

Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire: An Archaeological Watching Brief Report on Site Investigation Works

Planning Reference: Pre-determination

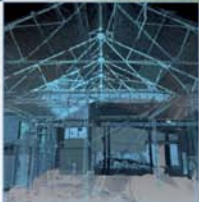
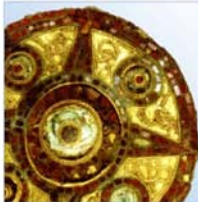
National Grid Reference Number: SP 9650 6250

AOC Project No: 32319

Site Code: GBF12

Bedford Museum Accession: BEDFM: 2012.79

Date: December 2012



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire: An Archaeological Watching Brief Report on Site Investigation Works

On Behalf of:	vento ludens Ltd 12 South Charlotte Street Edinburgh EH2 4AX
National Grid Reference (NGR):	SP 9650 6250
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This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Non-Technical Summary

Between the 3rd and 7th December 2012 AOC Archaeology Group undertook a watching brief at Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire ((NGR) SP 9650 6250), on behalf of vento ludens Ltd. The work comprised the monitoring of 30 geotechnical test pits.

This report comprises the results of the watching brief. The geological horizon remained fairly consistent across the whole of the site, with drift deposit of grey boulder clay with sand and chalk inclusions, overlain by either natural sands or buried soil consisting of clay and silty clay topsoil. No archaeological features were recorded on site, but three small abraded fragments of post-medieval ceramic building material were retrieved and retained from the topsoil of two test pits.

Publication of the watching brief findings will be carried out through a short summary of the fieldwork submitted to the local fieldwork roundup. An OASIS form has also been completed and an electronic copy of the evaluation report will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS). The site archive will be prepared in accordance with local and national guidance and will be deposited with Bedford Museum.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report documents the results of the archaeological watching brief during site investigation works at Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire. The site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SP 9650 6250 (Figures 1).
- 1.2 The site is located 2km west of the village of Podington, accessed via a track to the rear of Glebe Farm. A railway line between Luton and Wellingborough runs along the northwest edge of the site. The proposed development encompasses an irregular rectangular plot of land of some 45ha.
- 1.3 The site is currently occupied by agricultural fields called Whitlands Field, Brewery Field, Tunnel Field and Bridge Field and these are associated with Glebe Farm, approximately 80m west of the road, which is screened by a high earth and turf bank.
- 1.4 Proposed works include the construction of a Solar Farm. Geotechnical investigations, which form this initial phase of the project, will characterise the geological conditions, and will have the additional advantage of providing an early window into the archaeological potential of the site.

2 Planning Background

- 2.1 The local planning authority is Bedford Borough Council. Archaeological advice to the council is provided by Geoff Saunders, Archaeological Officer.
- 2.2 There are no Scheduled Monuments in close proximity to the site. Whitland's Barn, a grade II listed 18th century threshing barn was located within the site, but appears to have been demolished in the early 1980s.
- 2.3 The works were carried out in advance of a planning application for a Solar Farm. The groundworks monitored consisted of geotechnical investigations undertaken to characterise the geology and inform further planning decisions on archaeological matters. After consultation with Bedford Borough Council, a recommendation was made to archaeologically monitor these initial site investigation works. Pending determination of any planning application, the following was noted:

On the basis of the archaeological potential...it is also recommended that the applicant arranges for a pre-determination archaeological evaluation to take place within the area of the proposed solar development as per Policy 128 of the NPPF, although we may accept this being undertaken post-consent. Our recommendation may be modified further, if it can be shown that a ballast support system which would result in minimal ground impact will be used. If significant archaeological remains are identified by the evaluation, then a following stage of archaeological mitigation will be necessary. This may comprise an archaeological excavation in advance of or a watching brief during groundworks (Geoff Saunders e-mail, 23-11-2012).

- 2.4 A Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2012) was prepared as a method statement for the archaeological works, which was approved by the monitor, Geoff Saunders, Archaeological Officer of Bedford Borough Council.
- 2.5 This report summarises the results of the watching brief on the site investigation works.

3 Geology and Topography

- 3.1 A study of the British Geological Survey mapping (BGS 2012) indicates the site has a solid geology of Blisford Limestone Formation, which is overlain by drift deposits of the Oadby member. This is typically greyish brown with rock fragments with lenses of sand and gravel, clay and silt.

