.07.2021
009	fill	Homogeneous fill. Firm mid- brown clay	b. (011)	th..0.24 m	S3, P1	pottery	Roman	14.07.2021
010	cut	Linear feature. Possible ditch or rubbish trench. A part of [008]. Plough- truncated	b. (011) cub.[007] c. (005)	de. up to c. 0.38m	S4, S 2, P1	-	Roman	14.07.2021
011	layer	Mottled mixture of subsoil and geology, most likely a result of of ploughing	b. (002) a. [003], [007], [008], [010]	gen. 0.08m– 0.18m	S2	-	Roman	14.07.2021