- 3.2 The site lies approximately 4½ km north of a meander of the River Great Ouse on a broadly flat plateau at a height of approximately 100m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). The River Nene lies a similar distance to the northwest

4 Archaeological and Historical Background

The archaeological background is drawn from the draft desk-based assessment by Dulas Ltd (Dulas Ltd 2012). A 1km radius of the site was studied for archaeological potential.

The Prehistoric Period (Palaeolithic c. 500,000 – 10000 BC; Mesolithic c. 10000 to 4000 BC; Neolithic c. 4000-2200 BC and Bronze Age c. 2200-700 BC)

- 4.1 There are no proven prehistoric dwellings of any period within 1km of the site. There is evidence for Mesolithic/ Neolithic activity, including flint implements from Podington, and an incomplete arrowhead.

The Iron Age c. 700 BC - AD 43) and the Roman Period (AD 43 – AD 410)

- 4.2 There are no actual proven sites or features of Iron Age or Roman date on the site, but Geoff Saunders (BBC) has highlighted the presence of Romano-British pottery and a brooch from the site, that are recorded on the HER. There is also evidence from nearby fields surrounding the villages of Podington and Wymington.
- 4.3 Iron Age finds have been collected to the north west of Colworth Thicket near Souldrop, comprising pottery sherds and slag.
- 4.4 Cropmarks west of Wymington Village may be indicative of Roman field systems; these are just 400m from the site boundary.
- 4.5 The general background of prehistoric and Roman activity strongly suggests that evidence of agriculture may be expected upon the site.

The Early Medieval (AD 410 – AD 1066) and Medieval Periods (AD 1066 – AD 1538)

- 4.6 The place name Podington is first mentioned in the Domesday Book 1086; and has been recorded as 'Podintone' and 'Potintone' from the 13th century and later as 'Puddington'. However, the name is of Saxon origin, indicating 'Poda's settlement'. The medieval history of the town has been illustrated by archaeological evaluation in July 2004 on land off Vicarage Lane. This revealed gullies, ditches, pits and postholes. The features were mainly dated to the 10th to 15th centuries, and included boundary ditches and postholes of a medieval house. Domestic debris in pits was additional proof of direct dwelling on the site. Most of the finds were of 13th to 14th century date, suggesting that the settlement expanded slightly at this time, which corresponds with the construction of the 12th century church in the centre of the village. The village is thought to have not expanded much until the 18th century. The site lies beyond the extent of the medieval village.

The Post Medieval (AD 1538 – AD 1900) and Modern (AD 1900 – Present) Periods

- 4.7 For much of the post-medieval period, the site and the fields around Podington have continued as arable land, and the site itself is agricultural. The exact size and form of the fields is not mapped until the 19th century on the local parish tithe and Ordnance Survey mapping. However, the site did contain a threshing barn of 18th century date. This was Whitland's Barn, and was grade II listed; it was demolished in the 1980s. Although no above-ground evidence of this barn remains, it shows the agricultural use of the site, and may suggest that there were related structures in addition to the barn on the site.

- 4.8 The Ordnance Survey maps show the changing form of the fields. The 1884 map shows the Midland Railway line already in place, and Whitlands Field is split into three smaller fields. Whitland's Barn is labelled, and has a courtyard enclosure with additional outbuildings. The barn is accessed from a lane which is no longer extant. The early 20th century maps also show associated buildings around the barn, a pump, and the small pond which is still present. By 1974, the maps show the barn on its own, with just remnants of outbuildings, and the lane is no longer depicted. It is not currently clear whether Whitland's was an individual farmstead, or an outlier of what is now Glebe Farm.

5 Aims of the Investigation

- 5.1 The aims of the archaeological watching brief were defined as being.
- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
 - To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
 - To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
 - To enable the archaeology advisor to make an informed decision on the status of the condition, and any possible requirement for further work in order to satisfy that condition.
 - To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation.
- 5.2 The specific aims of the archaeological watching brief were defined as being:
- To determine the presence and location/depth of any archaeological horizons.
 - To assess the impact of ploughing on the potential archaeological horizon.
 - To determine the presence of any prehistoric/Roman activity on site. How does this activity relate to records on the HER?
 - To determine the presence of any post-medieval activity on site. Does this evidence relate to the listed, now demolished, Whitland's Barn complex?
- 5.3 The final aim is to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

6 Methodology

- 6.1 The watching brief was carried out between 3rd and 7th December 2012 and was focussed on observing the excavation of 30 trial holes through the horizons of modern ploughsoil on site (Figure 2).
- 6.2 The 30 geotechnical test pits were situated evenly east to west across three ploughed fields and the aim was to excavate to a depth of approximately 2.5m to establish the geological sequence. Each test pit measured 2m-2.5m in length and 1m in width at the top and 0.6m at the base (from below the topsoil to the fully excavated depth).
- 6.3 Fieldwork procedures followed the Museum of London Archaeological Site Manual (MoL 1994).
- 6.4 The excavation, recording and reporting conformed to current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines:
- English Heritage – Management of Archaeological Projects (EH 1991).

- English Heritage – Archaeological Guidance Paper 3: Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork (EH 1998b).
- English Heritage – Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (EH 2011).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Standards and Guidance and Guidelines for Finds Work (IfA 2008a).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (IfA 2008b).
- Institute for Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (IfA 2010).
- Museum of London – Archaeological Site Manual (Third Edition) (MoL 1994).
- RESCUE & ICON – First Aid for Finds (RESCUE & ICON 2001).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Conservation Guidelines No.2 (UKIC 1983).
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation – Guidance for Archaeological Conservation Practice (UKIC 1990).

6.5 A unique site code for the project (**GBF12**) was assigned by AOC Archaeology prior to commencement of works. An accession number was obtained from Bedford Museum and will be used as the site identifier for records produced for archive (**BEDFM: 2012.79**).

6.6 The watching brief was undertaken by Tara Fidler, Project Supervisor, under the overall direction of Melissa Melikian, Operations Director. The work was monitored by Geoff Saunders, Archaeological Officer of Bedford Borough Council.

7 Results (Figure 3)

7.1 The first test pit to be excavated was TP28 and was excavated to a depth of 2.8m to establish the full extent of the natural layer (2802) before reaching bedrock. This was not fully achieved, but the lowest deposit (2803) consisted of extremely dense dark grey boulder clay with large pieces of limestone inclusions, indicating the close proximity of the limestone bedrock. This was at a depth of 2.7m below ground level (BGL).

7.2 Of the 30 test pits, 18 consisted of the same geological sequence (TP1, 3, 7, 8, 10-17, 23, 25 and 27-30). The lowest deposit was a natural drift deposit of dense dark grey boulder clay with yellow sand and gravel pockets, with high levels of chalk inclusions (102, 302, 702, 802, 1002-1702, 2302, 2502 and 2702-3002). The full extent of the depth of this layer (2802) was only reached in TP28, measuring 1.9m. The recorded thickness of this deposit varied between 1.27m and 1.78m in the other 17 test pits.

7.3 The only feature evident appeared in TP11, in the form of an irregular circular pit [1104], most likely to be a burnt-out tree pit. The fill (1103) was very dark blackish brown silty clay. Although there were no charcoal fragments, the consistency of the fill showed evidence of wood decomposition. There were no other inclusions. The pit [1104] was cut into natural (1102) and was overlain by buried soil (1101). It measured 0.6m wide by 0.2m deep, 0.9m BGL.

7.4 The natural layer was overlaid by buried soil (101, 301, 701, 801, 1001-1701, 2301, 2501 and 2701-3001), consisting of a mid yellowish grey clay with occasional chalk and flint inclusions. Deposit (301) was slightly more gravelly in TP3. The thickness of this deposit varied between 0.34m and 0.72m.

7.5 Overlying the area investigated by test pits was the ploughed topsoil, consisting of mid yellowish grey brown silty clay (100, 300, 700, 800, 1000-1700, 2300, 2500 and 2700-3000). TP13 was situated in the unploughed section of the field, in the long grass, but had the same topsoil. The thickness of this deposit varied between 0.2m and 0.48m.



Plate 1 – TP12 Sample Section, with 19th century ceramic field drain (view south)

- 7.6 TP2 had a similar geological sequence, with the natural deposit (203) consisting of dense dark grey boulder clay with yellow sand and gravel pockets, with high levels of chalk inclusions. This was recorded at a thickness of 1.2m. Overlaying this was the buried soil (202) consisting of mid yellowish grey sandy clay with occasional chalk inclusions, measuring 0.30m in thickness. The test pit then varies as the only pit with a subsoil (201), consisting of fine dark reddish brown silty sandy clay, measuring 0.38m in thickness. This was overlaid by topsoil (200) of dark greyish brown silty clay with flint and chalk inclusions, plus post medieval ceramic building material fragments, covered in long grass. The thickness of this deposit was 0.32m.
- 7.7 Six of the test pits (TP5, 6, 9 and 18-20) had quite similar geology to the previous 19, with slight variations in the natural deposits (502, 602, 902 and 1802-2002) and buried soil (501, 601, 901 and 1801-2001). The lowest natural deposit consisted of dark grey boulder clay with high levels of yellow sand and gravel with chalk and limestone inclusions. This deposit was recorded at a thickness between 1.25m and 1.7m.
- 7.8 This was overlaid by buried soil (501, 601, 901 and 1801-2001) consisting of darkish grey brown slightly silty clay and was measured at a thickness between 0.32m and 0.65m. The overlaying ploughed topsoil (500, 600, 900 and 1800-2000) was consistent with the previous 19 test pits; mid yellowish grey brown silty clay measuring at a thickness between 0.3m and 0.46m.
- 7.9 The final five test pits (TP4, 21-22, 24 and 26) had a different natural deposit to the previous 25. Although the lowest deposit (403, 2103-2203 and 2403) was recorded as the drift deposit boulder clay with yellow sand and chalk inclusions, recorded at a thickness between 0.1m and 1.25m, there were areas of sandy natural deposits. This deposit (402, 2102-2202, 2402 and 2602) consisted of fine light greyish yellow sand with high levels of fine chalk inclusions. The thickness of this deposit varied between 0.32m and 2.67m. However, TP26 was excavated to a depth of 3.5m BGL and deposit (2602) was continuing without evidence of the boulder clay appearing.

- 7.10 Overlaying the natural sand was buried soil (401, 2101-2201, 2401 and 2601) consisting of mid yellow grey sandy clay with rare chalk inclusions. This deposit varied between a thickness of 0.32m and 0.45m.
- 7.11 These five test pits were situated in the ploughed fields, thus the topsoil (400, 2100-2200, 2400 and 2600) consisted of mid grey brown silty clay. Deposit (400) contained one fragment of post-medieval ceramic tile. The thickness varied between 0.32m and 0.40m.



Plate 2 – TP22 Sample Section (view west)

- 7.12 19th/20th century ceramic and plastic field drains were located in seven of the test pits (TP3, 4, 5, 12, 14, 20 and 24), all cut into the top of the natural horizon below the buried soil.

8 Finds (Appendix B)

- 8.1 A total of three sherds of ceramic building material were recovered during the watching brief, all from topsoil deposits. Two fragments of ceramic roofing tile and/or brick were retrieved from (200) and a single fragment of ceramic roofing peg tile was retrieved from (400). All three sherds are likely to be 19th/20th century in date and common in farmland topsoil. They will be retained for archive with the Bedford Museum.
- 8.2 There was further evidence of 19th/20th century ceramic brick and tile fragments scattered in the overlying topsoil across the ploughed fields. These were observed but not retained.

9 Conclusions

- 9.1 During the course of the watching brief on site the nature and extent of the archaeological potential was observed. A full sequence of natural deposits and ploughed topsoil was recorded across the whole watching brief area.
- 9.2 Natural deposits were identified across the full extent of the watching brief area, ranging from gravelly sands to chalky clays. The test pits containing large depths of natural sands appeared to be sporadically located across the site.

- 9.3 The watching brief identified no archaeological features, but the 19th/20th century ceramics were retained from the ploughed topsoil, suggesting continuing activity of the farmland from the post-medieval period onwards.
- 9.4 It appears unlikely that ploughing impacted on the potential archaeological horizon. This is due to the substantial buried soil horizon underlying the ploughed topsoil across the site, at a depth of between 0.20m and 0.48m BGL. The nature of the buried soil is difficult to interpret, since it may be manipulated natural or soil brought in and deposited for ploughing.
- 9.5 The tree pit [1104] was situated below the buried soil deposit which indicates that, had archaeology been present, it would have been cut into the natural deposit, below the buried soil. The buried soil deposit was at a depth of between 0.70m and 1.10m BGL. This theory is also feasible when considering that several 19th/20th century field drains located across the site were cut to the base of the buried soil deposit or into the natural, at a depth of 0.78m BGL on average.
- 9.6 The 30 test pits were evenly positioned across three fields covering 60m² of the 45ha site. The lack of archaeological features and very minimal, insignificant, finds present suggests a low potential for archaeology on site. It is therefore recommended that no further work be undertaken. However, if further intrusive works are required by the council we would advise a low level of evaluation trenching be undertaken.

10 Publication and Archive Deposition

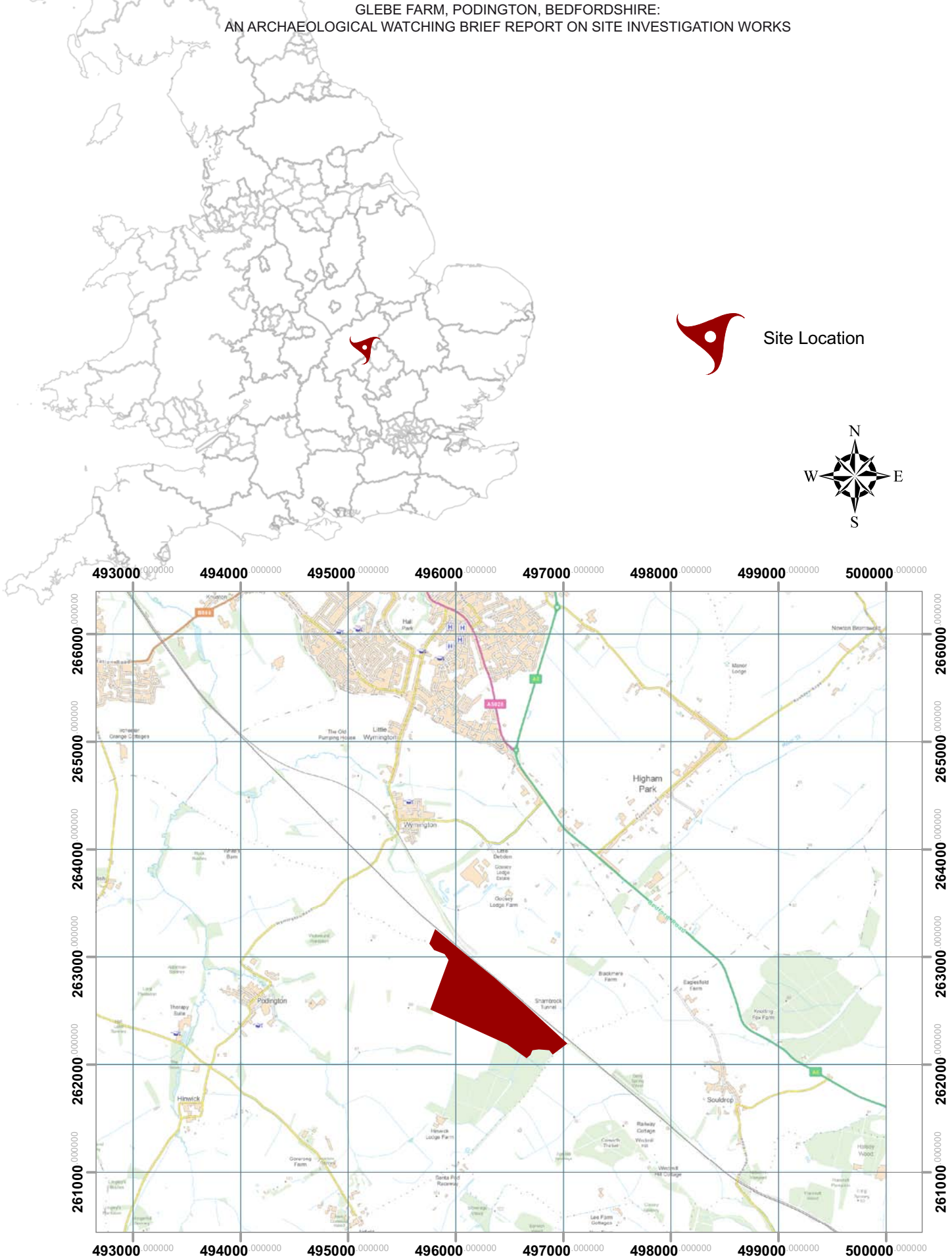
- 10.1 A paper copy of the watching brief report will be issued to Geoff Saunders, Archaeological Officer of Bedford Borough Council, and the local studies library on the understanding that it will become a public document after an appropriate period of time. A digital copy of the report will also be submitted to the Bedford HER and NMR. A summary will also be submitted via the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) (Appendix C).
- 10.2 The archive, consisting of paper records, drawings, finds and digital photographs will be collated and deposited with Bedford Museum following discussions with the curator regarding scheduling.

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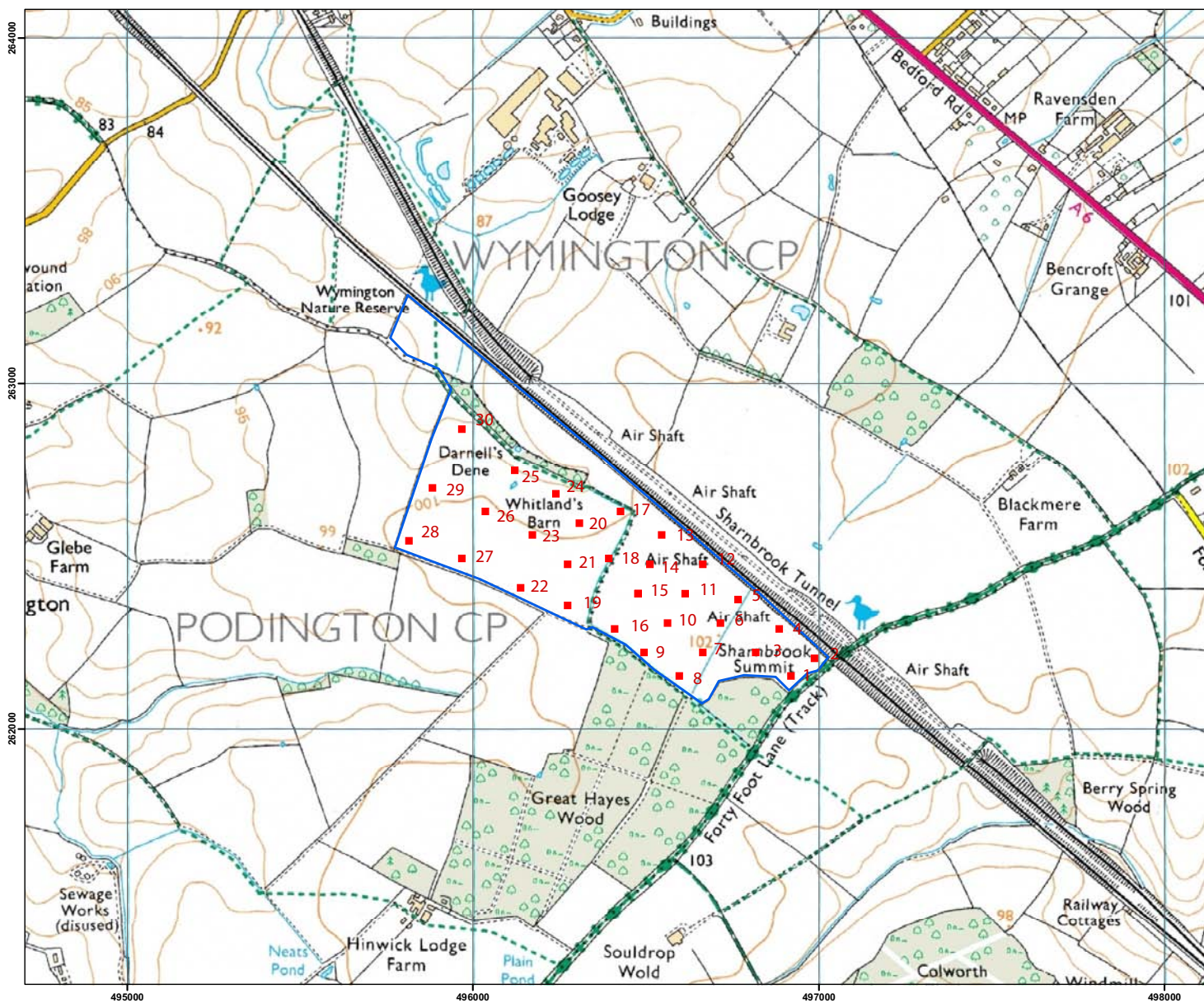
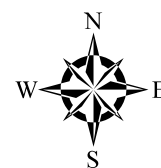
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GLEBE FARM, PODINGTON, BEDFORDSHIRE:
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Figure 1: Site Location



Based on data provided by the client.


 Site Investigation Pits

Figure 2: Detailed Site Investigation Plan

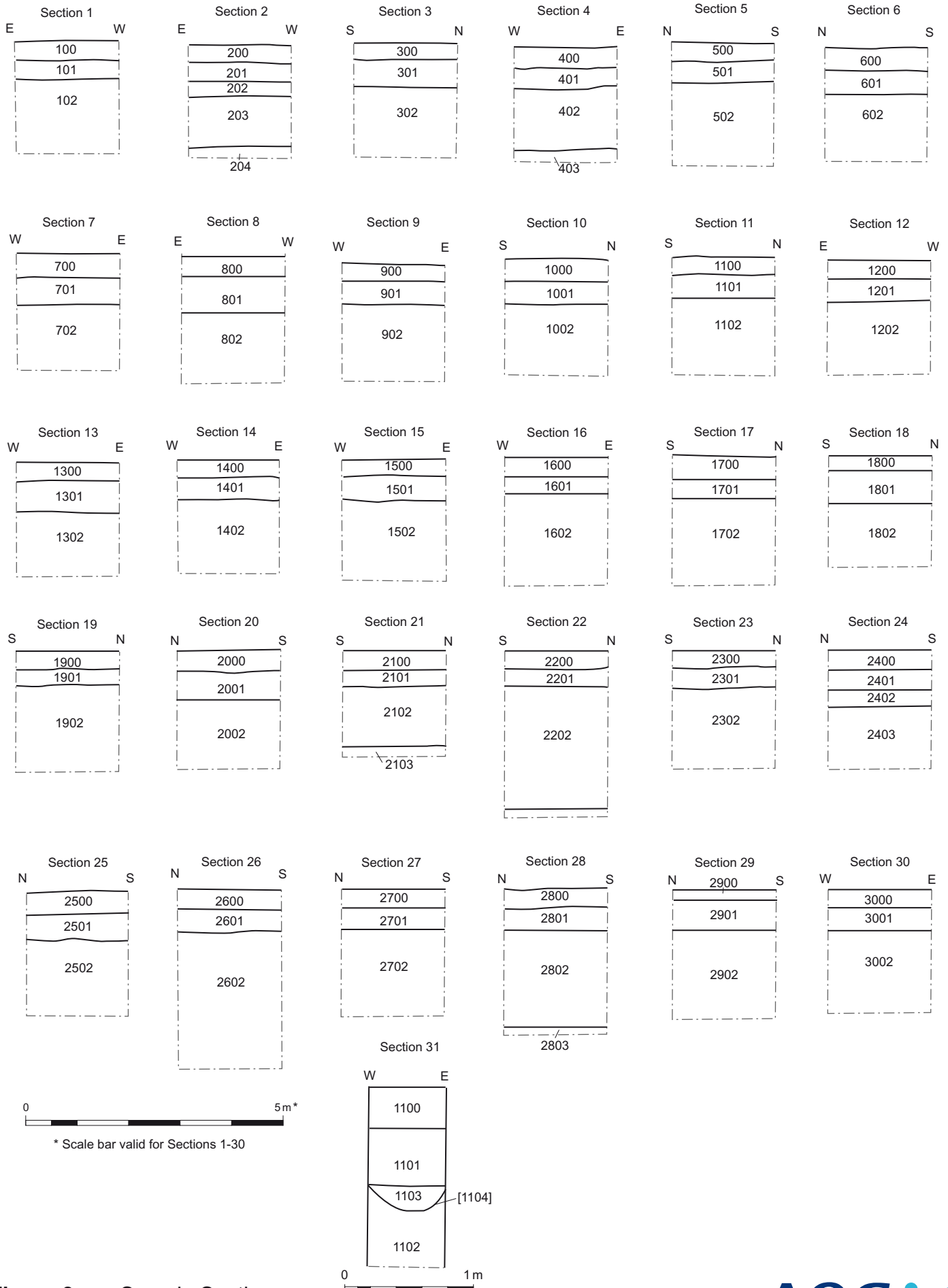


Figure 3: Sample Sections



Appendices

Appendix A – Context Register

Context No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
100	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.38m
101	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.34m
102	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.46m
200	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.32m
201	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.38m
202	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	0.30m
203	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.20m
300	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.34m
301	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.44m
302	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.42m
400	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.38m
401	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.40m
402	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	1.22m
403	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>0.20m
500	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.34m
501	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.42m
502	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.64m
600	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.46m
601	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.44m
602	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.30m
700	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.48m
701	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.50m
702	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.27m
800	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.38m
801	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.72m
802	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.40m
900	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.34m
901	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.44m
902	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.52m
1000	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.48m
1001	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.42m

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1002	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.40m
1100	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.32m
1101	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.44m
1102	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.54m
1103	Pit fill.		0.60m	0.20m
1104	Pit cut.		0.60m	0.20m
1200	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.32m
1201	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.46m
1202	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.52m
1300	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.36m
1301	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.64m
1302	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.30m
1400	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.32m
1401	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.40m
1402	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.48m
1500	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.32m
1501	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.44m
1502	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.59m
1600	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.38m
1601	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.34m
1602	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.78m
1700	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.45m
1701	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.35m
1702	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.70m
1800	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.30m
1801	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.65m
1802	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.25m
1900	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.38m
1901	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.32m
1902	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.70m
2000	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.40m
2001	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.55m
2002	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.35m

GLEBE FARM, PODINGTON, BEDFORDSHIRE:
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT ON SITE INVESTIGATION WORKS

2100	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.38m
2101	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.32m
2102	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	1.20m
2102	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>0.20m
2200	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.32m
2201	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.38m
2202	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	1.90m
2202	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>0.10m
2300	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.35m
2301	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.40m
2302	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.50m
2400	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.40m
2401	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.38m
2402	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	0.32m
2402	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.25m
2500	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.42m
2501	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.50m
2502	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.43m
2600	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.38m
2601	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.45m
2602	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>2.67m
2700	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.40m
2701	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.40m
2702	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.70m
2800	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.32m
2801	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.48m
2802	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	1.90m
2803	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>0.10m
2900	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.20m
2901	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.60m
2902	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.70m
3000	Topsoil.	2.00m	1.00m	0.34m
3001	Buried soil.	2.00m	0.60m	0.56m

3002	Natural.	2.00m	0.60m	>1.60m
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Appendix B – Specialist Reports

Ceramic Building Material Assessment

Paul Fitz (AOC Archaeology)

Summary

Three pieces of ceramic building material with a total weight of 85 grams were retrieved from two topsoil contexts during a watching brief on 30 geotechnical pits and are summarised below.

Context (200) has one red clay roofing tile piece (57 grams) with no complete dimensions and one uncertain tile or brick fragment (14 grams) this too has no complete dimensions.

Context (400) has one piece of roofing peg tile (14 grams). It has a lighter pink-orange fabric and a complete thickness of 11 millimetres

Discussion/Recommendations

All three sherds are likely to be post medieval in date, most likely 19th/20th century, and common in farmland topsoil.

With little, or no diagnostic and research value, it is recommended that they be discarded after consultation with Liz Pieksma at the Cecil Higgins Art Gallery & Bedford Museum.

Material for illustration

None

Analysis of potential

The ceramic provides no effective dating evidence for the contexts they originate from.

Significance of the data

International and national

The assemblage is not of international or national significance.

Regional and local

The assemblage is of no regional / local significance.

Further work required

None

Preparation for deposition in the archive and conservation

Sherds to be retained for archive as advised by Liz Pieksma at the Cecil Higgins Art Gallery & Bedford Museum.

Appendix C – Oasis Form

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-138365

Project details

Project name	Fieldwork at Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire
Short description of the project	Archaeological Monitoring of test-pits is the first phase of archaeological attendance at the site. No archaeological features observed.
Project dates	Start: 03-12-2012 End: 07-12-2101
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	GBF12 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	32319 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	BEDFM:2012.79 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval
Investigation type	""Watching Brief""
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Project location

Country England
Site location BEDFORDSHIRE BEDFORD PODINGTON Glebe Farm

Postcode NN29

Study area 45.00 Hectares

Site coordinates SP 9650 6250 52 0 52 15 06 N 000 35 10 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation AOC Archaeology

Project brief originator AOC Archaeology

Project design originator AOC Archaeology

Project director/manager Melissa Melikian

Project supervisor Tara Fidler

Type of Developer sponsor/funding body

Name of sponsor/funding body vento ludens Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Bedford Museum

Physical Archive ID BEDFM: 2012.79

Physical Contents "Ceramics"

Digital Archive recipient Bedford Museum

Digital Archive ID BEDFM: 2012.79

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography"

Paper Archive recipient Bedford Museum

Paper Archive ID BEDFM: 2012.79

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Diary", "Microfilm", "Report", "Section", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography

1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Glebe Farm, Podington, Bedfordshire: A Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief Report on Site Investigation Works

Author(s)/Editor(s) Capon, L.

Date 2012

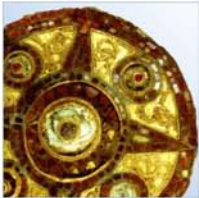
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